

Bill of Rights Research Essay Research Tips and Reminders

1. Include in text citations whenever you quote or use someone else's ideas. This is what you have done over and over with *Nothing But the Truth, Of Mice and Men* and with numerous other sources. On your note forms for each resource, keep track of your bibliography information and the page numbers and/or names in order for you to cite your sources within your essay.
2. Many resources and links to sources can be found on our school's library website. When looking for resources, do note that you may have to provide key words from within the amendment to help you search for cases – simply typing “First Amendment” may not be good enough to locate a case. You may have to type “freedom of religion,” etc.
3. If you have difficulty researching information and find it frustrating to locate the information that you need, you may want to use the ideas for court cases that are listed below. You still have to find the research, but I am giving you a head start by providing the most significant court cases in American history that address specific amendments. They may not be the most recent or the most interesting, but they address the amendment. There are many more recent cases out there that are more interesting, so I recommend that if you are capable of finding research, you do so to make this as interesting as possible.
4. Lastly, besides on-line resources, there are books provided for you in the library – which you will not be able to check out. Also, while researching sources on line, a good phrase to use for finding significant cases would be “landmark Supreme Court cases.” I found many using this phrase.

One site I found that was “kid” friendly was <http://library.thinkquest.org/2760/cases.htm>. The next site includes cases that involve children:

<http://www.uscourts.gov/EducationalResources/ConstitutionResources/LegalLandmarks/LandmarkSupremeCourtCasesAboutStudents.aspx>.

Here are more sites to use for research or to just get ideas:

<http://legalclips.nsba.org/>

<http://www.uscourts.gov/educational-resources/get-informed/supreme-court/landmark-supreme-court-cases-about-students.aspx>

<http://chnm.gmu.edu/loudountah/source-analysis/bill-of-rights/lesson-plan/>

<http://constitution.findlaw.com/amendments.html>(This site is amazing! It lists a “gazillion” issues surrounding the amendments that have turned into Supreme Court cases, and it links you to the cases!)

<https://www.aclu.org/>

<http://thefire.org/>

<http://thefire.org/cases/freespeech/> (Yes, this is the same link above; it's just not the home page. I wanted to make the First Amendment Case page evident.)

<http://www.firstamendmentcenter.org/category/speech> (Awesome!)

<http://www.fepproject.org/>

<http://www.oyez.org/>

Okay – I think you have many resources to help you get started! I will update my website and/or have Mrs. Mangels update the library site as I find more resources for you.

5. If you find a case that you like but do not know which amendment it addresses, just ask for some help from Mrs. Bean or Mrs. Meiers.

Amendments and Landmark Court Cases:

Even though the Bill of Rights only includes the first ten amendments, you may use amendments outside of the first ten. There are some very interesting cases for the fourteenth and fifteenth – many equal rights issues. You are welcome to research amendments outside of the B.O.R., but you need to talk with me first to discuss whether this is a good option for you.

First Amendment: Tinker v. Des Moines School District

Second Amendment: United States v. Miller

Third Amendment: Engblom v. Carey

Fourth Amendment: Roe v. Wade

Fifth Amendment: Miranda v. Arizona

Sixth Amendment: Gideon v. Wainright

Seventh Amendment: *Rogers v. Loether*

Eighth Amendment: Furman v. Georgia

Ninth Amendment: Moose Lodge v. Iris

Tenth Amendment: Maryland v. Wirtz