What is impeachment?

Read. Watch. Listen.

**READ**


Four experts on the American presidency review three impeachment cases from history: against Presidents Andrew Johnson, Richard Nixon, and Bill Clinton. These three cases highlight factors beyond the president's behavior that impact the likelihood and outcome of an impeachment: the president's relationship with Congress, the power and resilience of the office itself, and the polarization of the moment.


A short, accessible collection of key historic writings about presidential impeachment. Readers will have a scope of perspectives from the Constitution, George Washington, Alexander Hamilton, Frederick Douglass, Barbara Jordan, Gerald Ford, Dianne Feinstein, and more.

**WATCH**


The authors of *Impeachment* (see the Read section for information on the book) discuss the history behind past presidential impeachments, the diaries of partisan and non-partisan participants, what “high crimes and misdemeanors” meant to past voters of the House, and why the purpose of impeachment is not to express dislike of the president.

Gendler, Alex. *How does impeachment work?* TED-Ed, Aug 24, 2017. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hSszixvo7d8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hSszixvo7d8)

In this Ted-ED video, Alex Gendler shares a brief explanation of why we have impeachment, what the process is, and what the consequences can be.

**DIGITAL RESOURCES**

*Opposing Viewpoints in Context*

Access this resource at [www.scld.org/opposing-viewpoints/](http://www.scld.org/opposing-viewpoints/)

Search “impeachment” after clicking through to this resource.

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https://scld.ent.sirsi.net/client/en_US/default/search/results?qu=Going+to+the+Devil+Impeachment+of+1868&te=&rt=false%7C%7C%7CTITLE%7C%7C%7CTitle

This is a narrative documentary of the turbulent events leading up to and through the impeachment of President Andrew Johnson. You'll learn firsthand of events from the characters themselves, such as Thaddeus Stevens, Charles Sumner, and others who were involved. With back stabbings, acts of violence, and twists and turns, the factual history of this case unfolds with all the drama of modern fiction.

LISTEN

https://www.nbcnews.com/podcast/inside-impeachment/impeachment-2-0-n1254214

Host Steve Kornacki talks with Leigh Ann Caldwell, NBC News’s Capitol Hill correspondent, about the House vote to impeach Donald Trump for a second time. Caldwell covers differing opinions between Republicans who believe that impeachment will further divide America and result in violence and Republicans who believe that the president’s conduct is impeachable. Caldwell also explains how a Senate trial will proceed for a president who is no longer in office.


This discussion looks at the differing legal opinions on the unprecedented question of whether a president can legally pardon himself while in office and, if so, under which circumstances.