

How Universities Violate Your Free Speech



*And How to
Fight Back!*



A History of Protecting Students' Rights to Free Speech

Young America's Foundation has long been a defender of free speech on campus and even challenged laws all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court to ensure free speech rights are protected.

During the Foundation's 1983 National Conservative Student Conference, YAF activists Floyd Brown, Michael Boos, and others led a demonstration against Soviet policies outside the Soviet Union's consulate in Washington, D.C. Brown and others present were summarily arrested and charged with attempting to bring the Soviet Union into "disrepute." Young America's Foundation did not let these charges go unchallenged—especially when leftist and pro-Communist demonstrations were allowed outside other embassies. The Young America's Foundation case, *Boos v Barry*, went all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, where the justices finally struck down the D.C. law that prohibited protesting outside of embassies.

The Foundation's battles to protect free speech continued, however. In 1995, the University of Virginia (UVA) refused to fund Foundation activist Ron Rosenberger's Christian student newspaper, *Wide Awake*. The school claimed doing so would violate the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment. However, the school had already routinely funded other religious groups, including a Muslim student organization and other clubs with religious affiliations. During Rosenberger's tenure as a member of the Foundation's staff, the U.S. Supreme Court heard his case and knocked down UVA's policy that infringed upon the free speech rights of Christians at the University of Virginia.

Young America's Foundation, along with Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF), filed a lawsuit against California State University – Los Angeles for violating the free speech rights of our Young Americans for Freedom chapter leaders when they hosted Ben Shapiro.



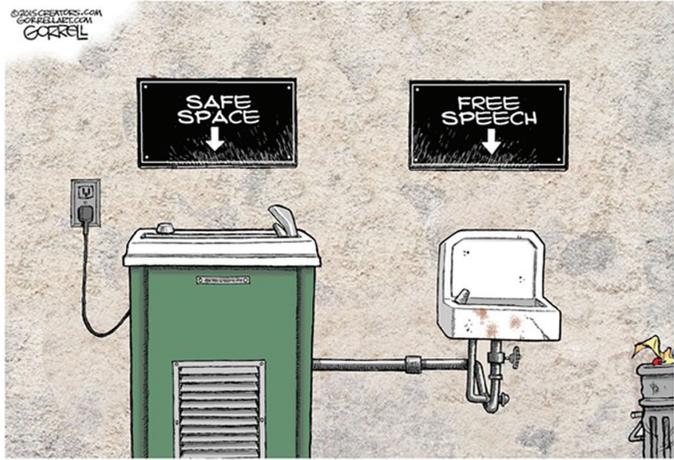
National Conservative Student Conference attendee Floyd Brown is arrested for demonstrating outside of the Soviet Union's Embassy in Washington, D.C., in 1983.

Bringing Free Speech Advocates to Campus

Since these landmark Supreme Court decisions, Young America's Foundation has come to the defense of many other students who have had their free speech rights undermined by leftist professors and administrators. Often, we only need to expose the intolerant Left's actions to the national media to correct the violations.

One of the Foundation's most effective tools in advancing free speech, however, comes in the form of speakers themselves. Young America's Foundation's campus lecture program—unmatched by any other conservative organization—brings today's leading conservative speakers to high school and college campuses where they advocate for the ideas absent (or worse, banned) from most classrooms and campus quads.

Our speakers—prominent authors, policy officials, media personalities, and others—challenge the leftist status quo on the campuses they visit. They debunk today's popular leftist notions, including "safe spaces," "microaggressions," and "trigger warnings," which intimidate students into being silent.



By permission Bob Gorrell and Creators Syndicate, Inc.

These key speakers effectively challenge liberal arguments in front of large audiences, giving students, faculty, and administrators opportunities to hear conservative views directly and not through the filter of the mainstream media or the professors themselves. In addition, the large audiences attending Young America’s Foundation’s campus lectures underscore that young people are tired of never-ending liberal indoctrination.

Free Speech Resources

In addition to our lecture program, Young America’s Foundation is continually developing new resources and materials for students to utilize at their schools.

Throughout our history, we have created and sent students compelling posters advocating free speech and highlighting leftist hypocrisy.

The Foundation’s Campus Free Speech Box is sent to students upon request and includes everything a student club needs to begin promoting free speech. The kit includes flyers, posters, stickers, t-shirts, and pocket-size copies of the United States Constitution for easy distribution on campus.



Complementing our many student resources, the Foundation’s program and legal team also work directly with our young activists when liberal administrators, student groups, or professors attack their rights. Additionally, at nearly every Foundation conference and seminar, students receive guidance and training on how to stand up for their rights in the face of hostile campus leftists.

All of these activities and resources—from lectures to training to media exposure—ensure our students are not alone in their efforts to advance freedom on their campuses.

As Ronald Reagan said, “Young America’s Foundation programs offer invaluable assistance to young men and women searching for the encouragement and understanding necessary to reinforce the values of a free society.”

With the help of our thousands of student volunteers and the generous Americans who support our shared cause of freedom, we will continue to offer this necessary assistance to young people nationwide.



Young America’s Foundation’s “Campus Free Speech Box” provides students with a variety of materials to help defend their rights to express their values and ideas at their schools.

Four Policies Universities Use to Violate Free Speech

By Jordan Lorence
Senior Counsel, Alliance Defending Freedom

The following are abridged remarks by Jordan Lorence given at Young America's Foundation's Road to Freedom Seminar at the Foundation's headquarters in Reston, Virginia.

Introduction

I work in Washington, D.C., for Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF) where I handle a lot of our Supreme Court cases. My job allows me to travel to college campuses and participate in debates, mainly at law schools around the country. I feel smacked in the face every time I arrive and have to confront the liberal and secular craziness common on so many campuses. I'm in my little cocoon at ADF, island hopping between Fox News and the Heritage Foundation, I forget the hostile environment so many conservative students have to face. I just come and go, but those of you on campus know far better how bad it is getting.

Private vs. Government Entities

Only the government can violate the Constitution. If you understand this principle, you already know more about the Constitution than about 75% of Americans. Many people get confused when they think about their Constitutional rights at a government-run, public university as opposed to a private university.



Artwork by Joel Aaron Carlson

Think about it this way. The police cannot come into your bedroom and search your dresser without probable cause and a warrant. But your mom can. So if your mom says, “What’s this that I’ve found in your dresser drawer?” You can’t say, “Hey, did you have probable cause and a warrant?” It doesn’t matter because your mom is not the government.

So, if you are at any type of government school, a community college, a public university, they have to obey the Constitution. They may not view themselves as government officials who have to obey the First Amendment, but they do. Sometimes you have to remind them of this reality. They can’t censor offensive speech just because they think its best for you.

No Right to Be Not Offended

I want to talk about four mechanisms that we've seen employed by public universities to abridge freedom of speech. But before I get to these, I want to address a general principle that intersects with these mechanisms: **You have no right not to be offended.** This may surprise you given recent events at many public universities.

The Supreme Court has repeatedly reiterated the principle that there is no right not to be offended. Yet, given what is going on at many campuses—students removing posters they disagree with or blocking speakers they don't like—you'd think the main purpose of the Constitution is to protect people from being offended.

You might remember several years ago there was a Supreme Court case involving the Westboro Baptist Church picketing funerals. The incidents were abhorrent, but I believe the Supreme Court came to the right result. It was during the height of the war in Afghanistan and Iraq, and church members would picket fallen soldiers funerals saying, "this is God's judgment for

Ben Shapiro to Whiney Mizzou Students: Toughen Up Spoiled Children

Katie Pavlich | Nov 20, 2015



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embracing homosexual behavior," and other relatedly absurd accusations, even though it had absolutely nothing to do with homosexual rights.

States began passing laws saying you can't picket funerals. Or if you do, you have to keep a certain distance away. The Supreme Court in *Snyder v. Phelps* struck these laws down and said there is no constitutional right to separate yourself from others speaking things you find offensive. Nothing in the Constitution protects you from being offended.

#1: Speech Codes

There are four main mechanisms that we've seen employed by public universities to abridge freedom of speech. They are speech codes, speech zones, misuse of student fees, and nondiscrimination policies.

The first one of these, speech codes, are probably the number one offender of this false doctrine that you have a right to be free of offensive speech. According to the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE), an excellent organization in Philadelphia, more than 45% of public universities have speech codes that basically ban offensive speech.

So public universities will put in place a policy that says something like, "You can't say things that are harmful, offensive, or derogatory." They are very broad, vague policies that say you basically can't offend somebody. One of my favorite examples was from Penn State that said, "At Penn State, intolerance will not be tolerated."

Frequently, running afoul of these policies is in the ear of the beholder. So if you say, "I think abortion is wrong," but a woman here says, "I feel offended by that," you may be punished. It is a very subjective rule.

There was a case that ADF litigated, where [a conservative club] at San Francisco State had an anti-terrorism rally where they denounced Islamic terrorism. As a piece of street theatre,



they took a Hamas flag and threw it on the ground and trampled around it in a circle like a scene from the Middle East. What they did not realize was that the Hamas flag had a passage from the Quran on it. A group of Muslim students filed a complaint saying this was hate speech to trample the flag with a passage from the Quran on it. The group was found guilty of offensive speech, and they reached out to ADF. We filed a lawsuit and a federal judge said “I cannot believe this case is before my court.” The charges were so flagrantly unconstitutional.

The federal judge said you couldn’t punish people for engaging in offensive speech. They were vindicated. Yet, these sort of speech codes persist.

Speech codes become problematic when they are overbroad—like when they prohibit speech that is “offensive” or “hateful.” But content-based censorship is not the only way some speech codes shut down discourse on campus. We’ve also seen policies that deem certain subjects “controversial” and require that both sides of the debate be presented.

At Spokane Falls Community College, there was a student who was part of the Spokane Falls Christian Fellowship. She wanted to host a pro-life event on the anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*. To do so, she had to get a permit from school officials to secure a room. They pushed back on the pro-life event saying that, because abortion was a “controversial issue” according to the college’s speech codes, the Christian Fellowship would be required to present both sides.

Now, of course, there were groups, organizing on campus to condemn Guantanamo Bay without a pro-military alternative. So basically the only controversial things in the eyes of these school officials were conservative topics. It wasn’t even a neutral principle. Even if these rules had been evenly applied, they would not have been constitutional. But, when they’re not even consistent, they are doubly unconstitutional.

So she contacted us, and we filed a lawsuit. A federal judge struck this down in two seconds, saying you cannot force groups to bring the other side into these types of situations.



#2: Speech Zones

Free speech zones are another phenomenon that we’re seeing. They usually come in two different scenarios, one of them for handing out literature and another for rallies.

Lets say your group wants to hand out copies of the Constitution. The free speech zone policies at your school may require you to go to a specific place on campus, usually in outer Mongolia, and stay within eight square feet. And you stand there.

We had one case in Yuba City Community College where



YAF activist Jolie Ballantyne, who now serves as the Foundation’s conference director, protests Penn State University’s “Free Speech Zones.”



Thrin Short and her sister, Joan, share their story of being assaulted by a leftist professor at the University of California, Santa Barbara while they were distributing pro-life literature.

a student wanted to hand out evangelistic tracts. Soon, a policeman came and ticketed him. He said the school had a little place on campus where the student was supposed to stand. It's open for two hours a week. Students get free speech rights for two hours a week. Tuesdays and Thursdays, noon to one (you need to get a permit too!). All other times, handing out literature anywhere else violates campus policy.

And again we had a federal judge who said, "Are you kidding me?" I think it's tragic.

Some of these speech zone requirements are so broad, if you were talking to somebody on campus and said, "I keep all my contact information on a business card, why don't you email me, and we'll get together later this week." That would be a violation of the policy if you were not standing in the speech zone.

On one campus if you hand someone your phone number on a sticky note and then handed it to another student, that would violate the speech zone. If you've had an undergraduate class in First Amendment law, you would understand that these policies are grossly unconstitutional.

Another variation on the speech zone restricts spontaneous rallies. You can't march from one end of campus to the other unless you have a permit. Those activities are viewed as very, very regulated. And what we frequently find is that if you're Black Lives Matter, you don't need a permit, you can just be spontaneous and march. But if you're pro-life or marching for some conservative cause, then we have to highly regulate you. Be on the look out for inconsistent application of the rules.

#3: Student Fees

Student fees started innocuously enough. They were voluntarily levied on students to defray the shared costs of things like graduation gowns and the construction of student unions and ball fields. In the 1960's, these funds began to be diverted to activist leftwing groups and away from religious groups.

In 1996, I was contacted by Scott Southworth who was a law student at the University of Wisconsin Law School. He and three of his friends were pro-life and were upset their student fees were supporting groups that worked against the pro-life cause. They wanted an opportunity to opt out of the student fee, much like opting out of paying mandatory union dues. We basically tried to expand that theory to university fees. A federal district court in Wisconsin ruled in our favor, a federal appeals court in Chicago ruled in our favor, and we were on a roll. The Supreme Court took the case and hit the breaks halfway. What they said was a university can force students to pay the mandatory fee that funds ideological groups, provided the conservative groups have equal opportunity to compete for the money.

So the key with student fees is this: do you have equal access to the money? If your school has a policy that says we will not fund religious groups, it is unconstitutional. There are several cases that touch on this. The one that I did was for Badger Catholics at University of Wisconsin. The school said they could not receive money for prayer, worship, or for proselytizing—effectively disqualifying them for applying for fees. That is blatantly unconstitutional.

If the school officials say something like the following:

- “You are controversial, therefore you don’t get money.”
- “You are political so you don’t get money for your event to bring Walter Williams on campus.”
- “Your speaker is controversial, and we’re expecting trouble on campus. Therefore, we want to force you to pay extra for security.”

They are not being evenhanded with student fees.

This last example is particularly common. The Supreme Court has said it is unconstitutional to impose security fees like a tax on controversial speech.

#4: Non Discrimination Policies

To recap, we have speech codes, speech zones, student fees and, there’s one more I want to add: nondiscrimination policies. As a YAF activist you are more likely to run into the first three I describe. But I want to bring up this fourth issue because you may run into it. And that is the requirement that a student organization have a non-discrimination policy.

This is the way many public universities operate: they will say we fully support students voluntarily organizing into clubs and associations. But, we want to have some formal process to guide awarding meeting space on campus or student fees. That is, you have to apply and be officially recognized as a “Recognized Student Organization” on campus. Depending on what state university you go to, they’ll say things like, if you’re an unregistered student group you can meet on campus but you’ll have to pay a fee. Whereas, if you’re a registered student organization, you get either free space or you pay a lot less than an outside non-registered student organization.

For a long time, including a non-discrimination policy for your group was a bureaucratic hoop to jump through. But, it didn’t really affect much until the university started saying, “Well, we may be a secular university, but we still worship the god of



YAFers at the University of Michigan tear down a mock Berlin Wall during Freedom Week to protest the Left’s use of safe spaces and microaggressions to infringe on free speech.

diversity and non-discrimination.” The statement of faith your student organization must make is that you don’t discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, gender identity and/or expression, gender orientation and the rest of the laundry list you’ve all seen.

Now, I think there is a legitimate application of non-discrimination policies for groups like the ski club. We don’t want the ski club to be able to say we don’t like Hindus or Latvians and prevent them from joining. That would be something that I would think a university could ban. Where the characteristic has no relevance to what the group does.

This is where we’ve been running into a big problem. These policies ban discrimination on the basis of religion. If a religious group on campus, like a Jewish group, says in order to teach the Torah you have to be a Jewish rabbi who actually believes in Judaism, that means that the Buddhist and the atheist could not be the Torah teacher. Under a very reductionist, mechanistic way of interpreting the policy, many campuses have said that’s religious discrimination. Even though its idiotic the way they are doing it.



We would show policies in these cases where the gay group on campus would say you must agree with our beliefs in order to be a member or officer. The environmentalist club would say you must be in agreement with the tenants of our beliefs about “no lumberjacks or deer hunters are going to join our environmentalist club.” And that’s permitted. A demand of ideological adherence is permitted because its not race, religion, sex, etc.

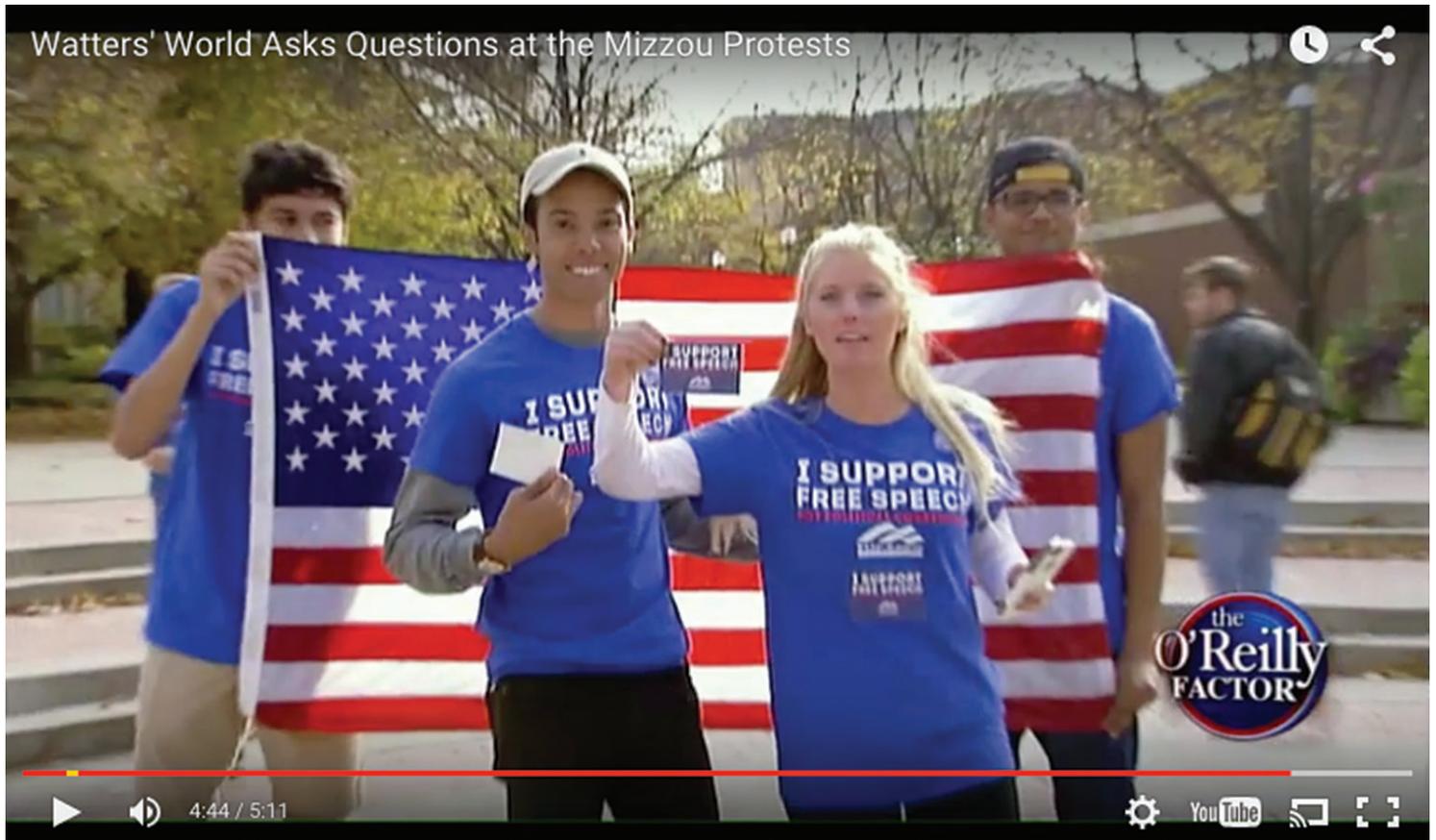
In the one case that got up to the Supreme Court, dealing with non-discrimination policies on campus, *Christian Legal Society v. Martinez*, the school introduced a twist saying what they really



require is that *all* student groups must allow *all* students to join.

In a 5-4 decision, the Supreme Court decided to take them at their word, that they honestly hoped to apply an “all comers” policy. So every group has to allow non-adherents. The school even argued this crazy premise that there’s value in having people that disagree with you join your group. They said it furnishes debate and debate is good on college campuses.

Yes, its good to have debate on campus, like the libertarian group battling and debating the socialists, but you don’t accomplish



Fox News' O'Reilly Factor features Young America's Foundation student activists at the University of Missouri standing up for free speech in the midst of leftist campus protests.

healthy debate by having one group made up of both libertarians and socialists. That's just stupid.

Now, of course, there have been more and more campuses that are adopting these “all comers” policies, and the Supreme Court has upheld them. What has been restraining their widespread acceptance has been left-wingers at universities that really don't want to apply this across the board. Gay rights groups don't want to allow people who have gone through reparative therapy into their group. They're apostates. The environmentalists don't want deer hunters and the lumberjacks who clear cut forests in their group. So there's been somewhat of a hesitancy at some universities to fully embrace an “all comers” policy.

If administrators start messing with your school's policies on membership and officers or try to say you have to allow people who disagree with you join your group, contact YAF. I am sure they are not enforcing that across the board. I am sure the environmentalist and the abortion groups are not being forced to allow non-adherents to join.

Private Universities (Breach of Contract)

But what if you're at a private school? Unfortunately, that's like your mom going through your dresser drawer. A private college is not the government. They don't have to obey the Constitution.

That, however, does not mean they are free to restrict speech. I'm going to talk about these restrictions in constitutional terms, like they cannot censor your speech or kick your group off campus at a private college, but there is a different set of rules at play. A private university may be legally restrained from violating your free speech rights, but it depends on their policies and how they are applied.

Let me give you two examples. The first is Liberty University—it is a private Christian university dedicated to advancing the gospel of Jesus Christ. Their mission has a Christian point of view. If you don't like that or are working against that mission, you can be kicked out. You either like it, love it, or leave it. Now there's



University of Michigan YAF leader Grant Strobl, who now serves as YAF's national chairman, appears on Fox & Friends to discuss his school's attempt to ban a screening of the movie, American Sniper.

a second university, it's private and secular, let's call it Granola College up in Vermont. They say, “Hey, man, we're really open to openness here. We sit around in drum circles and talk about different ideas. We believe that throwing ideas around is really important and would never censor you. In fact we'll give you an extra bowl of granola for mixing it up. Therefore come and spend your tuition money here at Granola College in Vermont, and learn and interact with a diversity of ideas.”

If you're familiar with contract law, you'll see that Granola College has contractually made an offer to you. You agree to the terms, pay the tuition, and go to Granola College because you were promised freedom of speech. Once you get there, things change. They did not realize you wanted to talk about free markets, the pro-life movement or Christianity, and they boot you from campus. They have breached their contract. The terms of their contract that induced you to come onto their campus were not honored.

This sort of lawsuit would be a private matter in state court over breach of contract. I know these have been successful even though it has not been the weapon de jour at ADF. If you're at groovy, Granola College in Vermont, then I think its good to hold these free speech policies accountable when they are not equally applied.

What to Do If Your Free Speech Rights Are Violated

Sadly, if you are a conservative activist on a high school or college campus, your free speech rights will most likely be infringed upon at some point. When your rights are undermined, what should you do? How do you fight for your right to free speech, guaranteed not by your university but by the U.S. Constitution?

1. **Stay in contact with Young America's Foundation to develop a strategy for responding to the controversy on campus.** We, at the Foundation, have likely dealt with an issue such as yours in the past, so we will be in a position to walk you through the possible steps. Email Foundation Vice President Patrick Coyle at pcoyle@yaf.org or give us a call at 800-USA-1776.
2. **Gather the support of the executive board members and other members of your chapter.** Presenting a united front will be far more effective and manageable than appearing dividend and uncertain.
3. **Team up with other allies at your school.** Also look into other clubs, professors, and community leaders who value the importance of free speech. You may even find some liberal students or groups who will stand with you on the importance of free speech.
4. **Maintain records of all of your contacts with students, school officials, and other parties regarding your campus' free speech controversy.** Key records can include detailed notes, email communications, recorded videos, and recorded in-person conversations (if legally permitted in your state). This is arguably the most important aspect of responding effectively to a violation of your Constitutional rights. Think about it this way: if you don't have evidence something happened, it's almost like it never happened. Your case will

be much stronger if you can share hard evidence.

5. **Order a Campus Free Speech Box to take quick action that will draw publicity to your university's restrictions of your rights.** Use the materials that you receive to ensure the controversy stays prominent in the minds of your peers. In addition, the Foundation can work with you to bring in a prominent conservative speaker to draw further attention to your cause.
6. **Young America's Foundation's team can help you decide whether or not legal action might be necessary, and we have relationships with pro-bono conservative legal organizations that can assist you as well.**
7. **You should not be intimidated by your university.** We understand that standing up to your university administrators is not easy. However, you should remember that you have the same rights as any other student on campus. You should not assume others on campus will stand up and fight for your rights.

The controversy on your campus offers you and your chapter an excellent opportunity to stand up for the principle of free speech. By fighting your school's oppressive regulations, you can win a great victory by securing the free speech rights for all students on your campus.





Quotes on Free Speech

Liberals and conservatives alike support free speech. Here are quotes you can utilize to show broad support for your First Amendment right to free speech.

“If freedom of speech is taken away, then dumb and silent we may be led, like sheep to the slaughter.”

— **President George Washington**

“Freedom is the right to question and change the established way of doing things.”

— **President Ronald Reagan**, *Speech at Moscow State University, May 31, 1988*

“Intolerance of alternative viewpoints is spreading to places that make me, a moderate and a liberal, most uncomfortable.”

— **J.K. Rowling**

“If you seek the removal of freedoms from an opponent simply on the grounds that they have offended you, you have crossed the line to stand alongside tyrants who imprison, torture, and kill on exactly the same justification.”

— **J.K. Rowling**

“I’ve heard of some college campuses where they don’t want to have a guest speaker who, you know, is too conservative. Or they don’t want to read a book if it has language that is offensive to African-Americans, or somehow sends a demeaning signal towards women. I don’t agree with that, either. I don’t agree that you—when you become students at colleges—have to be coddled and protected from different points of view.”

— **President Barack Obama**

“Free speech not only lives, it rocks.”

— **Oprah Winfrey**



“Because if you don’t stand up for the stuff you don’t like, when they come for the stuff you do like, you’ve already lost.”

— **Neil Gaiman**

“Whoever would overthrow the liberty of a nation must begin by subduing the freeness of speech.”

— **Benjamin Franklin**

“If there is a bedrock principle underlying the First Amendment, it is that the government may not prohibit the expression of an idea simply because society finds the idea itself offensive or disagreeable.”

— **Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan, Jr.**,
Texas v. Johnson

“First Amendment freedoms are most in danger when the government seeks to control thought or to justify its laws for that impermissible end. The right to think is the beginning of freedom, and speech must be protected from the government because speech is the beginning of thought.”

— **Supreme Court Justice Anthony M. Kennedy**,
Ashcroft v. Free Speech Coalition

“Those who won our independence believed that the final end of the State was to make men free to develop their faculties; and that in its government the deliberative forces should prevail over the arbitrary. They valued liberty both as an end and as a means. They believed liberty to be the secret of happiness and courage to be the secret of liberty. They believed that freedom to think as you will and to speak as you think are means indispensable to the discovery and spread of political truth; that without free speech and assembly discussion would be futile; that with them, discussion affords ordinarily adequate protection against the dissemination of noxious doctrine; that the greatest menace to freedom is an inert people; that public discussion is a political duty; and that this should be a fundamental principle of the American government.”

— **Supreme Court Justice Louis D. Brandeis**,
Whitney v. California



“If there be time to expose through discussion the falsehood and fallacies, to avert the evil by the processes of education, the remedy to be applied is more speech, not enforced silence.”

— **Supreme Court Justice Louis D. Brandeis**,
Whitney v. California

“Experience should teach us to be most on our guard to protect liberty when the Government’s purposes are beneficent. Men born to freedom are naturally alert to repel invasion of their liberty by evil-minded rulers. The greatest dangers to liberty lurk in insidious encroachment by men of zeal, well-meaning but without understanding.”

— **Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis**,
Olmstead v. U.S.

“Restriction of free thought and free speech is the most dangerous of all subversions. It is the one un-American act that could most easily defeat us.”

— **Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas**

“Censorship reflects a society’s lack of confidence in itself. It is a hallmark of an authoritarian regime...”

— **Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart**,
dissenting *Ginzberg v. United States*

“But, above all else, the First Amendment means that government has no power to restrict expression because of its message, its ideas, its subject matter, or its content.”

— **Supreme Court Justice Justice Thurgood Marshall**,
passage written in his 1972 opinion for the Court
in *Police Department of Chicago v. Mosley*

“Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.”

— **UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights**



“If there is any fixed star in our constitutional constellation, it is that no official, high or petty, can prescribe what shall be orthodox in politics, nationalism, religion, or other matters of opinion or force citizens to confess by word or act their faith therein.”

— **Supreme Court Justice Robert H. Jackson**,
West Virginia State Board of Education v. Barnette

“For, while the particular four-letter word being litigated here is perhaps more distasteful than most others of its genre, it is nevertheless true that one man’s vulgarity is another’s lyric.”

— **Supreme Court Justice John Marshall Harlan**,
Cohen v. California

“Once a government is committed to the principle of silencing the voice of opposition, it has only one way to go, and that is down the path of increasingly repressive measures, until it becomes a source of terror to all its citizens and creates a country where everyone lives in fear.”

— **President Harry Truman**

“If we don’t believe in freedom of expression for people we despise, we don’t believe in it at all.”

— **Noam Chomsky**, speaking in a BBC television
interview with John Pilger on *The Late Show*

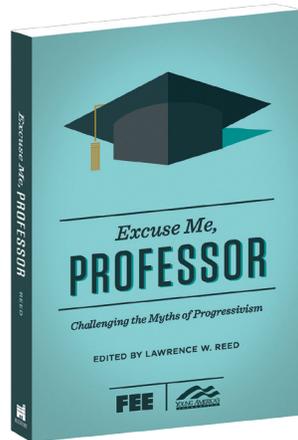
“Without Freedom of Thought, there can be no such Thing as Wisdom; and no such Thing as publick Liberty, without Freedom of Speech.”

— **Benjamin Franklin**

“It can hardly be argued that either students or teachers shed their Constitutional rights to freedom of speech or expression at the schoolhouse gate...the Constitution says that Congress (and the states) may not abridge the rights to free speech. This provision means what it says.”

— **U.S. Supreme Court**, *Tinker v. Des Moines Indep. CMTY. School District*

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Have you been frustrated sitting in a classroom, or just engaged in a conversation with someone, and not known quite how to respond to a typical progressive put-down of free market principles? For example, are you not sure how to respond when a professor says that the free market spoils the environment, that increasing the minimum wage helps the poor, or that free markets exploit women?

Now, Young America's Foundation and the Foundation for Economic Education, in conjunction with Regnery Publishing, have teamed up to provide you with answers to 52 common progressive free market clichés in the new book, *Excuse Me Professor, Debunking the Myths of Progressivism*.

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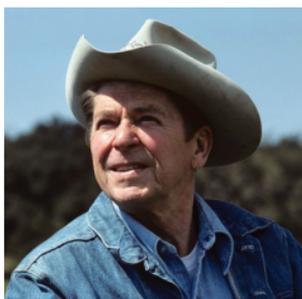


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