

**PS 104 WEEKLY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**  
**WEEK 4 – AFFIRMATIVE ACTION**

1. What are the historical roots of Affirmative Action? Is it a civil right or a civil liberty? What's the difference? What level of scrutiny does the Supreme Court use in testing Affirmative Action policies? Which sorts of policies have been struck down?

<b>Arguments in Favor</b>	<b>Arguments Opposed</b>

## **WEEK 4 – PRESIDENTIAL POWER**

1. What are the constitutionally expressed powers of the president? What are the delegated powers? What are the inherent powers? Define these even if you can't list them off the top of your head.

2. What are the formal ways in which the president has the power to influence legislation? What are the informal ways? Think of some institutions that work to make the president more powerful.

3. How has the presidency changed since the founding? What roles did the framers intend for the president to take on, and how have they grown or altered in character? Think of some particular historical circumstances and particular presidents who have influenced the modern presidency. Can you explain the idea of the imperial president?

4. Do you think historical circumstances have dictated the changes in the nature of the presidency, or have individuals who occupied the office pushed its boundaries over time?

5. What does George C. Edwards III say about the way President Bush has made use of his office? In what ways is he a revolutionary leader? In what ways is he changing the presidency? What institutional changes have made his style of leadership possible?