

Does the First Amendment Protect Me? Answer “yes” or “no” and explain why. If yes, explain the freedom that is protected. If no, explain why this action is not protected by the first amendment.

Amendment 1

- Freedom of Religion, Speech, and the Press

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.

1) The New York Times newspaper has an article about a corrupt deal between a Congressperson taking bribes from a corporation’s executives that want a law made to help their business. Is this article protected by the First Amendment? Yes or no and why?

2) A riot breaks out in the streets after the home team loses in a sports game. People are fighting in the streets with fans from the winning team. Is this action protected by the First Amendment? Yes or no and why?

3) A business decides to fire an employee for making racist comments on their social media post. Is the employee protected by the First Amendment? Yes or no and why?

4) An employee working for the National Security Agency leaks information to the press about United States current plans for spying on foreign countries. Is this leak protected by the First Amendment? Yes or no and why?

5) A group of concerned environmentalists create a petition online to save the Everglades. They get electronic signatures and send the petition to their state representatives. Is this electronic petition protected by the First Amendment? Yes or no and why?
