



Devotion: The 10 Commandments of The Bible

https://scripturememory.com/10commandments?gclid=Cj0KCQQAorKfBhC0ARIsAHDzslsHVMc4P71S0_IkSrFUJar9A4NeYBxHAU-jZm0AMccPJ2GrNE_fuyUaAv4aEALw_wcB

1. **You shall have no other gods before me.**
2. **You shall not make for yourself any carved/graven image.**
3. **You shall not take the name of the Lord God in vain.**
4. **Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.**
5. **Honor your father and your mother.**
6. **You shall not murder.**
7. **You shall not commit adultery.**
8. **You shall not steal.**
9. **You shall not bear false witness.**
10. **You shall not covet anything that is your neighbor's. (Exodus 20)**

Week 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview
Wk.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civil liberties. Key terms: Individual liberties, national application, First Amendment, establishment clause, exercise clause, free speech, free press, <i>right to privacy</i>, Miranda warnings/rights, exclusionary rule of evidence.
HW4 2/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities, Assignments and/or Exams • Read Ch. 4 (p.86-113) and ONE relevant <i>current event</i> article (within last 3 months) • Write: Choose <i>two</i> concepts/key terms in the Chapter that are new to you. Explain each and how you see they have an impact on American politics/experience today? • Apply ONE of the CTD by giving some detail/facts related to your two points. • Number your 2 points to make your statements clearly understood (total 300 words). • ALWAYS include in-text citations (see LP Plagiarism) and Reference to your post, work. • Respond to another post (50 words)
Week 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview
Wk.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civil rights. Key terms: Civil rights/protections, Supreme Court decisions, suffrage and voting rights, protected class, LGBTQ legal rights, protection of juveniles.
HW5 2/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities, Assignments and/or Exams • Read Ch. 5 (p.115-148) and ONE relevant <i>current event</i> article (within last 3 months) • Write: Choose <i>two</i> concepts/key terms in the Chapter that are new to you. Explain each and how you see they have an impact on American politics/experience today? • Apply ONE of the CTD by giving some detail/facts related to your two points. • Number your 2 points to make your statements clearly understood (total 300 words). • ALWAYS include in-text citations (see LP Plagiarism) and Reference to your post, work. • Respond to another post (50 words) <p>NEXT WEEK: No class held during class time 02/22. Complete discussions, prepare for test. Exam moved to Wk.7 – In-class, bring laptop to class to take test on E360</p>

Lesson Goal: What are civil liberties?

What are civil liberties? Civil liberties are basic freedoms and rights that are guaranteed either by the Bill of Rights in the Constitution or by interpretations of those rights by the legislature or courts. Civil liberties in the U.S. include all of the following rights:

- Free speech
- Privacy
- Right to remain silent
- Right to be free from unreasonable searches
- Right to a fair trial
- Right to marry
- Right to vote

Civil rights vs. Civil liberties

Civil liberties are basic freedoms while **civil rights are the basic right to be free from discrimination based on such characteristics as race, disability, color, gender, national origin, and others.** Civil liberties include the basic freedoms while civil rights include how an individual is treated regarding certain rights. Civil rights contain a protective aspect of the rights based on protected characteristics. Looking at what right is affected and whose right it is can help you to understand the difference between civil rights and civil liberties.

Example: Employees do not have the right to be promoted because it is not considered to be a civil liberty. However, female workers have the right to be free from discrimination when being considered for promotions. Employers are not able to deny promotions based on the protected characteristic of gender. Discriminating against an employee on the basis of gender is a civil rights violation. (Swartz, Swidler, LLC., 2019). Retrieved from <https://swartz-legal.com/employment-law-resources/whats-the-difference-between-civil-rights-civil-liberties/>

United States Constitution, 1st Amendment, 1789

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. (U.S. Constitution, 1st Amendment, 1789).

Retrieved from <https://constitution.congress.gov/constitution/amendment-1/>

United States Constitution, 2nd Amendment

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. (U.S. Constitution, 2nd Amendment, 1789)

Retrieved from <https://constitution.congress.gov/browse/amendment-2/>

United States Constitution, 4th Amendment

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. (U.S. Constitution, 4th Amendment, 1789)

Retrieved from <https://constitution.congress.gov/constitution/amendment-4/>

United States Constitution, 5th Amendment

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. (U.S. Constitution, 5th Amendment, 1789)

What is the ACLU? American Civil Liberties Union

“The American Civil Liberties Union is our nation's guardian of liberty, working daily in courts, legislatures and communities to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties that the Constitution and laws of the United States guarantee everyone in this country” (ACLU, 2023).

Retrieved from <https://www.aclu.org/guardians-freedom#:~:text=The%20American%20Civil%20Liberties%20Union,guarantee%20everyone%20in%20this%20country.>

Liberties in the news: <https://www.aclu.org/news>

- Let's pick a topic in the link, and discuss what liberty is associated with the challenge?

Internal Revenue Service, U.S. Government – Classification of a church, necessary for tax exemption. <https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/churches-religious-organizations/churches-defined>

The term *church* is found, but not specifically defined in the *U.S. Internal Revenue Code*. With the exception of the special rules for church audits, the use of the term *church* also includes conventions and associations of churches as well as [integrated auxiliaries](#) of a church.

Certain characteristics are generally attributed to churches. These attributes of a church have been developed by the IRS and by court decisions. They include:

- Distinct legal existence
- Recognized creed and form of worship
- Definite and distinct ecclesiastical government
- Formal code of doctrine and discipline
- Distinct religious history
- Membership not associated with any other church or denomination
- Organization of ordained ministers
- Ordained ministers selected after completing prescribed courses of study
- Literature of its own
- Established places of worship
- Regular congregations
- Regular religious services
- Sunday schools for the religious instruction of the young
- Schools for the preparation of its members

Right to life legal question: Is physician-assisted suicide legal in the United States? Your opinion?

GQ: Is a liberty, a person's willful act that is protected from government power by the U.S. Constitution?

VIDEO: CA Law sanctions physician-assisted suicide. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GK2M2VhSbzc>

VIDEO: Medical Doctor's Hypocratic Oath - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ghw6UOEHUc> – 6:37 min.

Is there such a thing as a **right to privacy**? There is *no such term in the U.S. Constitution*, however, the 4th Amendment had the goal of protecting citizens from having the government invade the privacy of individuals without following a due process (practices and procedures that aim to ensure fairness and justice). The government in no way should have access to the property, person, or papers without the due process of first establishing *probable cause*. Probable cause allows law enforcement to *arrest or secure property/evidence*, AND/OR *issue a search or arrest warrant* to act later.

Probable cause means there is reasonable proof that a crime has been or is in the process of being committed. The *reasonable proof of participating in a crime* must be evident to law enforcement immediately (such as someone robbing a bank), or the proof should be later possessed by law enforcement, for example, collecting fingerprints, video recording, computer data, eyewitness accounts, etc.

Exclusionary rule: When evidence is collected by means that violate a person's Constitutional protections/ due process the evidence becomes *forever inadmissible (is not allowed in court) regardless of how seriousness* the offense/crime; this is called the exclusionary rule. This extreme practice of excluding evidence is intended to keep law enforcement/the government from abusing its power of citizens.

What are categorical violations of the rights/protections of others?

DEF: Defamation of character – Wrongfully hurting a person’s good reputation. The law imposes a generally duty on all persons to refrain from making false, defamatory statements about others.

DEF: Slander – the public uttering of a false statement that harms the good reputation of another. The statement must be made to, or within, the hearing of, a person other than the defamed party.

DEF: Libel – a written defamation of a person’s character, reputation, business, or property rights.

Reference (TEXTBOOK)

Bartles, Shelley, & Schmidt (2022). *American government and politics today* (20th ed.). Boston, MA.: Cengage.

The importance of protection from non-self incrimination: One of the key concepts of justice is that persons should not be obligated to incriminate/claim guilt for an action/crime. The 5th Amendment protects persons from the government coercing(threatening) individuals as well as demanding they claim guilt for alleged crimes.

The concept of **innocent until proven guilty (the presumption of innocence)** is not literally in the U.S. Constitution, but it is a doctrine/principle that is supported by U.S. court decisions that define and protect due process. **Due process** are practices and procedures that aim to ensure fairness and justice regardless of an accused persons social standing or status.

The Miranda warnings/rights relate to the *vulnerability of a person under the pressure of an arrest*. The courts have acknowledged how easy it is for a person under the stress and pressure of being arrested to confess to wrongdoing. This type of pressure can be called coercing a confession. The Miranda warnings are given only when a person is arrested. They are:

1. You have the right to remain silent.
2. Anything you say, can and will be held against you in a court of law.
3. You have the right to speak to an attorney and have an attorney present during questioning.
4. If you cannot afford an attorney, one will be appointed to you.
5. *Do you understand these rights just stated to you?*
6. *With these rights in mind, do you still wish to talk to me?*

Notice that No.5 serves to assert that the person heard the warnings.

Notice that No.6 continues to invite the arrested person to speak or remain silent.

Deciding to speak is considered waiving your right to remain silent.