

# First Amendment

## Text



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.

## Freedom's Protected

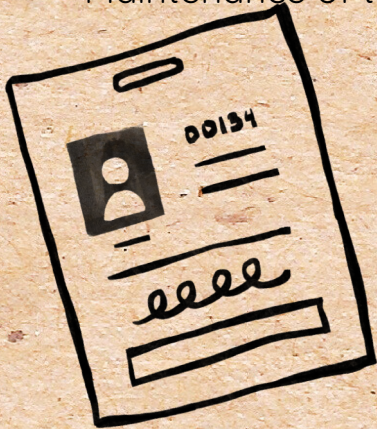
### Religion

- Religious organizations are shielded from governments
- Governments are shielded from religious organizations
- Maintenance of the separation of Church and State



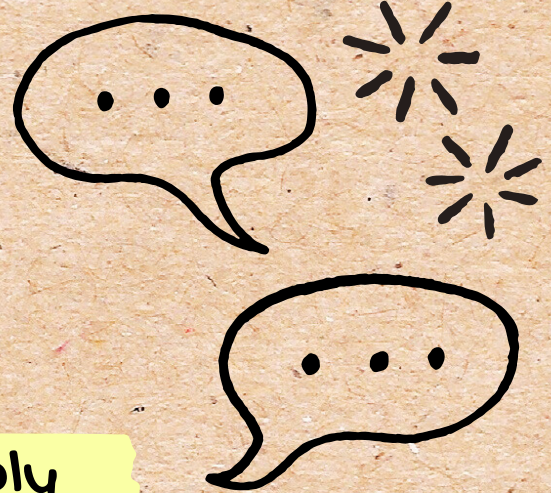
### Press

- Newspapers and journalists have the right to critique the government or officials.
- Reporters are allowed to ask and publish questions.
- It is not permissible to publish libelous (false) statements.



### Speech

- Americans are entitled to express themselves freely, ask questions, and voice their opinions.
- Certain restrictions on speech have been implemented in settings such as schools.
- Slander, which involves making false statements, is not safeguarded.



### Assembly

- Americans possess the right to assemble in groups peacefully.
- There may be restrictions on peaceful gatherings concerning time or space (but these restrictions must be uniformly enforced).

### Petition

- Americans possess the right to voice their opinions regarding their government.
- This empowers Americans to inquire about governmental actions or policies.
- Utilizing this right also necessitates Americans to be well-informed as citizens.

