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COLLECTION PROVIDES CRITICAL INSIGHTS INTO LEGAL ARGUMENTS AND BEYOND

Our 24-hour news cycle serves up a dizzying array of breaking stories on immigration, harassment and discrimination, constitutional law, environmental policy, insider trading, and more. Never before has there been the level of scrutiny and debate on legal issues both past and present. *The Making of Modern Law: Landmark Records and Briefs of the U.S. Courts of Appeals, 1891–1980* provides records that present legal issues and their backgrounds, surfacing historical precedents and outcomes to researchers exploring contemporary issues in various disciplines.

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In 1993, Margaret Leary, law librarian at the University of Michigan Law School, wrote "The Case of the Disappearing Briefs: A Study in Preservation Strategy," which cautioned against the practice of discarding these critical documents. Gale is proud to be involved in the preservation of these records, making it possible for researchers to study materials that have remained virtually inaccessible until now.

The collection features more than 1.6 million pages of briefs (appellants’, appellees’, reply, amicus), appendices, memoranda, petitions, transcripts, and more from all courts of appeals.

This collection serves not only students and scholars of legal history, but researchers across the humanities and social sciences, from sociology, economics, and political science to literature, philosophy, and religion. The nine decades of American history covered by this collection offers scholars insights through legal debate into such important issues as:

- the intangible property rights that accumulated around patents, trademarks and copyrights, underscoring America’s modern technological and intellectual development;
- the limits on free speech imposed by anti-sedition legislation;
- the role Prohibition played in reshaping the judicial views of interstate commerce, law enforcement, tax policy and social mores;
- the impact legislation had on the changing scope of workers’ rights.
- the powers of government to exclude, deport, intern, and incarcerate legal and illegal immigrants and American citizens of foreign heritage.
- the post-World War II legal treatment of such matters as civil rights, environmental conservation, political dissent, reproductive rights, the separation of church and state, public health, and the rights of Native Americans, women and children, and ethnic and racial minorities.

Landmark cases featured in *The Making of Modern Law: Landmark Records and Briefs of the U.S. Courts of Appeals, 1891–1980* include:

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