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MEMO TO THE PRESIDENT: THINK BROWN - JANICE ROGERS BROWN

Today, the Senate Judiciary Committee voted 13-5 in favor of John Roberts' nomination for Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. Democrats Leahy, Kohl and Feingold joined all 10 Republicans on the Committee in supporting Roberts.

As the battle over the Roberts' nomination moves to the floor of the Senate, there's intense speculation about President Bush's second Supreme Court

nominee. Increasingly, pro-faith conservatives are telling the White House to think Brown.

Recently confirmed to the DC Circuit Court of Appeals (called the second most powerful court in the land), Janice Rogers Brown is a dream nominee for folks like you and me. The daughter of black sharecroppers who grew up in segregated Alabama, Brown proved her mettle on the California Supreme Court, where she stood for private property, color-blind justice and parental rights. Her opponents on the left - including NOW, People for the American Way, Planned Parenthood and Americans United for the Separation of Church and State -begin raving at the mention of her name. They claim she embodies the "intellectual rigidity" of Justice Clarence Thomas and the "abrasiveness and right-wing activism" of Justice Antonin Scalia. In reality, she's a principled conservative and an extraordinary human being -- with a paper trail - who fully deserves the opportunity to be our first black, female justice.

Despite some encouraging signs, John Roberts is still largely an unknown commodity. With Judge Brown, we would know exactly what we're getting - a judge who reads the Constitution the way it was written and honors the intent of the Founding Fathers and legislators. Please communicate this to the White House, before we get another nominee without a paper trail.

HATE CRIME BILL - TROJAN HOUSE FOR HOMOSEXUAL RADICALS

We expect more from a Republican Congress.

On September 14, the House of Representatives narrowly approved an amendment to the Child Safety Act (which, ironically, creates stiffer penalties for sex offenders) that would expand current federal hate crimes legislation to cover homosexuals. This is dangerous and must be defeated.

While the amendment passed narrowly -- 223 to 199 -- with 30 Republicans (who richly deserve to feel the wrath of values voters next year) joining the Democrats to support this ominous measure. The final vote on the amended legislation was

a depressing 371-52. Only 29 Republicans and 23 Democrats opposed the bill as amended.

That means the overwhelming majority of Republicans either favor having homosexuals afforded federal civil rights protection, or lack the courage to fight for their convictions. And most of them regularly appeal to Christian conservatives for our support.

There's a real danger that hate-crimes coverage will be used as a pretext to prohibit any criticism of homosexuality - including expression of a Biblical point of view, as has been the case in both Canada and Sweden, where ministers have gone to jail for quoting the Bible.

On September 20, I joined other pro-family leaders (including James Dobson, Gary Bauer, Dr. Richard Land, and Paul Weyrich) in signing a letter to Majority Leader Bill Frist demanding that he block this legislation in the Senate. We must have total mobilization to prevent this first step toward outlawing Leviticus from becoming law. Please contact Senator Frist with this message. He can be reached at (202) 224-3344, or e-mail him through his website - <http://frist.senate.gov>.

STOP PLAYGROUND CENSORSHIP OF THE BIBLE

The Knox County (Tennessee) Board of Education prohibits students from reading or discussing the Bible during recess. Increasingly, many of our public schools are coming to resemble the Soviet Union, where atheism was the official policy.

The Alliance Defense Fund has asked a federal district court in Knoxville to issue a restraining order requiring school officials to respect the First Amendment rights of students - both free speech and the free-exercise of religion. This has nothing to do with school prayer, a moment of silent meditation or even public acknowledgement of God in the classroom, but the rights of students to read and discuss the Bible in their spare time.

It's amazing that, in a nation founded on the Bible, public-school students are banned from reading God's word during recess. You can follow this case (Whitson v. Knox County Board of Education) at the Alliance Defense Fund website - www.telladf.org.

THE WAR ON FAITH AND THE VALUES VOTER IN 2006, MARCH 27-28, 2006

As we noted in our last report, our Fall conference has been rescheduled to March 27-28, 2006. The War on Faith and the Values Voter in 2006 is still being held at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC, and we still expect it to be groundbreaking in every way. We'll have more details for you next week, and in the weeks that follow - or visit the Vision America website, www.visionamerica.us.

TEXAS VOTERS

"Texas Senate passed a constitutional marriage amendment May 21, making it the fifth state this year to send such an amendment to voters."

"The amendment, which would protect the traditional definition of marriage by banning both "gay marriage" and civil unions, will go to voters Nov. 8."(quoted from bpnews.net)

visit www.txmarriage.com

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