

# To Keep and Bear Arms: An Individual or Collective Right?

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**To Keep & Bear Arms**  
An Individual or Collective Right?

# *Second Amendment Lesson Plan Demonstration*

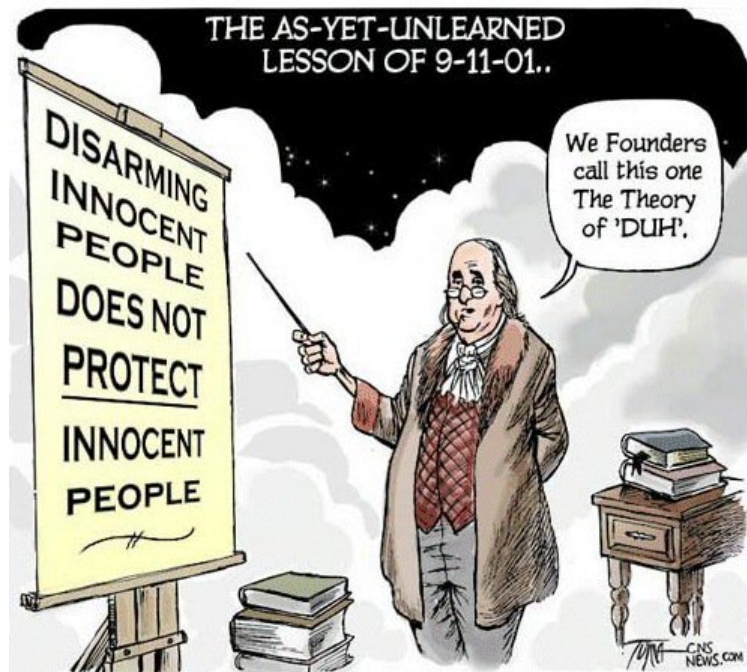
Based on To Keep & Bear Arms  
McCormick Resources

<http://www.mccormickfoundation.org/CIVICS/PROGRAMS/Education/Resources/LessonPlans.aspx>

Fits neatly into 2- 50 minute high school government class periods. Can easily be adapted and expanded.



FunnyandJokes.com



# *Second Amendment Lesson*

- Introduction Homework Activity
  - **Individual Rights vs. Collective Rights**

student investigation

\*half sheet assignment



Under Warm-Up in lesson plan booklet :

“Collective rights interpretation views gun ownership as a constitutional right only in so far as it facilitates participation in a state militia. State and federal restrictions on gun ownership are therefore permissible, and perhaps even advisable. The individual rights interpretation is more expansive in scope, allowing for individual gun ownership for purposes of self-defense in addition to militia duties. It calls for strict scrutiny of any local, state and federal laws affecting gun ownership.”

# *Second Amendment Lesson*

- Day 1 – Class discussion of Individual Rights vs. Collective Rights based on homework. (10 min.)
- Gun Ownership “blog” activity (20 min.)
  - NRA article
  - Groups of 4
  - Practice

# *Second Amendment Lesson*

- Day 1 cont. *To Keep & Bear Arms: An Individual or Collective Right?* Core Lesson
  - Review Lesson **Activity**
  - As is with AP Government class
  - Additional Middle School resources
  - Additional McDonald reading
  - Additional Questions for less independent groups

## \*Concept Formation Worksheet Group Discussion (15- 20 min.)

- Groups of 3 with 1 worksheet
- Read allowed and highlight
- Switch writers and speakers

*other suggestions?*



# *Second Amendment Lesson*

- Day 1 Homework
  - Divide class into 3 or 4 groups
  - Divide Readings and Worksheets
    - Can divide based on ability
    - *US v. Miller* more challenging vocab and conceptually
    - *McDonald v. Chicago* more challenging to synthesis

\*If homework is an “issue” with students, lesson can be extended to in class time.

# *Second Amendment Lesson*

- Day 2
  - Check in homework
  - Divide into groups
  - Handout **Symposium Worksheet** to each student.



What are key  
elements of good  
group exchange in  
your classroom?





# *Second Amendment Lesson*

- Final wrap up of lesson
- *What might a follow up class discussion “look like” in your classroom?*
  - **Review materials and design a class discussion** in groups of 3-4 with a variety of experience.
  - Remember... started with collective rights vs. individual rights discussion.

**Exit Slip** for each student



# *Second Amendment Lesson*

- Extension Activities - see lesson plan packet
- Map Extension Activity — divide the 5 topics up among students to do some research and create a one page report.
  1. Virginia Tech University shooting 2007
  2. CeaseFire @ [ceasefirechicago.org](http://ceasefirechicago.org)
  3. Richard Heller and his personal story
  4. National Firearms Act 1934
  5. Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence
- McDonald *Chicago Tribune* Article with graphic organizer
  - Allows students to see the multiple factors of a case
- McDonald Oyez.org majority opinion listen and questions

[http://www.oyez.org/cases/2000-2009/2009/2009\\_08\\_1521](http://www.oyez.org/cases/2000-2009/2009/2009_08_1521)

# *Second Amendment Lesson*

- Advanced Placement Extension Activities
- AP United States Government 2007-2008  
Professional Development Workshop Materials:  
**Special Focus The Incorporation Doctrine**

-can be found at AP Central on US Government and Politics  
Home Page under Special Focus

[http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/public/courses/teachers\\_corner/2259.html](http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/public/courses/teachers_corner/2259.html)

**Selective Incorporation : judicial doctrine**  
(in the courts not legislative) whereby  
most but not all of the protections found in  
the Bill of Rights are applicable to the  
states via the Fourteenth Amendment.

**14<sup>th</sup> Amendment –  
equal protection and  
due process clauses.**

# *Second Amendment Lesson*

- **Final Thoughts ...**
  - Class “lecture” notes and/or textbook readings and worksheets for background and extension concepts.
- **Questions and Answers?**

