Student’s Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

March 5, 2024

Dear Parent:

Your son or daughter is in constitutional law class this semester and will have an opportunity to watch the movie *Amistad*. This movie depicts a real-life court case in which a boat filled with African slaves has a mutiny and consequently, instead of arriving in the Caribbean, the boat lands in America. Lawyers argue whether the slaves are free or property and who may own them. This video sets up the class to understand the deviation *Dred Scott v Sanford* was from prior precedent and why the Fourteenth Amendment was proposed and ratified. Furthermore, it will lend itself to the Civil Rights Era and the discussion of discrimination and the Constitution. Unfortunately, because of some brief nudity when showing the Africans, this movie is rated R. However, I believe this movie gives an accurate portrayal of a landmark trial and will tie together much of the material the students will learn in class this quarter.

With your permission your son or daughter can watch *Amistad*. At the bottom of this paper please check yes or no, and sign. If your son or daughter is unable to watch the video, an alternative project can be assigned as a grading option.

Thank You,

Brad Faulhaber

Social Science Instructor/ Department Chair

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, my child may watch the movie; *Amistad*

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No, my child may not watch the film

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature