

# Cerritos College Library

In the Wilford Michael Library & Learning Resource Center

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## FIRST AMENDMENT

Your search for information on the **First Amendment** can include books, periodicals, online databases, and authoritative Internet resources.

### Books

Use the **Library Catalog** located on the Cerritos College **Library Home Page** to find books on your topic that are available in the Cerritos College Library. Books can provide a broad overview of a topic or in-depth information. You can search for books by *Author, Title, Subject, or Keyword*.

Listed below are some *Library of Congress Subject Headings* used in the catalog for books relating to the First Amendment. Use these terms to *Search by Subject*. Remember, this list is by no means conclusive.

Assembly, Right of – United States  
Censorship – United States  
Church and state in the United States  
Church and state – United States  
Freedom of expression – United States  
Freedom of religion – United States  
Freedom of speech – United States  
Freedom of the press – United States  
Government and the press – United States  
Government information – United States  
Hate speech – United States

Internet and children – United States  
Internet – Social aspects  
Internet access for library users – Law and legislation  
Internet access for library users – United States  
Libraries – Censorship – Law and legislation  
Pornography – Law and legislation – United States  
Public records – Law and legislation – United States  
Obscenity Law  
Students – Civil rights – United States  
United States – Constitution – Amendments – 1<sup>st</sup>  
United States Constitutional Amendments

### Selected Reference Books

Reference books are a good starting point for your research because they help you become better acquainted with your topic. Listed below are some reference books that may be useful in your research.

**Banned in the U.S.A.: A Reference Guide to Book Censorship in Schools and Public Libraries**  
REFERENCE Z658 .U5 F64 2002

**Censorship: Opposing Viewpoints**  
REFDESK Z658 .U5 C433 2005

**Constitutional Amendments, 1789 to the Present**  
REFERENCE KF4557 .C665 2000

**Free Expression and Censorship in America: An Encyclopedia**  
REFERENCE Z658 .U5 F644 1997

**Freedom of Religion Decisions of the United States Supreme Court**  
REFERENCE KF4783 .F74 1996

**Freedom of the Press Decisions of the United States Supreme Court**  
REFERENCE KF4774 .F74 1996

**Censorship in America: A Reference Handbook**  
REFERENCE Z658 .U5 H84 1999

**The Complete Bill of Rights: The Drafts, Debates, Sources, and Origins**  
REFERENCE KF4744 .C6 1997

**Encyclopedia of Constitutional Amendments, Proposed Amendments, and Amending Issues, 1789-1995**  
REFERENCE KF4557 .V555 1996

**Free Speech**  
REFDESK KF4772 .Z9 F735 2006

**Freedom of Speech Decisions of the United States Supreme Court**  
REFERENCE KF4772 .A7 H24 1996

**The Internet: Opposing Viewpoints**  
REFDESK HM851 .I575 2005

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### Selected Reference Books Continued

**Obscenity and Pornography Decisions of the United States Supreme Court**

REFERENCE KF9444 .A7 O313 2000

**Shapers of the Great Debate on the Freedom of Religion: A Biographical Dictionary**

REFERENCE BL640 .W75 2005

**Religion and American Law: An Encyclopedia**

REFERENCE KF4783 .A68 R45 2000

**Students' Rights**

REFDESK KF4150 .S777 2009

**Religion and the Law: A Dictionary**

REFERENCE KF4865 .A68 A54 1999

### Finding Magazine, Journal, and Newspaper Articles

Journals and magazines usually provide the most current information on a topic. Journal articles are more scholarly or professional while magazine articles tend to be shorter and more general. Newspaper articles, while not usually scholarly or professional, can give you the most current news and some additional facts on your topic.

To find articles on your topic, use one of the online databases listed below. These databases usually provide full-text articles on almost every topic. They are available via the [Library Home Page](#). Conduct your search in these databases by using subject headings and keywords similar to those you used to locate books.

**Online Databases for information on the First Amendment:**

*EBSCOHost*  
*Gale Databases*  
*NewsBank*

*Ethnic News Watch*  
*Gender Watch*  
*ProQuest*

For remote access to the library databases, login to the [Library](#) using your Cerritos College ID number.

For historical research, the Library also has print indexes that must be used to find older articles, generally anything published before 1985.

### Internet Sites

The Internet can be a valuable source for supplementing the information you have gathered from books and periodicals. It is important that you evaluate the information you get from the Internet to determine if it is reliable and useful to your research. A few Internet sites that may be useful are listed here.

**The Bill of Rights**

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/ourdocs/billofrights.html>

Amendments 1-10 of the Constitution.

**The First Amendment – An Overview**

[http://www.law.cornell.edu/topics/first\\_amendment.html](http://www.law.cornell.edu/topics/first_amendment.html)

By the Cornell Law School Legal Information Institute.

**The First Amendment of the Constitution**

<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/constitution/html/amdt1.html>

Analysis and interpretation annotations of cases decided by the Supreme Court of the United States prepared by the Congressional Research Service of the Library of Congress.

## FIRST AMENDMENT

### Organization Homepages

#### **California First Amendment Coalition**

<http://www.cfac.org/>

This organization is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization whose purpose is to "promote and defend the people's right to know" -- that is, your freedom of information (to find out) and freedom of expression (to speak out) about matters of public interest.

#### **First Amendment Lawyers Association**

<http://www.firstamendmentlawyers.org/>

FALA is an organization of lawyers dedicated to the defense of the First Amendment of the United States Constitution, and who represent clients in anti-censorship matters.

#### **The First Amendment Project**

<http://www.thefirstamendment.org/>

The First Amendment Project (FAP) is a non-profit, public interest law firm established in 1991 to protect, defend, and further the rights to participate in and know about government activities and speak freely about public issues.

#### **The Freedom Forum**

<http://www.freedomforum.org/>

News, commentary, analysis, and other information on the First Amendment.

#### **Institute for First Amendment Studies**

<http://www.publiceye.org/ifas/>

This institute is a national clearinghouse for information on theocratic movements in America.

#### **Notable First Amendment Cases**

<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/oif/firstamendment/courtcases/courtcases.cfm>

From the American Library Association's First Amendment Page.

#### **Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press**

<http://www.rcfp.org/>

A nonprofit organization dedicated to providing free legal help to journalists and news organizations.