

US Supreme Court Makes Huge Mistake in Janus Decision

The Janus decision is not about freedom of speech or First Amendment rights.

The Janus case began as a contract negotiation dispute between the Governor of Illinois and the labor union, AFSCME, in the year 2015. As a result of that dispute, the Governor attempted to deprive the Union of their fair share fees by suing the Union. The District court ruled that the Governor had no standing to do that, so he found a pawn (Mark Janus) to assist him in that endeavor. That is the true story of how it became the “Janus Case”.

The Janus case continued on with financial and legal support from several anti-union groups. These groups had been lurking in the shadows just waiting for a case like this to make its way all the way up to the US Supreme Court, knowing that the balance of the Court had shifted with the appointment of Neil Gorsuch.

Don't be fooled, this case was never about freedom of speech! It was a direct attack on the public-sector unions and their strength at the bargaining table, which has been growing over the past twenty years.

Strong unions equate to strong contracts, and better benefits and wages for our members. Union workers earn between 13 and 20 percent more than non-union workers.

When working people stand together in a union, we have the power to make a difference in the way we are treated at our jobs, and the way we live our lives.

Now is not the time to question your faith in your union. The future of our pensions and affordable health care are at risk and if we don't have a strong union protecting them, they will be vulnerable to attacks from either political party.

Remember, your pension is your future and without it, your future may not be as bright as you once hoped.

Stay **UNION STRONG**, stick together, and don't be persuaded by anti-union messaging.

Steve Crouch
Director of Public Employees