

## Section 2 Guided Reading and Review

# Equality Before the Law



### A. As You Read

Complete the outline by supplying the missing words or phrases in the blanks.

#### Equal Protection Clause

1. Reasonable Classification—The government is allowed to \_\_\_\_\_, or draw distinctions, between groups, but it may not do so \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The Rational Basis Test—The rational basis test asks: Does the classification in question bear a reasonable relationship to the achievement of some \_\_\_\_\_?
3. The Strict Scrutiny Test—In cases dealing with “\_\_\_\_\_,” such as the right to vote, or “\_\_\_\_\_,” such as those based on race or sex, the Supreme Court imposes the strict scrutiny test, which requires that the State prove that some “\_\_\_\_\_” justifies the distinctions it has drawn.

#### Segregation in America

4. The Separate-but-Equal Doctrine—In 1896, the Supreme Court upheld racial segregation by saying that segregated facilities for African Americans were lawful as long as the separate facilities were \_\_\_\_\_.
5. *Brown v. Topeka Board of Education*, 1954—In 1954 the Court reversed itself, ruling that segregation was \_\_\_\_\_ and must be ended.
6. De Jure and De Facto Segregation—Attention turned toward schools that practiced \_\_\_\_\_, often brought about by housing patterns.

#### Classification by Sex

7. Until 20 years ago, the Court has upheld \_\_\_\_\_ classifications.
8. Today, sex is a “suspect classification,” and is allowed only in cases where the law is intended to serve an “important \_\_\_\_\_ objective.”