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## **Tahirih Justice Center Warns Supreme Court Ruling Undermines Legal Safeguards Against Executive Overreach**

Today, the Supreme Court permitted an executive order redefining birthright citizenship to go into effect for everyone except the specific plaintiffs in ongoing federal litigation. In so ruling, the court also ended the authority of lower courts to universally block potentially unconstitutional executive actions by forbidding them from issuing nationwide (“universal”) injunctions while cases are still under review.

The **Tahirih Justice Center’s CEO Archi Pyati** said: “The strength of our democracy rests on the people’s trust in our Constitution to provide checks on abuse of power. When the executive attempts to rewrite law by fiat, the courts must be able to pause those actions while they review legality and impact. The Supreme Court makes a dangerous gamble with its decision: the subject today is the ability of new Americans to be together with their families and safe from devastating harm. The subject tomorrow could be something even more dire.”

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JUSTICE JACKSON, dissenting.

I agree with every word of JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR’s dissent. I write separately to emphasize a key conceptual point: The Court’s decision to permit the Executive to violate the Constitution with respect to anyone who has not yet sued is an existential threat to the rule of law.

It is important to recognize that the Executive’s bid to vanquish so-called “universal injunctions” is, at bottom, a request for this Court’s permission to engage in unlawful behavior. When the Government says “do not allow the lower courts to enjoin executive action universally as a remedy for unconstitutional conduct,” what it is actually saying

For more information, [read our Breaking Down the News item on birthright citizenship.](#)



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The Tahirih Justice Center is a national, nonprofit organization that serves women, girls, and all immigrant survivors of gender-based violence. By amplifying the experiences of survivors, our mission is to create a world in which all people share equal rights and live in safety and with dignity.