

**COERCION WITH PLEDGE VERSUS WITH THE GRADUATION
PRAYER RULED UNCONSTITUTIONAL IN LEE V. WEISMAN**

ACTOR:	GRADUATION: Individual who is clearly not a governmental official. PLEDGE: Teacher who is clearly a governmental official
STUDENT AGE:	GRADUATION: 16-18 year olds, on the brink of adulthood PLEDGE: Impressionable children, as young as age 5
FREQUENCY:	GRADUATION: Once a year for the school. Once per lifetime for the student. PLEDGE: Every day for the school. Approximately 2000 times per lifetime for the student.
SUBJECT MATTER:	GRADUATION: Religious belief accorded to individual speaker PLEDGE: Religious status accorded to government (i.e., we are “one Nation under God”)
STUDENT ACT:	GRADUATION: Passive listening PLEDGE: Active affirmation of belief
NONPARTICIPATION:	GRADUATION: Does not reveal outsider status to peers PLEDGE: Reveals outsider status to peers.
ATTENDANCE:	GRADUATION: Voluntary under the law PLEDGE: Mandatory under the law
PARENTS:	GRADUATION: There to protect/support PLEDGE: Not there to protect/support