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Salem Press Announces the Newest Addition to the Popular Defining Documents Series: *Defining Documents in American History: Supreme Court Decisions (1803-2017)*

The *Defining Documents in American History* series, produced by Salem Press, consists of a collection of essays on important historical documents by a diverse range of writers on a broad range of subjects in American history. This established series offers twenty-four titles including historical eras from *Colonial America* to the *1970s* and significant themes in American history such as *Nationalism and Populism* and *Immigration and Immigrant Communities*.

This volume, *Defining Documents in American History: Supreme Court Decisions (1803-2017)*, offers in-depth analysis of a broad range of the landmark cases argued before the U. S. Supreme Court that have explored the Constitution and its amendments. These cases have touched on the rights that underpin the nation's laws: states rights, civil rights, voting rights, and women's rights, as well as right to privacy, the definition of marriage, the limits on the powers of the executive branch, segregation, affirmative action, and the rights of defendants. This text closely studies court opinions and delivers a thorough examination of the intent and impact of the majority rulings, as well as the significant concurrences and dissents prepared by the Supreme Court.

The material is organized under three historical groupings:

- The Founding Years to the Mid-Nineteenth Century
- Maturation Pains: From Reconstruction to the Mid-Twentieth Century
- Modern Dilemmas: From the Civil Rights Era to Today

Supreme Court Decisions contains sixty rulings from the Supreme Court throughout their history—some in their entirety. Each document is supported by a critical essay, written by historians and teachers, which include:

- Summary Overview
- Defining Moment
- Author Biography
- Document Analysis
- Essential Themes

Readers will appreciate the diversity of the issues addressed throughout these court decisions. An important feature of each essay is a close reading of the opinions, concurrences, and dissents that show the meticulous work involved in crafting an opinion meant to interpret the Constitution and

discover the facts of the case behind rulings that affect all aspects of life in the United States. These court cases are organized into chronological order and were selected to highlight major issues of the period. A brief glossary included at the end of each document highlights keywords important in the study of the primary source. Each essay also includes a Bibliography and Additional Reading section for further research.

In addition, this volume also includes three appendixes:

- **Areas of Law** arranges all documents into specific areas of the law. Some decisions appear in more than one area.
- **Web Resources** is an annotated list of websites that offer valuable supplemental resources.
- **Bibliography** lists helpful articles and books for further study

About the Series

Defining Documents consists of a collection of essays on important historical documents by a diverse range of writers on a broad range of subjects in world history. The series offers a broad range of historical documents on important authors and subjects in world history, with primary source documents, in-depth analysis, and comprehensive lesson plans that represent the diversity of ideas and contexts that define social, political and cultural subjects throughout world history. *The Defining Documents* series is perfect for students, those researching a particular era, or anyone interested in world history. Visit www.salempress.com for more information about additional titles in this series.

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