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Subject: Re: Freedom of Religion?

Posted by [Spoony](#) on Sun, 12 Oct 2008 16:23:15 GMT

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cheesesoda wrote on Sun, 12 October 2008 09:39 Now I just think you're going off on a stupid tangent, Spoony.

Why is it "freedom of religion"? Simple. Just like Americans have the right to own guns, the right to free speech, the right to vote, the right to deny unwarranted searches, etc... that doesn't mean you have to exercise the right.

that's just nonsense. The right to own a gun is not the same as the right to shoot somebody; in exactly the way as the right to personally believe whether there is a god is not the same as to use your beliefs to interfere with other peoples' lives.

cheesesoda wrote on Sun, 12 October 2008 09:39 I believe, "freedom of opinion" is covered by free speech, anyway. However, say that it WAS freedom of "opinion" rather than "religion". What do we end up with? We end up with state religions, but the ability to disagree with them. Think of it as a slightly less violent version of Constantine forcing Romans to be Christian. Therefore, nobody's given the choice to practice differently. It'd be just like work. You are forced to protocol, and you can bitch about it, but in this case you don't have the ability to quit. secularism means you don't end up with a state religion...

cheesesoda wrote on Sun, 12 October 2008 09:39 Edit: As for allowing people to eat others because of their religion... that's just stupid. That's a clear impediment of another's rights and it would never be legalized even under the guise of "religion".

Just to take one example, would you not agree that circumcision is a clear impediment of another's rights? Shouldn't a person have the right to decide for yourself, once you've reached an age where you're capable of making and expressing an informed decision, whether you want a scalpel taken to your genitalia?

Why's it even allowed? Religion. Why do authorities turn a blind eye to the thousands of girls who are victims of the female version (and like I said before in other threads, if there is anything more disgusting and barbaric going on in this day and age than that, I'm unaware of it)? Putting a stop to that should be the absolute number one fucking priority in this country as far as I'm concerned, but nobody cares. Why? Religion.

Imagine for a second if a political party, not a religion, did this. Or imagine if a political party said that people who don't vote for them are in for an eternity of torture. (The only flaw is that children can't vote, otherwise I'd have said "children" rather than "people" since the appalling doctrine of telling people they'll be tortured for ever after they're dead is even worse when an adult 'authority figure' applies it to the innocent, unformed mind of a child).

It is not hard to imagine the outcry if it was a political party rather than a religion who did these despicable things religions do. When it's religion, there seems to be a get out of jail free card. Why?

Little exercise for my fellow Brits. Next time you read Islam doing something unpleasant, a Muslim suing somebody because they're "offended" or demanding Islamic values enforced onto other

people etc... read the article and note the automatic deference to religion. Then read it again but mentally substitute "Islam" for "the BNP", and think about whether the outcome would be the same. I've started doing this myself recently. Since nobody has ever successfully explained why religion actually deserves the automatic respect it always seems to get, try mentally substituting religions for political parties. It isn't hard to see the elephant when you do.

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