

Separation of Church and State

Some view legal Separation of Church and State as government denying their citizens the right to religious freedom of expression, and that is what, for the most part, makes the controversy. Others view Separation of Church and State as necessary to avoid confusion and conflict of interest, and this, in part, is the position that our constitution upholds. Whether you are opposed to or in favor of Separation of Church and State, distinctive differences between Church and State are obvious, yet, at the same time there may be more compatibility and common ground between these two entities than we perceive. On this basis we enter a process by which both entities, Church and State, as separate and independent as they may be, struggle to exist, as part and parcel of a whole system.

Consider the logical differences between Church and State. Ask yourself, how do we know where we are in the course of normal everyday activities? You may find yourself in a predicament, perplexed, Where am I? And then, what might look more like a campaign office to reelect Jesus, or Buddha, or Mohammad, actually turns out to be, maybe a dentist office, or the office of the director of public works, or vice versa. But how would we have made a logical assumption as to what really takes place at where we may happen to find ourselves.

In a constructed or natural environment certain elements and factors serve as convenient stimuli and will normally characterize the immediate atmosphere, and accordingly will state the priorities or interest of a particular person, body of people, or organization. For example; when we go to school, the environment would reflect learning, and it is not all that irrational to expect that we would not have difficulty being sure as to where we actually may be, i.e. a classroom, in

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the normal sense of what we can imagine, should be easily identifiable. When we go to a Rock Concert we would expect, logically, that the deportment of the fans would be quite different if not the opposite of fans that attend a symphony concert. When one goes to the hospital for treatment it is very important that they will feel comfortable and at ease when receiving treatment, a conventional hospital environment, in the normal sense of what we can imagine, would have an advantage assuring the patient, i.e. a hospital that ignored livestock roaming the corridors might not have too many patients. And, when we organize or civilize our society, technology and infrastructure, the technical language and environment in which we conduct our practical matters must be in accordance with universally acceptable standards; otherwise you can imagine the chaos, which, to a degree, is what we as a society are forever trying to minimize. And finally, when we go to pray, the environment and our prayer activities need venue and stimuli that supports spiritual contemplation and enrichment, not secular interference, but it may well be advised that the religious practice, thereof, is checked within the parameters of our simple existence.

Diversity and freedom is key to a society that will survive and flourish. But, it is where one intends to experience total freedom and diversity, or exercise preferences without constraint, that opposite or opposing views take issue, and that some societies because of, will *not* survive. Simple preconception or misconception also can sometimes serve as the basis for conflicting and opposing views, and then, there is the appearance of contradiction; for instance, a picture postcard from the Middle East show three Israel soldiers with weapons, their arms stretched across each other's shoulders in unity, foreheads pressed against the Wailing Wall. Would this picture contradict Separation of Church and State? Or, is the picture proof of the pudding? i.e.,

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there may be, in theory, the legal law that enforces separation of church and State, but what may be innate human nature is absolute, the two may be actually be inseparable.

The Constitution actually says “the separation of church and state is related to the idea that all people should have freedom of religion *as well as freedom from religion*”. And, what Separation of Church and State may be understood as saying is interpretational only and not per se, i.e., the phrase "separation of church and state" appears in no founding American document. Do you think that the government is trying to control religious freedom of expression? Would you be in favor of systematically *integrating* Church and State, What if the if legal discord, between Church and State, was thrown out of the U.S. Supreme Court as frivolous? Deemed only as a cheap target for idle minds. In a civilized world, it is the responsibility of opposing parties, or entities, to consider and acknowledge each other’s priorities and logical boundaries; this compromise is fundamental to coexistence.

Many countries maintain the philosophy of Separation Of Church and State: France, United Kingdom, Germany, Sweden, United States of America, et al. Individuals in a free society have the right to their own beliefs and can practice their own religion. When we organize and define ourselves and our surroundings we are creating complexity but this is the challenge of our survival, the complete absence of law and order would be utter chaos, and by embracing necessary change we allow an orderly process of evolution to take place, and we escape inevitable extinction. And, on that note this author declares himself by closing with “God Bless Us All”
