# This Week in Worcester publishes "Understanding How the First Amendment Treats 'Hate Speech'"

BY AIVI NGUYEN • SEPTEMBER 5, 2017

AiVi Nguyen, Partner and Chair of the firm's Diversity Committee, will write monthly columns for *This Week In Worcester*. Her first column, "Understanding How the First Amendment Treats 'Hate Speech,'" was published today. Below is an excerpt:

"The argument that 'hate speech' is not free speech is incorrect. The correct argument is that 'hate speech' is free speech as long as it does not fall into any exceptions or violate validly imposed regulations. At the end of the day, protecting all speech including 'hate speech' is necessary. Suppression of any speech threatens to weaken the First Amendment for all of us. So while we may disagree with the content of what someone is saying, acknowledging their right to say it is an act of self-preservation."

The full column can be read on the This Week in Worcester website.

©2026 Bowditch & Dewey LLP. All Rights Reserved. 