

NINTH GRADE ESSAYS

What the Constitution means to me.

Shaun Jones
Oneonta Central School

The Constitution of the United States serves several purposes, including the basic organization of the branches of government. It outlines their functions and responsibilities through leadership. To me, the most important part of the Constitution is the Bill of Rights. The Bill of Rights is what our federal government has promised each of its citizens. The Bill of Rights protects every individual's rights as a citizen of the United States. I believe that the first 10 Amendments known as the Bill of Rights are the heart and key to our country and what it is made up of today.

To me, one of the most important amendments, in the Bill of Rights, is the 1st Amendment. The first amendment establishes a range of political and civil rights including freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and last one, freedom of religion. The 1st amendment is briefly the right for us, as citizens, to have an open saying on what we believe in or want to say as an individual of this country. It's important to me because us, as the people, should have a privilege of what we want to say or express it without the government interfering. I want to able to express my opinion to the world, without being told what to, specifically, say. This is how the 1st amendment plays an important role in my life.

Another one of the most important amendments, in the Bill of Rights, is the 2nd Amendment. The second amendment protects the right of the individual to keep and bear firearms. The right to bare arms is viewed as a personal liberty to prevent oppressive governing bodies from forming. The right to bare arms, also, was created to end insurrection, and to facilitate the natural right to self defense. It pretty much gives us the right to have our own bare arm, open, self defense country.

Lastly, another one of the most important amendments, in the Bill of Rights, is the 6th amendment. That amendment means that when a person is accused of a crime, that person has a right to a fair trial that is not delayed too long. Also, he has a right for the trial to be public and not secret trial . He/she has a right to be judged by people who are fair and have not already made up their minds. The right to have unbiased people say if he is guilty or not guilty. Also, he/she has a right to know what he's being accused of, and the right to know who is accusing him and who the witnesses are who are against him.

In conclusion, the Bill of Rights was established to ensure that citizens of the United States are entitled to a number of personal freedoms, such as the 1st, 2nd, and 6th amendments. It is, also, a way to prevent the government from becoming too powerful and proposing a threat to its surrounding population. All in all, in my opinion, the Bill of Rights is the heart of our country and the heart of our constitution.

No matter who is elected into office, the Constitution protects the undeniable rights of every single American. The Constitution serves as a defender of liberty, a symbol of hope and freedom, and a supporter of human rights.

