

7:2a The First Amendment

First Amendment:



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.

Enormous power conveyed in just 45 words summing up our Constitutional rights in our democratic society.

7:2b Freedom of Religion



Freedom of Religion

- **Americans are free to worship—or not to worship—as they wish.**
- **No government official can dictate if, how, when, where or why we pray.**
- **The Supreme Court has made it clear that students are not to be coerced at school or school functions to join in any form of religious activity.**

Freedom of Speech

The First Amendment guarantees that all people will be free to express their opinions, no matter how unpopular those opinions may be.

Freedom of the Press



- The First Amendment ensures that a free and responsible press will be able to keep the public informed.



Freedom of Assembly

- The First Amendment ensures that citizens will have the right to assemble peaceably, even when they are protesting.

Freedom to Petition

- The First Amendment gives citizens the right to petition for redress of grievances, whether at the ballot box or through elected representatives.



7:2g *The Four Freedoms*



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