

FAMILY BULLETIN ALERT

Faith, Freedom & Citizenship Class

Kempsville Presbyterian Church

August 1, 2004

The views expressed herein are the views of the Editor, Vernon Fix. FBA on the Web at <http://hrcc.exis.net>

House Votes to Protect Marriage!

Thursday, July 22, the House of Representatives voted to remove jurisdiction from the federal courts on cases arising under the Full Faith and Credit Clause of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA). Sponsored by Indiana Congressman John Hostettler, H.R. 3313 passed by a vote of 233-194. Twenty-seven Democrats joined Republicans in supporting this bill, while seventeen Republicans left ranks to oppose it. This bill uses clear constitutional powers provided in Article I, Section 8 and Article III, Sections 1 and 2 of the U.S. Constitution, which allows Congress to define the power and jurisdiction of federal courts. This legislation sends a clear message to activist judges: the American people will not let unelected officials redefine marriage! On June 24, Eagle Forum President Phyllis Schlafly testified before the House Judiciary Committee Subcommittee on the Constitution in support of this legislation.

The bill now moves to the Senate.

Contact your two Senators Today and Urge Him/Her To Protect Marriage and Curb the Courts by Supporting H.R. 3313!!! ACT NOW!!!

Comment: If you took note of the split of Dems and Reps above, makes you wonder if we should rename the parties Conservative and Liberal. Then the Dems and Reps could line up closer to their beliefs. You never seem to know whether they are for you or against you, maybe better labels would help. Ed.

Adult vs Embryonic Cells

Senator Sam Brownback (R-KS), the leading proponent of a cloning ban in the U.S. Senate had this to say about Ron Reagan's Convention speech in a July 27th news release:

"To date, 45 diseases and medical conditions have been treated with adult stem cells, while there is not one successful treatment or trial for humans using embryonic stem cells," Brownback stated. "Everyone supports stem cell research and I fully support adult and non-embryonic stem cell research, which is currently providing the cures that proponents of human cloning can only hope to provide.

"However, last night's speech was deeply misleading. Ron Reagan Jr. made a point to describe his support for human cloning, which is both immoral and almost universally opposed. It is wrong to create human life just to destroy it; yet that is exactly what is being proposed by those who support human cloning for research purposes. The fact that Ron Reagan Jr. did not even mention adult stem cell research, with all its recent successes, proves that despite his comments to the contrary, his was a purely political speech supporting human cloning."

Comment: Don't let up on the pressure on this one, we need to keep calling and insisting on using Adult Stem Cells and

pass the ban on human cloning. Ed.

IT'S THE SPENDING, STUPID

"Republicans (used to) view tax cuts as a way to constrain the size of government - taking away its allowance, as Ronald Reagan used to put it. . . . (T)he old starve-the-beast theory is completely dead. Not only do Republicans make no effort to even restrain, let alone cut, spending, they have actually gone in the opposite direction and now raise spending for just about anything they think will buy them a vote. They have morphed into a caricature of 1960s Democrats, but with even less concern for deficits than Lyndon Johnson had." - Columnist Bruce Bartlett
Comment: Our deficient spending this year is over \$500 Billion. The administration is spending money like... Tax cuts alone will not do it, we must stop over-spending. Ed.

Pray But Don't Mention Jesus

...To avoid a lawsuit, a city councilman in Fredericksburg, Virginia, did not give the opening prayer at Tuesday night's council meeting as planned. Councilman Hashmel Turner, who is also an associate minister at a Baptist church, yielded to council members' requests to let someone else give the invocation. Turner usually prays in Jesus' name, but said he "wouldn't want to burden the taxpayers with heavy legal expenses" from a threatened lawsuit by the American Civil Liberties Union. The prayer issue surfaced after the federal appeals court whose jurisdiction includes Virginia ruled last week in a South Carolina case that prayers with Christian references at the beginning or end of public meetings are unconstitutional. URL: <http://www.agapepress.org>

Comment: Where is the outrage. Rev. Jerry Falwell spoke to this issue once but I wish to hear more from the pulpit. When is "Enough is enough?" Ed.

The First Amendment

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Some Phone numbers:

Senator Allen 518-1674; 202-224-4024

Senator Warner 441-3079; 202-224-2023

Cong. Ed Schrock 497-6859; 202-225-4215

Cong. Randy Forbes 547-1000, 202-225-6365

Political humor. One of the best I've seen. It even made the six-o'clock news. Copy the URL and check it out. Ed.
<http://www.jibjab.com>

Muslims in America

...Attorney General John Ashcroft has unsealed a 42-count indictment charging a Texas-based Muslim charity with funding terrorists. The Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development is accused of giving more than \$12 million to people and groups tied to Hamas from 1995 to 2001. Charges include conspiracy, providing material support to a foreign terrorist organization, tax evasion and money laundering. Ashcroft says a charity claiming "to do good works is charged with funding the works of evil." But he says the indictment is not meant to be a reflection on Muslims or Islam. URL: <http://www.agapepress.org>
Comment: This is just the tip of the ice-berg. There have been news reports for years detailing how they raise money here and send it abroad. There are nearly 5 Million Muslims in the US. Ed.

Christian Judges

...Tim Tinglestad has made his faith the cornerstone of his campaign for the Minnesota Supreme Court. Tinglestad is a devout Christian who is against abortion, quotes the Bible in his campaign literature, and favors using state funds for religious schools. He says that while his candidacy "is an act of obedience to the Word and Spirit of God," he would "uphold the Constitution and the laws" in deciding cases. In 2002, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down Minnesota's election rules barring judicial candidates from sharing their views on hot-button issues. The 44-year-old Tinglestad is among a handful of judicial candidates seeking to unseat incumbents this November, and he is one of the first to openly declare his political positions. URL: <http://www.agapepress.org>
Comment: Where can we find some more judges like this. Wouldn't it be nice to have more in Virginia? Ed.

End of Free Speech Day, Sep 3rd

From Sept. 3rd until Nov. 2nd we lose our freedom to speak out on issues. Our First Amendment rights have been lost, given away by Congress and upheld by the Supremes.

Here's what **McCain-Feingold** really does. It bars private organizations from advertising for or against any candidate for federal office on TV or radio **60 days** before a general election, and 30 days before a primary. However, the media networks themselves -- and the multibillion-dollar transnational corporations who own them -- may use the airwaves to say whatever they like about any candidate during that 60- or 30-day period on their news reports and talk shows.

For the time being, it appears that political dissidents may still advertise on the Internet during the pre-election black-out. However, now that the Supreme Court has given a green light to curbing political speech, it cannot be long before the censors begin clamoring to close the "Internet loophole."

This is it, ladies and gentlemen. If you don't know where you stand on this issue, you'd better decide fast. It's five minutes to midnight, and the clock is ticking. Ed.

Essence of the DP

"This is the essence of the modern Democrat Party, polished to perfection by Bill Clinton: They are willing to insult the intelligence of 49 percent of the people if they think they can fool 51 percent of the people." --Ann Coulter

Poor Choices

"For fiscal conservatives, the choice this election could hardly be more depressing. In the Republicans' corner is George W. Bush, who presides over the most bloated federal budget in US history. Bush's profligacy has left in tatters the traditional GOP claim to fiscal rectitude. He has uncomplainingly signed into law every pork-stuffed appropriations bill sent to him by Congress. He has flooded the government's books with red ink. And he has embraced new schemes for draining the Treasury, including the largest expansion of the welfare state in decades -- the prescription-drug entitlement, which will cost, over the next decade, more than half a trillion dollars. When, from the Democrats' corner, John F. Kerry excoriates Bush for 'three years of reckless spending and skyrocketing deficits' and declares that what America needs is 'a return to the fiscal discipline that brought record surpluses and the largest economic expansion since World War II,' he speaks nothing but the unadorned truth. But Candidate Kerry doesn't preach fiscal discipline very often, and there is no reason to believe that a President Kerry would practice it.... The 2004 presidential race pits a big-spending Republican Tweedledee against a big-spending Democratic Tweedledum. What's a fiscally responsible voter to do?" --Jeff Jacoby

Comment: It is congress that we need to hold the line on spending. Both Schrock and Forbes seem to be interested only in spending. Ed.

The Armed Citizen

Four men broke into an Indianapolis, Indiana, home and confronted the homeowner who fired at the intruders with a shotgun. One of the suspects was shot, and his accomplices took him to a local hospital where he later died. The remaining three men were arrested and charged with burglary and felony murder, according to Indianapolis Police Department spokesman Lt. Paul Ciesielski. (*The Indianapolis Star*, Indianapolis, IN, 01/29/04)

Comment: We must protect our Second Amendment rights, it is the one that protects all the others. It is literally our protection against our own government. Ed.

Amendment [II.]

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.