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What does freedom of speech mean to you?

Freedom of speech to me as a young woman is very important because in today's society women's rights are currently less important than keeping the second amendment. Unfortunately in some states in the U.S abortion is illegal. Which is completely unfair for a board of people who have never delt with a situation that needs abortion to be legal gets to choose whether it is inhuman or not. What about the hundreds of lives lost to gun violence? Shouldn't that be their focus? Preventing more innocent lives taken away over the not strict gun laws? These are situations where the first amendment (freedom of speech) is very important. It is very important that we get to express how we feel about the new laws so the government and any other higher power can see that not everyone is happy about this and maybe open their eyes to see that the choice they made is not right. If enough people peacefully meet up and have a peaceful protest it can potentially make the court rethink their decision. Peaceful protests and people expressing their opinions has a more positive impact than negative. When a relationship is having hard times what do they usually say as advice? "Communication is key", and it is. If we weren't allowed to express our opinions in the ways we are needed to the world would be worse than it already is. I am glad I have the privilege of expressing my opinions without worrying I could potentially be arrested for saying the wrong thing or upsetting the wrong people. Freedom of speech should be a natural right and I can't understand how not everyone has that privilege. Just because you don't want to hear something doesn't mean banning people from expressing their opinions means you won't hear it. Almost everyone has a different way of thinking and how would we know that if not everyone spoke their mind. Admittedly not everyone has opinions I agree with but that doesn't mean I shouldn't hear them at all, you just need to be respectful.

