

## Public Religion, School Prayer and Religious Education in the Schools

### Permissible

1953	State may allow release of students during school day for religious instruction off-site	<i>Zorach v. Clausen</i>
1983	State may begin legislative sessions with prayer and may employ chaplain	<i>Marsh v. Chambers</i>
1984	State may display creche as part of larger display recognizing "secular" holiday	<i>Lynch v. Donnelly</i>
1989	State may display of Xmas tree and Hanukkah menorah in "secular" holiday display	<i>Allegheny Co. v. ACLU</i>

### Impermissible

1948	State may not participate in program of religious instruction provided by clergy in schools	<i>McCullum v. Bd of Ed</i>
1962	State may not write and prescribe prayer for recitation in public school classrooms - even if participation is voluntary	<i>Engel v. Vitale</i>
1963	State may not sponsor daily bible readings - recitation of Lord's Prayer	<i>Abington v. Schempp</i>
1968	State may not prohibit teaching of evolution	<i>Epperson v. Arkansas</i>
1980	State may not require posting the Ten Commandments in public classrooms	<i>Stone v. Graham</i>
1985	State may not require moment of silence when primary intent is to encourage prayer	<i>Wallace v. Jaffree</i>
1987	State cannot require that creationism be given equal time w/ teaching of evolution	<i>Edwards v. Aguillard</i>
1989	State may not display creche where there are not other elements with "secular" message	<i>Allegheny Co. v. ACLU</i>
1992	Clergy may not give benediction at official public school graduation	<i>Lee v. Weisman</i>
2000	Student organized prayers may not be part of official extracurricular activities, i.e. sporting events	<i>Santa Fe Independent School Dist. v. Doe</i>