

No Bill Of Rights No Deal

No Bill of Rights, No Deal

Name: _____

Quote & Paste. Each of the quotes below is an excerpt from something that was written or said at the time the Constitution and the Bill of Rights were being debated. These quotes address the main arguments discussed in the reading for this lesson.

1. Read the quotes.
2. Use the dropdown menus on the grid page to match each quote with the argument it best addresses.

Of what avail will the Constitutions of the respective States be to preserve the rights of its citizens? [T]he Constitution of the United States, and the laws made in pursuance thereof, is the supreme law, and all legislatures and judicial officers, whether of the General or State governments, are bound by oath to support it.	The most blind admirer of this Constitution must in his heart confess that it is ... far inferior to the British Constitution... In the British Constitution the rights of men ... are fixed on an immoveable foundation and clearly defined and ascertained by their Magna Charta, their Petition of Rights, [and] their Bill of Rights...
[Bills of rights] have no application to constitutions professedly founded upon the power of the people, and executed by their immediate representatives and servants. Here, in strictness, the people surrender nothing; and as they retain every thing they have no need of particular reservations.	The establishment of the writ of habeas corpus, the prohibition of ex post facto laws, and of TITLES OF NOBILITY , to which we have no corresponding provision in our Constitution, are perhaps greater securities to liberty and republicanism than any it contains.
The powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the federal government, are few and defined. Those which are to remain in the State governments are numerous and indefinite. ... The powers reserved to the several States will extend to all the objects which ... concern the lives, liberties, and properties of the people...	Nothing need be said to illustrate the importance of the prohibition of titles of nobility. This may truly be denominated the corner-stone of republican government; for so long as they are excluded, there can never be serious danger that the government will be any other than that of the people.
[W]e conceive that there is no power which Congress may think necessary to exercise for the general welfare, which they may not assume under this Constitution. ... [T]hose very powers, which are to be expressly vested in the new Congress, are of a nature most liable to abuse.	[T]he [constitutional] convention was composed of ... ambitious men ... whose similitude to each other, consisted only in their determination to lord it over their fellow citizens; ... they were unanimous in forming a government that should raise the fortunes and respectability of the well born few, and oppress the plebeians.
[T]his principle is a fundamental one, in all the Constitutions of our own States there is not one of them but what is either founded on a declaration or bill of rights, or has certain express reservation of rights interwoven in the body of them.	Bills of rights are, in their origin, stipulations between kings and their subjects, ... reservations of rights not surrendered to the prince. They are ... not only unnecessary in the proposed Constitution, but would even be dangerous. They would contain various exceptions to powers not granted.

No Bill of Rights, No Deal: Understanding the Power of Constitutional Protections

The phrase "no bill of rights, no deal" echoes through history, a potent declaration signifying the unwavering commitment to fundamental freedoms. This isn't just a catchy slogan; it represents a crucial principle underlying the establishment of just and equitable societies. This post will delve into the meaning of this powerful statement, exploring its historical context, its implications for modern governance, and the crucial role individual rights play in ensuring a fair and functional society. We'll examine why the absence of a robust bill of rights often signals a flawed or potentially

oppressive system, and explore the ongoing debates surrounding its application globally.

The Historical Roots of "No Bill of Rights, No Deal"

The concept behind "no bill of rights, no deal" finds its roots in the struggles for liberty and self-governance that have shaped human history. Think of the Magna Carta, the English Bill of Rights, and the American Declaration of Independence – all pivotal documents that cemented the principle that certain fundamental rights are inalienable and should be protected from government overreach. These historical events underscored the importance of enshrining these rights in written law, ensuring they weren't subject to the whims of those in power. The very idea of a "deal" – a social contract between the governed and the governing – becomes meaningless without a guaranteed set of protections for the individual. Without these safeguards, any agreement is inherently unstable and vulnerable to exploitation.

Why a Bill of Rights is Non-Negotiable for a Just Society

A bill of rights acts as a bulwark against tyranny. It explicitly defines limits on governmental power, safeguarding individuals against arbitrary arrest, unfair trials, censorship, and other infringements on personal liberty.

Key Protections Guaranteed by a Bill of Rights:

Freedom of Speech and Expression: The ability to express oneself without fear of reprisal is essential for a healthy democracy.

Freedom of Religion: The right to practice one's faith (or no faith) without interference is a cornerstone of personal autonomy.

Due Process and Fair Trial: Ensuring individuals are treated fairly under the law, with access to legal representation and a fair hearing, is crucial for preventing injustice.

Protection Against Unreasonable Search and Seizure: This safeguards personal privacy and prevents arbitrary intrusions by authorities.

Right to Privacy: This encompasses various aspects of personal life, protecting individuals from unwarranted government intrusion.

The absence of these protections creates fertile ground for corruption, abuse of power, and the erosion of democratic values. A society without strong legal protections for its citizens is a society where the powerful can easily oppress the weak.

Modern Applications and Ongoing Debates

The principle of "no bill of rights, no deal" remains highly relevant in the 21st century. Negotiations for peace agreements, constitutional reforms, and even the formation of international organizations often hinge on the inclusion of robust human rights protections. The struggle for human rights in various parts of the world continues to highlight the critical importance of these fundamental safeguards. Countries lacking comprehensive bills of rights often face instability, conflict, and widespread human rights abuses.

Challenges in Implementing and Upholding Bill of Rights:

Cultural Differences: The specific content and interpretation of a bill of rights can vary across cultures and societies.

Enforcement Mechanisms: Even with a strong bill of rights, effective enforcement mechanisms are needed to prevent abuses.

Balancing Rights and Security: The post-9/11 world has seen increased tension between national security concerns and the protection of individual liberties. Striking the right balance remains a significant challenge.

Conclusion

The phrase "no bill of rights, no deal" encapsulates a fundamental principle of a just and free society. It signifies that individual rights are not optional concessions but essential prerequisites for a stable and equitable social order. The historical struggle for these rights, and the ongoing challenges in upholding them, demonstrate the enduring relevance of this powerful statement. The fight for a world where human rights are respected and protected is a continuous process, requiring vigilance, advocacy, and a firm commitment to the principles of justice and liberty.

FAQs

1. What is the difference between a bill of rights and a constitution? A constitution is a nation's overarching framework of government, while a bill of rights is a specific section within a constitution (or a separate document) that outlines fundamental individual rights and freedoms.
2. Can a bill of rights be amended? Yes, most bills of rights can be amended, though the process typically requires a supermajority or other significant hurdles to prevent easy changes that might undermine fundamental protections.
3. How does a bill of rights impact international relations? The presence (or absence) of strong

human rights protections within a nation significantly influences its relationships with other countries, particularly in matters of trade, diplomacy, and international cooperation.

4. Are there any examples of countries without robust bills of rights? Several countries lack comprehensive bills of rights or have weak enforcement mechanisms, leading to significant human rights concerns. Researching specific examples requires caution, as the definition of "robust" is open to interpretation.

5. What role do NGOs play in protecting bill of rights? Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) play a crucial role in advocating for human rights, monitoring abuses, and pressuring governments to uphold their obligations to protect the rights enshrined in bills of rights.

no bill of rights no deal: The Bill of Rights Linda R. Monk, 2018-04-10 With a foreword by Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg of the U.S. Supreme Court. An Engaging, Accessible Guide to the Bill of Rights for Everyday Citizens. In The Bill of Rights: A User's Guide, award-winning author and constitutional scholar Linda R. Monk explores the remarkable history of the Bill of Rights amendment by amendment, the Supreme Court's interpretation of each right, and the power of citizens to enforce those rights. Stories of the ordinary people who made the Bill of Rights come alive are featured throughout. These include Fannie Lou Hamer, a Mississippi sharecropper who became a national civil rights leader; Clarence Earl Gideon, a prisoner whose handwritten petition to the Supreme Court expanded the right to counsel; Mary Beth Tinker, a 13-year-old whose protest of the Vietnam War established free speech rights for students; Michael Hardwick, a bartender who fought for privacy after police entered his bedroom unlawfully; Suzette Kelo, a nurse who opposed the city's takeover of her working-class neighborhood; and Simon Tam, a millennial whose 10-year trademark battle for his band The Slants ended in a unanimous Supreme Court victory. Such people prove that, in the words of Judge Learned Hand, Liberty lies in the hearts of men and women; when it dies there, no constitution, no law, no court, can save it. Exploring the history, scope, and meaning of the first ten amendments—as well as the Fourteenth Amendment, which nationalized them and extended new rights of equality to all—The Bill of Rights: A User's Guide is a powerful examination of the values that define American life and the tools that every citizen needs.

no bill of rights no deal: The Bill of Rights Carol Berkin, 2015-05-05 “Narrative, celebratory history at its purest” (Publishers Weekly)—the real story of how the Bill of Rights came to be: a vivid account of political strategy, big egos, and the partisan interests that set the terms of the ongoing contest between the federal government and the states. Those who argue that the Bill of Rights reflects the founding fathers’ “original intent” are wrong. The Bill of Rights was actually a brilliant political act executed by James Madison to preserve the Constitution, the federal government, and the latter’s authority over the states. In the skilled hands of award-winning historian Carol Berkin, the story of the founders’ fight over the Bill of Rights comes alive in a drama full of partisanship, clashing egos, and cunning manipulation. In 1789, the nation faced a great divide around a question still unanswered today: should broad power and authority reside in the federal government or should it reside in state governments? The Bill of Rights, from protecting religious freedom to the people’s right to bear arms, was a political ploy first and a matter of principle second. The truth of how and why Madison came to devise this plan, the debates it caused in the Congress, and its ultimate success is more engrossing than any of the myths that shroud our national beginnings. The debate over the Bill of Rights still continues through many Supreme Court decisions. By pulling back the curtain on the short-sighted and self-interested intentions of the founding fathers, Berkin reveals the anxiety many felt that the new federal government might not survive—and shows that the true “original intent” of the Bill of Rights was simply to oppose the Antifederalists who hoped to diminish the government’s powers. This book is “a highly readable American history lesson that provides a deeper understanding of the Bill of Rights, the fears that generated it, and the miracle of the

amendments" (Kirkus Reviews).

no bill of rights no deal: The Second Bill of Rights Cass R. Sunstein, 2009-03-25 In 1944, Franklin Delano Roosevelt gave a State of the Union Address that was arguably the greatest political speech of the twentieth century. In it, Roosevelt grappled with the definition of security in a democracy, concluding that unless there is security here at home, there cannot be lasting peace in the world. To help ensure that security, he proposed a Second Bill of Rights -- economic rights that he saw as necessary to political freedom. Many of the great legislative achievements of the past sixty years stem from Roosevelt's vision. Using this speech as a launching point, Cass R. Sunstein shows how these rights are vital to the continuing security of our nation. This is an ambitious, sweeping book that argues for a new vision of FDR, of constitutional history, and our current political scene.

no bill of rights no deal: Model Rules of Professional Conduct American Bar Association. House of Delegates, Center for Professional Responsibility (American Bar Association), 2007 The Model Rules of Professional Conduct provides an up-to-date resource for information on legal ethics. Federal, state and local courts in all jurisdictions look to the Rules for guidance in solving lawyer malpractice cases, disciplinary actions, disqualification issues, sanctions questions and much more. In this volume, black-letter Rules of Professional Conduct are followed by numbered Comments that explain each Rule's purpose and provide suggestions for its practical application. The Rules will help you identify proper conduct in a variety of given situations, review those instances where discretionary action is possible, and define the nature of the relationship between you and your clients, colleagues and the courts.

no bill of rights no deal: James Madison and the Struggle for the Bill of Rights Richard Labunski, 2006-07-04 In these pages Richard Labunski offers a dramatic account of how an unlikely hero - the shy, soft-spoken, and scholarly James Madison - almost single-handedly brought the Bill of Rights to life against daunting odds, forever shaping, and perhaps even saving, the United States.--BOOK JACKET.

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no bill of rights no deal: The Heart of the Constitution Gerard N. Magliocca, 2018 This is the untold story of the most celebrated part of the Constitution. Until the twentieth century, few Americans called the first ten constitutional amendments drafted by James Madison in 1789 and ratified by the states in 1791 the Bill of Rights. Even more surprising, when people finally started doing so between the Spanish-American War and World War II, the Bill of Rights was usually invoked to justify increasing rather than restricting the authority of the federal government. President Franklin D. Roosevelt played a key role in that development, first by using the Bill of Rights to justify the expansion of national regulation under the New Deal, and then by transforming the Bill of Rights into a patriotic rallying cry against Nazi Germany. It was only after the Cold War began that the Bill of Rights took on its modern form as the most powerful symbol of the limits on government power. These are just some of the revelations about the Bill of Rights in Gerard Magliocca's *The Heart of the Constitution*. For example, we are accustomed to seeing the Bill of Rights at the end of the Constitution, but Madison wanted to put them in the middle of the document. Why was his plan rejected and what impact did that have on constitutional law? Today we also venerate the first ten amendments as the Bill of Rights, but many Supreme Court opinions say that only the first eight or first nine amendments. Why was that and why did that change? The Bill of Rights that emerges from Magliocca's fresh historical examination is a living text that means something different for each generation and reflects the great ideas of the Constitution--individual freedom, democracy, states' rights, judicial review, and national power in time of crisis.

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the first ten amendments of the Constitution and illuminates the behind-the-scenes manoeuvrings, public rhetoric and political motivations of James Madison and others.

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no bill of rights no deal: A History of ALA Policy on Intellectual Freedom Office for Intellectual Freedom (OIF), 2015-07-01 Collecting several key documents and policy statements, this supplement to the ninth edition of the Intellectual Freedom Manual traces a history of ALA's commitment to fighting censorship. An introductory essay by Judith Krug and Candace Morgan, updated by OIF Director Barbara Jones, sketches out an overview of ALA policy on intellectual freedom. An important resource, this volume includes documents which discuss such foundational issues as The Library Bill of Rights Protecting the freedom to read ALA's Code of Ethics How to respond to challenges and concerns about library resources Minors and internet activity Meeting rooms, bulletin boards, and exhibits Copyright Privacy, including the retention of library usage records

no bill of rights no deal: Learn about the United States U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, 2009 Learn About the United States is intended to help permanent residents gain a deeper understanding of U.S. history and government as they prepare to become citizens. The product presents 96 short lessons, based on the sample questions from which the civics portion of the naturalization test is drawn. An audio CD that allows students to listen to the questions, answers, and civics lessons read aloud is also included. For immigrants preparing to naturalize, the chance to learn more about the history and government of the United States will make their journey toward citizenship a more meaningful one.

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no bill of rights no deal: No Ordinary Time Doris Kearns Goodwin, 2008-06-30 Doris Kearns Goodwin's Pulitzer Prize-winning classic about the relationship between Franklin D. Roosevelt and Eleanor Roosevelt, and how it shaped the nation while steering it through the Great Depression and

the outset of World War II. With an extraordinary collection of details, Goodwin masterfully weaves together a striking number of story lines—Eleanor and Franklin’s marriage and remarkable partnership, Eleanor’s life as First Lady, and FDR’s White House and its impact on America as well as on a world at war. Goodwin effectively melds these details and stories into an unforgettable and intimate portrait of Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt and of the time during which a new, modern America was born.

no bill of rights no deal: Limited Government and the Bill of Rights Patrick M. Garry, 2012-07-15 Eric Hoffer Award Grand Prize Short List, 2015 What was the intended purpose and function of the Bill of Rights? Is the modern understanding of the Bill of Rights the same as that which prevailed when the document was ratified? In *Limited Government and the Bill of Rights*, Patrick Garry addresses these questions. Under the popular modern view, the Bill of Rights focuses primarily on protecting individual autonomy interests, making it all about the individual. But in Garry’s novel approach, one that tries to address the criticisms of judicial activism that have resulted from the Supreme Court’s contemporary individual rights jurisprudence, the Bill of Rights is all about government—about limiting the power of government. In this respect, the Bill of Rights is consistent with the overall scheme of the original Constitution, insofar as it sought to define and limit the power of the newly created federal government. Garry recognizes the desire of the constitutional framers to protect individual liberties and natural rights, indeed, a recognition of such rights had formed the basis of the American campaign for independence from Britain. However, because the constitutional framers did not have a clear idea of how to define natural rights, much less incorporate them into a written constitution for enforcement, they framed the Bill of Rights as limited government provisions rather than as individual autonomy provisions. To the framers, limited government was the constitutional path to the maintenance of liberty. Moreover, crafting the Bill of Rights as limited government provisions would not give the judiciary the kind of wide-ranging power needed to define and enforce individual autonomy. With respect to the application of this limited government model, Garry focuses specifically on the First Amendment and examines how the courts in many respects have already used a limited government model in their First Amendment decision-making. As he discusses, this approach to the First Amendment may allow for a more objective and restrained judicial role than is often applied under contemporary First Amendment jurisprudence. *Limited Government and the Bill of Rights* will appeal to anyone interested in the historical background of the Bill of Rights and how its provisions should be applied to contemporary cases, particularly First Amendment cases. It presents an innovative theory about the constitutional connection between the principle of limited government and the provisions in the Bill of Rights.

no bill of rights no deal: A Kids' Guide to America's Bill of Rights Kathleen Krull, 1999-10-06 Which 462 words are so important that they've changed American history more than once? The Bill of Rights: the first ten amendments to the Constitution, the crucial document that spells out how the United States is to be governed. Find out what the Bill of Rights is and how it affects your daily life in this fascinating look at the history, significance, and mysteries of these laws that protect the individual freedoms of everyone -- even young people. Why did early American founders (like James Madison, Congressman from Virginia) argue that individuals needed a Bill of Rights to protect them from government? Why is freedom of speech so thrilling and so controversial? What is religious intolerance, and when can it be fatal? What does it really mean to take the Fifth? And how does the Bill of Rights affect the rights of kids? Packed with anecdotes and sidebars, case studies, and humorous illustrations, innovative author Kathleen Krull's introduction to the Bill of Rights brings a little understood topic vividly to life.

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author Chris DeRose reveals in *Founding Rivals: Madison vs Monroe, The Bill of Rights and the Election That Saved a Nation* was more than personal ambition. This was a race that determined the future of the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, the very definition of the United States of America.

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no bill of rights no deal: *Reforming Our Universities* David Horowitz, 2010-08-31 For far too long our colleges and universities have been allowed to ignore their chartered responsibilities to educate rather than indoctrinate. Instead of providing a forum for the free exchange of ideas, they intimidate students into ideological submission to leftist professors; rather than pursuing meaningful research, they proselytize for radical causes. Here, author David Horowitz tells the story of his ongoing campaign for an Academic Bill of Rights to protect students who refuse to conform to radical orthodoxies. Horowitz means to recall higher education to its better self, to become--as it once was--a place where students and teachers were not afraid to question opinions, create their own, and engage in Socratic dialogue.--From publisher description.

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no bill of rights no deal: *Politics and the Constitution in the History of the United States* William W. Crosskey, William Jeffrey, 1953 When the first two volumes of William Crosskey's monumental study of the Constitution appeared in 1953, Arthur M. Schlesinger called it perhaps the most fertile commentary on that document since *The Federalist* papers. It was highly controversial as well. The work was a comprehensive reassessment of the meaning of the Constitution, based on examination of eighteenth-century usages of key political and legal concepts and terms. Crosskey's basic thesis was that the Founding Fathers truly intended a government with plenary, nationwide powers, and not, as in the received views, a limited federalism. This third volume of *Politics and the Constitution*, which Crosskey began and William Jeffrey has finished, treats political activity in the period 1776-87, and is in many ways the heart of the work as Crosskey conceived it. In support of the lexicographic analysis of volumes 1 and 2, volume 3 shows that nationalist ideas and sentiments were a powerful force in American public opinion from the Revolution to the eve of the Constitutional Convention. The creation of a generally empowered national government in Philadelphia, it is argued, was the fruition of a long-active political movement, not the unintended or accidental result of a temporary conservative coalition. This view of the political background of the Constitutional Convention directly challenges the Madisonian-Jeffersonian orthodoxy on the subject. In support of his interpretation, Crosskey amassed a wealth of primary source materials, including heretofore unexplored pamphlets and newspapers. This exhaustive research makes this unique work invaluable for scholars of the period, both for the primary sources collected as well as for the provocative interpretation offered.

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no bill of rights no deal: United States Code United States, 2013 The United States Code is the official codification of the general and permanent laws of the United States of America. The Code was first published in 1926, and a new edition of the code has been published every six years since 1934. The 2012 edition of the Code incorporates laws enacted through the One Hundred Twelfth Congress, Second Session, the last of which was signed by the President on January 15, 2013. It does not include laws of the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress, First Session, enacted between January 2, 2013, the date it convened, and January 15, 2013. By statutory authority this edition may be cited U.S.C. 2012 ed. As adopted in 1926, the Code established prima facie the general and permanent laws of the United States. The underlying statutes reprinted in the Code remained in effect and controlled over the Code in case of any discrepancy. In 1947, Congress began enacting individual titles of the Code into positive law. When a title is enacted into positive law, the underlying statutes are repealed and the title then becomes legal evidence of the law. Currently, 26 of the 51 titles in the Code have been so enacted. These are identified in the table of titles near the beginning of each volume. The Law Revision Counsel of the House of Representatives continues to prepare legislation pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 285b to enact the remainder of the Code, on a title-by-title basis, into positive law. The 2012 edition of the Code was prepared and published under the supervision of Ralph V. Seep, Law Revision Counsel. Grateful acknowledgment is made of the contributions by all who helped in this work, particularly the staffs of the Office of the Law Revision Counsel and the Government Printing Office--Preface.

no bill of rights no deal: The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America Richard Rothstein, 2017-05-02 New York Times Bestseller • Notable Book of the Year • Editors' Choice Selection One of Bill Gates' "Amazing Books" of the Year One of Publishers Weekly's 10 Best Books of the Year Longlisted for the National Book Award for Nonfiction An NPR Best Book of the Year Winner of the Hillman Prize for Nonfiction Gold Winner • California Book Award (Nonfiction) Finalist • Los Angeles Times Book Prize (History) Finalist • Brooklyn Public Library Literary Prize This "powerful and disturbing history" exposes how American governments deliberately imposed racial segregation on metropolitan areas nationwide (New York Times Book Review). Widely heralded as a "masterful" (Washington Post) and "essential" (Slate) history of the modern American metropolis, Richard Rothstein's *The Color of Law* offers "the most forceful argument ever published on how federal, state, and local governments gave rise to and reinforced neighborhood segregation" (William Julius Wilson). Exploding the myth of de facto segregation arising from private prejudice or the unintended consequences of economic forces, Rothstein describes how the American government systematically imposed residential segregation: with undisguised racial zoning; public housing that purposefully segregated previously mixed communities; subsidies for builders to create whites-only suburbs; tax exemptions for institutions that enforced segregation; and support for violent resistance to African Americans in white neighborhoods. A groundbreaking, "virtually indispensable" study that has already transformed our understanding of twentieth-century urban history (Chicago Daily Observer), *The Color of Law* forces us to face the obligation to remedy our unconstitutional past.

no bill of rights no deal: *Getting Past No* William Ury, 2007-04-17 We all want to get to yes, but what happens when the other person keeps saying no? How can you negotiate successfully with a stubborn boss, an irate customer, or a deceitful coworker? In *Getting Past No*, William Ury of Harvard Law School's Program on Negotiation offers a proven breakthrough strategy for turning adversaries into negotiating partners. You'll learn how to: • Stay in control under pressure • Defuse anger and hostility • Find out what the other side really wants • Counter dirty tricks • Use power to bring the other side back to the table • Reach agreements that satisfies both sides' needs *Getting Past No* is the state-of-the-art book on negotiation for the twenty-first century. It will help you deal with tough times, tough people, and tough negotiations. You don't have to get mad or get even. Instead, you can get what you want!

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government from the problems that were threatening acceptance of the Constitution.

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no bill of rights no deal: The GI Bill Glenn Altschuler, Stuart Blumin, 2009-06-02 On rare occasions in American history, Congress enacts a measure so astute, so far-reaching, so revolutionary, it enters the language as a metaphor. The Marshall Plan comes to mind, as does the Civil Rights Act. But perhaps none resonates in the American imagination like the G.I. Bill. In a brilliant addition to Oxford's acclaimed Pivotal Moments in American History series, historians Glenn C. Altschuler and Stuart M. Blumin offer a compelling and often surprising account of the G.I. Bill and its sweeping and decisive impact on American life. Formally known as the Serviceman's Readjustment Act of 1944, it was far from an obvious, straightforward piece of legislation, but resulted from tense political maneuvering and complex negotiations. As Altschuler and Blumin show, an unlikely coalition emerged to shape and pass the bill, bringing together both New Deal Democrats and conservatives who had vehemently opposed Roosevelt's social-welfare agenda. For the first time in American history returning soldiers were not only supported, but enabled to pursue success--a revolution in America's policy towards its veterans. Once enacted, the G.I. Bill had far-reaching consequences. By providing job training, unemployment compensation, housing loans, and tuition assistance, it allowed millions of Americans to fulfill long-held dreams of social mobility, reshaping the national landscape. The huge influx of veterans and federal money transformed the modern university and the surge in single home ownership vastly expanded America's suburbs. Perhaps most important, as Peter Drucker noted, the G.I. Bill signaled the shift to the knowledge society. The authors highlight unusual or unexpected features of the law--its color blindness, the frankly sexist thinking behind it, and its consequent influence on race and gender relations. Not least important, Altschuler and Blumin illuminate its role in individual lives whose stories they weave into this thoughtful account. Written with insight and narrative verve by two leading historians, The G.I. Bill makes a major contribution to the scholarship of postwar America.

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