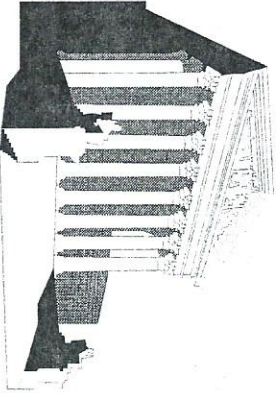


EQUAL PROTECTION
Regulation/policy affects a certain class of people



No Suspect or Quasi-Suspect Class and No Fundamental Right is Involved

RATIONAL BASIS TEST
The regulation/policy will probably be upheld
Test: Burden of proof on the challenger & the government need only show that the challenged classification is rationally related to serving a legitimate state interest (health, safety, welfare).

Quasi-Suspect Class (Gender or Illegitimacy involved)

INTERMEDIATE SCRUTINY TEST
The regulation/policy will more than likely be struck down
Test: The government must show that the challenged classification serves an important state interest and that the classification is at least substantially related to serving that interest (gender discrimination, paternity, preventing teen pregnancy, preparing troops for combat).

Suspect Class (Race, National Origin, or Fundamental Rights involved)

STRICT SCRUTINY TEST
The regulation/policy will almost always be struck down
Test: The government must show that the challenged classification serves a compelling state interest (i.e. national security, remedying past discrimination shown to be persistent) and that the classification is necessary to serve that interest.
It must also be the least restrictive means of achieving its objective/purpose.

EQUAL PROTECTION MODEL