

The Ten Commandments

- 1. I AM THE LORD THY GOD: THOU SHALT NOT HAVE STRANGE GODS BEFORE ME.**
- 2. THOU SHALT NOT TAKE THE NAME OF THE LORD THY GOD IN VAIN.**
- 3. KEEP THE SABBATH HOLY.**
- 4. HONOUR THY FATHER AND THY MOTHER.**
- 5. THOU SHALT NOT KILL.**
- 6. THOU SHALT NOT COMMIT ADULTERY.**
- 7. THOU SHALT NOT STEAL.**
- 8. THOU SHALT NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS AGAINST THY NEIGHBOR.**
- 9. THOU SHALT NOT COVET THY NEIGHBOR'S WIFE.**
- 10. THOU SHALT NOT COVET THY NEIGHBOR'S GOODS.**

For nearly three centuries, the Ten Commandments held a prominent position within American public education, serving as a foundational moral code taught in classrooms across the nation. Their inclusion was deeply rooted in the belief that the principles outlined in the Commandments - such as respecting authority, upholding honesty, and avoiding violence - were essential for building a just and ethical society, aligning with the values considered fundamental to American culture.