

Sedition and Prior Restraint Discussion/List

Identify the issue raised by each of these hypotheticals and cite the applicable precedent.

At a rally of UMass students at the student union, Ronnie Wood said: "Any government that permits oil companies to make huge profits and denies the worker a substantial wage increase deserves to be overthrown." A police officer sees Wood shaking his fist at the crowd and shouting "and it's up to you to do it!" Wood was convicted under a sedition statute. He argues that the conviction violates his First Amendment rights.

Representatives of a local group called Stamp Out Smut (SOS) have heard that a local newspaper plans to print and distribute an issue containing an article and photograph ridiculing SOS. SOS applies for an injunction halting publication of this issue. The group also seeks some control over future references to itself in the paper.

Brian May, *New York Times* reporter, obtains information that the White House gave financial aid to military officers who overthrew the Chilean government of Salvador Allende in 1973. He then prepares a seven-part series of articles on U.S. relations with Latin American countries and includes this information. The *Times* refuses a request from the Justice Department to halt publication on the basis of national security. The government wins an injunction, but its constitutionality is challenged by the *Times*.

Robert Plant, former CIA employee, has written a book, *Inside the State Department*. He has worked on special projects dealing with heroin importation, and his book will implicate a number of government officials whom, he says, accepted bribes to ignore such smuggling. The government seeks an injunction halting publication until the CIA can review the manuscript.

Although a taped television documentary features a panel discussion that does not show or quote directly from classified documents, the government seeks an injunction against airing the

program because the Justice Department believes the sum total of the information presented could damage the government's security.

The Amherst chapter of the KKK requests a permit to march in the city, but officials say no on the basis of a new ordinance denying such permits to politically or morally objectionable groups. The ordinance also denies all groups the use of city commons and parks for such demonstrations. The rationale behind the ordinance is avoiding hostile audiences and protecting the grass.