

The Bill of Rights and Me

The modern era has brought about a constant assault on the very bedrock of this nation, the Bill of Rights. Personal discipline has declined for many, and society has ignored the grave importance the Bill of Rights has on each American's life. I believe that people must adhere to the principles contained in this document begun in 1789 if America is going to continue to succeed.

Reflecting on the Bill of Rights humbled me, as I contemplated its importance to me and to the other three hundred million citizens. I, a young man who plans to study law and join the Air Force after college, firmly realize the importance that one document plays in my life. This document has afforded me opportunities and guidelines that I never would have had if I been born elsewhere. First, I have followed the tenets of my religion, as listed in the Bill of Rights. Additionally, I think of the countless hours I have spent hunting with my grandpa, protected by the right to bear arms. Going into the legal profession, I will follow guidelines set: trial by jury, right to a speedy and public trial, and no excessive bail. I want to guide my future clients to understand the rights protected by the Bill of Rights. More importantly, I realize that countless examples listed under the Bill of Rights empower and protect me and all the nation's citizens. In fact, having a written, viable statement of citizens' rights underscores one of America's greatest privileges.

The Bill of Rights affects each citizen in different ways, yet this bedrock of our nation has endured and will continue to remain. Courses I have taken and teachers and family members who espouse beliefs listed in the Bill of Rights have helped shape my career choice. I am thankful for the protection and freedoms made possible by the Bill of Rights and will continue to protect and uphold this powerful document, a gift from the nation's forbearers.