



AMERICAN ATHEISTS

2210 Hancock Drive, Austin, Texas 78756

Friend:

We live in a very special nation. Special because it was the first nation in the world to begin with a written Constitution, a Constitution that guaranteed separation of state and church. Countless governments before the time of the founding of our nation labored under the disability of state churches. We were free from that disability for a while. Now, however, the churches have grown as strong here as their predecessors were in Europe before their transplantation to America.

For the first time, in the United States, organized religion can now dictate the transformation of our government from a democracy into a theocracy. This can and is being done now through a growing movement to back and elect "Christian candidates" into positions of authority all over the country. During the upcoming elections of 1980, the churches nationwide will attempt as never before to place candidates imbued with evangelical, social and moral precepts into public office. What is wrong with that, you say?

Under the rule of such officials you stand to lose:

[A] The right to freedom from religion as well as freedom of religion. You will be forced in State after State to profess a belief in a supreme being as a prerequisite to holding public office, working for the State, serving on a jury, testifying in a court of law (even in your own defense), teach or adopt children. . . .

[B] The right to sovereignty over your own real or personal property if you are a woman. This includes the freedom of choice to terminate a pregnancy, the right to accept certain types of employment, the right to have or rear children outside of Christian matrimony, the right to own property or establish credit in your own right. All of these denials of your equality as a woman will "justified" by biblical teaching.

[C] The right to equal housing or employment on basis of sexual orientation will once again be weighed not on the scales of justice, but on biblical admonitions.

[D] The right to have your children educated in a secular environment. This will come when the loss of tax-funds into parochial causes our public schools to become sub-standard while parochial schools flourish, when the so-called "creation science" is required to be taught equally along with evolution, when daily invocations become mandatory, when observation of religious holidays becomes mandatory, and when integration of public schools becomes mandatory while parochial schools are exempt, which will bring about a massive "white flight" to enroll their children in parochial schools.

[E] The right to become a naturalized U.S. citizen, or practice patriotism for your nation, free from simultaneous dedication to a deity.

[F] The right to self-determination of dress and hair standards in numerous fields.

[G] The right to have your remains disposed of as you had previously specified before death.

These and many other issues of importance to you are all part of the continuing struggle to keep our nation a secular one, as it was originally established. You owe it to yourself to keep abreast of this struggle to retain your freedoms.

Each month *The American Atheist* magazine focuses in on these vital separation of state and church issues. It will keep you informed of where your freedoms are or where they are going and what you can do as a concerned citizen to help maintain them.

Open up your eyes to the world of church erosion of your guaranteed liberties. You have been living under these censorship for years and probably didn't even know it. The time is now to realize what is going on around you and become a part of the answer not a continuing support of the problem.

Enclosed is a free sample copy of *The American Atheist*. Read it, enjoy it, think about it, and then subscribe to it! Your future may well depend on it.

Sincerely,

Jon Murray
Managing Editor
The American Atheist

American Atheist



A MONTHLY JOURNAL OF DISTINCTION
FOR BRAVE HEARTS AND INQUIRING MINDS

This is where it will happen: in this journal, the new intellectuals, American Atheists, will hammer out the philosophy of living and the moral/ethical values of our nation - for now and for the future.

The churches, now totally corrupt, and religion revealed as the mental excrement of primitive man, can no longer set standards for modern living. We must carve out our own viable, relevant, criteria. The new *weltanschauung* will be a comprehensive conception of our world.

How do we get from here to there? By working at it intelligently, of course. We need to use our minds instead of our knees. We stand up to life and find our answers there rather than kneel to ancient

irrational precepts no longer applicable.

The American Atheist is 40 pages in format of which usually one fourth speak to the concept of state/church separation - a premise upon which our nation was founded and from which organized religion and vote hungry politicians have caused it to stray. There are articles by new writers, poems, book and film reviews, and an exciting "Letters to the Editor" section for a real exchange of ideas.

You don't want to miss this road into tomorrow. You will want to be a part of the decision making. This is a magazine in which you participate - not one you just read. This is the magazine planning, now, for a decent life today as well as in all of the future.

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