

American Government Summer Packet
The Central Park Five

1. Watch all nine parts of the Ken Burns documentary “The Central Park Five”:

<https://gpb.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/kenburnsclassroom/film/the-central-park-five/>

2. Complete the guided questions on the documentary.

3. Review the following primary source documents from the case:

<https://gpb.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/central-park-five-ken-burns-central-park-five/central-park-five-ken-burns-central-park-five/>

4. Complete the analysis and reflection questions on the second page of this document. Prepare to discuss the case as we learn about American Government.

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1. Describe the role of each of the following levels of government in the case:

Local (New York City):

State (New York State):

National:

2. Analyze the role of the media in this case. Think of a contemporary issue and compare media response. Has the media changed in their ability to influence the public? How do different media sources report on the same issue?

3. Explain why was the injustice of the Central Park Five able to happen, and explain whether or not it could occur today.

4. What needs to happen to prevent this type of injustice from happening again?