

## Government, Privacy, and You

Privacy is not mentioned directly in the Constitution. However there are several suggestions in the Bill of Rights that establish privacy as a protected right. Other sources include law that has been passed down through the ages called common law, special laws called torts that give people the right to sue if they believe their privacy has been violated, laws passed by the state legislature, and school district policy protecting the right of privacy.

### **Format**

The Easy Essay allows students to articulate their feelings on the topic in only 100 words. Each question can be assigned daily or over the course of five weeks. During Nevada's Law Month, a total of \$500 in prizes was awarded to the top three essays submitted during the contest. Teachers can choose to award prizes or use this exercise to encourage written expression on the topic.

### **Question 1:**

Put in your own words why it is important for you to protect your own privacy.

### **Question 2:**

What effect has modern technology had on your privacy?

### **Question 3:**

Do you think students involved in extracurricular activities other than athletics should be tested for drug use? Why or why not?

### **Question 4:**

Is it reasonable to expect privacy in your own backyard?

### **Question 5:**

A friend was reported to the dean by a classmate for carrying an aspirin bottle in her purse. The campus police searched her purse and her clothing. No bottle or pills were found. Was the student's expectation of privacy violated?