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| Title | **Censorship and Freedom of Speech** |
| **Due Date** | **Due Wednesday** |
| Where to Post | Click on "New Post" button above and type your response in the space provided below.  Click Save. |
| Subject | Censorship and Freedom of Speech |
| Points | 10 |
| Criteria | * On time, posted in correct place with correct subject line. Correct grammar, spelling, and usage * Contributes thoughtfully to the class discussion on censorship and freedom of speech |
| Objectives | * Articulate your views on censorship and freedom of speech |

#### **Step One: Introduction**

Throughout this course we take a look at an information issue that can potentially affect the process of research and knowledge acquisition. This week, the topic is Censorship/ Freedom of Speech, an issue that librarians have taken up as a professional responsibility. We are charged with protecting your freedom to access a range of perspectives on any topic within our library’s mission, to whatever extent possible, so that you can get the information you need to make informed decisions.

The mission of the community college library is, essentially, to support the college’s mission and learning outcomes by promoting information literacy, maintaining information collections and making them accessible to students, faculty and staff. The mission of Seattle Public library (as an example of a public library) is to “bring people, information and ideas together to enrich lives and build community.” If you read their full mission statement you will see that intellectual freedom is an important part of it.<http://www.spl.org/about-the-library/mission-statement>.

The first amendment to the U.S. Constitution's Bill of Rights (the first 10 amendments to the Constitution) guarantees us freedom of speech. However, as you look at the books that have been censored, such as *Harry Potter*, the *Bible*, the *American Heritage Dictionary*, or *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn,* you begin to see how freedom of speech and censorship sometimes conflict.

#### **Step Two: Assignment**

Write an essay on censorship and freedom of speech. Write your essay (minimum 300 words) using the guidelines below.

1. Read "[Sources on Freedom of Speech and Censorship](http://angel.whatcom.ctc.edu/Permalink/Permalink.aspx?permalinkId=dc6292f3-e252-44e1-86a7-c340dc4897c1&permalinkType=0)."
2. For Part 1 of your essay, select something that has been banned or censored that you think was unfair or fair. Take a look at the lists of banned books etc. in the Reading selection. Have you read the *Diary of Anne Frank?* Select a book (or movie) from these lists that you have read. Why was the book you read banned? Would you support the banning of that book? If so, why? If not, why?
3. Go to the [Research Databases](http://libguides.seattlecentral.edu/content.php?pid=109757&sid=1030167) (to log-in use your 9 digit Student ID number) at the Seattle Central CC website and USE PROQUEST, a periodical database, to find information on censorship. ProQuest is also available through WAOL; the password for ProQuest is on the home page of WAOL. Integrate into your essay a quotation from an article found on ProQuest that supports your viewpoint on censorship. (Do not use a random quote. No points will be given for quotes from lists of quotes on the Internet.) (To learn to quote someone in your essay, go to the following website: [edcc.libguides.com/content.php](http://edcc.libguides.com/content.php?pid=62212&sid=457757).)
4. For Part 2 of your essay, what specifically makes you “see red” or makes your “blood boil" that relates to censorship and freedom of speech. Why does it make you angry? Could there be a time when something makes your blood boil but you feel that it should not be censored?
5. For Part 3 of your essay, state your own views on freedom of speech and censorship. Please support your viewpoint with a good rationale. Support your ideas by integrating two quotations into your essay that support your ideas. Cite the source of each quotation.

#### **Step Three:**

Post your 300+ word essay below.

#### **Step Four:**

Write a 50+ word response to two of your classmates and post them below.