



ILLINOIS Family Institute

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

Celebrating 25 Years!

Since 1992

www.illinoisfamily.org



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

Today, the battle lines have never been clearer: Blessings vs. Curses, Truth vs. Lies, Life vs. Death. Despite the fluctuating attitudes of society and culture, our God is unambiguous and unchanging. He blesses those who champion truth and life. In Deuteronomy 30:19 He tells us: **This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live.**

Forty-four years ago, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in opposition to God's warning and legalized abortion as a "right." *Roe v. Wade* was based on lies and misconception, and the consequences of that opinion, unfortunately, were not fully recognized by the affirming members of the Burger court.

Since that SCOTUS ruling, upwards of 58 to 61 million babies have been killed — and in an excruciatingly painful and barbaric manner. Chief Justice Warren Burger and six other Supreme Court justices decided that **the right to privacy** of a mother outweighed **the right to life** of an unborn child.

Only Justices White and Rehnquist dissented, with Justice White writing a scathing dissent in which he stated, "I find nothing in the language or history of the Constitution to support the Court's judgement."

In 1973, many people of faith were blissfully unaware of the horrific implications of this judicial decision that **made**, rather than **interpreted** law. In 2017 we are painfully aware of the overwhelming loss and the devastating consequences.

You see, if life in the womb is disposable, where does one draw the line? Are **unwanted newborns** disposable? Are **infirm infants** disposable? What about **the elderly** or **disabled people**?

Based on the decision of seven men, American culture accepted a Darwinian, pragmatic, and **utilitarian** view of life that presents two important questions: who judges which lives are **useful** and which aren't and what are the agreed upon **measures of usefulness**?



Pro-life advocate Randy Alcorn has warned us that what happens on the front end of life also happens on the back end of life. When life is so easily discounted as expendable and useless at conception, it can just as easily be deemed unnecessary and worthless as it nears its natural end.

Perversely, pro-choice proponents would have us believe that **compassion** undergirds their support for abortion and euthanasia. They claim their agenda of death is for good purposes: end pain and suffering; eliminate a burden for others; save money; preserve **quality** of life; solve the so-called overpopulation problem. In reality, their agenda is motivated not by compassion, but by **politics**. And they refuse to recognize that abortion (and its evil twin, euthanasia) is not only a political issue — **it is a moral issue**.

Scripture declares we were known by God even before we were in our mother's womb and science confirms that the unborn child is a unique human being from conception onward.

Dr. Alfred Bongiovanni, former professor of obstetrics at the University of Pennsylvania, said, "I have learned from my earliest medical education that human life begins at the time of conception.... I submit that human life is present throughout this entire sequence from conception to

continued on page 4...

Choose
Life

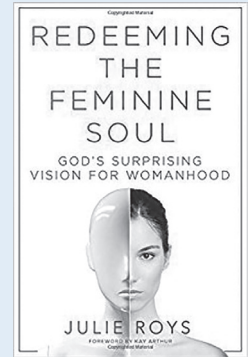


Redeeming the Feminine Soul

Popular national radio host **Julie Roys** rejects both fundamentalist caricature and feminist distortion to reveal God’s amazingly relevant and compelling vision for women, showing them how to redeem their feminine souls and become all God designed them to be. Christian women today feel torn between the demands of motherhood, career, and ministry and by a church that gives them conflicting ideas of what it means to be a woman.

In *Redeeming the Feminine Soul: God’s Compelling Vision for Womanhood*, Julie Roys reveals God’s true, affirming, and compelling vision for women, showing them how to reclaim what is uniquely feminine, and become healthy, balanced women of God.

For a suggested donation of \$15 or more! ❄️



Great Gift Idea!



I’d Rather Be Your Mommy

— a Picture Book with a Purpose

Written by *Melanie Young*

Once when our children were young, we had just watched a video about careers when one of them said, “Mommy, what are you going to be when you grow up?” I was just devastated. They didn’t understand that I had a degree in the hard sciences, could have done any number of amazing things, but that I had chosen to be their mommy. This book would have been just what I needed.

When **Stacy Farrell** told us about her new book, we were surprised. Stacy is the author of the remarkable Philosophy Adventure curriculum. Philosophy Adventure makes studying ancient philosophers that have impacted world thought as enjoyable as reading a magazine. Her *Mere Christianity Critical Analysis Journal* and *Walking with the Woadani*, a mission’s unit study, were also written in a thoughtful, serious vein, so we raised an eyebrow when Stacy mentioned she’d written a picture book.

Really, though, many of our ideas about the world are determined in the picture book stage. That’s when we learn



the difference between good and evil, begin to understand how society works, and start to think about what we want to do in our own lives. **What better time to show our children that the work of a**

mother is worthy of honor!

I’d Rather Be Your Mommy, a delightful little book with engaging illustrations, tells children all the exciting things you, their strong, competent mother, could have done like run for office or flown an airplane, but reassures them that, “I’d rather be your mommy.” **What a great message for little ones.**

“In a world that is confused on so many issues, this little book speaks with joyful clarity on the priceless value of motherhood and children. It’s a perfect gift for new moms! I hope mothers everywhere wrap their arms around their little ones and read it to them again and again!” — Buddy Smith, Senior Vice President, American Family Association.

For a donation of \$25 or more! ❄️

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Fourth Annual
WORLDVIEW CONFERENCE
 Biblical Training for Today’s Culture

Featuring
JOHN STONESTREET
(speaker, writer, cultural commentator, collaborator of worldview initiatives.)

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2018
(Medinah Baptist Church, 900 Foster Avenue, Medinah, IL \$20 per person | \$50 per family | Lunch is not included.)

Since joining the Colson Center/Breakpoint team in 2011, his radio commentaries are heard on over 1,200 radio affiliates. John works with Summit Ministries and since 2007, has served as their executive director.

As the host of *The Point*, a daily national radio program, John provides thought-provoking commentaries on current events and life issues from a Biblical worldview. On the faculty of Bryan College, he helped develop a Christian worldview curriculum while directing the Bryan College Worldview Team, an innovative educational initiative designed to teach students to analyze worldviews using the lens of popular media and culture.

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Some Good News Overlooked in all the Media Hysteria

Written by Micah Clark

There have been a whole lot of news distractions since President **Donald J. Trump** took office. Some of them he brought upon himself, but most are ploys of the liberal media and part of the far left’s agenda to cripple his presidency.

Daily media obsessions with things like Russia have hidden a very positive result of the Trump election. In his first 200 days, President Trump has nominated 44 federal judges, including U.S. Supreme Court Justice **Neil Gorsuch**. Trump has nominated 11 people to circuit courts and 23 to district courts.

Here’s the big news. Trump has roughly twice as many vacancies to fill as Obama had during the same time. He has 105 judicial vacancies. Obama had 54. Plus, in the last six months, 33 judges have left the bench, meaning that Trump has 138 vacancies to fill.

Though it will take some time,



following the 329 judicial appointments made by President Obama in his two terms, Trump’s legacy should still have some huge policy ramifications on a host of issues for conservatives.

Leonard Leo, who took a temporary leave from his position as executive vice president of The Federalist Society, is Trump’s top advisor on the courts. In August he did an interview with The Acton Institute. Leo said this:

He’s certainly a man with an eye for opportunity, and he sees the chance

history has given him to change the American judiciary for the better. We’re now looking at the possibility of as many as three Supreme Court vacancies and more than 200 lower court seats to fill just in these next few years.

This president is going to have an unprecedented number of vacancies to fill. He already does. He’s got 134 right now. My prediction is he’ll probably get 60 to 70 more Court of Appeals vacancies. You’re talking about a very, very large swath of people who are going to be cycling out and new people cycling in. You could see as much as a third of the court of appeals in this country changing hands [and] at least that much with the district courts. That’s serious stuff. *

After 41 Years is Marijuana Less Harmful?

Written by Kathy Valente

For 41 years, the Illinois General Assembly officially recognized the “physical, psychological and sociological damage” and “harmful effects” associated with cannabis in the Illinois Cannabis Act — and as a result they established a reasonable penalty system “in the interest of the health and welfare of Illinois citizens.”

So what’s changed? A shortfall of revenue to pay for their out-of-control spending.

It’s all about the money. But at what cost?

While it was entirely possible years ago to correct the fiscal deficits and inevitable pension crisis, past (and some current) lawmakers refused to make the tough decisions. Now that Illinois is at the brink of financial collapse, they are grasping at straws. They increased the income tax rate by 32 percent, but it’s not enough and they are looking for new “revenue” sources.

Some short-sighted lawmakers are now seriously considering legalizing, regulating and taxing marijuana in the state of Illinois.

They prefer to ignore the facts.

It is a federally controlled substance and is much stronger than in the 70’s when the Illinois Cannabis Act was passed into law. So much so, recent research shows that continual marijuana use is responsible for one in four cases of psychosis, can increase the likelihood of schizophrenia and is linked to many psychotic incidents where innocent people’s lives were taken. (See Psychotic Incidents at goo.gl/wQwbLy)

Not to mention that in states that have legalized it, they have seen a dramatic increase in highway accidents, car fatalities, and emergency room visits for overdoses. Reports of young kids who are getting into their parent’s stash and using it themselves, are now selling it at school.



(The No. 1 problem in Colorado schools today is pot.)

It’s legal, isn’t it? Therefore, it must be OK. Right?

As you know, in 2013 Illinois lawmakers usurped the role of physicians and pharmacists and gave us “medical” marijuana, in spite of the fact that most medical organizations oppose it as medicine.

Now they want to give us recreational marijuana. They don’t seem to care that it will put more buzzed people on our roads, at our schools, in our workplaces and will put our families and our children at risk.

It’s all about the money. *



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

(continued from page 1)

adulthood and that any interruption at any point throughout this time constitutes a termination of human life....

Likewise, Dr. Watson Bowes, retired obstetrician and former faculty member at the University of Colorado and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, stated, “The beginning of a single human life is from a biological point of view a simple and straightforward matter—the beginning is conception. This straightforward biological fact should not be distorted to serve sociological, political, or economic goals.”

These men were not speaking on behalf of religious institutions; they are highly educated medical doctors and university professors who spoke from a biological, scientific point of view.

So, having established that human life begins at conception and continues throughout the life span, is it conscionable to abort a baby or euthanize an elderly person to **end pain and suffering**?

In most cases, pain and suffering is a temporary condition. Our humanity is a permanent condition. Preborn babies with Down Syndrome are human beings of infinite worth and dignity. A veteran with multiple amputations is still a human being of infinite worth and dignity. Gen Xers living with MS or seniors with dementia are still human beings of infinite worth and dignity. **Physical and mental challenges and limitations do not change the intrinsic value of a human being.**

As for the matter of **eliminating burden and expense** — each one of us will be a burden or cause expense for someone during our lifetime. Babies and toddlers demand extraordinary amounts of time and energy; the needs and wants of teenagers and young adults can stretch the limits of all but the most lavish budgets; and at the end of a long life, only a fortunate few will be able to avoid incurring even moderate healthcare expenses. If a family member of any age required a life-saving procedure, would anyone suggest that the burden and expense of treatment would be a justifiable

reason to end that family member’s life? **NO**, of course not!

Each one of us is loved and valued by God. **We are made in His image!** And we are greatly valued by those who know and love us. The Lord Jesus Christ did not count the pain of the cross too burdensome or costly when He died to give us eternal life. Any burden or expense we bear for the sake of our loved ones’ lives is of no consequence in comparison.

Abortion and euthanasia proponents often raise the question of **quality of life**.

... they refuse to recognize that abortion is not only a political issue — it is a moral issue.

In their opinion, quality equates to value. People with a high quality of life possess greater value, whereas individuals with a lower quality of life are viewed as less valuable and ultimately expendable.

This viewpoint regarding quality of life raises crucial questions: *who* decides what constitutes good quality of life, and are people valuable because of their quality of life and/or economic output or are they valuable because they are human?

A common tactic of the pro-abortion, pro-choice, pro-euthanasia contingent is to dehumanize their targets. Randy Alcorn remembers hearing a pro-choice person say of a severely disabled child, “Should a woman be forced to bring such a **monster** into the world?” Using words such as “monster” or “vegetable” is a calculated move to make the reality of killing a **human being** more palatable.

I’m sure we’ve all heard of parents who, due to the results of amniocentesis or other tests, were told to abort their unborn children because their profound disabilities would allow them (both the children *and* the parents) no quality of life. In some cases these children were born with either no or only slight abnormalities — and even when their children were born with

moderate to severe physical or intellectual disabilities, parents often report they are a tremendous blessing to their family and to others.

Finally, we must refute the stalwart pro-choice activists who cite **overpopulation** as a good reason for abortion.

“Environmentalist” Dr. Paul Ehrlich, author of the 1968 book, *The Population Bomb*, called people a “**cancer**” on the earth. Ehrlich predicted the world would run out of food by 1977. Oops. He also prescribed mandatory birth control and sterilization to stave off mass starvation. What Dr. Ehrlich failed to take into account is that the same God who created the world and commanded His creation to be fruitful and multiply, to fill the earth and subdue it, is also the One who provides for and sustains His creation.

In *Forbes* magazine in February of this year, Joel Kotkin, Professor of Urban Studies at Chapman University in California wrote, “For most of recent history, the world has worried about the curse of overpopulation. But in many countries, the problem may soon be **too few people**, and of those, too many old ones.” Kotkin went on to say that of the 56 countries with over 20 million people, nine are already experiencing demographic decline because people are dying faster than the rate at which new babies are being born.

Clearly the zero population growth ideology has had a huge impact on Europe and the United States. Yet in the U.S., approximately **2 million infertile couples are waiting to adopt children.**

This translates to roughly **36 couples for every one child** placed for adoption. And these figures don’t take into account the many *fertile* couples who choose to *add* to their families through adoption or become parents solely through this loving choice.

The viewpoint of Planned Parenthood is this: every child a wanted child. Their solution to unwanted children? Kill them by abortion.

God’s view is different. Psalm 127



Pro-Life Billboard Fund

Written By Chris Iverson



In 2016, Illinois Family Institute partnered with pro-life advocates and reached 8.8 million views in Cook County and DuPage County with this Pro-Life message.

Now in 2017, there have been 26 million views of the message “**Abortion Takes Human Life**” in the Chicagoland area from January 2016 to October 2017!

However, some areas have not been reached with this bold pro-life message. We need your financial help to put up three billboards that will reach our neighbors in the northwest suburbs, northwest Chicago, and the southwest suburbs. This is an opportunity to save mothers and babies from abortion.

We must raise another \$12,000 to reach the people in these areas.

Can you invest in saving lives and challenging the abortion culture by donating to this campaign? Please help us reach our goal! ❄️

tells us “children are a blessing and a gift from the Lord,” and so **they are!** In the psalm there are no qualifiers as to convenience or ease for the recipient of God’s gift. Neither is there any mention of “the right time,” because God’s timing is perfect. We, our country and our culture, need to value and view these “unwanted” children through God’s eyes and place them in homes where they are dearly wanted.

Decades ago, in their seminal book, *Whatever Happened to the Human Race*, Dr. C. Everett Koop and Dr. Francis Schaeffer warned of the slippery slope of abortion. They told us that devaluing life before birth would lead to increased child abuse, elder abuse, and euthanasia. They were right.

We must refute and reject the lies of Planned Parenthood (and others like them) that lead to death and curses. Rather, **we must embrace God’s truth and choose life and the blessings He gives.** When we honor life — when we protect the most helpless among us — we are at our very best as individuals and as a nation. Only then will our nation be truly blessed. ❄️

Federal Court Upholds Prayer in Congress



On October 11, 2017 a federal court ruled that Congress can continue to open its sessions each day with prayer and upheld the U.S. House’s ability to pick and choose who’s allowed to lead the prayer. U.S. District Judge **Rosemary M. Collyer** rejected a challenge by **Daniel Barker**, co-president of the left-wing Freedom From Religion Foundation, who said he was not permitted to give an opening invocation, even though other guest chaplains have been permitted. Judge Collyer said U.S. House rules did not permit him to lead the prayer because he had left his faith. ❄️

Only 7 Nations Allow Elective Abortions Past 20 Weeks

“**The United States is currently out of the mainstream in the family of nations, in which only 7 out of 198 nations allow elective abortions after 20 weeks of pregnancy.**”



This statement from the Trump administration in support of the Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, which would end late-term abortion after five months of pregnancy (20 weeks), was recently fact-checked and confirmed by the *Washington Post*. “While the statistic seemed dubious at first, the data backed up the claim,” they found. ❄️

Relief from Onerous HHS Mandate

In early October, President **Donald Trump** announced that his administration will provide relief to employers who have a faith-based or moral-based objection to providing contraceptives through employee insurance plans, including drugs that can cause an abortion. This is important action to restore religious liberties that were stripped away in the Obamacare HHS mandate.



The Little Sisters of the Poor, Hobby Lobby and Lancaster-County based Conestoga Wood Specialties brought the Obamacare violation of religious freedom to the national spotlight when they fought the mandate at the U.S. Supreme Court. The sincere religious beliefs of the owners of Conestoga Wood and Hobby Lobby played heavily into Justice **Samuel Alito’s** opinion upholding religious freedom.

IFI joins other pro-family groups across the nation in applauding this important action by President Trump. Moreover, we stand in full agreement with his statement on the issue: “**No American should be forced to choose between the dictates of the federal government and the tenets of their faith.**” ❄️



From Sanctuary Cities and States to a ‘Sanctuary Nation’

Written by John Biver

Back in September, thanks in part to Governor **Bruce Rauner**, Illinois officially became a “sanctuary state.” Rauner is now on the same page as Chicago’s Leftist mayor. State and local law enforcement are now prevented from making an arrest based solely on immigration status.

The Left’s goal of importing more future big government/liberal voters from other countries took yet another leap forward recently when a federal judge ruled that the country is a “sanctuary nation.”

Essentially, federal law no longer matters and we are governed by the feelings of a Leftist federal judge.

Within the handful of prominent promises, candidate **Donald Trump** pledged to crack down on cities that refuse to cooperate with federal law enforcement when it comes to our country’s immigration laws. The Trump Administration’s first salvo has been to begin withholding grant funds from sanctuary cities. The predictable blowback has come from not only Leftist politicians but Leftist judges as well.

Writing at the Conservative Review, **Daniel Horowitz** recently brought readers up to speed on the issue. Thus far, Attorney General **Jeff Sessions** has bowed to federal court rulings even though the law is clear that the power of immigration policy resides with the president. As a result, Horowitz writes that it is time for the Trump Administration to ignore the “sanctuary courts.”

Horowitz sums up one of the more ridiculous court judgments in recent years (and that is saying something):

The “debate” over sanctuary cities is over, and the Left has won. Unelected federal judges, who had no jurisdiction over immigration for 200 years, are declaring sanctuary cities the law of the land. Now a Chicago judge is saying that his ruling against cutting off grants to sanctuary cities is binding on the entire nation.

Illinois Family Institute

U.S. District Judge **Harry Leinenweber** “issued a preliminary injunction against the Department of Justice’s decision to cut off law enforcement grants to sanctuary cities.”

“Even more absurd,” Horowitz writes, the judge “applied his ‘veto’ of the policy to the entire nation.”

Judge Leinenweber admitted that a nationwide injunction was an extraordinary measure, but said that nonetheless, “[T]his state of affairs flies in the face of the rule of law and the role of the courts to ensure the rule of law is enforced.”

“Rule of law?! Are you kidding me?!” Horowitz writes, “The law is now unconstitutional.”

Horowitz then gets to what many opponents of sanctuary cities see as the heart of the matter:

Attorney General Sessions is following the law, while Chicago is disobeying the law. In today’s judicial autocracy, that means Chicago is right and Sessions is wrong.

Then Horowitz provides a bit of remedial education for any politicians and reporters who need it:

It’s also worth repeating that district judges have no power to veto national policies outside of granting relief to an individual plaintiff in his individual case or controversy. This is what distinguishes the judicial power from super-legislative and executive veto power that the judge-kings have grabbed for themselves.

It is judicial tyranny, but it can be stopped. Congress needs to pass judicial reform and “deny lower courts such power over immigration and/or get rid of their ability to issue nationwide injunctions, a practice that has no foundation in our history.”

“Our Founders would never have tolerated lower court judges preventing



the government from making laws to protect people from invaders,” Horowitz notes. According to Founding Father **Roger Sherman**, the Naturalization Act of 1790 gave Congress “the power of naturalization, in order to prevent particular States from receiving citizens, and forcing them upon others who would not have received them in any other manner.”

Daniel Horowitz thus gives the simple steps to end judicial tyranny. Congress must act, but if in the meantime, the Trump Administration needs to ignore “the sanctuary courts, then so be it.” ❄️

SOLDIERS OF THE CROSS

FEATURING

Lt. Gen. Jerry Boykin (ret.) of Family Research Council
 Lt. Cmdr. Wes Modder (ret.) Pastor of Stone Church
 Pastor J.C. Church, FRC’s Watchmen on the Wall
 David E. Smith, Illinois Family Institute

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2018
 8 AM – Breakfast event at Revive Church in Collinsville
 6 PM – Evening event in Peoria (Location TBD)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2018
 11 AM – Brunch event in NW suburbs (TBD)
 6 PM – Evening event at Stone Church in Orland Park

Contact us: 708-781-9328 / www.illinoisfamily.org



Distorting the Truth About the ERA *Written by Elise Bouc State Chairman, Stop ERA Illinois*



We have been successful in fighting the ERA in Illinois for many years due in part to the truth of our claims about the problems with the ERA. When I met with legislators recently, I learned that the supporters of the ERA are trying to blunt our claims by telling the legislators that the ERA will not have any impact on abortion. That is simply not true. State ERA's have already been used in state courts to expand Medicaid funding for elective abortions.

In several states that have enacted state versions of the ERAs, the state courts ruled in favor of expanding taxpayer funding for Medicaid abortions. In each of these states, the courts and/or litigants argued that the state ERA required expanded taxpayer funding for Medicaid abortions to provide equal access to women for healthcare. This expanded coverage went well beyond abortions that save the life of the mother or cases of rape and incest.

Also — proponents agree that the ERA requires expanded abortion rights as shown by the amicus court briefs they've filed in state court challenges advocating for expanding Medicaid funding for abortion under state ERAs.

The ERA would affect more than funding for abortions. Using this same 'sex discrimination' rationale, legal scholars have reasoned that the ERA would:

- Eliminate all abortion regulations

and restrictions including federal and state bans on partial-birth abortions.

- Eliminate prohibitions on third-trimester and post-viability abortions, health and safety standards for abortion providers.
- Eliminate state laws requiring parental notification for minors seeking abortions.
- Provide a new federal constitutional basis for abortion rights.

Take ACTION: We need your help to set the record straight with your state representative as well as your friends and neighbors who may be equally confused. It is vital that your state lawmakers in the Illinois House and the Illinois Senate hear from you and other pro-life voters regarding this proposal. Please call the offices of your state senator and representative today to urge them to **vote NO on the ERA.** ❄️

Thankful For Your Support

The IFI Board and Staff want to thank all those who have partnered with us over our 25 years of work in the public square here in Illinois. You have been a great source of encouragement and support, and we are extremely grateful for your sacrifices.

As we close out 2017 and prepare for the challenges and opportunities in 2018, I would like you to know that we are raring to go! We look forward to pushing ahead in our mission to "boldly bring a biblical perspective to public policy" in the Land of Lincoln. Please consider supporting our efforts with your prayers and financial support.

Your gifts can multiply and amplify what we must accomplish.

Here is how we use your financial gifts:

- Pastors' breakfasts and special forums in different parts of the state
- Producing resources to help educate the body of Christ via articles, video reports, podcasts and social media

- Organize grass-roots efforts
- Organize coalition meetings and prayer events for local church leaders
- Equip church leaders and pastors
- Billboards for our messages to reach many
- Produce a voter guide that can be distributed in churches

We have seen much fruit from our labors... but there is still MUCH to do. And we need your help. I want to ask you to prayerfully consider how IFI can be part of your end-of-year giving.

You undoubtedly understand the importance of our counter-cultural work in the public square. And I hope you agree that a vigorous defense of biblical truth is needed more than ever in America.

IFI is doing some great work here in Illinois. But we could be doing so much more, if we had the resources to do so. My prayer, my earnest hope, is that you see the need and understand the vision like I do.

I pray that you will give — or plan to



give as a monthly donor in 2018.

For our part, we promise to be good and faithful stewards, using every dollar carefully and prayerfully.

And if you would like to talk personally, I would be delighted to arrange a time. To send me a personal note, please send an email to s.david@illinoisfamily.org. ❄️



Monthly giving is what sustains us as we

work to **defend** religious liberty, life, marriage and the family in the Land of Lincoln. Contact the IFI office for more information by calling **708-781-9328**. Thank you and

God bless you for partnering with us!





Prayer Requests . . .

“*May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in Your sight, LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.*

— Psalms 19:14

There has not been a more important time in the history of our state to pray for God’s intervention, as there is right now.

Those who are willing to sacrifice children have had their way, once again, when HB 40 was passed in the legislature and signed into law on September 28th by Governor Rauner. HB 40 allows our tax dollars to pay for abortions through Medicaid and state employee’s insurance plans.

In 2 Kings 24, God sent evil nations to destroy Judah under Manasseh’s reign because of their sins, “including the shedding of innocent blood. For he had filled Jerusalem with innocent blood, and the Lord was not willing to forgive.”

Please Pray...

...for the Church

- Pray that Christians would take seriously God’s promise in 2 Chronicles 7:14 to heal our land.
- Pray that Christians would seek Biblical wisdom and truth and become inflamed with a passion for God’s righteousness.
- Pray that Christians would awaken and become more engaged in pushing back the lies of the culture.
- Pray that pastors would preach/teach about the moral issues of the day and encourage their members to take a stand for what matters to God.
- Pray that the witness of Christ in the public square would be untarnished.

...for Elected Officials

- Pray that God would bless President Trump and Vice President Pence with wisdom and surround them with godly counselors.
- Pray that members of Congress would seek God’s direction to make the tough decisions necessary to put our country back on the right moral track.
- Pray that god fearing candidates would be successful running their campaigns in the primary election on March 20, 2018.



Abortion is the most heinous atrocity, but there are many others. Our culture celebrates sexual immorality and teaches deviance to children. The godless Left wants confused men to have access to women’s bathrooms and locker rooms and call those who oppose this nonsense as “haters.” Illinois lawmakers have banned professional therapists from helping children who struggle with unwanted same-sex attraction and gender-confusion, but force pro-life medical personnel to give abortion referrals.

We have become a state that calls good evil, and evil good. *

...for our Nation

- Thank God for His mercy and that He has not yet given us what we deserve.
- Thank God for how He has preserved and blessed our nation over our 241 years of history.
- Pray that God would expose the plans of the enemy and the lies that seek to divide us by race and ethnicity and fuel a spirit of hate. Pray against the push for identity politics.

...for Families

- Pray that parents and grandparents would seriously take to heart their God-given responsibility to train children in the way of the Lord.
- Pray that fathers return to their families as strong leaders in the faith.

...for Illinois Family Institute

- Pray that we would remain strong and not grow weary in doing good.
- Pray that God would provide every resource we need to engage the enemy in the public square. Pray that our efforts be multiplied and amplified. *

Stay up-to-speed on news impacting the family



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Visit our website: illinoisfamily.org

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.