## FREEDOM OF SPEECH

By Bob Warren (9/13/25)

The Bill of Rights in the US Constitution has an interesting construction in the First Amendment. The first phrase is Freedom of Religion. The second phrase is Freedom of Speech. I often pondered this construction until I realized the founders believe that freedom of religion was the most important of the four First Amendment phrases. As John Adams stated, "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

Freedom of Religion was immediately underpinned by Freedom of Speech. Logically, if you can't speak freely about religious issues, freedom of religion is meaningless. (Currently, in the United Kingdom, Christian street preachers are being arrested for delivering religious messages while Islamic mullahs are free to spout whatever message they want. That is not freedom of religion or freedom of speech.)

Freedom of speech, however, doesn't mean freedom from consequences. As we see in the current Charlie Kirk assassination situation, there are many people saying quite vile things about him, praising his assassination. What is interesting is they are being quickly confronted. Their employers are being contacted with complaints. Those complaints have led to firings, suspensions, business losses and much more.

The constant complaint of those who spew anti Kirk and pro assassination language is always "but I have a right to speak freely". Well, sir or madam, you certainly can speak freely but you cannot expect those who strongly disagree with you to be silent and without protest. If you lose your job, your friends, your family – and become a pariah in your community - you did it to yourself.

The stupidity of the "I can say what I want crowd" is becoming legendary. There is now a website, charliesmurderers.com. The authors of it now claim to have at least 20,000 internet social media screen images of those who are praising the murder of Charlie Kirk. (One individual who collects these images and posts them claims that he is constantly being begged to eliminate them. He has refused to do so. Clearly, stupid people on the left are suddenly awakening to the consequences of their thoughtless and callous comments.)

It is stunning the diversity of individuals who have willingly put themselves out on the internet praising assassination. A secret service agent, police, firefighters, lawyers, business owners, doctors, nurses, housewives, and on and on. Probably the most stunning feature of the hateful comments list is the large number of school teachers on it. Most are young women who were obviously college indoctrinated. By the way, Pete Hegseth, Secretary of War, has said he will fire any military or civilian employee of DoW who has praised the murder of Charlie Kirk.

I am particularly struck by what apparently happened to a Cincinnati pizza joint. One of its owners applauded Charlie Kirk's assassination. Immediately thereafter, food suppliers refused to deliver, contracts for pizza services were cancelled, a soccer team refused to set up their money-raising pizza stand, some employees quit (?), and the pizza owner, who was a minority shareholder in the business, was canned. Nobody knows if this pizza place will survive.

I refer to what is happening now as righteous indignation. The left has never seen the right so enraged and offended. Many on the left have tried to change the subject. Democrat leaders have pleaded, "can't we all get along?". Some idiots have tried to say the assassin isn't a leftwing radical because his family is MAGA and he went to a conservative University (Is there such a thing in modern America?). Some have even said he was paid by Israel to assassinate Kirk. The Democrats and their leftist friends are desperate to find some way out of the mess they have created. So far, it isn't working.

Something evil has infected our schools and colleges. The evil has spread into our public discourse, our thoughts on right and wrong, and our sense of what constitutes basic human decency and fairness. Charlie Kirk was murdered for exchanging and debating ideas. This cannot be tolerated if America is to remain the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Today, I am Charlie Kirk.

Note: I just browsed around the charliesmurderers.com and X.com websites. I found four Virginians who have made hateful comments. One is an anesthesiologist, one is a librarian, one is a teacher, and one is currently employed by George Washington University. (By the way, if you need surgery, do not wear anything that might reflect support for Republicans or Trump. You might not make it out alive. This is not a joke. If medical and healthcare nurses and doctors can

laud the assassination of Charlie Kirk for debating ideas, trusting them with your life is certainly risky.)