

What and Where is Religious and Racial Freedom?

The lawful right to Religious, Ethnic and Racial Freedom is unique to the United States of America. It lies at the foundation of America as a secular democratic republic wherein all religions, ethnicities and races are “equal and free.”

(1) Religious Tolerance—a reciprocal dynamic—politically recognizes and accepts diversity of faith which ensures freedom of conscience in religion for all.⁽¹⁾ However, by politically elevating a religion as a “privileged” or “preferred” religion, the other religious groups are per definition secondary and their followers **not** “equal and free.”

By abolishing and rejecting an establishment of religion—whether state, privileged or preferred—all religious devotees are **“equal and free”** under the Constitution.⁽²⁾

Religious Freedom is thus composed of (a) the unique Constitutional right to religious tolerance⁽¹⁾ and, (b) the unique Constitutional abolishment of a privileged, preferred or state religion.⁽²⁾

(2) Ethnic or Racial Tolerance—a reciprocal dynamic—politically recognizes and accepts ethnic or racial diversity which ensures freedom of mobility for all.⁽³⁾ However, by politically elevating one race or ethnicity as preferred or privileged (hence superior), other ethnic groups are per definition inferior and their members **not** “equal and free.”

By abolishing and rejecting any State laws that entail or allude to the existence of a superior race or ethnicity, all members of racial and ethnic groups are **“equal and free”** under the Constitution. ⁽⁴⁾ and ⁽⁵⁾

Ethnic or Racial Freedom is thus composed of (a) the unique Constitutional right to ethnic and racial tolerance⁽³⁾ and (b) the unique Constitutional abolishment of any privileged, preferred or superior ethnicity or race. ^{(4), (5)}

Ongoing political acceptance and understanding of the reciprocal notion of tolerance as America’s eternal value in the conception of American freedom-for-all is imperative in accentuating that all religious, ethnic and racial groups and its members are equal and free under the Constitution.

Political unwillingness or reluctance to explicitly recognize this quintessential American precept of tolerance condones the veiled existence of a superior race, preferred ethnicity or privileged religion. It rejects America’s ultimate virtue—also a universal value—through political silence or expediency thus aiding in the perpetuation of mankind’s natural tendency to discriminate or to conceal the existence of bigotry, unworthy to America’s ethos.

(1) (The Jurisprudence of Toleration in the NY Tri-State Region—Governors Island, 1624)

“Everyone shall remain free in religion and no one may be persecuted or investigated because of religion”...Settlers were to attract the natives and non-believers to God’s word “through attitude and by example...without, on the other hand, to persecute someone by reason of his religion and to leave everyone the freedom of his conscience.”

(2) (Bill of Rights—First Amendment in 1791: Abolishment of Religious Establishments in the Original Thirteen United States) “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.”

(Bill of Rights—14th Amendment in 1868) “No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States.”

(3) (Bill of Rights—Abolishment of Slavery and Involuntary Servitude, 13th Amendment, 1865)

“Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall exist within the United States or any place subject to their jurisdiction.”

(4) (Bill of Rights—Abolishment of discriminatory State laws (14th Amendment, 1868)

“No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.”

(5) (Bill of Rights—Abolishment of inequitable State laws (15th Amendment, 1870)

“The right...to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.”