

Gus J. Solomon Inns of Court Programming

2009-2010

Cocktail Party Cases: Seminal Supreme Court Decisions

What is the history of these famous cases? How were these cases advanced? Were they planned and staged? Who funded these cases? Were these cases part of a larger movement? What is their legacy? Who were the justices that crafted the opinions? What was the split in votes?

Possible creative formats: conversation, quiz, game show, lecture, visuals, experts, round table, break out groups, review the oral arguments and/or original briefs, stage oral arguments

Mtg	Cases	Issues/ Suggestions
1	<i>Griswold v. Connecticut</i> <i>Roe v. Wade</i> <i>Lawrence v. Texas</i>	The gradual development of the Right to Privacy
2	<i>Brown v. Board of Education</i>	State of Law and Society before Brown; events leading up to decision; public reaction; it's legacy today
3	<i>Elk Grove v. Newdow</i> / <i>Lemon v. Kurtzman</i>	Establishment Clause and First Amendment
4	<i>Diamond v. Chakrabarty</i>	Patenting Life
5	<i>District of Columbia v. Heller</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Amendment, History of Case, Heller as a plaintiff who had been gay bashed, developments in historic interpretations
6	<i>Korematsu v. United States</i>	History of Case and compare to Post 911 Guantanamo
7	<i>Tinker v. Des Moines, Morse v. Frederick (2007)</i> <i>Gillman v. School Board for Holmes County, Florida (2008)</i>	Arm Bands to Bong Hits – Student's Rights