MCCONNELL V. FEC, ANOTHER UNFORTUNATE DEMONSTRATION OF JUDICIAL DISREGARD FOR THE VALUE OF BREVITY: A CONCISE ANALYSIS

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United States Supreme Court opinions are too long.¹

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¹ It is also apparent, as evidenced by McConnell v. FEC, that United States Supreme Court opinions contain too many footnotes. 540 U.S. 93 (2003). Of the footnotes included, many are of such length as to provoke a motivated reader to cry out, “Why! Why now? Why have this information in a footnote expecting the reader to break stride in such a way that the flow of reading the opinion is broken? And why, if this information is so gosh darned important, wasn’t it included in the text of the opinion?”