

AP U.S. Government – Supreme Court Cases Graphic Organizer

Case	Constitutional Issue	Court Decision	Why It Matters
Marbury v. Madison (1803)	Judicial review	Court can declare laws unconstitutional	Strengthened Supreme Court power
McCulloch v. Maryland (1819)	Federal supremacy & implied powers	States can't tax federal institutions	Strengthened national government
Schenck v. United States (1919)	Free speech limits	Clear and present danger not protected	Allowed limits on speech
Brown v. Board of Education (1954)	Equal Protection Clause	School segregation unconstitutional	Ended legal segregation
Baker v. Carr (1962)	Redistricting & equal protection	Courts can hear reapportionment cases	One person, one vote
Engel v. Vitale (1962)	Establishment Clause	School prayer unconstitutional	Separation of church & state
Gideon v. Wainwright (1963)	Right to counsel	States must provide lawyers	Expanded rights of accused
Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District (1969)	Student free speech	Symbolic speech protected	Students keep rights at school
New York Times Co. v. United States (1971)	Freedom of the press	Prior restraint rarely allowed	Strengthened press freedom
Wisconsin v. Yoder (1972)	Free exercise of religion	Amish exempt from schooling law	Protected religious liberty
Shaw v. Reno (1993)	Equal Protection	Race-based districts can be challenged	Limited racial gerrymandering
United States v. Lopez (1995)	Commerce Clause limits	Congress exceeded its power	Limited federal authority
McDonald v. Chicago (2010)	2nd Amendment incorporation	Gun rights apply to states	Expanded gun rights
Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission (2010)	Political speech	Corporate spending protected	More money in politics