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Judeo-Christian beliefs and the Ten Commandments have affected our nation's founding documents like the Constitution and Declaration of Independence. The Judeo-Christian beliefs influence these two documents by emphasizing individual rights, moral principles, and justice for the common citizen. These core principles align with the Ten Commandments by calling for virtuous behavior and respect for others. Posting the Ten Commandments in public and private schools helps remind students today that the Judeo-Christian beliefs are a part of who we, as Americans, are and how we built our country into the country that it is today. Personally, I think that this could impact student behavior and may also influence people's beliefs, culture, and opinions. Of course, not everyone has a Judeo-Christian belief and so posting the Ten Commandments could also cause many controversies and disagreement amongst people.

Judeo-Christian beliefs heavily influence the Constitution's Bill of Rights along with parts of the Declaration of Independence. The Bill of Rights starts with the First Amendment, which is freedom of speech, religion, assembly, and the right to petition freely. This Amendment is influenced by these beliefs by giving any person the right to choose their religion and giving them the right to speak about their religion with others around them. The Ninth Amendment is also an example of the influence from these beliefs by providing that people's rights are not restricted to those specified in the first eight amendments. Which means that we are all free to choose our own job, start our own family, etc. , but it also means anyone can choose what rules they want to follow based on their religion or beliefs (as long as they don't break the law).

Secondly, the Declaration of Independence was impacted by these beliefs by stating “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.” When the Declaration of Independence says “unalienable rights” the founding fathers meant that these rights cannot be taken away by government and we should all be able accept anyone in our state that has different beliefs, ethnicity, culture, religion, etc. , and that they will be given liberty and a new life with the opportunity to pursue happiness.

The influence of the Ten Commandments can be viewed in many different ways. Some view the commandments as a symbol of their beliefs. Others might view it as a set of rules that is not in their best interest—and that they do not want to follow. In other words, for Catholics or Jews, the Ten Commandments were sent from God down to earth for Moses to present to the Israelites, so it is normal to see these Commandments and follow them. Now if you come from a non-religious family or believe in a different god, then these Commandments may seem foreign to you or maybe even suspicious. People may even feel like they are being told to be Christian or Jewish—because they don;t really understand the Ten Commandments themselves.

Personally, I see both sides of this issue. I believe that, for some, having the Ten Commandments in school is normal and would not be offensive. For others though, it may not be the best idea—especially in places with lots of non Judeo-Christian people. Non-Christians could feel offended, judged, threatened or feeling singled out for not being Chrisitan. Overall, I believe that having reminders of how to act and behave is not a bad thing, but those reminders should be shared in a way that is inclusive to all people.