

Power Point to accompany the Carolina K-12 lesson plan

Freedom of Religion

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RELIGION







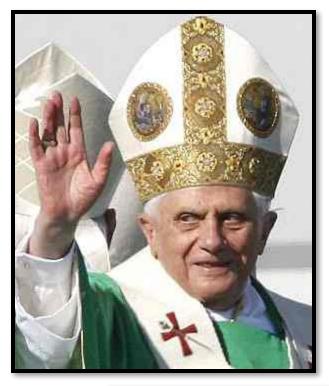
























Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

First Amendment – The Establishment Clause

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Hate crime

- Any of various crimes (assault, defacement of property, etc.) when motivated by hostility to the victim because he/she is a member of a particular group
- Most hate crimes are motivated by racial bias, ethnicity or national origin, religion, sexual orientation and disability.

Post 9/11 Rise in Hate Crimes

- Since 9/11, Muslims, Arabs, Sikhs, South-Asian Americans and other individuals perceived to be of Middle Eastern origin all experienced a rise in hate crimes.
- Hate crimes soared immediately after Sept. 11.The FBI's annual statistical report showed that hate crimes in the United States increased 21 percent from 8,063 in 2000 to 9,730 in 2001.
- The occurrence of reported civil rights complaints continues to increase at mosques and Muslim organizations, rising from 221 cases in 2006 to 564 cases in 2007 10 to 721 cases in 2008 – representing a 28 percent increase.
- There were 118 reported cases of discrimination in schools in 2007 and 153 in 2008 – representing a 31 percent increase.
- Sources:
- <u>http://www.sfgate.com/news/article/FBI-sees-leap-in-anti-Muslim-hate-crimes-9-11-</u> 2750152.php#ixzz24UMWEZYv
- http://www.cair.com/CivilRights/CivilRightsReports.aspx

August 2012 Sikh Temple Shooting

- On August 5, 2012, a mass shooting took place at a Sikh temple in Oak Creek, Wisconsin, with a single gunman killing six people and wounding four others.
- Priests had gathered in the lobby of the large Sikh temple, lunch was being prepared and congregants were arriving for Sunday services when an armed man stepped through the door and started firing.
- In an attack that the police said they were treating as "a domestic terrorist-type incident," the gunman stalked through the temple around 10:30 a.m. Congregants ran for shelter and barricaded themselves in bathrooms and prayer halls, where they made desperate phone calls and sent anguished texts pleading for help as confusion and fear took hold. Witnesses described a scene of chaos and carnage.
- The gunman was an identified white supremacist.
- He shot several people at the temple, including a responding police officer.
- After being shot in the stomach by another officer, the gunman killed himself.



"I think there's got to be a very firm distinction between criticism and persecution. And I think people misunderstand the idea of tolerance often. They think that tolerance is the same thing as lack of criticism. But to me, tolerating somebody else's beliefs is not failing to criticize them, it's not persecuting them for having those beliefs. That is absolutely important. You should not persecute people for their beliefs. But it doesn't mean you can't criticize their beliefs-those are not the same thing. I think people have tended to sort of run these two things together, and they perceive criticism as if it was persecution. But it isn't."

Colin McGinn, British philosopher