

Should Religious Expression be kept out of Governmental Institutions?

Paul Fisher July 2010



Background-Montgomery

- Nice
- Traditional
- Racism
- Schools

Background-Alabama Christian

- School Size
- School Day
- Achievement
- Diversity
 - Income
 - Race
 - Religion



The Challenge

- Outside the box
- The “Fine Art”
- Distorted
- Weak
- Opportunity

The Lesson Goals

- Alabama DOE *Civics* Learning Goals Realized: 5A, 9A, 9D
- **Student Goals:**
 - 1) Understand the idea of church-state separation.
 - 2) List attributes of religious expression.
 - 3) Determine if religious expression in governmental institutions is constitutional.
 - 4) Evaluate the pros and cons of a religious expression in governmental institutions.

Unit Plan

- Preparation
 - Hang posters on Founders' quotes.
 - Pre-class Homework: Students read the First Amendment and tell how religious expression could be affected in government institutions.

Unit Plan (continued)

- Post the question, “*Should religious expression be kept out of governmental institutions?*” on the bulletin board.
- Web “*Religious Expression*”
- Video clips:
 - Kennedy
 - Hannity
 - Obama
 - Norris
 - Beck
 - Zeitz

Unit Plan (continued)

- Student led discussion *“Should religious expression be kept out of governmental institutions?”*
- Wrap up thought: *“If religion expression is to be allowed in governmental institutions, whose religious expression should it be?”*
- Homework: Write a comparative essay on both sides of the “religious expression” issue.

