



TINKER TOUR USA

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Tinker who?

Hi, my name is Mary Beth Tinker.

Nearly a half-century ago, my brother John and I, along with Chris Eckhardt and other students in Des Moines, Iowa made history by wearing black armbands to school to protest the Vietnam War. When we were suspended, heated school board meetings followed, along with death threats to our families.

After a fantastic ACLU lawyer named Dan Johnston argued our case, the Supreme Court ruled in 1969 that students in public schools do have First Amendment rights. Justice Abe Fortas wrote for the majority that students and teachers do not "shed their constitutional rights...at the schoolhouse gate."



What's the Tinker Tour?

The Tinker Tour is a national free speech and free press tour by **Mary Beth Tinker** and attorney **Mike Hiestand** to promote youth voices and bring real-life civics lessons to schools and communities through the stories of young people.

Mary Beth made a difference with a simple black armband. Young people today are using all of the extraordinary speech tools available to make a difference. We look forward to encouraging them, and hearing their stories of how they are keeping the First Amendment alive today.

The Tinker Tour is a special project of the **Student Press Law Center**. It has been

endorsed by many of the country's leading civics education, civil rights, journalism, and journalism education groups.

During our Fall 2013 tour, we will make over 50 stops to speak with young people.

This is an important moment in the history of our country, especially for youths, who are naturally creative and hopeful, but often feel discouraged. They need to hear about young people throughout history — and today — who bring the Constitution to life and make a difference. And we need to hear from them. On the Tinker Tour, we will!

speech expresión. press prensa. petition petición. religion religión. assembly reunión.

the **FIRST** Amendment