



Focus on Religious Freedom

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Losing Religious Freedom as We Know It - Part 1

Bishops, Ministers, Rabbis, and all people of good will who value Freedom of Religion, Freedom of Speech, Freedom of Conscience, and Freedom of Thought, are alarmed at the recent passage of the misnamed "Equality Act" and the impending "Do No Harm Act" that in reality promote 'inequality' and will 'do much harm.' "This legislation seeks to change what is true, what is scientific, and what pertains to free speech and religious liberty," wrote Msgr. Charles Pope. ⁽¹⁾

"America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedom, it will be because we destroyed ourselves." Abraham Lincoln

While the stated goal of the "Equality Act" is to amend existing civil rights laws to ban LGBTQ discrimination in the workforce, housing, education, and other areas of life, in reality, this "inequality act" would wrest special privileges for sexual orientation and gender identity. It seeks to impose an "administrative conscience" ⁽²⁾ which would supersede and destroy individual conscience rights.

The Equality Act will:

"eliminate women's privacy & safety, forcing them to share public bathrooms, locker rooms, showers, and even battered women's shelters with biological males. (It) penalizes female athletes by allowing biological men to compete in women's sports ..."

"erode parental rights and position the government over churches and other faith-based institutions, potentially dictating how their facilities are used, who they hire, and punishing them for not affirming their view of human sexuality that directly contradicts orthodox biblical teaching."

"politicize the medical profession and denies biological reality..."

"dramatically expand abortion access and jeopardizes long-standing federal conscience laws."⁽³⁾

"The Equality Act explicitly exempts itself from the requirements & protections of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act" ⁽⁴⁾ which was unanimously approved in 1993, signed by Pres. Clinton.

"We are at a critical point in our culture. Either we are going to stand up and insist on reality or have an alternative 'reality' imposed on us...Either we are going to fight for our religious liberty and freedom of speech - and ultimately, freedom of thought - or they will be taken from us," wrote Msgr. Charles Pope. ⁽⁵⁾

(nregister.com, 2/22/21(1)(5); nregister.com, 2/25/21(2); prnewswire.com, 2/19/21(3); catholicvote.org, 2/25/21(4); firstthings.com, 1/25/21; deseret.com, 1/8/21; thehill.com, 6/8/18)

"It is error alone which needs the support of government. Truth can stand by itself."

- Thomas Jefferson