

1st AMENDMENT - ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RIGHTS & DUTY

By Alan Myers

How vitally important is the 1st Amendment? Let's have a look, shall we? The first 10 Amendments to the U.S. Constitution were ratified effective December 15, 1791. The 1st Amendment states - "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 of the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances." Please note the one common noun that begins with a capital letter. Capitalizing the first letter of a common noun that does not begin a sentence was the writer's way to emphasize the significance or importance of that word.

Let us go back in time and remember that your new country had recently and successfully completed a War of Independence against England. At that time, England was the world's biggest military power. England had an overreaching and tyrannical central government sometimes called the King of England. At this time, you and your neighbors are very "State" oriented and do not have a strong "national" identity. Therefore, when you all think of Freedom, you are thinking about your State being Free and secure from a new federal government (fed gov) that would be created as a result of the U.S. Constitution being ratified.

This 1st Amendment tells me that the newly to be created fed gov is informed and knows full well that We The People have the unfettered right to pray about it, speak about it, write about it, gather about it and complain about it. The fed gov can not make any law that tells, We The People, how and or when to pray, what we can and can not say, what we can and can not write, what we can and can not assemble about and what we can and can not complain about. If the fed gov is doing any of this, it is our Constitutional Duty to stop their action NOW. Our Duty is that, We The People,. must Preserve, Protect and Defend the Constitution, especially from the fed gov.

Let's begin our study of the 1st Amendment. The 1st Amendment begins with "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof;". I think we all know what Congress is. If you are not sure, do read Article I of the Constitution. For me, shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion means Congress, you will not legislate or pass a law that in any way shape or form would create a religion for our new country. Hey Congress, you will also not pass a law that in any way shape or form prohibits or instructs me on how I can or can not practice my religious beliefs.

Next, or abridging the freedom of speech. To abridge is to make something shorter, to restrict, or curtail. Freedom is the power or right to act without being hindered or restrained. And speech is to be able to express one's self with words and sounds. Therefore, the fed gov was not granted, and thus, has no power whatsoever that would allow or permit it to restrict or curtail our power and right to speak with words and sounds, our thoughts and beliefs.

Next, or of the press. The fed gov was not granted, and thus, has no power whatsoever that would allow or permit it to restrict or curtail our power and our right to write and publish our thoughts and beliefs.

Next, or the right of the people peacefully to assemble. To assemble is to come together in one place for a common reason or purpose. To do so peacefully is to come together in one place for a lawful purpose and do so in a calm manner. Therefore, the fed gov was not granted, and thus, has no power whatsoever that would allow or permit it to restrict or curtail our power and our right to meet and assemble peacefully to discuss and share our thoughts and beliefs and if needed, Calls to Action..

Finally, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances. To petition means We The People, as acknowledged by the Constitution, have the right and power, to complain to our fed gov about our fed gov. A redress of grievances is to seek a remedy for a wrong. Therefore, the fed gov was not granted, and thus, has no power whatsoever that would allow or permit it to restrict or curtail our power and our right to seek a remedy for a wrong committed by fed gov.

A short way to say this is that the fed gov has no business in our business. The fed gov was created to deal with the rest of the world for the then 13 States. Who said 13 is an unlucky number? Only if two or more States were squabbling did the fed gov have the granted authority to intervene as a mediator. Each State was in charge of its own business. Any attempts by the fed gov to do otherwise are Un-Constitutional.

Speaking of Peaceful, how Peaceful was Portland and Seattle back in 2020? If disturbing the peace, being engaged in arson, looting, vandalism, destruction of property and assaults during daytime and nighttime protests are to be considered "peaceful", then I don't want to experience a non-peaceful event.

Here are a few comments I pulled from the web to discuss:
"The right to freedom of speech allows individuals to express themselves without government interference or regulation". I agree. The fed gov has no authority, right or power to interfere or regulate my 1st Amendment Rights. Absolutely.

"The Supreme Court requires the government to provide substantial justification for interference with the right of free speech when it attempts to regulate the content of the speech." WHAT?? What part of the Constitution granted the supreme court the power or authority to require substantial justification to violate my 1st Amendment Rights? None. What part of "Congress shall make no law" do the supremes not understand?

"A few narrow categories of speech are not protected from government restrictions. The main such categories are incitement, defamation, fraud, obscenity, child pornography, fighting words, and threats". Shall make no law means shall make no law. The fed gov was not granted any power or authority with which to pass laws effecting, impacting or governing, in any way, shape of form any person's First Amendment Rights. Period.

Some people believe that the Constitution is the supreme law of the land. Well, it's not. The Constitution is not a law it is a Contract. The original parties to the Contract were the 13 States. One result of the ratification of the Contract is that the fed gov came into existence, which means, the fed gov did not exist until the Contract was ratified. Therefore, since the Constitution is not a law, but a Contract, the Constitution can not be the supreme law of the land.

As a Contract, the Constitution only applies to those areas and items as written and granted to the fed gov in the Contract. Therefore, the Constitution does not apply to everything that happens in the 50 States. If the power or authority was not granted to the fed gov in Article I, Section 8, then the fed gov has no place at the table. One must look to a State's Constitution to see who has what granted power or authority.

A few last items to please keep in mind when you are thinking or are talking about the Contract. The proper response to being part of a Contract is to Read, Understand and be willing and able to Follow the Contract. Making broad interpretations of the contents of a Contract is not proper or correct. One can not change or amend the Constitution by passing a law. If a law does not follow the Constitution, then the law is unlawful. Finally, the original Constitution contained 7 Articles. Every Amendment that has been properly ratified is actually considered an Amending Article. To date, there have been 27 ratified Amendments, and Amendment 18 was repealed by Amendment 21.

Our Duty is to Preserve, Protect and Defend our Constitution, even from fed gov. We The People must work to return fed gov back to its Constitution limits. Meet with others, find your Call To Action and begin.

To all you Lovers and Defenders of Liberty, Freedom, Rights, Individuality and Equality of Opportunity, to all you Patriots out there, yeah, you know who you are, until next time, may you be and stay safe and well. Patriot out.