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January 2014

I need your help, please!

Another year is ended and 2014 is upon us. Our values are under attack on all fronts—in the courts, in lecture halls, hospitals, legislatures, and in the media. Just this past year, the U.S. Supreme Court approved same-sex marriages and courts across the nation have followed its lead. What does the future of America look like for our children and grandchildren?

I would ask that you please pray for the NCLL.

The legal ministry of the National Center for Life and Liberty serves to protect and defend the values on which our nation was founded. Our founding fathers gave their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor to provide God-given life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for our generation. It is our obligation to pass that legacy on to our children and grandchildren, and to preserve religious liberty in America. America's First Freedom—the freedom of religion—is the very basis upon which all our other freedoms rest.

With recent court decisions and troubling developments in Washington, D.C., the lives of the elderly, the disabled, and the unborn are increasingly unprotected and jeopardized. Many will die before their time, and we cannot afford to wait.

In Matthew 25:40, Jesus teaches that what we do to the “least of these” we have done to God Himself. The NCLL serves to aggressively defend life and fight the pro-death agenda in our nation.

Our society is becoming increasingly hostile to people of faith. There is a tremendous need for reliable legal counsel—that is also Biblical—to serve churches and institutions ministering in this changing world. As NCLL attorneys fight for life, the ministry also protects the religious liberties that you hold dear. The NCLL provides resources and training seminars to help today's church leaders succeed in reaching their communities for Christ.

I would ask that you also pray for the cases and those served by the NCLL.

Please pray as the Supreme Court of the United States deliberates on whether prayers in Jesus' Name will be protected for government officials. The NCLL represents government officials in Maryland, Georgia, North Carolina, Florida, Missouri, Tennessee, and Vermont.

*A Michigan church is not being allowed to purchase property and reach its community for Christ. The NCLL is litigating its case in federal court. Pray that this church's rights are protected. **What happens in these cases impacts all churches across the nation.***

*Please praise the Lord that the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in favor of a ministry that had been sued by a former employee. **The NCLL stands with ministries across the nation.***

*Ask the Lord to bless the **2014 Church Leadership Legal Seminars** that will be conducted in twenty locations across the nation. NCLL attorneys are preparing to train thousands of pastors and church leaders to effectively and successfully minister in their communities.*

*Praise the Lord that the nationally syndicated radio ministry of the NCLL, **Law Talk Live**, reaches over half a million listeners each Saturday with valuable information to understand and stand up for their liberties across the nation.*

I would ask that you please help the NCLL financially if you are able to do so.

As a faith-based ministry, the NCLL counts on your help. A gift of \$5, \$10, or even \$20 would help the NCLL close 2013 and launch into 2014 with the needed funds to help those who are in need.

Working from offices in Texas, Florida, and Washington, D.C., the NCLL team is prepared to litigate, educate, and serve across America.

We plan to continue expanding in 2014 by increasing the following:

Investing in the next generation by defending cases and advancing legislation.

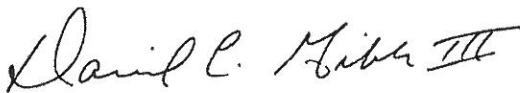
Integrating Biblical-legal advice and service to the ministries and Christians of our nation and around the world.

Impacting the culture through the media.

From wherever I am in the nation, I end my *Law Talk Live* radio broadcast each weekend with this statement, **"If it's wrong, fight it. If it's right, fight for it!"**

I firmly believe that together we can make a difference for our Savior and boldly stand for Biblical values in 2014!

Sincerely,



David C. Gibbs III

Admitted in Florida, North Dakota, Minnesota, Colorado, Texas, Ohio, Tennessee, Michigan, and the District of Columbia

P.S.—Please encourage your church to pray for and support the NCLL on a regular basis in 2014.



Attorney David Gibbs III, President

October 1 Healthcare Notice Deadline and Your Ministry

Our office has been inundated with calls from churches concerned about whether they are required to issue notices to all employees about the debut of the Affordable Care Act ("Obamacare") on October 1, 2013.

Some churches are being incorrectly told that they will incur fines and other penalties for ignoring a Department of Labor document requiring employers to inform employees about the ACA Health Exchanges (now called "Marketplaces") before that October 1 date.

We at the National Center for Life and Liberty (NCLL) want to make sure that you have correct legal information about this issue.

1. First and most importantly, we want you to know that NCLL serves as your eyes, ears, and voice on Capital Hill. We have staff regularly in touch with Senators and Representatives on all issues of importance to churches—including this one. We have been lobbying along with many other groups against the implementation of Obamacare, and we can tell you that nothing about Obamacare is yet clear. The President has issued exemptions and delays for many of his corporate friends, and we are still hopeful Congress may yet take action to spare ordinary citizens as well.
2. Even if individuals are able to begin signing up with the government health insurance exchanges (now being called "Marketplaces") on October 1, it is absolutely clear that no churches will face fines or penalties for not using the Labor Department government forms notify their employees about this program. We do not want churches to be misinformed about these basic facts.
3. Churches are exempt from the requirements of Obamacare. Most churches do not employ enough people (50 or more full time employees) to fear any penalties for non-compliance. Others have religious objections to promoting any health insurance plan that pays for abortions or promotes euthanasia, as Obamacare does. In either case, churches are exempt, as are other ministries whose religious beliefs would be violated by participation in this government program.
4. All churches, even larger ones with schools, colleges, or those employing 50 or more people, should carefully consider whether they want to provide their employees with information directing them to a government health insurance program that funds abortions and promotes euthanasia. NCLL will stand legally with any pastor whose church or ministry might incur fines or other penalties for refusing to violate the church's religious beliefs on this issue.

Here, in a nutshell is what you need to know about this Labor Department Notice Requirement that is currently stirring up such an uproar among churches:

The Labor Department has issued a Notice Requirement to all employers covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act, telling them to inform their employees about the Health Insurance Exchanges ("Marketplaces") and the beginning of signups for individuals on October 1, 2013. New employees hired after October 1, the Labor Department says, must also be informed about the health insurance exchanges within 14 days of their hire. However, most churches are not required to comply with either this Labor Department Notice or with Obamacare itself and no churches will receive fines for non-compliance. If you would, nevertheless, like to have copies of these government documents, please contact our office with your email address.

[NCLL Ministry Leadership Legal Seminars Will Help with Issues Like This](#)

In 2014, the NCLL will be hosting 18 ministry leadership legal seminars across the country. At the one-day seminars, we will address issues—like this one—to help your ministry know and understand the legal landscape that will affect you and your ministry.

[Click here for more information about the 2014 Ministry Leadership Legal Seminars](#)

[Legislative Prayer Update](#)

In August, the NCLL filed an *amicus* brief with the United States Supreme Court in the case of *Town of Greece v. Galloway* arguing that legislative prayer should be able to include references to Christ and can conclude "in Jesus' name." If you haven't gotten to read a copy of the [brief that the NCLL filed—click here to download a copy](#).

This week, the NCLL received notification from the United States Solicitor General—President Obama's designated attorney to argue the Administration's position before the United States Supreme Court—stating that the Obama administration has requested oral argument time in the case. Astoundingly, the Solicitor General stated that the Administration's position is **to support the continuing tradition of opening legislative sessions in prayer, "even when most of the prayers are delivered by prayer-givers of one faith and many of their prayers contain sectarian references."**

If you'd like to read the [Solicitor General's notice, click here to download a copy](#).

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to serve you and your ministry. Please keep the NCLL in your prayers as we are involved in training church and ministry leaders, advancing biblical and constitutional values with the legislatures, litigating a broad scope of religious and constitutional liberties cases, and speaking to the issues of our day in the media and pulpits of our nation. **Please let us know if we can assist you in any way!**

On behalf of those we have the privilege of serving,

David Gibbs III
President and General Counsel
National Center for Life and Liberty

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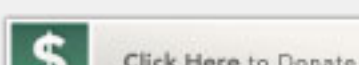
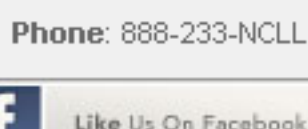
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Ministry Updates



Attorney David Gibbs III, President

What Is the NCLL Doing to Save Our Nation?

Training Churches and Ministry Leaders—In 2014 the NCLL will be conducting dynamic, informative, and practical legal seminars in 18 cities across America. During these seminars, NCLL attorneys will provide valuable legal counsel so churches and ministries can continue to aggressively reach this generation while planning and understanding all of the legal safeguards that a prudent ministry should take. For more information, visit our website.

Advancing Instead of Retreating—The NCLL is your voice in the Washington, D.C. Each week, NCLL representatives meet with lawmakers and zealously work to change laws that are bad and defend laws that are good. Recently, NCLL's Executive Director, Dr. Mark Campbell, met with U.S Representatives Richard Hudson (NC) and Scott Perry (PA) in efforts to see the Johnson Amendment of 1954 repealed. The Johnson Amendment threatens to restrict speech from America's pulpits. The NCLL is aggressively working to broaden preachers' freedoms in the pulpit. Please pray for us as we are continuing to pursue this legislative initiative and are working to find more supporters of this on Capital Hill!

Litigating a Broad Scope of Religious and Constitutional Liberties Cases—At the NCLL, we litigate a broad scope of cases that protects life and affects America's future. Just this year, we successfully litigated and saved a life of a disabled woman in a life-and-death case in New York, represented County Commissioners who were sued by the ACLU for praying in Jesus' name, and we have helped hundreds of churches and individuals in their pursuit to share the Gospel and minister in their communities.

As you might realize, legal, legislative, and media ministry across the nation is expensive. The NCLL has committed by faith to litigate these cases counting on the Holy Spirit to lead you to help us financially. **We need your help!** As the Holy Spirit leads you to stand with us, please know that we are extremely grateful for your prayers and your financial support. Together, we can make a difference.

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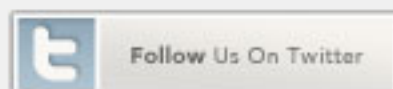
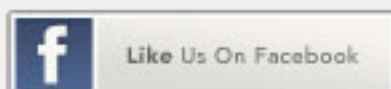
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Attorney David Gibbs III, *President*

Can You Share the Gospel in Public Institutions Like Schools, Government Offices, or Prisons?

This Week on Law Talk Live

Tune in to *Law Talk Live* Saturday at 12:00 noon (EST) on Moody Radio! On this week's *Law Talk Live*, Attorney Gibbs will discuss the legal principles pertaining to sharing the Gospel in America's public institutions.

What are the challenges involved in bringing the light of Christ into these often dark places?

Links to Tune-In and Listen

Live broadcast—only available on Saturdays from 12:00 noon (EST) through 1:00 PM (EST): <http://www.moodyradio.org/radioplayer.aspx?station=wmbi>

Live broadcast link for mobile devices:
<http://primary.moodyradiostream.org/wmbw.mp3>

Archives of past programs—available any time: http://www.moodyradio.org/brd_ProgramArchive.aspx?id=100734

Call-In with Your Questions

Call-In—available during Saturday's show with your questions: 1 (877) 548-3675.

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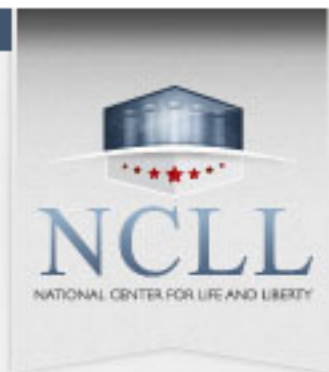


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Why Is the Common Core Movement Bad for America?

The Common Core curriculum movement is an attempt to centralize and standardize what children will learn across the country. Common Core standards define what every child should learn from grade to grade, and include teacher evaluations designed to ensure school compliance. Contrary to what many think about Common Core, this movement not only affects public school students, but it also has a drastic impact on private school and homeschool students as well.

Sounds great, right? Not so much. From a big-picture perspective, Common Core is a clear instance of Washington grossly overstepping its boundaries. In America, individual states have educational sovereignty. State school boards of education are elected or appointed to determine each state's education policy. Common Core is an attempt to eliminate state sovereignty by ceding authority over educational decisions to the federal government.

Despite what its proponents would have us believe, Common Core standards are not an independent creation of the states wholly untied to the federal government. Originally, the whole idea got off the ground with several private organizations and state groups like the Gates Foundation, the College Board, the International Baccalaureate Organization, the National Governors Association, the Council of Chief State School Officers, and others. While this doesn't on its face sound like a federal government program, make no mistake. States are given an offer they can hardly refuse in exchange for adopting the Common Core standards. In its first term, the Obama administration announced a federal incentive program called "Race to the Top." States that wanted to compete for the funds had to agree to adopt Common Core standards in teaching and testing, and to date, 45 states have done so. The millions of dollars given to states have proven too difficult a temptation for the states to refuse.

So why is Common Core such a bad idea? After all, it has been marketed as the answer to America's struggle to compete internationally. How? By raising standards and thus producing students who are capable of meeting the demands of an ever-changing global marketplace. But parents are now beginning to see the Common Core-aligned tests and materials that are being sent home, and many of them are questioning the real purpose behind this whole idea.

What would give these parents pause for questioning? Well, let's start with the Civics assignments telling students that the government is revising the Bill of Rights because it is outdated, and that the students are to explain which rights they would repeal. Or how about the 6th graders who were required to design a flag for a new socialist nation? Or the 4th graders who were told to think like a Nazi and argue why Jews are evil? Or how about the assignment explaining an adulterous allegation and asking the student to explain how the facts lead to this conclusion? These are but a small fraction of the incredibly disturbing curriculum choices public schools that are aligned with Common Core standards are implementing on our children.

Is curriculum like this truly designed to produce better-educated children? Or is it to create a society of workers who are all taught the same thing, who are susceptible to indoctrination from one central government that has the power to control exactly what is and what is not taught? Perhaps the underlying purpose of Common Core is to create a central government that is increasingly intolerant, and at times, downright hostile towards Christianity?

It is likely the latter that has caused many states that have adopted the standards to start pushing back. Now, several states are even seeking to slow down the implementation process because these states have seen Common Core's dangers. Grass-roots organizations within most states are rising up and fighting to have Common Core repealed in their states. These organizations understand the real possibility that Common Core is merely an infrastructure where the federal government is using grant money as bait so that it can eventually dictate the curriculum that will align with its ideals.

Again, please don't think that because your children attend private school or are homeschooled that you will not be subject to the demands of Common Core. Right now, the Common Core standards are not mandated for these institutions in states where Common Core has been adopted. But standardized testing—which is required in many states for homeschoolers and private school students—is even now being aligned with Common Core standards. Further yet, college entrance exams are also being aligned with Common Core. So even if your state doesn't require standardized yearly testing for your private school or homeschooled students, if that student intends to go to college, he or she will have had to have been instructed in the Common Core standards in order to do well on those exams.

Common Core cedes far too much authority to the federal government—authority that belongs at the state and local level. Parents who cherish their educational choice should make their thoughts known to their legislators and look to join forces with the NCLL for the repeal of Common Core!

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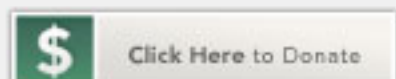
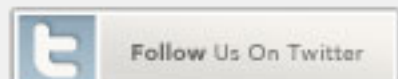
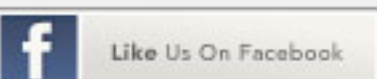
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Why Would a Pastor Need a Lawyer?

This Week on Law Talk Live

Tune in to *Law Talk Live* Saturday at 12:00 noon (EST) on Moody Radio! Today's Pastor faces challenges that were unimaginable a generation ago. Not only must he be spiritually prepared to meet the needs of his church members and preach an inspiring sermon, but he also must be prepared to deal with employment and compensation issues, counseling issues, preventing child abuse, managing contracts, incorporation issues, property safety, and more.

This week on *Law Talk Live*, Attorney David Gibbs comes alongside America's pastors to give sound ideas and strategies for dealing with modern church issues. Tune in and tell your pastor to listen-in!

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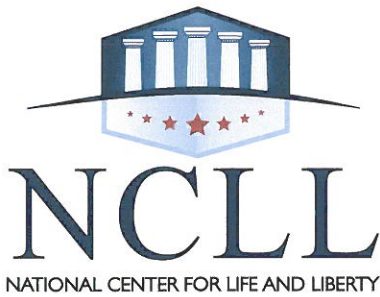
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May 2013

Dear Friend of Liberty,

Your God-given liberties and freedoms are being trampled upon in the courts and the legislatures of our land. All too often, the United States Constitution is being ignored by our judges and leaders, and we are paying the price for not limiting the government's authority in our daily lives. The liberties we cherish are perilously close to being lost. A small remnant of our judges and elected leaders agree that our nation is headed in the wrong direction.

That's why we must stand and fight back NOW! The Bible is still the Word of God and the Constitution is still the supreme law of the land. We need to protect freedom and hold our leaders accountable. If we do not act now, the next generation will suffer tremendously for our refusal to get involved.

Whether it is bombs exploding at the Boston Marathon or mass shootings in our schools or at our malls, we see the consequences of America's continuing moral decline. Some would say the answer is more government, less freedom, and no God. On your behalf, **the NCLL declares that the answer is less government, more freedom, and complete dependence on God Almighty. Jesus is still the Answer for America!**

Your prayers, friendship, and financial support allow the NCLL legal team to speak on your behalf to the courts, the Congress, and the culture. **The NCLL is your VOICE!**

We need your help right now. The NCLL is engaged in a number of expensive lawsuits, media outreaches, and strong efforts to impact our Washington, D.C. leadership. **The NCLL ministry is only made possible by the prayers and financial gifts you send.**

The next generation is counting on us! The NCLL team is willing to pay the price and preserve your liberties. Please send the most generous donation you can right now and help us. **Your investment in the NCLL, allows our legal team to speak and defend your values and freedoms.**

Thank you in advance for your generosity and for affording us the privilege of serving you and your family in the raging culture war.

Sincerely,

David C. Gibbs III

President and General Counsel

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