

SS.7.C.3.6

Evaluate constitutional rights and their impact on individuals and society.

SS.7.C.3.6 Benchmark Clarification 2: Students will recognize how the social, political, and economic systems in the United States are dependent upon individual rights.

Social, political, and economic systems rely on **individual rights** and freedoms. In order for the government to represent the people well, the people's right to express their opinion on issues and concerns to the government needs to be protected. Freedom of the press would not be effective if there were no freedom of speech because the press gives the people a voice in expressing their concerns about government.

The economic system also depends on individual freedoms such as the freedom of individuals to build businesses and employ workers. One of the biggest challenges that citizens face is balancing the protection of individual rights and the need to protect society. **Eminent domain** gives government the right to take private property from individuals in order to benefit the public interest. Property taken from individuals under eminent domain requires a fair payment as stated in the **Fifth Amendment**.

eminent domain - the right of the government to take private property for public use; the Fifth Amendment requires that fair compensation be made when property is taken under eminent domain

Fifth Amendment - an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that provides protections to a person accused of a crime, including the right of due process.

individual rights - rights guaranteed or belonging to a person



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