

Government Final Study Guide

PRACTICE QUESTIONS



Create your own at Storyboard That

What is the social contract?

John Locke:

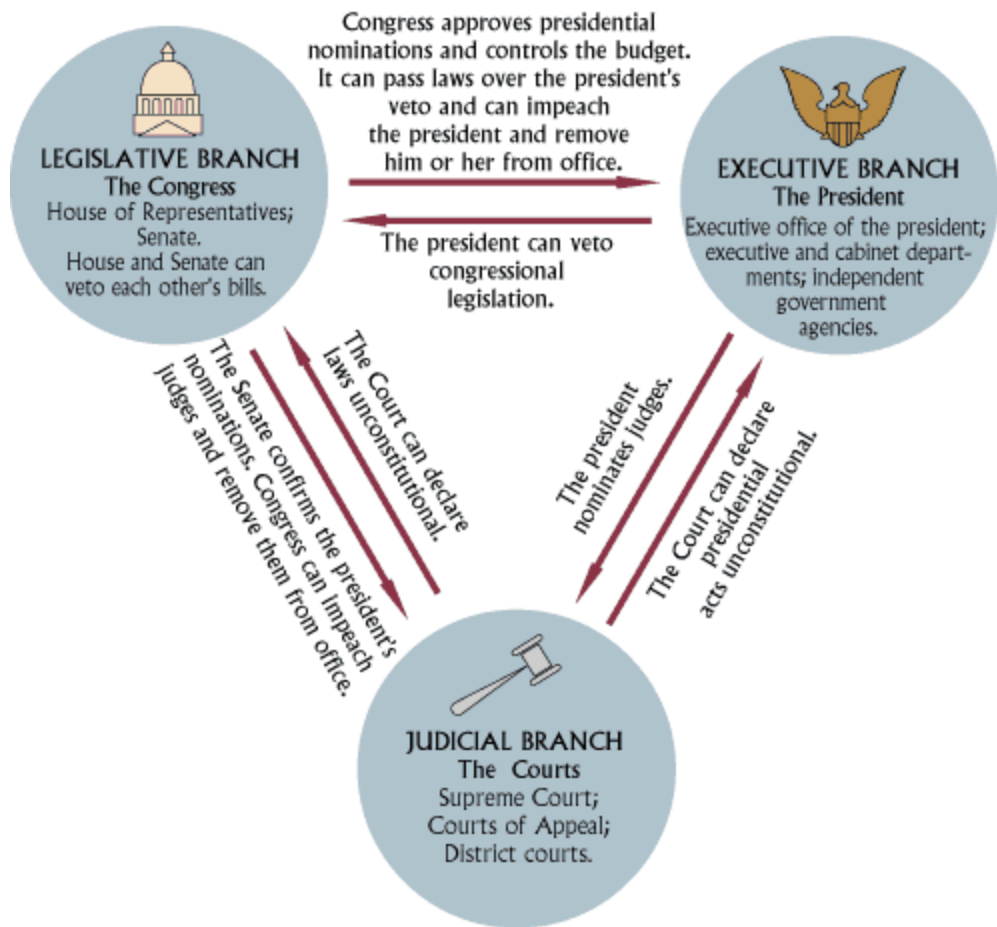
- Natural Rights
- Purpose of government

Declaration of Independence

We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness – That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, – That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient Causes; and accordingly, all Experience hath shewn, that Mankind are more disposed to suffer, while Evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the Forms to which they are accustomed.

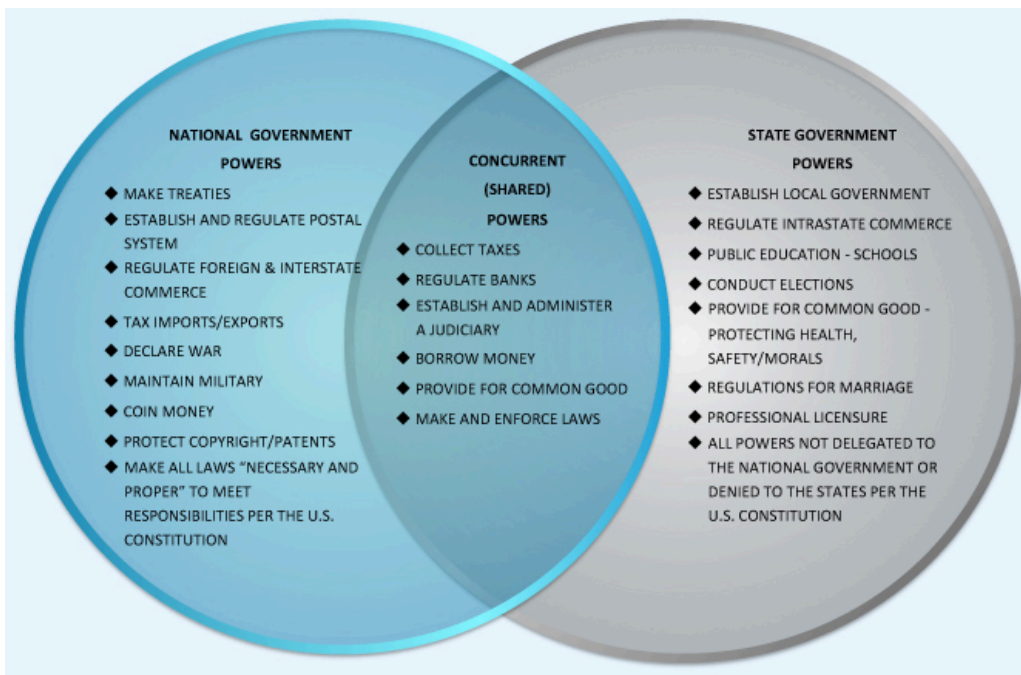
How does the Declaration of Independence reflect John Locke's ideas on the Social Contract?

Where does the government get its power from?



How does this chart reflect the following principles:

- Separation of powers
- Checks and balances



What is federalism?

What are some powers exercised **ONLY** by the national government?

What are some powers exercised **ONLY** by the states?

What are some of the concurrent (shared) powers that both the national government and states exercise?

How does the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution help promote a Federal system of Government?

Distribution of Power

Power can be distributed between central (national) and local governments in three different ways. *Which diagram best describes the distribution of power in the United States?*

Federal Government



The National Government and the States are co-equal partners.

Confederate Government



Most power belongs to the local (regional) governments. The central government has only limited power.

Unitary Government



Power resides with the central government. Local government is secondary.

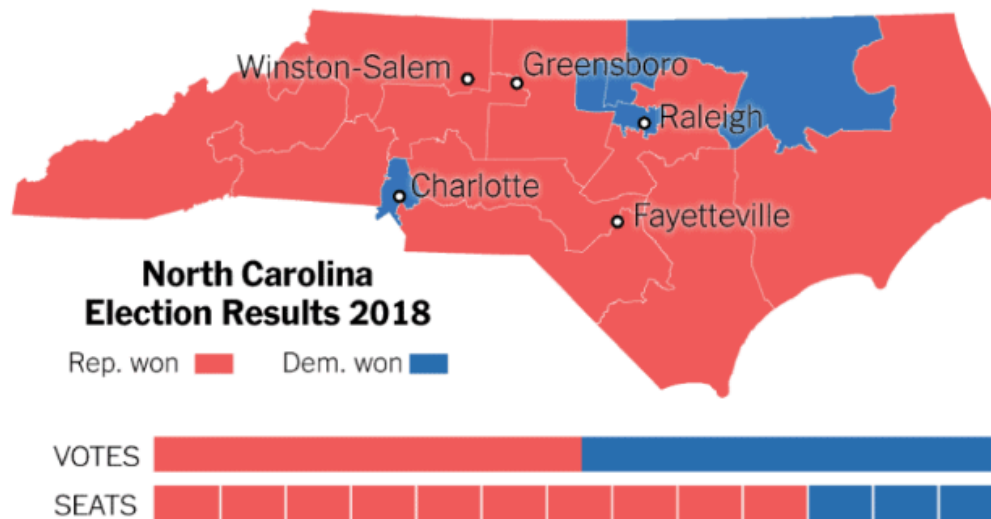
Tenth Amendment

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

—Tenth Amendment to the United States Constitution (1791)

According to the Tenth Amendment, what level of government exercises reserved powers?

What principle of the Constitution is illustrated by this division/delegation of power?



What is gerrymandering? Who does it?

How could gerrymandering affect the outcome of an election?

What are some methods that states have used to combat gerrymandering?

Issue	Democratic Party	Republican Party
Guns	<p>With 33,000 Americans dying every year, Democrats believe that we must finally take sensible action to address gun violence.</p> <p>While responsible gun ownership is part of the fabric of many communities, too many families in America have suffered from gun violence.</p> <p>We can respect the rights of responsible gun owners while keeping our communities safe... we will expand and strengthen background checks and close dangerous loopholes in our current laws... and keep weapons of war—such as assault weapons and large capacity ammunition magazines (LCAM's)—off our streets.</p>	<p>We uphold the right of individuals to keep and bear arms, a natural inalienable right that predates the Constitution and is secured by the Second Amendment.</p> <p>The confirmation to the Court of additional anti-gun justices would eviscerate the Second Amendment's fundamental protections.</p>

In terms of implementing public policy and governing, how would you characterize the two major party's stance on the following topics:

In a general sense, how do the two major political parties view the role of government in shaping public policy?

- Democratic Party:
- Republican Party:

Policy Stances:

Review the policy stances in the chart to the left and apply your understanding to the questions below.

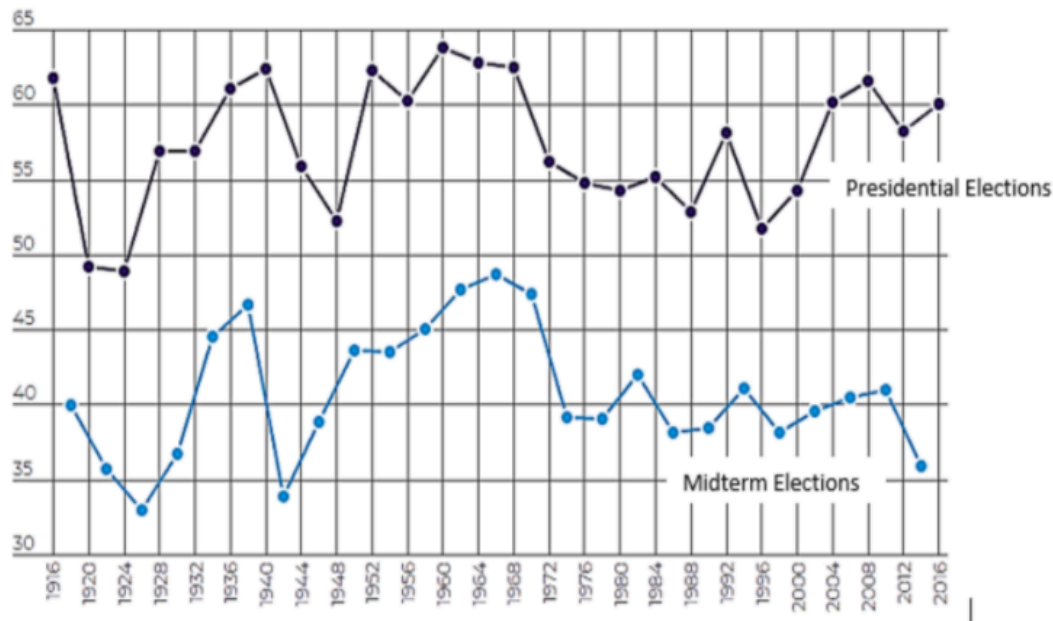
- Which party advocates for reasonable regulation of guns?
- Which party sees gun ownership as an inalienable right?

“Although the First Amendment provides that “Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech,”...prohibition on corporate independent expenditures is an outright ban on speech, backed by criminal sanctions.... Because speech is an essential mechanism of democracy—it is the means to hold officials accountable to the people—political speech must prevail against laws that would suppress it by design or inadvertence.... Premised on mistrust of governmental power, the First Amendment stands against attempts to disfavor certain subjects or viewpoints or to distinguish among different speakers, which may be a means to control content. The Government may also commit a constitutional wrong when by law it identifies certain preferred speakers.... Political speech is “indispensable to decision-making in a democracy, and this is no less true because the speech comes from a corporation.”...”

--Justice Anthony M. Kennedy, *Citizens United v. Federal Election Committee*, 2010

How does the Supreme Court link the first amendment to campaign spending?

Voter Turnout Rates, 1916 - 2016



How often are presidential elections?

How often are midterm elections?

In which election is voter turnout higher? Why?

“An initiative is the method by which voters may propose new laws or amend existing laws by gathering signatures from registered voters to place the issue on the ballot.

The Constitution of Arizona provides voters with the ability to propose new laws or constitutional amendments through the initiative process. [Ariz. Const. Art. IV, pt. 1, § 1\(2\)](#).

The person or organization putting forward the initiative must file these signatures with the Arizona Secretary of State’s Office at least four months prior to the next general election. [Ariz. Const. Art. IV, pt. 1, § 1\(4\)](#).

If enough valid signatures are submitted, the proposed statutory or constitutional amendment will be placed on the next general election ballot. [Ariz. Const. Art. IV, pt. 1, § 1\(1\)](#).

A ‘yes’ vote is a vote for enacting the new law or constitutional amendment, while a ‘no’ vote is a vote for retaining existing law. [Ariz. Const. Art. IV, pt. 1, § 1\(10\)](#).”

From the AZ Secretary of State website
<https://azsos.gov/elections/ballot-measures/irr>

Proposition 139 ★

[View More](#)

PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION RELATING TO THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT TO AN ABORTION

Yes

No

61.61%

2,000,287 Votes

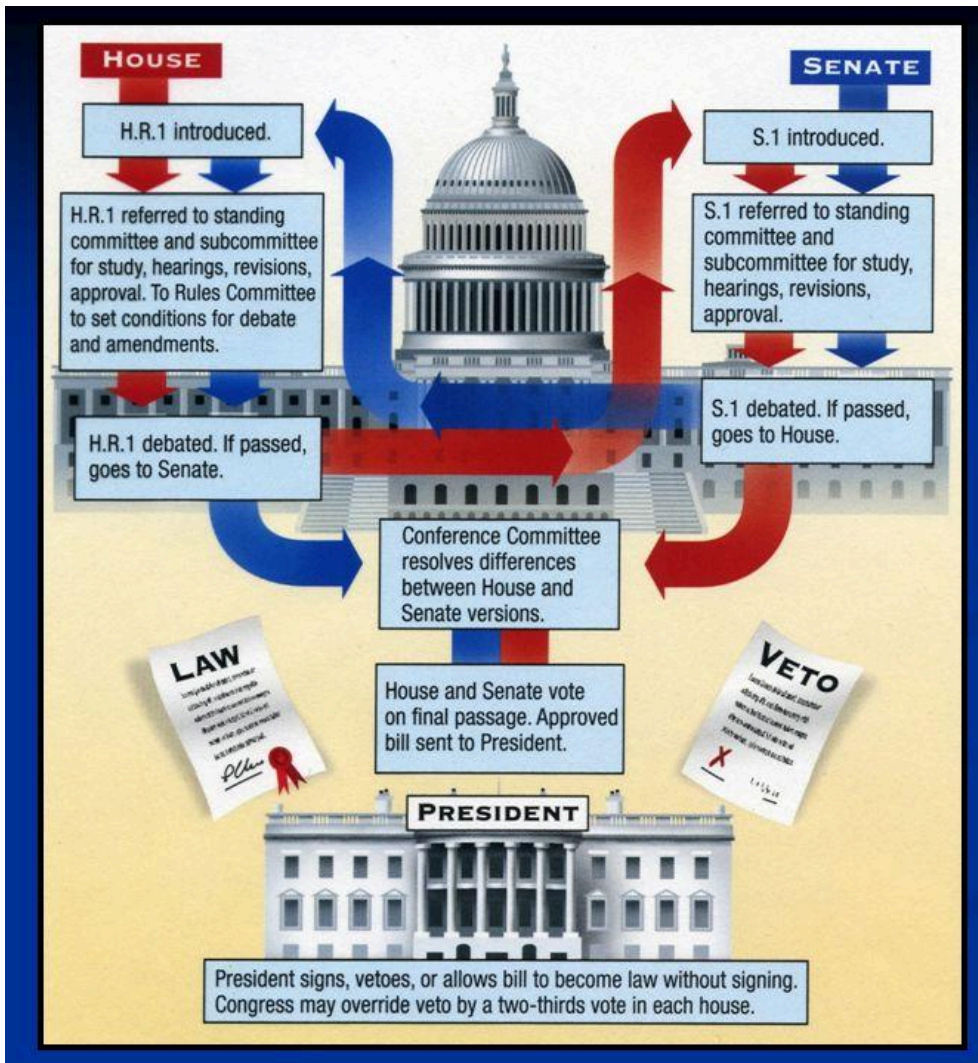
38.39%

1,246,202 Votes

Results from the 2024 Arizona General Election
<https://results.arizona.vote/#/ballotmeasure/47/0>

How does the initiative process in Arizona give voters a direct say in government?

How can citizens get an initiative on the ballot in Arizona?



- What process is depicted in the chart on the left?
- At what point in this process is most of the work done improving and refining bills (proposed laws)?
- At what point in the process is the difference between a House and Senate version of a bill resolved?
- In order for a bill to become law, the President must sign it. What happens if the President vetoes the law?
- Can Congress still pass the law when the President vetoes it? If so, how?

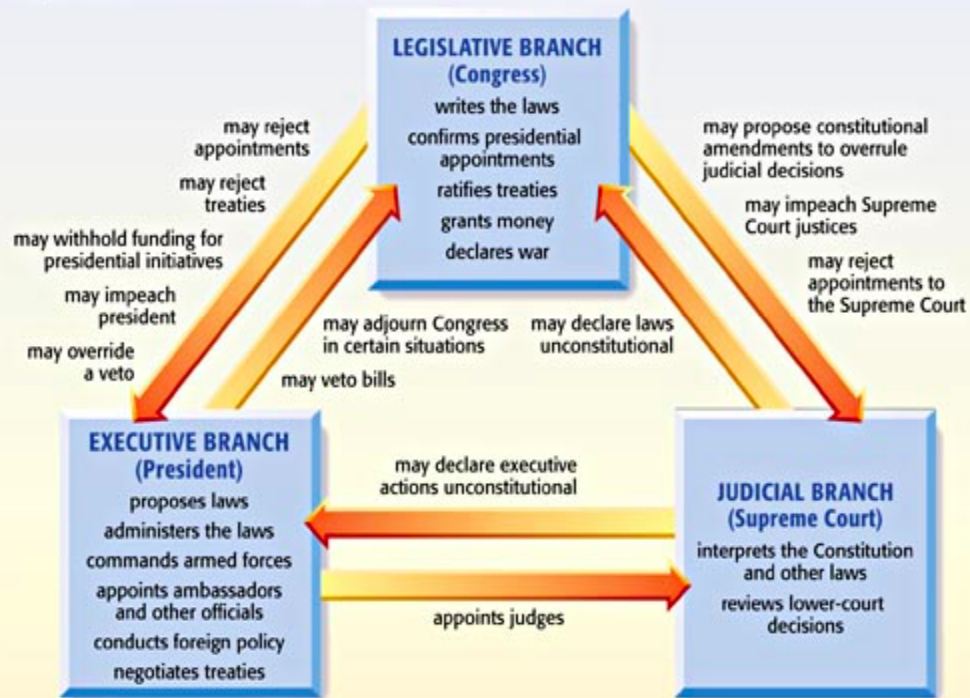
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

"... Congress shall have power ... to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States... ."

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 is referred to as the Necessary and Proper Clause. Why is this clause sometimes referred to as "elastic"?

How is the use of this clause throughout history tied to the expansion and power of the federal government?

Separation of Power and Checks and Balances



How does each branch check the other? (Underneath each branch below, list one way that branch checks the other two.)

Legislative Branch

- Executive
- Judicial

Executive Branch:

- Judicial
- Legislative

Judicial Branch:

- Legislative
- Executive

Five Presidential Elections

	Candidate	Popular Vote	Electoral Vote
1824	Adams	113,122	84 (winner)
	Clay	47,531	37
	Crawford	40,856	41
	Jackson	151,271	99
1876	Hayes	4,036,572	185 (winner)
	Tilden	4,282,020	184
1888	Harrison	5,443,892	233 (winner)
	Cleveland	5,534,488	168
2000	G. W. Bush	50,456,002	271 (winner)
	Gore	50,999,897	266
	Nader	2,882,955	0
2016	Trump	62,984,828	304 (winner)
	Clinton	65,853,514	227

Define popular vote.

What is the Electoral College?

How do we determine how many electoral votes each state gets?

How do we determine the awarding of electoral votes during presidential elections?

<p><u>Supreme Court Chief Justice John Marshall's 1803 decision in Marbury v. Madison</u></p> <p>It is emphatically the province and duty of the judicial department to say what the law is. Those who apply the rule to particular cases must, of necessity, expound and interpret that rule. If two laws conflict with each other, the courts must decide on the operation of each...</p> <p>If, then, the courts are to regard the Constitution, and the Constitution is superior to any ordinary act of the legislature, the Constitution, and not such ordinary act, must govern the case to which they both apply...</p>	<p>What principle of the Constitution is being exercised in the excerpt at left?</p> <p>Why is <i>Marbury v. Madison</i> significant?</p>
<p><u>First Amendment</u></p> <p>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."</p> <p>—First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, 1791</p>	<p>What are the two areas protecting religion?</p> <p>Give an example of pure speech:</p> <p>Give an example of symbolic speech:</p> <p>Give an example of a peaceful assembly:</p>
<p><u>Fourth Amendment</u></p> <p>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.</p> <p>—Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution (1791)</p>	<p>According to the Fourth Amendment, a person is protected against what?</p> <p>What is required for a legal search and/or seizure?</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Fifth Amendment</u></p> <p>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 offense 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.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">—Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution (1791)</p>	<p>What is double jeopardy?</p> <p>Quote the part of the Fifth Amendment that protects an individual from self incrimination?</p> <p>According to the Fifth Amendment, what are the two conditions that must be met for the government to use Eminent Domain?</p> <p>Which part of the familiar “Miranda Warning” is part of the Fifth Amendment?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Sixth Amendment</u></p> <p>In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the state and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">—Sixth Amendment to the United States Constitution (1791)</p>	<p>In a criminal prosecution, what conditions does the Sixth Amendment guarantee the accused?</p> <p>Which part of the familiar “Miranda Warning” is part of the Sixth Amendment?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Eighth Amendment</u></p> <p>Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">—Eighth Amendment to the United States Constitution (1791)</p>	<p>How does the Eighth Amendment protect an accused person’s PRE trial?</p> <p>How does the Eighth Amendment protect an accused person POST-trial?</p>

14th Amendment

All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

—14th Amendment to the United States Constitution (1868)

What does the Fourteenth Amendment state with regard to citizenship?

The Fourteenth Amendment was written to ensure that an individual's right to due process and equal protection of the law would be extended by which level of government? State or Federal?

