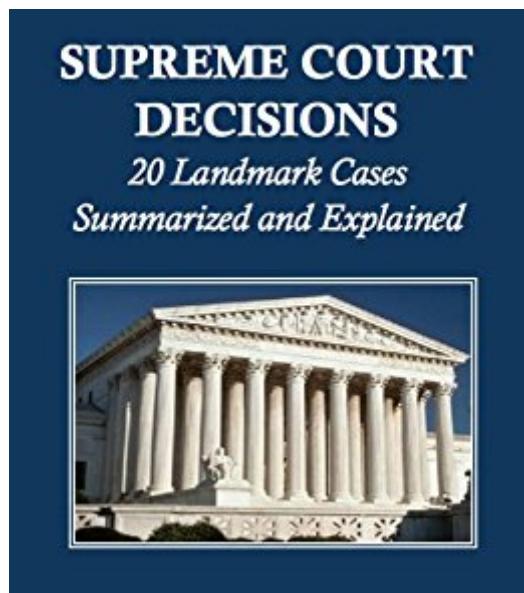


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# Supreme Court Decisions: 20 Landmark Cases Summarized And Explained



## Synopsis

The text of this Kindle edition, equivalent in length to a physical book of approximately 32 pages, originally appeared in the U.S. Department of State publication "Basic Readings in U.S. Democracy." • Learn about eighteen landmark Supreme Court cases, including *Marbury v. Madison*, *Dred Scott v. Sandford*, *Plessy v. Ferguson*, *Brown v. Board of Education*, and *University of California v. Bakke*.  
**CONTENTS**  
*Marbury v. Madison* (1803)  
*McCulloch v. Maryland* (1819)  
*Dred Scott v. Sandford* (1857)  
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*Plessy v. Ferguson* (1896)  
*Muller v. Oregon* (1908)  
*Abrams v. United States* (1919)  
*Whitney v. California* (1927)  
*Near v. Minnesota* (1931)  
*West Virginia Board of Education v. Barnette* (1943)  
*Korematsu v. United States* (1944)  
*Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. v. Sawyer* (1952)  
*Brown v. Board of Education* (1954)  
*Cooper v. Aaron* (1958)  
*Engel v. Vitale* (1962)  
*Gideon v. Wainwright* (1963)  
*Reynolds v. Sims* (1964)  
*New York Times Co. v. United States* (1971)  
*United States v. Nixon* (1974)  
*Regents of the University of California v. Bakke* (1978)  
Sample passage: There is no question that the ruling in "Brown v. Board of Education," which struck down racially enforced school segregation, is one of the most important in American history. No nation committed to democracy could hope to achieve those ideals while keeping people of color in a legally imposed position of inferiority. But the decision also raised a number of questions about the authority of the Court and whether this opinion represents a judicial activism that, despite its inherently moral and democratic ruling, is nonetheless an abuse of judicial authority. | But J. Harvie Wilkinson, who is now a federal circuit court judge, dismisses much of this criticism when he reminds us that "Brown" • "was humane, among the most humane moments in all our history. It was a great political achievement, both in its uniting of the Court and in the steady way it addressed the nation." • With this decision, the nation picked up where it had left the cause of equal protection more than eighty years earlier, and began its efforts to integrate fully the black minority into full partnership in the American polity.

## Book Information

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## **Customer Reviews**

But it is still very good for getting the gist of the case. If you feel you need more meat and potatoes then you can always pursue more details online. A good book and worth the inexpensive price I paid.

I got this book because I was teaching a Supreme Court class to high school juniors and seniors. It supplemented my preparation - not usable as a textbook. Concise and generally well done. I'd have picked some different cases than the 20 summarized here, but the book was still quite useful for the reason I got it.

This book is a must have for any history buff or social science aficionado. You can actually trace the conscience of the nation through a review of major supreme court cases.

A good book to learn about American history and constitutional law without the politics...easy to read and understand about laws that are important and define our nation

Exactly what I hoped for, short and concise, just enough for a cocktail party. Well worth the price and time.

This brief document explains some of the most important Supreme Court rulings and their effects. This information has implications for current issues as well as explaining the role of the court throughout our history in interpreting our laws. The information is explained clearly.

Something here for lawyers and non-lawyers alike. Several older cases clearly reflect the culture and values of the days when decision reached vs a legitimate adherence to constitutional application. More recent decisions do show judicial activism - regardless of one's preferences.

short introductions to 20 prominent cases, clear language, nice quick overview, BUT the descriptions of the issues in each case are written with a left-liberal slant. As the book seems to have been written for an audience of non-law students or general readers, this bias will probably go unchallenged and that would not be service to the reader and his community.

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