

Analyzing a public issue

(C.S.3)

one must check credibility by:

- checking credibility of the writer or organization
- determining the circumstance on how the material was generated
- checking the internal consistency and agreement with other credible sources
- is there the use of supporting evidence and logical conclusions?
- checking if the evidence is bias

Public Records: Reliable information's to back up your argument such as county tax records, a report issued by a state agency, or Congressional records (*Congressional Record*)

Surveys of Public Opinion: may not be the most reliable source but can be used to prove support for your cause. Polling can be done by students or major polling organizations. Surveys can also come from data collection. These can be used to argue a public opinion.

Research Data: This can come from universities, research institutes, or students. It may or may not be reliable.

Advocacy Groups: These are interest groups and lobbyists, they usually are biased, but information is usually easy to find.

Resolving conflicts and differences

(C.S.4)

Persuasion: inducing others into accepting a point of view by means of reasoning and argumentation

Compromise: making concessions to settle differences

Consensus: process of working toward achieving general agreement within a group

Negotiation: settling differences through a discussion of issues

5 basic principles of the U.S. Constitution

(C.S.5)

Popular Sovereignty: governmental authority comes from the people. (government governs at the consent of the governed)

Limited Government: Government can only exercise the powers that are granted to it. (government must act according to the law)

Federalism: Power is divided between the national and state governments

Separation of Powers: each branch of government has specific authority and unique set of responsibilities within government

Checks and Balances: Each branch of government can check or restrain the other branches of government

Federalist and Antifederalist papers

(C.S.6,8)

Federalists: were in favor of ratifying the constitution as it was written, they thought it fixed the problems of the Articles of Confederation. Argued bill of rights was not needed. Agreed to include a bill of rights to get the constitution ratified.

Anti-Federalists: (WANTED TO LIMIT FEDERAL POWERS, LIMITED GOVERNMENT) argued all important powers went to the national government and not the states, they also strongly disliked the necessary and proper, and supremacy clauses. Felt a bill of rights was necessary for individual protection from the government. They were able to get the Bill of rights added to the Constitution.

Changing the Constitution

(C.S.7)

Constitution Amendments: Formally changed the Constitution outlined in Article V of U.S. Constitution

Supreme Court Decisions: The Supreme Court has the power of Judicial Review; it can also declare actions of the Legislative and Executive branches as unconstitutional.

U.S. Congress: Congress can enact legislation such as civil rights act and voting rights acts.

Legislative oversight: Congress has added powers through being able to check on the executive branch.

Amendments

(C.S.8-13)

1st-9th Amendments: protected individual rights.

10th Amendment: Addressed limited government and federalism. the Federal government only has the powers that is given to it, all other powers go to the state.

11th Amendment: Stated that lawsuits involving a state being sued by a citizen of another state does not have to go to a federal court. This came about after Chisholm V. Georgia (1793). It limits the jurisdiction of the federal courts

12th Amendment: changed the procedures for the Electoral College, allowing a separate ballot for President and Vice President to avoid a tie.

13th Amendment: It Abolished Slavery. It was a reconstruction amendment, meaning after the civil war. It was not part of Lincoln's plans but President Johnson's.

14th Amendment: defined who was a citizen and offered protections from states infringements on citizens' rights. Changed the $\frac{3}{5}$ compromise for representation in the House of Representatives. It was a reconstruction amendment, meaning after the civil war.

15th Amendment: Extended voting rights to citizens regardless of race, color, or previous condition of servitude. It was a reconstruction amendment, meaning after the civil war.

16th Amendment: Allowed for a federal income tax. It was passed because some wanted to change the wealth distribution in America. It was a Progressive Era amendment, meaning passed during a time of political, economic, and social reforms of the late 1800's.

17th Amendment: Provided for a direct election of Senators instead of state legislatures. It was passed because many thought state business leaders and party bosses had too much influence over state legislatures selection of Senators. It was a Progressive era amendment, meaning passed during a time of political, economic, and social reforms of the late 1800's.

18th Amendment: Banned the use of alcoholic beverages. It was passed because many people thought alcohol use led to poverty and the destruction of the family. It was a Progressive Era amendment, meaning passed during a time of political, economic, and social reforms of the late 1800's.

19th Amendment: Allowed women the right to vote (suffrage). It was a longstanding effort to allow women the right to vote. It was a Progressive Era amendment, meaning passed during a time of political, economic, and social reforms of the late 1800's.

20th Amendment: Shortened the time period between and election and the swearing in. This was done to shorten the lame duck sessions, and because transportation was much better. It also made for a smoother transition from one administration to another.

21st Amendment: Due to difficulties enforcing the Volstead Act (which helped enforce the 18th amendment), and an increase in criminal activities during the 1920's. The Democratic Party campaigned against the 18th amendment and for the ratification of repealing it with the 21st amendment.

22nd Amendment: Imposed a two-term limit on Presidential terms. This was passed after FDR was elected 4 times, going away from George Washington's tradition of serving only 2 terms.

23rd Amendment: Allowed for citizens of the District of Columbia the opportunity to vote for presidential electors. The Electoral College was originally set up for states, but D.C. population grew to such numbers that they felt they needed a say.

24th Amendment: Prohibited the use of poll taxes in federal elections. Poll taxes disenfranchised the poor and used as Jim Crow legislation to deny the right to vote to African Americans.

25th Amendment: Clarified that who was to succeed the office of the president became vacant and how the vice-presidential office would be filled. It also outlined procedures to be used in case the president became disabled. This was passed after JFK was assassinated and his V.P. L. Johnson took office with a history of heart problems.

26th Amendment: Extended voting rights to citizens who are 18 years of age and older. It was passed as a result of many young men being drafted to fight in Vietnam and not being able to vote.

27th Amendment: Was passed as an opposition to Congressional pay raises in the 1980's. Originally proposed as part of the bill of rights. Ratified in 1992.

Amendments that granted more people the right to vote: 15, 19, 24, 26.

Amendments that altered presidential elections: 12, 20, 22, 23, 25

Amendments that have unique historical circumstances: 11, 21, 27

Amendments that were passed soon after the civil war: 13, 14, 15

Amendments that were passed during the Progressive era: 16, 17, 18, 19

Law and Public Policy:

(C.S.14)

Laws: are rules that are binding and enforced by government

- created by the Legislative branch
- enforced by the Executive branch
- interpreted by the Judicial Branch

Public Policy is institutional actions and procedures necessary for the government to carry out its functions
Legislative Branch: Conducts oversight investigations, institutes impeachment proceedings, ratifies treaties and passes resolutions.

Executive Branch: makes rules and regulations, proposing federal budget, recognizing foreign nations, issuing executive orders.

Judicial Branch: issuing writs of certiorari, setting judicial procedures, sentencing offenders, accepting amicus curiae briefs.

Checks and Balances:

(C.S.15)

Legislative on executive: veto override, impeachment of civil officers, approval of appointment and treaties, raising and governing the military

Legislative on judicial: creation of lower courts, determining appellate jurisdiction, impeachment of judges.

Executive on Legislative: convene both houses of congress, veto legislation

Executive on judicial: appoint judges, issue pardons and reprieves.

Judicial on legislative: Chief Justice presides over impeachment trials of presidents, interprets and applies laws.

Judicial on executive: not subject to removal by the president, interpret and applies laws

The interactions of the three branches is also influenced by:

- Interest groups (proposing legislation, advocating rules, filing briefs to the court)
- Political Parties: controlling the legislative and executive branches
- Amount of public interest and media coverage
- Informal relationships between representatives and each branch

Individual rights:**(C.S.16)**

The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that the Bill of Rights applies to everyone through their interpretation of the 14th Amendment. (this is called incorporation, meaning the bill of rights also applies to state and local governments)

Your rights include speech, press, assembly, petition, suffrage, and holding public office.

You also have a responsibility as a citizen such as respecting the rule of law, paying taxes and fees, accepting responsibility for one's actions,

You also have responsibilities associated with your rights (individual rights must be balanced with the rights of others)

Privileges and immunities- respecting the rights of others

Freedom of speech- engaging in civil discourse

Right to bear arms- receiving firearms training

Right to jury trial- serving on juries

Right to vote- becoming informed on public issues

Citizenship also means service to your country by serving in the military, community service, and running for public office.

Minority Rights:**(C.S.17)**

Over time the U.S. government has taken steps to ensure everyone's rights are protected.

19th amendment allowed women the right to vote

24th amendment eliminated poll taxes

The executive branch used national guard troops to integrate schools and used the department of justice to enforce the open housing legislation.

The legislative branch passes civil rights and voting rights acts

The Supreme court applies the bill of rights to everyone through incorporation of the 14th amendment.

The Ohio Constitution addressed the difficulties of governing.**(C.S. 18)**

- The old Ohio Constitution was ruled by the General Assembly, all judges and executive officers were picked by the General Assembly. To fix this major executive officers and judges were elected by popular vote.
- The Governor was elected but had limited powers in the 1851 Constitution the governor's powers did not increase but the general assembly's powers were reduced to prevent them from enacting retroactive laws and required all laws to be general in nature.
- The Supreme court was required to meet in every county at least once a year. To fix this the Constitution of 1851 added district courts to relieve this burden.
- Ohio also accumulated a significant amount of state debt. The Constitution of 1851 fixed this by instituting debt limits and banned poll taxes and required taxes to only be used for their stated purpose.

The Ohio Constitution complements the federal structure of the U.S.

(C.S. 19)

- The government of Ohio fits in the federal structure of government.
- The Constitution outlines the powers and functions of the state government and provides context for local governments in the state.

The People of Ohio have a responsibility to assist state and local governments

(C.S. 20)

- Ohioans can address state issues by paying taxes, serving in the national guard, running for state office, voting, signing petitions to place issues on ballots.
- Ohioans can help address local issues by organizing civic activities, attending local boards and commissions meetings, joining community watch groups, and serving on a volunteer fire department.

Individuals and organizations play a role in helping determine public policy

(C.S. 22)

- Individuals can engage government officials in public policy by:
 - Campaigning for candidates who support their positions once in office
 - Provide information to executive branch officials on the impacts of potential rules and regulations
 - Lobby members of a legislature
 - Provide testimony before legislative committees
 - Prepare briefs to present during judicial proceedings
 - offer comments during public meetings
 - conduct letter-writing campaigns
 - Hold public demonstrations
- Part of this involvement is to know what level and branch of government to engage with.

The Federal Government uses spending and tax policy to stabilize and grow the economy, and regulatory actions carry a cost and benefit.

(C.S. 23)

- Expansionary fiscal policy involves increased government spending and reducing taxes to increase the level of aggregate demand, these tend to be popular but could lead to inflation
- Contractionary fiscal policy involves decreasing government spending and increased taxes, to decrease the level of aggregate demand these tend to be unpopular and could result in a recession.
- Fiscal policy is difficult to use because much of government spending is fixed i.e. entitlements.
- Government tax and spend policies do not produce immediate results
- The implementation of government regulations may foster economic benefits such as ending unfair business practices and consumer protections
- The implementation of government regulations may carry costs such as reduced corporate profits and slower economic growth.

The Federal Reserve System uses monetary tools to regulate the nation's money supply

(C.S. 24)

- Tools used by the Federal Reserve System to regulate the nation's money supply include
 - Open Market Operations: Purchasing and selling of government securities
 - Adjusting the discount rate: Interest rate on loans the Fed makes to financial institutions
 - Adjusting the reserve requirement: the fraction of deposits that banks must keep on reserve and not use to make loans
- The Fed can increase the money supply by purchasing government securities, reducing the discount rate, reducing the reserve requirement this encourages consumer and business spending and economic expansion.
- The Fed can decrease the money supply by selling government securities, increasing the discount rate, increasing the reserve requirement, to depress consumer and business spending and create economic contraction.