The government has improved and strengthened greatly since the establishment of the United States Constitution in 1787 and the ratification of the Bill of Rights in 1791. Many controversies have sparked, including the equilibrium of protection of life and the rights and freedoms of its people. It is definitely possible for a government that has its first duty of protecting life to also protect the rights and freedoms of its people. America protects its well-being and its citizens with government agencies such as the CDC, FBI, and TSA which all have diverse occupations focused on the main task of protecting Americans from harm. However, while the U.S. has a tactical set-up for ensuring protection of life, the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States helps to protect the rights and freedoms of its people. The Fourth Amendment declares that “[t]he right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation….”

Governments should consider occasions and scenarios in which sacrificing freedom and liberty becomes a priority for future security concerns. Gun control, monitoring air waves, and martial law are examples of issues that sacrifice freedom and liberty but result in protecting our security. In American society, our government can prevent itself from abusing its own power through checks and balances. Americans, on the other hand, can prevent this event from occurring by simply using their voice to express their opinions about issues or their personal ideas. The First Amendment of the Constitution allows “abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for redress of grievances”. Boycotting, voting, petitions and freedom of assembly are all ways for Americans to participate in strengthening our government power and reducing our government from abusing its power. However, planning these events or ideas can lead to a disagreement in a community, which starts cyberbullying and harassment. State laws are already in place to correct these issues.

Computers and phones are used in homes every day; however, the government has the ability to view one’s private messages and histories from these devices. This issue can be argued as intruding into one’s home without a warrant. If so, the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution would be violated, which is a right that the government should hold inviolable and under no circumstance infringe upon. Facing governmental watches while using the Internet is an issue we face; however, reducing the amount of content or their full viewing of our privacy, without reason, can address the issue. The Fourth Amendment is important, because it allows an individual to have some sense of privacy in the comfort of their own home or environment. As the government continues to attempt to balance the rights of its people and its security, policy will play a major role in the development.