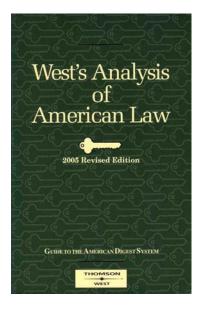


Relational Infrastructure of the Law (Topic Assignments)







Research Question

 Question: What are the topical adjacencies of subjects addressed by the United States Supreme Court based on the co-occurrence of top level topics assigned by West Publishing?

Goal: To create a rigorous substrate map on which to layer 60 years worth of data.

 Techniques: Principal Component Analysis (PCA), Multidimensional Scaling (MDS)



About the Dataset

- Co-occurrence counts of topics assigned by West Publishing to United States Supreme Court cases
- October 1944 July 2005
- 7,948 unique cases
- 19,789 topic assignments
- 405 top level topics in the West taxonomy
- 290 appear in Supreme Court cases during this time period.
- 289 co-occur with other topics (all but Reference)
- 3743 unique topic pairings (out of a possible 83,521 (289 * 289))
- · Sparse matrix

U.S. v. Kozminski, 487 U.S. 931 (U.S. Mich., 1988).

2 356 k24 k. Abolition of Slavery; Peonage.

Record contained sufficient evidence of physical or legal coercion to support conviction for holding mentally retarded men on farm in involuntary servitude and conspiring to interfere with their Thirteenth Amendment right to be free from involuntary servitude.

91 Conspiracy

← 91II Criminal Responsibility

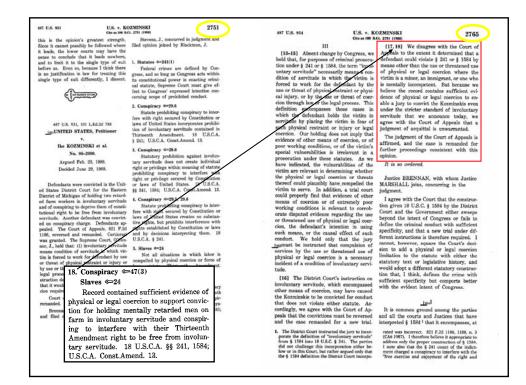
= 91II(A) Offenses

© 91k29.5 Conspiracy Against Exercise of Civil Rights
© 91k29.5(2) k. Rights or Privileges Involved.
(Formerly 91k29.6)

Statute prohibiting conspiracy to interfere with right secured by Constitution or laws of United States incorporates prohibition of involuntary servitude contained in Thirteenth Amendment.

361 Statutes

[←] 110 Criminal Law





Top 40 Topics

(Number of Cases they appear in out of 7,948 total)

3032	Federal Courts	169	Jury
2294	Constitutional Law	164	Injunction
1231	Criminal Law	153	Elections
785	Statutes	144	Armed Services
564	Labor Relations	140	Aliens
526	States	135	Bankruptcy
510	Commerce	134	Schools
488	Courts	131	Arrest
447	Federal Civil Procedure	131	Double Jeopardy
432	United States	122	Eminent Domain
420	Civil Rights	120	Municipal Corporations
398	Internal Revenue	119	Indians
378	Habeas Corpus	113	Declaratory Judgment
370	Administrative Law and Procedure	110	Action
262	Monopolies	106	Social Security and Public Welfare
261	Sentencing and Punishment	101	Evidence
239	Searches and Seizures	100	War and National Emergency
200	Witnesses	90	Trade Regulation
192	Taxation	90	Environmental Law
184	Judgment	85	Telecommunications



Bottom 40 Topics

(Number of Cases they appear in out of 7,948 total)

Homestead Innkeepers Joint Tenancy Motions

2	Chemical Dependents	1
	Accord and Satisfaction	1
	Account	1
	Account, Action on	1
	Assumpsit, Action of	1
	Asylums	1
	Bigamy	1
	Bonds	1
ı	Boundaries	1

1 Cemeteries1 Champerty and Maintenance1 Clubs

1 Cancellation of Instruments

Deposits in Court
 Dower and Curtesy
 Easements
 Explosives

1 False Pretenses1 Forgery1 Good Will

Notaries
Parliamentary Law
Parties
Penalties
Reference
Sequestration
Slaves
Tenancy in Common
Trover and Conversion
United States Marshals
Vendor and Purchaser
Weights and Measures
Wharves
Wills

1 Woods and Forests1 Urban Railroads

