*QUESTIONS*

1. How should we resolve such conflicts between liberty and equality?
2. Can we have a democracy if some citizens do not enjoy basic rights to political participation or suffer discrimination in employment?
3. Can we or should we try to remedy past discrimination against minorities and women?
4. Is an increase in the scope of government to protect some people's rights an unacceptable threat to the rights of yet other citizens?
5. Describe the key types of inequality in America, as presented in the text; do you agree those are the main types? Why or why not?
6. Discuss the text's definition of *equality* and then formulate your own. How does your definition differ from the text's?
7. Do you agree with Richard Bland's claim “I am speaking of the rights of a people, rights imply equality;” why do you agree or disagree?
8. Discuss the meaning behind “equal protection of the laws.”
9. List and explain the important and relevant Supreme Court cases during The Era of Slavery, The Era of Reconstruction and Resegregation, and The Era of Civil Rights.
10. Evaluate your own beliefs concerning racism in modern America.
    1. How pervasive is it in modern society?
    2. Have you seen aspects of racism in your own life?
    3. What is being done to fight racial hatred in the United States today?
11. Why should every citizen be permitted to vote? Should there not be some restriction on it? The United States is in no way a pure democracy; therefore, is it not implied some members of society will not be permitted to vote? Convicted felons in Florida lose the privilege to vote for the rest of their lives and currently incarcerated persons cannot vote. If that is the case, why should the United States not require some basic requirements for voting; e.g. knowledge tests?
12. Discuss what, if any, roles the American minority groups (i.e. Native Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian-Americans, et al.) play or should play in the United States' political arena.
13. The text's discussion of “women's rights” is plenary; why do you think modern American women are still struggling to cope with “years of discrimination?” What are your own thoughts about modern American women?
14. Sexual harassment is still a “touchy” subject. Many claim it doesn't exist; it's simply women being “too sensitive” to off-handed or ill-placed humor. How should we define sexual harassment and how should laws against it be enforced equitably?
15. What is meant by the phrase the “graying of America?”
16. What is the main intent of affirmative action? Is the alternative term “reverse discrimination” valid?