
The First Amendment, United States Constitution

The First Amendment, Amendment I, to the United States Constitution prevents Congress from making any law respecting an establishment of religion, prohibiting the free exercise of religion, or abridging the freedom of speech, the freedom of the press, the right to peaceably assemble or to petition for a governmental redress of grievances. Amendment I was assumed on December 15, 1791, as one of the ten amendments that establish the Bill of Rights.

The Free Exercise Clause refers to the section of the First Amendment “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof...”. The Free Exercise Clause reserves the right of the citizens of America to accept any religious credence and engage in religious rituals and customs. The Free-exercise clauses of state constitutions which protected religious “opinion, expression of opinion, and practice were all expressly protected” by the Free Exercise Clause.

The Clause guards not only religious views but actions made on behalf of those principles. More notably, the phrasing of state constitutions proposes that “free exercise envisions religiously compelled exemptions from at least some generally applicable laws.” The Free Exercise Clause not merely defends religious faith and display; it also appears to permit for defilement of laws, as long as that violation is made for religious motives.

In the terms of economic theory, the Free Exercise Clause endorses a free spiritual market by the impending fiscal policy of religious actions by minority factions. There are primarily three types of interpretations of the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution: broad, narrow, literal. First, broad interpretation regulates that the government is forbidden from giving any aid to any religion at all, people have “freedom from religion”, and church and state must plainly be separate. Secondly, narrow interpretation defines that the government is proscribed from providing any one religious group privileged handling and that the government is not barred from supporting religion as long as it does so objectively.

Lastly, literal interpretation determines that the government is only forbidden from inaugurating an endorsed religion and that the government is not prohibited from actively participating in any religious practice, so long it does not proclaim an official religion.

In general, both the establishment and free clause forbid constitutional participation with an intrusion in religious cases, however, there is conceivable tightness between a prerequisite of governmental impartiality derivative from the Establishment Clause and a Free-Exercise-consequent condition that government accommodates some religious

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