

Every student in the public school system has heard the spiel on how evil guns and knives are. The need to keep students safe is understandable and I agree that students should not be allowed to bring weapons on campus. However there is no reason that students should be punished for expressing their beliefs, which is something that occurs on many campuses. Although there are no specific incidences of this that I know of on Foothill's campus, there is still a negative stigma that surrounds guns.

The amendments in the constitution are restrictions on the government, not the people. The public school system is part of the government, and thus subject to the amendments.

There is indeed one party in this scenario breaking the law, but it isn't the students.

A Connecticut student was [arrested](#) and spent hours in police custody for "inciting riot" by refusing to remove an NRA tshirt featuring a firearm and the words, "Protect your right."

Another Texas student was [forced to serve an in-school suspension](#) after refusing to remove a shirt with the words, "God," "guns", and, "country".

Why then, are students, who are not advocating violence or acting aggressively at all, punished for showing what they believe in? Teachers are always harping on about how we need to "be our own person," but apparently that only applies if you agree with them. As soon as your views don't correspond with theirs, they are willing to violate the first amendment to make prevent you from expressing a view that isn't consistent with theirs. This is not only violating our constitutional rights, but it's unfair and completely biased favoritism.

Many teachers are allowing their personal opinions to obstruct their responsibilities of carrying out their jobs of teaching from an unbiased stance.

The, as I like to call it, "eww icky guns" mentality obstructs the logic of many, including teachers. There is the idea that guns are intrinsically evil, and if people simply put aside that idea and approached the issue maturely, rather than blindly attacking, this would be less of an issue.

But of course, that is too much to ask.

The only thing that is against school policy is clothing that promotes violence. Because of that, it is argued that allowing students to wear clothing that advocates guns to school is "violent" and "offensive". However, this creates a dilemma, since all opinions are offensive to some group or another. This however is taking political correctness too far. The administration is now willing to violate the first and second amendment to keep people from being offended. You know what I find offensive? Not being able to freely offend someone.

It's amusing that the school system tells you, "Always follow laws!" "No, wait, not like that!"

This is a matter of what is or isn't legal. It is legal for a student to wear a shirt or post a picture of themselves that shows their beliefs or opinions, as long as said picture or clothing article does not violate the school dress code.

This is the simple matter of students not being able to express their own beliefs. Students have the right to talk about how evil guns are and about how they kill people, and many do so without a problem. However, bear in mind that students also have a right to talk about how people use firearms to defend themselves and that guns are not bad, seeing as they're inanimate objects. However only the latter is scolded for it. This is not only unfair, but a violation of our basic human rights as stated by the constitution.

America may be the, "land of the free", but terms and conditions do apply.