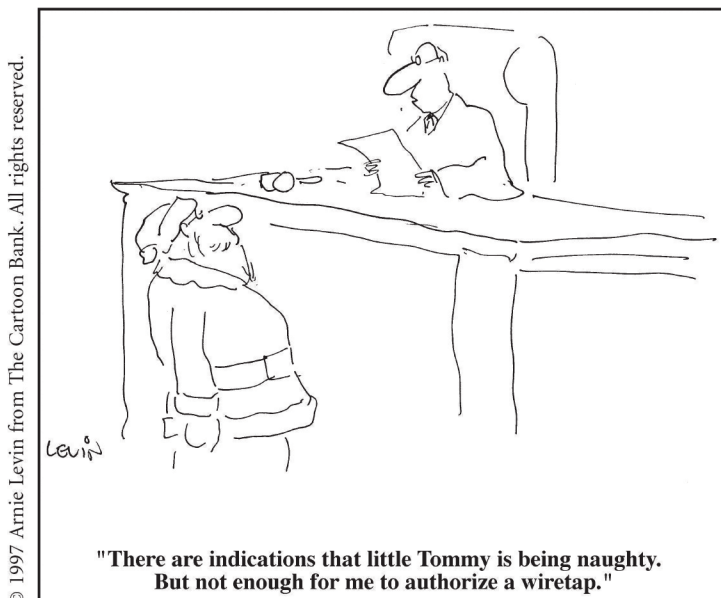


**CARTOON****5****Civics Political Cartoon Activity****Establishing Personal Rights****UNDERSTANDING POLITICAL CARTOONS**

Study the political cartoon, and then answer the questions that follow.

1. What point is made by using Santa Claus as the person requesting a wiretap?

---



---

2. What must law enforcement do in order to wiretap a private phone, a public pay phone, or a cell phone?

---



---

3. Should an employer be able to monitor an employee's use of the phone or Internet during working hours? Why or why not?

---



---

**ACTIVITY**

Make a list of other electronic technology, in addition to wiretapping, that involves a person's right to privacy. Beside each item, write whether you think this form of technology should be regulated, and why or why not.

**CARTOON****5****Discussion Guide and Answers****Establishing Personal Rights****Discussion Guide**

As a part of his first inaugural address, President Washington called for the prompt passage by Congress of a Bill of Rights in the form of constitutional amendments. This action fulfilled promises made to the antifederalists during the constitutional debates. By December 15, 1791, 11 states had ratified 10 of the 12 amendments Congress had approved and sent to them. (The two amendments not passed determined the size of the House of Representatives and forbade the raising of their own salaries by congressmembers.) Curiously, Massachusetts, through an oversight, did not ratify the amendments until its 150th anniversary. Within the foreseeable circumstances at the time of their approval, these protections proved more than adequate to maintain a healthy and flourishing democracy. However, as technology advanced to undreamed of capacities, legal precepts failed to adapt quickly. This left certain freedoms—such as speech, press, and protection against illegal searches and seizures (privacy was not made an explicit right until the late 1960s)—exposed to governmental activities. For example, wiretaps were allowed without check until the late 1960s. The U.S. Supreme Court then ruled that it is necessary for law enforcement to secure warrants before using monitoring devices.