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LIBERTY COUNSEL'S MONTHLY ACTION/ALERT NEWSLETTER
"Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is Liberty." 2 Cor 3:17

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A Message from Mat Staver, our Founder and Chairman

UNPRECEDENTED LAW WILL CAUSE SERIOUS HARM TO OUR CHILDREN

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco recently upheld an unprecedented and very dangerous law that will cause serious harm to children, parents, and counselors. Liberty Counsel is asking the full Court of Appeals to rehear the case of Pickup v. Brown. This case will almost certainly go to the Supreme Court. For the sake of America's children and parental rights in America, we simply must prevail.

Incredibly, the federal Court of Appeals in San Francisco upheld California's new law that bans "change therapy." Last December, three judges from this same court granted our request and blocked the law from going into effect. Now three different judges from the court have upheld the law. Liberty Counsel has therefore asked the full Court of Appeals to rehear our case, an event termed an *en banc* hearing. No matter what happens at the next stage, this case is almost certain to make its way to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Under this law that was scheduled

to go into effect on January 1, 2013, minors would not be able to receive any counsel from a licensed therapist that seeks to change unwanted same-sex sexual or romantic attractions,

behaviors, mannerisms, or identity. Nor will licensed counselors be permitted to offer such counsel, despite the fact that their clients seek and

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Liberty Counsel has been at the forefront of the battle to stop the pro-homosexual agenda from destroying the rights of people of faith for many years. Our principled opposition to the bullying of mainstream America by a very small but well-funded group of radical activists has grown very intense. For several months now, Liberty Counsel has been arguing in the California and New Jersey federal courts against both states' laws that ban change therapy. These are dangerous laws that force counselors to affirm homosexuality and prohibit clients from seeking counsel to change unwanted same-sex attractions. At top right is the imposing facade of radical activists has grown very intense. For several months now, Liberty Counsel has been arguing in the California and New Jersey federal courts against both states' laws that ban change therapy. These are dangerous laws that force counselors to affirm homosexuality and prohibit clients from seeking counsel to change unwanted same-sex attractions. At top right is the imposing facade of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco, the current site of the California battle. At bottom right, Liberty Counsel Founder and Chairman Mat Staver speaks to the annual convention of the American Association of Christian Counselors (AACC), one of our clients in the landmark California case. Please pray for Liberty Counsel's litigation team as they fight multiple battles on this vital issue – and especially for the children of America.

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would benefit from it.

Liberty Counsel represents minors who are receiving and significantly benefiting from change counseling, their parents, licensed counselors who provide such counsel, and two counseling organizations – the National Association for Research and Therapy on Homosexuality (NARTH) and the American Association of Christian Counselors (AACC).

We are fighting hard to keep the law from going into effect. This is a dire situation for minors, parents, and counselors in general, and for our clients in particular. Please continue to pray for this case. We are spending

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enormous amounts of time and money to litigate this first-of-a-kind legal action. If you can help us financially, please do. We must win this crucially important fight!

There is absolutely no evidence that change therapy is harmful to children. In fact, even the outspokenly liberal former president of the American Psychological Association (APA) wrote an op-ed in USA Today stating homosexuality is not immutable and that people can change.

California has no compelling or empirical reason to justify banning change therapy, especially when clients seek such counsel.

One of the counselors we represent

was sexually molested as a young boy and developed same-sex attractions and behaviors. But through the power of the Gospel and good counseling, he left homosexuality behind and now counsels those who seek the same freedom he has experienced. But if California's misguided law goes into effect, he will not be able to provide such counsel!

The minors we represent do not want to act on same-sex attractions, nor do they want to engage in homosexual behavior. They are greatly benefiting from their counseling. Their grades have gone up, their self-esteem has improved, and their relationships at home are much improved.

Legislators and judges in the state of California have barged into the private therapy rooms of victimized young people and told them that their confusion is normal and they should pursue their unwanted and dangerous same-sex sexual attractions and behavior, regardless of whether they want their religious beliefs to trump their unwanted attractions!

This law is politically motivated and intentionally designed to interfere with counselors and clients.

It is an astounding overreach by the state. Under the law, counselors will be required to provide, and clients to receive, the viewpoint that same-sex attractions are normal and good. Any counsel to reduce or eliminate same-sex attractions would be banned in California. *That is why we must win this case at all costs!*

Following the bad example of California, New Jersey recently passed an identical law. We immediately filed suit, and I appeared before the federal district court in Trenton, New Jersey, early in October to argue our case. We are working hard to block the New Jersey law like we did in California!

The homosexual legislator who sponsored it has said publically that parents could have their children removed from their homes if the minors received any counsel to change

unwanted homosexual attractions!

Radical elements in the New Jersey legislature went so far as to claim that therapy to alleviate homosexual attractions is the same as child abuse.

This is shocking! And worse, we have received word that other states are now considering similar laws. This is all the more reason we must win the California and New Jersey cases.

My heart aches for these young boys and girls, their parents, and their counselors. We have all heard about the

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tragic situation in which former Penn State football coach Jerry Sandusky sexually abused young boys. Following such abuse, it is not uncommon for boys to experience unwanted same-sex attractions. Some even develop desires to sexually abuse other boys the way they were abused.

These unwanted feelings cause confusion, anger, and emotional disturbance. But under the bans on change therapy, these boys and their parents will not be able to get counsel to help them change these unwanted same-sex attractions or behaviors. *Instead, they will be told to just accept such feelings!*

These laws will destroy children and disempower their parents. Despite their religious beliefs, they will not be able to get the kind of counsel they need. Christian counselors will be forced to either violate their beliefs or leave the profession. This is completely unacceptable! *We must stop these dangerous and destructive laws.*

Please, pray for our clients and especially for the minors we are representing in this case. Time is of the essence.

Our current situation in California is awaiting a response from the Court of Appeals on our request for an *en banc* hearing. If the court agrees, we will file new briefs and reargue the case.

If the court does not rehear the case, we will ask the U.S. Supreme Court to intervene. In New Jersey, I have just argued at the district court and we await the court's ruling.

These cases are incredibly time-consuming and expensive. Please consider making a special gift to help us continue the fight. If we do not stop these laws in California and New Jersey, they will spread like a cancer across the country and eventually impact your community.

Use the enclosed reply card to send a gift. You may also want to send a note letting us and our clients know you are praying for them.

God bless you for your prayers and financial support for one of the most important legal battles Liberty Counsel has yet fought! ✝



Mathew D. Staver, who founded Liberty Counsel along with his wife, Anita, in 1989, serves as the organization's Chairman. A leading constitutional attorney, widely read author, and sought-after speaker and cultural apologist, he also serves as Dean of the Liberty University School of Law and as Chairman of Liberty Counsel Action. Staver is among the core leaders of a national effort to rebuild the conservative movement in America.

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and radical elements in our federal government, which have virtually unlimited budgets.

Each of our cases is vitally important! Our outreach to mobilize pastors and churches is important. Our radio and Internet broadcasts are important. Our educational programs are important. Our national petition-gathering programs are important. Our efforts to inform patriotic citizens on issues of national significance are important.

Being forced to choose which initiatives to keep and which ones to forego is almost like asking which one of your children to feed and which one to starve! Because of the importance of what we are doing, we have very little choice but to continue all of these programs and cases. That's why we need increased funding to set us on solid footing as we move into the fall.

Mat and I believe that we are following the divine call of God for our lives. Nothing is more important than that! We know that Liberty Counsel is desperately needed in America, and we are fully resolved to press forward.

Please pray that God will continue to provide for this ministry. We are grateful for those who partner with us, and we are blessed to know that they

Brooks also shows that weekly churchgoers give away 100 times more money to charity than other Americans (and even 50 times more money to nonreligious causes).

gain both seen and unseen benefits from their generosity. We pray that you will also receive a great reward for your faithful support! ✝

Anita L. Staver, Liberty Counsel's President, cofounded the ministry in 1989 along with her husband, Mat. Anita is a member of the bars of the state of Florida and the District of Columbia. She is admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court, every federal court of appeals in the nation, and six federal district courts.

WOMEN IMPACTING THE NATION PRESENTS
FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS
2013 WOMEN'S CONFERENCE!

Have dinner with author and Center for Urban Renewal and Education (CURE) founder Star Parker, enjoy a concert with Dove Award winner Kathy Troccoli, hear from Campus Crusade cofounder Vonette Bright, meet talk show host and reality TV star Rachel Campos-Duffy, attend an intimate reception with other awesome speakers, shop our silent auction, and much more!

You will enjoy a relaxing setting and learn more about issues and ideas that really matter to you. You will be encouraged, informed, empowered, and equipped with the truth that you need to make a positive impact in your own sphere of influence.

Join us and we'll see what God will do as we work together. We hope to see you in November!



November 15-16, 2013, in Orlando at the First Baptist Church of Central Florida

For more information or to register, go to LC.org or WomenImpactingTheNation.org and click the REGISTER link. You may also call 800-671-1776 to register.

From Anita Staver, President

WHO REALLY CARES ABOUT AMERICA?



And whatever you do in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus. Colossians 3:17

If you are like me, you have spent time pondering how to invest your life and resources, knowing that we are all held accountable for our decisions.

We have often heard the biblically-based truth, “You can’t out-give God,” yet most people don’t realize that hard evidence for this fundamental truth exists in our everyday lives.

In his book, *Who Really Cares: The Surprising Truth About Compassionate Conservatism*, preeminent public policy expert Arthur C. Brooks uses statistical analysis to show that charity does, in fact, increase the giver’s income.

For example, he shows that on average, a person who donated \$1.00 to charity in the year 2000 received \$4.35 more than nongivers. Further, differences in factors such as education,

race, or age only explained 60 cents (about 14%) of that extra income.

Brooks points out that charitable giving has yielded a better return on investment than either stocks or bonds. He also shows that weekly churchgoers give away 100 times more money to charity than other Americans (and even 50 times more money to non-religious causes).

Here’s another of Brooks’ insights: Ones charity has little to do with

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current wealth, but is definitely related to an increase in future income. Even the working poor are seven times more likely to donate than those who receive the same amount of money from government assistance programs.

Thus, when the government institutes welfare programs, it destroys both our wealth and our sense of charity. The government actually increases poverty by throwing money at a problem that should be solved by public generosity!

When we decide to give of our time or money, we should assess the quality of the charitable activity we are blessing by considering the consequences of not investing in that particular church or ministry. If their activities were to

cease tomorrow, would there be significant negative consequences?

Liberty Counsel is one ministry that demonstrates real results. We know that we must focus on doing great things, not just on doing good things.

The calendar year 2013 has been especially productive for us with our ObamaCare petition to the Supreme Court, defense of a Massachusetts pastor against a foreign organization attempting to use international law to silence his biblical message, litigation on behalf of minors and their parents to obtain needed counseling to change unwanted same-sex attraction, and many other important battles.

If you receive our *Liberty Alert* e-mail updates, you will have received many reports on our victories already this year. If you haven’t seen our latest Fiscal Year-End Report that details the nearly miraculous level of successful work God accomplished recently through this ministry, please contact us for your free copy.

Although Liberty Counsel is extremely productive, our income doesn’t always match up with our high activity periods. This year, at a time when we are coping with decreased contributions in the “summer slump,” our workload has been greatly increasing.

Right now, we desperately need more financial help. We must continue to advance our God-given mission while engaging in battles with aggressive opponents including the ACLU, a 100 million dollar per year organization,

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Restoring the Culture by Advancing Religious Freedom, the Sanctity of Human Life and the Family

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