**LANDMARK SUPREME COURT CASES NOTES**

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| **TITLE OF CASE** | **CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUE OF CASE** | **OUTCOME OF CASE** | **WHY IS THE CASE IMPORTANT?** |
| *Plessy v. Ferguson* (1896), 163 U.S. 537 | Is segregation (*separation of people by skin color)* acceptable if the facilities are equal? | The court decided that segregation was legal. | This court case set the U.S. up for the Jim Crow Era. In the Jim Crow Era, segregation was legal. You may have seen older pictures labelled “Blacks Only” and “Whites Only” in public places. *Plessy v. Ferguson* made this legal. |
| *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954), 347 U.S. 483 | Is segregation of **public** schools legal? In other words, should students of different races be allowed to attend school together? | The Supreme Court found that segregation of public schools is **NOT** legal. | The Supreme Court ordered **ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS** in the U.S. to integrate (*have students of multiple races in school together).* However, this still created difficulty for Black students as many white parents did not want their students attending integrated schools. |
| *Roe v. Wade* (1973), 410 U.S. 113 | Does a woman have a constitutional right to an abortion? | The Supreme Court ruled that women **do** have a constitutional right to receive an abortion. | This continued the Women’s Rights Movement that we have discussed throughout the year. Many feminists (*women who push for the equality of both sexes)* saw this court decision as a big win for women in the U.S. |
| *Miranda v. Arizona* (1966), 384 U.S. 436 | Does a person who is arrested have a 5th amendment right to protect themselves from further incrimination? | The Supreme Court ruled that YES, if you are being interrogated you DO have a right to NOT incriminate yourself further. | Any time an individual is arrested in the U.S. they are read their MIRANDA rights. “*You have the right to remain silent, anything you say can and will be used against you in a court of law. You have a right to an attorney, if you cannot afford an attorney one will be provided to you. Do you understand your rights as I have read them to you?”* We have this in the U.S. because of the *Miranda v. Arizona* court case! |