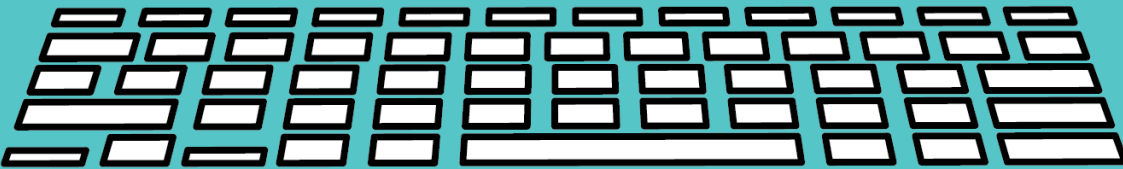


THE FIRST AMENDMENT WAS ADOPTED IN 1791

Short Answer	Type Answer Here
1. What year was this Supreme Court case?	
2. What was the name of the school newspaper?	
3. What kind of class was the article for?	
4. What word can also mean banning?	
5. What word means to ask a higher court to review?	
6. In what state is the Hazelwood school?	
7. How many articles were of concern to the principal?	
8. What was Kuhlmeier's first name?	



Short Answer	Type Answer Here	Fill in the Blank	Type Answer Here
1. Who heard was the Supreme Court case?		9. The principal was Robert E. _____.	
2. What was the name of the newspaper?		10. They felt their _____ Amendment rights were violated.	
3. What kind of class was the article for?		11. Another case was _____ v Fraser.	
4. What word can also mean banning?		12. They brought their case to the U.S. District Court _____.	
5. What word means to ask a higher court to review?		13. The final Supreme Court vote was 5 to _____.	
6. In what state is the Hazelwood school?		14. _____ article was about pregnancy and the other about _____.	
7. How many articles were of concern to the principal?		15. The case dealt with the right to free _____.	
8. What was Kuhlmeier's first name?		16. Another case was _____ v Des Moines.	



HAZEL WOOD V KUHLMEIER

Hazelwood v. Kuhlmeier was a landmark ruling in the U.S. Supreme Court in 1983. The case dealt with First Amendment rights and the right to free speech. Free speech is the right to express yourself without interference or punishment from the government. Freedom of speech prevents the government from censoring (banning) news, books, magazines, radio, television, and film. Note, however, that not all speech takes place in places like prisons, schools, and government buildings. Public forums are places outside of school where First Amendment rights are fully protected. Forums include public parks, streets, sidewalks, and public markets.

In May 1983, Catherine Kuhlmeier at Hazelwood East High School in St. Louis County, Missouri, was an influential member of *Spectrum*, the school newspaper. Kuhlmeier and students from Journalism II class submitted their final paper to their advisor. The advisor then turned the paper over to the principal, Robert E. Reynolds, for review.

Reynolds saw two articles that concerned him. One was about a teen pregnancy, and the other was about divorce and one student's negative comments about her father. First, the principal was concerned about violating students' privacy. He did not think the articles protected identities. Second, he thought the topics could be inappropriate. He wanted the journalists to modify the articles, but they would miss the publishing deadline. So, he deleted the two pages with the offensive articles and replaced them. Reynolds told the school system of his decision, and they supported him.

Catherine Kuhlmeier and two other journalism students felt that the principal and school violated their First Amendment rights - freedom of religion, speech, press, assembly, and right to petition the government. They brought their case to the U.S. District Court in St. Louis for the Eastern District of Missouri on October 13, 1987. Their

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arguments included:

- The articles did not interfere with discipline, operations, learning, or other students' rights (*Tinker v. Des Moines*).
- School newspapers can be part of a public forum.
- School newspapers are a great way to voice student complaints, and those complaints should be protected.

The court ruled in favor of Hazelwood East High School and Principal Reynolds. Ultimately, because the articles were written as part of a class. Those arguments included:

- First Amendment rights of students don't equal the rights of adults outside of school.
- Schools may limit free speech if it doesn't meet its educational mission, or is inappropriate for the level of maturity (*Bethel v. Fraser*).

Spectrum is not a public forum. Instead, it's a school activity, which is educational. It does not report the news.

- *Spectrum* is not for the school. If the message is harmful to students and the public, the school should have the right to modify the message.
- This case was different from *Tinker*, where the students made personal statements about their reflections on the school.

Finally, the journalists appealed (asked a higher court to review the decision) to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. The Court of Appeals reversed the district court's ruling. The court determined that the newspaper was a public forum and important to society outside the school.

Now, the school appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. On July 13, 1988, the Supreme Court ruled against the students and found the school in a 5-3 decision. The ruling gave schools the authority to assert appropriate authority over school publications. Justices stated that schools are public forums only in limited circumstances, not open to the public. In this case, *Spectrum* did not show how the students' contributions because it was part of a journalism class. Schools have the right to make sure lessons or articles are appropriate with content.

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