

Appendix C:

Legal Content and Sources of Law

Legal Content

- Social contract theory and the rule of law
- The difference between natural rights and legal rights, as well as positive and negative rights
- The constitutional amendment process
- Historic law codes
- Peelian principles and professional and community models of policing
- Checks and balances
- The role of the legislative branch in creating, repealing, or modifying laws
- The role of the executive branch in enforcing laws
- The role of the judicial branch in interpreting laws and reviewing laws for constitutionality
- The law of search and seizure as applied in school settings
- The role of dissent and advocacy in shaping law and public policy in a democracy
- The right to vote
- The changing concept of “we the people”

Sources of Law

Part 2

- United States Constitution (1788)
- Bill of Rights (1791)
- Fifteenth Amendment (1870)
- Nineteenth Amendment (1920)
- Twenty-sixth Amendment (1971)
- California Education Code—Truancy provisions
- Code of Hammurabi (circa 1700 B.C.E.)
- Salic Law (circa 507–511)
- Plymouth Colony Code of Law (1636)
- Fourth Amendment (1791)
- The Federalist Papers, No. 78 (1788)
- *Marbury v. Madison* (U.S. Supreme Court, 1803)
- *New Jersey v. T.L.O.* (U.S. Supreme Court, 1985)
- *Safford Unified School District v. Redding* (U.S. Supreme Court, 2007)

Sources of Law (continued)

Part 3

- Clean Air Act (1970)
- United States Constitution (1788)
- Articles of Confederation (1781)
- State laws regarding voting eligibility
- Naturalization Act of 1790
- Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo (1848)
- Fourteenth Amendment (1868)
- Fifteenth Amendment (1870)
- Chinese Exclusion Act (1882)
- Federal Dawes Act (1887)
- Indian Naturalization Act (1890)
- Nineteenth Amendment (1920)
- McCarren Walter Act (1952)
- Twenty-Third Amendment (1961)
- Twenty-Fourth Amendment (1964)
- Voting Rights Act of 1965
- Twenty-Sixth Amendment (1971)
- Voting Rights Act Amendments of 1975
- National Voter Registration Act (1993), a.k.a. the “Motor Voter Act”
- Help America Vote Act (2002)
- *Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District* (U.S. Supreme Court, 1969)
- First Amendment (1791)

Appendix D: Standards

This unit was developed to meet the following standards.

National Council for the Social Studies' National Curriculum Standards for Social Studies

Literacy Skills

- 13. Locate, analyze, critique, and use appropriate resources and data.
- 14. Articulate and construct reasoned arguments from diverse perspectives and frames of reference.

Critical Thinking Skills—Research, Information, and Technology Skills

Use Computer-Based Technology and Media/Communication Technology

- 6D. Use online information resources and communities to meet the need for collaboration, research, publications, and communication

Synthesize Information

- 4G. Communicate concisely both orally and in writing.

Individuals, Groups, and Institutions

- 5.7. Understand how, in democratic societies, legal protections are designed to protect the rights and beliefs of minority groups.

Power, Authority, and Governance

- 6.1. Understand the need for respect for the rule of law, as well as a recognition of times when civil disobedience has been justified.
- 6.2. Understand fundamental principles of American constitutional democracy (including those of the U.S. Constitution, popular sovereignty, the rule of law, separation of powers, checks and balances, minority rights, the separation of church and state, and Federalism).
- 6.5. Understand mechanisms by which governments meet the needs and wants of citizens, regulate territory, manage conflict, establish order and security, and balance competing conceptions of a just society.

Civic Ideals and Practices

- 10.1. Understand concepts and ideals such as: individual dignity, liberty, justice, equality, individual rights, responsibility, majority and minority rights, and civil dissent.
- 10.3. Understand key practices involving the rights and responsibilities of citizenship and the exercise of citizenship (e.g., respecting the rule of law and due process, voting, serving on a jury, researching issues, making