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#### NOTED IN PASSING - AKE GREEN ACQUITAL

Sweden's Supreme Court has reversed Pastor Ake Green's conviction for violating the nation's hate-crimes law. The original conviction was the result a 2004 sermon, where Green called homosexuality a "deep cancer tumor." While the decision does not end the debate over the growing animosity in the West toward the Word of God, we can all rejoice that a courageous man of God has been spared from going to jail for his beliefs. This battle has been won. The war on Christianity continues.

## SUPREME COURT HEARS CHALLENGE TO PARENTAL NOTIFICATION

The Supreme Court is hearing oral arguments today in Ayotte v. Planned Parenthood of Northern New England, a challenge to New Hampshire's parental notification law. The statute requires parental notification before a minor child has

an abortion A friend who heard today's arguments e-mailed me the following message: "Just walked in from the Supreme Court. What an exciting day. You could feel a spiritual shift."

It is inconceivable to ordinary Americans that adults would fight to keep parents in the dark when it comes to a procedure that takes one life and forever alters another. But that has always been the goal of Planned Parenthood and the abortion industry.

In the past decade, the Supreme Court has dogmatically rejected even modest restrictions on abortion. In 1992 (Planned Parenthood v. Casey) it reaffirmed Roe v. Wade and concocted a new "undue burden" test to protect abortion. In 2000 (Carhart v. Stenberg) it rejected a ban on partial-birth abortion.

Carhart was a 5-4 decision, with supposedly moderate Justice Sandra Day O'Connor voting with the pro-abortion/activist majority. The court is expected to announce its decision in Ayotte next summer. If Judge Samuel Alito is confirmed, he could be the deciding vote in this case

The task confronting defenders of the unborn is to assure that Alito has a speedy confirmation process and a fair vote in the Senate. Hearings on the Alito nomination are scheduled for January. I assure you that Vision America's staff will be praying and working for Alito's confirmation.

# TEXAS WITHDRAWS FROM NAT'L ASSN. OF STATE SCHOOL BORADS

I applaud the decision of the Texas State Board of Education, and my good friend, board member Terri Leo, to withdraw from the National Association of State School Boards (NASBE).

Sadly, NASBE is one of many worthwhile organizations subverted by the left. The Texas Board of Education cited 3 NASBE policies which prompted its decision.

1. In an NASBE 2004 citizenship education publication, under the First Amendment the publication listed "separation of church and state" – words which

appear nowhere in the amendment or the Constitution. This promotes the liberal fallacy that the First Amendment prohibits public expression of religious beliefs.

- 2. NASBE's promotion of what's called "comprehensive sex education," which encourages sexual experimentation among the young. Texas teaches abstinence-only sex education.
- 3. NASBE's policy on "bullying" -- which serves as a vehicle for advancing the gay agenda in the guise of promoting tolerance.

The Texas State Board of Education has taken a bold and necessary step. Other states should follow its lead. Pastors and others in Texas who receive this Report need to stand fast with these courageous Board members. You can bet that Texas' liberal media will pillory them for this move.

### STORES THAT BOYCOTT THE "C-Word"

Many of the largest retail establishments are refusing to acknowledge the existence of Christmas in their advertising.

The American Family Association has compiled a list of companies that are boycotting the word "Christmas." They include Target, Kroger, Office Max, Walgreens, Sears, Staples, Lowe's, J.C. Penny, Dell and Best Buy. In a survey of 260 pages of insert promotions for their merchandise, not one of these retail giants mentioned Christmas even once.

Traditionally, stores derive roughly 20% of their annual revenue from Christmas sales. If Christian shoppers started boycotting them, perhaps they'd stop boycotting Christ-mas.

For more information on the American Family Association's Christmas Campaign, go to <a href="https://www.afa.net">www.afa.net</a>.

Help us fight the War on Faith - Get involved by following any action items above and by forwarding this alert to your friends and family.

Your financial contributions are always appreciated. <u>Click here to contribute</u>.

Dr. Rick Scarborough is the president of <u>Vision America</u> and chairman for the Judeo-Christian Council.