

# The Fallen Distinguished Judge: The Constitutional Laws Fundamentalist

Judge Robert H. Bork was a distinguished jurist who served on the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit from 1982 to 1988. He was a staunch defender of the Constitution and was known for his intellectual rigor and commitment to the rule of law.

In 1987, Bork was nominated by President Ronald Reagan to serve as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. However, his nomination was met with strong opposition from liberal and civil rights groups, who accused him of being a "radical conservative" and a threat to Roe v. Wade.



## THE FALLEN DISTINGUISHED JUDGE: THE CONSTITUTIONAL LAWS FUNDAMENTALIST

by Lindsay Price

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Despite the opposition, Bork was confirmed by the Senate by a vote of 58-42. He served on the Court for less than a year before retiring due to health reasons.

In 1998, Bork was accused of corruption by a former law clerk. The clerk alleged that Bork had accepted bribes from a wealthy businessman in exchange for favorable rulings. Bork denied the allegations, but he was disbarred from practicing law in the District of Columbia.

The fall of Judge Robert H. Bork is a cautionary tale about the dangers of power and the importance of upholding ethical standards. Bork was a brilliant jurist who made significant contributions to American jurisprudence. However, his legacy is tainted by the allegations of corruption that led to his disbarment.

### **The Early Life and Career of Judge Robert H. Bork**

Robert Heron Bork was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on March 1, 1927. His father was a lawyer and his mother was a homemaker. Bork attended Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts, and then Yale University, where he graduated summa cum laude in 1948. He then attended Yale Law School, where he was editor-in-chief of the *Yale Law Journal*.

After graduating from law school, Bork clerked for Judge Learned Hand of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. He then worked as an attorney in the Solicitor General's Office of the United States Department of Justice. In 1962, he was appointed by President John F. Kennedy to serve as Solicitor General of the United States.

As Solicitor General, Bork argued numerous cases before the Supreme Court, including the landmark case of *Miranda v. Arizona*. In 1973, he was appointed by President Richard Nixon to serve as Assistant Attorney

General for the Office of Legal Counsel. In this role, he oversaw the Watergate investigation and defended the president's actions.

### **Bork's Appointment to the Court of Appeals**

In 1982, Bork was appointed by President Ronald Reagan to serve on the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. He was confirmed by the Senate by a vote of 52-48.

As a judge on the Court of Appeals, Bork was known for his intellectual rigor and commitment to the rule of law. He wrote numerous influential opinions on a wide range of issues, including antitrust law, criminal law, and constitutional law.

### **Bork's Nomination to the Supreme Court**

In 1987, President Ronald Reagan nominated Bork to serve as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. Bork's nomination was met with strong opposition from liberal and civil rights groups, who accused him of being a "radical conservative" and a threat to *Roe v. Wade*.

The confirmation hearings were contentious, with Bork's opponents accusing him of being out of touch with the American people and hostile to civil rights. Bork defended his record, but he was ultimately rejected by the Senate by a vote of 58-42.

### **Bork's Later Career**

After his rejection by the Senate, Bork returned to teaching at the George Mason University School of Law. He also wrote several books on legal and political issues.

In 1998, Bork was accused of corruption by a former law clerk. The clerk alleged that Bork had accepted bribes from a wealthy businessman in exchange for favorable rulings. Bork denied the allegations, but he was disbarred from practicing law in the District of Columbia.

### **The Legacy of Judge Robert H. Bork**

Judge Robert H. Bork was a brilliant jurist who made significant contributions to American jurisprudence. His legacy is tainted by the allegations of corruption that led to his disbarment.

Bork's fall from grace is a cautionary tale about the dangers of power and the importance of upholding ethical standards. It is a reminder that even the most distinguished individuals are not immune to the temptations of corruption.

### **Image Descriptions**







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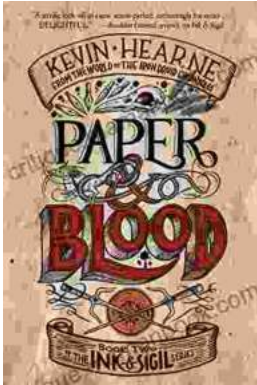
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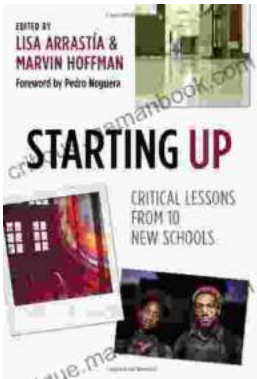
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