*Florida Civic Literacy Support Lesson*

*Affirmative Action*

How does affirmative action impact the United States today?

*An Activity for High School Civic Literacy Competency #4*

*Competency #4: Understanding of landmark Supreme Court cases, landmark legislation, and landmark executive actions and their impact on law and society*

***Benchmark and Benchmark Clarification Correlations***

SS.912.CG.2.6 Explain how the principles contained in foundational documents contributed to the expansion of civil rights and liberties over time.

*\* Students will explain how different groups of people (e.g., African Americans, immigrants, Native Americans, women) had their civil rights expanded through legislative action (e.g., Voting Rights Act, Civil Rights Act), executive action (e.g., Truman’s desegregation of the army, Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation) and the courts (e.g., Brown v. Board of Education; In re Gault).*

*\*Students will explain the role founding documents, such as the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, had on setting precedent for the future granting of rights.*

SS.912.CG.2.4 Evaluate, take and defend objective, evidence-based positions on issues that cause the government to balance the interests of individuals with the public good.

*\*Students will examine situations when individuals’ rights have been restricted for the public good (e.g., limits on speech or rationing of goods during wartime, enactment of the Patriot Act).*

*\*Students will analyze how environmental and financial policies place limitations on citizens and private industry for the public good.*

*\*Students will explain different services provided by local, state and national governments to citizens to ensure their rights are protected (e.g., social services, law enforcement, defense, emergency response)*.

SS.912.CG.3.11 Evaluate how landmark Supreme Court decisions affect law, liberty and the interpretation of the U.S. Constitution.

*\*Students will recognize landmark Supreme Court cases (e.g., Marbury v. Madison; McCulloch v. Maryland; Dred Scott v. Sandford; Plessy v. Ferguson; Brown v. Board of Education; Gideon v. Wainwright; Miranda v. Arizona; Korematsu v. United States; Mapp v. Ohio; In re Gault; United States v. Nixon; Regents of the University of California v. Bakke; Hazelwood v. Kuhlmeier; District of Columbia v. Heller).*

*\*Students will explain the foundational constitutional issues underlying landmark Supreme Court decisions related to the Bill of Rights and other amendments.*

*\*Students will explain the outcomes of landmark Supreme Court cases related to the Bill of Rights and other amendments.*

***Activity Documents, Materials, and Handouts***

Materials and resources located in the bellwork steps.

**Bellwork: Affirmative Action**

**Step 1: Direct students to raise their hands if they would like to go to college.**

**Step 2: Have students name some requirements to get into college.**

**Step 3: Lead the conversation to the basis for affirmative action.**

**Step 4: Current event activity 🡪** [**US News and World Report West Point Affirmative Action Ruling**](https://www.usnews.com/news/us/articles/2023-09-19/west-point-sued-over-using-race-as-an-admissions-factor-in-the-wake-of-landmark-supreme-court-ruling) **(September 19, 2023)**

**Students will answer these questions (e.g., whole class discussion, small group, shoulder partner, recorded views on an index card):**

1. **How does this article reflect tie to affirmative action**
2. **Who is hurt, and who benefits, from this Supreme Court ruling?**
3. **Do you agree with this ruling? Why or why not?**

**Step 5: Enrichment Suggestion:** [Affirmative Action explained](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T-pLmNTyut4) (8.25 minute video)

**Teacher Background Information**

What content does the teacher need to know to teach this lesson effectively?

Video review materials (these are the same videos listed for the enrichment activities):

[Korematsu v. United States (1944) YOUTUBE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IvoZ21Sfp2U&t=3s)

[Affirmative Action YOUTUBE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T-pLmNTyut4)

–[The USA PATRIOT Act-History Channel](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KP9VklrXPZs)

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**Student Activity Sheet (Give this a title!)**

**Answer Key**

**Due to the nature of the questions answers will vary**

**Sources**

**[Korematsu v. United States (1944) OYEZ](https://www.oyez.org/cases/1940-1955/323us214)**

[Remembering 9/11: The lasting effects of the Patriot Act - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?si=UKJjosBOMNh6IqlJ&v=OoSu7qhAIIc&feature=youtu.be)

**[US News and World Report West Point Affirmative Action](https://www.usnews.com/news/us/articles/2023-09-19/west-point-sued-over-using-race-as-an-admissions-factor-in-the-wake-of-landmark-supreme-court-ruling)**

**[Remembering 9/11: The lasting effects of the Patriot Act - YOUTUBE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?si=UKJjosBOMNh6IqlJ&v=OoSu7qhAIIc&feature=youtu.be)**

**Dictionary.com is a good source for vocabulary terms.**