

LINCOLN CAPLAN well describes the baleful consequences of the Supreme Court's *Trump v. United States* decision. But I respectfully dissent from his conclusion that the legacy of that decision is “unlikely to be the one [Chief Justice John Roberts] wants.”

John Roberts is a smart man. Since his appointment as chief justice, he has well played his hand in a long game of turning the court from such liberalism as remained from the era of the Warren Court to its current embodiment of ultra-conservative jurisprudence. His eloquence, respectful writings, occasional tactical compromises, and famously pleasing personality have allowed him to steer his court rightwards without emerging as a divisive ideologue.

The chief justice cannot be happy about the dramatic loss of faith in and respect for the Supreme Court voiced by many Americans and respected organizations. But you can't make an omelet without breaking eggs, and this too shall pass. The court survived *Dred Scott*, even if it did take a civil war. It is we the people who can bemoan what has happened to our jurisprudence and what is happening to our country. As for Chief Justice Roberts—he can be proud.

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