



THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR LAW & POLICY

Freedom Forum

*A Monthly E-publication of
The National Center for Law & Policy
August 2012*



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NCLP President Challenges Christians to Reengage the Culture.

National Center for Law & Policy President Dean Broyles shared a message titled "Biblically Engaging the Culture in This Present Darkness" with the congregation at Faith Community Church by the



If you would like Dean to speak at your church or group, or you would like to host a special NCLP Case Briefing, please contact us at the National Center for Law & Policy.

Sea in Encinitas on Sunday, August 26, 2012. This message is similar to one with which he has been challenging hundreds of believers at NCLP Case Briefing dessert events through the spring and summer of 2012.

In his presentation, Dean lays out the biblical case for engaging the culture. He also discusses why Christians increasingly find themselves in a hostile environment, and the primary reasons Christians fail to engage the culture. Dean Broyles, stated: "It is my observation based on the strong feedback we are getting as I share this message that evangelical Christians are desperately hungry for leadership in this area. Unfortunately, even though it is biblical to exercise leadership in these areas and pastors are legally permitted to do so, many pastors simply do not address these important issues from the pulpit. Believers really want their leaders to connect the dots between clear biblical moral teaching and the cultural and moral issues confronting our society today. That is part of the reason that I wrote Pastors, Pulpits & Politics: The Case for Clear Biblical Moral Teaching, to encourage pastors to help lead their flocks regarding the many critical moral issues confronting us in the culture today such as marriage, abortion, and the GLBT agenda. Sadly, the Church is ensnared by fearing man more than we fear God. We must rediscover the courage of our convictions."

"We are not asking pastors to be 'political.' What we are asking them to do is to show their congregations how to apply clear biblical moral principles to all areas of their lives, not just their 'spiritual' concerns. Some of the key tools the Church needs to effectively re-engage the culture are to develop a

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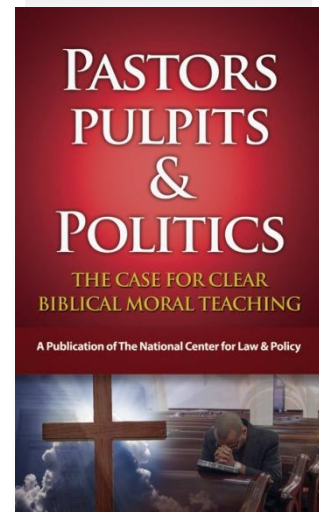
Dean Broyles

solid biblical worldview and re-learn how to speak the truth in love. Darkness advances only as the light retreats, and unfortunately the Church has been retreating for many years. The poor results of the removal of our 'salt and light' from the culture are obvious.

Voting is one way Christians can make a positive impact. Yet, sadly, many Christians are not registered to vote, those registered often do not vote, and many do not vote according to a biblical worldview. The NCLP's non-partisan resource [Voter's Guide for the Serious Christian](#) helps believers to think and vote according to five non-negotiable biblical issues. As Chuck Colson stated just before his death, we must break the 'spiral of silence,' and it must start with the body of Christ. I am very encouraged to see that some pastors and churches are beginning to wake up."

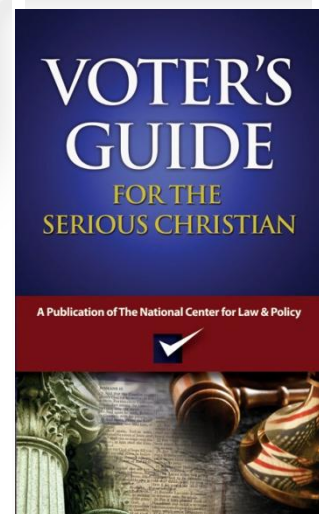
Evangelical Colleges Join Catholic Institutions Resisting the Obama Administration's HHS Mandate Assault on Religious Freedom.

Biola University and Grace College & Seminary, two evangelical Protestant institutions represented by the Alliance Defending Freedom, have recently joined Catholic colleges and institutions in a rapidly growing number of lawsuits challenging the Obama administration's HHS mandate. Perhaps no recent action demonstrates the administration's brazen hostility to religious freedom more than the federal government's decision to force religious institutions to cover birth control and abortifacients for their employees—even when doing so flagrantly violates the clear religious teachings and consciences of these institutions and their employees. Under the



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HHS Mandate, a Catholic hospital will be coerced to violate religious conscience and provide birth control to its nurses; a Protestant college will be forced to supply the morning-after pill to its professors.

Joe Aguillard, Louisiana College (a Baptist School) President recently told the National Review: "It's none of the government's business what Louisiana College offers in our health plans. It is also not the government's business to impose its religious practice of condoning murder in exchange for our religious practice of protecting innocent lives. Our choice to exclude abortion pills from our coverage doesn't prevent anyone from making the choice to use those drugs However, forcing a Christian college to pay for or facilitate life-ending drugs is a gross violation of freedoms protected by the First Amendment."

Religious freedom is understood to be "unalienable" because it given to us by God, not man. Therefore, government, including this administration, does not have the authority to take it away from us. However, in the Obama-Sebelius pantheon of "rights," the judicially-fabricated purported constitutional "right" to privacy (to avoid pregnancy and kill babies) trumps the authentic, well-established First Amendment right of religious freedom. As we wrote in our previous article, "We Are All Catholics Now," all freedom-loving Americans should join together and take a bold and clear stand against the administration's outrageous war on religion-before we lose more of our God-given liberties.

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Joe Aguillard

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It's the [Im]morality Stupid: Why the Economy Pales in Comparison to America's Moral Problems.

We have heard the mantra on both sides of the political spectrum declaring boldly that the most important issue in this election is "jobs and the economy." This statement appears to assume that we are all amoral beings whose only legitimate interest is personal comfort and success--what I will call for sake of this argument "selfish self-preservation." If I am to believe the pundits, this is or should be my highest value. While I readily admit that economic freedom and its attendant prosperity is important, for the sake of this argument I ask the rhetorical question: Is my personal economy all that matters?

There are many things that are more important than America's financial well-being alone. Things, which if not reversed, will lead to a "moral cliff." Focusing on selfish self-preservation alone cannot and will not save us. One fundamental moral issue is marriage and the family. History and social science prove that strong families make a strong society. Weak families create weak societies. The destruction of the American family is a far more imminent threat to America today than any other factor, including our bad economy. The fabric of our society is ripped and torn as a result. We may be only a generation or less away from destruction as a result. Another important moral issue is religious freedom. Our wise founders believed that religious liberty was our "first freedom" and therefore enshrined it in the First Amendment. Through legal abuse and cultural neglect, religious freedom is fast becoming the

*that we can continue to provide **free** legal defense to persecuted Christians.*

"If we think that fixing our economy alone will "save" America, we are truly delusional. The lessons of history teach otherwise. We could be swimming in sunny rivers of prosperity and still see the utter destruction of our nation. The death knell of the Roman Empire was rampant immorality, including embracing "sexual liberty" with its attendant destruction of the family structure."



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victim of political correctness run amok, which is doing great harm to our republic. The last issue that I believe is more important than the economy is how we treat our most vulnerable and innocent citizens, our pre-born children. Since *Roe v. Wade*, we have murdered more than 50 million of our fellow little citizens. We have a lot of blood on our hands. And if there is any justice in the universe, there is and will be a tremendous price to pay for the rivers of innocent blood. Was it innocent blood only if the mother was not raped, or incest was not involved, or the life of the mother was not allegedly threatened? I think not, Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan.

If we think that fixing our economy alone will "save" America, we are truly delusional. The lessons of history teach otherwise. We could be swimming in sunny rivers of prosperity and still see the utter destruction of our nation. The death knell of the Roman Empire was rampant immorality, including embracing "sexual liberty" with its attendant destruction of the family structure.

Why is it that purported "moral" conservatives like Paul Ryan compromise so easily? It was painful for me to watch Paul Ryan so quickly waiver in his pro-life views in order to join team Romney. While I appreciate Ryan's economic conservatism, if I had his ear I would remind him that there is more to this life (and the next) than money and financial success and tell him I expect much more from someone who represents himself as a pro-life Catholic. Clearly politicians will not save America. Only a spiritual revival which leads to a moral revival on par with the first or second Great Awakening can save America from our "moral cliff." I have been wondering for quite some time which problem will

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destroy America first: our poor financial stewardship or our brazen immorality. Based on the answers our current leaders are providing, I fear that the answer may be "both simultaneously."

The National Center for Law & Policy is a non-profit 501(c)(3) legal defense organization dedicated to the protection and promotion of religious freedom, parental rights, and other civil liberties. The NCLP engages in constitutional litigation in state and federal courts and is also active in the areas of public policy and education.

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