

Module 12: The Changing Times – The 2000s to the Present

Topic 2 Content: Equal Rights

Introduction



Click NEXT to learn about the equal rights cases of Loving versus Virginia and Arizona versus Inter Tribal Council of Arizona.

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Loving v. Virginia


Loving v. Virginia

In 1967, the Virginia state law banning interracial marriage was found unconstitutional.

The law violated the Equal Protection Clause and the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Chief Justice Earl Warren:

- Basic civil right of man
- Fundamental to our existence and survival
- Freedom of choice should not be restricted by race



In 1967, the Supreme Court made a unanimous decision that found the Virginia state law banning interracial marriage as unconstitutional. The decision ended all race-based legal restrictions on marriage in the United States. Specifically, the court found that the Virginia law violated both the Equal Protection Clause and the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. Chief Justice Earl Warren wrote in his opinion, "Marriage is one of the 'basic civil rights of man,' fundamental to our very existence and survival...The Fourteenth Amendment requires that the freedom of choice to marry not be restricted by invidious racial discrimination." This case was later used as a precedent in court cases that struck down restrictions on same-sex marriage.

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Arizona v. Inter Tribal Council of Arizona



Arizona v. Inter Tribal Council of Arizona

- People no longer had to provide proof of citizenship to register to vote.
- Federal voter laws would win over Arizona laws.
- Federal laws will be followed over state laws.

In a 7-2 vote, the United States Supreme Court struck down a requirement in Arizona that someone provide proof of citizenship in order to register to vote. This 2013 opinion argued that federal voter registration laws would win out over Arizona laws. When federal and state laws are in conflict, federal law is that one that is followed.

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Conclusion



EQUAL RIGHTS

You have reached the end of this interactivity.

Restart **Exit**

The image shows a screenshot of an interactive program's conclusion screen. It features a dark red background with a white header bar at the top containing the title 'EQUAL RIGHTS' in a large, bold, serif font. Below the header, the text 'You have reached the end of this interactivity.' is centered in a white, bold, serif font. At the bottom, there are two white rectangular buttons with rounded corners, each containing a bold, black, serif label: 'Restart' on the left and 'Exit' on the right.

You have reached the end of this interactivity.