



Perla Solano Aceves (SFSU 2020)

Yick Wo (1873-?)

b. China

Yick Wo v. Hopkins (1886)

Do You Know? Yick Wo was the name of a laundry business owned by Lee Yick. He was not a US citizen and he hired a white lawyer.

What: Lee claimed that San Francisco's Laundry Ordinance was discriminatory against the Chinese and violated their rights under the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment.

Decision: The Supreme Court ruled that the enforcement of the ordinance was biased and that Lee Yick was denied equal protection of the law.

Today: The 14th Amendment ensures that all laws and regulations should be written and enforced equally.