

## What is constitution?

A constitution is a legal framework for government.



# What purposes for government are given in the Preamble of the US Constitution?

To form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.



## What are the 4 freedoms of Expression?

Freedom of speech

Freedom of the press

Right of the people peaceably to assemble

Right to petition the government for a redress of grievances



## What are the benefits of Freedom of Expression?

Individual developmentand human dignity
Advancement of knowledge
The maintenance of representative democracy



### Should there be limits to Freedom of Expression?

Yes, there should be limits on Freedom of Expression.

#### What is Due Process of Law?

Due process is the right to be treated fairly by government.



## How can the rights of an individual and the rights of Society conflict?

Problems of due process involve two government responsibilities.

- 1. Protect the rights of an individual who may have broken the law
- 2. Protect everyone else from people who break the law and endanger the lives, liberty, or property of others

These responsibilities sometimes conflict.



### What questions about government and citizens does a constitution answer?

#### About Government:

What are the purposes of government?

What is the organization of government? What parts does it have? What does each part do?

What purpose of constitutional government does this painting illustrate?

How is government supposed to go about doing its business? For example, how does the government make its laws? How are people selected to serve in government?

#### About Citizens:

Who is a citizen?

Are citizens supposed to have control over their government? If so, how is this control supposed to work? What rights and responsibilities, if any, are the citizens supposed to have?



### What are five characteristics of a constitution?

- 1. It lists the basic rights of citizens to life, liberty, and property.
- 2. It establishes the responsibility of government to protect those rights.
- 3. It places limits on how the people in government may use their powers.
- 4. It establishes the principle of a private domain. A private domain is that part of a person's life that is not the business of government.
- 5. It can only be changed with the widespread consent of citizens and according to certain set procedures.



## Items that need to Know:

Separation of Power

Executive

Legislative

Judicial

Checks and Balances

How a Bill Becomes a Law

First, Fifth, Sixth, Eighth Amendment



