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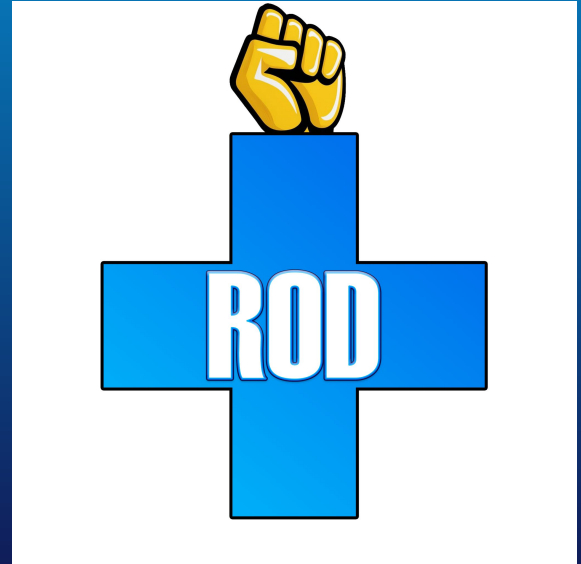
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Presents

What Is the Supreme Court and What Does It Do?

Understanding America's Highest Court

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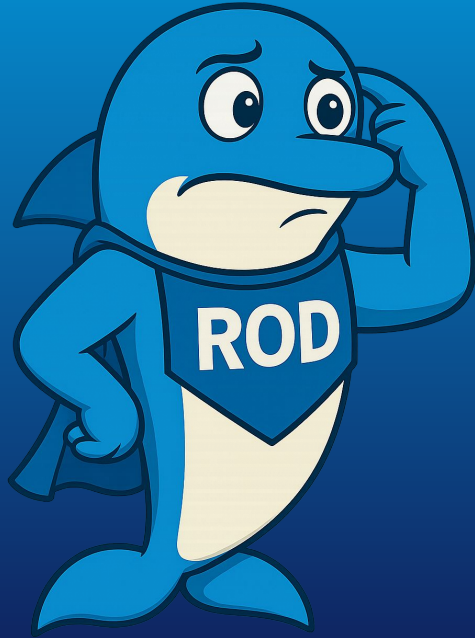


What Is the Supreme Court?

- The highest court in the United States
- Created by the U.S. Constitution (Article III)
- Final say on laws and rights under the Constitution
- Has 9 Justices (1 Chief Justice, 8 Associate Justices)



Why Does It Matter?



Protects the U.S. Constitution

Decides if laws are fair and legal

Shapes how laws affect real people

Can change how society works (e.g. civil rights, health care)

How Do Cases Get to the Court?



- Most cases come as appeals
- Thousands apply, but the Court picks about 60–80 each year
- Justices choose cases that could set important legal precedents

What Kinds of Cases Do They Hear?

Big questions about U.S. laws and rights

Disagreements between states

Appeals from lower federal or state courts

Cases involving the U.S. government



What Is Judicial Review?



- Power to strike down laws that go against the Constitution
- Not in the original Constitution — came from a case: *Marbury v. Madison* (1803)
- Gives the Court strong influence over laws and government actions

How Long Do Justices Serve?

- For life — unless they retire, resign, or are removed
- This is to keep them independent from politics
- Appointed by the President, confirmed by the Senate



Big Decisions That Changed the U.S.



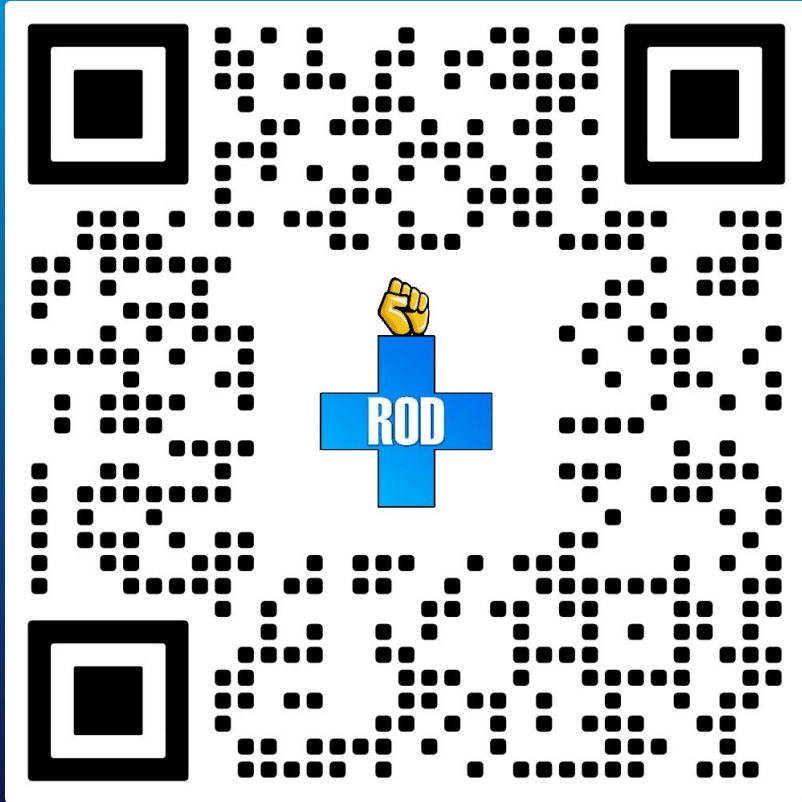
- *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954) – Ended school segregation
- *Roe v. Wade* (1973) – Legalized abortion (overturned in 2022)
- *Obergefell v. Hodges* (2015) – Legalized same-sex marriage
- *Dobbs v. Jackson* (2022) – Gave states power to ban abortion

Why You Should Care

- *The Court affects your rights, freedoms, and daily life*
- *Voting for Presidents and Senators helps shape the Court*
- *Staying informed = staying empowered*



Thank you!



"Thank you for your time and passion — we hope you'll be the heroes who come to our rescue and join the mission!"

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