

four-pronged *Central Hudson* test to measure the validity of restraints upon commercial expression.¹⁰⁵⁹

Under the first prong of the test, certain commercial speech is not entitled to protection; the informational function of advertising is the First Amendment concern and if an advertisement does not accurately inform the public about lawful activity, it can be suppressed.¹⁰⁶⁰

Second, if the speech is protected, the interest of the government in regulating and limiting it must be assessed. The state must assert a substantial interest to be achieved by restrictions on commercial speech.¹⁰⁶¹

Third, the restriction cannot be sustained if it provides only ineffective or remote support for the asserted purpose.¹⁰⁶² Instead, the regulation must “directly advance” the governmental interest. The

be deemed “‘commercial speech’ because they might affect consumers’ opinions about the business as a good corporate citizen and thereby affect their purchasing decisions.” *Id.* at 657 (Stevens, J., concurring). Nike subsequently settled the suit.

¹⁰⁵⁹ *Central Hudson Gas & Electric Co. v. PSC*, 447 U.S. 557 (1980). In one case, the Court referred to the test as having three prongs, referring to its second, third, and fourth prongs, as, respectively, its first, second, and third. The Court in that case did, however, apply *Central Hudson*’s first prong as well. *Florida Bar v. Went For It, Inc.*, 515 U.S. 618, 624 (1995).

¹⁰⁶⁰ *Central Hudson Gas & Electric Co. v. PSC*, 447 U.S. 557, 563, 564 (1980). Within this category fall the cases involving the possibility of deception through such devices as use of trade names, *Friedman v. Rogers*, 440 U.S. 1 (1979), and solicitation of business by lawyers, *Ohralik v. Ohio State Bar Ass’n*, 436 U.S. 447 (1978), as well as the proposal of an unlawful transaction, *Pittsburgh Press Co. v. Commission on Human Relations*, 413 U.S. 376 (1973).

¹⁰⁶¹ *Central Hudson Gas & Electric Co. v. PSC*, 447 U.S. 557, 564, 568–69 (1980). The Court deemed the state’s interests to be clear and substantial. The pattern here is similar to much due process and equal protection litigation as well as expression and religion cases in which the Court accepts the proffered interests as legitimate and worthy. *See also* *San Francisco Arts & Athletics, Inc. v. United States Olympic Comm.*, 483 U.S. 522 (1987) (governmental interest in protecting USOC’s exclusive use of word “Olympic” is substantial); *Rubin v. Coors Brewing Co.*, 514 U.S. 476 (1995) (government’s interest in curbing strength wars among brewers is substantial, but interest in facilitating state regulation of alcohol is not substantial). *Contrast* *United States v. Edge Broadcasting Co.*, 509 U.S. 418 (1993), finding a substantial federal interest in facilitating state restrictions on lotteries. “Unlike the situation in *Edge Broadcasting*,” the *Coors* Court explained, “the policies of some states do not prevent neighboring states from pursuing their own alcohol-related policies within their respective borders.” 514 U.S. at 486. However, in *Bolger v. Youngs Drug Products Corp.*, 463 U.S. 60 (1983), the Court deemed insubstantial a governmental interest in protecting postal patrons from offensive but not obscene materials. For differential treatment of the governmental interest, *see* *Posadas de Puerto Rico Associates v. Tourism Co. of Puerto Rico*, 478 U.S. 328 (1986) (Puerto Rico’s “substantial” interest in discouraging casino gambling by residents justifies ban on ads aimed at residents even though residents may legally engage in casino gambling, and even though ads aimed at tourists are permitted).

¹⁰⁶² 447 U.S. at 569. The ban here was found to directly advance one of the proffered interests. *Contrast* this holding with *Bates v. State Bar of Arizona*, 433 U.S. 350 (1977); *Virginia State Bd. of Pharmacy v. Virginia Citizens Consumer Council*, 425 U.S. 748 (1976); *Bolger v. Youngs Drug Products Corp.*, 463 U.S. 60 (1983);