



# *The Ivy League Connection*

## PRESIDENTIAL POWERS ESSAY PROMPT

Using the prompt below, write an 800 word essay delineating your opinions and providing a strong argument to back up your position.

In the upper right hand corner of the essay we need:

your name

your school

your email address

the best phone number where you can be reached

The essay must be emailed to [dongosney@comcast.net](mailto:dongosney@comcast.net) no later than 9:00 PM on Wednesday January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013.

The file name should read (using your name replacing the XXX's):

XXX Pres Powers Original Essay.doc

Immediately above your essay, cut and paste the following:

In September of 1862 President Abraham Lincoln Suspended the Writ of Habeas Corpus and declared Marshall Law. President Lincoln contended that he removed the Writ of Habeas Corpus in order to ensure victory and preserve the union.

President Lincoln's actions gave full power to close down "hostile, anti war newspapers," and to arrest individuals for protesting the war.

One hundred and forty years later President George Bush similarly stripped Constitutionally protected rights in the name of national security.

In both cases, Congress took action to support these Presidential edicts.

At what point should the President of the United States be given a blank check to ignore the civil liberties guaranteed by the Constitution?