



ILLINOIS Family Institute

Boldly bringing biblical principles to public policy in the Land of Lincoln.

Newsletter | Spring 2019



TRUST in the Lord,
and do good;
DWELL in the land,
and feed on His faithfulness.

Psalms 37:3



www.illinoisfamily.org



from the **Executive Director — David E. Smith**

On the 46th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, Illinois Governor **J.B. Pritzker** held a news conference at a Chicago Planned Parenthood office to sign an executive order expanding abortion access in Illinois. During this event, Pritzker proudly proclaimed that he wanted to make Illinois “the most progressive state in the nation” when it comes to abortion access.

Then, in early February, New York state lawmakers shocked us by passing one of the most radical and thoroughly heartless abortion laws in recent memory. That catastrophe was followed by reports of a Virginia lawmaker who testified before a committee on a similar bill in that state. Virginia lawmaker **Kathy Tran** admitted that her bill would allow abortion even after labor has begun.

Not to be outdone on the “Have we all lost our minds?” scale, Virginia Governor **Ralph Northam**, when asked about the failed bill, was quoted as advocating infanticide. “If a mother is in labor...the infant would be delivered. The infant would be kept comfortable. The infant would be resuscitated if that’s what the mother and the family desired, and then a discussion would ensue between the physicians and mother.” WOW!

Deliver the infant and then decide? Governor Northam, a pediatric neurologist by training, later denied he was advocating for the killing of newborns, even those with life-threatening deformities.

Reeling from recent appointments to the U.S. Supreme Court that may result in more pro-life rulings, abortion proponents are taking their fights to the states. They know if *Roe v. Wade* is overturned, the laws in each state will take over. **Leana Wen**, President of Planned Parenthood Federation of America said in *The Wall Street Journal*,



“Courts can no longer be a reliable backstop to anti-reproductive health politicians. And because we don’t expect the attacks to stop, that is why we have to focus on states.”

The viciousness and heartlessness of these bills has surprised even the most seasoned legal experts, such as Princeton law professor **Robert George**, who stated on his Facebook page after the New York law passed:



“Until a few minutes ago, I had never felt physically ill as a result of watching something on television. But the video footage of New York legislators applauding and cheering the monstrous late-term abortion bill they passed yesterday on the anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* literally nauseated me. The sheer inhumanity of applauding an act licensing and facilitating the killing of six, seven, eight, even nine-month babies—babies who could be delivered and survive; babies with fully formed faces, eyelashes, fingernails; babies who hear and are familiar with their mother’s voice—turned my stomach. What kind of people are we? How can so many be utterly blind to such gross and manifest evil? These people were cheering. They were *cheering*. Where did this fanatical commitment to ensuring that the lives of children in the womb count for nothing—indeed less than nothing—come from? How did this contempt for human life insinuate itself into people’s hearts?”

continued on page 3...



2019 Pro-Life Billboard Campaign by Chris Iverson

Since 2016, IFI and the pro-life movement in Illinois have reached 38.7 million views of the message "Abortion takes a human life" in the Chicago area using pro-life billboards and other methods. Now that two extreme abortion bills have been filed in Springfield, our mass communication efforts are more important than ever.

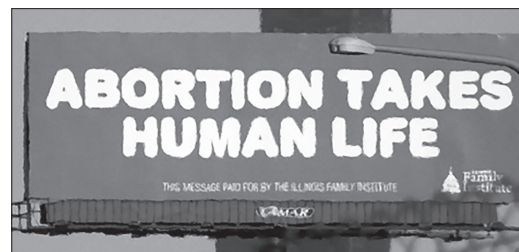
The anti-life political problem in Springfield is mostly caused by an anti-life cultural problem in Chicago. Far too many people in the Chicago area hear pro-choice talking points repeatedly while rarely coming across the pro-life perspective. Together, we are changing that. Together, we are reaching millions of people repeatedly to save them and their babies from abortion.

Since the Chicago area is large, there are people we have not yet reached. In 2019, we aim to raise \$15,000 to fund billboards that will reach 6 million views in the northwest suburbs and just

west of downtown Chicago on I-290.

Changing our culture requires bold and clear communication that reaches a large audience. This is an opportunity to save mothers and babies from abortion. Many who see these billboards will someday play a role in deciding whether or not they will abort an innocent baby. We can reach them before they are tempted by abortion.

Help us reach our goal by donating to this special billboard fund! ☸



2019 Consolidated Elections!

Local elections in Illinois are collectively called the Consolidated Elections and they are held every other year. This year it will take place on **Tuesday, April 2nd, 2019.**

Please encourage your church and Christian friends to vote, and to vote their biblical values. The turnout in the Illinois March primary last year was less than 27 percent. We can do better — and as Christians who understand that self-government is a gift from God that requires diligence and stewardship — we can and should do *much* better. Consolidated elections for school board and library board, city & village trustees are on the ballot for April 2nd.

These local elections get very little attention from voters. Most of those who do vote are directly tied to the government entity. So get involved! Stand up for what is right! **Make a difference by voting! ☸**

Judge Orders California to Pay Pregnancy Care Centers

A federal judge has ordered the state of California to pay \$339,000 to three pro-life pregnancy care centers and The Liberty Counsel, a Christian legal group that defends life and religious liberty. The payment is a fine imposed in response to a U.S. Supreme Court case that declared a California law unconstitutional (*NIFLA v. Becerra*). The law required pro-life pregnancy care centers to provide clients with abortion information and referrals, a requirement that violated the core mission of the non-profit care centers. A similar law is being challenged here in Illinois, which mandates that medical providers must inform patients about abortion options, even if it creates conscience objections for medical workers. Pray that this law gets struck down as well. ☸



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Impact on Youth

Marijuana is 'The No.1 Problem in Schools' in Colorado.

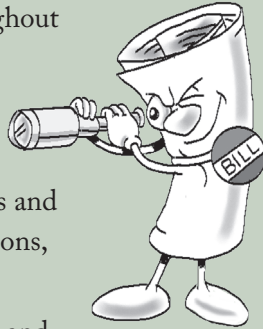
[The Daily Caller 10/16/15, The Denver Post 10/14/15]

ILLINOIS Learn more at:
noweedillinois.com



Illinois' Extreme Abortion Bills HB 2495 and HB 2467 will:

- ✓ Allow abortions for *any* reason throughout *all nine months of pregnancy*
- ✓ Eliminate *any* restrictions on where abortions may be performed
- ✓ Allow *non-physicians*, including nurses and physician assistants, to perform abortions, both surgical and medical
- ✓ Undermine and threaten institutional and individual rights of conscience
- ✓ Jeopardize *any* meaningful regulation of abortion clinics
- ✓ Require private health insurance policies to include coverage for *all* abortions, with *no exemptions*, even for churches and other religious organizations
- ✓ Eliminate any requirement to investigate fetal deaths or maternal deaths resulting from abortion
- ✓ Repeal law prohibiting “kickbacks” for abortion referrals
- ✓ Repeal the Parental Notice of Abortion Act of 1995, which has been responsible for a reduction of more than 55% in abortions among Illinois minors since 2012



NOTE: The senate bills are **SB 1942** and **SB 1594**.

Analysis from The Thomas More Society

from the **Executive Director — David E. Smith**

(continued from page 1)

This is the new face of the anti-life movement. Long gone are words about making abortion “safe, legal and rare.” These have been replaced with admonitions to “Shout Your Abortion” and t-shirts that say, “I love people who’ve had abortions,” adorned with little hearts.

According to **John Stonestreet** with the Colson Center for Christian Worldview, this is what you can expect from now on if you elect pro-abortion representatives.



“This is the pro-abortion movement exposed. This is what happens when pro-abortion politicians gain control of an entire state.”

Well, the battle is here and now in Illinois. We cannot turn a blind eye to how the abortion industry wants to create more victims—preborn babies and mothers in crisis—to fulfill their bloodlust. We must speak out now, boldly, for those who cannot speak for themselves. ❧

Fifth Annual
WORLDVIEW CONFERENCE
Biblical Training for Today's Culture

“trans” ideology

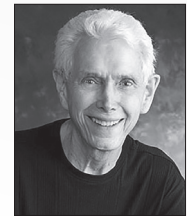
Featuring

FOUR SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKERS:



Dr. Michelle Cretella

Executive Director of the
American College of Pediatricians



Walt Heyer

Former “transgender,”
contributor to Public Discourse



Denise Shick

Founder & Director of
Help 4 Families



Douglas Wilson

Theologian, pastor, courageous
truth-teller & prolific author

10:00 AM - 3:30 PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2019

STONE CHURCH, ORLAND PARK

10737 Orland Pkwy, Orland Park, IL

\$20 per person / \$50 per family / Lunch is not included.

Contact Us: 708-781-9328 / www.illinoisfamily.org

Impact on Youth

**Two-thirds of
new marijuana users
are under 18.**

[Hall and Degenhardt, SAMSHA, Feb 22, 2013]



Learn more at:
noweedillinois.com



Unplanned, the movie

by Tami Jackson

In 2019 America the culture war rages on. At the heart of the culture war, life and death clash daily. And at the heart of the life and death battle stands one egregious business — Planned Parenthood.

As I wrote in, "Planned Parenthood, An Unnecessary Evil":

"The original intent of Planned Parenthood has been veiled with a facade of honorable work, but the truth is despicable to the core.

"Planned Parenthood's predecessor, The American Birth Control League, was founded by Nazi-inspiration **Margaret Sanger**, the godmother of modern eugenics, in 1921.

"The real Margaret Sanger espoused sinister motives for advancing birth control and abortion: she fully endorsed eugenics for the betterment of race and society.

"Sanger was a Darwinist who embraced a utilitarian view of human life, and proposed to rid our nation of the criminal element and "inferior races" through abortion and breeding programs."

Too many in our society entertain misconceptions about Planned Parenthood, owing to the biased coverage of Mainstream Media and the relentless marketing of the taxpayer-dollars-rich organization.

Planned Parenthood masquerades as a benevolent women's health company, with clinics purposefully erected in poor and ethnic neighborhoods, preying on desperate women, killing defenseless babies.

And yes...those babies can and do feel pain.

That pain plays a part in an upcoming movie, *Unplanned*, the true story of former Planned Parenthood clinic director **Abby Johnson**.

Abby swallowed the "we help women" Planned Parenthood ruse, and in spite of her Christian upbringing, justified her involvement in abortion. She was removed from the gore of the actual abortions until she wasn't...and *everything* changed. Abby's bio on her site details:

During her eight years with Planned Parenthood, Abby quickly rose through the organization's ranks and became a clinic director.

...Abby loved the women that entered her clinic and her co-workers. Despite a growing unrest within her, she stayed on and strove to serve women in crisis.

All of that changed on September 26, 2009 when Abby was asked to assist with an ultrasound-guided abortion. She watched in horror as a 13 week baby fought for, and ultimately lost, its life at the hand of the abortionist.



Johnson's testimony is powerful: when confronted with the absolute horror of abortion, she wept, heartbroken at her complicity in the brutal killing of thousands of tiny babies.

Unplanned tells the heart-rending story of Abby's involvement in Planned Parenthood, her visceral realization of the truth about abortion, and her repentance leading to a calling to save babies' lives and help post-abortive mothers find peace and healing.

After that providential September 2009 day, as written at Abby's site, **AbbyJohnson.org**:

At that moment, she fully realized what abortion actually was and what she had dedicated her life to. As it washed over Abby, a dramatic transformation occurred. Desperate and confused, Abby sought help from a local pro-life group. She swore that she would begin to advocate for life in the womb and expose abortion for what it truly is.

Today, Abby travels across the globe sharing her story, educating the public on pro-life issues, advocating for the unborn, and reaching out to abortion clinic staff who still work in the industry. She is the founder of *And Then There Were None*,



a ministry designed to assist abortion clinic workers in transitioning out of the industry. To date, this ministry has helped over 430 workers leave the abortion industry. Abby lives in Texas with her husband and seven precious children.

And now pro-life Americans everywhere have the opportunity to jump in the fray, to fight for life in this escalating battle of death versus life. We know God is NOT silent on the subject:

This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live [Deuteronomy 30:19]

Unplanned tells the redemptive and powerful story of Abby Johnson and her transformation from a Planned Parenthood clinic director, unwittingly advancing a culture of death, to a champion of women and babies and LIFE!

The movie site, **UnplannedFilm.com**, gives the synopsis:

Unplanned is the inspiring true story of one woman's journey of transformation.

All Abby Johnson ever wanted to do was help women. As one of the youngest Planned Parenthood clinic directors in the nation, she was involved in upwards of 22,000 abortions and counseled countless women about their reproductive choices. Her passion surrounding a woman's right to choose even led her to become a spokesperson for Planned Parenthood, fighting to enact legislation for the cause she so deeply believed in.

Until the day she saw something that changed everything, leading Abby Johnson to join her former enemies at 40 Days For Life and become one of the most ardent pro-life speakers in America.

There is power in lives transformed by



Public Libraries Unsafe by David E. Smith

Did you know that the earliest libraries were part of the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel — a mission-minded Church of England entity?

Now, a mere three centuries later, what began as a good work is being turned on its head and every parent and grandparent must be made aware!

America's libraries have become one more progressive tool to dismantle Judeo-Christian values, and every responsible mother and father, grandparent or guardian must understand how pervers use the library's policy of unfiltered Internet to access obscene and illegal content.

This is nothing new. For more than 15 years now we have been sounding the alarm about the dangers of pornography and sex crimes in our libraries. It isn't hyperbole to say that library officials, by refusing to use filtering technology to block graphic obscene websites, are fostering a clear and present danger in our neighborhoods and for our children. We have numerous examples on our IFI YouTube page.

Recently, WGN Channel 9 News revisited this issue, and what they found on the third floor of Chicago's Harold Washington Library is shocking. Adult men viewing hard-core pornography, often fondling themselves.

No one has a First Amendment "right" to view illegal pornography in tax-funded

public libraries. And taxpayers do not have an obligation to provide access to free illegal pornography in neighborhood libraries.

But would it also shock you to learn that the American Library Association defends a child's right to view such material?

The "right to use a library" includes free access to, and unrestricted use of, all the services, materials, and facilities the library has to offer. Every restriction on access to, and use of, library resources, based solely on the chronological age, educational level, literacy skills, or legal emancipation of users violates Article V.

Lack of access to information can be harmful to minors. Librarians and library governing bodies have a public and professional obligation to ensure that all members of the community they serve have free, equal, and equitable access to the entire range of library resources regardless of content, approach, format, or amount of detail. This principle of library service applies equally to all users, minors as well as adults. Librarians and library governing bodies must uphold this principle in order to provide adequate and effective service to minors. (Source: *ALA's Access for Children and Young Adults to Nonprint Materials*)

God knows mankind and our hearts.



He made us and our minds with a marvelous connection between our creative imaginations and our behaviors. But with the fall came the propensity to, in our regenerate state, hunger after harmful things. Things which destroy.

Pornography is one such destructive thing.

The ALA's mission of providing free access to ALL information sounds vaguely like another argument once made in a garden:

Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?

"You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

So how should believers deal with such activity at their local library? Should we speak up? Should we boycott?

No matter our course of action, the first matter of importance is to safeguard our children! Protect them from the images AND those viewing those images. As harsh as it may sound, do NOT allow your children free access in the library. ❧

God's grace, and **Unplanned** uses the big screen to display that power magnificently.

Unplanned opens in theaters **March 29**, and the website has a sign-up page to be alerted when tickets are available.

I saw Abby in person last year, and with a church full of pro-lifers, tears streaming down our faces, was utterly amazed at the depth of the abortion industry's depravity but the height of God's mercy and grace.

I would implore — in the Apostle Paul's language — I would *beseech* each and every one of you to share this article,

to share the **Unplanned** information! Perhaps you can even help plan a private showing or buy out a showing at a local theater.

This movie could strike a death knell on Planned Parenthood in the wake of President Trump announcing "a final ruling last Friday to ban Title X grants from going to abortion providers like Planned Parenthood."

This could very well be the beginning of the end of an evil organization which has snuffed out the life of over **13 million babies** for profit since Roe was wrongly

decided in 1973.

Again, from the **Unplanned** site:

Unplanned is the most important movie you'll ever see on the most controversial issue of our time. No matter which side of the fence you're on, no one will leave this film unmoved by Abby's journey.

Unplanned might just open millions of eyes to the truth about Planned Parenthood and begin to thwart Margaret Sanger's despicable scheme.

And perhaps we can all have a part in the victory of life over death. ❧



Springfield Update

Over 6,000 bills have been filed thus far.

For additional information, please call the IFI office 708-781-9328.



SUPPORT

HB 340 repeals taxpayer funding of abortion.

HB 341 amends the School Code to allow the national motto of “In God We Trust” to be displayed inside and outside of a public school.

HB 342 requires the Department of Public Health powers to create a list of immunizing agents derived from aborted fetal tissue; requires a health care provider to notify the parent of such an immunizing agent; requires that an alternative immunizing agent be offered and option to decline if none is available.

HB 835 reinforces the American Flag’s symbolism; honors members of the Armed Forces who have lost their lives; provides for the location, dates and manner of display.

HB 1620 requires that if a child is born alive as a result of abortion, the physician in attendance shall exercise the same degree of professional skill, care, and diligence to preserve the life and health of the child.



OPPOSE

HB 15 creates new criminal penalties under the Human Rights Act if a person “denies to another the full and equal enjoyment of the facilities and services of a place of public accommodation.” (Bakers, florists and photographers who refuse to provide their services for a same-sex wedding could receive a 3 to 6-month jail sentence.)

HB 18 requires that every public school teach “respect toward a person’s race or ethnicity or gender. (This could require children be taught they must respect transgenderism.)

HB 208 requires every public school in K-12 to give “instruction, study, and discussion on the side effects of cannabis when the use of cannabis is not authorized by the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act.” (The problem with this bill is that it reinforces the wrong presumption that cannabis is medicine, which reduces the perception of risk, thereby increases use among children.)

HB 246 and SB 78 requires that the “teaching of history of the United States in public schools shall include a study of the role and contributions of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people” in grades K-12.

HB 252 amends the Human Rights Acts, which prohibits discrimination based on several categories including sexual orientation and gender identity, by decreasing the number of employees from fifteen (15) to one (1).

HB 902 allows persons 21 and older to grow 24 marijuana plants (24 plants = 23,000 joints per grow season), possess up to 224 grams of marijuana (224 grams = 400 joints); requires “that at least 51% of the licenses issued by the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation for retail cannabis stores shall be in communities disproportionately harmed by the war on drugs.”

HB 922 amends the School Code to require feminine hygiene products in boys’ bathrooms.

HB 1442 allows pharmacists to give contraceptives to adult women and minors without the patient having to see a physician (and without parents being notified).

HB 2467 and SB 1594 repeals the Parental Notice of Abortion Act.

HB 2495 and SB 1942 repeals the Illinois Abortion law of 1975 including criminal penalties on doctors who commit abortion; repeals the Partial Birth Abortion ban; removes all regulations on clinics that commit abortions; states that a fertilized egg, embryo, or fetus does not have independent rights under the law.

HB 3023 prohibits a church, synagogue, temple and mosque; or buildings, real property, or parking areas owned by them, to allow a conceal-carry firearm on the premises.

HB 3111 allows people who have been convicted of a crime to change their name if the name change is due to marriage,

Impact on Youth

62% of all Colorado expulsions/suspensions were marijuana violations in 2015-2016 school year.

[Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area, Volume 5]



Learn more at: noweedillinois.com

transgender status, religious belief, or status as a victim of trafficking.

HB 3524 requires that all State forms and documents requiring the listing of gender designations or requiring persons to identify their gender shall include, as a gender designation, the term “non-binary.”

HB 3640 amends the Illinois Human Rights Act and Criminal Code of 2012, redefining “gender identity” to mean a person’s deeply felt, inherent sense of who the person is as a particular gender and that a person’s gender identity may be the same or different from the sex of the person assigned at birth. Includes gender identity (rather than just gender) within the definition of a hate crime.

SB 7 legalizes and taxes high potency marijuana for recreational use.

SB 1659 amends the Communicable Disease Prevention Act by requiring students, upon entering the 6th grade of any public, private, or parochial school, to receive a human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination. (Note: HPV is mostly contracted by sexual activity.)

SB 2075 amends the School Code by lowering the compulsory school age from 6 to 5. ❧

PRO-LIFE RALLY & LOBBY DAY

March 20th, 2019

**Noon – 1:30 Lobby | 1:30 – 2:30 Rally in Rotunda
2:30 – 4:00 Lobby**

Please join us in Springfield to show your support for Life. Attendees are asked to pray and lobby their lawmakers to oppose the following anti-life bills.

- **HB 2495**, wrongly named the Reproductive Health Act (Rep. Cassidy D-Chicago), will repeal the 1975 Illinois Abortion law; will repeal the Partial Birth Abortion Ban; and will remove any and all regulations for clinics that commit abortions.
- **HB 2467** (Rep. Emmanuel Welch D-Westchester) will repeal the Parental Notice of Abortion Act of 1995, which only requires notification — not consent.

This must be stopped! Planned Parenthood, Personal PAC and the ACLU will stop at nothing to achieve their body-and soul-destroying goals. If we fail to do everything in our power to block the passage of these bills, we become complicit in the destruction of countless more innocent lives.

Churches and civic groups should organize and drive down on their own. Parking can be found south and west of the Capitol. Additional parking on west side streets. To reserve bus space on Monroe St. between College & 2nd, contact Mark Seger with the City of Springfield, 217-789-2255.

IMPORTANT

Please know your lawmaker’s name and Springfield office address before coming. Bring quarters to feed the street parking meter. **Large signs are not permitted above the first floor.** Bring business card-size heavy paper to call your lawmaker off the Chamber floor. Wear buttons and pro-life clothing.

New York Adoption Agency Sues State

A New York adoption agency has filed a lawsuit against the state of New York. The state announced it was revoking the adoption license of New Hope Family Services after it learned that the agency would not adopt children to same-sex or unmarried couples. **New Hope is a Christian** agency that is funded solely by private donations and it does not receive any money from the state of New York. **Alliance Defending Freedom** is representing New Hope, an agency that has placed more than 1,000 children in homes since it was founded in 1965 without ever having a formal complaint filed against it. Faith-based adoption agencies have closed in several states, including Illinois, for similar laws in those states. ❧



Boldly bringing biblical principles to public policy in the Land of Lincoln.

Prayer Requests . . .

Jeremiah prophesied to the people of God in Babylon to **“seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare”** (Jeremiah 29:4-7).

As our culture drifts further away from God, Christians are feeling more and more like strangers in a foreign land. Nevertheless, the fundamental truth exists that as the people of God in America, we must continually seek to do what is best for families as well as our neighbors. This begins with faithful and fervent prayer to God Almighty.

Please Pray...

...against the forces of evil that are pushing for laws to kill even more pre-born children. Pray that their efforts would be frustrated and fail.

...for the purity of the Body of Christ. Pray that the spirit of uncleanness would be exposed and expelled from our local churches (Zechariah 13:2).

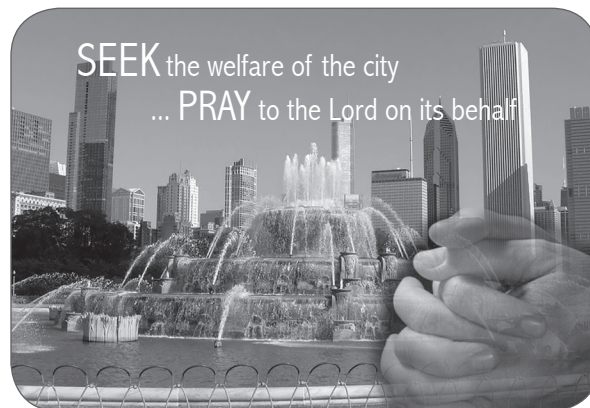
...that as God sifts His church and humbles His followers, that He will also strengthen us (Psalm 31:24).

...that God, through the mighty working of the Holy Spirit, will revive His people in our state and bring many more to saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (Psalm 85:6).

...that God will bring conviction to our lawmakers; that each one will understand that they will have to give an account to Him for all their votes (Psalm 2:12).

Psalm • thirty-one • twenty-four

BE STRONG,
and let your heart **take courage,**
all you who wait for the Lord!



SEEK the welfare of the city
... PRAY to the Lord on its behalf

...that the fear of the Lord would come upon every soul in our state and nation (Acts 2:43).

...that corruption and oppression will be put to an end in our local, state and federal legislatures.

...that elected officials would pursue justice and love mercy as God defines them. Pray that our elected officials would oppose policies that ensnare citizens in addiction and vice. ☸

Impact on Youth

In 2002, **32.4%** of youth
believed there is **“no great risk”**
from smoking pot.
In 2016, that number was **77%.**

[Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
reported at Vice News 1/27/2016]

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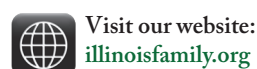
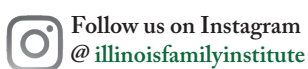
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Illinois Family
Action
ifiaction.org



Stay up-to-speed on news impacting the family



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