

# Heart of alabama motel v us law constitutional administrative essay

[Law](#)



Background- Jay M. Near, began publishing The Saturday Press, the paper claimed that Jewish gangs were "practically ruling" the city. He was publishing scandalous material. Constitutional Issue-. Whether scandalous material was covered under the first amendment. SC Decision- The U. S. Supreme Court held that censorship is unconstitutional.

## **Powell v Alabama**

Background- Nine black men; Charlie Weems, Ozie Powell, Clarence Norris, Olen Montgomery, Willie Roberson, Haywood Patterson, Andrew Wright, Leroy Wright and Eugene Williams, were accused of raping two young white women, Ruby Bates and Victoria Price. All of the defendants, except for Roy Wright, were sentenced to death in one-day trials. They were only given access to their lawyers immediately prior to the trial, leaving little or no time to plan the defense. The ruling was appealed on the grounds that they were not provided suitable legal counsel

## **Constitutional Issue-.**

SC Decision- The Court reversed decisions of the Alabama Supreme Court, holding that due process had been violated

## **Korematsu v US**

Background- Fred Korematsu was a Japanese-American man who stayed in San Leandro, California and violated Civilian Exclusion Order No. 34. Fred Korematsu argued that the Executive Order 9066 was unconstitutional and that it violated the Fifth Amendment. Constitutional Issue- Whether the exclusion order leading to Japanese American Internment was constitutional.

SC Decision- This act was constitutional because they were at a time of war and it was necessary.

## **Brown v Board of Education**

Background-Race relations in the U. S. had been controlled by racial segregation. This policy had been sanctioned in 1896 by the case of Plessy v. Ferguson, which held that as long as the separate facilities for the separate races were equal, segregation did not violate the Fourteenth Amendment. Constitutional Issue- Determine whether segregation of students in public schools violates the Equal Protection Clause of the 14 Amendment. SC Decision- They sided with Brown, they said segregation of students in public schools violates the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, because separate facilities are inherently unequal.

## **Roth v. US**

Background- Samuel Roth, who ran a business in New York City, was sentenced under a federal statute banning the sending of " obscene, lewd, lascivious or filthy" materials through the mail for advertising and selling a publication called American Aphrodite containing literary erotica and nude photography. Constitutional Issue- If obscene material was covered under the first amendment. SC Decision. They stated that obscenity is not protected by the First Amendment, but they also strictly defines what is considered " obscene".

## **NAACP v Alabama**

Background- the Attorney General of Alabama brought a suit to the State Circuit Court of Montgomery, Alabama challenging the NAACP for defilement

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of a state statute requiring foreign companies to qualify before doing business in the state. The NAACP, a nonprofit membership corporation, had not dealt with the statute, as it believed it was discharged. The state suit wanted both to prevent the Association from leading further business within the state and to remove them from the state.

### **Constitutional Issue-**

SC Decision-. The Supreme Court decided in favor of the NAACP, by stating that freedom to associate with organizations devoted to the " advancement of beliefs and ideas" is an attached part of the Due Process Clause of the 14 amendment.

### **Mapp v Ohio**

Background Police thought that Dollree Mapp might be hiding a person suspected in a bombing, Mapp failed to let them in because they did not have a warrant. The police forced into Mapp's house, holding a piece of paper when Mapp commanded to see a search warrant. As a result of their search, the police found a trunk containing pornographic materials.

Constitutional Issue-Whether the items were taken through illegat means since they weren't pertaining to the search warrant. SC Decision- they decided that any items illegally obtained through and illegal search and seizure may not be used in a criminal proceeding.

### **Baker v Carr**

Background- Charles Baker, a Republican lived in Shelby County, Tennessee, the county in which Memphis is located. The Tennessee State Constitution required that legislative districts be drawn every ten years according to the

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census to provide for districts of equal population. His complaint was that Tennessee had not in fact redistricted since 1901, in reply to the 1900 census. He said since there was no redistricting he was not under the equal protection of the law. Constitutional Issue- If redistricting is a political question or not, and whether if it is a thing that a federal court can resolve it. SC Decision- Court decided that the redistricting of state legislative districts isn't a political question, and is able to be decided by the federal courts

### **Engel v Vitale**

Background- Many families of students of a public school in New Hyde Park, New York complained that the voluntary prayer written by the state to "Almighty God" contradicted their religious beliefs. Constitutional Issue- whether there first amendment rights of freedom of religion was broken. SC Decision- the court ruled that government held prayer in public schools violates the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment, also known as freedom of religion.

### **Gideon v. Wainwright**

Background- A burglary happened at the Bay Harbor Pool Room. Someone broke a door, damaged the cigarette machine and a record player, and stole money from a register. A witness stated that he had seen Clarence Earl Gideon in the poolroom at around 5: 30 that morning leaving with a wine bottle and money in his pockets. Based on this accusation alone, the police arrested him and charged him with breaking and entering with intent to commit petty larceny. Gideon was too poor to afford counsel and was denied a state given counsel. Constitutional Issue - He said that he had been

deprived of counsel and his Sixth Amendment rights, as applied to the states by the 14 Amendment, had been violated. SC Decision- The Sixth Amendment right to counsel is a fundamental to democracy, and requires that poor criminal defendants be provided counsel at trial.

## **Heart of Alabama Motel v US**

Background- the Heart of Atlanta motel, declined to rent rooms to black patrons this was in direct violation of the terms of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 Moreton Rolleston, filed suit in federal court, disagreeing that the necessities of the act surpassed the authority granted to Congress over interstate commerce. Constitutional Issue- Whether that the requirements of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 exceeded the authority granted to Congress over interstate commerce. SC Decision- Court decided that Congress did not unconstitutionally surpass its powers under the Commerce Clause by enacting Title II of the 1964 Civil Rights Act

## **Escobedo v Illinois**

Background- Manuel Valtierra, was shot and killed on the night of January 19, 1960. Danny Escobedo, his Brother in Law, was arrested without a warrant early the next morning and interrogated. Escobedo made no account to the police and was later released that afternoon. Benedict DiGerlando, who was in custody, told the police that Escobedo fired the fatal shots because the victim had mistreated Escobedo's sister. Escobedo was arrested and not allowed counsel, or informed of his right to counsel under the 6th amendment. Constitutional Issue- The right to counsel under the 6th amendment, Gideon

v. Wainwright (Precedent). SC Decision- Court reversed Escobedo's conviction and documented a suspect's right to counsel during a police interrogation.

## **New York Times v Sullivan**

### **Background**

### **Constitutional Issue**

SC Decision The first amendment as covered through the 14th amendment protects a newspaper from being sued for liability through a state court for false or reckless statements.

## **Miranda v Arizona**

Background- Ernesto Miranda was arrested, based on circumstantial evidence linking him to the kidnapping and rape of an 18 year old girl 10 days earlier. He signed a confession but was not told of his right to counsel, and his right to remain silent. Constitutional Issue- whether Miranda's 5th amendment right were broken due to him not being told about his right to an attorney. SC Decision- The court voted and said that a person in custody must, prior to interrogation, be clearly told that he has the right to remain silent, and that anything he says will be used against him in court, he must be informed that he has the right to counsel and to counsel with him during interrogation, and that, if he can't afford one a lawyer will be appointed to represent him

## **Terry v Ohio**

### **Background-**

Constitutional Issue-. Violations of the 4th amendment  
SC Decision- Court held that the Fourth Amendment ban on unreasonable searches and seizures isn't violated when a police officer stops a suspect on the street and frisks him or her without cause, if the police officer has a reasonable suspicion.

## **Lemon v Kurtzman**

### **Background-**

#### **Constitutional Issue-**

SC Decision - For a law to be constitutional under the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment, the law must have a legitimate purpose, it must not have the primary effect of furthering a religious viewpoint.

## **Tinker v Des Moines**

Background- John and Mary Beth Tinker of Des Moines, Iowa, wore black armbands to their school to protest against American participation in the Vietnam War. When school authorities asked that the Tinkers remove their armbands, they refused and were subsequently suspended  
Constitutional Issue- Do First Amendment rights of free speech apply to speech by students in public schools? SC Decision- They ruled in favor of the Tinkers. The majority opinion, ruled that students retain their constitutional right of freedom of speech (1st Amendment) while in a public school.



## **NY Times v US**

### **Background-**

#### **Constitutional Issue.**

SC Decision- Court ordered that in order to use prior restraint, the Government must show enough evidence that the publication would cause a very grave danger.

## **Reed v Reed**

### **Background-**

#### **Constitutional Issue-**

SC Decision- Court determined that proprietors of businesses cannot be named in a way that discriminates between sexes.

## **Roe v Wade**

Background- Roe was a pregnant Texas resident in 1970. Texas law made it a felony to terminate a fetus unless there was medical advice due to the birth's possibility of killing the mother. Roe filed suit against Wade, the district attorney of Dallas County, disputing the statute on the grounds that it violated the guarantee of personal liberty and the right to privacy implicitly (1, 4, 5, 9, 14 amendments). Constitutional Issue- Whether the Texas state law of abortion was violating the 1, 4, 5, 9, 14 amendments. SC Decision- They decided in favor of Roe. The majority recognized that a woman's choice whether to have an abortion is protected by her right to privacy.

## **US v Nixon**

Background- A hearing about President Nixon's Watergate scandal discovered that he had installed a tape-recording device in the Oval Office. The prosecutor in charge of the case wanted access to the discussions to help prove that President Nixon and his aides had abused their power of executive privilege and broken the law. President Nixon's partial compliance with the prosecutor's demands was confronted and finally taken to the Supreme Court. Constitutional Issue-. Whether the presidents executive privilege covers matters that are being held in a criminal case. SC Decision- Court ruled in favor of the United States and against President Nixon. They concluded that presidents enjoy a constitutionally protected executive privilege, but that the privilege is not absolute. The Court decided that in this case, the President's interest in keeping his communications secret was overshadowed by the interests of the Court in providing a fair trial with all the facts.

## **Gregg v Georgia**

**Background- -**

**Constitutional Issue-**

**SC Decision-**

## **Buckley v Valeo**

Background-In 1974, Congress passed important amendments to the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, creating the first comprehensive effort by the federal government to regulate campaign contributions and spending.

## **Constitutional Issue-**

SC Decision Court supported limits on campaign contributions and stated that spending money to influence elections is a form of constitutionally protected free speech.

## **Regents v Bakke**

### **Background**

### **Constitutional Issue-**

SC Decision- Court said that affirmative action systems are constitutional, quota systems on the base of race are unconstitutional.

## **New Jersey v TLO**

### **Background**

### **Constitutional Issue**

SC Decision- Fourth Amendment's relates to searches lead by public school officials

## **McClesky v Kemp**

### **Background-**

### **Constitutional Issue-**

### **SC Decision-**

## **Hazelwood School District v Kuhlmeier**

### **Background**

### **Constitutional Issue-**

### **SC Decision**

## **Texas V Johnson**

Background- During a political demonstration during the Republican National Convention in Texas, protesting the programs of the Reagan Administration, Gregory Lee Johnson doused an American flag with kerosene and set it on fire, nobody was hurt or threatened with injury. Johnson was charged and convicted with the desecration of a venerated object, in violation of the Texas Penal Code. Constitutional Issue-Whether burning an American flag is a form of symbolic speech covered under the first amendment. SC Decision- Court ruled for Johnson the majority, ruled that Johnson's act of burning the American flag was safe by the First Amendment because it was symbolic conduct, covered under the 1st amendment.

## **Oregon v Smith**

### **Background-**

### **Constitutional Issue-**

SC Decision- they stated that the Free Exercise Clause allows the States to ban any sacramental peyote use and to deny unemployment benefits.

## **Planned Parenthood v Casey**

### **Background-**

### **Constitutional Issue-**

SC Decision- Court ruled that the Pennsylvania law was invalid under the Fourteenth Amendment because it put a burden on married women wanting an abortion

## **US v Lopez**

### **Background-**

### **Constitutional Issue-**

SC Decision- Ownership of a gun near a school isn't an economic activity that has a considerable result on interstate commerce.

## **Sante Fe ISD v Doe**

### **Background-**

### **Constitutional Issue**

### **SC Decision.**

## **Bush v Gore**

### **Background-**

### **Constitutional Issue-**

SC Decision- Court decided that a manual recount of votes wanting to meet the December 12 " safe harbor" goal would be unconstitutional.

## **Gratz v Bollinger**

### **Background-**

### **Constitutional Issue**

### **SC Decision-**

## **McConnell v FEC**

### **Background-**

### **Constitutional Issue-**

SC Decision- Court ruled that not all political speeches are safe under the First Amendment from government infringement.

## **Lawrence v Texas**

### **Background-**

### **Constitutional Issue-**

### **SC Decision**

## **Hamdi v Rumsfield**

### **Background-**

### **Constitutional Issue-**

SC Decision- Court ruled that citizens labeled as enemy participants by the Executive Branch have a right to contest their detainment

## **Miller v California**

### **Background-**

### **Constitutional Issue-**

### **SC Decision**