

- The government shall make no law... abridging the freedom of speech, or the press.

- U.S. Constitution

I. America at Home During WWI

- 1917 **Espionage Act** -- you can be jailed for suspected spying and/or sabotage
- 1918 **Sedition Act** -- NO ANTI-WAR DEMONSTRATIONS!

II Schenck v. The United States 1919

- Supreme Court ruled that **FREE SPEECH** can be taken away. When?
- During **WARTIME**
- **Congress** has the right to prevent words that cause a
- “**clear and present danger.**”
 - Chief Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes

To draw this country into the horrors of the present war in Europe, to force the youth of our land into the shambles and bloody trenches of war crazy nations, would be a crime the magnitude of which defies description. Words could not express the condemnation such cold-blooded ruthlessness deserves.