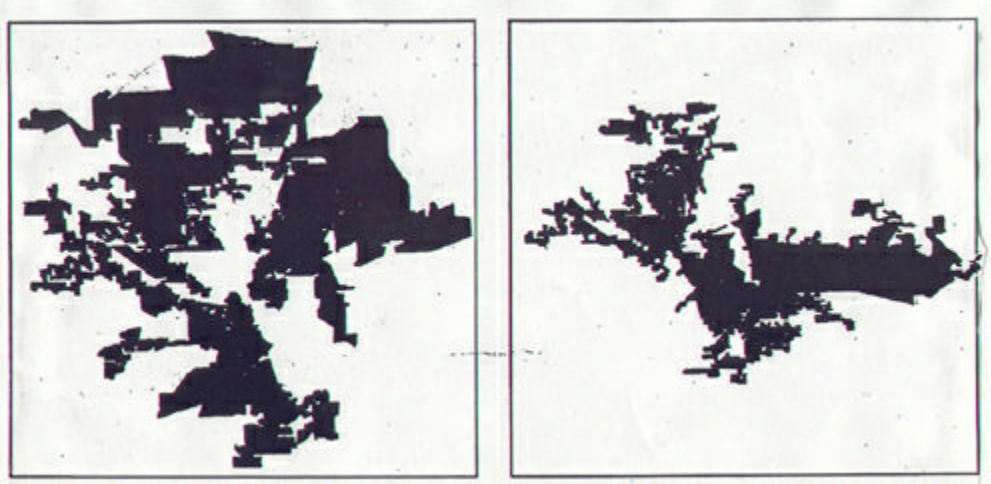
1991 Texas Congressional Districts
Declared Unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court

District 18 District 29



What about the courts? In a case brought by Indiana Democrats in 1986, the High Court ruled that *partisan* gerrymandering *might be* unconstitutional under circumstances so extreme they will never occur. In 1989 the Court refused to consider an appeal by California Republicans of a district court ruling upholding an obvious Democrat gerrymander of the State's congressional districts. In 1996 the Court refused to consider an appeal by former Ohio Congressman Clarence Miller of a district court ruling upholding an obvious *bipartisan* gerrymander of Ohio's current congressional districts. But this same Court has ruled *un*constitutional highly non compact districts, like the "shoestring" in North Carolina, that were drawn to elect African-Americans. The Court is saying that non-compact districts are unconstitutional if drawn to elect minority candidates; but O.K. if drawn to confer a partisan advantage, or re-elect white incumbents. Look at this picture: these two districts are *un*constitutional.