Watching the extraordinary influence that ideological lawyers and judges have over every serious crisis threatening America today brings to mind Arnold Toynbee's remark that democracy will eventually commit suicide.

Our elected representatives, instead of being outraged about this, seem more than happy to duck lawmaking and leave the defining choices for America's future to our nation's unaccountable judicial and regulatory aristocracy.

Consider the painful energy crisis at the gas pump we now face with escalating prices forcing consumers to subsidize even more bin Laden wannabes. How did this happen?

Decades of obstructionist lawsuits brought by environmental activists have made us dangerously dependent on foreign oil. Uses of our nation's abundant supplies of oil, coal, and natural gas, as well as the development of alternative energy sources like nuclear energy, have all been held hostage by professional activist organizations. A new oil refinery hasn't been built in America for almost 30 years, while uncompromising elites still obsess about the habitats of plant and insect subspecies.

Meanwhile, lawyers and judges meddle constantly in our war against ruthless Islamo-fascist terrorists who are trying to kill as many Americans as they can. Every major national security and anti-terrorist measure our President and military use to protect us is under relentless legal assault in our own judiciary. A committed army of ideologues and their ACLU lawyers continue to find sympathetic judges to keep our homeland security efforts tied up in a legal straitjacket. Thanks to their judicial campaign, al Qaeda foot soldiers are winning U.S. courtroom battles and are now entitled to share due process rights with American citizens.

Just like other illegal aliens, a clean shaven, differently dressed bin Laden and his entourage could now walk across America's borders, obtain driver's licenses, demand the best health care America offers, and get us to provide tuition benefits for their children. Even Mexico understands this American litigation game, recently threatening to sue the U.S. in our own courts to block our border security efforts to detain and deport illegal aliens. Hospitals and clinics across America are nearly bankrupt from providing free medical treatment to illegal aliens while Americans must pick up the tab. We can expect more judicial mandates to worsen the entitlement crisis that illegal aliens have created for America's own sick and retired citizens.

Gaming our courts and government agencies has produced a bitter harvest for us. America can no longer afford ill-timed judicial activism and outdated ideological agendas.

Our Founding Fathers never intended for judges to be America's leaders. Whatever one's philosophical stripe, shouldn't we demand that accountable elected officials be the ones to protect our national interests by addressing the harsh realities facing America? The stakes have never been higher.

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