

LESSON PLAN

Order v. Freedom: The Patriot Act and the Enabling Act

MODULE ONE. FOUNDATION: *UNIT II. What Are Human Rights and Where Do They Come From?*

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LENGTH

3 days

NEBRASKA SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

World History 12.2.10

McREL NATIONAL STANDARDS

World History: 41.2, 41.4

US History: 31.5

OBJECTIVES

1. Students will analyze the concept of political stability.
2. Students will analyze the concept of freedom.
3. Students will explore the relationship between stability and freedom and what connection this has to human rights.
4. Students will compare and contrast two historical moments relating to the concept of “order vs. freedom”.

TERMS

Enabling Act
English Civil War
Freedom
John Locke
Patriot Act I
Political Stability

MATERIALS

Paper and pens

Day One:

- I. Work with students to establish a classroom definition for the term “political stability”.
- II. Discuss with students what steps societies engage in to establish political stability and how beliefs about the term vary depending on:
 - a. the type of political system and
 - b. the issues facing a government, such as war, civil unrest, etc.
- III. Expand the discussion to include the concept of personal freedom and John Locke’s ideas of natural rights.
- IV. Have students discuss whether they believe certain rights should be limited during times of societal crisis.

Day Two:

- IV. Assign one group of students to research the key events leading to the passage of Germany’s Enabling Act during 1933 and its political impact. (Ensure students have a basic understanding of German history between 1919 and 1933.)
- V. Assign another group of students to research the key events leading to the passage of the Patriot Act 1 in 2001 and its impact.

Day Three:

- VI. Engage in a class discussion of the similarities and differences between the two acts and the environments leading to their creation. Relate this to events during 17th century England and its Civil War.
- VII. Have students prepare a “proclamation paper” where they take a stand on where they believe the two acts fall under John Locke’s view of the need to balance political order with natural rights.