



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
**San Diego Public Library**

**(Re-Release - Originally scheduled for 10/30/12)**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Thursday, November 1, 2012

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**GAY & LESBIAN AMERICAN EXPERIENCES OF THE CONSTITUTION**  
*Does the Constitution Guarantee Full Equal Rights for All Americans?*

**SAN DIEGO** – The San Diego Public Library will host a discussion forum *Gay and Lesbian American Experiences of the Constitution* featuring independent scholar Dr. Pat Washington on Tuesday, November 20 at 6:00 p.m. at the University Heights Branch Library located at 4193 Park Blvd. Dr. Washington will also address gay marriage, arguably the most prominent and contentious constitutional issue of our times. This is the last program in the *Searching for Democracy: A Public Conversation about the Constitution* library project sponsored by Cal Humanities.

*Searching for Democracy* brought together people from diverse backgrounds to explore their understanding of the U.S. Constitution at a diversity of programs that included lectures, book discussions, films, oral history, exhibits and displays, and performance. Library patrons traced the heritage of our American citizenry while gaining a greater understanding of the Library's vast collection of Constitution related titles and digital resources.

Dr. Washington is a trained sociologist and former professor of Women's Studies at San Diego State University. A well-known community organizer in the area, Dr. Washington has held a number of leadership positions that promote full inclusion and equity for all. Currently, she is engaged in advocacy endeavors that enhance parent engagement in education and promote equity and access for under-served populations in San Diego and California redistricting and efforts to insure that all SDUSD students will graduate career and college-ready.

Visit <http://sandiego.communityguides.com/constitution> to find out more about the Constitution series. Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library's catalog online at [www.sandiegolibrary.gov](http://www.sandiegolibrary.gov).

*Inspiring lifelong learning through connections to knowledge and each other*

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