

Lesson 4
Developing a Theory of the Case

Lesson Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Develop a clear outline of the case of *Singh v. Booth*.

Materials

- Handout 12: Theory of the Case

Lesson Assessments

- Checks for understanding (Do Now, class discussion)
- Handout 12 responses

Instructional Activities

Anticipatory Set

- Review from Handout 9 what attorneys need to do in the pretrial stage, with particular attention to the importance of developing a theory of the case. Explain that they'll be working in groups to develop a theory of the case for *Singh v. Booth*.
- Ask students to recall what they have already learned about the case. Make sure there is mention of what the plaintiff alleged and what the defense claimed in response. If students have trouble recalling, they should refer to their notes from Lesson 3.

Guided Practice

- Distribute **Handout 12: Theory of the Case**. Explain to students that they will use this to record their thinking as they work out their theory of the case. Students should refer to **Handout 4: Analyzing the RFRA Test for guidance**.
- Assign each student to represent either the plaintiff or defendant; this may be a temporary assignment or, if you choose, may be the students' assignment for the duration of the unit and mock trial. Students may work in two large groups or several smaller groups depending on your space and preference.

Unit 6: Lesson 4
Religious Freedom

- Explain to students that they will be working as a group to complete sections A-G of Handout 12. Section H should be assigned as individual work in class or as homework.
- After completing sections A-G in groups, ask students to report their answers to the group. Facilitate a class discussion on their responses.

Independent Practice/Homework

- Students should complete section H of Handout 12 independently. If time does not allow for independent work, this may be assigned as homework.

Closing

- Students meet back in their groups to share their short summaries and work out any disagreements or misunderstandings that remain.