



U.S. HISTORY

Constitutional Principles

“Bill’s Rights...and Yours too...”

The ANTI-FEDERALISTS demanded a list of RIGHTS be added to the Constitution before they would ratify it.

The FIRST TEN AMENDMENTS is that list - and it provides you and other citizens FREEDOM from oppressive government and authority. They are YOUR rights. You need to know them!

DIRECTIONS: This is an individual project that will take time.

1. Learn the list on the following page - “BILL’S RIGHTS....and YOURS too...”
2. Read and understand what each of the TEN AMENDMENTS mean
 - What do you think each amendment meant when written originally (EXEGESIS)?
 - What does it mean to American citizens today (INTERPRETATION)?
 - What do they mean to you, personally (APPLICATION)?
3. Research and obtain **specific examples IN HISTORY** where each of the list of rights have been:
 - supported and used to provide freedom to American citizens, historically speaking
 - misused and abused to violate American citizens’ freedoms, historically speaking

Bill's Rights....oh, and Yours too...

- ① Freedom of RELIGION, SPEECH, PRESS, ASSEMBLY, and PETITION. [RSPAP]
- ② Right to keep and bear ARMS in order to maintain a well regulated MILITIA.
- ③ No QUARTERING of soldiers.
- ④ Freedom from unreasonable SEARCHES and SEIZURES.
- ⑤ Right to DUE PROCESS of law, freedom from SELF-INCRIMINATION, DOUBLE JEOPARDY.
- ⑥ Rights of accused persons, like right to a SPEEDY and PUBLIC TRIAL.
- ⑦ Right of trial by JURY in civil cases.
- ⑧ Freedom from excessive BAIL, CRUEL and UNUSUAL PUNISHMENTS.
- ⑨ OTHER RIGHTS of the people.
- ⑩ Powers reserved to the STATES.

***It's MINE.
MINE! ALL MINE!
...ok...I'll share a little...***

This is Bill.
He took a Bill of Rights home and made it easier to read.
But now he says it is his....unless you can memorize his list.

Take it away from Bill...learn the list!



The Bill of Rights

[Ratified December 15, 1791]

The Preamble to The Bill of Rights

Congress of the United States
begun and held at the City of New-York, on
Wednesday the fourth of March, one thousand seven hundred and eighty nine.

THE Conventions of a number of the States, having at the time of their adopting the Constitution, expressed a desire, in order to prevent misconstruction or abuse of its powers, that further declaratory and restrictive clauses should be added: And as extending the ground of public confidence in the Government, will best ensure the beneficent ends of its institution.

RESOLVED by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, two thirds of both Houses concurring, that the following Articles be proposed to the Legislatures of the several States, as amendments to the Constitution of the United States, all, or any of which Articles, when ratified by three fourths of the said Legislatures, to be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of the said Constitution; viz.

ARTICLES in addition to, and Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America, proposed by Congress, and ratified by the Legislatures of the several States, pursuant to the fifth Article of the original Constitution.

DIRECTIONS - read each of the Bill of Rights and write on the right side of the following pages (or a separate sheet of paper)

- [1] Original meaning
- [2] Modern interpretation/Your opinion
- [3] Historical example where used correctly
- [4] Historical example where abused

Amendment I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

COMMENTARY (use this area and separate sheets of paper)

Amendment II

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

Amendment III

No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Amendment IV

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Amendment V

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Amendment VI

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defence.

Amendment VII

In Suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

Amendment VIII

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

Amendment IX

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Amendment X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.