



Volume 1 Number 5

June 2, 2005

In Today's Report:

1. Interfaith Group Pushes Hate Crimes Bill
2. Archbishop Chaput Tells It Like It Is
3. Montgomery County Sex Indoctrination KO'ed
4. Valedictorian Allowed To Mention Jesus
5. Action Items

INTERFAITH GROUP PUSHES HATE CRIMES BILL

To fully appreciate the hypocrisy of the left, consider the following: The Interfaith Alliance (composed of 75 denominations, with over 150,000 members) has taken a position on a political issue. The Alliance is supporting legislation pending in Congress.

So, where are the cries of outrage from People for the American Way and Americans United for the Separation of Church and State? Where are The New York Times' editorials expressing grave concern over religious people *forcing* their values on the nation?

Nowhere to be seen or heard. That's because the Interfaith Alliance is supporting legislation, sponsored by Congressman Barney Frank and others, to add "sexual orientation" (i.e., homosexuality) to federal hate crimes law.

You see, the left is very selective about the way it applies its peculiar notion of church/state separation. When religious conservatives work to end abortion or oppose same-sex marriage, it's condemned. But when faith is enlisted to support any politically correct issue – then it's welcomed as a positive contribution.

No longer will we tolerate such a glaring double standard. Religious conservatives have as much right to participate in the political process based on our values, as religious liberals do based on theirs.

(Note: Hate crimes legislation is particularly pernicious. In Europe and Canada, such laws have been used to persecute Christians who express a Biblical message on homosexuality. They are used not to punish crimes against gays, but to suppress dissent.)

I commend the Interfaith Alliance for taking their values into the political arena. Don't misunderstand me, I believe their position is dead wrong and contravenes the word of God. But at least these liberal clergymen are involved. My goal is to get conservative Christians to be just as involved.

ARCHBISHOP CHAPUT TELLS IT LIKE IT IS

Speaking at the second annual National Catholic Prayer Breakfast, Denver Archbishop Charles Chaput delivered a powerful message that affirmed the rights of the faithful in the public square.

Last year, Archbishop Chaput sent shockwaves through the liberal establishment when he declared that Catholics who voted for a pro-abortion candidate had committed a sin that must be confessed before receiving Communion.

In his keynote address to the 1,600 gathered for the prayer breakfast, the Archbishop was equally outspoken.

"If God is the center of our lives, then of course that fact will influence our behavior, including our political decisions," Chaput commented. "That's natural and healthy. What's unnatural and unhealthy is the kind of public square where religious faith is seen as unhealthy and dangerous. But that seems to be exactly what some people want: a public square stripped of God and stripped of religious faith."

He also observed: "Divorcing our personal convictions from our public choices and actions is not 'good manners.' On the contrary, it can be a very serious kind of theft from the moral treasury of the nation, because the most precious thing that anyone can bring to any political conversation is an honest witness to what he or she really believes."

Amen! This Baptist preacher is delighted to have a Catholic cleric like Archbishop Charles Chaput in the political trenches with him, fighting the good fight for our common moral heritage.

MONTGOMERY CO. SEX INDOCTRINATION KO'ED

For several issues of The Rick Scarborough Report, we've covered the ongoing drama of a proposed sex-education program for the public schools of Montgomery County, Maryland. In the latest development, the county school board voted to scrap this indoctrination in the guise of education. At last, light

dawns on Marblehead!

The curriculum claimed that to be sexually attracted to a member of your sex was “natural” and “normal.” Also, it was maintained that many religious people (without specifying which ones) have no problem with homosexuality.

A group of parents sued the school board and were partially vindicated when, on May 5th, U.S. District Court Judge Alexander Williams issued a temporary restraining order to prevent implementation of the curriculum. Williams held there was sufficient evidence that the course material violated the First Amendment’s Free Speech clause -- by presenting one point-of-view to the exclusion of all others.

After that, the board simply collapsed. All because some parents were willing to take a stand. Their example should encourage other beleaguered families to say, “Enough is enough!”

VALEDICTORIAN ALLOWED TO DISCUSS JESUS

Sadly, the public schools have been so misinformed and manipulated by militant secularists that even when the courts see no First Amendment problem with a type of religious expression, administrators will try to suppress it anyway.

At the local high in Spencer, Wisconsin, Valedictorian Miriam Cattanach presented administrators with the text of her proposed address to the graduating class. The accomplished young lady was told to remove all references to God and Jesus.

Cattanach and her family contacted Liberty Counsel, which informed the superintendent and principal that their demand amounted to censorship, which the courts have disallowed in similar cases. The next day, the school district decided the Miriam would be permitted to give her speech as written.

Thus, at the graduation, after the usual success pep talk, Miriam told her classmates: “There is Someone Who can make the journey a lot easier. His name is the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the ultimate source of success, love, laughter, dreams and the future. He is the Creator of the universe who longs to have a relationship with you.”

But for every Miriam Cattanach, how many Christian students are silenced, never knowing their rights? We must all do our part to keep faith alive and flourishing – even in the public schools.

ACTION ITEMS

Sign The Impeach Judge Bataillon Petition

Thanks to the many that have signed online and that have downloaded the petition. As we have noted in past reports, in 2000, Nebraska voters passed a marriage protection amendment to their state constitution by a vote of 70.1%. On May 12, one man - Federal District Court Judge Joseph F. Bataillon - invalidated their democratic decision, by declaring the amendment unconstitutional.

The Judeo-Christian Council for Constitutional Restoration is calling for the impeachment and removal of Judge Bataillon. In a petition, we are calling on Congress to exercise its authority under Article II of the Constitution to remove Bataillon for "high crimes and misdemeanors" - that is to say, deliberately distorting the Constitution to achieve a political end.

The petition reads in part: "The reasoning in Judge Bataillon's opinion is so spurious that it constitutes nothing less than a naked attempt to substitute his judgment for that of the state's voters. In other words, the judge read his views into the Constitution to arrive at a foreordained conclusion that is manifestly at odds with the Constitution, rejects the will of the people of Nebraska and which makes a mockery of the democratic process.

You can sign the petition on line at <http://www.stopactivistjudges.org> . Expect major activity on this project in the weeks and months ahead.

Thank Archbishop Chaput

Denver Archbishop Charles Chaput – mentioned in Item #2 above – deserves our support and encouragement. Please e-mail the Archbishop (at info@archden.org) and let him know how much you appreciate his courageous stand for taking our religious values into the political arena. I'm sure Chaput hears from his critics all the time. He deserves to hear from his friends as well.

Help us fight the Judicial War on Faith - Get involved by following the action items above and by forwarding this alert to your friends and family. **Your financial involvement is always needed.** [Click here to contribute.](#) Dr. Rick Scarborough is the president of Vision America and acting chairman for the Judeo-Christian Council for Constitutional Restoration.