

The protection of civil liberties and civil rights, as guaranteed by the Constitution, of the United States of America, is balanced by compelling public interest.

Few rights, if any, are considered absolute.

Limitations of rights

Some forms of speech are not protected (e.g., libel, slander, and obscenity).

Speech that is a "clear and present danger" is not protected (e.g., shouting fire in a crowded building).

The press can be restricted when publication will cause serious and irreparable harm (e.g., national security).

The student will demonstrate knowledge of civil liberties and civil rights by: d) exploring the balance between individual liberties and the public interest.