

Well, look who the president-elect is! Ronald Reagan, Super-Star, direct descendent, through the male lineage, of course, of Jesus Christ, Super-Star!

And, to whom is he indebted for his election — they claim by the 10,000,000 (that's **ten million**) persons they induced to go to the poll to vote for Christianity? The Christian Political Action Committees of diverse name and dubious financial backing say that they did it all. In fact they have warned Ronald Reagan and George Bush that if they do not live up to the expectations of the super-Christians that they too will feel their wrath, as did Senators Bayh (Ind.), McGovern (S. Dak.), Church (Idaho), Nelson (Wisc.), Durkin (N. Hamp.) and Magnuson (Wash.)

The super-Christians are out for blood! They want this nation to be one nation under god.



The American Atheist Center

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Date: Post-Election, 1980

Friend,

Senator McGovern immediately after the election appeared on CBS television to say that he — and others — lost the election because they were up against a highly-organized, well-financed, slick collection of pressure groups, of fanatical determination, which used every avenue of pressure and outreach to remove them because they refused to align themselves with the "moral" issues which those groups defined as "Christian" and "American." **We are back to McCarthy-ism and the witch hunt.**

There is no other nation in the world where persons are attacked by religious zealots and called "un-French" or "un-English" or "un-German" if they are not aligned with a particular fundamentalist idea of Christianity based on a literal interpretation of the Bible. It is only here in the United States (or in Muslamic Iran) where such fanatics are loose upon the land.

Morality and ethics are the subjective and private considerations of any human being, stemming from the environmental, educational and social milieu in which (s)he was reared. Neither ethics nor morality are rooted in religion. Atheists, as a class, are more honorable, more ethical and more moral than religionists since they predicate their social actions on reality. Religion does not have, nor ought it have, any effect on the freedom of any person to function in an elected position in our union. However, the fundamentalist evangelicals are demanding that all moral and ethical considerations in every aspect of the political arena be based on **their interpretation** of the Judeo-Christian religion.

This represents a new implantation of Christian intolerance which fosters disunity. We have seen this before: it was brought to the United States by the original Puritan colonists, a disunity which had to be overcome by the founding fathers in order to establish "domestic tranquility" and give us a "more perfect union." Our Constitutional doctrine of separation of state and church grew out of the founding fathers' repudiation of imposed sectarianism practiced in the colonies — that which led to the butchering of the witches. The same schismatic bible interpretations are with us again today. The Democrats identify with the "mainline churches" while the Reagan Republicans identify with the "New puritans." Disunity is here again based on religious dogma. The American Atheists are the only ones who have intelligence enough to understand that religion should be kept clear of politics.

Reagan cannot keep his economic promises. No one in the oval office can doctor this nation's economic ills. If Carter or Anderson had won, they could not have kept their promises either. Reagan cannot control inflation. He cannot restore the economy and bring full employment. He cannot hold down the interest rates. He cannot control the Middle East, the war between Iran and Iraq, the Chinese outreach, or events in Europe. He cannot stop the aggressive capitalism of Japan, which competes with our industries.

Therefore, he must give subjective satisfaction to those who elected him. He can do this through issues which have an emotional appeal, particularly to the "New Puritans." Chief among those religious issues which will satisfy the "souls" of those fundamentalists, even some of the main-line church-affiliated religionists, are:

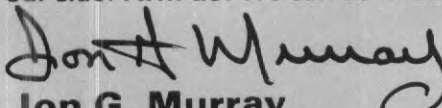
1. the return of religious ceremonies to public schools, that is, reverential reading of the bible and unison recitation of the King James version of the "Lord's prayer;"
2. the killing of the E.R.A.;
3. the return of the Genesis creation theory to the science class of the public schools in an effort to repudiate evolution;
4. the passing of a "Right to Life" amendment to the Constitution of the United States;
5. suppression of sex education;
6. repressive laws against homosexuality, particularly outlawing persons of this lifestyle teaching in public schools;
7. tax aid to parochial schools (using the euphemism of "non-public schools" to cover the fact that aid goes to religious schools, which advocate racial discrimination);
8. the embracing of militarism so that the Christian eschatology of a (nuclear) "holocaust" to wipe out the world, gathering 3½ billion "souls" for Christ, will be fulfilled.

In his last minute politicking, Reagan emphasized that we must confront "that nation of persons without souls" militarily.

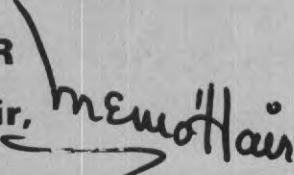
What does all this mean to you?

It means that the evangelicals intend that "... every knee shall bow..." (Rom. 14:11). Science is under attack and the rational basis of the scientific method is going to be replaced with emotional solutions. It also means the return of blasphemy laws, the strengthening of blue laws, the constriction of human sexual freedoms and the attendant strengthening of family laws *e.g.* restriction of divorce, censoring of reading, television viewing and the inevitable reimposition of male chauvinism. Need we go on? **They want a Christian theocracy in a United States dominating the world.**

It is immediately apparent that your major voice, **The American Atheist Center**, needs to be fortified for the inevitable battle ahead. If the American Atheist Center goes down, your rights go with it. Just one of these electronic ministers, Jerry Falwell, has an income from donations of \$1,000,000 a week. But, **we have reason on our side. Arm us!** We can do it. But, we can't fight their MX missiles with a toothpick!


Jon G. Murray,
Director

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AMERICAN ATHEISTS

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