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FIRST #1

What is the Most Important Amendment?

By: Emma Weber

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The Bill of Rights is one of the top third most important documents in American history followed by the Declaration of Independence, and the Constitution of the United States. The Bill of Rights is the first ten amendments to the Constitution, whose job is to spell out Americans' rights in relation to their government. Some agree that the first amendment is the most important part of the Bill of Rights due to the fact it provides several rights protections. The first amendment gives us the right to express ourselves without fear of punishment, and it gives us access to information and protection from prior restraint. On the other hand, people believe the first amendment is contentious because it can't protect internet and social media users who forget that free speech is a free pass to saying whatever you want without facing repercussions, it also does not cover all parts of speech. The most important amendment in the Bill of Rights is the first amendment.

On December 15, 1791, ten amendments to the Constitution were ratified by the states. The first 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 the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.". Freedom of Speech and Press allows people to voice their opinions publicly and to publish them without the government stopping them. Freedom of Religion allows people to

believe and practice whatever religion they want. Freedom of Assembly allows people to gather in groups as long as they are peaceful. And the right to petition the government makes it possible for people to lobby the government. Just this one amendment creates a set of rules for citizens of America to follow to make this place a better place. The First Amendment connects us as Americans.

The first Amendment also gives us access and protection from prior restraint. Freedom from prior restraint is largely freedom from government censorship of publications, whatever the form of censorship, and regardless of whether it is wielded by the executive, legislative or judicial branch of the government. It forbids Congress from both promoting one religion over others and restricting an individual's religious practices.

As technology grew dramatically over the past few years, the media has taken over human lives all over the world. People seem to believe that what goes out in the virtual world doesn't mean anything or carry any repercussions. There are seven broad categories of speech which include things written or published online or in social media that may not be protected by the first amendment. Freedom of Speech is our most important constitutional right because it shows that our nation cares about the complaints and opinions of its people. It shows that we are joined together as a unity and care about each other. Freedom of speech is important because it also allows us to express ourselves and allows us to speak what we believe.

The most important amendment in the Bill of Rights is the first amendment. It protects five of the most basic liberties; Freedom of speech, the press, assembly, and the freedom to petition the government to right wrongs. We as Americans wouldn't have nearly as much freedom without the Bill of Rights. Every amendment that was issued into law has made America the place it is today.

Second #2

The Importance of State's Rights

By: Emma Brown

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The Bill of Rights contains ten very important rights of the Constitution, however there is one that really stands out amongst the rest: the tenth amendment. This amendment states, "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States, respectively, or to the people." In simpler terms, this means that there must be a separation between the federal and state governments and that if there are any issues not covered in the Constitution, the states and the people have the right to resolve them.

Why is keeping state and federal governments separate so important? This allows for the federal government to not become too powerful. This law is the basis of the entire democratic process and is vital to ensuring that the federal government does not abuse their power. Without it, the democratic government that our founding fathers fought so tirelessly for could be easily destroyed. State's rights are ensured by this amendment, meaning that the states can vote on certain issues such as gun control and handle them as they see fit. The principle of American citizens having power in their government is emphasized and guaranteed through this amendment. This exemplifies just how important it is for people to vote in elections of all kinds because it does have an impact.

Balancing the state and federal governments is the most crucial part of maintaining democracy. The tenth amendment is the glue that holds our country together and keeps our values intact. It protects the United States from falling victim to dictative federal governments by giving power to the people and states. Although the other nine amendments of the Bill of Rights are extremely important to American society, the tenth amendment is the most overlooked yet indispensable.

American Legion Essay

By: Aidan Leipman

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The First Amendment of the United States Constitution 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 the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances." This amendment is likely the most notorious Amendment of the entire Constitution, and the most relevant in today's world.

Freedom of religion supports the right of a person or group to practice their religion in public or private. This is important because nobody should be told how to practice his/her religion or what religion to follow. We are all different, and we all see religion differently and are entitled to make our own choices pertaining to it. Freedom of speech is the right to communicate one's ideas. There are some limits to this, though, which are acceptable and understandable. Freedom of speech is the right I value the most. It lets me state my professional and opinion without having to face consequences based on it. I am as entitled to my opinion as anyone else is and that is acceptable within society. In addition, so many different circulating opinions exist in the U.S., which makes for a diverse and strong-minded country. With a diverse and strong-minded political and economic country, it helps everyone come together and work better as an economic unit and face adversity.

This first amendment has remained the most relevant and respectable amendment that we have known. It has been widely respected and widely known to our country and our people as a collective. Supporting the right of a person or group to practice their religion in public or private,

and protecting our people's freedom of speech keeps our country and our people organized and protected.