



RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEKLY
from
Americans for Freedom of Religion

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What is Religious Freedom and What's at Stake if We Lose It?

Religious liberty is increasingly under attack by those who believe it cannot and should not coexist with our other freedoms. However, religious freedom is a God given, fundamental human right and American value enshrined in our Constitution and protected by the Bill of Rights.

Freedom of religion protects the conscience of all people since it allows us to think, express and act upon what we deeply believe. This freedom of conscience is critical to the health of a diverse society by allowing different faiths and beliefs to flourish. "We claim the privilege of worshipping Almighty God according to the dictates of our own conscience, and allow all men the same privilege; let them worship (or not) how, where, or what they may," said Church of Latter-day Saints leaders.

The American Founders understood the importance of religion for human, social, and political flourishing. That's why they styled religious freedom as the First Freedom and the foundation upon which all other freedoms are guaranteed and protected and without which the new Republic would fail.

"The propitious smiles of Heaven can never be expected on a nation that disregards the eternal rules of order and right which Heaven itself has ordained."
- George Washington, 1789