Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr.
The Annotated Bobblehead

“Congress’ decision to proceed indirectly does not reduce the deference given to Congress in the area of military affairs.” Rumsfeld v. FAIR, Inc., 547 U.S. 47 (2006).

“Here the Government’s argument for uniformity is different; it rests not so much on the particular statutory program at issue as on slippery-slope concerns . . . .” Gonzales v. O Centro Espirita Beneficente Uniao do Vegetal, 546 U.S. 418 (2006).

“Adjectives typically reflect the meaning of corresponding nouns, but not always. Sometimes they acquire distinct meanings of their own. The noun ‘crab’ refers variously to a crustacean and a type of apple, while the related adjective ‘crabbed’ can refer to handwriting that is ‘difficult to read’ . . . .” FCC v. AT&T, 562 U.S. 397 (2011).

“Indeed, the danger of unwarranted judicial interference in the conduct of foreign policy is magnified in the context of the ATS, because the question is not what Congress has done but instead what courts may do.” Koble v. Royal Dutch Petroleum Co., 133 S.Ct. 1659 (2013).

“Raisins are not like oysters: they are private property — the fruit of the growers’ labor — not ‘public things subject to the absolute control of the state.’ . . . .” Horne v. Department of Agriculture, 135 S.Ct. 2419 (2015).

“Had Congress meant to limit tax credits to State Exchanges, it . . . would not have used such a winding path of connect-the-dots provisions . . . .” King v. Burwell, 135 S.Ct. 2480 (2015); see also AID v. Alliance for Open Society, 133 S.Ct. 2321 (2013) (“[W]e cannot improve upon what Justice Jackson wrote for the Court 70 years ago: ‘If there is any fixed star in our constitutional constellation, it is that no official, high or petty, can prescribe what shall be orthodox in politics, nationalism, religion, or other matters of opinion or force citizens to confess by word or act their faith therein.’”.

“But cars and broccoli are no more purchased for their ‘own sake’ than health insurance.” NFIB v. Sebelius, 132 S.Ct. 2566, 2591 (2012).