



FACT Focus

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KEEPING WATCH

When the righteous thrive, the people rejoice; when the wicked rule, the people groan

— Proverbs 29:2

Every day our state legislators have a stream of politically savvy governmental relations experts calling on them to support legislation of interest to their clients.

The Christian voice must be heard, too, which means we must know what issues our legislators will address. You can track family-related bills at FACTn.org/legislation.htm.

Distributed by

The Family Action Council of Tennessee

a family policy council associated with Focus on the Family.

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One Nation Under God



As we approach the 233rd birthday of our county, signified by the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, it is time for all Americans to

remember that this great nation was founded on the principles of truth, justice and freedom found in the pages of the Bible.

Patrick Henry is famous for saying: "Is life so dear or peace so sweet as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God. I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!" This great Christian patriot must have known that one day Americans would doubt the biblical foundation of the nation, for he later wrote,

It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded, not by religionists, but by Christians; not on religions, but on the gospel of Jesus Christ. For this reason peoples of other faiths have been afforded asylum, prosperity, and freedom of worship here.

We live in a much different nation today, and the laws of the land are becoming less and less aligned with Christian values. It was Christian men who poured the political foundation of America, and Christians today must still speak the Truth, mixed with love and grace, into the cultural and political issues of the day.



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The **Family Action Council of Tennessee** (FACT) is part of a national network of family policy councils associated with Focus on the Family. FACT is a non-partisan, non-denominational, non-profit 501 (c)(3) corporation, governed by a volunteer board of directors from across the state.

OUR MISSION is to promote and defend a culture that values the traditional family, for the sake of the common good. We seek to do so by:

- Encouraging public policies in Tennessee that support the institution of marriage, the sanctity of life, traditional family values, and religious liberty,
- Identifying, educating, and mobilizing like-minded people and churches through local Truth Project trainings, sponsorship of Ministers' Day on the Hill (state Capitol), establishment of church Salt and Light Committees and other initiatives.

WE BELIEVE that a strong, vibrant, and healthy future for our citizens is grounded in the strength, vitality, and health of today's families. Families are the cornerstone of any nation, state and community, and, as the family goes, so go those communities of people. Neglecting common-sense, biblical values contributes to many of our nation's current ills like crime, disease, divorce, unwanted pregnancies, teen suicide and academic failure.

OUR VALUES include Biblical worldview, healthy families, respect for life, sexuality within marriage, respect for parental authority, and religious liberty. When the state protects these time-tested values, they in turn protect the family. We believe churches, families and individuals are best equipped to foster these values, but we believe that government should not work against them. Our desire is to provide factual educational resources for each of these to function in their respective areas of responsibility.

FACT is led by David Fowler, formerly a practicing attorney and twelve year veteran of the Tennessee state Senate. Dr. David Shelley, who has pastored churches in Georgia and Tennessee for 20 years, is the Director of Church and Community Relations. Please visit our web site at:

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