

# The Balance of Freedom and Order in Schools

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# A Series of Case Studies

What does managing the tension between freedom and order look like in our schools and communities and how does that relate to our ability to create an educational environment?

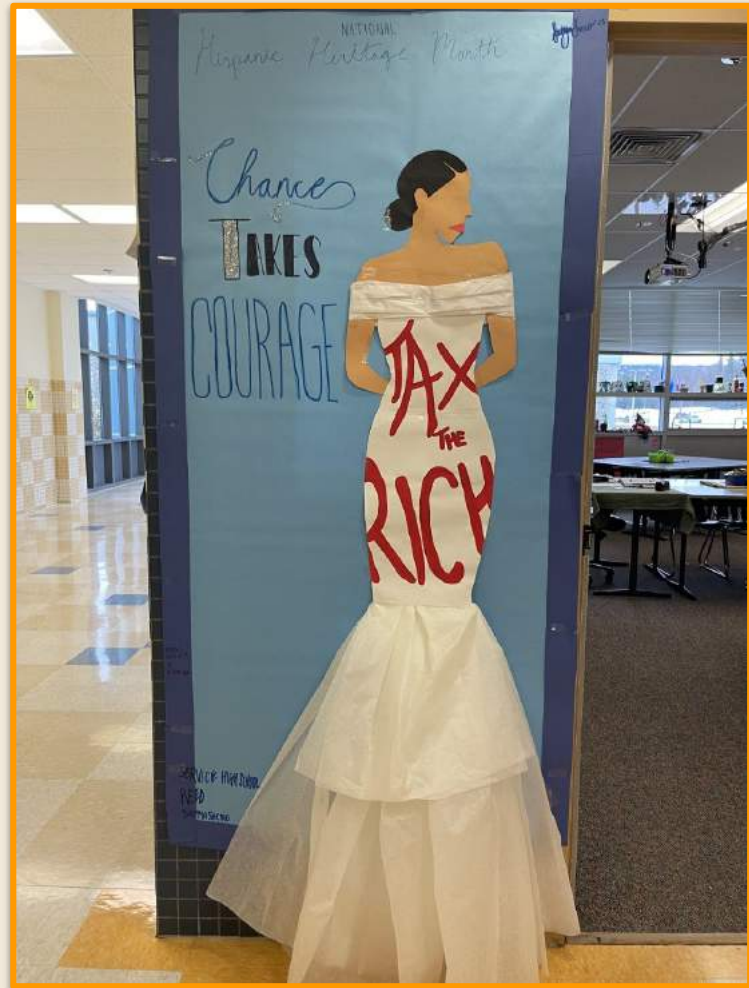
1. Case Study
2. Case Law
3. What would you do?
4. What was done in practice?



# Free and Ordered: Speech

## Case Study #1: On Campus Speech

Student work for a  
Hispanic Heritage Month  
contest displayed on a  
teacher's door.



**How would you respond?**



# Free and Ordered: Speech

## Case Study #2: On Campus Speech

Students arrive in student lot with various flags: Trump, Thin Blue Line, Black Lives Matter



# Case Study #2a: On Campus Speech

**What if a student placed these flags in proximity to a class being held outdoors?**

Not trying to be the PC police here, but one of your students was flying a large 'thin blue line' flag from their car this morning. Given that it's a symbol associated with the white supremacist movement (contested assertion perhaps) I figured that might be a conversation that needs to be considered. Appreciate all you guys do.



**How would you respond?**

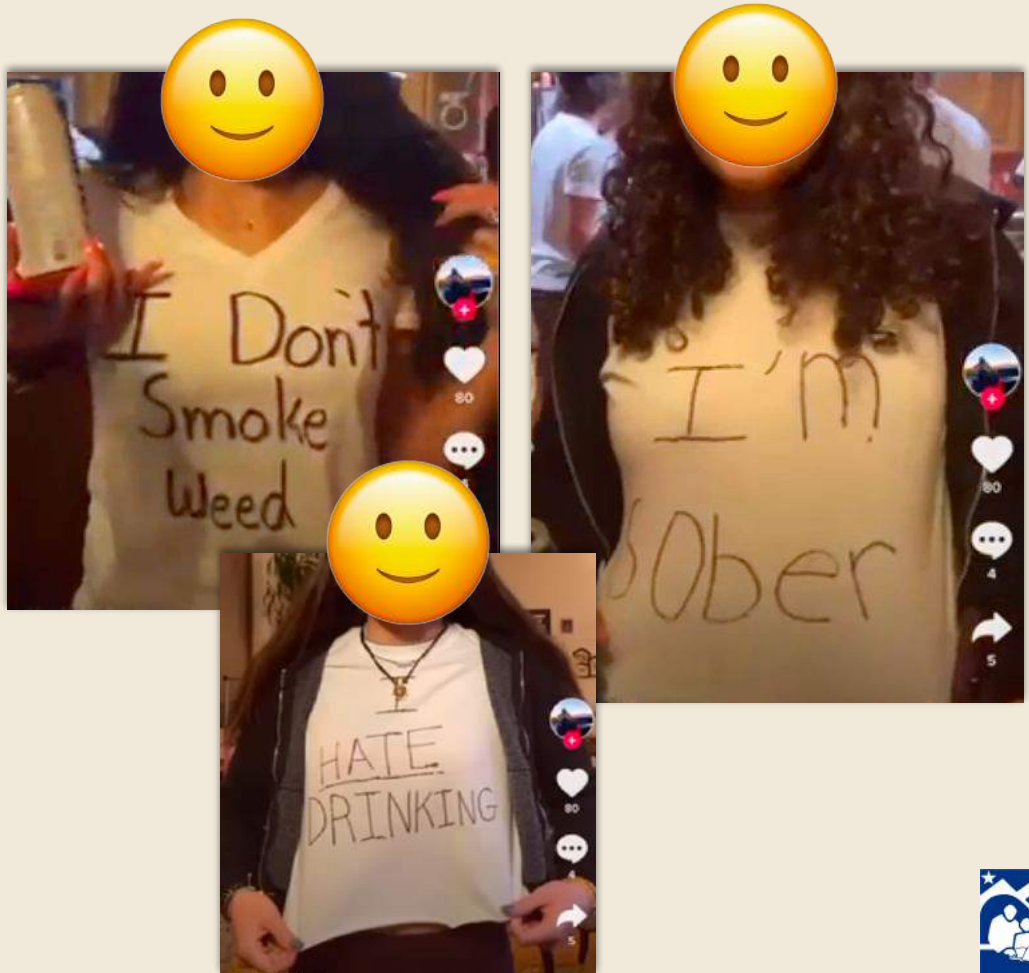




# Free and Ordered: Off-Campus

## Case Study #3: Off Campus Speech

Students post a video of a “white lie party” on Tik Tok, which comes to the attention of the school after a credible source at another school shares the video, which portrays students drinking. Messages on some students’ t-shirts are associated with alcohol and drug use.





**How would you respond?**



# Free and Ordered: Physical Searches

## Case Study #4: Search

To what degree should students expect to maintain privacy?

1. Random
2. Reasonable Suspicion
3. Credible Informant



# Free and Ordered: Digital Search

## Case Study #4a: Search

Do we have authority to search students' cell phones?

For example, to gather evidence of cyberbullying or harassment? To respond to off-campus behavior?



**How would you respond?**



# Free and Ordered: COVID Mitigation

## Case Study #5: Mask Policies

At what point does an individual's freedom interfere with another individual or group's right to a reasonably healthy environment?



**How would you respond?**



# Related Thoughts:

Freedom of speech is not freedom from consequence.





# Practice Expedition Behavior

Expedition Behavior *“involves putting the group’s goals and mission first, and showing the same amount of concern for others as you do for yourself”* (Grant, p. 74).

See also:

<https://blog.nols.edu/2020/07/06/leadership-project-expedition-behavior>



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