

to equal protection under the law is alive and well in a certain sense. If some administrative officer picks on you as an individual in a discriminatory manner, you have a good chance of winning an individual case. But when the legislature makes classifications that separate one group from another, you can usually expect that unless it involves race or gender, this kind of a law will receive minimal judicial scrutiny and the government will normally win.

Probe

Do some research on your own to explore how the concepts discussed in this episode relate to current issues. Write at least one well-formed paragraph to explain your answers to each of the following:

- In *United States v. Virginia*, the Supreme Court dealt with the fact that women were not allowed to attend Virginia Military Institute. The specific question was whether it would be acceptable to create a women's military academy as an alternative for women who would otherwise be qualified to attend Virginia Military Academy. On Oyez.org, look up Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's opinion and summarize her argument.
- Racial profiling is one of the most oft-cited equal protection issues. What is racial profiling? Why is it an equal protection issue?