In the current political climate, the question of "birthright citizenship" has arisen once again. The U.S. Supreme Court case, *U.S. v. Wong Kim Ark* (1898) established precedent with regard to the citizenship clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. This presentation will go beyond the particularities of the Wong Kim Ark case to make comparisons with the policies of Western European nations who follow different legal principles in granting citizenship to persons whose parents were foreign born.

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