

The founding fathers wanted to create a country that had the freedom and power to do whatever they choose to do, say and believe whatever they wanted to, and live freely. They didn't want to be confined in a square with tall walls and made of layers and layers of cement that England had built around them. England taxed, controlled, and forced unjust laws and restrictions upon the colonists, keeping them very closely tied to them, never letting them break the chains and write their own story in history. They knew how it felt to be restrained and yearned that this young country, under no circumstances, would feel the confinement they did.

Freedom of speech and press are undoubtedly prevalent in today's society. With the widespread of social media, television programs, newspapers, and much more over the centuries, it is no surprise that information and news are coming across from all corners of the internet. How different do you believe the lives of Americans would be had freedom of speech and press not been added in the Constitution? Not only the lives of Americans would be affected, but those of other countries as well. Our country has a reputation for being known as "*The Land of Opportunity*". America has earned this reputation for our freedom of speech and press, among other freedoms as well. Millions of immigrants immigrate here to get a chance at the "american dream" and receive the opportunity to do things here that they would seldom be offered, if at all, in their home countries. Being able to express your opinion on your very own president or your stance on the government is a privilege in itself and unfortunately not every country is able to do so. We'd grow into a country of despair and confinement, the absolute opposite of what our founding fathers fought for.

As well as freedom of speech and press is, there are downsides to it. With granting a country absolute freedom of speech and press, anybody at any time can say and publish whatever they wish both conversationally and electronically. There are what society considers disturbing and harmful groups and organizations such as the KKK and ISIS that can influence negatively on young minds. Most people censure these groups. Another reason may be there are also simply people with separate views than others that some people may find so utterly offensive they find it reasonable to take away that party's first amendment right. Conflicts such as these are what bring up the doubt and question of having complete freedom of speech and press at all. As harmful and horrible as topics and influences can get on the internet and in natural conversation, I don't believe we should be restricted from our first amendment right. If you take away one group's right to free speech, pretty soon you'll be taking away everyone else's.