

# William & Mary Bill of Rights Journal

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## The Bill of Rights: Creation and Reconstruction by Akhil Reed Amar

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## BOOK REVIEW

THE BILL OF RIGHTS: CREATION AND RECONSTRUCTION. By Akhil Reed Amar. New Haven: Yale University Press. 1998. Pp. xv, 432. \$35.00.

Reviews by Richard L. Aynes, Michael Kent Curtis, & Melvin I. Urofsky

*The publication of Professor Akhil Reed Amar's The Bill of Rights: Creation and Reconstruction has drawn much attention and a great deal of praise. Richard L. Aynes' book review focuses on Professor Amar's doctrine of refined incorporation. Professor Aynes suggests that there are seven deadly sins of legal history and that Amar avoided all of these in his recent work. Michael K. Curtis writes that Professor Amar beautifully and elegantly tells the story of the Bill of Rights, focusing on its application to the states. Curtis' review states that Amar's work provides a valuable historical context in which to view this monumental change in constitutional doctrine. Finally, Melvin I. Urofsky praises Professor Amar's work as well-written. Although he disagrees with some of Amar's minor theses, Urofsky finds Amar's major theses convincing.*

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