

Name: _____

Freedom of Speech in Current Events

Instructions: Answer the policy and constitutional questions for your article. Then, answer the last question about balancing speech protections while maintaining a peaceful society.

Article 1: "[Supreme Court Strikes Down Law Banning Political Apparel at Polling Sites](#)" by Adam Liptak (June 14, 2018)

Policy Question: Should voters be able to wear whatever they want to the polling booth? Or, should the government set reasonable limits?

Constitutional Question: Does the First Amendment allow the government to limit what voters can wear to the polling booth?

Article 2: "[High Schools Threaten to Punish Students Who Kneel During the Anthem](#)" by Christine Hauser (Sept. 17, 2017)

Policy Question: Should students be allowed to protest, such as by kneeling during the national anthem, during school hours or while on school property?

Constitutional Question: Does the First Amendment protect students' right to protest during school hours or while on school property? Does the First Amendment treat students at government-run schools (public schools) differently than students at private schools?

Name: _____

Article 3: [“Colleges Grapple with Where - or Whether - to Draw the Line on Free Speech”](#) by Alina Tugend (June 5, 2018)

Policy Question: Should colleges be able to prohibit controversial or “offensive” public speakers from speaking on campus?

Constitutional Question: Does the First Amendment protect the speech rights of controversial or “offensive” public speakers on college campuses? Does the First Amendment treat government-run colleges (public colleges) differently than private colleges?

Instructions: Discuss and then answer the following question.

Why is it difficult for scholars, judges and lawmakers to balance robust (strong) speech protections with the necessity of maintaining a peaceful society? Provide evidence.