Did you catch Hadar on NPR?

The Student Press Law Center executive director Hadar Harris sat down with Michel Martin on NPR’s "All Things Considered" last week to discuss the recent censorship case at Daniel Pearl Magnet High School.

Harris reviewed the Los Angeles Unified School District's decision to rescind their unlawful disciplinary action against student media adviser Adriana Chavira and took a look into larger issues facing student journalists across the country.

“We deal with thousands of students and advisers every year because the prevalence of censorship is widespread,” Harris said in the interview. “California has the oldest and one of the strongest laws in the country to give student journalists and their advisers specific rights to be able to publish freely. But only 16 states in the country actually have laws that protect student press freedom and student journalists.”

You can say no. Courts have made clear that mandatory prior review at a public college — even by an adviser with good intentions (and certainly by an administrator whose intentions may not be so honorable) — violates the First Amendment.

While the First Amendment does not provide the same protections to private school student media, every national journalism education group in the country condemns mandatory prior review.

If you’re experiencing censorship or have other media-law-related questions, contact SPLC’s free legal hotline for support.

Congratulations to our Pioneers!

Congratulations to Mike Hiestand, SPLC’s senior legal counsel, and Frank LoMonte and Mark Goodman, former SPLC executive directors, for receiving the Associate Collegiate Press’s inaugural Pioneer Award! We are grateful to ACP for recognizing
"They have gone above and beyond their own distinguished careers to nurture the future of journalism."

Bring SPLC into your classroom

Teachers and advisers, with SPLC in the Classroom, you can bring an SPLC attorney into your classroom or newsroom to teach a 40-minute lesson on a media law topic of your choice — for free!

Support SPLC

Your donation helps us defend the rights of student journalists and their advisers across the country. High school and college news organizations can show their support for SPLC’s legal hotline and other core services by becoming a member.

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