



# ILLINOIS Family Institute

Boldly Bringing a Biblical Perspective to Public Policy in the Land of Lincoln.

Newsletter | Spring 2022

## Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution,  
or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ...

**Yet in all these things we are more than  
conquerors through Him who loved us.**

— ROMANS 8:35, 37a



illinoisfamily.org



*pro life. pro marriage. pro family.*

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



**IDENTITY** is a popular word at the moment. Dictionary.com defines it as “the qualities, beliefs, etc., that distinguish or identify a person or a thing.” In regard to identity, sociologists, researchers, and others often focus on the “Big 8”: race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, religion/spirituality, nationality, and socioeconomic status.

I self-identify as a Christian, husband, father, and pro-life advocate. At times I have identified as a Chicago Bears fan, Celtic music enthusiast, radio news-talk junkie, and aspiring Christian apologist. Over the years I have changed spiritually, physically, emotionally, and intellectually — mostly in good and positive ways.

When I was younger, I was reluctant to identify with Christ because I didn’t want to be labeled a “Bible Thumper.” My fear of man was stronger than my love of God. Even when I had the opportunity to proclaim my faith, I would too often do so in a lukewarm way, so as to not stand out in the crowd. My actions were foolish.

I am deeply grateful to God for His forgiveness, mercy, and patience toward me. Today, I realize *there is nothing more important* in this world than **rooting my identity in Jesus Christ**. He is my Creator, Sustainer, and Savior. He alone defines my purpose and worth.

In our human nature, we tend to allow life experiences and the people around us to influence and impact our identity. We end up basing our identity on the assessment of others and, as a result, we often try to course-correct by attempting to reinvent ourselves.

Therefore, knowing who we are in Christ is vitally important! When we are uncertain of our true identity, we will lack clarity of purpose. We will encounter self-doubt because we are defining our identity based on

our limited experience and the flawed opinions of others, rather than on who God says we are and what He tells us in His Word. Only Christ can give us great confidence in the face of trials and

tribulations. Our thinking and trust must be stayed on the One who knows us completely and best. His image of us is what we ought to cultivate and promote.

More than ever before, I want to identify as a bondservant of Jesus Christ. I wholeheartedly agree with **A.W. Tozer’s** statement:

*“Our great honor lies in being just what Jesus was and is. To be accepted by those who accept Him, rejected by all who reject Him, loved by those who love Him. What greater glory could come to any man?”*

In various epistles, the Apostle Paul tells us what it means to base our identity in Christ:

*I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. ~ Galatians 2:20*

*For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.  
~ Philippians 1:21*

Additionally, the Gospel of Luke records Jesus’ words:

*“If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it.” ~ Luke 9:23-24*

God’s Word is clear: if you have professed the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Savior ... if you believe His death on the cross paid the eternal cost for your sins: past, present, and future ... if you believe God raised Jesus from the dead after three days in a tomb ... if you confess and

*continued on page 5...*





# Americans Reject the Idea of Systemic Racism

Written by David E. Smith

Last November, a *USA Today/Suffolk University* poll found that by more than two-to-one, registered voters oppose the teaching of Critical Race Theory (CRT) in government schools. The national poll of 1,000 registered voters found that 47 percent oppose the teaching of CRT, while 20 percent support it.

Among Republicans, 78 percent oppose teaching CRT in schools. Among Independents, 51 percent oppose it. Only 13 percent of Democrats oppose it, while 44 percent support it.

A *Rasmussen Reports* national survey last summer found that 43 percent of U.S. voters said CRT will make race relations "worse," while 24 percent said it would make relations "better." (Sixteen percent said they were "not sure.")

A *YouGov* poll commissioned by the *Economist* last June found that 58 percent of Americans have an "unfavorable" view of Critical Race Theory (CRT), while 38 percent view CRT favorably.

Polls often hinge upon how questions are written, but a poll in April 2021 by *Competitive Edge Research* found that 48 percent of Americans had a negative opinion of Black Lives Matter. When the pollsters dug deeper the results were even more compelling.

By nearly three to one, (69.7 percent) respondents did not think schools should teach children that their race is the most important thing about them versus 24.7 percent who said they should.

When asked if they believe schools should teach that white people are "inherently privileged" and black people are inherently oppressed and victimized, 73.7 percent of respondents said they should not.

When asked whether students should be assigned "privileged" or "oppressed" status according to race, again, the vast majority (84.3 percent) said no. Only 5.7 percent of respondents believed that this CRT tenet should be adopted by schools.

Most respondents (68.7 percent) also said schools should not teach students that America was founded on racism and remains



a structurally racist country today, causing differences in outcomes and achievements.

An overwhelming 86.6 percent of respondents opposed schools teaching the concept that people are natural "oppressors" or victims based on their sex, race, and physical characteristics.

When asked if schools should teach that "achieving racial justice and equality between racial groups requires discriminating against people based on their whiteness," most respondents (84 percent) said no.

Most respondents were also against schools encouraging social justice political activism in the classroom, the creation of student clubs based on race and ethnicity, and changing U.S. history courses to focus on race, power, and promoting social justice.

Can we stop this nonsense already? 🌿

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## Legally Married Declines

Importance of Marriage Continues to Diminish According to a recent Gallup poll, just 29 percent of Americans



say it is "very important" for a couple who have children together to be legally married. **That's down from 49 percent in 2006.** Incredibly, fewer than half of those who identify as "conservative" agree with that view. This should be concerning to all freedom loving citizens, because only where marriage and the family prospers can a limited government flourish. Without marriage and the family (the first government), individuals rely on more and more big brother programs for support. Without strong families and productive members of that family, the education of children suffers, and social pathologies increase. Teaching our children and grandchildren a Biblical view of family is more important than ever! 🌿

# Getting Real About Reproduction *Written by Rev. Thorin Anderson*

**This may be more than you want to know, but you were a zygote once, a single celled human being that over time developed into who you are today.** This is simply an indisputable fact. From every perspective, the process is nothing less than miraculous, and with all the potential for problems along the way it is amazing that any of us made it through the nine months in utero to birth! But here we are, a testimony to the brilliance of our Creator and His faithfulness.

Unfortunately, we live in perilous times. While mankind has always been selfish, cultural and religious leaders in the past challenged us to better things, exalting the virtues of self-control and personal sacrifice. The epitome of this was motherhood. You could find fault with most anything, but criticizing one's mother made you a scoundrel of the worst sort! Motherhood was sacrosanct.

How things have changed! Today, there are few human activities that are under greater assault than motherhood. The milder insults are name calling, such as "brood mare," or "barefoot and pregnant." The greatest attacks are by those who so torture and twist the thinking of young women that they are willing to submit to the brutal insertion of instruments of death into their wombs to dismember and destroy the harmless and innocent lives dwelling so near their hearts and rob them of that relational experience by which women have been blessed from the beginning of time.

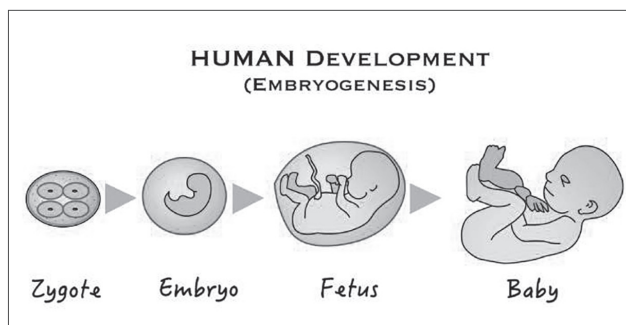
The argument screeched at us on every hand is that a woman must be

free to control her own reproduction! I don't believe I have ever heard anyone argue otherwise. I would agree that a woman should not be forced to reproduce herself against her will.

Going back to my opening comment, you were a zygote once, and the moment you have a zygote in your uterus, except where coercion is involved, you have already chosen to reproduce yourself. In your womb is a mini-you, or more precisely, a mini-you and your "other," hopefully someone committed to you for life!

Setting aside the so-called hard cases (they constitute somewhere around 2% or less of all abortions), I address those who promote the preposterous notion that the fetus's mere existence, in and of itself, is a bridge too far. With the proliferation of scams across the country most of us have been victims in one way or another; and it is unkind to blame the victims. And so it is with abortion. Most women who have had abortions are themselves victims, having been scammed. It is unfortunate that they find themselves in a crisis, but my anger is directed toward those who exploit their situation. Such are evil!

For you who argue that it is unacceptable that a tiny being nestled in one's womb should inconvenience you or any young woman for nine months, let me remind you that you inconvenienced your mother and others for (I would bet) the better part of twenty years or more!



Some refer to it as "paying it forward," and reasonable people understand it: Our parents sacrificed for us, and we sacrifice for our children, etc. But you and others of your mindset are so self-absorbed you ungraciously accept the sacrifices made for you by those who preceded you and then demand, on your behalf, the sacrifice of the lives of those who follow! What pernicious ingrates you are! Like black holes of the galaxy, you form the vortex of your own universe and inhale all that is around you for your own pleasure and purposes. I can hardly imagine a greater example of arrogance and narcissism!

To you who directly exploit these women who are at a point of crisis, I speak of abortion providers like Planned Parenthood, may I remind you that you have nothing to fear from me. The same God who demands I defend life also demands that I not take matters into my own hands. He claims vengeance as His prerogative, and I suggest you fear Him! But know this: In the process you claim is a choice you denigrate and defile the most beautiful and essential of human relationships, that of mother and child!

How despicable! 🐍



**E**very election is important because every election has consequences. Spring primary elections are notoriously low voter-turnout elections. That means every vote cast in these elections is very powerful. We urge everyone to be fully engaged as we come up to the **June 28th Primary Election**.

Visit the IFI website ([illinoisfamily.org](http://illinoisfamily.org)) and the IFA website ([ifaction.org](http://ifaction.org)) to get informed about the candidates and the issues of the day. Every Christian citizen should cast a knowledgeable ballot that helps bring about good consequences. 🐍



**PRAY  
FERVENTLY**

for the success  
of candidates  
**who fear God's  
opinion more than  
man's opinion!**



# Illinois Public Schools Battle Plague of Violence, Sexual Abuse

*Written by Alex Newman*

Lawmakers and union bosses are increasingly speaking out against the violence and rampant sexual abuse that plagues children in government schools across Illinois and beyond. Laws have even been proposed and passed to supposedly deal with the escalating crisis.

However, nothing is being done to address the root causes of the problem: godlessness, hopelessness, and the lack of accountability for students and adults, all of which permeate government-controlled “education” today.

Consider the gravity of the situation. At one government school in Chicago, a dozen staff members had to be removed for what were described by the district as “inappropriate adult relationships with students,” as well as for helping cover it up.

The scandal, which included adults grooming and even having sex with children, sparked national news in November. Incredibly, while the district fired most of those involved and is seeking to pull their teaching licenses, it does not appear that prosecutors were called in due to supposed loopholes in the law.

But the sexualization and abuse of children is also nothing new. According to a 2018 *Chicago Tribune* investigation ([shorturl.at/IEMNO](http://shorturl.at/IEMNO)), police investigated more than 520 juvenile sexual assault and abuse cases in the city’s government schools over a 10-year period. Hundreds of students were victimized and even raped by teachers and school employees. The stories are heart-wrenching.

In response to the horror, last month, Gov. **J.B. Pritzker** signed “Faith’s Law” (HB 1975) into law expanding the definition of “grooming” and adding protections for children against predators in schools. The measure was named after **Faith Colson**, who was sexually abused by a teacher 20 years ago in Schaumburg, Illinois.

“Students deserve to be safe in their classrooms, period,” declared the far-left governor, who has been a major advocate of sexualizing children in schools.

“Anything short of that is a call to action and Faith’s Law is another critical step in creating and preserving safe and welcoming learning environments for all students.”

But of course, with Pritzker’s full support, government schools in Illinois are literally grooming and sexualizing students right now in the same way pedophiles do, as former teacher and celebrated activist **Rebecca Friedrichs** explained in a piece for the *Washington Times*. ([shorturl.at/ezHPR](http://shorturl.at/ezHPR))

From exposing children to graphic sex materials and perversion to breaking down

**... with Pritzker’s full support, government schools in Illinois are literally grooming and sexualizing students right now in the same way pedophiles do...**

taboos and modesty under the guise of “comprehensive sex education,” children across the state and beyond are being put in great danger by the hyper-sexualized so-called “education” being foisted on them by government “educators.”

Even two decades ago, the U.S. Department of Education reported that as many as 10 percent of children in government schools would be sexually abused by employees of the system before graduation.

“The physical sexual abuse of students in schools is likely more than 100 times the abuse by [Catholic] priests,” Hofstra University researcher **Charol Shakeshaft**, who researched the issue, was quoted as saying by CBS about the problem. ([shorturl.at/besxS](http://shorturl.at/besxS))

Violence in Illinois government schools is out of control, too. It got so bad that in 2019, the legislature felt compelled to pass a law known as the School Threat Assessment Bill (House Bill 1561). The measure required schools to develop threat assessment teams, protocols, and more.



But it obviously has not worked, with lawmakers and union leaders demanding more action to enforce compliance and protect students from violence. State Representatives **Fred Crespo** and **Tony McCombie** are now co-sponsoring legislation to beef up the 2019 law.

“We hear every day more stories, unfortunately, about incidences in our schools and we need to keep our kids safe, we need to keep our teachers safe, and hopefully this will be a pro-active movement that we can do just that,” said Rep. McCombie about the bill.

Illinois Education Association (IEA) President **Kathi Griffin**, who is backing the legislative action, spoke out as well. “Violence is increasing in our schools across the state,” she said in a statement last month. “Our educators should not have to constantly worry about their safety and the safety of their students.”

“This is not their problem to solve. They’re under enough stress already,” continued Griffin in her remarks urging school districts to obey school safety laws. “School administrators need to take immediate action to keep our students, staff and communities safe.”

Meanwhile, as shown by government data highlighted by the Illinois Family Institute ([shorturl.at/rCDIS](http://shorturl.at/rCDIS)), government schools are destroying children academically, too. Less than a third of 8<sup>th</sup>-grade students are proficient in any core subject, the latest National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) revealed. ([shorturl.at/gASUV](http://shorturl.at/gASUV))

In short, countless children in government schools are being sexually

*continued ... ➤ ➤*

## from the **Executive Director — David E. Smith** *(continued from page 1)*

repent from your sins and allow the Holy Spirit to work in you day by day and hour by hour to make you more holy and fruitful ... then you are a redeemed son or daughter of Almighty God and are qualified to share in the inheritance of eternal life in heaven with Jesus and the saints! Hallelujah!

If you are unable to say “yes” to all of the above, let me stress again that there is nothing more important than believing in and identifying with Jesus Christ and accepting the absolute truth that He is Lord of all.

So, let me ask, who are you? Have you bought into the labels that Satan and the world assigned to you? Are you letting others or the circumstances of your life define your identity and significantly limit your life’s purpose and impact?

God has a better plan, a greater purpose for those who have been redeemed by the precious blood of Christ!

Our identity in Christ encompasses all the abundance of being a beloved child of God. Romans 8 tells us we are adopted by God, whom we can call “Daddy.” We are children of God ... and, even better, joint heirs with Christ:

...but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together. ~ Romans 8:15-17

Our new identity supersedes the old. We become sons and daughters of Father God, brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ,

and joint heirs with Him of the Kingdom. In Jesus, we lose our corrupt self and become what He intends us to be.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! ~ 2 Corinthians 5:17

Even though we still struggle with sin while we live in this fallen world, our core identity is in Jesus Christ, as Romans 6:6-7 teaches:

... our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. For he who has died has been freed from sin.

If we understand who we are in Christ, we won’t suffer an identity crisis or need to “reinvent ourselves” to gain the approval of man. If we know our Bible, it will reveal who we are in Christ, who our Father is, where we came from, what we have been created for, where we are now, and where we are headed.

The Word of God defines our ultimate purpose, not the feckless world around us. We must reject worldliness and focus on intentionally living in our new identity in and through Christ. Let us accept the challenge to live a robust life, embracing our new identity. Let us live as humble servants, members of God’s family, and Ambassadors of His Kingdom! ☞



*(continued from page 4)*

abused and brutalized by adults and fellow students — even as they suffer academically — while government passes meaningless laws pretending to address the symptoms of the horrific problem.

Of course, the real reason that children in government schools are facing more and more violence, dumbing down and sexual exploitation by adults is that the environment is corrupt to the core — by design. It is the fruit of removing God and biblical morality from education as part of an evil agenda.

Once one understands that the goals of the architects of the government system were never to provide a sound education, true solutions such as an exodus from public schools and defunding the corrupt system can grow. That is already starting to happen, but much more urgency is needed. ☞

## U.S. Democrat House Members Vote Unanimously to Prohibit Criticism of Islam

Combating International Islamophobia Act (H.R. 5665) would establish the Office to Monitor and Combat Islamophobia within the Department of State.

In Islam, slander is a capital crime and is legally defined as saying anything about Islam/Muslims that a Muslim would “dislike.” The bill was authored by Congresswoman **Ilhan Omar** (D-Minnesota-5).

The Combating International Islamophobia Act only protects Islam, the religion most noted for acts of violence worldwide, while ignoring the fact that Christians and Jews are the largest targets of hate crimes.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation’s 2020 hate crime statistics reports that crimes targeting Jews comprised 54.9% of all religious bias crimes last year.

Additionally, 34 of the top 50 countries in which persecution of Christians has been documented to be the worst are Islamic.

The bill passed in the U.S. House by a vote along party lines of 219 (Democrats) — 212 (Republicans) and awaits action in the U.S. Senate.

**TAKE ACTION!** Please contact U.S. Senators **Dick Durbin** and **Tammy Duckworth** to ask them to vote “NO” to H.R. 5665. ☞





# Illinois House Democrats pursue state laws to intrude on private health care decisions *Written by Fran Eaton*

**SPRINGFIELD** — Three Illinois General Assembly proposals could dramatically restrict health care choices and limit privacy concerning those decisions for Illinois residents if they become law.

Illinois stands out in the Midwest as a state still enduring severe restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, and yet state lawmakers are considering



even more intrusive legal maneuvers and making them permanent.

One measure would require Illinois residents' vaccine histories to be entered into a state government-controlled registry. A second measure would force unvaccinated persons to pay for coronavirus-related hospitalizations out of pocket. A third would allow powerful state agencies such as the Department of Public Health and the Department of Children and Family Services to collect and evaluate private health data from electronic health care records and disperse them upon request to local public health agencies.

All three ideas have faced unusually strong opposition from Illinois citizens.

HB 4259, forcing unvaccinated persons to pay their hospital bills out-of-pocket, was withdrawn from consideration by its sponsor, Rep. **Jonathan Carroll** (D-Chicago), when thousands of Illinoisans filed online opposition witness slips.

Gubernatorial candidate **Darren Bailey** released a statement about HB 4259 saying, "Using the force of government to punish and attack private citizens over private healthcare decisions is something

you would expect in countries like North Korea or China, but never in America. I honestly don't know what [Rep. Carroll] was thinking, but sadly, it aligns with the dangerous, big-government policies JB Pritzker and Democrats continue to push."

Within days of Carroll's radical proposal being withdrawn from the Illinois House's list of bill considerations, State Rep. **Bob Morgan** (D-Glencoe) introduced HB 4244, which would require all Illinois doctors, pharmacies, hospitals, and medical centers to register their patients' personal vaccine records into a state-run database. Currently, participating in the state's immunization registry is optional.

Over 35,000 signed slips online opposing the measure — and the Illinois House Human Services Committee sent the bill to its "Special Issues" Subcommittee, where the sponsor says it is likely to stay this session.

Days later, State Rep. **Deb Conroy** (D-Villa Park) introduced HB 4640, which would allow major state agencies, including the Department of Public Health and the Department of Children and Family Services, to share with local health departments any and all public health information they had acquired that affected that local health department's residents. The stated purpose for this sharing of information was "for the purposes of preventing or controlling disease, injury, or disability."

Conroy's bill drew attention partially because of its placement in the state law that establishes the Department of Public Health's "**supreme authority** in matters of quarantine and isolation, [so that they] **may declare and enforce quarantine and isolation** when none exists..." Conroy's amendment would develop a system to implement that state agency's authority at the local level.



Around the world, news stories reported strict health lockdowns, COVID isolation facilities and mandated vaccines that were not preventing the disease. Rep. Conroy's information-sharing proposal was located within a section of Illinois law that lines out the powers the Department of Public Health *could* initiate in the case of an epidemic. The setting of it all together causes a great deal of questioning about Conroy's measure.

And at the same time, Illinois-based Heartland Institute teamed with Rasmussen Reports and found that a substantial number of Democrats favored isolating people that refused vaccinations.

In their joint January 2022 survey, Heartland Institute and Rasmussen Reports found:

➤ Fifty-nine percent (59%) of Democratic voters would favor a government policy requiring that citizens remain confined to their homes at all times, except for emergencies, if they refuse to get a COVID-19 vaccine. Such a proposal is opposed by 61% of all likely voters, including 79% of Republicans and 71% of unaffiliated voters.

➤ Nearly half (48%) of Democratic voters think federal and state governments should be able to fine or imprison individuals who publicly question the efficacy of the existing COVID-19 vaccines on social media, television, radio, or in online or digital publications. Only 27% of all voters — including just 14% of Republicans and 18% of unaffiliated voters favor criminal punishment of vaccine critics.

➤ Forty-five percent (45%) of Democrats would favor governments requiring citizens to temporarily live in designated facilities or locations if they refuse to get a COVID-19 vaccine. Such a policy would be opposed by a strong majority (71%) of all voters, with 78% of Republicans and 64% of unaffiliated voters saying they would Strongly Oppose putting the unvaccinated in "designated facilities."

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# Pandemic stirs up gambling addiction *Written by David E. Smith*

According to an article written by Thomas Sykes, and published in *The Press of Atlantic City*, addictions more than tripled in New Jersey during the COVID mandated shut-downs.

"I was sober, but when COVID hit, I just fell off," said one addict. "I went back on opioids, just sat inside like the rest of the world, picked up the phone. That's when my betting increased. It's easy to get high and keep pressing a button. It's just a click away."

He lost it all: his job, his wife, his son.

"They call it cross-addiction, when one issue feeds another," said Felicia Grondin, director of the New Jersey Council on Compulsive Gambling.

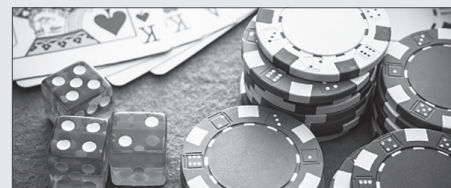
The problem isn't isolated to New Jersey. According to WTNH, a "growing number of Connecticut residents are

seeking help for gambling addiction. This includes the number of younger people reaching out, according to the Connecticut Council on Problem Gambling (CCPG)."

Here in Illinois, state lawmakers continue to authorize the expansion of gambling. Slot machines, sports betting, and new casinos have saturated our communities, with more casinos to come.

To make matters worse, we have seen a significant increase in commercialized gambling on billboards, newspapers and on radio and television advertising. These false advertisements sell visions of great riches, but in reality, are self-evident lies.

The American people are expected to lose **\$1 trillion** of their personal wealth to government sanctioned gambling over the next 8 years. This leads to increases in



rates of personal bankruptcy, foreclosures and provides new avenues for crime and money laundering. The gambling industry doesn't pay for the harms they cause families, businesses, and communities. Taxpayers do.

Grandma Smith told me once, "Vegas wasn't built on winners." How wise she was. The fact of the matter is, the gambling industry needs losers, *lots of them*. It is vitally important that you teach your children/grandchildren these truths before they get sucked into the addiction.




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With those disturbing public opinions in mind, questions arose about proposed legislation.

How far would the Democrat-controlled Illinois General Assembly go to impose their views on the state's residents? What was the urgency of changing the law to allow the Illinois Department of Public Health to share information with local public health departments during a viral pandemic for the purposes of controlling disease, injury or disability?

Could the transfer of private health care information from a state-controlled registry to local authorities empower those local authorities to isolate citizens from their communities, neighborhoods and families if they chose not to follow the state's medical recommendations?

Answers are still needed from Rep. Conroy — but as of this writing, over 21,000 Illinois residents voiced their opposition to HB 4640 with online witness slips compared to 188 signing in as proponents.

If the bill has not yet had a committee hearing, those interested in filing a witness slip in opposition can do so by going to [www.illinoisfamily.org](http://www.illinoisfamily.org) and searching for **HB 4640**. 

## Global Respect Act

On February 9, 2022, the U.S. House of Representatives voted 227 to 206 to pass the Global Respect Act (H.R. 3485) authored by U.S. Rep. **David Cicilline** (D-NJ). **Adam Kinzinger** was the only Republican to join the Illinois Democrats in voting "yea" to this bill.

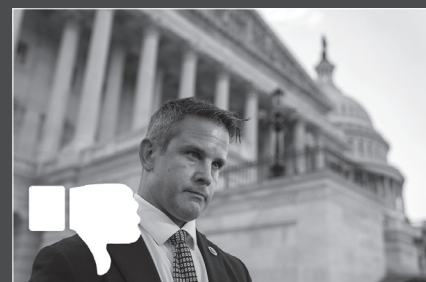
This bill would expand the definition of "human rights" to include "actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or sex characteristics" and will be used to promote the LGBTQ agenda by targeting nations and individuals within those nations who have religious or moral objections to LGBTQ ideology. In reality, it should be titled the "Equality Act: Global Edition."

The bill uses broad language that could allow the Biden Administration to revoke or deny entry to the U.S. for individuals who do not agree with radical gender ideology. This could apply to pastors who preach and teach God's design for gender, family, and human sexuality. It could also be used against foreigners who promote pro-life policies. The United Nations Human Rights Council has already determined that criminalizing abortion can be viewed as "degrading" treatment.

Some states and the federal government already seek to punish people within our own country who object to same-sex marriage, object to boys playing in girls' sports, object to transgender interventions for minors, and/or decline to bake a cake for a same-sex mirage. Now, they want to punish people who have these same objections in other countries as well.

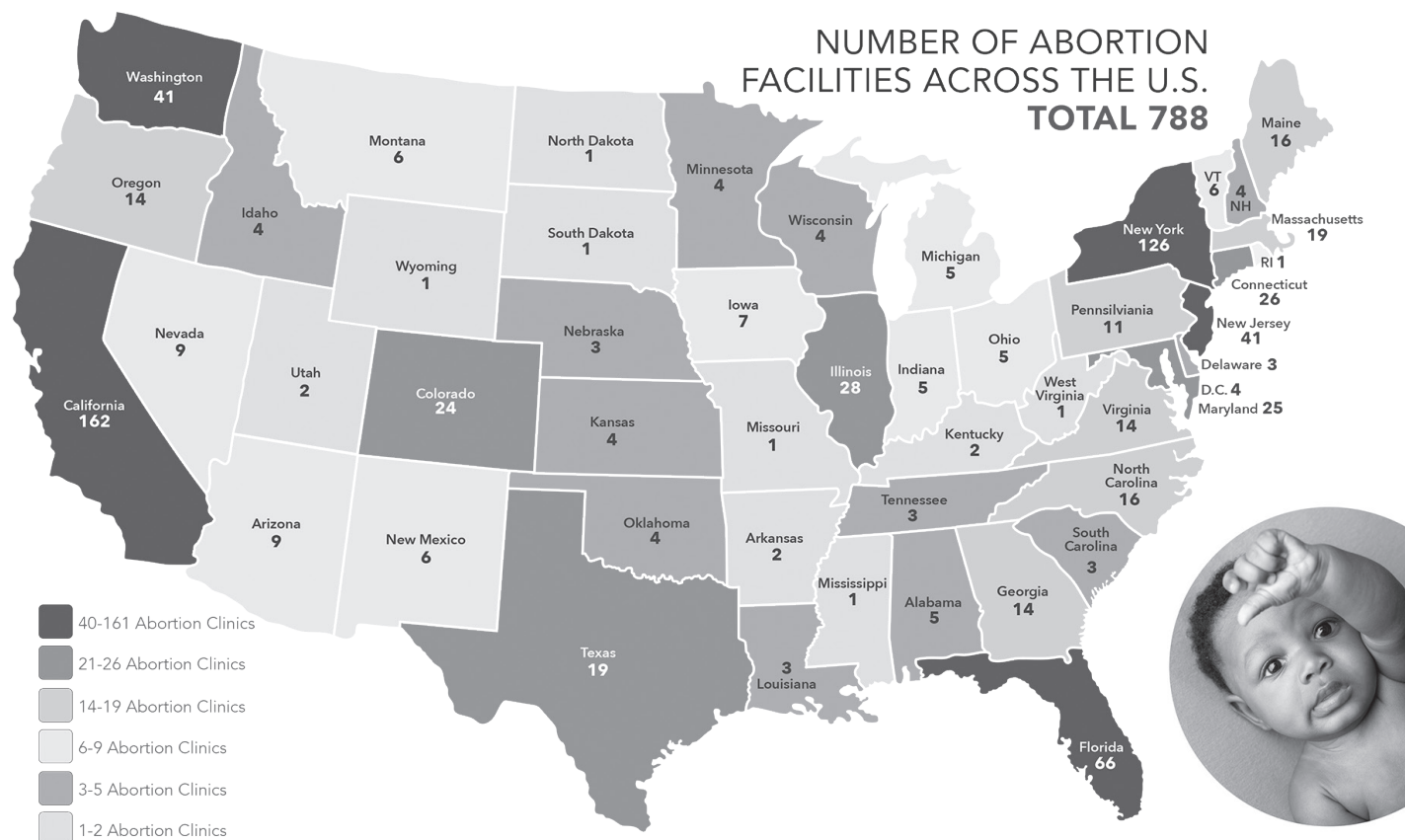
### TAKE ACTION!

Please contact U.S. Senators **Dick Durbin** and **Tammy Duckworth** to ask them to **"VOTE NO" on the Global Respect Act, H.R. 3485**. 



# Out-of-State Abortions in Illinois

Written by Laurie Higgins



**I**t's hard to fathom that for some people, facilitating human slaughter is the animating purpose of their lives. For some, ensuring that women are legally free to abort their own offspring is what gives their lives meaning. And unfortunately, many of them live in Illinois, thereby ensuring that the Illinois swamp is filled with not just fetid excrement coming from Springfield and the governor's mansion but also with the blood of human fetuses.

Illinois' human dismemberment and disposal industry has moved into high gear in preparation for *Roe v. Wade* to be overturned, at which point, more states will pass regulations limiting or eliminating abortion accessibility. On Jan. 21, 2022, the *Chicago Tribune* reported that "Each year, thousands of women cross state lines to have an abortion in Illinois—and that number could grow exponentially as pending U.S. Supreme Court decisions and new laws in various states challenge reproductive rights across large swaths of the nation."

In anticipation of possible new laws to protect the right of tiny humans not

to be exterminated, Hope Clinic in Granite City and Reproductive Health Services of Planned Parenthood of the St. Louis Region have colluded to create the Regional Logistics Center, which is housed in the Planned Parenthood slaughterhouse in Fairview Heights.

The anodyne-sounding Regional Logistics Center connects pregnant women—also known as mothers—with "various resources to help with everything from paying for the procedure to travel costs to finding a place to stay overnight." Leftists want Illinois streets stained with the blood of babies from around the country.

(It is notable that human slaughter-related facilities are never located in affluent left-leaning communities like Highland Park or Glencoe. While Fairview Heights has a median household income of \$49K and Granite City of \$43K, Highland Park's is \$101K and Glencoe's is \$193K. You would think liberal towns and villages would be eager to demonstrate their support for the "fundamental right" of women to off their

offspring by welcoming abattoirs into their communities.)

Trib reporter **Angie Leventis** Lourgos leaps ungracefully over the human dimensions of the new project in efficiency:

*[W]omen traveling here to terminate a pregnancy will have a new resource designed to make the process easier.*

If ever there were a "process" in need of ease, it has to be having one's child killed. Grease up that "process" so no woman has time to listen to any inner voices telling her to stop.

How embarrassing for reporters to resort to using euphemistic phrases like "terminate a pregnancy." Is there anyone over the age of 12 who doesn't know that "terminating a pregnancy" means terminating the life of a fellow human being?

The Regional Logistics Center celebrated its opening "just before the 49<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the landmark U.S. Supreme Court abortion rights case *Roe v. Wade*." The virtual ribbon-cutting ceremony was

*continued ... >>>*





more than **7,500**  
out-of-state women traveled here  
**TO HAVE AN ABORTION!**

(continued from page 8)

virtually attended by Illinois' morally vacuous governor, **JB Pritzker**, who ironically called the center's dark business, "lifesaving and life-changing work." Well, I guess when abortionists turn life into non-life, one could call the work "life-changing."

In an effort to ensure that Illinois remains the Midwest's premier killing field, Pritzker put his money where his mouth is, donating "\$100K from his campaign to the Personal PAC Independent Committee, whose purpose is preserving reproductive rights in Illinois 'by making independent expenditures to elect pro-choice candidates to state and local office.'"

One of the resources to which the Regional Logistics Center will connect pregnant women is the Chicago Abortion Fund, whose executive director **Megan Jeyifo** has ordered the killing of more than one of her own offspring. Finally, she allowed two of her offspring to survive the treacherous waters of her womb and now says this about them:

*I honor my abortions when I hug my children. My abortions made their life possible.*

Jeyifo sees child sacrifice as a noble deed, one about which she offers this advice to women as they prepare to end the lives of their children:

*Wear comfortable clothes. Plan out and look forward to a yummy meal after. Text your best friend. Know that you are making a decision for yourself that is powerful.*

Jeyifo has a two-part mission. The first part consists of helping women have their children killed, and the second part is persuading others that killing humans is a noble cause:

*Destigmatizing abortion is a really critical component.*

What Jeyifo doesn't say is that destigmatizing human slaughter necessarily entails stigmatizing opposition to human slaughter. Leftists don't really oppose stigmas, shaming, and judging as they claim they do. Rather, they just want to ensure that moral truths and the people who express them are judged, stigmatized, and shamed.

The morally repugnant Jeyifo who was encumbered in her quests to end her former children's lives by travel obstacles argues,

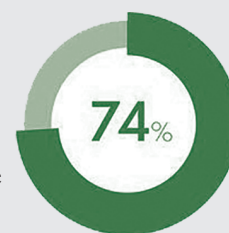
*I think about what it took for me to travel. ... I make really clear to the callers that the difficulty you face in accessing an abortion has nothing to do with the morality of an abortion. It's a systemic failure in this country. Abortion is health care.*

For the umpteenth time, abortion ends the life of an innocent human being. That's science. Killing innocent humans is not health care. And in no moral universe is the intentional ending of an innocent human life morally defensible. The participation of political leaders, medical professionals, and Big Business in this barbaric practice is a systemic failure in this country.

Anyone hell-bent on keeping human slaughter legal, anyone so ignorant as to believe the Founding Fathers embedded in the Constitution a "right" of mothers to have their children slaughtered lacks both knowledge and wisdom. And anyone who ardently supports and facilitates human slaughter is evil. ☹

## CARE NET<sup>®</sup> Survey

A Care Net survey released in mid-January found that men play a crucial role in a woman's decision over abortion.



Of 1,000 American men whose partner had undergone an abortion, **74 percent said they were involved in making the decision.**

Forty-two percent of those men indicated that they "strongly urged" or "suggested" that their partner have an abortion and 31 percent said they did not provide any advice. This means that in order to influence abortion outcomes, we must also focus on transforming the hearts and minds of men. "You can't be serious about ending abortion unless you are serious about engaging men on the issue," said president and CEO of Care Net, Roland Warren.

Men must understand that the pre-born child is their responsibility too, and they are accountable to God for the love, care, and nurturing of that precious life. Therefore, parents/grandparents, aunts/uncles and church leaders must be intentional about praying for and stirring up the young men in our spheres of influence to meet the challenge of fulfilling their God-given responsibilities to protect the most vulnerable among us. ☹



## Did You Know?

New research by economist **Steve Hanke** and published by Johns Hopkins University in February evaluated 24 relevant studies examining lockdown stringency, the impact of stay-at-home orders, and the effectiveness of specific restrictions. The meta-analysis concludes that "lockdowns have had little to no effect on COVID-19 mortality." ☹



# After School Satan Clubs Allowed in Elementary Schools

Written by Kristi Shaffer

**A**fter-school clubs for elementary school children have become prevalent throughout the United States in the last few decades. As more families have either two working parents or, too often, a single working parent, the need for supervised care at the end of the school day has become essential. Although after-school care is vital to these families, we must ask who runs these programs. In two Midwest elementary schools, the answer is unnerving. The Satanic Temple has started an after-school program, and its pilot schools are in Ohio and Illinois.

The After School Satan Club at Jane Addams Elementary in the Moline-Coal Valley School District of Moline, Illinois has garnered national attention. However, it is not the only elementary school with this program. A Satanic Temple After School Club also operates in Donovan Elementary school in Lebanon, Ohio.

School districts nationwide provide space to organizations, typically for a small rental fee. Initially, schools tried to control which groups utilized their facilities for after-school programming. However, after Milford Central School in Milford, New York prevented the Christian group, Good News Club, access based on their religious beliefs, the group filed a lawsuit against the school. The case went to the US Supreme Court. *Good News Club v. Milford Central School District* was decided in 2001 in a 6-3 decision that schools that offer their facilities to groups after hours cannot deny any group based on religion under the 1st Amendment. Although this decision was intended to protect Christian groups, the Satanists are now using it to their benefit. Consequently, school districts cannot ban the Satanists unless they ban all after-school groups.

The Satanic Temple is based out of Salem, Massachusetts and has several chapters across the country. They are determined to provide an after-school program and it appears they intend to spread it nationwide. Their original program started in 2016-17 in Utah,



**VS.**

Washington, and Oregon. This program was put on hiatus when schools closed due to COVID-19. Now that schools are reopening, the Satanists have reorganized and relaunched the new program in two Illinois and Ohio elementary schools, leaving parents outraged with their school districts.

Both the Campaign Director, **June Everett**, and the Co-founder of the Satanic Temple, **Lucien Greaves**, claim that the program is not teaching children Satanism. However, it is undoubtedly a program intended to oppose Christianity. The group openly states that the clubs are placed in schools with another after-school program, Good News Club.

Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF), founded by **Jesse Irvin Overholtzer** in 1937 in Warrenton, Missouri, started Good News Club. The group states they are “a Bible-centered organization composed of born-again believers whose purpose is to evangelize boys and girls with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and to establish (disciple) them in the Word of God and in a local church for Christian living.” Good News Club is just one of the ways CEF spreads the Gospel to children.

The Satanic Temple is offended by the Gospel and opposes the love of Jesus Christ being presented to children. Lucien Greaves states that by creating the After School Satan Club, they can provide an alternative to religious clubs and prevent “horrific indoctrination.”

Ironically, Satanists claim that Christianity is indoctrination when it is evident that their own group is actively trying to indoctrinate children against

religion in general and Christianity specifically. They claim they want to be upfront with who they are, hence why the group uses Satan in their name. However, the group is not upfront about their intended goal to eliminate the Christian faith and create an atmosphere that encourages children to denounce their parents’ beliefs.

We at Illinois Family Institute encourage families to get their children out of government-run schools. Organizations such as the After School Satan Club are just one of the groups that are trying to sway your children to leave behind traditional values and their religious faith — with the insidious goal of destroying family relationships. However, we also recognize that not every family is led by Christian parents. Not all families can or are willing to pull their children from government-run schools. For this very reason, we must continue to support groups like Good News Club. For some children, these groups might be their only opportunity to hear the Gospel of Jesus.



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# Springfield UPDATE 2022



**IFI is opposed to these bills.** Those that have already become law are not included, but can be found at [illinoisfamily.org/politics/bill-tracker/](https://illinoisfamily.org/politics/bill-tracker/). We urge you to contact your elected officials to let them know of your opposition.

**HB 9**, Jennifer Gond-Gershowitz (D-Glenview), allows for gender change on a birth certificate when a person undergoes treatment for gender transition. *Passed House; in Senate.*

**HB 110**, LaShawn Ford (D-Chicago), allows addicts to consume illegal drugs in specific locations run by entities approved by the Dept. of Public Health that also must be an “authorized needle and hypodermic syringe access” location.

*Passed out of Rules Committee.*

**HB 144**, Sonya Harper (D-Chicago), licenses to allow consumption of marijuana at temporary events, clubs, or tours.

*In Executive Committee.*

**HB 193**, Sonya Harper (D-Chicago), home delivery of marijuana. *In Rules Committee.*

**HB 309**, LaToya Greenwood (D-East St. Louis), creates the Implicit Bias Training for Health Care Professionals Act. A licensee shall complete implicit bias training regarding “race, ethnicity, gender, identity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, or other characteristics.” *In Rules Committee.*

**HB 715**, Sonya Harper (D-Chicago), permits people to bring their own marijuana to any place open to the public.

*In Executive Committee.*

**HB 724**, Curtis Tarver (D-Chicago), gives all General Assembly members authority to arrest anyone who breaks the peace or violates any municipal ordinance or criminal law of the State.

*In Rules Committee.*

**HB 2789**, Michelle Mussman (D-Schaumburg), gives authority to the Illinois Department of Public Health to close nonpublic schools, including home schools, if health emergency protocols are not being followed. *Passed in House; could be called in 2022 in Senate.*

**HB 3085**, Mary Flowers (D-Chicago), expunges all criminal history for possession or delivery of cannabis after January 1, 1970; releases all prisoners from incarceration if solely convicted on cannabis charges. *Passed out of committee; referred back to Rules.*

**HB 3195**, Melinda Bush (D-Grayslake) and Katie Stuart (D-Collinsville), respectively, creates all-gender multiple-occupancy bathrooms. *Passed House; in Senate.*

**HB 3447**, Carol Ammons (D-Urbana), reduces penalties on the following drugs from a felony to a misdemeanor: 40 Oxycodone pills; 40 tabs of LSD; 5 Ecstasy pills; less than 3 grams of Heroin, Fentanyl, Meth, PCP; less than 4 grams of Morphine, Petazocine; less than 5 grams of Cocaine. *Passed House.*

**HB 3769**, Rita Mayfield (D-Waukegan), beginning October 1, 2021, Culturally Responsive Teaching Standards shall apply to all professional educator licenses, school support personnel, administrative fields, candidates for licensure and educator preparation programs. *In Rules Committee.*

**HB 4221**, Kelly Cassidy (D-Chicago), requires pregnancy care centers to conspicuously display signs that say they are not a

medical facility nor do they have medical personnel on staff; allows anyone to sue for relief; allows AG to impose fines up to \$5,000. *In Rules Committee.*

**HB 4244**, Bob Morgan (D-Highwood), requires health care providers to report immunization data to the Department of Public Health to be entered into a immunization data registry. *In Human Services Committee.*

**HB 4259**, Jonathan Carroll (D-Northbrook), forces unvaccinated persons to pay their own medical bills if they were to need hospitalization with COVID. *In Rules Committee.*

**HB 4640**, Deb Conroy (D-Villa Park), would allow major state agencies to share any and all private health information with other agencies; while strengthening the Dept. of Public Health’s “supreme authority in matters of quarantine and isolation, [so that they] may declare and enforce quarantine and isolation when none exists...” *In Special Issues Subcommittee.*

**HB 4799**, Carol Ammons (D-Urbana), allows people to grow 5 marijuana plants in their homes. *In Executive Committee.*

**SB 1169**, Rep. Robin Gabel (D-Evanston), Removes rights of conscience protection to refuse participation in medical procedures for COVID-19 pandemic. *Passed both Houses; sent to governor.*

**SB 1565**, Celina Villanueva (D-Summit), creates a voter registration affidavit for illegal aliens to vote in a school board election. *In Assignments Committee.*

**SB 1631**, **SB 2569**, Steven Landek (D-Burbank) and Melinda Bush (D-Grayslake), respectively, allows voters to permanently receive vote by mail ballots. *In Assignments Committee.*

**SB 1992**, Ram Villivalam (D-Chicago), expands early voting polling places from the 15th day before an election to the 22nd day before an election; requires certain polling places to be open 16 hours per day on the final weekend.

*In Assignments Committee.*

**SB 2227**, Doris Turner (D-Springfield), allows a person who is 16 (not 17) to preregister to vote on or after their birthday and registration will be held in abeyance until they are eligible to vote.

*In Assignments Committee.*

**SB 2342**, Kimberly Lightford (D-Hillside), instant win Lottery games through the Internet. *In Assignments Committee.*

**SB 2404**, Napoleon Harris (D-Dolton), 200 licenses for “medical cannabis dispensing organizations” to deliver to homes of registered medical cannabis patients and caregivers.

*In Assignments Committee.*

**SB 3961**, Don Harmon (D-Oak Park), would replace all gender pronouns and other gender-revealing words with non-gender words, in dozens of laws all pertaining to children.

*In Health Committee.*

**HJRCA 31**, La Shawn Ford (D-Chicago), allows felons in jail to vote. *In Rules Committee.* 🌱



# Prayer Requests . . .

“We do not make requests of You  
because we are righteous,  
but because of **Your great mercy.**”

Daniel 9:18b



There can be little doubt in the minds of Christ followers that sin and wickedness is unrestrained and spreading. Not at all to minimize the evil that permeates our culture, but this isn't an anomaly.

Wickedness was rampant during the time of Daniel, Sodom and Gomorrah, Noah, just to name a few. In fact, it has been prevalent since Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden. And yet though these examples are meant as warnings that should be taken seriously, sin continues to spread.

God doesn't want us to lose heart! He has equipped us with an incredible weapon, which is not of this world, and He urges us to use it. **Prayer!**

Jesus told the parable of the woman and the unrighteous judge. The woman wouldn't stop pleading to him until she got the justice that she sought. Jesus urges us in Luke 18:1 to **“always pray and not give up.”** Moreover, we know that the Kingdom of God is advancing on earth **despite** the evil plans of Satan and his minions. This is something that should give us joy and gratitude.

## Please Pray . . .

...that the Lord would give the U.S. Supreme Court Justices courage and wisdom to rule in favor of Science and Life when they decide the critical Dobbs case that could overturn *Roe v. Wade*.

...that parents would remove their children from government schools that are filling their innocent minds with anti-biblical ideology and, instead, would take very seriously the command to lead and teach their children about the Lord. (Ephesians 6:4)

...that pastors, church leaders, and all believers would turn their hearts back to their first love — God.

...that Christians would repent of the unrepentant sin in their lives and begin passionately fulfilling their calling as the Lord's ambassadors.

...for those in authority over us — that they would come to a knowledge of the Truth and be saved; and so that we may live peaceful lives. (2 Timothy 2:1-4)

...that the attempts in the General Assembly to legalize and approve wickedness, make abortion readily available to out-of-staters of any age, and to pass more totalitarian edicts to control our lives would cease.

...that God would give wisdom, discernment, provision, and favor to those on the front lines of the battles that are taking place in the General Assembly.

...for godly candidates who are running for office in the upcoming June 28<sup>th</sup> primary election. Pray for God's favor and blessings on their campaigns. Pray that Christians would come out to vote and vote their Biblical values.

...that Christ followers would take full advantage of every opportunity to share the Good News to their friends, family members and neighbors. 🌿

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