

American Government and Politics

The Supreme Cases

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This activity is to be done in groups of, at most, four. Your *first* task as a group is to exchange with each member of your group contact information and your first meeting time. I will be checking with you at some time in the future to make sure you completed this step. Once you have done that, your second task is to divide the workload *acceptably* among the members of your group.

There are four sections to the paper:

1. Give the background to the case. What caused it? What were the political and historical events leading up to it?
2. What were the major questions the court had to answer in deciding the case?
3. What were the findings of the court (the answers to the questions)?
4. What was the result of this case on the country, on the states, on us, and on our rights?

In addition to the paper (which should be a few pages), your group will present your findings. This presentation should be very simple and should take about five minutes to do. You will stand up there, *without your paper*, and explain the four parts. You can divide the load however you see fit.

The Cases:

■	1925	Pierce v. Society of Sisters	268 U.S. 510	Religion
■	1935	ALA Schechter Poultry Corp. v. United States	295 U.S. 495	Art I/II
■	1937	DeJonge v. Oregon	299 U.S. 353	Assembly
■	1962	Baker v. Carr	369 U.S. 186	Voting
■	1962	Engle v. Vitale	370 U.S. 421	Religion
■	1966	Brown v. Louisiana	383 U.S. 131	Assembly
■	1972	Wisconsin v. Yoder	406 U.S. 205	Religion
■	1974	United States v. Nixon	418 U.S. 683	Press
■	1976	Buckley v. Valeo	424 U.S. 1	Speech
■	1982	Mississippi University for Women v. Hogan	458 U.S. 718	Equality
■	1989	Texas v. Johnson	491 U.S. 397	Speech
■	2000	Bush v. Gore	531 U.S. 98	Voting
■	2001	Rogers v. Tennessee	532 U.S. 451	Ex Post
■	2003	Virginia v. Black, et al	538 U.S. 343	Speech
■	2006	Gonzales v. Oregon	546 U.S. 243	Federalism
■	2007	Parents v. Seattle School District No. 1	551 U.S. ____	Race

Some suggested sources:

Fed World	http://supcourt.ntis.gov/
Jurist (Pittsburgh):	http://jurist.law.pitt.edu/
Legal Information Institute (Cornell):	http://supct.law.cornell.edu/
Medill (Northwestern):	http://docket.medill.northwestern.edu/
Oyez Project:	http://www.oyez.org/
Supreme Court of the US:	http://www.supremecourtus.gov/

Group Members:

Name	Phone Number	Email Address
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