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Course: EDAL 560 K-12 Law
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Date: September 26, 1921

Case Analysis

Lemon v. Kurtzman

Case Analysis Relevant Facts: The case, *Lemon v. Kurtzman*, went before the Supreme Court of the United States. The argument was whether Pennsylvania and Rhode Island's Nonpublic Elementary and Secondary Education statutes, which permitted "tax-funded reimbursement to church-affiliated schools" (McGovern, n.d.), was illegal. The court ruled against the statutes, which permit the Public Schools Superintendent to pay for secular education teachers' salaries while they teach in private, religious schools. The Act mandated that "eligible teachers must teach only courses offered in the public schools, using only materials used in the public schools, and must agree not to teach courses in religion" (Wikipedia, 2021). The court held that parochial schools were very much involved in the religious mission of the Catholic Church whose beneficiaries under the act were 250 teachers who came from the Roman Catholic schools. And "that the Act fostered 'excessive entanglement' between government and religion, thus violating the Establishment Clause" (Wikipedia, 2021).

Legal Issue: Whether the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment was violated through the Pennsylvania and Rhode Island statutes that provided state funding for private and religious schools.

Opinion of the Court: The court held that the statutes violated the Establishment Clause.

Reasons for the Court Opinion: Because the statutes facilitated too much entanglement between government and religious institutions.

References

Lemon v. Kurtzman. (2021, August 26). Wikipedia. Retrieved on September 24, 2021, from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lemon_v._Kurtzman

McGovern, G. (2009). *Lemon v. Kurtzman I* (1971). Retrieved on September 24, 2021, from <https://www.mtsu.edu/first-amendment/article/437/lemon-v-kurtzman-i>

Grade (A)/Comments: Again, Nicole, your case analysis was Excellent. Loved your concise description of the Legal Issues involved. The Relevant facts of the case were all there. The Reasons for the Court's Opinion Section (#4) was Great. Everything was precise and concise. Great job as they say. Keep up your very good work.