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Introduction

## Miranda Rights

Miranda rights are a set of legal protections for people who have been detained and accused of a crime. Miranda rights were created in 1966 by the United States Supreme Court in the landmark case *Miranda v. Arizona*. These constitutional rights, derived from the Fifth Amendment, are important to protect individuals against self-incrimination and ensure their rights are not violated. Miranda rights are a fundamental part of the American criminal justice system and are designed to protect the rights of individuals arrested or detained by law enforcement (Morejón). These rights include the right to remain silent, be informed of the charges against them, have an attorney present during questioning, and have an attorney provided if they cannot afford one. The Miranda warning is a reminder of these rights that must be given to individuals by police officers before they are interrogated. Knowing and understanding one's Miranda rights is critical for anyone who is arrested or detained by law enforcement. This paper will discuss the history of Miranda rights, provide a legal overview of these constitutional protections, analyze how they benefit both the accused and the community, and consider the future implications of these important civil liberties.

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### Historical Background

The origin of Miranda rights can be traced to the 1966 Supreme Court case *Miranda v. Arizona*. Tragedy struck Phoenix, Arizona, when Ernesto Miranda was taken

into police custody on suspicion of kidnapping and rape. His apprehension set in motion a courageous legal faceoff against coercive charges. Due to this circumstance, he was kept imprisoned for an agonizing two hours before authorities cajoled him into signing a confession that admitted all accusations (Morejón). This pressing display of power scandalized civil liberty advocates throughout the land. During this time, he did not receive legal counsel and was not informed of his right to remain silent. The Supreme Court ruled that Miranda's Fifth Amendment rights had been violated, concluding that the police must advise suspects of their rights before questioning them in custody. Since this decision, a series of subsequent Supreme Court cases have furthered the development of Miranda rights. These include decisions relating to custodial interrogations and the right to an attorney. In addition, they also address how juvenile suspects should be treated under the law.

### **Legal Overview of Miranda Rights**

Miranda rights are a set of legal protections for individuals who have been taken into police custody or otherwise deprived of their freedom. These protections include informing the accused that they have a right to remain silent, the right to an attorney, and the right to understand their rights. When a person is taken into police custody or otherwise deprived of his freedom in any significant way, the arresting officer must read them the "Miranda Warning," – informing them of their rights under the Constitution. If they choose not to answer any questions, then their silence cannot be used against them in court.

Miranda's rights include the right to remain silent, which means that a person cannot be compelled to answer questions or provide any information that could

incriminate them. This right can be invoked at any time during a police interrogation and must be respected by law enforcement officers (Kramer). Miranda Rights grant you the right to legal representation in the event of a police interrogation – giving everyone a platform for triumphing over unfairness. Requesting an attorney can safeguard an individual throughout any type of police questioning and give them a chance to protect their rights. Whether the officer reads it out loud or not, citizens now maintain their ability to attain legal defense during these types of encounters. Having someone on your side provides insight into what will happen in response to any situation you might encounter. Subsequently, this feature serves as an empowering tool when engaging with law enforcement officers.

Finally, Miranda rights require that the individual be advised of their rights before any questioning takes place, including being informed that anything said can be used against them in court. For example, an officer must inform the individual of their right to remain silent and their right to an attorney before beginning an interrogation. This information must be provided clearly and concisely. By understanding these rights, individuals are more likely to avoid incriminating themselves and ensure that their basic legal protections are not violated. The right to an attorney is also provided under the Miranda Warning. This informs suspects of their right to request legal counsel at any point during questioning. Furthermore, individuals may invoke this right even if they have not been formally charged with a crime yet.

### **Analysis of Miranda Rights**

The benefits of the Miranda Warning are twofold. Firstly, it protects the accused from self-incrimination and ensures that their civil rights are preserved during legal

proceedings. By ensuring that suspects understand their rights, police officers can also be held accountable for any violations against those protections. Additionally, Fabiszewski offered up a compelling argument on why Miranda rights should be revised to protect minors from self-incrimination. He believes that the current restrictions do not do an adequate job of ensuring that juveniles have sufficient civil rights protections when going through legal proceedings. The study by Keatley et al. found that juveniles between the ages of 14 and 17 are particularly vulnerable to so-called 'police trickery,' which can lead to false confessions or statements given under duress. Therefore, it is concluded that taking a different approach when it comes to Miranda rights can help us create a better system for protecting minors from the potential consequences of self-incriminating.

The existence of Miranda rights also serves as an important protection for the community. By informing suspects of their right to remain silent, it ensures that police officers are being transparent and responsible in their investigations. In criminal investigations, police officers have a responsibility to ensure transparency throughout the process by informing suspects of their right to remain silent (Kassin et al.). This is paramount for protecting the due process rights of individuals and reassuring justice is done responsibly. Facilitating open communication between the authorities and suspects can create a lasting impact on their morality by instilling a strong belief that they have consented to interact with law enforcement. It protects them from any acts of manipulation or discrimination that use superior authority as leverage. With an improved knowledge of these rights, any reflections on law enforcement are formed from facts and reality rather than personal biases. This serves to bolster its key belief that police

officers must obey the law rather than allow their personal biases to influence a case's outcome. Miranda's rights promote procedural justice, which is essential to maintaining trust between law enforcement and the public.

In my opinion, Miranda rights help the accused by providing greater protection against potential abuse by law enforcement officers during questioning or interrogation. By informing the accused of their right to remain silent, they are better able to make decisions based on their own best interests rather than being coerced into confession or self-incrimination. As Kramer revealed, there should be additional requirements for appointing counsel to young people accused of a crime. Despite being admonished of Miranda rights before questioning, youths remain especially vulnerable to potential abuse by law enforcement officers during the investigation process. This can lead to poor outcomes and potentially permanent repercussions.

Instituting additional requirements better protects young people who are placed in police custody or otherwise deprived of their freedom from improper procedures. For example, juvenile suspects should receive the Miranda warning just like other suspects and must be advised of their rights before any questioning takes place. This will grant them access to a higher degree of protection while providing peace of mind that questionable practices cannot take place. Consequently, it is essential that young people take advantage of these accomplishments and prioritize well-being in any preventive or mitigating measures (Kramer). Understanding the positive influence that such additional regulations have on protective statutes broadens the scope to greater security for individuals, organizations, and societal targets alike. Thus, this would provide more security for those accused of crimes and ensure that justice prevails

throughout the proceedings. Furthermore, having the right tool allows law enforcement officers to carry out trustworthy inquiries without collecting evidence that is illegal or inadmissible in court as a result of the improper gathering. Overall, I believe that Miranda's warnings benefit everyone involved - both the accused and their community - by providing transparency throughout legal proceedings and ensuring the protection of individual constitutional rights. It also ensures a certain level of fairness for all parties involved and provides a framework for conducting criminal investigations unbiasedly.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, Miranda rights are an important set of legal protections derived from the Fifth Amendment and have been essential in protecting the civil liberties of individuals accused of crimes in the United States for decades. They provide a warning about the right to remain silent, the right to an attorney, and the need for suspects to be informed of their rights before any questioning takes place. Without these protections, it would be much easier for law enforcement officers to take advantage of suspects and violate their civil liberties. As such, Miranda rights help protect the accused from self-incrimination and ensure that procedural justice is upheld when criminal investigations are conducted. Finally, these rights also benefit the community at large by ensuring a level of fairness and trust between police officers and the public. Ultimately, Miranda rights are an essential part of our criminal justice system and should be respected and upheld by all.



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