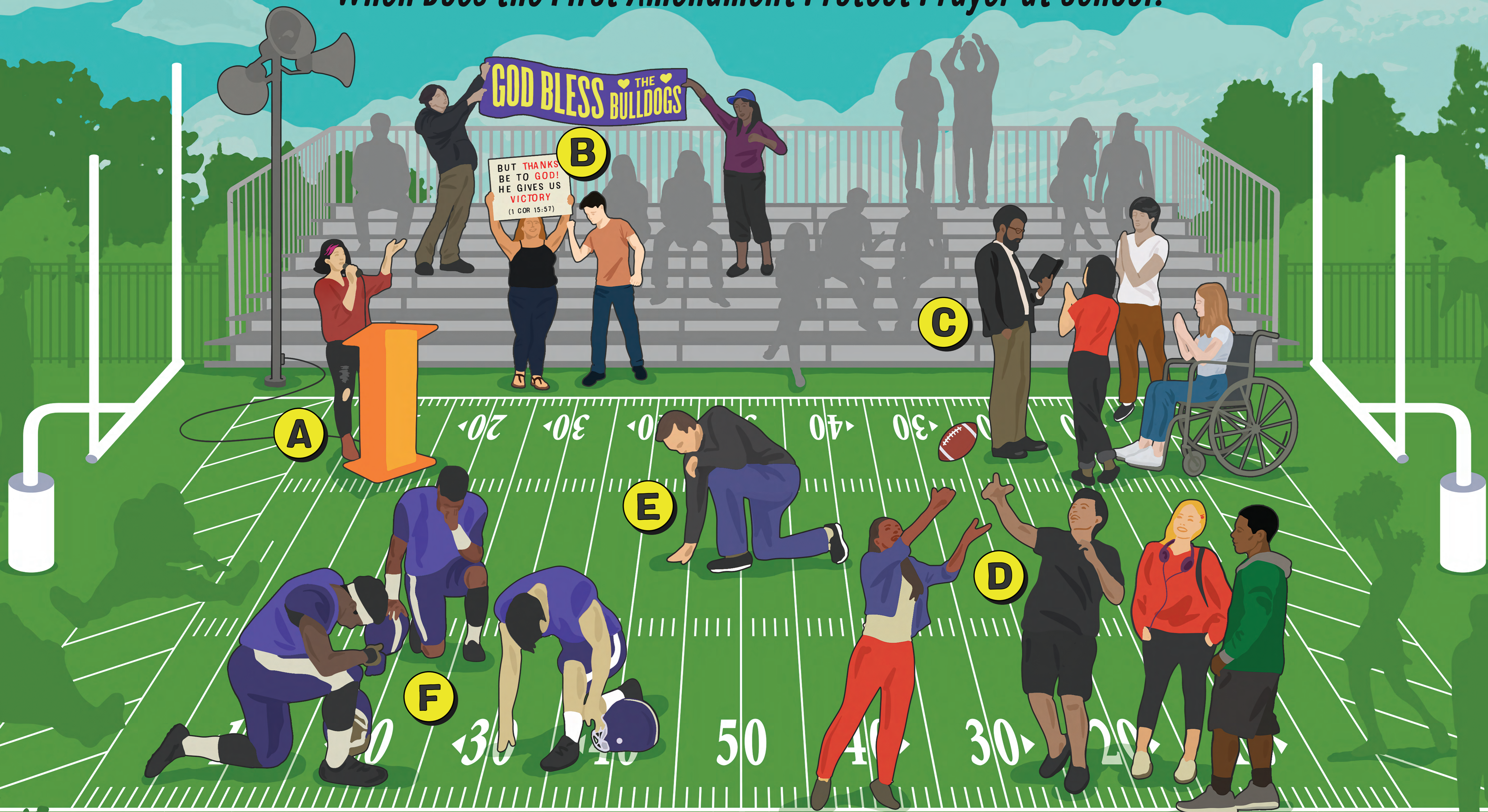


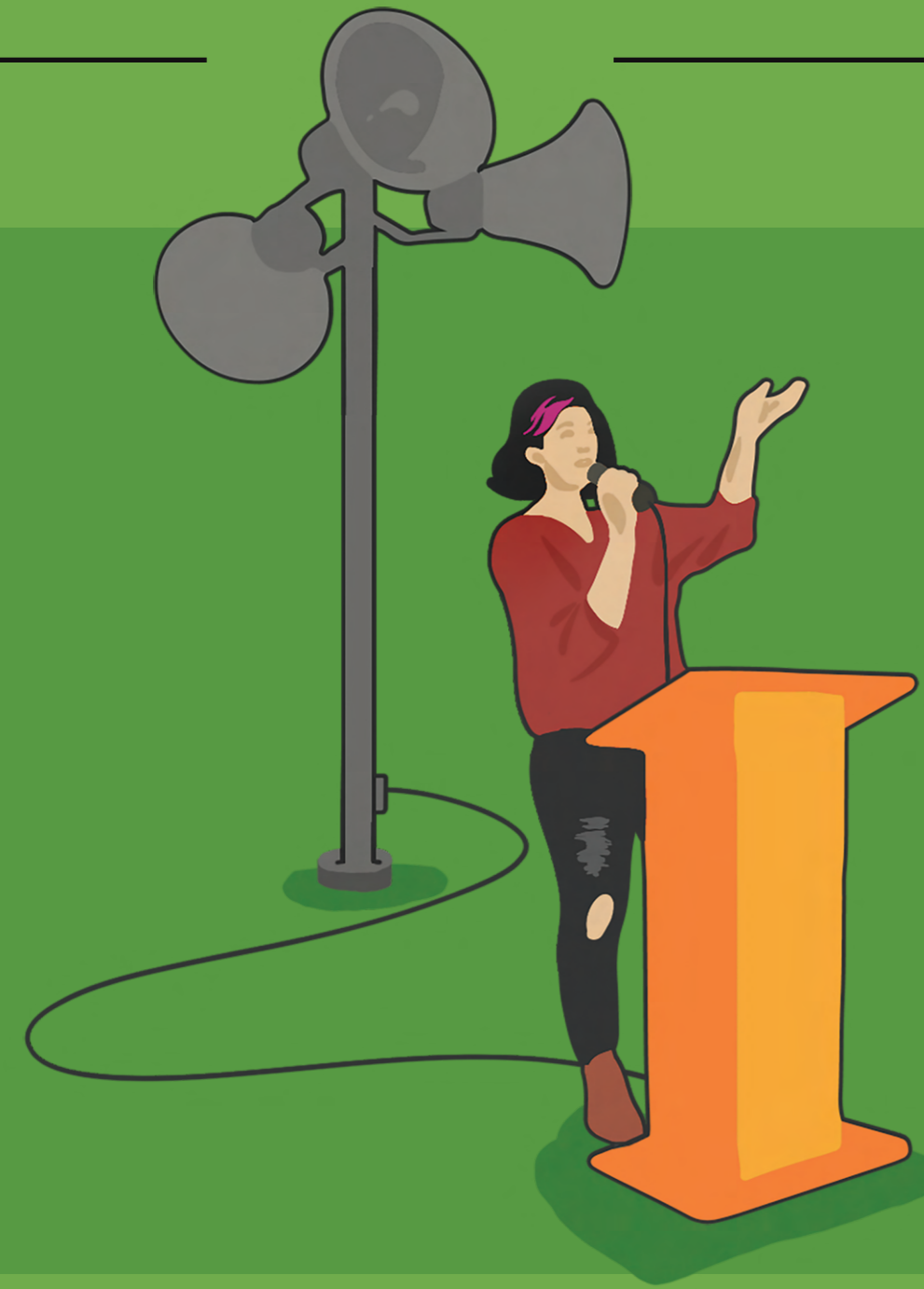
TO PRAY OR NOT TO PRAY

When Does the First Amendment Protect Prayer at School?



TO PRAY ^{OR} NOT TO PRAY

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A Does the First Amendment protect this student's right to lead the crowd in regularly scheduled, school reviewed prayer over the loudspeaker?

NO. The Court views regularly planned student speech over public address system as school-endorsed speech, and therefore does not allow student-led prayer over the loudspeaker.



D If students decide to pray together before a game or at other times, does the First Amendment protect students who choose to abstain from such prayers?

YES. The First Amendment protects the right of students to refuse participation in any religious activity, including prayer organized by fellow students.



B Does the First Amendment protect this student's right to wave a sign with religious speech?

YES. The Free Exercise Clause protects students' right to religious expression at school sponsored events, including signs and banners with religious speech.



E Does the First Amendment protect this coach's choice to pray in private on the field while off duty?

YES. Under current law, a school official may offer a private prayer on the field after the game if they do not invite students to participate.



C Does the First Amendment protect this teacher's right to intentionally lead others in audible, public prayer?

NO. The First Amendment prohibits school staff from praying with students during the school day or at school-sponsored events.



F Does the First Amendment protect these students' choice to pray?

YES. The First Amendment protects the right of public school students to pray alone or in groups as long as they don't interfere with the educational process or interfere with the rights of others.