

Lesson Plan Grade 8-12
“These Streets Are Watching”
The Bill of Rights in Action

Learning Objectives:

- ★ Students will write a description of an incident they have witnessed or been involved in that involved the police
- ★ Identify which amendments from the Bill of Rights would apply to various situations involving police
- ★ Student will be able to explain why they have the right to watch the police and from where they derive this right
- ★ Students will practice asserting their rights and interpret “interfering” in an arrest situation through role plays and skits.
- ★ Students will answer questions about their rights based on the video segments from “These Streets Are Watching”

California Department of Education Standards for Grades 8 and 12:

8.2 Students analyze the political principles underlying the U.S. Constitution and compare the enumerated and implied powers of the federal government.

6. Enumerate the powers of government set forth in the Constitution and the fundamental liberties ensured by the Bill of Rights.

7. Describe the principles of federalism, dual sovereignty, separation of powers, checks and balances, the nature and purpose of majority rule, and the ways in which the American idea of constitutionalism preserves individual rights.

12.1 Students explain the fundamental principles and moral values of American democracy as expressed in the U.S. Constitution and other essential documents of American democracy.

6. Understand that the Bill of Rights limits the powers of the federal government and state governments.

12.2 Students evaluate and take and defend positions on the scope and limits of rights and obligations as democratic citizens, the relationships among them, and how they are secured.

1. Discuss the meaning and importance of each of the rights guaranteed under the Bill of Rights and how each is secured (e.g., freedom of religion, speech, press, assembly, petition, privacy).

Materials:

- Computer/ Television monitor that can transmit internet film to class
- OR a copy of the DVD “These Streets Are Watching”
- Paper and pencils for writing
- Question sheets
- Sample role plays
- 'know your rights' cards

Procedure:

1. Students will “Write for 5-10 minutes about an experience you've had with the police. What were your impressions? How did it make you feel?”
2. List Questions/ Sharing out (10 min)- What questions do you have about your experience? What questions do you have about your rights? What exactly are our rights in those situations?
3. Watch designated parts of the DVD “These Streets Are Watching” . After watching each section, stop and answer the questions on your answer sheet. (30 min)
4. Have students break down into groups of 3-4 and create a role play of:
 - 1) A really bad police interaction where the person being stopped does everything wrong, then
 - 2) Redo the role play where the person being stopped does everything right. (Use sample role plays or create your own/let students create their own.)
5. Have students present their role plays.
6. Answer final questions/ distribute 'know your rights' card

Vocabulary/Key Concepts:

Right to observe	Detention
Right to remain silent	Arrest
Right to due process	Badge#
Probable cause	Accountability
Reasonable suspicion	P.C. 148- Interfering, obstructing or delaying a police officer
Unreasonable search and seizure	Penal Code
Consensual stop	