



ILLINOIS Family Institute

Boldly bringing biblical principles to public policy in the Land of Lincoln.

Newsletter | Fall 2019

Hebrews • Ten • Twenty-three

Let us hold fast
THE CONFESSION OF OUR HOPE
without wavering
for He who promised is faithful.

www.illinoisfamily.org



from the **Executive Director — David E. Smith**

This year's legislative session was the most horrific we've ever seen for pro-family interests. Virtually every wicked proposal passed, thanks in part to super majorities of Democrats in both chambers and a new, aggressive and "progressive," billionaire governor.

I say "in part" because the Christian community still remains largely asleep, uninformed and apathetic regarding matters of politics, public policy, and the cultural mandate in general.

New policies (all founded on lies) that were approved this session that will further institutionalize bloodshed, addictions, indoctrination, greed, and corruption include: massive expansion of abortion; legalization of recreational marijuana; massive expansion of gambling; a state mandate for public schools to teach LGBT history in K-12, normalizing sexual immorality to young, impressionable student; a new non-binary option for your driver's license of "other," to name a few.

In the days and weeks since the GA adjourned, and on more than one occasion I sincerely asked God why He didn't intervene.

Ultimately, I realized God did not answer our prayers the way we wanted Him to because **His ways are not our ways, and His purposes are well beyond our comprehension.** (Isaiah 55:8-9)

Romans 1 warns us that God's wrath is revealed against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men:

And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, **God gave them over to a depraved mind**, to do those things which are not proper ... and although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them. Romans 1:28, 32

Romans 2:2 declares, "We know that the judgement of God rightly falls upon those who practice such things." If we are honest, we must admit that our culture practices these sins, and the proper consequence is judgement. I am convinced we are under judgment.



Sadly, the church is failing to teach "the nations to observe the commands of Christ." Our silence and inaction might very well be seen by God as passive approval of sin and those who practice it. (Matthew 28:16-20)

Abortion Celebration

Remember in 1996 when Bill Clinton coined the term "safe, legal and rare" to describe the Democrats' policy on abortion?

Today, a Twitter campaign called [#ShoutYourAbortion](#), allows women to *celebrate* their abortions, thereby eradicating shame and guilt.

In her new book, Sophie Lewis writes that abortion "is a form of killing that we need to be able to defend." She calls it "acceptable violence."



State Representative **Maurice West** (D-Rockford), identifying as a "preacher of the Gospel of Jesus Christ," pontificated on the so-called separation of Church and state. He said the abortion bill was "a biblical decree and a constitutional order," and called the abortion restrictions passed in Ohio, Georgia, Kentucky

continued on page 5...

Good News for Religious Liberty

Texas Governor **Greg Abbott** recently signed the “Chick-fil-A Law” to ensure religious liberty is protected in Texas. Abbott’s decision followed the San Antonio City Council’s vote in March to ban the fast-food chain from the San Antonio airport because of the company’s alleged “legacy of anti-LGBTQ behavior.”

Abbott said, “Discrimination is not tolerated in Texas. No business should be discriminated against simply because its owners pay to a church or the Salvation Army or any other religious organization. No business should lose a government contract because of their religious beliefs. The ‘Save Chick-fil-A’ legislation that I’m about to sign is a victory for religious liberty in Texas.” More on this here: <https://bit.ly/2P3lfUr>



Another win was in North Dakota where the U.S. District Court for North Dakota ruled that the abortifacient mandate under Obamacare violates the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993.

Chief Judge Hovland stated that Christian Employers Alliance (CEA), who brought the lawsuit, and its “members will suffer irreparable harm to their ability to practice their religious beliefs” unless the government is restrained.

“Beyond being a part of a united network and having access to resources to reinforce a commitment to operating an organization with Christian values, current and future members are now legally free to avoid abortion-causing drugs and still comply with ACA without penalty, in line with their religious beliefs,” CEA president Jim Mischel said. “We welcome companies interested in joining to take action by becoming a CEA member.” More on this here: <https://bit.ly/2ZkFBZ8>

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New Jersey Legalizes Assisted Suicide

Assisted suicide is now legal in New Jersey where the lawmakers passed legislation to allow a terminally ill person with six months or less to live to take a lethal concoction of drugs. Supporters of the measure claim it will bring “humanity, dignity and respect” to terminally ill patients. Assisted suicide does the opposite and experience shows that the practice will eventually be taken further. Other jurisdictions that allow assisted suicide have expanded the scope to mentally depressed patients and to patients whose medical conditions are not terminal in the traditional six-month period. New Jersey’s action is almost certainly only the first step on a very dangerous slippery slope — one we hope does not come to Illinois!!



REGISTER today!

ILLINOIS Family Institute

FAITH, FAMILY & FREEDOM FALL BANQUET

BOLD AS LIONS

with Franklin Graham

Rev. Graham has devoted his life to meeting the needs of people around the world and proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The eldest son of Billy and Ruth Bell Graham, he serves as President and CEO of Samaritan’s Purse and the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

“... the righteous are as bold as a lion.”
— PROVERBS 28:1 —

Friday, **November 1, 2019** | **7:00 PM**
Tinley Park Convention Center
18451 Convention Center Drive, Tinley Park, IL

Proceeds Benefit Illinois Family Institute
For Tickets & Information
(708) 781-9328 | www.illinoisfamily.org

The Only Good Thing About the Marijuana Bill — Communities Can Opt-Out

by Kathy Valente

The federal government still classifies marijuana as a schedule 1 drug, which means it remains illegal. Schedule 1 drugs, substances, or chemicals are defined as “drugs with no currently accepted medical use and a high potential for abuse,” according to the DEA.

Yet Illinois lawmakers ignored the devastating effects being reported in legal states like California, Colorado and Washington, and rammed it down our throats.

The only good thing about the 600+ page bill is that it allows an opt-out for communities and unincorporated areas in counties.

The law will go into effect January 1, 2020, so now is the time to contact your local city/village trustees and county board members and urge them to pass an opt-out policy to lessen the drug traffic through your community. Several have already done so.

Why Should a Community Opt-Out?

Today’s marijuana is much more potent. THC (what gets a person high) levels back in the 60’s and 70’s were 1-3 mg. Keep in mind, people got plenty high back then. Today’s levels are 20-25 mg. It’s the higher THC levels that are linked to violent behavior and an increase in mental illness such as schizophrenia and psychosis.



States that have legalized high potency marijuana are experiencing an increase in black market activity, traffic fatalities, hospitalizations and ER visits, school expulsions and drop-outs.

The law provides **NO LIMITS ON THC LEVELS.**

It’s to your benefit and the benefit of your neighbors to see that your community considers opting-out.

As an aside, a few lawmakers stand to profit from the legalization of marijuana. Governor Pritzker scoffs at the idea that there is any connection between his support for the pot bill and the business interests of relatives, in spite of the fact that Pritzker “worked to buy off legislators during the budget process in closed door meetings,” reported the *Chicago Sun Times*, quoting Dr. Kevin Sabet, president of Smart Approaches to Marijuana.

And what about Joseph “Joby” Pritzker and Joseph Pritzker’s father Nicholas J. Pritzker who head up a capital investment

firm “that has... poured money into a pair of cannabis-related ventures, PAX Labs and MJ Freeway.”

Tao Capital Partners, which Nicholas Pritzker co-founded, was an early investor in the e-cigarette company JUUL, which “was developed by the cannabis vaporizer company PAX.”

Let’s take a look at the lead sponsor of the bill, State Representative **Kelly Cassidy** (D-Chicago), who is “married” to Candace Gingrich who happen to be vice president and head of business development for Revolution Florida, a sister company to Illinois-based Revolution Enterprises that makes a variety of **cannabis products.**

And last but not least, we shouldn’t forget State Senator **Patricia Van Pelt** (D-Chicago), who according to a May 21st article in the *Chicago Sun Times*, “was marketing... investment seminars and leading a company that intends to obtain licenses to grow and sell marijuana in the state...” Her \$100 seminars told people how to profit from recreational pot once it was legalized. She was a co-sponsor of the original bill, but removed herself around the time her conflict of interest was revealed.

It sure makes you wonder. Only in Illinois... 🏠

Chick-fil-A

is winning over customers’ hearts and stomachs.”

That’s the opening sentence in a Business Insider article which reports that the restaurant chain has taken the number one spot among fast-food brands, according to MBLM’s 2019 Brand Intimacy study.

Moreover, the article reports that Chick-fil-A grew revenue by 16.7 percent in 2018, and is now the third-largest fast-food chain in America. They achieved these amazing milestones by doing business six days a week, and allowing employees to rest and worship with their families on Sundays. 🏠



Protecting Faith-Based Organizations

The Trump Administration is proposing a much-needed new rule through the U.S.

Department of Labor that ensures that conscience and religious freedom are protected, allowing groups that contract with the government to have employment policies that are consistent with their beliefs. Liberals have wanted to force religious colleges, businesses, and charities that work with the government to embrace the LGBTQ agenda. This proposed rule would nix that effort at the federal level.

Please pray that this happens! 🏠



SB 25 — Worse than thought...

We will never fully realize the extent to which legalized abortion has affected our families, our communities and our nation. We do know that more than 61 million innocent babies have been slaughtered, and millions of women victimized thanks in large part to a cascade of lies that started with *Roe v. Wade*.

Illinois state lawmakers reacted to the pro-life abortion restrictions being passed in red states by passing Senate Bill 25, euphemistically named the Reproductive Health Act (RHA), that dramatically expands abortion “rights.” It was signed into law by JB Pritzker on June 12th.

This 126-page law creates a “fundamental right” to abortion. Pro-life attorney **Peter Breen** says that this new “right” is higher than our right to free speech, at least under the Illinois Constitution. He calls it “the most radical sweeping pro-abortion measure in America and makes Illinois an abortion destination for the country.”



Pre-born babies have no rights under the Reproductive Health Act. It expressly strips all rights from unborn children and wipes nearly every abortion regulation off the books in Illinois.

It strikes against everything that we know to be true as people of faith and people of science who understand that when the sperm and egg come together and form that little embryo, it becomes an unique HUMAN fetus.



The following analysis is attributed to attorneys Paul Linton and Peter Breen.

The RHA ←

- ▶ repeals Illinois’ Partial-Birth Abortion Ban law and opens the door to more fetal tissue harvesting sales
- ▶ eliminates all licensing requirements for abortion clinics
- ▶ eliminates health and safety inspections for abortion clinics
- ▶ eliminates any restrictions on **post**-viability abortions and allows abortions for any reason whatsoever throughout all nine months of pregnancy
- ▶ eliminates any requirement that the person performing a **post**-viability abortion use a method of abortion that would enhance the chances of the unborn child surviving the abortion
- ▶ eliminates the requirement that a second physician be present to provide immediate medical care for any child born alive as a result of an abortion
- ▶ eliminates any restrictions on where abortions may be performed
- ▶ allows non-physicians to perform abortions, both surgical and medical
- ▶ allows dismemberment abortions of “preemie” babies, who feel pain, without anesthesia
- ▶ allows DCFS to use public funds to pay for abortions
- ▶ requires health insurance policies to include coverage for all abortions, with no exemptions, even for churches and other religious organizations
- ▶ repeals penalties for performing illegal abortions
- ▶ strips away abortion conscience protections for health care workers
- ▶ eliminates abortion reporting to the Illinois Department of Public Health, which means we will no longer know how many out-of-state people are coming here to have abortions. We will no longer know the statistics by county to figure out how many abortions were committed, for example, in Cook County versus the rest of the state. ❧

WANTED: A Few Good Clients

The Thomas More Society seeks plaintiffs to represent in lawsuits against the RHA:

- Small and mid-size businesses who provide insurance to their employees,
- Small and mid-size churches
- Religious Nonprofits
- Individuals who purchase insurance through the insurance healthcare exchange (Affordable Care Act)
- Individuals who receive their insurance through state or local government
- Illinois taxpayers



The Thomas More Society also seeks to hear from healthcare professionals, especially those with obstetrics/gynecology (OB/GYN) experience, either to serve as plaintiffs or to offer medical expertise in the cases that do go forward. ❧



**Thomas More
SOCIETY**

(312) 782-1887
www.thomasmoresociety.org

Save the Date | Watch for details!

WORLDVIEW CONFERENCE

Biblical Training for Today's Culture

March 7, 2020 | Village Church of Barrington

from the **Executive Director — David E. Smith** *(continued from page 1)*

and other states, policies “that put chains on women,” likening them to slavery.

Mass Shootings

From 1950-1969 there were only seven mass shootings. In the 1970s the number rose to 13. By the 1980s, mass shootings increased 2.5 times, to 32, and the total rose again to 42 in the 1990s. As for this century, mass shootings are becoming commonplace.

Identity Problems

While Illinois has added “other” as a gender option for driver’s licenses, liberal Massachusetts’ state legislature shelved a bill to add an X as an alternative to F and M because there were new demands that there be no less than 29 additional gender options.

Drag Queen Story Hour in public libraries is trending up, even in the Bible belt. These events target *preschoolers* and feature men, dressed in flamboyant, feminine costumes, reading books that trumpet a perverse brand of diversity and inclusivity. Their sole goal is to normalize deviant ideas and behaviors to children.

Addictions

As if 88,000 alcohol related deaths a year in America aren’t enough, we saw more than 72,000 drug overdose deaths in 2017 — 68 percent of which involved opioids. Adding high potency marijuana to the mix will only exasperate the problem.

The “legal” marijuana industry’s revenue is projected to surpass the National Football League’s total revenue by 2020.

Suicide

Late last year, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released a report stating that more than 47,000 Americans took their own lives in 2017 — an increase of 2,000 over 2016.

Birth Rates

According to a January CDC report, the U.S. fertility rate has dropped seven years straight. Demographers put the replacement rate at 2.1. Our nation is now below 1.8. If not for immigration, our population would be declining.

Human Trafficking

Slavery, in the form of human trafficking, is on the rise in the U.S. and several sources claim that trafficking of women and children is the world’s fastest-growing crime. With an estimated 24.9 million people trapped in forced labor, trafficking is now a multi-billion-dollar industry worldwide.

Church Attendance Rates

Gallup’s tracking survey showed that in 2017, 38 percent of adults said they attended religious services weekly or almost every week. In 2008, the figure was 42 percent.

Generational Shift

Generation Z, and those following behind, are increasingly secular. A Pew Research Center’s Forum on Religion and Public Life survey reported a rise in the number of Americans who identify with no particular religion. This group has been labeled the NONEs. It’s no surprise the



great majority of NONEs support legal abortion and same-sex “mirage.”

This is only a brief snapshot of the culture in which we live. It isn’t pretty, and it could become a source of anxiety. As serious Christ followers we are not to be anxious, but fix our eyes on Jesus. We are called to meditate on “whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.”
Philippians 4:8

Galatians 6:9 tells us to not lose heart in doing good and 2 Corinthians 4:16 reminds us to “not lose heart, [for] though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.”

We may well want to ignore the culture around us. I understand the desire to hunker down somewhere with my family — away from the craziness and godlessness of the day. Yet, we know **Jesus intentionally sent His disciples into the world**, praying to the Father to keep them from the evil one, saying “They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.”

If Jesus was not of the world, but the Father sent Him into the world, we can trust that God is fully aware of the time and place in which He has placed us and our children and grandchildren. We must remember:

...we are His workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.**

Ephesians 2:10

God knows exactly what’s happening and He created us and prepared for us good works for this particular time in history.

So, how do we respond?

I *cannot* stress enough the primacy of leading our families in Biblical worldview training. Equipping ourselves, our children and grandchildren is becoming increasingly important with each passing day. The schemes and snares of the evil one are multiplying quickly and hostility for the things of God is increasing at a rapid rate.

In his book, *The Church in Babylon*, Dr. **Erwin Lutzer** states, “Faithfulness to our calling should be our overriding passion.” He points out that “The God who calls is the God who provides.”



God provides all the gifts and strength we need to face the opposition of our culture. It includes being faithful in our duty as parents and grandparents to build strong families that will stand the test of time and cultural hostility. ❧

Life vs. Death

Over the past few months, several states have enacted laws that either expand or limit the practice of abortion. With the current Presidential Administration appointing pro-life judges to the U.S. Supreme Court and lower federal courts, the likelihood continues to grow that *Roe v. Wade*, the 1973 case that set aside state laws to legalize abortion nationwide, will eventually be overturned. Should this occur, the individual states will regain the authority they had lost over the regulation of abortion. Therefore, both abortion and pro-life advocates are ramping up the battle in states across the nation.

As you know, Illinois wasn't the only state to pass radical pro-abortion legislation, which the Susan B. Anthony List called "the nation's most extreme abortion law." Over the summer Rhode Island, Vermont, and Maine did too.

Illinois' law allows abortion until birth, even after "fetal viability," if it is necessary to preserve the "health of the patient," broadly defined as "physical, emotional, psychological, and familial health and age." That leaves the door wide open to interpretation.

Vermont's Republican Governor Phil Scott signed into law a similar bill that "recognizes the fundamental right" of anyone who is pregnant "to have an abortion," and prohibits their state and local governments from interfering with or restricting this "right."

Maine expanded the parameters for those allowed to perform abortions to now include advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistants. Maine also passed an additional law that requires (with an exception for churches and church schools) that every "health plan [in Maine] that provides coverage for maternity services shall provide coverage for abortion services."

On the other hand, several other states have passed pro-life legislation. Ohio, Mississippi, and Georgia passed laws protecting unborn babies with detectable heartbeats from being aborted. Indiana enacted a law that prohibits dismemberment abortion. Arkansas passed one measure that prevented abortions after 18 weeks of pregnancy, and another that increased the informed consent waiting period for an abortion from 48 to 72 hours.

Missouri's pro-life law (Missouri Stands for the Unborn Act) protects babies at 8 weeks gestation or later, and Alabama passed a law (Alabama Human Life Protection Act) in late May protecting unborn babies from abortion at any stage of pregnancy. In this law, as in many of the above, an exception is allowed for the child's mother "to avert her death or to avert serious risk of substantial physical impairment of a major bodily function."

Abortion activists have attacked all of these pro-life measures in court. In Indiana, Arkansas, Ohio, and Mississippi, federal judges have blocked the aforementioned laws from going into effect. In Missouri, Georgia, and Alabama, Planned Parenthood and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), along with local abortion providers, have filed lawsuits attempting to permanently strike down the laws.

While pro-life legislators and organizations have worked hard to advance the sanctity of life, it is clear that abortion activists are

If *Roe v. Wade* is eventually overturned, the fight for life will only intensify.



highly motivated to continue to work against these efforts as they seek to pass opposing legislation and rely on pro-abortion judges to overturn laws that affirm life.

I know it sounds crazy, but **the 2020 election cycle is already underway**. As such, we urge you to remember the importance of your local, state, and federal races. If *Roe v. Wade* is eventually overturned, the fight for life will only intensify. State legislators and state judges will be given more authority to determine how the laws in their respective states address the sanctity of human life, and these decisions will be a literal matter of life and death.

Please stay tuned for updates from Illinois Family Institute on these important issues. ❧



Attributed to NC Family Policy Council

September 25 — November 3
40 DAYS FOR LIFE
 THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF ABORTION.

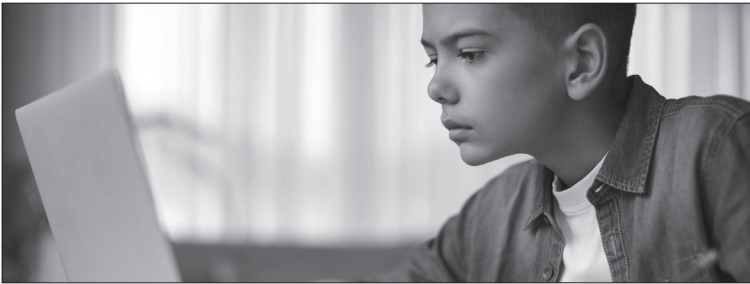
There are opportunities for faithful Christians to pray to Almighty God while silently witnessing for the sanctity of life in **Flossmoor, Aurora, Chicago, Belleville, Bloomington, Champaign, Granite City, Peoria, Wood Dale and Downers Grove**. This year's campaign runs from Sept. 25th thru Nov. 3rd.



This is a phenomenal opportunity to be a silent and peaceful witness for the sanctity of life. It is an opportunity for the Church to be the visible hands and feet of God as we humbly take a stand in prayerful vigil, allowing Him to use us in small, medium and amazing ways.

Please visit **40DaysforLife.com** for more information or to sign up. ❧

When Kids Are Home From School, Pornography Searches Increase 4,700% ↑



According to Google Analytics, pornography searches increase by 4,700% when kids are using the internet in the hours after school ends. Like it or not, teens are using their devices to access pornography on a regular basis in today's technology driven society.

The average child is now accessing pornography at the age of 11.

ONLY 3% OF TEENAGE BOYS AND 17% OF GIRLS HAVE NEVER SEEN ONLINE PORNOGRAPHY

If this sounds like a shockingly low number, consider the amount of hours teenagers spend on screens for entertainment, 9 hours a day according to a report from Common Sense Media. The rate of addiction to pornography has grown significantly since the introduction of the internet. **The population at the highest risk for addiction? Teenage boys ages 12-17.**

A study conducted by *JAMA Psychiatry* looked at the connection between compulsive viewing of online pornography and brain changes. Their results indicated alarming similarities between individuals who view online pornography for hours each week and individuals addicted to drugs or alcohol.

Some other signs or symptoms that your teen may have a problem with internet pornography:

- Trouble at school, due to poor performance or misuse of school computers
- Interruption in relationships with peer group
- Depressed or anxious mood
- Withdrawing from family activities and spending more time alone in his room

As uncomfortable as it can be to talk with your teenagers about pornography, you must!

Programs, such as Net Nanny can help with monitoring, setting boundaries and parental controls.

Excerpts taken from an article written by Annemarie Lange, published at NetNanny.com. ☞

Expose Them

A few months ago, Illinois convened the worst legislative session in our state's history. While you may have kept up with the issues, we can almost guarantee your neighbors haven't.

Lawmakers expanded abortion through all nine months; mandated children in K-12 have positive lessons about the contributions of those who identify as LGBTQ; legalized high potency weed — a Schedule 1 drug; increased the gasoline tax; raised the fees for vehicle registration and driver's licenses; and added a gender designation of "other" on state forms, just to name a few.

We believe the majority of Illinois voters have no idea.

So we have created hand-outs for 88 lawmakers who voted on some/all of 18 bills. We are urging you to give these hand-outs to your neighbors and friends.

Go to illinoisfamily.org and click on the

Ephesians 5:11 Project



Ephesians 5:11 Project icon in the middle of the home page, on the right. Read the instructions and print out a few hand-outs for your neighbors, family and friends. They are specific to your state rep district, but there's also a generic hand-out that is good for anywhere in the state.

Who knows what God will do? ☞

Download the "If 7:14" App

Do you have a smart phone? Then you will want to join the growing network of Christians who have committed to pray for revival twice a day, **once at 7:14 AM and once at 7:14 PM**. This great app alerts you with an encouraging verse or note to spark your prayers. Are you ready to join thousands of believers worldwide? You can learn more at IF714.org. (If it asks for a credit card, choose skip.)



GET THE APP



Let's pray for our country and our leaders. Let's pray for revival and that the Gospel will go forth in power, both here in Illinois and across the world. ☞

Prayer Requests . . .

On August 12th, a convicted felon walked into the Jesse Brown VA Medical Center in Chicago and opened fire with a rifle; that same day in California, a convicted felon shot and killed a Highway Patrol Officer; and on August 14th, another convicted felon with an extensive criminal history of weapons opened fire on Philadelphia police officers, wounding six.

So far this year there have been well over 300 homicides in Chicago, and thousands of people shot and wounded. Add to that all the other wickedness taking place in our culture, and we can see how lawlessness is increasing as the love of God grows cold in our culture.

Please Pray...

...for the Protection of Life

- ▶ Pray for those tragically impacted by these shootings and for our country and our leaders. Let's pray for revival and that the Gospel will go forth in power, both here and throughout the nation.
- ▶ Pray that all Illinois citizens would understand that human life begins at conception and all life has value — even in the terrible circumstances of rape or incest.
- ▶ Pray that Illinois citizens would not buy the lies of “Death with Dignity” organizations who want to legalize physician assisted suicide in every state.

... for Illinois State Lawmakers

- ▶ Pray for those leading our state and country — but especially those who serve in Springfield. Pray that the good guys would not grow weary or frustrated by the swampy situation we are in. Pray that those in leadership would be converted by the truth or be replaced in the next election. Pray that all of them do what's right in the eyes of God even if it means standing alone. Pray they would seek Godly wisdom in their decision-making.

...for Illinois Families

- ▶ Pray that God would awaken more Christian families to the importance of family worship in their homes. Pray that fathers would faithfully spend time with their family — reading, teaching and singing God's Word. Pray that we are diligent in passing on a godly heritage and biblical worldview to the next generation.

As Christians, we need to fight helplessness and help our friends and family fight it (2 Cor. 10:5). Things are bad, but God is still on the throne. We may not be able to stop the senseless violence, but we can devote ourselves to the necessities of our faith by rooting ourselves in the Holy Word of God, being a loving husband/wife, a diligent parent/grandparent, a hardworking employee and a faithful church member. We can double down on our efforts to share our love of God with our family and friends. And we can and should pray frequently and fervently for these endeavors every day. ☸



- ▶ Pray that parents, pastors and other community leaders would not be afraid to express their opinions and moral outrage at the godless philosophies that are promulgated in public schools.

... for Pastors and Church leaders

- ▶ Pray that pastors and spiritual leaders would be filled with boldness that comes from a personal walk with Christ, and an awareness of God's calling on their lives. May they speak Truth that is grounded in God's Word, without fear of man or consequences.

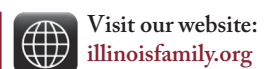
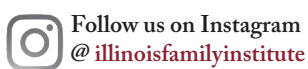
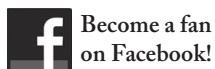
... for Illinois Family Institute

- ▶ Pray for strength and God's wisdom for the IFI Team as we stand for Truth in a culture where it's becoming irrelevant.
- ▶ Pray for our annual banquet and several other events in the works. Be sure to check our website for updates. ☸

"O my God, incline Your ear and hear!"

Open Your eyes and see our desolations and the city which is called by Your name; for we are not presenting our supplications before You on account of any merits of our own, **but on account of Your great compassion.** O Lord, hear! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, listen and take action! For Your own sake, O my God, do not delay, because Your city and Your people are called by Your name." *Daniel 9:18-19*

Stay up-to-speed on news impacting the family



Illinois Family Institute is a non-partisan, non-profit 501c3 organization. Gifts to IFI are tax-deductible. IFI has a working relationship with the American Family Association, Alliance Defending Freedom, Family Research Council, Mauck & Baker, Liberty Counsel and the Thomas More Society.

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Boldly bringing biblical principles to public policy in the Land of Lincoln.