



0. Book Burning and Censorship - Story Preface

1. WHY FREE EXPRESSION?
2. FREE EXPRESSION IN BOOKS
3. THE DIAMOND SUTRA
4. THE LINDISFARNE GOSPELS
5. THE PRECIOUS MANUSCRIPTS
6. JOHN WYCLIFFE'S BOOKS
7. JOHN HUS BURNS
8. TYNDALE WRITES, THEN BURNS
9. LUTHER'S TRANSLATIONS ARE BURNED
10. THE PRINTING PRESS
11. BOOKS BURN IN THE NEW WORLD
12. CENSORSHIP CONTINUES
13. BURNING CONTINUES
14. CHERISHED RIGHTS
15. MORE COOL LINKS

In 1207, when a dispute developed between Dominic de Guzman (later known as St. Dominic, founder of the Dominican Order) and the Albigensians, books from both sides were thrown into the fire. Pedro Berruguete (a Spanish painter) created a panel, c. 1495, to depict that event. This image depicts a section of that panel. Online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

*Wherever they burn books
they will also, in the end,
burn human beings.*

Heinrich Heine

From his 1821 German-language play *Almansor*

Say the words "First Amendment" to Americans and most will immediately think "Free Speech." But the first amendment encompasses much more than merely allowing us to speak what we think.

First Amendment rights protect the entire process of thought and the creation and expression of ideas. When we think, our minds use reason to create ideas.

We express those ideas in many different ways:

- When we talk;
- When we write;
- When we believe;
- When we assemble; and
- When we petition the government.

All these actions, and expressions, are protected by the first amendment.

This story will help explain why America's founding fathers put freedom of thought and expression as the first

right in the Bill of Rights. We can also look to Thomas Jefferson for an answer.

As a proponent of a free country and a free people, Jefferson realized that oppression of ideas had been a cause of persecution in Europe for centuries.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Book-Burning-and-Censorship>

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/Book-Burning-and-Censorship>

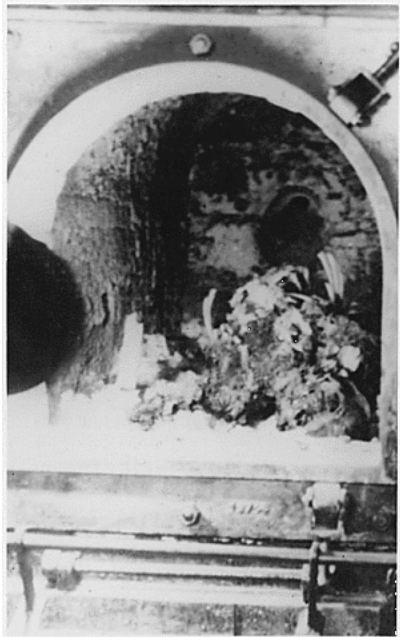
Media Stream



Nazi Book Burning

Image online, courtesy the U.S. National Archives.

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Nazi-Book-Burning>



Nazi Crematorium

Image online, courtesy the U.S. National Archives.

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Nazi-Crematorium>



Heinrich Heine

Image of Heinrich Heine, online courtesy Archiv für Kunst und Geschichte, in Berlin (Germany).

PD

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Heinrich-Heine>



Heinrich Heine - Gravesite

Image online, courtesy findagrave.com website.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Heinrich-Heine-Gravesite>



Book Burning and Censorship

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Book-Burning-and-Censorship0>