

Constitutional Amendments: From Freedom of Speech to Flag Burning 3 Volume Set, Edition 1.

By Mr Tom Pendergast



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Booklist/Reference Books Bulletin 20 Best Bets for Student Researchers 2002

Covering each of the 27 amendments, this 3-vol. resource provides the history and social context of the amendment process. The introduction includes a general essay on the Constitution and adopting new amendments, followed by chapters highlighting each amendment. Entries range in length from 10 to 15 pages and begin with the full text of the amendment, followed by an essay on the social and political climate that gave rise to its proposal. Also included is an overview of the unratified amendments, with an emphasis on issues that affect today's society and demonstrate the current applicability of the amendment. Significant issues, events, figures, movements and judicial/legislative actions in the history of the amendment are also covered chronologically. Features include 150 illustrations, sidebars, a glossary, source for further study, and index.



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Editorial Review

From Booklist

There are numerous reference sources on the U.S. Constitution, but few are designed, as this one is, to be accessible to middle-school users. Presentation is very clear. A chapter is devoted to each amendment, beginning with the wording of the amendment presented in a block. A sidebar contains the ratification data, including the states that voted for the amendment and the year. The text provides historical background, details about the drafting and ratification processes, a chronological summary of significant court cases, and a discussion of how the amendment has affected Americans in their everyday lives. Sidebars provide information about related individuals or events. Each chapter ends with a bibliography of both print and electronic resources. A glossary and index are repeated in each volume, and teachers will appreciate the suggested discussion ideas found in the introductory material.

There are some puzzling editorial decisions and errors that may confuse student users. The subtitle is misleading; at first glance the work appears to be only about the First Amendment because flag burning has been determined to be a free-speech issue. The cover of volume 3 indicates that it encompasses amendments 18 to 26, when in fact it also includes Amendment 27. Including the text of the Constitution in each volume, instead of only in volume 3, would have been helpful. These are minor flaws that do not detract from the overall quality or usefulness of the work. The price might be a problem for some school library budgets, but this is definitely a set that belongs in school and public libraries. Gale's *Constitutional Amendments*, 1789 to the Present (2000) and Macmillan's The Constitution and Its Amendments (1999) are good choices for an older audience, and libraries that own one or both of these may not need to add the UXL set unless they are looking for a middle-school resource. RBB

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Review

"This set will help students understand both the history of the amendments and their continuing impact on our government and lives and would be useful for either reference questions or as a starting point for further research. It deserves a place in all secondary library collections."

-- "School Library Journal" (November 2001)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Rebecca Shadwick:

Book is usually written, printed, or highlighted for everything. You can understand everything you want by a guide. Book has a different type. As you may know that book is important issue to bring us around the world. Alongside that you can your reading skill was fluently. A e-book Constitutional Amendments: From Freedom of Speech to Flag Burning 3 Volume Set, Edition 1. will make you to become smarter. You can feel a lot more confidence if you can know about every little thing. But some of you think which open or reading some sort of book make you bored. It is far from make you fun. Why they might be thought like that? Have you looking for best book or ideal book with you?

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Andre Barrett:

The book untitled Constitutional Amendments: From Freedom of Speech to Flag Burning 3 Volume Set, Edition 1. contain a lot of information on it. The writer explains your ex idea with easy technique. The language is very clear to see all the people, so do not really worry, you can easy to read the item. The book was published by famous author. The author will take you in the new period of time of literary works. It is easy to read this book because you can continue reading your smart phone, or program, so you can read the book inside anywhere and anytime. If you want to buy the e-book, you can start their official web-site and order it. Have a nice read.

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