



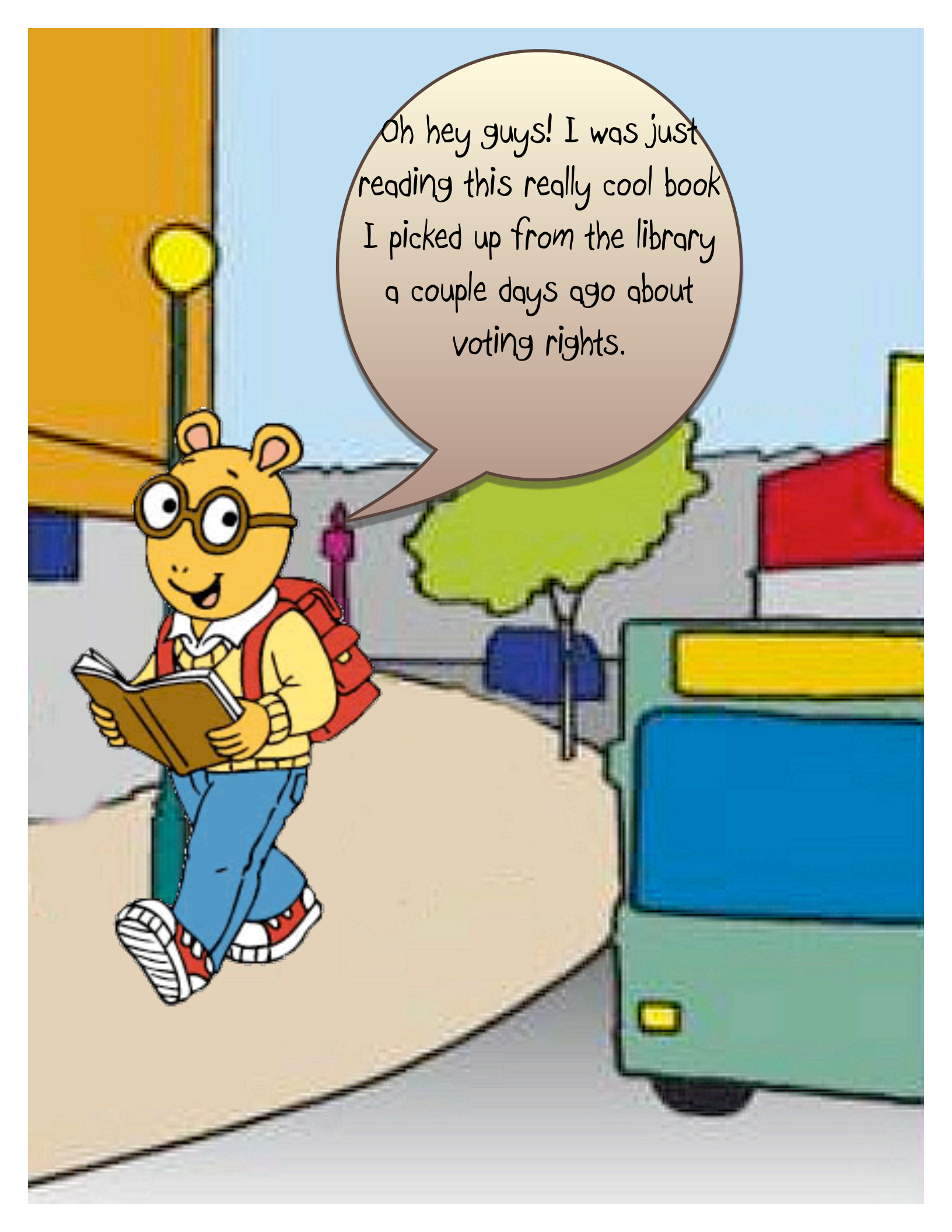
VOTING RIGHTS ACT

OF 1965

BY: JAREESE LONG



WITH ARTHUR

A cartoon illustration of Arthur, a yellow bear wearing glasses, a yellow sweater, blue pants, and a red backpack. He is walking on a sidewalk, smiling and reading a brown book. To his right is a green bus with a yellow stripe and a blue window. In the background, there is a green tree, a blue bench, and a building with a red roof. A yellow street lamp is visible on the left. A large speech bubble is positioned above Arthur, containing text.

Oh hey guys! I was just reading this really cool book I picked up from the library a couple days ago about voting rights.

DID YOU KNOW THAT AFRICAN AMERICANS WERE DENIED THEIR RIGHT TO VOTE IN THE SOUTH UNTIL 1965?

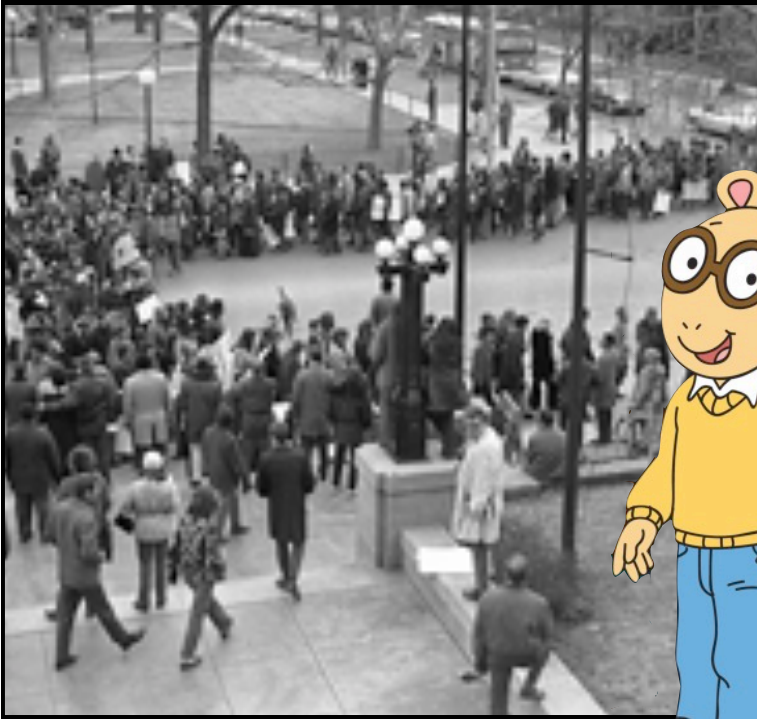
YUPP, THAT'S RIGHT! EVEN AFTER THE 15TH AND 19TH AMENDMENTS WERE PASSED, LEGISLATORS IN THE SOUTH STILL USED JIM CROW LAWS TO DENY THEIR RIGHT TO VOTE.



IN FACT, THOSE AMENDMENTS WERE PASSED TO GIVE AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN AND WOMEN THEIR RIGHT TO VOTE AND DECLARED "RIGHT OF CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES TO VOTE SHALL NOT BE DENIED OR ABRIDGED BY THE UNITED STATES OR BY ANY STATE ON ACCOUNT OF RACE, COLOR, OR PREVIOUS CONDITION OF SERVITUDE."

DURING THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT, MANY ACTIVISTS FOR EQUAL RIGHTS AMONGST AFRICAN AMERICANS PROTESTED TO GET THESE EQUAL RIGHTS

CIVIL RIGHTS LEADERS SUCH AS JOHN F. KENNEDY, MARCUS GARVEY, MARTIN LUTHER KING AND MALCOM X WERE VERY ACTIVE IN THE FIGHT FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN RIGHTS SUCH AS VOTING



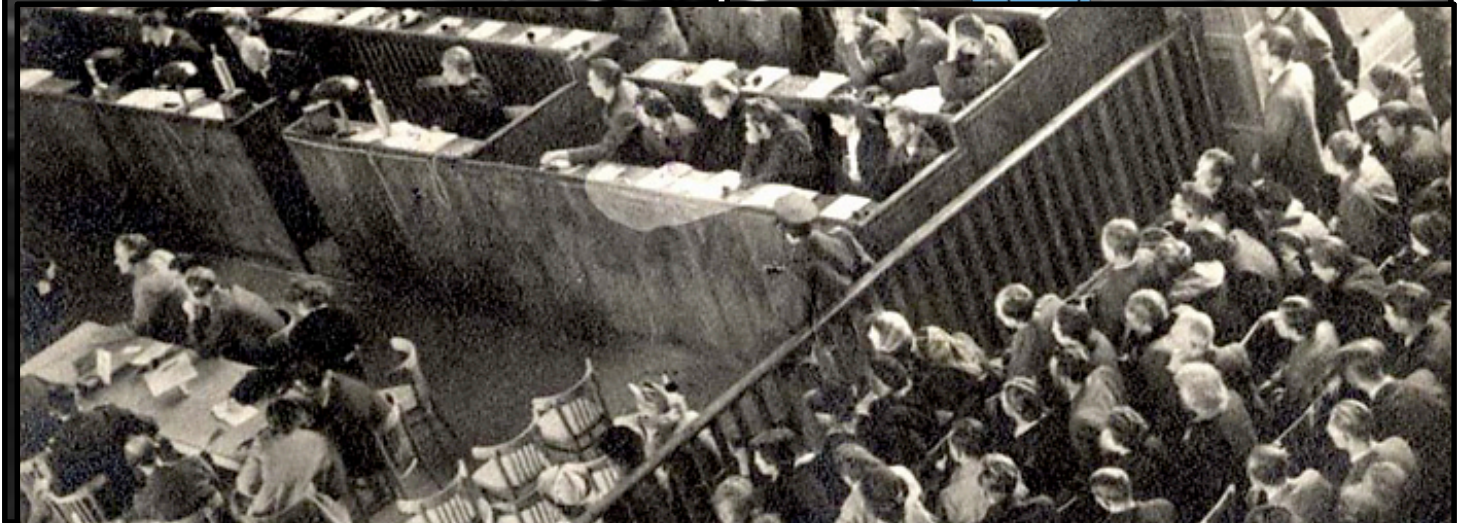
ON MARCH 7TH 1965, PEACEFUL MARCHERS MARCHED ACROSS THEEDMUND PETTUS BRIDGE IN SELMA, ALABAMA TO GO TO THE STATE CAPITOL IN HOPES OF PERSUADING THE PRESIDENT & CONGRESS TO OVERRULE THE SOUTHERN LEGISLATORS WHO BELIEVED AFRICAN AMERICANS HAD NO RIGHT TO VOTE




As they were walking, State Troopers without a motive attacked these peaceful marchers with nightsticks and rode horse through the crowd which left many people injured and bloody



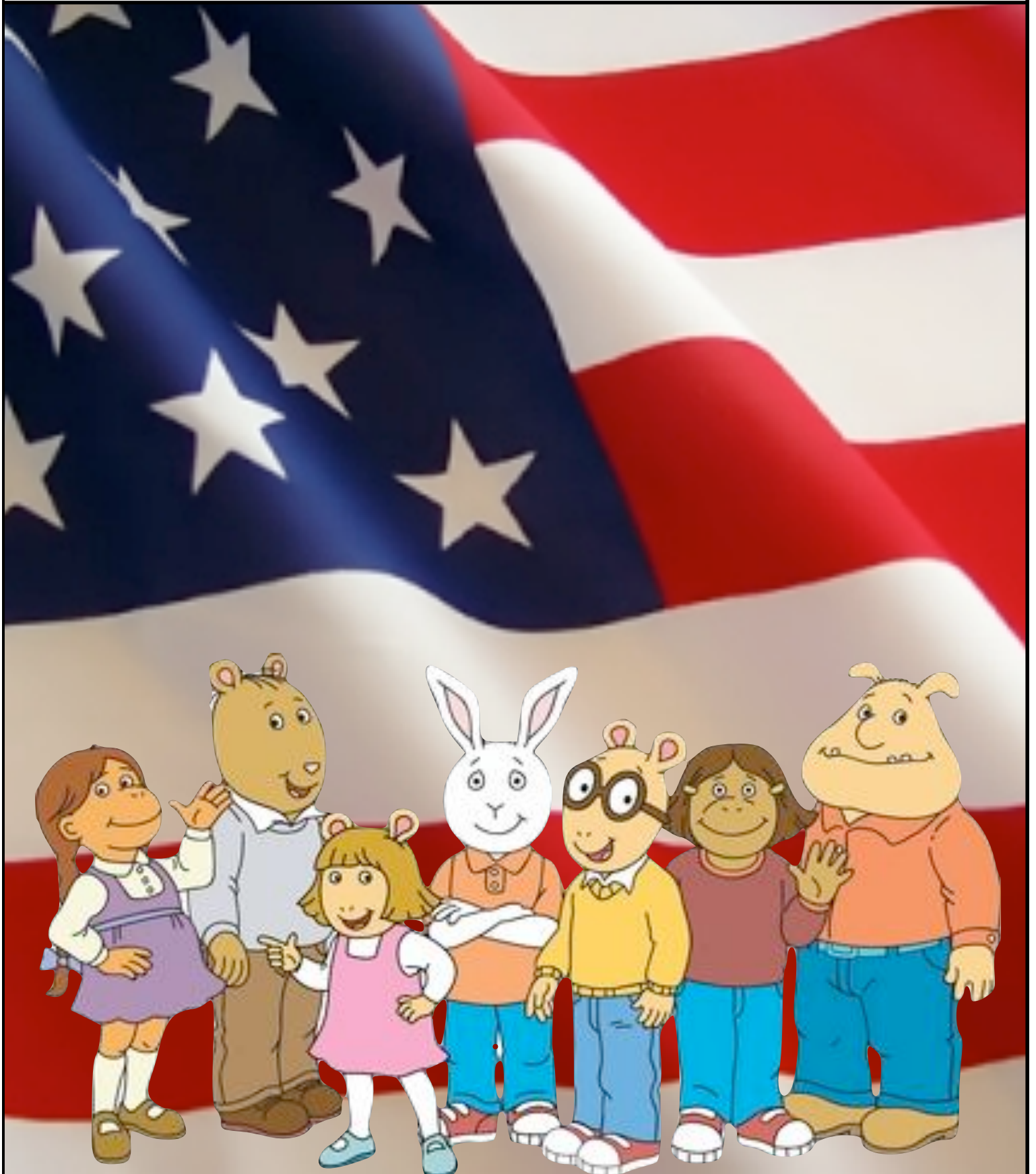
PROTESTS STILL CONTINUED AND VARIOUS HEARINGS OR COURT CASES WERE HELD IN HOPES THAT THESE SOUTHERN LEGISLATORS WOULD BE OVERRULED



A cartoon illustration of a busy city street. In the foreground, a yellow bear character with glasses, wearing a yellow sweater, blue pants, and a red backpack, is walking and reading a newspaper. In the background, several people are walking, including a man in a green suit, a woman in a yellow dress, and a woman in a green dress. A large speech bubble is positioned in the upper middle of the scene, containing text. The background shows a cityscape with buildings and a utility pole.

BUT IMAGINE IF AFRICAN
AMERICANS WERE NEVER
GIVEN THAT RIGHT TO
VOTE...

FORGET RACE, JUST AS CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES, WE SHOULD ALL BE ENTITLED TO THE SAME RIGHTS AS ANYONE HERE DESPITE LITTLE THINGS SUCH AS RACE, GENDER AND ORIENTATION



WITH THAT BEING SAID, WE NEED TO REALIZE HOW IMPORTANT IT IS TO VOTE AND WE NEED TO EXERCISE THAT RIGHT BECAUSE THERE WAS A TIME WHEN EVERYONE WASN'T ALLOWED TO DO SO.

