

icivics Supreme Court Simulation

Directions: log onto a computer and go to www.icivics.org. From there you will then click on the "Supreme Decision" icon at the lower right corner of the home page. You do NOT have to register so click "No Thanks" tab. Now it's time to play along. Follow directions and read carefully throughout the assignment. Your job now is to interpret the constitution and write your opinions.

AMENDMENT I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Questions:

1. The first set of Justices argues whether or not Ben's T-shirt is protected under the first amendment. In your opinion, is Ben's T-shirt fashion or speech?
2. In your opinion, does political speech get more protection than cultural speech? Explain your answer.
3. Explain the difference between political speech and cultural speech.
4. In your opinion, is it better to have more or less speech in school? Which Justice do you agree with and why?

***READ THE TINKER CASE BEFORE LISTENING TO THE TWO JUSTICES ARGUING.**

5. Which side does the Tinker case help? BEN or SCHOOL (circle one) Explain why.

*Click on the "MAJORITY OPINION" icon. Answer the questions below by reading the majority opinion.

6. According to the court's opinion, does Ben have the right to wear his t-shirt?
7. Does the 1st Amendment protect Ben or the school's policy?
8. What type of opinion did you help the court make in this simulation?
 - a. Judicial Activism or Judicial Restraint? (Circle one) and Explain why.

b. Loose Constructionism or Strict Constructionism? (Circle one) and Explain why.

c. Liberal decision or Conservative decision? (Circle one) and Explain why.

ON" icon. Answer the question

decision? (Circle one) and Explain why.

ON" icon. Answer the question