The New Fear of Executive Power

from The Betrayal of the Intellectuals by Victor Davis Hanson

> *Long before the arrival of Donald Trump on the current election scene, many noted with alarm efforts to circumvent the Congress with Obama's "pen and phone" executive orders and nullification of existing law — whether the executive-order amnesties and non-enforcement of the border that he had warned he could not do before his reelection, given that they would be the work of an autocrat, or his allowance of sanctuary cities' Confederate-like nullification of existing federal law, or his arbitrary reelection-cycle, non-enforcement of elements of his own Affordable Care Act, or virtual rewriting of laws in federal bureaucracies such as the EPA, or the quite dangerous politicization of agencies such as Lois Lerner's activity at the IRS or the Eric-Holder/Loretta Lynch Justice Department or his divisive Chavista braggadocio ("get in their faces," "punish our enemies," "bring a gun to a knife fight," "you didn't build that," etc.).*