

Freedom of Expression

Protecting or Limiting Free Speech in Our Democracy

Freedoms

What freedoms do we have in the United States?



The First Amendment

“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.”



The Five Freedoms



- Religion
- Speech
- Press
- Assembly
- Petition

Pure v Symbolic Speech

Pure Speech

- What people say or write



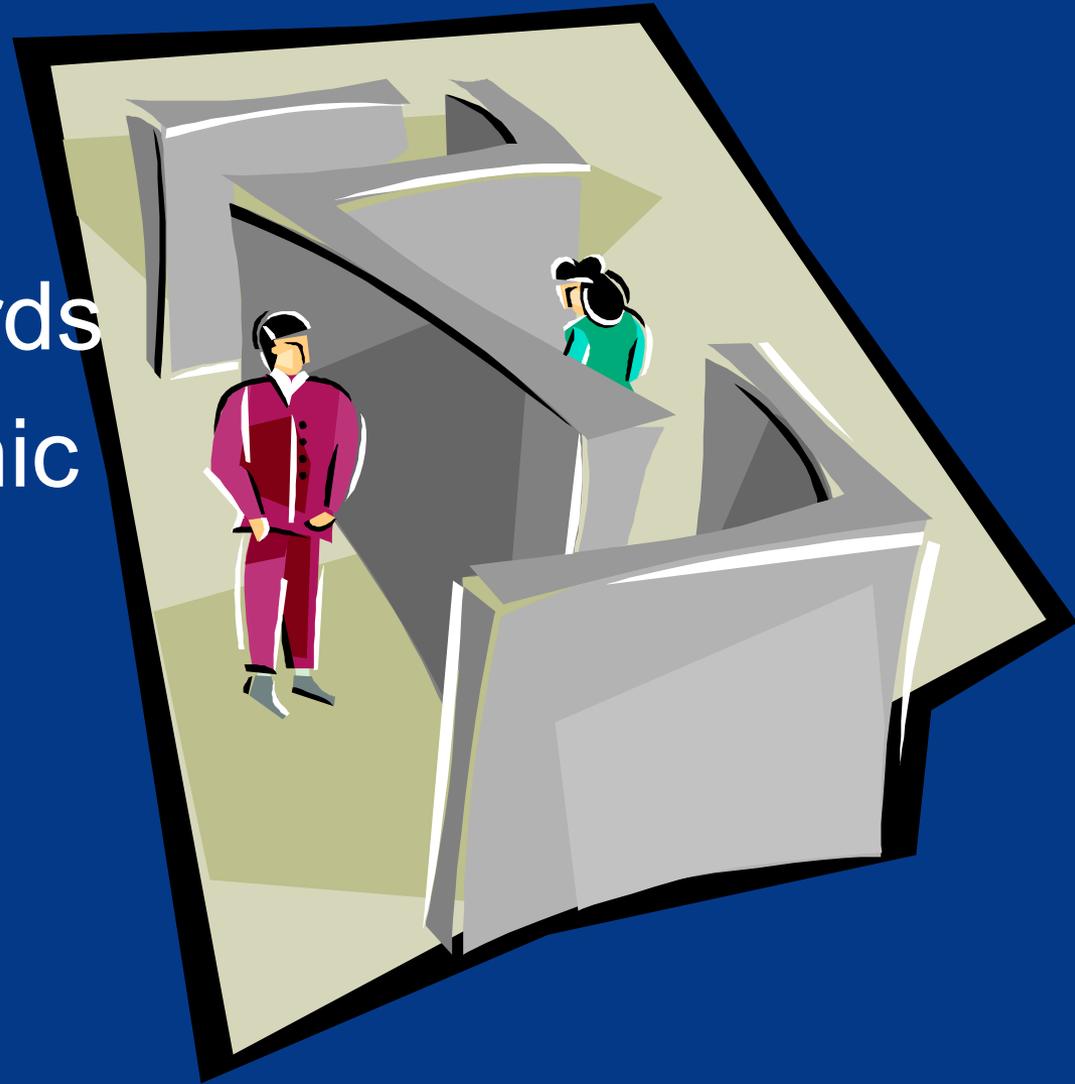
Symbolic Speech

- What people communicate nonverbally



Limits on Free Expression

- Defamation
- Fighting Words
- Causing Panic
- Obscenity
- Commercial Speech



Hate Speech



Speech that attacks or disparages a person or group of people based on their social or ethnic group

Deliberation Question

In our democracy, should the government protect or limit hate speech?



Deliberation Guidelines

- Read the handout
- Complete the worksheet
- Work in pairs to share thoughts written on the worksheet
- Share outcomes with the class



Wrapping Up

- What's one thing new that you learned today?
- How do you think you can use this information in your daily life?

