

What Freedom of Speech Means to Me



The 1st Amendment gives Americans the freedom of speech, which is one of the most important unalienable rights our Founding Fathers could have given us. It is critical to exercise the rights we have been given. Freedom of speech to me is standing up for what you believe in and using your voice for good.

When discussing freedom of speech, one can recognize the lack of it in lesser countries. The United States offers this right to all citizens which should not be taken for granted when others will never know what it is like to be able to speak their minds freely. Many U.S. citizens practice this right on a daily basis, but it is crucial to remember those who have differing opinions from our own, still have the right to voice their beliefs.

At my high school, I have earned the role of Editor in Chief of the school's newspaper. My job is to let the students and staff know what is going on on our campus and in our community. I understand firsthand how essential it is for my reporters to exercise this right and speak their mind in our school's newsletters. Many students have had their voices restricted when speaking up for what they believe in by adults, which they do not have to worry about when they are writing their stories. It is necessary for teenagers to believe that their opinion matters or else they will end up spending the rest of their lives believing that they are not capable of making a difference in our country. Freedom of speech is important for humans of all ages to be able to express, whether they are aware of the facts or not, what they have to say matters.

Whether it is helping someone being wrongly accused or even just writing about how a teacher made you feel, stand up for what you believe. Everyone is different and they are not always going to get along, but it is considerate to recognize and understand where they are coming from and accept why they have those beliefs.