

The First Amendment

Have you ever wondered what would happen if our country did not have free speech? Do you think it is ok to have certain limits on our right to speak? These questions are important to think about from time to time. So let's talk about the First Amendment and why it's important.

The First Amendment states: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances." Our founding father thought that free speech is important because they thought it was essential to hear the people's issues or concerns they had. Same goes for the freedom of the press, they also knew that the media would try to expose any unsatisfactory actions. Freedom of religion has a different reason. The founding fathers that were from Europe knew that having an established religion would cause problems and potentially start wars because Europe experienced similar problems with established religions.

Our freedom does have certain limits and only certain things we say or publish are protected. An example for freedom of speech would be, we are allowed to bad things about other people, but we can not say something that could cause panic, bring harm to others, or provoke someone to commit a crime. Freedom of press has a similar premise. We are allowed to say bad things about other people, but if the press made any false accusations about you then you could take them to court. I think these limits seem reasonable, but if the subject is a controversial topic then some words shouldn't be said.

Unfortunately other countries such as North Korea, Cuba, and Syria don't have these freedoms. So with all these freedoms it is not too difficult to imagine what our country would be like if we did not have these freedoms. If I had to imagine what our country would look like without freedoms then I think there would be several conflicts between each state. Our nation would mostly likely fall apart over time because of these conflicts.

If you take the time to consider these freedoms then you realize how important they are to this society. We should also feel thankful that we have these freedom. Some people believe the

freedoms should change. The freedoms and their limitations seem reasonable to me, so I do not believe they should change. The topic of the First Amendment is an important to think about because it could have an enormous impact on our lives.