

## Civics Alive Foundations and Functions - Eighth Grade Unit 1 page 10

From the Lesson:

*Naturalized citizens are immigrants who complete the process to become a citizen. People who are born in the United States are citizens because of the law of soil. Under the **law of soil**, a person is granted citizenship according to their place of birth.*

*Children born to U.S. citizens outside the United States are also U.S. citizens. The **law of blood** means that a person's citizenship is determined by their parents' citizenship. A child receives U.S. citizenship at birth if either or both of their parents are American.*

These terms are not found on the US Immigration website, it is more of a global term.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://www.usimmigration.org/glossary/search/query:law%20of%20blood%20law%20of%20soil>. The page title is "Search Results" and the search query is "law of blood law of soil". Below the search bar, it says "Query: law of blood law of soil found 0 results". At the bottom of the page, there are four columns of links: "U.S. CITIZENSHIP" (Citizenship Application (N-400), Certificate of Citizenship (N-600)), "GREEN CARD" (Green Card Renewal (I-90), Family-Based Green Card (I-130)), "EMPLOYMENT" (Employment Authorization Document (I-765)), and "MORE FORMS" (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals - DACA (I-821D), All Immigration Forms).

Right of blood (Jus Sanguinis) and right of soil (Jus Soli) are governing principles on how nations define birthright citizenship, not US law.

The United States incorporates both **principles, but it adds a qualifier** to limit the right of soil based upon the allegiance or connection to the United States. The lesson omits this qualifier.

The lesson completely leaves out the 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph from the US Immigrations website. It also leaves out the most important part of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendments Citizens clause:

“All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside.”

“No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty or property, without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.”

The screenshot shows the "U.S. Citizen Definition" page on the US Immigration website. The page title is "U.S. Citizen Definition". The text on the page reads: "Citizenship in the United States is a status that entails specific rights, duties, and benefits. U.S. citizenship is usually acquired by birth when a child is born in the territory of the United States. In addition to U.S. states, this includes the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands and the U.S. Virgin Islands. A U.S. Citizen has the right to live and work in the United States and to receive federal assistance. There are two ways to become a U.S. citizen: by birth, in which a person is presumed to be a citizen provided that they are born within the territorial limits of the United States, or through citizenship of a parent, and naturalization, a process in which an immigrant applies for citizenship and is accepted. Both pathways to citizenship are specified in the Citizenship Clause of the Constitution's 1868 Fourteenth Amendment. Under U.S. law, a citizen of another country once naturalized as a U.S. citizen may retain their previous citizenship, though they must renounce allegiance to the other country. A U.S. citizen retains U.S. citizenship when becoming the citizen of another country, should that country's laws allow it. Citizenship can be renounced by American citizens who also hold another citizenship via a formal procedure at a U.S. Embassy, and it can also be restored. The first concept of Citizenship began in colonial times as an operative relation between people working cooperatively to solve local problems and participating actively in democratic decision-making. People met regularly to discuss local affairs and make decisions. Citizenship became less defined by participation in politics and more defined as a legal relation with accompanying rights and privileges."