1. **Magruder’s American Government**
   
   Chapter 21
   
   Civil Rights: Equal Justice Under Law

2. **SECTION 1**
   
   Diversity and Discrimination in American Society
   
   - What does it mean to live in a heterogeneous society?
   - How has race-based discrimination changed over time?
   - How have women been discriminated against in the past and today?

3. **SECTION 2**
   
   Equality Before the Law

4. **SECTION 3**
   
   Federal Civil Rights Laws

5. **SECTION 4**
   
   American Citizenship

---

3. **SECTION 1**
   
   Diversity and Discrimination in American Society
   
   - The composition of the U.S. population has changed over time:
     - Immigrants—that is, those people legally admitted as permanent residents—have arrived in near-record numbers every year since the mid-1960s.
     - African American, Hispanic American, and Asian American populations have grown at rates several times that of the white population.
     - Women consist of a greater percentage of the population than males. This has been true for over 50 years.
   
   1. Something that is heterogeneous is composed of a mix of ingredients. The population of the U.S. is a heterogeneous one.

5. **African Americans**
   
   The white-male-dominated power structure in the United States has been historically reluctant to yield a full and equal place in the social, economic, and political life of America. Discrimination against African Americans in the U.S. often receives the most attention for three main reasons:
   
   - African Americans constitute the largest minority group in the
United States.
• Since the beginning of slavery in what was to become the United States, African Americans have been the victims of consistent and deliberate unjust treatment, a longer time than any other group of Americans.
• Most of the gains America has made in translating the Constitution’s guarantees of equality into a reality for all persons have come out of efforts made by and on behalf of African Americans.

6 Discrimination Against Women
• Women are in fact not a minority, making up over 51 percent of the U.S. population.
• Women, however, on average, earn less than men, consist of less than 10 percent of Congress, less than 20 percent of the 50 State legislatures, and are underrepresented in corporate management and other groups in the private sector.

7 Section 1 Review
1. Which of the following groups has suffered the worst discrimination in the United States?
   (a) Native Americans
   (b) Women
   (c) African Americans
   (d) Hispanic Americans

2. More than one third of which group lives on or near reservations?
   (a) African Americans
   (b) Native Americans
   (c) Asian Americans
   (d) Hispanic Americans

8 SECTION 2
Equality Before the Law
• How important is the Equal Protection Clause?
• What is the history of segregation in America?
• How does classification by sex relate to discrimination?

9 Equal Protection Clause
Reasonable Classification
• The government may reasonably classify, or draw distinctions, between groups of individuals. Government may not discriminate *unreasonably*, however.

The Supreme Court often uses two measures to determine the constitutionality of an action:

The Rational Basis Test
• The rational basis test asks: Does the classification in question bear a reasonable relationship to the achievement of some proper governmental purpose?

The Strict Scrutiny Test
• Sometimes more imposing standards are used, especially when a case deals with “fundamental rights” or “suspect classifications.”

10 Segregation in America
• Segregation means the separation of one group from another.
• Jim Crow laws, passed in the late 1800s by several States, aimed at separating minorities from the white population.

10 The separate-but-equal doctrine, upheld by *Plessy v.*

• Jus Sanguinis is the law of the blood, or to whom one is born.
• A child who is born abroad to at least one citizen, and who has at some time lived within the United States, can petition for citizenship.

21 Citizenship by Naturalization
• Individual Naturalization

• Naturalization is generally an individual process in which the
Immigration and Naturalization Service investigates each applicant and then reports to a judge. If the judge is satisfied, the oath or affirmation is administered in open court, and the new citizen receives a certificate of naturalization.

**Collective Naturalization**
- This form of naturalization is less common than individual naturalization. This has most often happened when the United States has acquired new territory and the inhabitants are given citizenship.

**Loss of Citizenship**

**Expatriation**
- Expatriation is the legal process by which a loss of citizenship occurs.
- Expatriation is a voluntary act.
- The Supreme Court has held that the Constitution prohibits automatic expatriation, so an individual cannot have his or her citizenship taken away for breaking a law.

**Denaturalization**
- Denaturalization is the process by which citizens can lose their citizenship involuntarily.
- This process can only occur by court order and only after it has been shown that the person became a citizen by fraud or deception.

**A Nation of Immigrants**

**Regulation of Immigrants**
- Congress has the exclusive power to regulate immigration.
- The first major restrictions on immigration was the Chinese Exclusion Act in 1882. Other groups were added to the act until there were over 30 restricted groups in the early 1920s. The next step was the National Origins Act of 1929. This act assigned quotas of immigrants to each country.
- Eventually, the quota system was eliminated with the Immigration Act of 1965, which allowed over a quarter million immigrants into the United States each year, without regard to race, nationality, or country of origin.

**Deportation**
- This is a legal process in which aliens are legally required to
leaves the United States.

- The most common cause of deportation is illegal entry to the country.

24 **Undocumented Aliens**

- No one knows for sure how many undocumented aliens live in the United States today. The Census Bureau and the INS give estimates between three and six million. However, some feel the number is twice that many.
- The growing number of undocumented aliens places stress on programs which are based on a known population. With such an increase, there is added stress on public schools and welfare services in several States.
- After much debate and struggle, Congress passed the Illegal Immigration Restrictions Act of 1996. This law made it easier for the INS to deport aliens by toughening the penalties for smuggling aliens into this country, preventing undocumented aliens from claiming Social Security benefits or public housing, and allowing State welfare workers to check the legal status of any alien who applies for any welfare benefits.

25 **Section 4 Review**

1. What is the legal process in which citizenship is lost?
   - (a) naturalization
   - (b) expatriation
   - (c) jus sanguinis
   - (d) jus soli

2. What government agency has the exclusive power to regulate immigration?
   - (a) The Immigration and Naturalization Service
   - (b) Congress
   - (c) The Supreme Court
   - (d) The Census Bureau