October 20, 2016

Akhil Reed Amar: Election 2016 and the Constitution

Time: 12:00pm - 1:00pm
Location: Silverman 240B

In this talk, based on his just released book, "The Constitution Today," Yale Law Professor Akhil Reed Amar will discuss the constitutional significance of the 2016 Election. For the first time in our lifetime—and for one of the few times in modern history—all four major federal institutions of power are in play; electorally speaking. Come January, the Democrats could control the House, Senate, Presidency, and Supreme Court. Or the Republicans could control all four. Or we could continue with divided government. We are guaranteed to have a new president—a guarantee that arises only every eighth year—and the Supreme Court could shift away from Republican control for the first time in nearly half a century.

Professor Kermit Roosevelt will serve as moderator.

A free non-pizza lunch will be provided. The first 20 students to RSVP on the event’s Facebook page will also receive a free copy of Professor Amar’s new book, “The Constitution Today.”

Akhil Reed Amar is Sterling Professor of Law and Political Science at Yale University, where he teaches constitutional law in both Yale College and Yale Law School. After graduating from Yale College, summa cum laude, in 1980 and from Yale Law School in 1984, and clerking for then Judge (now Justice) Stephen Breyer, Amar joined the Yale faculty in 1985 at the age of 26. His work has won awards from both the American Bar Association and the Federalist Society, and he has been favorably cited by Supreme Court Justices across the spectrum in more than 30 cases—tops in his generation. In various comprehensive surveys of judicial citations and/or scholarly citations, he invariably ranks among America’s five most-cited legal scholars under age sixty. Professor Amar is the author of dozens of law review articles and several books, including The Constitution and Criminal Procedure: First Principles (Yale Univ. Press, 1997), The Bill of Rights: Creation and Reconstruction (Yale Univ. Press, 1998), America’s Constitution: A Biography (Random House, 2005), America’s Unwritten Constitution: The Precedents and Principles We Live By (Basic Books, 2012), and The Law of the Land: A Grand Tour of our Constitutional Republic (Basic Books, 2015). His newest book, The Constitution Today: Timeless Lessons for the Issues of Our Era, is being published in September 2016—just in time for what promises to be a momentous election.

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