

ABSTRACT

RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND EXPRESSION WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO RIGHT TO PRIVACY

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Freedom of speech encompasses right to express oneself as well as right to access information. Liberty to express ideas and opinions without hindrance plays an important role in the development of a particular society. Freedom of speech is guaranteed not only by Constitution but also by various International conventions. It is one of the most basic elements for a healthy and open-minded democracy. It allows people to freely participate in the social and political happenings of their country. This article deals with meaning, scope, origin and significance of right to freedom of speech and expression guaranteed under Article 19(1)(a) of the constitution. This study also highlights protection of free speech and different aspects of freedom of speech and expression. It also deals with grounds of restriction imposed under Article 19(2) of the Constitution. In this article, the researcher has tried to discuss briefly about the right to freedom of speech and expression.

The debate of privacy basically had ignited in the 21st century with the need for data privacy laws and civil rights of privacy of every individual, irrespective of their sexual preference. Privacy is an important facet to life and liberty and an inherent part of the fundamental rights enshrined in the Constitution. It exists equally in all individuals, irrespective of class, strata, gender or orientation. It plays a significant role in the development of one's personality, integrity, and dignity. However, the fact the privacy is not an absolute right, but an invasion must be based on legality, need and proportionality for safeguarding this cherished right and such an invasion must be justified by law.

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