

Student's Name

Professor's Name

Course

Date

### **Discussion Post**

**Question: In *A Personal Matter*, how did Gordon get justice?**

In the video *A Personal Matter: Gordon Hirabayashi vs. the United States*, it is evident that the minority group in question faced a myriad of challenges in the US. The ruling of the Supreme Court was not a reprieve for Gordon because he was found to be in violation of the curfew orders imposed by the American president. The Supreme Court ruled that the application of curfews against individuals of a minority group was constitutional when the country was in turmoil (Graaf). During this period, the US was at war, and the Japanese Americans living on the West Coast were subjected to a curfew and later moved to internment camps. In this case, Gordon was convicted for having violated the curfew and other restrictions imposed by both the lower court and the Supreme Court. However, he got justice when his conviction was overturned in the *coram nobis* proceedings that took place in the 1980s.

The US district court overturned Gordon's conviction in 1987 in Seattle and in the federal appeals court. The main reason for overturning the conviction was that the solicitor general provided examples of Japanese American sabotage in the wake of the Second World War. Later, the solicitor general confessed the error made in the previous judgment, and the final decision was given on the *Hirabayashi v. United States* case. The previous rulings on this matter showed that Gordon, just like other Japanese Americans, faced many challenges in the US. They were discriminated against based on race, and the authorities infringed on their fundamental rights.

Enforcing curfews and other restrictions on a minority was unconstitutional. The curfew hindered Gordon and others from movement.

Work Cited

Graaf, John D. "A Personal Matter." *Vimeo*, [vimeo.com/192389797](https://vimeo.com/192389797).