

May 20, 2018 Day of Pentecost

An open letter by Ohio clergymen calling for defiance to federal court tyranny

Dear Ohio Congressmen and Ohio State Legislature,

On December 22, 2017, Ohio Governor John Kasich signed the Non-Discrimination Act outlawing selective abortions performed on children diagnosed with Down syndrome. Unfortunately, on March 14, 2018, one unelected U.S. District Court Judge, Mr. Timothy Black, struck down Ohio's law ratified by eighty-four elected state officials. Judge Black who previously was the Director and President of Planned Parenthood of Cincinnati stated in his opinion:

"The woman's right to terminate her pregnancy before viability is the most central principle of *Roe v. Wade*. It is a rule of law and a component of liberty we cannot renounce." (1)

Psalms 94:20-22 states: "Shall the throne of iniquity, which devises evil by law, have fellowship with you? They gather together against the life of the righteous, and condemn innocent blood. But the LORD has been my defense, and my GOD the rock of my refuge."

As leading clergymen crossing denominational lines representing one hundred and eight (108) congregations throughout North Central Ohio, we do not excuse Judge Black's conflict of interest, and we believe Judge Black's politically-biased arguments justifying the taking of life are unbecoming for a federal judge and hold no merit.

Nowhere does the Constitution permit federal court opinions or U. S. Supreme Court decisions like *Roe v. Wade* to be supreme law of the land.

According to Article 6, Clause 2 of the U.S. Constitution, "This Constitution, and the laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance thereof; and all treaties made, or which shall be made, under the authority of the United States, ***shall be the supreme Law of the Land.***" (Bold and italics ours)

Furthermore, the eighty-four state officials of the executive and legislative branches take an oath to uphold the Constitution; they do not take an oath of subservience to federal judiciary opinion.

We the People-the governed, ***by our consent***, created the states. The states, in turn, through the Constitutional Convention, created the Constitution and the Constitution created the federal government, including the Supreme Court and inferior Federal Courts. Therefore the Supreme Court and inferior Federal Courts are subservient to the Constitution.

This egregious inferior Federal Court opinion highlights the ongoing constitutional crisis where the government has enabled the judiciary to implement a "Federal Court Tyranny." Absent of any constitutionality, these 600 unelected bureaucrats are silencing voters by establishing their own court opinions as law of the land, and micromanaging public policy against the will of the governed.

While there were no nationwide injunctions by inferior Federal Courts for the first 175 years of the Republic, there have been 22 nationwide injunctions by inferior Federal Courts ordering the entire federal government to not enforce executive branch policy or statute in the first year of Donald Trump's presidency alone! (2)

By the same token, the Supreme Court ignored 187 years of court precedent when it gave its baseless opinion that religious and moral teachings from the Bible in public schools could cause psychological damage. (3) And the Supreme Court's opinion that students should not be allowed to even see the Ten Commandments in public schools ignored policy from the first 204 years of the Republic. (4) Clearly the opinions of the federal judiciary have shown an open hostility to religious freedoms by not tolerating the practice of religion in nearly every public setting.

Because of its prejudice against the faith community, it is our firm conviction that the federal judiciary should be resisted since it neither has supremacy over the executive and legislative branches nor does it have the authority to enforce over citizens the "separation of church and state," a phrase that marginalizes leading voices of freedom and does not even exist in the Constitution.

Please consider the following to address our nation's Constitutional crisis including the Judge Black verdict:

- 1) Article 3, Section 1 of the Constitution states, Supreme Court judges and inferior Federal Court judges do not serve for life, but rather only "during good behavior."
- 2) Article 3, Section 1 of the Constitution states inferior Federal Courts only serve "from time to time" as Congress "ordains and establishes."
- 3) The Judiciary Act of 1789 states the Department of Justice of the Executive Branch thru U.S. Marshals can control the enforcement of rulings by the Supreme Court and inferior Federal Courts .
- 4) The First Amendment of the U.S. Bill of Rights states that the free exercise of religion "shall not be prohibited" by the government (or Congress).

In summary, application of these constitutional truths will allow state governments, and also the Executive and Legislative branches of the federal government to govern freely without capitulating to the federal judiciary. Furthermore, it is also the promotion of the Ten Commandments in public life that will reduce the need for a federal judiciary. Perhaps this is why there are more than fifty depictions of the Ten Commandments in the U.S. Supreme Court building. (5)

In other words, the antidote to federal judicial tyranny is a society with the Ten Commandments as the social compact unifying our multicultural people, and self-restraint replacing government constraint.

In conclusion, the Day of Pentecost is the anniversary that many faith traditions believe both the Ten Commandments and the Holy Spirit were divinely given to a diverse people. **Today we are calling for Congress and our state legislature to restore religious freedom and end judicial tyranny.** If as elected leaders you resist judicial supremacy, then as Isaiah 1:26 states: the Heavenly Father will "restore your judges as at the first, and your counsellors as at the beginning: afterward you shall be called, the city of righteousness, the faithful city."

Sincerely,

Rev. J.C. Church, Victory in Truth Ministries
Rev. El Akuchie, Richland Community Prayer Network
Rev. John Bouquet, Savannah Bethel Baptist
Rev. Randy Raynes, Mansfield Fellowship Baptist
Rev. Jerry Lauder milk, Ontario Abundant Life
Rev. James Spencer, Peoples' Baptist

Rev. Mark Dettmer, Pleasant Grove Community
Rev. James Hill, Paradise View Freewill Baptist
Rev. Don Wilson, Mansfield Faith Assembly
Rev. Larry Hulver, Lexington New Liberty Baptist
Rev. James Marshall, Ganges Community
Rev. Jeff Mills, Shelby Living Stone Community

Rev. Henry Bradley, New Community Temple COGIC
Rev. David Green, Mansfield Sovereign Baptist
Rev. Bill Henderson, Bellville First Baptist
Rev. Eric Byrom, Mansfield Grace Fellowship
Rev. Keith Carlisle, Ontario First Wesleyan
Rev. Rick Lewis, Shelby Church of GOD
Rev. Russell Stanford, All Believers in Christ
Rev. DeWayne Smith, Main Street United Methodist
Rev. Doug Tackett, Taylortown Community
Rev. Ted Howard, Apostolic Holiness
Rev. William Crank, Cornerstone Freewill Baptist
Rev. Brian Phillips, New Beginnings Freewill Baptist
Rev. Hank Webb, Belmont Ave. Community
Rev. Darrin Thurber, Seventh Day Adventist
Rev. Kevin Evans, Ganges Liberty Baptist
Rev. Bryan Graham, Shiloh Wesleyan Evangelical
Rev. Anthony Cooper, Shelby Life Church
Rev. Bill Howell, Shiloh Messiah House of Prayer
Rev. Glenn Phillips, Hillside First Church of GOD
Rev. Dink Porter, First Church of the Open Bible
Rev. Walter Keib, Shelby First Baptist
Rev. John Grimm, Plymouth United Methodist
Rev. Jody Odom, Mansfield Ambassadors for Christ
Rev. Bill Fisher, Mansfield Grace Temple
Rev. Aaron Rose, Lexington Fusion Church
Rev. David Howell, Power House Worship Center
Rev. Ron Smalls, Woodville Grace Brethren
Elder Mark Hamilton, Providence Church
Rev. Paul Lintern Southside Christian
Rev. Mike Stine, Clear Fork Alliance
Rev. Mike Wilson, Lincoln Heights Baptist
Rev. Paul Mathewson, Maranatha Bible Baptist
Rev. Troy Wooten, Christian Life Center
Rev. Clarence Sanderfer, New Life Baptist
Rev. Louis Blevins, Latter Rain COGIC
Rev. Floyd Glick, First Church of Nazarene
Rev. Bruce Copley, Faith Chapel
Rev. Howdie Burnette, Perrysville Baptist
Rev. Mark Abel, Southview Grace Brethren
Rev. Ron Kosa, Living Word Church
Rev. Scott Maglott, Lexington Church of the Nazarene
Rev. Walt Jordan, Mansfield Oasis of Love
Rev. Robert Ratcliff, North Woodbury Freewill Baptist
Rev. Jason Price, Mansfield Victory Baptist
Rev. David Bates, Galion Unity Freewill Baptist
Rev. Joe Maggelet, Ashland Fellowship Christian Athletes
Bishop Owen Detweiler, Batemantown Amish District
Rev. Caesar Coney, Mansfield Christ Temple Church
Rev. Mike Rose, Hope on the Hill Chapel

Rev. Steve Schag, Shelby Calvary Baptist
Rev. Les Vnasdale, Cornerstone Grace Brethren
Rev. Robert Kurtz, Mansfield Baptist Temple
Rev. Patrick Bailey, North Bend Church Brethren
Rev. Phil Green, Real Life Community
Rev. Art Kennard, Maranatha Christian Center
Rev. Mark Meyer, Lexington Gracepoint Sanctuary
Rev. Mike Workman, Caeserea Baptist
Rev. George Lewis, Shelby Temple of GOD
Rev. Ferlie Yates, Hanna Road Church of GOD
Rev. Floyd Allen, Philippian Community
Rev. Bruce Phillipi, Journey Life Center
Rev. Ron Puff, Pleasant Valley Baptist
Rev. Dallas Waggle, Lucas Foursquare Gospel
Rev. Les Farley, My Father's House
Rev. David Guild, Mansfield Foursquare Gospel
Rev. Matthew Pond, First Freewill Baptist
Rev. Sylvester Ginn, Hesus Agape Fellowship
Rev. Tim Davis, Newville Baptist
Rev. Chris Thomas, Diamond Hills Baptist
Rev. John Grimm, Shiloh United Methodist
Rabbi William Hallbrook, Mansfield Messianic
Rev. Steve Baldrige, Rome Community
Rev. David Ferrell, Mansfield Holiness Chapel
Rev. Jim Streib, Lexington Fusion Branch Church
Rev. John Campos, Bowman Street Church of GODRe
Rev. Rich Hurles, Plymouth LifePoint Community
Rev. Paul Lintern, Oakland Lutheran
Rev. Jim Luederman, Vermillion Baptist
Rabbi Robert Bauer, Beit El Elyon
Rev. Richard Aites, Abundant Grace Fellowship
Rev. Joe Smith, Westside Baptist
Rev. Bill Lewis, Butler River of Life
Rev. Clyde Kerby, Ministries of Hope & Healing
Rev. Robert O'Brien, Apostolic Faith Assembly
Rev. T.J. Waters, Lexington Church of Christ
Rev. Daniel Baer, Mansfield Gospel Assembly
Rev. Aaron Williams Jr., Maddox Memorial Temple
Rev. Larry Hill, Bethel Freewill Baptist
Rev. Mark Wireman, Shiloh Pentecostal
Rev. Ronnie Conn, Elm Street Freewill Baptist
Rev. David Parsons, Zion's Refuge Baptist
Rev. Steve Brenneman, Awakening Christian Center
Rev. Steve Burkhalter, Potter's House Mansfield
Rev. Darryle Moody, Cardington Church of the Nazarene
Bishop Eli Miller, Amish Perry District 2
Bishop Andy Keim, Amish Perry District 1
Rev. David Mahon, Galion Apostolic Assembly

REFERENCES

- (1) "Federal Judge Puts the Brakes on Ohio Abortion Ban," CBN News, March 18, 2018
<http://www1.cbn.com/cbnnews/us/2018/march/federal-judge-puts-the-brakes-on-ohio-abortion-ban>
- (2) "Jeff Sessions slams federal judges for issuing nationwide injunctions hindering Trump's agenda," by Melissa Quinn, March 10, 2018, <https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/jeff-sessions-slams-federal-judges-for-issuing-nationwide-injunctions-hindering-trumps-agenda/article/2651260>
- (3) U.S. Supreme Court decision: Abington School District v. Schempp on June 17, 1963 "If portions of the New Testament were read without explanation, they could be...psychologically harmful to the child"
- (4) U.S. Supreme Court decision: Stone v. Graham on November 17, 1980
- (5) "Historic Displays of the Ten Commandments," video by Liberty Counsel, published September 17, 2009, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-8X13cYNxDY>

Cc: U.S. President Donald Trump
U.S. Speaker of House Paul Ryan
U.S. Senate Maj. Leader Mitch McConnell
Ohio Governor John Kasich
Ohio Senator Rob Portman
Ohio Senator Sherrod Brown