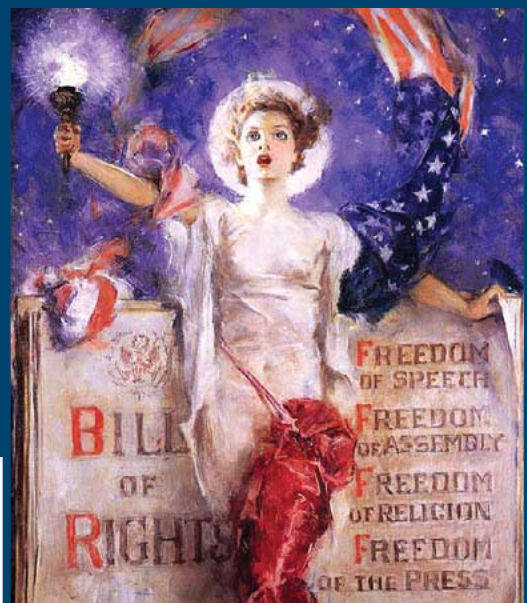


03010

ERA 3: REVOLUTION AND THE NEW NATION (1754–1820S)
ERA 10: CONTEMPORARY UNITED STATES (1968–THE PRESENT)
THEMES: AMERICAN IDENTITY, POLITICS AND
CITIZENSHIP, REFORM

TAKING ANOTHER LOOK at the CONSTITUTIONAL BLUEPRINT



Detail from the Bill of Rights
by Howard Chandler Christy.

Guiding Questions

Are there provisions of the Constitution of the United States in need of repair, revision or abolishment?

What is the reasoning behind the recommended constitutional changes made by some scholars, presidents and political scientists?

Question Focus Examples for Task 24

Amendments are an efficient and fair way to change the Constitution.

Teacher-to-Teacher

Once students have had opportunity to read the entire text of the Constitution, they can read about some recommended changes various people in American political culture have suggested. Many of these suggested changes can be the springboard to a variety of discussion regarding the need for the change and the likelihood of the change being adopted. These suggested changes are made by a variety of people: former Presidents of the United States, political scholars and political scientists. Students can be encouraged to learn about each of the people making a suggestion and discuss how each person's role in American political culture influenced their choice of suggestion they made.

Contents

- ❖ **Taking Another Look At the Constitutional Blueprint** ARTICLE
- ❖ **The Constitution of the United States** DOCUMENT
- ❖ **Amendments to the Constitution of the United States** DOCUMENT
- ❖ **Measures Proposed to Amend the Constitution** DOCUMENT
- ❖ **H.J. Res. 80, proposing to amend the Constitution of the United State (Corwin Amendment), February 28, 1861** DOCUMENT

Recommended Instructional Tasks

Task 1

Wrestle with an Argument: Close Reading of an Argumentative Text

Task 7

Close Reading: Focus

Task 8

Analyze and Compare Author Purpose

Task 10

Question the Author

Task 13

Form/Content/Context