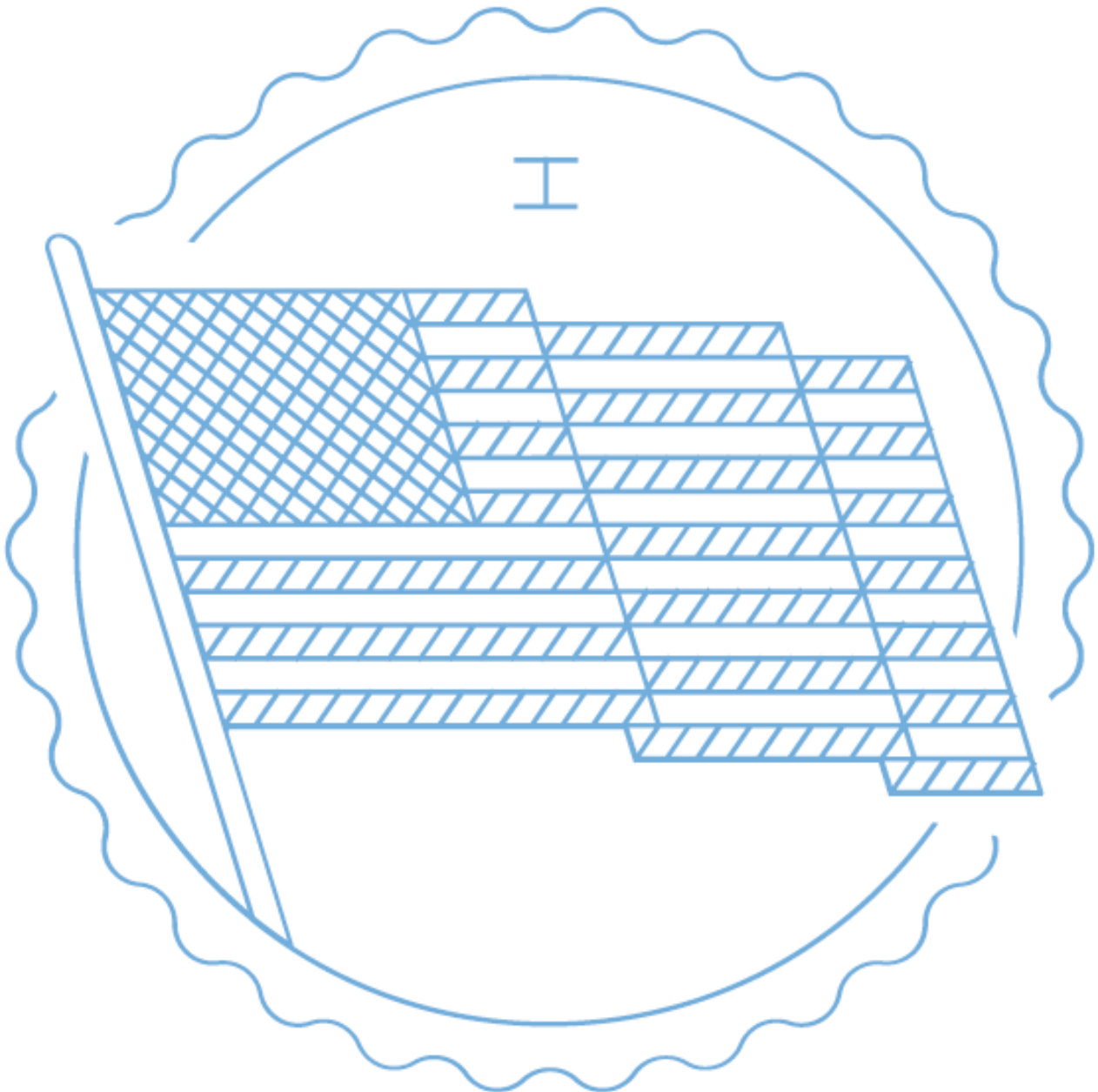


**INTERACTIVE**

**CONSTITUTION**

**MATTERS FOR  
DISCUSSION**

**FIRST AMENDMENT:  
FREE EXERCISE OF  
RELIGION**



**NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER**



**INTERACTIVE**

**CONSTITUTION**

## **MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION**

### **FIRST AMENDMENT: FREE EXERCISE OF RELIGION**

- Can a state compel Amish students to attend school when they claim this violates their religious beliefs? (*Wisconsin v. Yoder*, 406 U.S. 205 (1972)).
- Can the government punish someone for engaging in religious ceremonies involving the use of illegal drugs, such as peyote or marijuana? (*Employment Division v. Smith*, 494 U.S. 872 (1990))
- Can the government require that conscientious objectors such as Quakers join the armed forces and fight in war? (*Clay v. United States*, 403 U.S. 698 (1971))
- Can the government require that conscientious objectors such as Quakers pay taxes that are used to fund a war? (*Loosely United States v. Lee*, 455 U.S. 252 (1982))
- Can the government punish a wedding photographer who refuses to photograph a same-sex wedding on the grounds that his religion defines marriage to be between a man and a woman? (*Loosely Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission*, 138 S.Ct. 1719 (2018))
- Can the government require the Catholic Church to have women as priests? (*Loosely Hosanna-Tabor Evangelical Lutheran Church and School v. EEOC*, 565 U.S. 171 (2012))
- Can the military impose a uniform dress code that does not allow a Jewish man to wear a yarmulke? (*Goldman v. Weinberger*, 475 U.S. 503 (1986))
- Can the government punish people who cover their face in public, including Muslim women who wear a niqab? (*S.A.S. v. France*, European Court of Human Rights (2014))
- Can a state prison with a no-beard policy for safety reasons require a Muslim prisoner to shave his facial hair, even if it is grown for religious reasons? (*Holt v. Hobbs*, 135 S.Ct. 853 (2015))

