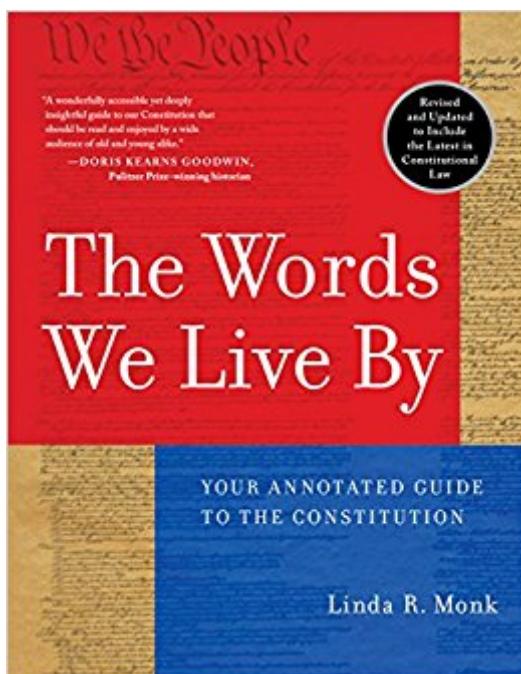


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# The Words We Live By: Your Annotated Guide To The Constitution



## **Synopsis**

THE WORDS WE LIVE BY takes an entertaining and informative look at America's most important historical document, now with discussions on new rulings on hot button issues such as immigration, gay marriage, gun control, and affirmative action. In THE WORDS WE LIVE BY, Linda Monk probes the idea that the Constitution may seem to offer cut-and-dried answers to questions regarding personal rights, but the interpretations of this hallowed document are nearly infinite. For example, in the debate over gun control, does "the right of the people to bear arms" as stated in the Second Amendment pertain to individual citizens or regulated militias? What do scholars say? Should the Internet be regulated and censored, or does this impinge on the freedom of speech as defined in the First Amendment? These and other issues vary depending on the interpretation of the Constitution. Through entertaining and informative annotations, THE WORDS WE LIVE BY offers a new way of looking at the Constitution. Its pages reflect a critical, respectful and appreciative look at one of history's greatest documents. THE WORDS WE LIVE BY is filled with a rich and engaging historical perspective along with enough surprises and fascinating facts and illustrations to prove that your Constitution is a living--and entertaining--document. Updated now for the first time, THE WORDS WE LIVE BY continues to take an entertaining and informative look at America's most important historical document, now with discussions on new rulings on hot button issues such as immigration, gay marriage, and affirmative action.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

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.

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