

8.3

Freedom of Speech & Press

Right for Free Expression

Words do have consequences & expose you to danger, deny a job, or even criminal behavior

You have the right to have your say & be heard, but you cannot infringe on others rights

Libel- The false & malicious use of printed words to harm someone

Slander- False & malicious use of spoken words to harm someone

The background of the entire slide is a close-up, slightly blurred image of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes in warm, golden tones.

Seditious Speech

Sedition- Crime of attempting to overthrow the government by force

Seditious Speech is the advocating or urging of that behavior

Alien & Sedition Acts were once created to make “any criticism of the government” a crime

Sedition Law of 1917- Crime to encourage disloyalty or interfere with the war draft

Smith Act of 1940- Crime to advocate the violent overthrow of the government or belong to a group that wants to

1st Amendment & Symbolic Speech

Symbolic Speech- Expression by conduct by using facial expressions, body language, signs, or armbands

Picketing- Patrolling of a business site by workers who are on strike

Picketing can be a crime for some instances such as for violence

Some acts can be reviewed for symbolic speech such as burning draft cards



The background of the slide is a close-up, slightly blurred image of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes in warm, golden tones.

Acts of Dissent

The government can act on dissent is...

**1) the object of protest is within the
constitutional powers of the gov**

**2) Whatever restriction is placed on expression is no
greater than necessary**

**3) The government's real interest in the matter is
not to squelch dissent**

**Virginia V. Black & Tinker V. Des Moines are
examples**

Dissent Continued



Campaign contributions are recognized as protected speech

The Supreme Court has critiqued multiple cases of flag burning in the U.S.

The background of the slide is a close-up, artistic rendering of the American flag. The stars are visible in the upper left, and the stripes flow across the bottom. The colors are slightly muted and blended, giving it a painterly or textured appearance.

Prior Restraint

The government cannot shut down ideas before they are expressed

This means the government cannot stop publication of a story before it is released

Injunction- court order that forces or limits the performance of some act

Media in a Free Society

The background of the entire slide is a close-up, slightly blurred image of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes in a painterly style.

How much can the media report or print materials before it needs to be regulated?

Shield Laws- Protection to reporters to not speak about sources or reveal confidential info.

What are some limits in media today?

What is obscenity?