First Amendment Rights of Public High School Student Journalists
After *Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier*

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This diagram describes how a court would determine if a particular act of censorship by school officials is legally permissible.

BEGIN

Can the publication be considered school-sponsored — has the school lent its name and resources to the publication?

**YES**

Can the publication be described as a part of the school curriculum — was it created by the school to impart particular skills to students and is it supervised by a faculty member, even if it is produced outside the classroom setting?

**YES**

Has the publication, by either school policy or practice, been created as a "public forum" or a "designated public forum" for student expression where students have been given the authority to make the content decisions?

**NO**

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**The Hazelwood Standard**

Can school officials show that they have a valid educational purpose for their censorship and that the censorship is not intended to silence a particular viewpoint that they disagree with or that is unpopular?

**YES**

**CENSORSHIP PERMITTED**

**NO**

**CENSORSHIP NOT PERMITTED**

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**The Tinker Standard**

Can school officials show that their censorship is based on a reasonable forecast of material and substantial disruption of school activities or an invasion of the rights of others. (Before *Hazelwood*, all censorship was controlled by this standard.)

**YES**

**CENSORSHIP PERMITTED**

**NO**

**CENSORSHIP NOT PERMITTED**

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*If your state is Arkansas, California, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, Oregon, Pennsylvania or Washington, the censorship may not be permitted under your state law or regulations.*