Rights Reach States

How Warren Court rulings changed state criminal cases

USH.C.7.3.A "Examine the role of the Warren Court's application of the due process clause of the 14th Amendment (Incorporation Doctrine) which applies the Bill of Rights to the states..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that explains how the Fourteenth Amendment brings Bill of Rights protections to the states, and circle each protection named. Number three changes to state criminal cases caused by Warren Court rulings.

When Federal Rights Reached State Courts

1. Imagine two people accused of crimes, one arrested by federal agents and the other by state police. Should the same constitutional protections follow both people? The Bill of Rights originally restrained the federal government, not every state government. The Fourteenth Amendment later barred states from denying people due process of law. Through **incorporation**, the Supreme Court used that clause to apply particular Bill of Rights protections to the states. The Court did not apply every protection at once. During the years Earl Warren led the Court, from 1953 to 1969, several rulings made these limits on state power clearer.

2. In 1961, the Court decided Mapp v. Ohio after police searched Dollree Mapp's home and seized materials used to convict her under state law. The justices ruled that evidence obtained through a search violating the Fourth Amendment could not be used in state criminal trials. This is called the exclusionary rule. Earlier, that rule had bound federal courts, but states were not required to follow it. Through the Fourteenth Amendment, Mapp extended the rule to state prosecutions. It did not prohibit every police search. It gave state courts a reason to reject evidence when officials violated constitutional search protections.

3. In 1963, Clarence Earl Gideon asked a Florida court for a lawyer because he could not afford one. The court refused. In Gideon v. Wainwright, the Warren Court held that the Sixth Amendment right to counsel in felony cases binds states through the Fourteenth Amendment. Florida had to give Gideon a new trial with a lawyer. In Miranda v. Arizona (1966), the Court required warnings before custodial questioning if prosecutors wanted to use suspects' statements at trial. Those warnings protected the Fifth Amendment right against compelled self-incrimination. Both rulings changed state criminal procedures, not just federal ones.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Why did the Warren Court use the Fourteenth Amendment when applying Bill of Rights protections to state governments?

2. How did Mapp v. Ohio change what a state court could do with evidence from a search that violated the Fourth Amendment?

3. How did the Fourteenth Amendment affect Gideon's request for a lawyer in his Florida felony case?

4. How did Gideon v. Wainwright and Miranda v. Arizona place different limits on state criminal procedures?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a four-sentence ruling for this new case: A state allows police to search a person's home based only on an anonymous rumor, without a warrant, consent, or an emergency, and to use what they find in court. Explain which constitutional protection applies, how it reaches the state, which Warren Court ruling guides your decision, and what the state court should do with the evidence.

ANSWER KEY

Rights Reach States

HIGH SCHOOL · USH.C.7.3.A

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that explains how the Fourteenth Amendment brings Bill of Rights protections to the states, and circle each protection named. Number three changes to state criminal cases caused by Warren Court rulings. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why did the Warren Court use the Fourteenth Amendment when applying Bill of Rights protections to state governments?	**Its due process clause limits states, allowing the Court to apply particular Bill of Rights protections to them through incorporation.**
2	How did Mapp v. Ohio change what a state court could do with evidence from a search that violated the Fourth Amendment?	**A state court could no longer use that evidence in a criminal trial.**
3	How did the Fourteenth Amendment affect Gideon's request for a lawyer in his Florida felony case?	**It made the Sixth Amendment right to counsel binding on Florida, so Gideon was entitled to a lawyer for his felony trial.**
4	How did Gideon v. Wainwright and Miranda v. Arizona place different limits on state criminal procedures?	**Gideon required states to provide counsel to defendants who could not afford a lawyer in felony cases. Miranda required warnings before custodial questioning if prosecutors wanted to use suspects' statements at trial.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The search violates the Fourth Amendment protection against unreasonable searches because an anonymous rumor alone does not justify entering the home without a warrant, consent, or an emergency. The Fourteenth Amendment's due process clause makes that protection enforceable against the state. In Mapp v. Ohio, the Warren Court ruled that evidence from a search that violates the Fourth Amendment cannot be used in a state criminal trial. The state court should exclude the evidence seized from this home.

Accept answers that explain the link between a named protection, the Fourteenth Amendment, and a limit on state action. For the ruling, students should apply Mapp to the new facts rather than claim that all searches require warrants.