

Negative rights are the rights we enjoy because government is restricted from forbidding or hindering personal activity.

Positive rights are “rights” that are secured when government intervenes in citizens’ lives to give

them resources or to otherwise enable them to do or to have certain things. Generally speaking,

America’s Founders and early leaders upheld the former, and only in a few instances the latter.

Accordingly, they drafted and ratified the Bill of Rights to the US

Constitution, which secured foundational rights of citizens through government *limitations*.