

Imagine you're sitting in a classroom and the debate of how people originated came up. Would you choose the side that believes that God created people or would you choose the side that believes in evolution? Would you even know what side to go with? The ways that schools are these days, neither topic is thoroughly discussed within the walls of a classroom. Creationism is the belief that God created all things, and the people who inhabit them. In these modern times, I believe that students, especially high school students, should have the choice to believe the way they want to. I think they need to at least have the option to learn about these things outside of church and at home. Our constitution gives us the freedom of speech as well as the freedom of religion; wouldn't we be going against that if everyone was made to believe the same things? With this said, I believe that creationism should be taught in public schools.

The First Amendment of the Constitution gives American citizens five very important rights. The rights are: freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom of petition, freedom of assembly, and freedom of the press. I think that these freedoms should be applicable in all situations and all citizens of this country should be entitled to practice what they want. In this country that we refer to as "Land of the free, home of the brave," I believe that creationism should be available within the walls of classrooms so that the people who want to learn about it have the opportunity. If the freedoms of religion and speech are taken away, are we really as free as we

think we are? Do we really have the rights we are promised by being citizens of this country? I think in order to maintain the rights stated by the Constitution, public schools should have the right to teach creationism to their students.

With the Constitution giving Americans the freedom of religion, there are several different religions that are practiced within the fifty states. With this in mind, the government also established a concept known as the separation of church and state. This concept was created to keep religious beliefs from becoming a major conflict between people and the government itself. This is also what keeps religion out of schools and other public places. Even though this concept is known and respected, I still believe that people should have a choice, and a voice for that matter. If a public school was able to find a teacher to sponsor a class teaching creationism, and students who wanted to take it I think they should be able to do so.

Creationism is a very touchy topic, and some people really debate the subject. Our Constitution gives us many freedoms, and I don't think it's appropriate for some of them to be taken away just because you're within the walls of a public institution. I'm not saying that all public school students have to take a class teaching creationism, but I think they should have the opportunity if they were to choose to learn about it. In conclusion, if more people had the chance to learn about creationism; debates would be

more factual, and students would be more educated about why the freedom of religion is such a precious right.