

commu



Read our Ideas Contributors

Driving the Conversation:

1) What was the Washington Post thinking?

2) The 60th Vote: Does the Democratic "supermajority" really change the game in the Senate?

July 2, 2009

[expand all](#)



Roger Pilon, Vice President for Legal Affairs, Cato Institute:

The Post's publisher may have cancelled the off-the-record "salons" in response to the Politico scope, but the damage is done. The Founders and Framers understood that power corrupts, which is why they sought to limit government's powers, constitutionally. We've forgotten that teaching.

Washington today is awash with people who want to run other people's lives, even if they often cannot run their own, competently. The lobbyists are not the real problem: they're just trying to do the best they can for their clients in a world in which the real power rests with all but unconstrained government officials. When those officials are in bed with the press, which Jefferson thought would be our best protection against overweening government, the corruption is complete.

We had a foretaste of today's story in President Obama's speech at the recent White House Correspondent's Dinner. Perhaps the reaction today in the Post's newsroom will be sobering. The "Slobbering Love Affair," as Bernie Goldberg has put it, needs to end.

Full Archive List

© 2008 Capitol News Company LLC

Please read our Privacy Policy. By using this site, you accept our Terms of Service.