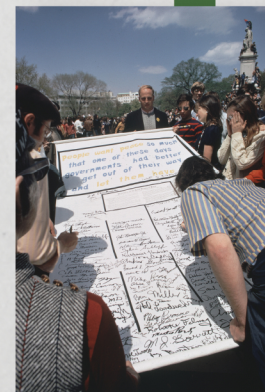
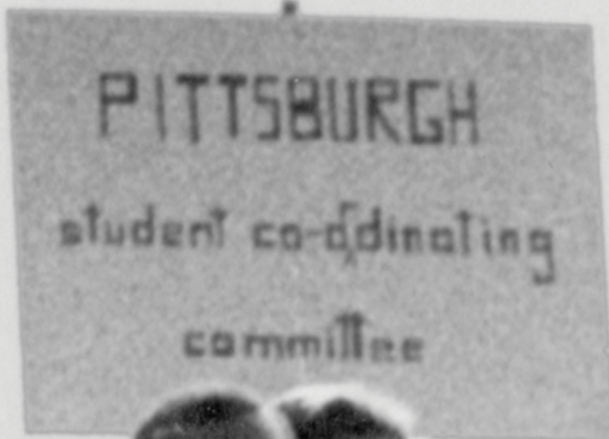


THE BILL OF RIGHTS ALLOWS US TO PRACTICE ANY RELIGION, SPEAK FREELY, AND MAKE A CHANGE

MARCHING AGAINST DISCRIMINATION

African-American civil rights leaders used their First Amendment rights to protest discrimination. Civil rights activists, like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., brought national attention to the discrimination of African Americans, resulting in a series of Civil Rights Acts.



PETITIONING FOR CHANGE

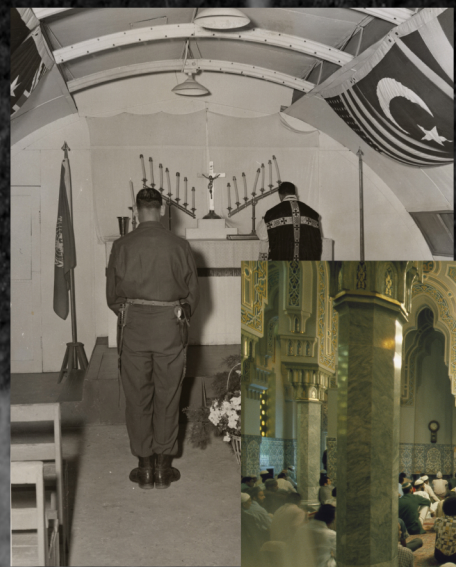
Americans have the right to petition, or communicate, with the government. Petitions can be signed documents, but today petitioning has also gone digital. You can petition online at the We the People website through Whitehouse.gov. If a petition receives 100,000 signatures in 30 days, the administration will respond.



FREEDOM OF PRESS

The right to freely express, distribute, and obtain information and ideas through print and electronic media.

For many Americans, exercising our First Amendment rights defines what it means to be American. Americans have used the five rights protected by the First Amendment to exercise their beliefs, speak their mind, and even influence Federal law. Some of the most important changes in American history began with American citizens speaking, printing, or gathering to demand change.



PROTECTING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

The right to freely practice religion is an important part of American democracy. In a nation of diverse cultures, ethnicities, and religions—the First Amendment ensures that each American's beliefs are protected and that the government will not pass any law establishing a religion.



SPEAKING OUT AGAINST INEQUALITY

The Constitution did not allow women to vote until 1920. Despite this, women used their rights to speech, press, petition, and assembly to demand full voting rights. These continual efforts led to the 19th Amendment, which officially changed the Constitution to provide women the ability to vote, although women of color still faced barriers to voting throughout the 20th century.

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SOME THINGS TO KNOW:
SUFFRAGE - The right to vote

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"Foreign language newspapers published in the United States are displayed and sold along newspapers published in the English language," 1950
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"Sufrage Parade," 1913
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"Former President Harry S. Truman speaks to reporters," 1963
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