RE: Who needs the Constitution when we have Saudi Arabia?

Dear Editor,

Brian Palmer (letters 8-30-2010) asks why should Muslims be allowed to build a mosque in New York if Jews or Christians can't build a synagogue or church in Mecca. Exactly. I mean why should American citizens be allowed more religious freedom and liberty than the citizens of Saudi Arabia? The fine people of that country seem content enough to limit their religious freedom and liberties, so why should Americans need any more constitutional rights than the denizens of Mecca enjoy?

I would go just one step further, and ask why we need a constitution or Bill of Rights at all? By Brian Palmer's reasoning, we need only look and see if a right, freedom or liberty is allowed in Saudi Arabia and if it is not, then we should not have those freedoms, religious or otherwise, here in our country.

Clearly, our freedom, liberties and tolerance in these United States should be restricted and defined by the laws and intolerance in those centers of foreign enlightenment as Palmer suggests.

John Donovan

Eugene, OR