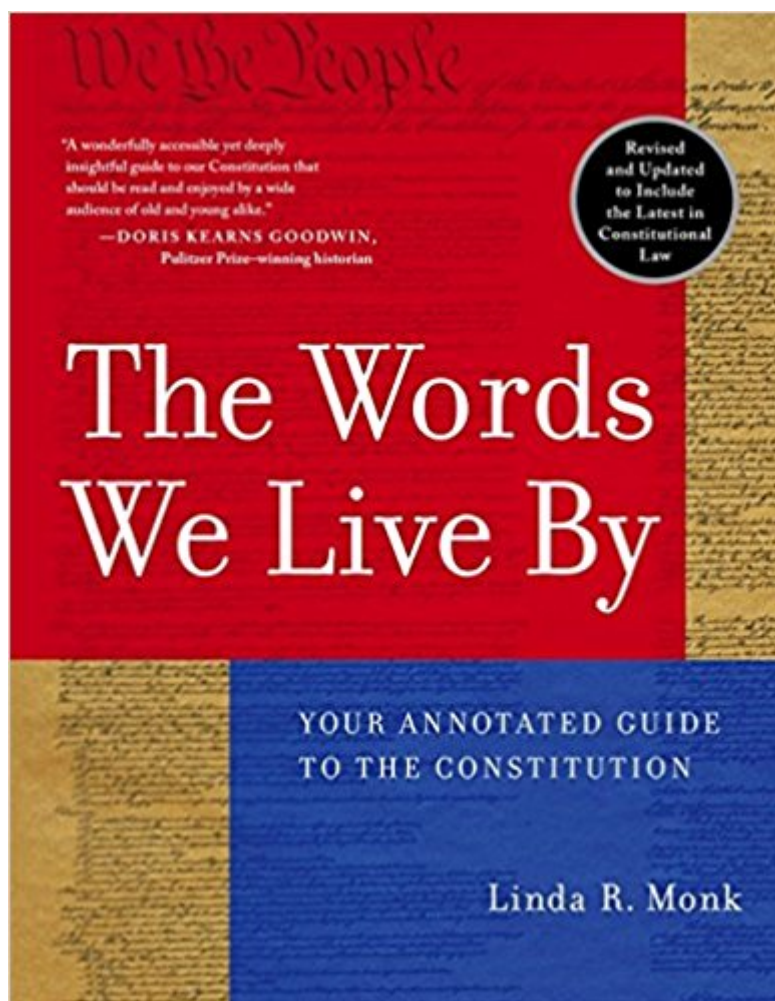


The book was found

The Words We Live By: Your Annotated Guide To The Constitution (Stonesong Press Books)



Synopsis

UPDATED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 10 YEARS, *The Words We Live By* takes an entertaining and informative look at America's most important historical document, now with discussions about new rulings on hot-button issues such as immigration, gay marriage, the right to bear arms, and affirmative action. In *The Words We Live By*, award-winning author and journalist Linda R. Monk explores the many interpretations of the Constitution's text in a balanced manner. *The Words We Live By* presents a new way of looking at the Constitution through entertaining and informative annotations--filled with the stories of the people behind the Supreme Court cases and historical perspective, along with enough surprises and fascinating facts and illustrations to prove that the Constitution is every bit as relevant today as it was in 1787.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1340L (What's this?)

Series: Stonesong Press Books

Paperback: 304 pages

Publisher: Hachette Books (August 18, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 078688620X

ISBN-13: 978-0786886203

Product Dimensions: 7 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 103 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #13,531 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in [Books > Textbooks > Law > Constitutional Law](#) #13 in [Books > Law > Constitutional Law > General](#) #15 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Political Science > Constitutions](#)

Age Range: 18 and up

Grade Level: 06 - 08

Customer Reviews

The U.S. Constitution gets a comprehensive overview in this engaging blend of history and commentary. Monk, author of *The Bill of Rights: A User's Guide*, traces the history and consequences of each part of this vital document in a line-by-line analysis of the original seven articles and the 27 amendments. Drawing on the writings of constitutional scholars, Supreme Court Justices and concerned citizens like Charlton Heston, playwright Arthur Miller and rock star Ted

Nugent, she also gives even-handed but lively accounts of the debates over such Constitutional controversies as the right to bear arms, the right to privacy, church-state separation and capital punishment. The portrait of the Constitution that emerges is a mixture of the sublime and the ridiculous. Some parts, like the Civil War amendments that defined citizenship and equality in granting them to African-Americans, are terse milestones in our evolving understanding of freedom, while elsewhere the Constitution seems like a scratch-pad for ill-considered ideas like the hastily repealed Prohibition Amendment. Monk avoids comparisons with other countries' charters that might have illuminated the Constitution's idiosyncrasies, and skirts deeper critiques, like Daniel Lazare's argument that the Constitution's overall structure of states' rights, separation of powers and checks and balances hobbles rather than effectuates the will of the people. Still, this is a fine introduction to Constitutional history for a general readership laid out rather like a good social studies textbook. Illus. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Marching methodically through the Constitution, Monk partitions the parchment's text and appends brief historical or legal background to each clause. Upon arrival at the Twenty-seventh Amendment, the reader should be able to sling around such phrases as "original intent" and "implied powers" like a law scholar. On the other hand, Monk's analysis does not pretend to profundity: her aim is to be as populist as possible. To this end, photos abound that are symbolic of various rights (actor Charlton Heston with his musket; civil rights demonstrators in Selma), as do sidebars quoting founders, jurists, and individuals significant to constitutional development, such as Clarence Earl Gideon. His petition to the Supreme Court resulted in the guarantee of a lawyer to criminal defendants. Monk's illustrations of the expansion of rights--the original Constitution protected few personal liberties--will remind readers how the document really is a "living" entity. Also showing the constitutional basis for the expansion of government power, Monk readily explains the constitutional phrases that imbue American political discourse. Gilbert TaylorCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Our book club read and had a lively discussion of this book recently. The concepts that Monk discusses in easy-to-understand language are so important right now. The simple but not simplistic discussions of each section are accompanied by plenty of illustrations, anecdotes and stories to make it all come alive. I read the news differently as a result - when I hear discussions of whether something is Constitutional it's not an abstract concept anymore. Update: I also decided to give

copies to the history and law teachers at my daughter's high school - it's a great teacher's resource. BTW, did not have any ordering problems -- that issue seems to be resolved as long as you order the one with the black circle in the top right corner, which is actually the new edition, not 2004 as listed on the site.

An outstanding review of our Constitution! Very even-handed with lots of historical references and Supreme Court citations of cases about how the Constitution is interpreted and applied. Lots of interesting quotes from famous historical figures (some very recent) on both sides of the political spectrum. Lots of really good historical context as well. This is well worth reading and re-reading from time to time. This would make a fine textbook for high school level American History/Constitution or even college level Constitutional Law.

This is a book that every American citizen should own. Monk literally goes line by line through the Constitution explaining the origin, history, and changing interpretation of our governing document. I never felt as though the author took sides as she instead outlined the main tenets of the differing viewpoints when it came to hot button issues such as gun control, immigration, etc. My only advice would be to make sure you are getting the newest edition possible as it will include discussions of the most recent court cases and issues facing our nation today.

I'm in grad school and this book wasn't required reading. However, as a teacher it looked interesting and IT IS WONDERFUL! The Constitution is broken down, explained, elaborated upon and in depth. This is a great resource tool!!

This book is a great way to re-familiarize myself with the Constitution a task probably more important now than it has been in my lifetime. I found it nourishing to have the history laid out so clearly. It has always been a struggle to keep this Republic. Wonderful intermittent anecdotes throughout and great photos. I wish I'd had this on the shelf when my oldest took AP gov, as it is a great reference for that as well.

Essential reading for these times. A wonderful gift for a millennial who doesn't know what we have lost. Very highly recommended.

I had a hard copy of this book and used it quite a bit while I was studying Law. Somehow it got lost,

and I missed having a copy. I would recommend this book, not as a book on The Constitution but to explain in more detail what the clauses mean. This seller was excellent and delivery was quick. I would use the seller again. Thank you.

Everyone should have a copy of this (hand)book. With all of the talk about the constitution these days, it would be nice if most of the people actually knew what it is.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Words We Live By: Your Annotated Guide to the Constitution (Stonesong Press Books) The Words We Live By: Your Annotated Guide to the Constitution The Penguin Guide to the United States Constitution: A Fully Annotated Declaration of Independence, U.S. Constitution and Amendments, and Selections from The Federalist Papers Prakriti: Your Ayurvedic Constitution (Your Ayurvedic Constitution Revised Enlarged Second Edition) SAT Vocabulary Words Flashcards: 500 Most Common Words, 600 Words from the Official Study Guide, and 5000 Comprehensive Words for Full Mastery The Constitution of the State of Montana (US Constitution) A More Perfect Constitution: Why the Constitution Must Be Revised: Ideas to Inspire a New Generation The Declaration of Independence and United States Constitution with Bill of Rights and all Amendments (Annotated) 1000 Totally Unfair Words for Scrabble & Words With Friends: Outrageously Legitimate Words to Crush the Enemy in Your Favorite Word Games (Flash Vocabulary Builders) Learn Spanish Vocabulary Words with Volcano Spanish: Erupt Your Spanish Vocabulary by Adding Hundreds of Words Using English Words You Already Know READING ORDER: TAMI HOAG: BOOKS LIST OF THE BITTER SEASON, KOVAC/LISKA BOOKS, HENNESSY BOOKS, QUAID HORSES, DOUCET BOOKS, DEER LAKE BOOKS, ELENA ESTES BOOKS, OAK KNOLL BOOKS BY TAMI HOAG An Annotated Guide to Biblical Resources for Ministry (Annotated Guides (Hendrickson Publishers)) The Annotated Mona Lisa: A Crash Course in Art History from Prehistoric to Post-Modern (Annotated Series) The Annotated Luther, Volume 5: Christian Life in the World (Annotated Luther) The Annotated Luther, Volume 4: Pastoral Writings (The Annotated Luther) The Annotated Luther, Volume 3: Church and Sacraments (The Annotated Luther) Words Of Jesus - Complete Words Of Jesus only - KJV: New Testament - Only The Words Of Jesus Mixed Cross Words: Cross Words with Dictionary words and Names Words That Hurt, Words That Heal: How to Choose Words Wisely and Well Khmer Language: 300+ Essential Words In Khmer - Learn Words Spoken In Everyday Khmer (Learn Khmer, Cambodia, Fluent Khmer): Forget pointless phrases, Improve ... (Learn Khmer, 300 useful words in khmer)

Contact Us

DMCA

Privacy

FAQ & Help