

First they came for the Venezuelans

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As the [New York Times has reported](#), on Saturday, a Federal judge ordered that Trump should not expel Venezuelans from the USA using an 18th-century wartime law.

Yesterday he did so in defiance of the order, saying the court had no right to rule over his exercise of foreign policy.

Clearly the judge thought that they had.

Trump did not wait to find out: he went ahead anyway.

A President who respected the rule of law would not have done that.

Trump is a president who does not respect the rule of law. That law is for others, apparently, but not for him.

The result is a situation where the law cannot be relied on in the USA. The application of the law is now claimed to be solely dependent on the political whim of the President.

I received an invitation to attend a meeting at the World Bank on Friday, in New York. I will not be going. The risks are too high. Visiting a country where the president thinks he can act in the way Trump is doing is to put oneself in harm's way. I am not willing to do that.

People in the USA do not have that choice: they have to now live in a lawless country.

It is that, or they need to get some politicians who will stand up to Trump, which those in Congress, who must know they should be doing, are refusing to do.

And so, the USA descends into fascism. And it seems that the political will of the neoliberals who are meant to prevent this happening does not exist, which tells us all we need to know about the neoliberal power hierarchy in both the USA and elsewhere. It is neo-fascist adjacent, which has always been apparent to those of us who bothered to study it.

Look at Friedman.

Look at Hayek.

Look at Rand.

Look at Buchanan.

This was always the direction of travel. All that has changed now in the USA is that the pretence has been given up.

Now look at parliament in the UK. Then ask, how many would object there when right now they can't even stand up for people with disabilities?

Who next won't they stand up for?

[First they came for.....](#)

Then one day they might come for you, and me.

It's all so inevitable.