

What Is the Supreme Court and What Does It Do?

Understanding America's Highest Court

Presented by: Judy T. – Founder Created on 07.16.2025



What Is the Supreme Court?

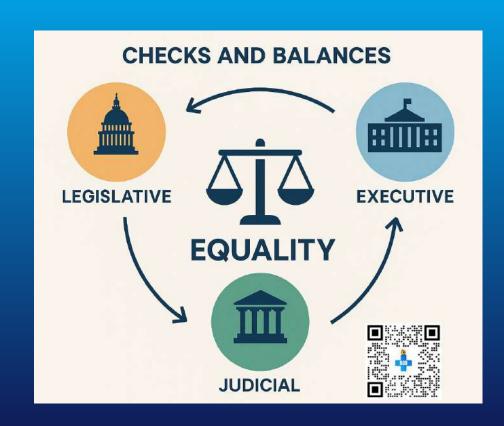


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- It's the highest court in the United States.
- It has the final say on laws and rules.
- It's part of the judicial branch (the part of the government that handles laws).

Why Does It Matter?

- It protects our rights and freedoms.
- It can stop bad laws or actions by the government.
- It makes sure all laws follow the U.S. Constitution.



Who's on the Supreme Court?



Front row, left to right — Associate Justices Sonia Sotomayor, Clarence Thomas, Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr., Associate Justices Samuel A. Alito, Jr. and Elena Kagan. Back row — Associate Justices Amy Coney Barrett, Neil M. Gorsuch, Brett M. Kavanaugh and Ketanji Brown Jackson.

- There are 9 justices (judges).
- One is the Chief Justice.
- They are picked by the President and approved by the Senate.
- They serve for life, or until they retire.

What Does the Court Actually Do?

- It hears cases that are very important or confusing.
- It decides if laws or government actions are legal.
- It sometimes changes the law with big decisions.



Real-Life Example #1 – Brown v. Board (1954)



- The court said
 segregated schools were
 unfair.
- This helped start the Civil Rights Movement.

Real-Life Example #2 – Roe v. Wade (1973)

- The court ruled that women had the right to choose an abortion.
- This decision was changed in 2022 by another case (Dobbs v. Jackson).



https://study.com/learn/lesson/roe-versus-wade-summary.html

Real-Life Example #3 – Obergefell v. Hodges (2015)



- The court said same-sex marriage is a right.
- That meant LGBTQ+ couples could legally marry in all 50 states.

Can the Supreme Court Make Mistakes?

- Yes, it can make decisions people disagree with.
- Sometimes it changes its mind years later.
- That's part of how democracy works.



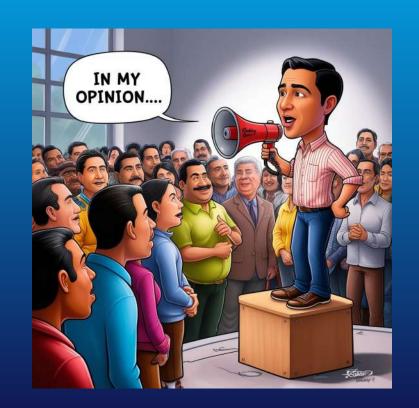
Why Should You Care?



- The Court affects your rights, your body, your vote, and more.
- Knowing what it does helps you stay informed and speak up.

What Can You Do?

- Learn about the justices.
- **Vote** for leaders who pick justices.
- Speak out about rulings that matter to you.



Final Thoughts



 The Supreme Court is powerful.

 But it's also part of a system where people like you have a voice.

 Democracy works better when we all understand how it works.

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!"

Contact Info:

- math rescueourdemocracy.com
- **I**info@rescueourdemocracy.com
- **515.966.4422**
- Social Media:

