

RULE OF LAW IN THE UNITED STATES ACTIVITY

PURPOSE

To provide participants the opportunity to learn about rule of law in the United States, focusing on the Fifth, Sixth, and Fourteenth Amendments.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Provide participants with the Rule of Law Fact Sheet, or play the podcast, and use the [Rule of Law in the United States Guided Worksheet in the Appendix](#) to guide participants in learning about rule of law, and in particular the Fifth, Sixth, and Fourteenth Amendments.

2. Conduct the general debrief or review provided.

GENERAL DEBRIEF OR REVIEW

The following is a series of debrief questions that can be used at the end of the entire lesson as a review or can be incorporated, as relevant, throughout the different activities listed above to reinforce key messages and concepts. CO providers may add questions connected to the U.S. laws section of CO. If they haven't already, CO providers can also provide the **Rule of Law** fact sheet as a part of the debrief or review.

Questions	Answers
Are the laws the same in the country/ies of origin and/or protection, and in the U.S.?	The laws are not always the same and in the United States laws may also vary from state to state.
How do you feel after learning about the laws in U.S.?	<i>Answers will vary based on participants.</i>
What are the consequences of not following the law?	They will vary, but again, it is the responsibility of participants to learn what the consequences will be. It is important to note that possible consequences could affect their citizenship and result in a criminal record.
What should you do to ensure you do not break the law?	Take the initiative to learn the laws.
Who is the law for? How is it developed? Why is there a rule of law?	The law is meant to govern society and to protect individuals. In the United States there is a process for how laws are developed and carried out. The U.S. Constitution is the foundation for laws in the U.S., but again laws can vary from state to state.

RULE OF LAW GUIDED WORKSHEET (PROVIDER VERSION)

If using the **Rule of Law** fact sheet or podcast, the following worksheet can be used to guide participants' understanding of the materials.

PART I: TRUE OR FALSE/AGREE OR DISAGREE

Ask participants to answer the following questions. You may first ask them to answer without the **Rule of Law** fact sheet or podcast, and then provide them with the **Rule of Law** fact sheet to check for themselves. You may give them the statements to complete independently, or in groups, or read them out loud.

1. Refugees are not protected by the laws in the United States. (False)
2. Refugees are responsible for knowing and following the law. (True)
3. There is a federal government and each of the 50 states in the United States has a state government. (True)
4. Federal laws are proposed by the executive branch. (False)
5. There are no local governments in the United States. (False)
6. The right to due process is the right to be treated fairly through the use of specified legal procedures if accused of a crime. (True)

PART II: MATCHING

Ask participants to match the statements to the correct amendment. You may have participants complete this activity independently using the worksheet provided, or by cutting out the amendment and statement cards provided below, or you may read the statements out loud, and ask them to identify the correct amendment. Participants can draw on the **Rule of Law** fact sheet or podcast to complete the activity.

Fifth Amendment

- Establishes the right of due process if a person is accused of a crime.
- Establishes the right of due process if a person's property interests are to be taken by the government.
- It prohibits a person being charged for the same crime twice.
- A person cannot be compelled to be a witness against themselves in a criminal case.
- A person's private property cannot be taken for public use without just compensation.

Sixth Amendment

- A person accused of a crime has the right to a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury.
- A person accused of a crime has the right to legal counsel.
- Persons have the right to be informed of the charges against them.
- The person accused has a right to confront the witnesses against them.
- The accused has a right to provide witnesses in their defense.

Fourteenth Amendment

- Prohibits states from making or enforcing laws that violate most of the rights of the people that are provided by the United States Constitution.

RULE OF LAW GUIDED WORKSHEET (PARTICIPANT VERSION)

PART I: TRUE OR FALSE/AGREE OR DISAGREE

Identify whether the following statements are True or False. Circle the correct answer.

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|--|--|--------------------------------|
| 1. Refugees are not protected by the laws in the United States. | True <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | False <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Refugees are responsible for knowing and following the law. | True <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | False <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. There is a federal government and each of the 50 states in the United States has a state government. | True <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | False <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Federal laws are proposed by the executive branch. | True <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | False <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. There are no local governments in the United States. | True <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | False <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. The right to due process is the right to be treated fairly through the use of specified legal procedures if accused of a crime. | True <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | False <input type="checkbox"/> |

PART II: MATCHING

Match the provided statements to one of the three amendments listed in the box below.

Fifth Amendment	Sixth Amendment	Fourteenth Amendment
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- Establishes the right of due process if a person is accused of a crime. _____
- It prohibits a person being charged for the same crime twice. _____
- The accused has a right to provide witnesses in their defense. _____
- Establishes the right of due process if a person's property interest are to be taken by the government. _____
- Prohibits states from making or enforcing laws that violate most of the rights of the people that are provided by the United States Constitution. _____
- A person's private property cannot be taken for public use without just compensation. _____
- Persons have the right to be informed of the charges against them. _____
- The accused has a right to confront the witnesses against them. _____
- A person accused of a crime has the right to legal counsel. _____
- A person cannot be compelled to be a witness against himself or herself in a criminal case. _____
- A person accused of a crime has the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury. _____