U.S. Government Name:

Mrs. Barnes

Executive Orders

Executive orders are actions taken by the president, usually in an emergency or when Congress fails to act. While they are not technically laws (since Congress is the only group that write and pass laws), executive orders still carry the weight of the law; meaning, the president will ensure that the order is carried out and enforced. Some people think executive orders are a prime example of how the president can take power that does not constitutionally belong to him. President Obama, for instance, was criticized heavily for the number of executive orders he signed while president. Whether you support them or not, executive orders have become an important part of governance.

Your task today is to research, investigate, and analyze various executive orders to determine the pros and cons.

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|  | **E.O. 9066** | **E.O. 9981** |
| **Date Issued** |  |  |
| **President at the time** |  |  |
| **Basic Facts (history, context, rules, etc.)** |  |  |
| **Benefits (Pros)** |  |  |
| **Disadvantages (Cons)** |  |  |
| **Reason (Congress would not act, civil liberties, or expanding his own powers)** |  |  |
| **Presidential Role** |  |  |

What is “strict scrutiny”?

What are the two elements of strict scrutiny?

**Now it’s your turn!**

You are going to investigate one of two of President Trump’s controversial Executive Orders. In his first 100 days, President Trump signed two Executive Orders regarding foreign persons traveling to the United States (his stated “Travel Ban;” also called “Executive Order Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States”)and one Executive Order to pull federal funding from “Sanctuary Cities.”

The link below has basic information about Trump’s initial plans for these Executive Orders. You will need to do further research, though, to answer all of the questions. This should not be a problem as BOTH orders are ALL OVER THE NEWS!

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2016/11/21/us/politics/what-trump-wants-to-do-in-his-first-100-days-and-how-difficult-each-will-be.html?_r=1>

1. (circle one) **Trump’s Travel Ban** OR: **Sanctuary Cities**
2. Basic Facts:
3. Does Trump need Congressional approval to pass this plan, or can he do it on his own? Explain.
4. Does Trump’s Executive Order meet the conditions of “strict scrutiny”?
5. If you could advise President Trump or Congress on this issue, what would you tell them? (Think about your answer for number 4).