

1981

## Science, Religion and the Classroom

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### Recommended Citation

Hungerford, James (1981) "Science, Religion and the Classroom," *Iowa Science Teachers Journal*: Vol. 18 : No. 3 , Article 6.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.uni.edu/istj/vol18/iss3/6>

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## Science, Religion and the Classroom

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First Amendment Rights protect freedom of religious choice. Americans are free to practice any religion they choose, or may decide to have no religion. The Federal Government may not establish an official religion and the State may not pass laws that endorse any particular religious concept.

Science is dynamic and has no sacred truths, all assumptions and data must be critically examined concerning natural phenomena. Arguments based upon religious or political authority have no place in the science classroom since they are excluded by scientific methodology. Science attempts to explain how things are, not how man wishes them to be.

There is a clear danger to the scientific process when political or religious factions try to impose their bias on scientific methodology. The danger of having natural laws imposed from above, rather than emerging from scientific methodology is far reaching in a society dependent upon scientific based technology for its survival. Preoccupation with narrow interpretations of religious or political self-interest groups has no place in the science classroom. There is no need for increased Governmental regulation imposing additional objectives, distantly related, if at all, to the fundamental task of teaching the results of and the processes of scientific inquiry in the science classroom.

Creationism is a product of religious thought. Evolution is a product of scientific thought. Religious training is a responsibility of the Church. Scientific training is a responsibility of the science classroom. The government has no responsibility with respect to sponsoring religious views, however, it must protect the personal freedom to pursue the religion of one's choice. This, above all, must be remembered in the Evolution/Creation controversy.

## Reference

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