

The Constitution as a governing document is continually implemented in government operations and interpreted and evaluated. For this assignment, you will research and analyze a recent event in the news which demonstrates an example of the Constitution in action. **Be prepared to share about your findings in class on the due date.**

Step 1: Find an event in the news from within the last year. You can start by looking to your copy of the Constitution and accompanying handouts to identify an element you might research in current news. For example, Article 1 Section 7 discusses the steps for a bill to become a law. For that, you could research the process for a law that was passed, not passed, or vetoed within the last year to further understand the process, along with the nature of the debate over the bill and who ultimately voted for/against it and why. Other examples might be reviewing a Supreme Court case that evaluated the constitutionality of a law, the president exercising an executive power, or a debate over how an amendment might be interpreted and implemented.

Another approach is to look through the news first, and then identify how a particular event connects to the Constitution. It's possible, and even likely, for an event to connect to more than one part of the Constitution; for example, the Supreme Court might review the constitutionality of a state law regarding separation of church and state in public schools—this would pertain to both Article 3 (Judicial Review) and the First Amendment (Religious Freedom).

Step 2: Find 3 different sources that discuss the event. You're welcome to use the [All Sides Media Bias Chart](#) for this if you like, but that is not required for this particular assignment. The idea here is simply to find multiple sources to get a better understanding of the issue. Cite your sources using MLA format (below) and give a brief summary of what each source covers and its angle/focus on the issue. You may use bullet points for this.

List each source using this format:

Last name of author, first name of author. "Headline or Video Title in Quotation Marks." *Title of Media Outlet in Italics*. Publisher (if available), date of publication. Url of website without the http://. Date Accessed.

Step 3: Summarize the issue in full and explain the following:

1. What specific part(s) of the Constitution does this event connect to? Name the specific Articles and Sections or Amendments and explain how they are connected to the event.
2. What are different viewpoints on this issue? Is there a debate over whether this event is constitutional or not, or how the constitution might be interpreted differently? Explain the different viewpoints.

Step 4: Write a paragraph or two exploring your own opinion on the issue. Were constitutional processes adhered to in this event? Was the Constitution effective in your view in terms of upholding democracy and protecting individual rights? What about this issue do you agree or disagree with and why?