



## Middle School Debate 2018: Source Materials

**"RESOLVED: The government should ensure that both public and private employees are free to express their political views without interference from their employers."**

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This is an open-universe problem. You may support your argument with **any** sources you wish. You are not limited to the sources we provide, nor do you need to use them. But pay attention to who your sources are. Some are more reliable than others. And the reliability of someone's source is a fair issue to raise in a debate round.

You now have had a chance to do some of your own research. What follows is a pack of suggested sources to complement your own research. This way everyone will have a shared background. They are a mix of low and high depth sources, on various issues. You probably want to begin with low depth sources to get an overview of the issues and work your way up to high depth sources. You probably do not want to begin by reading all of the sources in this pack from start to finish.

Clicking on a source below will bring you to the website where it is located.

- News Stories
  - [THE ATLANTIC, \*Is Being a White Supremacist Grounds for Firing?\* \(Aug. 14, 2017\)](#)
  - [CBS, \*Donald Trump: NFL Should Have Suspended Colin Kaepernick for Kneeling\* \(Oct. 12, 2017\)](#)
- Secondary Sources on Policy:
  - [HR EXAMINER, \*Is There Free Speech at Work?\* \(Oct. 15, 2012\)](#)
- Relevant Laws:
  - [Connecticut General Statutes § 31-51q](#)
  - [Connecticut Constitution, art. I, §§ 3, 4, 14](#)
  - [U.S. Constitution, First Amendment](#)
- Secondary Sources on Laws:
  - [NEWSEUM INSTITUTE, \*Government Employees & First Amendment Overview\* \(Apr. 24, 2017\)](#)
  - [ABA, \*A Chill Around the Water Cooler: First Amendment in the Workplace\* \(2015\)](#)
  - [UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-KANSAS CITY SCHOOL OF LAW, \*Free Speech Rights of Public Employees\* \(2018\)](#)