You Can Make a Difference

FOR CORY KADAMANI, “real life” once meant drugs, dropping out, and run-ins with the New York City police. Then he turned his life around, earning a high school equivalency diploma and joining Youth Force, a community group. At age 17, Cory helped create the group’s South Bronx Community Justice Center to resolve neighborhood issues before they led to crimes. Young people—including former gang members—worked with lawyers, community leaders, and probation officers. Cory also advised younger kids awaiting trial at a South Bronx detention facility. He hoped his story would keep them from making the same mistakes he had made.

Chapter 20 in Brief

SECTION 1

Due Process of Law (pp. 564–568)

★ The 5th and 14th amendments guarantee that the government cannot deprive a person of “life, liberty, or property, without due process of law.”
★ The States’ reserved powers include the police power—the power to protect and promote public health, public safety, public morals, and the general welfare.
★ The exercise of the police power can produce conflicts with individual rights.
★ The constitutional guarantees of due process create a right of privacy.
★ The most controversial applications of the right of privacy involve abortion.

SECTION 2

Freedom and Security of the Person (pp. 569–574)

★ The 13th Amendment was added to the Constitution in 1865 to end slavery and involuntary servitude.
★ The 2nd Amendment was added to the Constitution to preserve the right of States to keep a militia.
★ The 4th Amendment prohibits unreasonable searches and seizures, not those which are reasonable. The amendment has given rise to the controversial Exclusionary Rule.

SECTION 3

Rights of the Accused (pp. 576–583)

★ Rights of the accused include the writ of habeas corpus and a constitutional ban on bills of attainder and ex post facto laws.
★ The 5th Amendment says that one may be accused of a serious federal crime only by grand jury indictment.
★ Accused persons are guaranteed a speedy and public trial. They cannot, however, be tried twice for the same crime.
★ The accused also have the right to a trial by jury.
★ The right to an adequate defense and the guarantee against self-incrimination help safeguard the rights of the accused.

SECTION 4

Punishment (pp. 585–588)

★ A person accused of a crime is presumed innocent until proven guilty.
★ The accused must not face excessive bail or fines.
★ The Constitution prohibits cruel and unusual punishment.
★ The Supreme Court has consistently held that the death penalty is constitutional if it is applied fairly.
★ The crime of treason is specifically defined in the Constitution to prevent its use for political purposes.

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