

Freedom and Expression

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Introduction

The freedom of speech or the freedom of expression is the right of a person in order to express the feeling and the idea that an individual feels. The freedom of speech in USA has been given by the constitution and is accompanied by the protection provided by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. But this freedom is not regarded as the free form of speech but is restricted by the time, place, or manner restrictions on speech.

Discussion

The democracy of a country is accompanied by the freedom to express the views and the power of an individual citizen to make a speech. The freedom of speech or the right to express the feeling are protected by the by the first amendment of the constitution and has been put into practice on December 15, 1791. Under the sections and the amendment of these laws, every citizen has a fundamental right of expression, opinion, belief and thought. This also includes the freedom of communication as well as the freedom to express a viewpoint. These rights of an individual are safeguarded by the government under these constitution. The methods of expression can be of many forms like commercial expression, political expression etc. It also include the restriction on the topics that create ethical issues (Foerstel, 1997). But there are certain issues that cannot be addressed on the free forum under constitution and the law. Especially all those areas that make a threat to the dignity of the country and all those secret information that can threat security of a country. This freedom to express the feeling and the viewpoints has been addressed under the e European Convention on Human Rights as well.

It has been quoted in the law that there will be no restrictions made by the government when an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise. But this freedom of expression is followed by certain restrictions. These restrictions could be specifying the speech zone. These restrictions also include those speeches that are responsible for the generating the riots, especially those that introduces ethical and ethnic disturbances in the country(Magee, 2002). Free speech rights still need constant, vigilant protection. There have been many issues that are raised under the constitution and the amendment regarding the freedom of expression and the speech.

The freedom to express is a milestone to construct the democracy and to regulate it. There are many social values that are regulated by the freedom of speech. This is due to fundamental right that many social evils like the child abuse; pornography and rape are brought into the focus and to raise the voice as a whole against these evils (Moon, 2000). This is an important tool as it ensures the idea of individual self-fulfillment, to profess the truth and its related norms in the society and a method that is governed by the social values and maintain theses social values. Further, it is also a method of participation of different classes and the groups as a whole for the betterment of the society.

Conclusion

The society is can only progress as a whole when these right are used for the betterment and the progress and to safeguard the rights of each other. It is the responsibility of every citizen to ensure that this freedom will not be a reason to hurt the feeling and does not make an attack on an individual.

References

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