Example of argumentative essay on has the educational system in america taken our...

Philosophy, Freedom



The American constitution guarantees the freedom of speech in the part of the bill of rights. However, the constitution does not define it and the task is left to the state assembly and the judicial system. These branches of the state are responsible for the interpretation and application of the law in solving disputes. In its analysis, the Supreme Court has interpreted speech to include art and music, clothing, internet communication, as well as symbolic speech (Rudstein, 54). Freedom of speech is believed to have a number of benefits such as bringing a peaceful social change hence promoting peaceful persuasion instead of violence, promoting and protecting individual rights in all circumstances without fear of repercussions among others. While the education system is responsible for educating students about their rights, including the freedom of speech; let us examine how the same institution limits the enjoyment of this right (Durchslag, 87).

The violation of the freedom of speech in American education dates back to 1962 when the government banned prayers in all public schools. It was a policy that prohibited religious freedom to the student and was absorbed by the education system (Coleman, 123). The move by the Supreme Court that prohibited a practice that had been carried out every morning was the first sign of the denial of the enjoyment of the freedom of speech. Despite the First Amendment to the American constitution stating that the congress would make no law that abridge the freedom of speech; this commitment is countered by the 14th amendment (American Myths, 1).

The education system takes away the freedom of speech by establishing school uniform that makes the students look like prisoners. Though the constitution permits symbolic speech, the introduction of uniforms denies

students to express themselves and what they believe to be freedom through their dressing (Hudson, 134). It also denies them to present their real personal traits through clothing. The uniform system makes students feel trapped and unable to present their real self as they are already confined to what they should look and present themselves (Debate, 1). School uniform may make students lose their confidence as they think that the way they would like to present themselves to others is not adequate. It is in the interest of the students to be allowed to dress as they wish so that they can fully enjoy their freedom.

The education system in America does not take away the freedom of speech from the student. On the contrary, it provides the best platform for the enjoyment of this right. Through the debating clubs, science congress, music, drama festivals and even in their exam papers, the students are given the best opportunity to express themselves. With the advancement in technology and increase in the use of social media such as Instagram, twitter and Facebook, student can freely interact in their school pages and express themselves and their feeling about various aspects of the school system. In some instances, the education system may ban the use of certain language or symbols if they are harmful to another group or if they can cause cultural, racial or religious conflicts. Though such action may be termed a violation of their rights, it is in the interest of the education system and the nation to ensure that the country is peaceful and there is safety for all citizens. On the other hand, the school system should ensure that minimal interference to the students' freedom of speech is violated if it cannot be

fully avoided. However, this should be directly attributed to benefit the students.

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