

Mayor Rocky Anderson on Bill O'Reilly – March 20, 2007

Bill O'Reilly: Alright, joining us now from Utah is the Mayor of Salt Lake City, Rocky Anderson. So you want to impeach President Bush and Vice-President Cheney, and I guess everybody else in there.

Rocky Anderson: No, actually I want the House of Representatives to stand up for our Constitution, for the rule of law . . .

O: Alright, but there's got to be a crime in order to impeach anybody. [FALSE]

A: . . . stop the abuses of power and impeach the president and vice-president.

O: Ok, but there's got to be a crime in order to impeach anybody, [FALSE] so . . .

A: No, I'm sorry, you don't know your constitutional history, Bill. There doesn't have to be a crime at all. The whole idea behind the term "high crimes and misdemeanors" in the Constitution – it's about political crimes, it's about abuses of power, breaches of trust, it's about misleading the Congress and the American people . . .

O: There has to be a demonstrable – with all due respect, Mayor, I think I know more than you about American history and the Constitution – there has to be a demonstrable . . .

A: Well, apparently you don't from what you just said, Bill O'Reilly . . .

O: Apparently you're going to keep quiet and let me say something and then you can respond.

A: Well, I think I was responding to your question.

O: You were and you got your point across. Now, you have to have a demonstrable action by the president or vice-president which is a high crime or misdemeanor that shows . . .

A: That's right, that's not a criminal act, like you said . . .

O: . . . that they violated the Constitution. [FALSE]

A: You just criticized the New York Times for misstating the facts. You are misstating constitutional history . . .

O: Ok, you don't know what you're talking about.

A: . . . and I suggest you stop misleading . . .

O: You don't know what you're talking about because abuse of power can be interpreted a million different ways.

A: You know, if you ask me a question . . . Do you ever let anybody answer a question, Bill?

O: Not if you're . . . Not if you're foolish and you're taking up the viewers' time. You're foolish.

A: Bill O'Reilly, you should be ashamed . . .

O: There isn't one person in the US Congress that is going to back you. Not one. [FALSE] You're foolish.

A: Let me tell you . . .

O: You're foolish . . .

A: . . . we have seen

O: . . . and you're subverting your own country. Subverting your own country, that's what you're doing. You're an irresponsible public servant.

A: Did you just have me on so you could hear yourself talk?

O: You're an irresponsible person. You don't know what you're talking about.

A: Let me know when you're finished there, Bill.

O: There isn't one Congressperson who will introduce an article of impeachment. [FALSE] You can't get anybody to do it because they know you're a kook. That's why.

A: Do you just have guests on your program so you can hear yourself talk?

O: Go ahead, Mayor.

A: You know, where I'm from, we ask people questions, we give them the courtesy of answering them without being interrupted.

O: It depends how kooky you are. I'm not going . . .

A: You know, we also . . .

O: . . . to let you say something that is totally insane like you're saying.

A: This is classic Bill, isn't it? You invite guests on to call them names. I love my country. I love our Constitution. I believe very strongly in the rule of law . . . \

O: Yeah, well your interpretation of the Constitution is kooky. That's what it is.

A: Let me know when you're finished. You . . .

O: Alright, I am finished, I want to move along.

A: You let me know when you're finished and you're going to stop calling people names and engage in some reasonable dialogue.

O: I didn't call you a name. [FALSE] I said your interpretation of the Constitution is kooky and it is.

Followed by "Judge" Napolitano –

O: I have just one last question on the mayor of Salt Lake City (laughing derisively) . . .

N: Yes.

O: . . . who want to impeach people for the so-called abuse of power. I mean, you know sometimes by head explodes. (More laughing)

N: Well, the mayor is entitled to his political opinions, but he's not entitled to misrepresent the Constitution. Even when the Democrats were at their most aggressive against Richard Nixon and they drafted articles of impeachment, each one stated a specific felony that they could point to . . . [FALSE]

O: So "high crimes and misdemeanors" means just that?

N: It means literally a high crime. [FALSE]

O: So how come the mayor didn't say that?

N: Oh, because he wanted to stretch out his argument with you, Bill. (

(Both laughing derisively.)

O: You know, I mean this is what I have to put up with. This is what I have to put up with.