Civil Liberties: Reading Questions II

Read pages 546-551 of *Magruder's American Government* and respond to each of the following questions in several well-crafted paragraphs.

- 1. What are the 2 basic purposes of the 1st Amendment's guarantee of free speech?
- 2. Free speech is not absolute. Briefly discuss each of the following free speech limitations: a) libel and slander; b) seditious speech (i.e. so-called "clear and present dangers"); and c) obscenity.
- 3. What is "prior restraint" of the media and how has the Supreme Court generally dealt with cases involving claims of "prior restraint"?
- 4. Why has the Supreme Court been more willing to impose free speech restrictions on television and radio than it has on movies and the press?
- 5. What is "symbolic speech"? Why is it sometimes afforded less protection than "pure speech"?
- 6. Write your own analytical question based on any of the ideas explored in the reading. Then answer it.

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