



American Heritage Discussion Series: Learners with Littles

Study Guide for Session IV: Keeping Our Republic

Overall Essential Question—How can we maintain our constitutional republic in an increasingly diverse America?

Excerpt on Republican Motherhood from Berkin’s *Revolutionary Mothers*—**Essential Question:** What is the role of mothers in a society with self-government?

- What was the “woman question,” many leaders wrestled with after the American Revolutionary War?
- How did the role of women in American society change because of the American Revolution?
- What contributions can women make today to help keep our republic?

Excerpt on culture wars in public schools from Zimmerman’s *Whose America?* —**Essential Question:** Why has controversy surrounded how to teach our nation’s history?

- Why did the 1619 Project spur controversy?
- The author argues history has become treated as a religion. Do you agree? Why or why not?
- How should history educators teach about the conflict of America’s founding ideals and the instances when those ideals were not the reality for many people?

Excerpt on contempt in American society from Brooks’ *Love Your Enemies*—**Essential Question:** How can we improve our public discourse across our differences? Why is this important?

- Why is widespread contempt dangerous?
- What are the five rules the author proposes? What are some ways to get outside of our bubbles?
- How can improving our public discourse help keep our republic?