

# CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

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DIRECTOR

**Sowmya Pratipati**

CHAIR

**Great L.**

AD

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# DIRECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Delegates of the Second Constitutional Convention,

Welcome to Pacific Model United Nations 2019 and the Constitutional Convention. My name is Sowmya Pratipati and I will be your director for this committee. I am in 12th grade at Tesla-STEM High School. My chair, Great Laowatdhanasapya is in 12th grade as well and attends Interlake High School and my Assistant Director, Arushi Shah, is in 10th grade and attends Juanita High School. I am excited to work with them.

The Constitutional Convention is a unique committee. Throughout this committee, delegates will be tasked with ensuring that the new, rewritten constitution is something that is well-adapted to the modern world. Technology has changed unimaginably from when the US Constitution was first written. Writing a constitution that takes into account these changes is something that delegates must keep in mind as they continue in this committee. You will be writing a constitution that the rest of the United States will follow. This is an opportunity to make changes to the current, archaic constitution of the United States and have a constitution that is well adapted to our modern, technological society.

This background guide, as well as the accompanying specific rules of procedure, will help show delegates what the committee is for. The background guide was created in order to give delegates a starting point for their research as well as explain the unique history of the United States Constitution and the documents it was inspired by. The background guide is especially important as the committee is set thirty years into the future.

As always, please feel free to reach out to us, at [constitution@pacificmun.com](mailto:constitution@pacificmun.com), with any further questions and I look forward to seeing you at the conference.

Sincerely,

**Sowmya Pratipati**

**Director | Constitutional Convention**

Pacific Model United Nations 2019



# COMMITTEE OVERVIEW

Welcome to the Constitutional Convention at PACMUN 2019. In this committee, delegates are tasked with rewriting the current American Constitution to better fit our future society. The Constitutional Convention will have representation from all over the United States as well as the United States territories. Even though there will be conflicting opinions, delegates are expected to work together peacefully and focus on the specific issues of states' rights, education, and technology.

Due to the changes that have occurred since the Constitution was originally written, many have brought up the point that the idea of a new Constitution should be considered. The original Constitution was not our first form of government - nor should it be our last. Because of this, the Constitutional Convention was created to rewrite the old constitution.

Debate in this committee will be centered on the best ways to rewrite the Constitution and can range from broad concepts to specific word choices. There will be mostly discussion at first until ideas are put out. Then, delegates will be allowed to break into short moderated caucuses focused on writing clauses for the Constitution. Delegates should be prepared to discuss topics as they relate to the current Constitution and how they will impact the one being rewritten.

Since this committee is set thirty years into the future, there are some events in the background guide that have not occurred, and some delegates will be required to use the background guide to develop their positions. Don't let this frighten you - we will be available for any questions you may have. Other delegates will be representing people who already exist, and as such, they will need to use not only this background guide, but also information from other resources.

Additionally, due to the unique nature of this committee, delegates will be following a specialized set of ROP that does not apply to the other committees. Position papers are required for delegates to be eligible for awards. In the position paper, there is no need for Past UN Action and in the solutions section, please emphasize the legislation that you will be changing and outline what policies you would like to implement. This is the most important section of your paper.



# TOPIC A

## Redesigning the American Constitution for the Modern Era

### TOPIC INTRODUCTION

For over 200 years, the American Constitution has been the heart of the United States, carefully crafted by our founding fathers whose names will forever live on through our history. However, in recent years, the Constitution no longer feels adequate. The Constitution can no longer hold the people together, and the disputing views and values have pitted Americans against each other. The main points of contention that scattered the population includes the poorly built education system, the continuous debate of states' rights vs federal authorities, and the role of and limitations on new technology.

These three areas have a variety of problems that the constitution fails to recognize. Firstly, Common Core, the American educational system, is currently reactive; meaning that the system will only work if there is a problem. There are no plans for future education and future generations. The problem of marijuana crossing borders has also become exponentially problematic in terms of state rights and federal rights. The debate surrounding abortion and *Roe v. Wade* has also brought up similar issues. Lastly, the 3D printed guns that have recently surfaced have terrified the citizens and contributes to the discussion that technology has far surpassed the imagination of our founding fathers. These are just some of the points that the Americans have yet to address in the current Constitution; therefore, the public is now turning to the new leaders of the United States, which will come together and establish a new constitution that will hopefully address the needs of the current and future generations better than the previous one.



# HISTORY

With the Revolutionary War came the Declaration of Independence, the first of America's founding documents. During the Revolutionary War, the states drafted their first form of government under the Articles of Confederation. The Articles of Confederation were the first attempt at creating an organized union of multiple states, although the powers awarded to the overarching federal government by this document failed to keep this government running.

In response to growing dissatisfaction with the Articles of Confederation, delegates from twelve states met in Philadelphia in May of 1787 for the first Constitutional Convention (Rhode Island wished to be excluded due to their fears of a strong central government). This convention--while originally planned to merely amend the Articles of Confederation--quickly turned into a rewrite of the basic government structure. Through this, the current form of a three-branch system was formed. The final draft of the Constitution was finished in September of 1787 and was ratified by the last state, Rhode Island in 1790.

During the period of ratification, some states refused due to the lack of a Bill of Rights. In response, James Madison took it upon himself to draft the amendments that were known as the Bill of Rights to the Constitution. Madison proposed twelve amendments, of which ten were later ratified. Later amendments to the constitution were not considered to be part of the Bill of Rights. Due to the addition of the Bill of Rights to the Constitution, more states ratified it.

In 2019, after many challenges to past Supreme Court decisions, a case regarding abortion was brought before the Supreme Court. In the past, the case of *Roe v. Wade* was cited as a precedent for allowing women to make a decision on abortion during the first trimester. In Georgia, a law was passed to prevent abortions after a fetal heartbeat can be heard. A fetal heartbeat can usually be heard around 6 weeks into a pregnancy, which goes against the Supreme Court decision in *Roe v. Wade* since the first trimester usually lasts around twelve weeks. This law, after taking effect in 2020, was challenged in court and was taken up to the Supreme Court. In July of 2024, the bill was called unconstitutional and was struck down. This





angered many who believed that states had a right to determine the laws dealing with healthcare, which brought up the age-old debate of states' rights versus federal government.

In June and July of 2030, the Cascadia riots occurred. Taking place in Washington, Oregon, and Canada. These riots, while largely centered around environmental issues, were also driven by the possibility of secession. There were enough people in the area who did not believe that the government would support them and the issues they cared about. These riots were bloody, with over 500 casualties, and the military was called in to suppress them.

In 2036, the FBI uncovered a massive arm-dealing operation that relied largely on 3D-printers. As 3D-printers were being made readily available, and guns were being easier to print, guns became something that could be made by just about anyone. The government attempted to create some laws that would restrict 3D-printer usage for weapons creation, however these laws were not easily enforceable. The FBI uncovered that the kingpins of this operation were using 3D-printers to print and distribute guns throughout the United States with little care as to who received those guns. The guns were also being sold to various groups across country borders. This also divided the country, because while some believed that it was good that guns were so easily available, many more believed that guns should not have been sold to anyone with enough money.

In 2043, there were a series of protests carried out by teachers, parents, and students across West Virginia, South Carolina, Mississippi, and Alabama in order to protest the poor funding for public education as well as the lax standards and inefficient overseeing body. These protests, while they brought awareness to elected officials, did not help change anything, and only made a contentious time worse. Some democratic officials believed that there was nothing more to do, while some republican officials did not believe that there was anything wrong.

There were also many political changes that occurred. In the 2020 election, the incumbent Republican candidate won. In 2022, the Democrats succeeded in taking back the House of Representatives. In 2026, the Republicans took the House back, and in 2030, the Republicans took the Senate as well. This kind of switching between Republican and Democratic has been occurring all the way up till 2050, the



current year. In 2050, the president is a Democrat, the House is Democratic, while the senate is Republican. This flip-flopping of political parties in Congress demonstrates the struggle that the US has been going through these past few years as the Supreme Court deliberates over constitutional issues.

## CURRENT SITUATION

Currently, in 2050, the government is largely Democratic, with a Democratic President and majority in the House, while the Senate remains Republican. Along with this polarization in the legislative branch, a conflict among the people has risen as many debate the ambiguity and practicality of the constitution in the modern day.

To begin with, the Alabama case regarding the “Heartbeat Law” was brought up to the Court of Appeals, which caused a conflict between Court 11 and 3, and as a result, the case was brought up to the Supreme Court, there it was ruled unconstitutional. Because of the verdict, many people were angry; some because of their religious beliefs and some because of their belief that Alabama, as a state, should have the right to disallow abortions after a fetal heartbeat is evident.

In the case of Jaden v. Russ regarding the Cascadia Riots, brought to be reviewed en banc, meaning at every circuit court. Court 8 initially approved the case due to the 1st amendment, but Court 5 disagreed because it challenged the United States’ government, and threatened secession, reminiscent to the Confederate States of America. This led to more conflict among the public, leaving people concerned about whether or not their first amendment rights would be respected.

Regarding gun control/2nd amendment, the case Hoover v. New York City drew much deliberation over the language of the Constitution, due to the existence of a comma, and whether or not the comma changed the meaning. It was questioned whether or not gun control was to be implemented or if it was unconstitutional. In the end, gun control laws were deemed to be unconstitutional due to many objections regarding self-defense. This infuriated those who believe that the writers of the constitution didn’t have the foresight to understand how





dangerous modern rifles would become, thus were not able to clearly decide whether or not gun regulation was unconstitutional.

Finally, the case of *Santoni v. Bellingham* regarding Marijuana and Education was brought up to the Court of Appeals, where there was a conflict between Court 4 and 9. Because of this, the case was taken to the Supreme Court and there were restrictions applied to Marijuana use because it was deemed that drug use directly affects a student's ability to succeed (from an education standpoint). This directly conflicted with some states' laws since states such as Colorado and Washington had made recreational marijuana legal for almost forty years. Once again, this dispute between federal and state power continues to challenge constitutionalists and further raises questions on the functionality of the constitution in modern American society.

## CASE STUDIES

### CASE STUDY 1: FIRST CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

In the Constitutional Convention, otherwise known as the Philadelphia Convention, was held in 1787 at the old Pennsylvania State House. At first, it was intended simply to fix the Articles of Confederation, but it quickly turned into the establishment of a new form of government. In this convention, as the title implies, the Constitution of the United States was written.

In the meeting, there were two main plans that were discussed: James Madison's Virginia Plan and William Patterson's New Jersey Plan. These plans offered contrasting ideas about the way representation would work as well as how many houses would be there. The Virginia plan had votes proportioned to the number of residents in a state with bicameral legislature while the New Jersey Plan had a single vote per state and unicameral legislature. In the end, the Connecticut Compromise was created, and the US had bicameral legislature. In this bicameral legislature, one house had equal representation for every state, and the other had proportional representation.



Additionally, the three-branch system, with the legislative, judicial, and executive branches remained from the Virginia plan. This was done largely to reduce corruption and patronage in the government system as judges and legislative branches were often under the executive branch. By using three different branches, a system of checks and balances was created. The electoral college was also established during this time.

With the proportioning of votes based on population, the question of how to count slaves came up. States with many slaves wished for them to be counted towards the population for representation, but other states objected to this as slaves were not able to vote. This led to the Three-Fifths compromise which resulted in each slave being counted as  $\frac{3}{5}$ ths of a person. Throughout the process, there were a lot of compromises necessary to continue the process.

Towards the end of the convention, as the topic of ratification came up, anti-Federalists demanded protection of rights, which was included as the Bill of Rights. This Bill of Rights includes some freedoms that Americans consider essential, such as freedom of speech, the right to bear arms, and the right to a jury of peers.

## CASE STUDY 2: CONSTITUTION OF 1793

The Constitution of 1793 was brought about in the Montagnard Convention during the French Revolution. Its primary purpose was to replace the Constitution of 1791, which had been based on a constitutional monarchy. With the execution of King Louis XVI, the prior constitution was no longer relevant.

The constitution was designed mainly by Maximilien Robespierre and Louis Saint-Just. The constitution, as it was written in the midst of a revolution, had many elements to it that were used to appease the masses. The Declaration of Rights, for example, preceded the constitution. In it, the constitution emphasized rights such as freedom of the press and equality. It also included rights that had not been included previously such as the right to public assistance and work. The right to education and the right to rebellion were also included in this expanded version of the Declaration of Rights.



This declaration became a sticking point in the history of democracy, and many other countries, such as the Philippines used ideas from the Declaration in their own constitutions. The constitution was ratified using popular ratification and was overwhelmingly supported.

## BLOC POSITIONS

### Liberals:

**Abortion** - Liberals are generally pro-choice when it comes to abortion. They believe that women should be able to control what they do with their bodies. Their argument is that because the fetus is not considered a human life yet, they do not have separated rights yet. They also believe that the government should be protecting pregnant women and allowing abortion especially when it concerns the mothers' health. Lastly, Liberals believe that abortion needs to be affordable and easily accessible.

**Gun Control** - Liberals generally believe that the Second Amendment does not permit citizens to carry, own, or transport guns without restrictions. Rather, the Second Amendment allows each state to have their own militia in case of a corrupt or tyrannical government or individuals can only own nonmilitary-grade weapons with strict restrictions and monitoring. Liberals believe that the government should impose stricter gun control laws; for example, thorough background checks on any purchases of any components to a gun. They believe that it is the duty of the federal government to protect the people.

**Education** - Liberals believe that the education system needs improvement to ensure equitable access and opportunity. Most believe that the federal government must take charge of this initiative to ensure fairness and provide strict standards for students and schools across all states.



### Conservatives:

**Abortion** - Conservatives are generally 'pro-life' when it comes to abortion. This means they believe that life for a baby begins at conception; therefore, the fetus does have separate rights from the mother. Conservatives believe that the government should not use tax-payers' money to fund abortion in anyway, and access to abortion must be severely limited. However, some conservatives do believe that abortion is justifiable in some cases. When the abortion risks the mother's well-being. However, there are strict limits and regulations on this.

**Gun Control** - Conservatives believe that the Second Amendment to the constitution gives the people their rights to keep and bear arms. They believe that guns should not be taken away nor should the current restrictions get any tighter. In fact, they argue that some of the restrictions in more liberal areas and states should be rolled back. They argue that gun violence and crime rates will not decrease as the government implements new laws and suggest alternative methods to limiting violence.

**Education** - Conservatives do not believe that the education system needs help in the US. They believe that enough money is spent on public education. They also argue that it is the states' responsibility to take care of education rather than the federal government's and believe that rules for public education should be more relaxed.

## ROLE DESCRIPTIONS

**Cinnamon Wilson:** Cinnamon Wilson was appointed as Chief Justice in 2021. A considerate Chief Justice who takes both the conservative and liberal points of view into account, they personally voted in favor of ruling the Alabama laws on abortion as unconstitutional, following a general trend of liberal behavior. Being the head of the United States judiciary system, the Chief of Justice has the power to decide who writes the court majority opinion, which he could assign himself that job. During the writing of the constitution, this role will still hold true for the Chief Justice.



**Monica Gabehart:** Supreme Court Justice Monica Gabehart is a strong right-wing conservative advocate who disagreed entirely with the decision of the supreme court on the Alabama abortion case. She believes that the federal government should not intervene with the state laws and judiciary system. Additionally, she believes that abortion should be not allowed because it disregards the babies' rights. Lastly, she does not view 3D guns as a problem because of the Second Amendment which gives citizens the right to bear arms.

**Ronald Jackson:** Supreme Court Justice Ronald Jackson is a right-wing conservative; however, he still believes in some liberal ideas, which makes Jackson an easy swing vote during cases. This was shown during the Alabama abortion case when Jackson, while a conservative, voted pro-choice due to his personal ethics. Jackson has a higher chance to act as a swing vote when there is a case of a tie.

**Bernice Burns:** Bernice Burns strongly believes in second amendment rights, and no matter the case, will interpret the letter of the constitution as such. In other issues, such as abortion, she will be swayed more since as a woman, she believes that women have a right to bodily autonomy. As for the field of education, she does not believe that the federal government should interfere.

**Jeremy "Jerry" Holmes:** Jerry Holmes, as he's known to the news outlets, was famous as a circuit judge for being liberal in terms of immigration policy. However, the majority of his record is conservative. Holmes is strongly against abortion, as he believes in the right to life. He also believes that public education should be better funded, but he doesn't believe that the federal government should interfere. In terms of gun control, Holmes is often a swing vote, and he does not have strong opinions either way.

**Meredith Floyd:** Supreme Court Justice Meredith Floyd is a strong left-wing liberal, who made her name during the 2021 case of Alabama abortion rights. A feminist, Floyd believes that women should be able to choose what to do with their body; therefore, during the Alabama abortion case, she stood by her views and was able to convince a conservative Supreme Court Justice to switch her vote. Floyd believes that the government needs to implement stricter laws to control the population better and more effectively, which includes gun control laws.

**Scott McArthur:** McArthur, a Portland native, is representative of the liberal movement. He firmly believes that women should be allowed to make choices about their pregnancies, he believes that there should be no way for citizens to acquire semi-automatic guns, and that education should be well-funded and easy for all to



access. With that, McArthur is also strongly in favor of strong central government while also allowing states some degree of autonomy.

**Blake M. Nilsen:** Blake M. Nilsen has been hailed the grandfather of modern centrism due to his common tendency to flip-flop between his choices. Nilsen has been open in his condemnation of all those who take political bribes. He has also been very adamant that guns should not be taken away from the public, but that stricter regulations should be made. Additionally, he believes that there should be a balance between states' rights and federal government rules.

**Xavier Carlisle:** Xavier Carlisle made history as the youngest Supreme Court Justice appointed. At the young age of 28, fresh out of college, Carlisle entered office. Now, at the age of 30, Carlisle's opinions have been well-formed around the issues he believes are important. Since he has only recently left education, he strongly believes that the inequality in the American education system must be solved, and that the federal government must do it. Additionally, he believes that guns should slowly be phased out of society, and that 3-d printers should be monitored by the government so that guns are not made easily available. He also believes that abortion should be legal in all states, as well as birth control and other forms of contraception be subsidized.

**Tracie Archambeault:** Tracie Archambeault has always been liberal. She grew up by the beach in Maine, and often spends her time there. She believes that abortion is a right protected by the federal government and that guns should not be so easily purchased. She also believes that the education system needs improvement, but she does not believe that the US will do anything.

**James O'Sullivan:** O'Sullivan opposes gun control in the United States and is shown to follow his conservative ideology in the example of their decision on the case of *Hoover v. New York City*. They ruled that individual states are unable to implement laws that disrupts the Constitution, or the Second Amendment in this case. Meaning that O'Sullivan believes that the Second Amendment gives the rights for citizens to own and carry weapons; therefore, any law that would limit the people of that right is unconstitutional. Additionally, he/she believes that with more guns in law-abiding citizens' hands, crime rates and gun violence would decrease.

**Robin Robbins:** Robin Robbins is the Third Circuit Court Representative, who, with a liberal ideological view, supports the case of *Roe v. Wade*; therefore, ruling against the Human Life Protection Act and in support of the decision made by the supreme court. Robbins was the first Circuit Court Representative that ruled in favor of the 3D





Gun Restriction Act, arguing that the citizens of the state of Pennsylvania are prohibited from carrying and selling 3D guns of any circumstances.

**Pam Duncombe:** Pam Duncombe, a West Virginia native, has always been staunchly against abortion. In fact, it is one of the reasons she was elected. She also believes that guns should be widely available to those who want them, since they can be used not only for hunting, but also for self-defense. Additionally, Duncombe strongly believes that education systems are functioning just fine the way they are, and if anything, they need less funding. Suggesting that money should be more directly used to create more jobs.

**James “Jim” McGee:** James “Jim” McGee is proud of his Texan heritage. Generations of McGees have lived in Texas, and he is proud to represent Court 5. McGee, as someone who grew up on a ranch, believes that guns are vital for maintaining human lives. He also believes that abortion should not be allowed, and most definitely should not be funded by the federal or state government. McGee does not have strong opinions on education and is fine to keep it that way.

**Roy Rolles:** Roy Rolles often fondly remembers his days as a boy, spending summers in Tennessee and going to boarding school in Ohio. Rolles is a strong advocate of privatization of the education sector, as his experiences in a private school shaped his life for the better. He also believes that guns are a good thing for young people to learn how to use, as the discipline and focus required to learn how to use them safely is always beneficial. Rolles believes that abortion is not a topic that will ever affect him, and therefore, he has no reason to focus on it, forming no strong opinions on the topic.

**Remington Balakrishnan-Larson:** Remington Balakrishnan-Larson has been wildly popular in the Midwest for his values that strongly resonate with the people. Balakrishnan-Larson believes that education should be left to communities, whether that be state, city, or even neighborhood. Balakrishnan-Larson has never voiced his opinion on either gun control or abortion, so he remains a man of mystery.

**Dakota Johnson:** Dakota Johnson has long recognized the irony of representing both the Dakotas. She has dealt with this gracefully, as she has dealt with other issues that have risen. For example, when the gun control debate was brought up, she tactfully bridged the gap between both sides by recommending the use of weapons that do less damage. Johnson has also used the abortion debate to recommend improving the foster care system. Education is also something Johnson supports, as she believes that the federal government should provide more support to states that are unable to meet the demands.



**Dwight Jameson:** Dwight Jameson is the Ninth Circuit Court Representative. He dealt with the case of *Jaden v. Russ* in 2021, where Jameson ruled that the Cascadian Riots are expressing their opinions through the first amendment and are legally allowed to continue their practice. However, this was challenged by the Sixth Circuit Court Representative when it was brought to be heard en banc. In recent years, Jameson was anticipated to join the supreme court in place of Floyd, as Floyd was announced to retire soon; however, this convention occurred before the transition was made and Jameson remain as a Circuit Court Representative. This being said, Jameson will have more influence than other Circuit Court Representative due to his experience and age.

**Andrew Anderson:** Andrew Anderson has long believed that education is a right that many are unable to have fulfilled. He believes, however, that the situation is not to throw more money at it, but to train teachers well. Anderson also holds controversial rules on gun control, such as arming teachers. He also believes that abortion is not something that should ever be carried out.

**Jebediah Franklin:** Jebediah Franklin is the Eleventh Circuit Court Representative, who dealt with the Alabama abortion case before it went to the supreme court. A case regarding an abortion and sexual assault was brought up because of the Human Life Protection Act but Franklin, as the representative of the Eleventh Circuit court, ruled that since the incident occurred in Alabama, it had to follow the Alabamian laws; therefore, disregarding the case of *Roe v Wade*. However, a similar case was brought up in the Third Circuit Court and was ruled that the state did not have the authority to decide and was suggested to be brought up to the Supreme Court. The conflicting decisions incentivized the Supreme Court to take the case, which ultimately ruled the Human Life Protection Act as unconstitutional. Regarding the case of gun control, Franklin follows the ideologies of the ring-wing conservatives, which encourages respect of the Second Amendment as interpreted as the right for all to bear arms and the use of guns to reduce crime rates.

**Michael Smith:** Michael Smith has just recently become the Attorney General of the United States; however, he was well known long before his debut as the Attorney General. Being born and raised in Washington, Smith has a strong liberal view; therefore, urging him to join the Cascadian Riots in 2021 and becoming a famous voice for the Liberals in Washington. In addition to the Cascadian Riots, Michael has also spoken up on other topics such as abortion, gun control, and education. Through his persuasive speeches, Smith was able to capture the hearts of everybody in Washington and alter the conservative views to match his liberal ones. His impact



is still maintained through the years and may come in vital during the Constitutional Convention.

**Noa Tuitama:** Noa Tuitama, although born in the United States, moved to Samoa with her mother at a young age. During the time she was raised, she witnessed all the flaws in the education system that could be improved immensely. She believes that one of the reasons that Samoa will meet its downfall will be because of education. Tuitama has already acquired \$100MM from federal funds to help improve the education system in Samoa and plans to bring her thoughts on education to the Constitutional Convention. Additionally, she is strongly against the abundance of guns in the United States or their territories because her father was shot and killed in the United States, leaving her with her mother since 11 years of age.

**Olivia Martinez:** Olivia Martinez has been elected as a representative for the US Territories for her outstanding achievements with her charity- Be Your Own Owner- where she helped multiple cases of abortion go through in order to save multiple mothers. Although abortion was made legal in all of the US Territories in 2027, multiple doctors are unwilling to perform the act, leaving women in jeopardy. Martinez advocates for women to make their own choice, and she is trying to spread her program to the United States; mainland. Due to her mother's abortion of Martinez's sister, her mother is now alive. Martinez strongly believe that abortion should be made legal and easily accessible by the public. Her views on education align with liberals' as the education system in the US Territories are still lacking. She also favors the strict gun laws in the US Territories because Guam has been subject to multiple shootings in the past 4 years.

**Maggie Pearson:** Maggie Pearson is another competitor to join the Supreme Court, much like Dwight Jameson. Although Pearson is liberal, also like Jameson, she is usually neutral in deciding a case. Because her parents had different ideologies (father being conservative and mother liberal), she has grown to be perceptive of both sides. Pearson, although considerate of both views, is decisive and stands by her opinion. She could be considered as a swing-vote or wild card when it comes to the Constitutional Convention. This being said, in all her cases she has encountered, she ruled liberally in 68% of them (conservatively in 32% of them), showing that she may have a slight tendency to agree with the liberal ideology.



# GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. How important is it for states to retain autonomy?
2. Should education be under state control, or should federal government enact stricter standards?
3. Should “the right to bear arms” be protected by the US Constitution?

## FURTHER RESEARCH

[HTTPS://WWW.HISTORY.COM/TOPICS/UNITED-STATES-CONSTITUTION/CONSTITUTION](https://www.history.com/topics/united-states-constitution/constitution)

[HTTPS://WWW.BRITANNICA.COM/EVENT/CONSTITUTIONAL-CONVENTION](https://www.britannica.com/event/constitutional-convention)

[HTTPS://HISTORY.STATE.GOV/MILESTONES/1784-1800/CONVENTION-AND-RATIFICATION](https://history.state.gov/milestones/1784-1800/convention-and-ratification)

Information about the first US Constitution

[HTTPS://WWW.BRITANNICA.COM/TOPIc/NATIONAL-CONVENTION](https://www.britannica.com/topic/national-convention)

Information about the French National Convention

[HTTPS://WWW.PLANNEDPARENTHOODACTION.ORG/ISSUES/ABORTION/ROE-V-WADE](https://www.plannedparenthoodaction.org/issues/abortion/roe-v-wade)

Information about Roe v. Wade

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