

The equal protection guarantee of the 14th Amendment provides the basis for the safekeeping of civil rights.

The equal protection clause is contained in the 14th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America

The promise of equal protection under the law does not guarantee all people will be treated exactly the same.

The government may classify or categorize people into groups for justifiable government goals (e.g., adults under 21 may not purchase alcohol).

Applications of the equal protection principle

Civil Rights Movement

Congress passed a series of laws outlawing discrimination.

Affirmative Action

The government passed laws to reverse the effects of years of discrimination primarily against women and minorities.

The student will demonstrate knowledge of civil liberties and civil rights by: e) explaining every citizen's right to be treated equally under the law.