

Background: In a significant case implicating free speech, religious expression, and public discrimination law, the Supreme Court ultimately decided 7-2 that baker Jack Phillips (owner of Masterpiece Cakeshop in Colorado) was within his rights to refuse to make a custom wedding cake for Charlie Craig and David Mullins (a gay couple).

Mr. Phillips wasn't violating any discrimination laws, since there is a difference between denying someone services that are generally available to everyone – such as refusing to sell them a cake that was already out for sale in the store – and denying them the use of one's artistic talents for a specific project. Baking a custom cake for a specific event (in this case, for a wedding ceremony) falls into the latter category. For example, a videographer isn't committing wrongful discrimination if she refuses to make a violent or offensive video for a prospective customer, based on her personal beliefs. Similarly, the baker can refuse to make custom art in the form of a wedding cake for a gay couple, just like he can legitimately refuse to make offensive cakes, Halloween cakes, or cakes with alcohol in them.

On a different note, if a country such as the United States truly values religious freedom, business owners should not be forced to act in a way that violates this freedom. For example, if a baker believes that gay marriages are sinful, he should not be forced to bake a cake for a gay wedding. This act clearly goes against his religious beliefs, and forcing him to do an act that goes against his religion is a violation of his religious freedom.

Source: [ThoughtFull](#)