



Unit III - Citizenship and American Government

Chapter 2 – Foundations of US Government

Section 2 – The Constitution and Bill of Rights



What You Will Learn to Do

Understand the Constitution, with the
Bill of Rights and the other amendments



Objectives

1. Explain the United States Constitution
 2. Describe the Bill of Rights
-



Key Terms

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Posterity - | Future generations |
| Autonomy - | The quality or state of being self-governing |
| Ratify - | To formally confirm or approve, as of a treaty or a constitutional amendment |
| Amendment - | A formal alteration to a document such as a constitution or a law |
| Quartering - | Providing living quarters for soldiers |



Overview of the United States Constitution

Preamble outlines specific objectives:

- Form a more perfect union
- Establish justice
- Ensure domestic tranquility
- Provide for common defense
- Promote general welfare
- Secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and posterity



Overview of the United States Constitution

Constitution Explained



The Constitution contains a **preamble** and **seven articles**.



Article I – Outlines Legislative Branch





Article I – Outlines Legislative Branch

| | |
|------------|---|
| Section 6 | Compensation / Privileges of Members |
| Section 7 | Passage of Bills |
| Section 8 | Scope of Legislative Power Declare war Raise and support armies Provide and maintain a navy Make rules for the forces |
| Section 9 | Limits on Legislative Power |
| Section 10 | Limits on States |



Article II – Outlines Executive Branch





Article III – Outlines Judicial Branch





Article IV – Outlines Relationship Between States and Federal Government

Section 1 Full Faith and Credit

Section 2 Privileges and Immunities, Extradition,
Fugitive Slaves

Section 3 Admission of New States

Section 4 Guarantees Autonomy and Adherence



Article V – Outlines the Amendment Process

An Amendment requires both:



- Two-thirds($\frac{2}{3}$) majority from both chambers of Congress
- Consent of three-fourths($\frac{3}{4}$) of the states





Article VI – Outlines the Legal Statues of the Constitution

Provides for:

- Adoption of all previous federal government debts
- Proclaims Constitution to be supreme law of the land



Article VII – Describe the How the Constitution is Adopted



By July 1788, the Constitution had been ratified by a majority of the states, and officially became the law of the United States.



Bill of Rights



Some states would not ratify the Constitution without a bill of rights.

With ratification in jeopardy, framers of the Constitution promised a bill of rights after ratification.



Bill of Rights

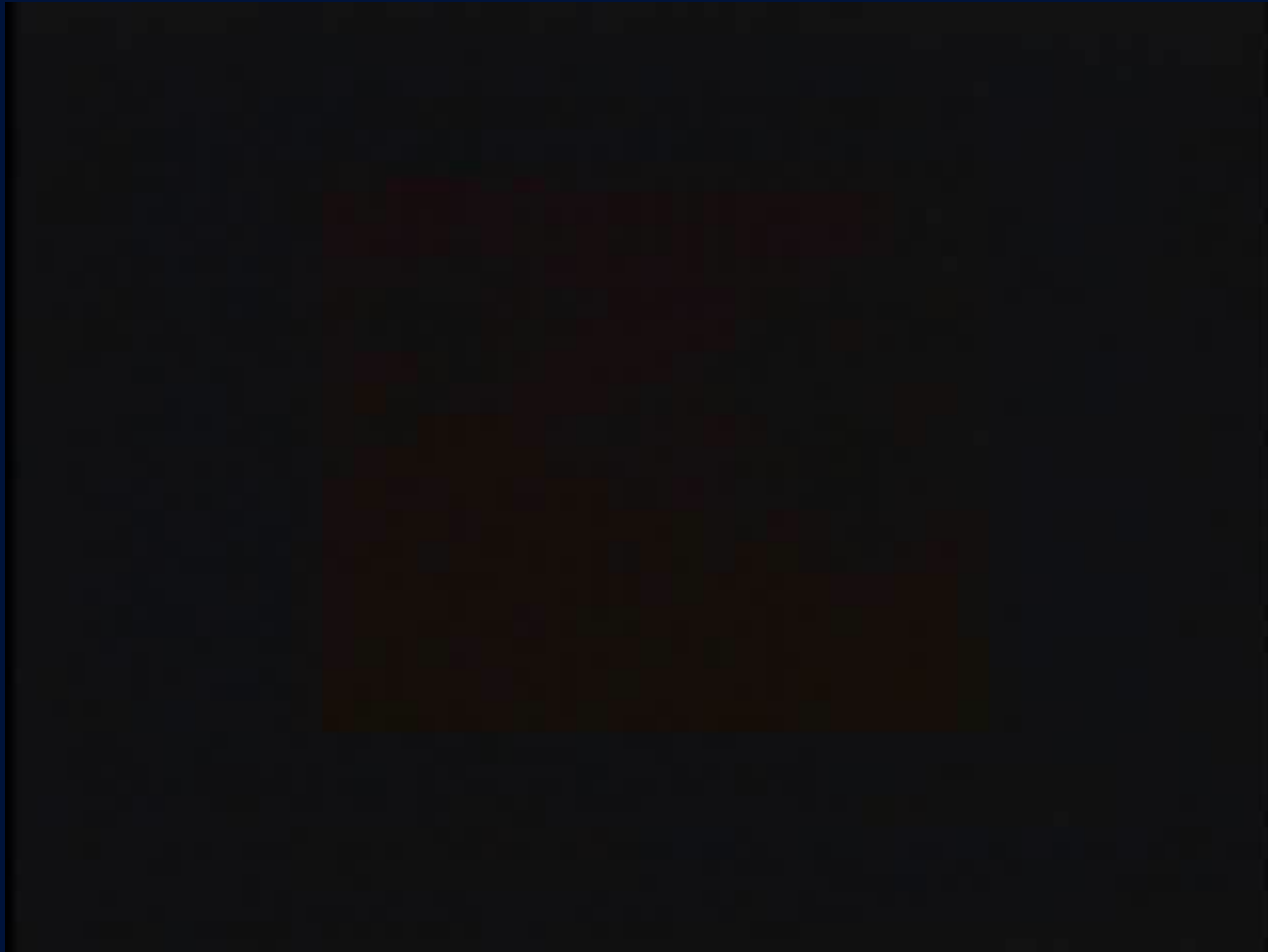


Congress added the first ten **amendments** to the Constitution in 1791.

- Later became known as the **Bill of Rights**
- Defines citizens' rights
- Outlines limits of state and federal government



Bill of Rights





Fundamental Reach of Influence

Constitution

Large Institutional
Matters

Ensures personal freedom:

- Worship
- Peaceable assembly
- Speech and Press

Bill of Rights

Ordinary Individual
Lives

Personal legal rights:

- Search and seizure
- Self-incrimination
- Right to counsel



First Amendment

First Amendment

Religious and
Political
Freedom





First Amendment

Freedom of Religion

The right to exercise one's own religion, or no religion, free from any government influence



Freedom of Speech

Even unpopular expression is protected from government suppression or censorship





First Amendment

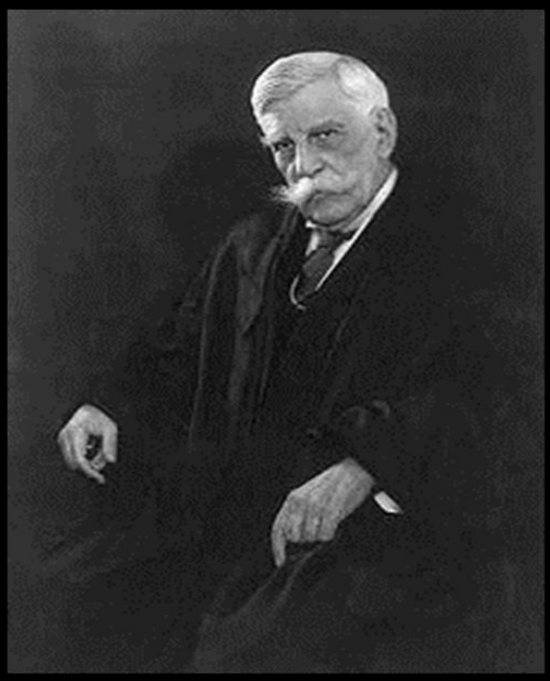
Freedom of Press

Gives citizens the right to print or publish truthful thoughts, ideas or opinions





First Amendment



Supreme Court Justice
Oliver Wendell Holmes

Freedom of religion, speech,
and the press comes with the
responsibility to not “...*present
a clear and present danger...*”
to the public.

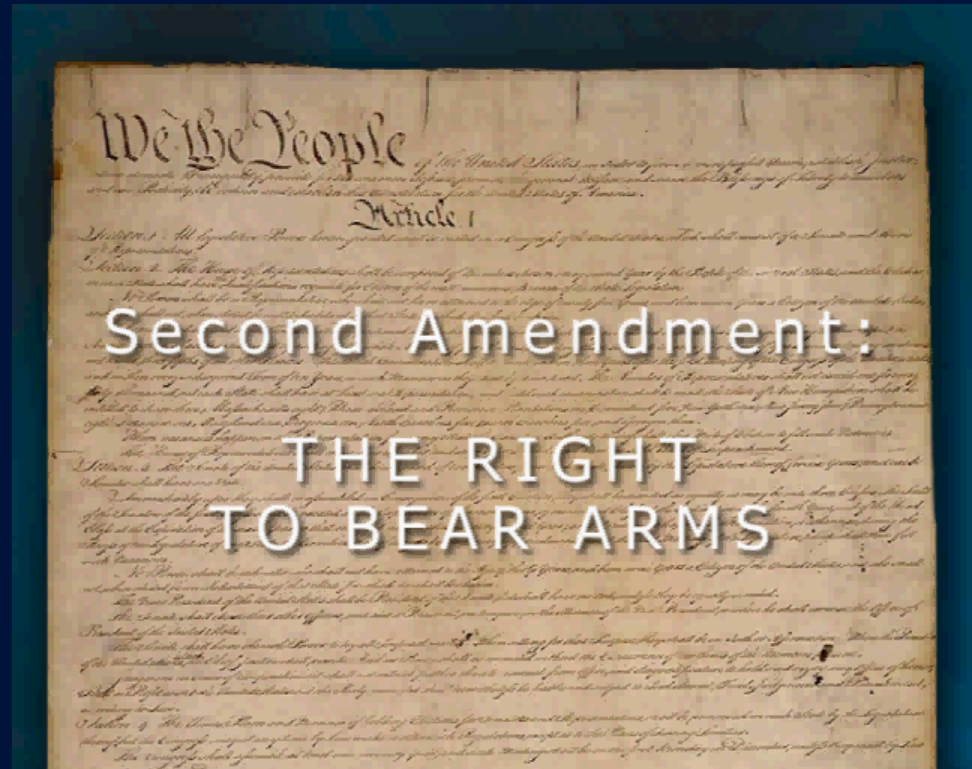
*“Each citizen must exercise his
or her freedoms responsibly.”*



Second Amendment

Second Amendment

Right to Bear
Arms





Second Amendment

The right to bear arms allows citizens to own weapons.

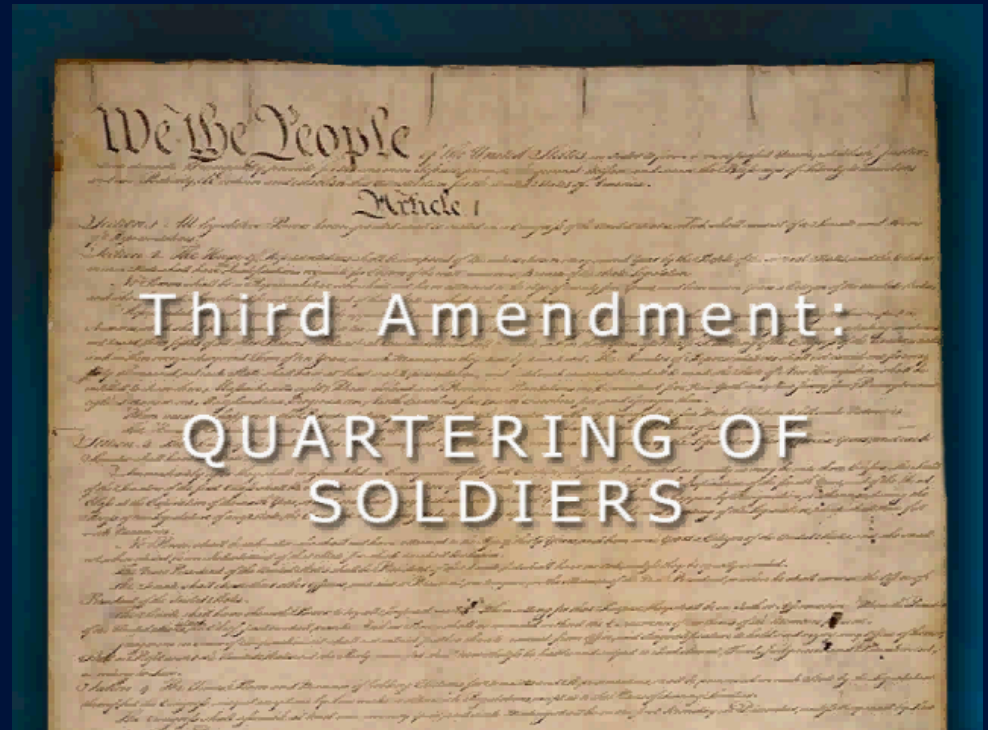




Third Amendment

Third Amendment

Quartering of Soldiers





Third Amendment

Citizens cannot be forced to house (or quarter) soldiers in their homes during peacetime.

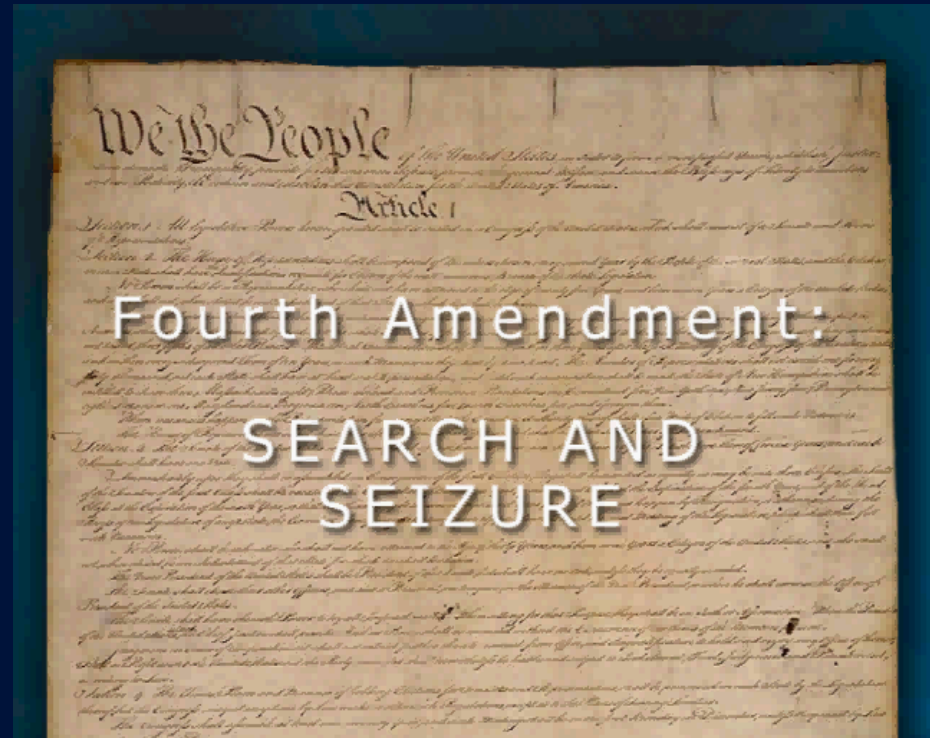
However, during wartime soldiers CAN be quartered in private homes, as prescribed by law.



Fourth Amendment

Fourth Amendment

Search and Seizure





Fourth Amendment

- The right to be free of **unwarranted and unwanted government intrusion** into one's personal and private affairs, papers, and possessions.
- Police may search only after obtaining a warrant from a judge. (This is part of everyday work for police, courts, and lawyers.)



Questions?

