

1700s

1800s

1900s

2000s

The U.S. Constitution was ratified, establishing the framework for American government

Freedom of speech was protected by the 1st Amendment

Freedom of religion was guaranteed by the 1st Amendment

Slavery was outlawed by the 13th Amendment

Due process rights (fair treatment in the justice system) strengthened by the  
14th Amendment

The 15th Amendment granted African American men the right to vote

Women gained the right to vote with the 19th Amendment

Child labor was restricted by the Fair Labor Standards Act

Brown v. Board of Education ended legal segregation in public schools

The Civil Rights Act banned discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex,  
or national origin

The Voting Rights Act protected voting access for minorities

Miranda Rights established by Supreme Court ruling (Miranda v. Arizona),  
requiring police to inform people of their rights during arrest

Workers gained safer working conditions with OSHA (Occupational Safety and  
Health Act)

The introduction of social media platforms increased freedom of expression  
and online civic engagement

The Affordable Care Act expanded healthcare access and patient protections

Same-sex marriage legalized nationwide (Obergefell v. Hodges)