

# Teaching With Controversy

“Teaching the Tip”



# Teaching the Tip

- For each of the following questions, label if you believe it is:
  - An “open” question that is controversial and worthy of discussion
  - A “closed” question that does not require discussion in the form of a controversial issue. The answer is readily agreed upon
  - A “tipping” question: moving from open to closed or closed to open
  - Unclear where it is

# Open, closed, tipping, unclear

1. Should the USA have dropped the atomic bomb on Japan?
2. Should same-sex couples have a right to marry?
3. Should homeowners have the right to legally keep a gun in their home?
4. Should people have the right to burn the American flag in protest?

# Open, closed, tipping, unclear

6. Should the USA have interned Japanese-Americans during World War II?
7. Should colleges and universities use Affirmative Action programs to create a diverse student body?
8. Should employers have a right to look at electronic media created by company property?
9. Was Andrew Jackson's removal of the Cherokee from Georgia justified?

# Open, closed, tipping, unclear

10. Should the Founding Fathers have abolished slavery at the Philadelphia Convention?
11. Should 18 year olds have the right to vote?
12. Did Lyndon B. Johnson violate his oath of office in his actions involving the Gulf of Tonkin resolution?

# Spectrum Placement

Place your statements on the appropriate part of the spectrum.

# Where can I find “tipping” topics?



- McCormick Freedom in the News
- New York Times Upfront Magazine
- Junior Scholastic
- USA Today
- Bill of Rights Institute
- Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago
  - Equal Justice Under Law
  - Deliberating in a Democracy