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Subject: Re: Freedom of Religion?

Posted by [Spoony](#) on Mon, 13 Oct 2008 11:35:33 GMT

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R315r4z0r wrote on Mon, 13 October 2008 00:37: I really don't understand the point and meaning of the question of this topic.

Freedom of opinion is the right to express yourself and think what you want, see the 1st Amendment.

Religion is just another word for belief. The word "religion" just means an idea or basis for beliefs. A religion does not have to be some "holy, I believe in god" thing... a religion is just something you believe in.

Now the reason why it doesn't say freedom of belief over religion is because:

1. Beliefs are forms of opinions which are already granted to us when it says "freedom of speech" and what not.
  2. Beliefs can range from anything... be it choosing if someone is lying or not, choosing what you think happened at a certain event, or choosing an idea for where humans came from. Religion is more or less limited to a specific belief.
  3. When you break it down, "religion" and "beliefs" really are the same thing... so when it comes down to it, saying "religion" instead of "beliefs" is just a matter of word selection.
- You are correct about only one thing in this paragraph... namely the first sentence.

Religion is not just an 'opinion'. If it was, the world would be an infinitely better place. It also tends to be a set of actions that are instructed (or forbidden), and the problem comes when they're imposed on others (and this absolutely does include children).

Stay with me here. If your religion makes you believe God made the world 6000 years ago, that's fine with me (just don't teach it in science class to innocent, unformed minds). If your religion instructs you to kill homosexuals... this is clearly a different scenario, but the difference between the two is NOT RELIGION. The justification for both the two is religious. The only difference is the difference between thinking something for yourself while doing no harm to anyone, and actively taking away the rights of others. If you permit the one under the pretext of religion, you surely have to permit the other. That's why "freedom of religion" is nonsense; you'd have to allow all sorts of atrocities. Which, of course, we do.

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