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“The general principles upon which the Fathers achieved independence were the general principals of Christianity... I will avow that I believed and now believe that those general principles of Christianity are as eternal and immutable as the existence and attributes of God.”

“[July 4th] ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty.”

—John Adams in a letter written to Abigail on the day the *Declaration of Independence* was approved by Congress

Good News in Indiana

This week the Indiana General Assembly passed a corporate and individual scholarship tax credit program and upon being signed by the governor became a [major victory](#) for proponents and supporters of school choice. According to Lori Drummer, director of state projects for the [Alliance for School Choice](#), “In an incredibly challenging year for school choice, the passage of this program provides clear and convincing evidence that the people of Indiana want and need school choice now more than ever,” she said. “We congratulate School Choice Indiana and a host of other state and national allies who were instrumental in this victory.”

The law will reward corporations and individuals who give to non-profit organizations who provide scholarship programs for low-income families to send their children to a private school, a 50 percent tax credit. The \$2.5 million corporate and individual scholarship tax credit program was included in the state’s budget.

Indiana has become the 11th state to offer private school choice programs.

New “Safe and Drug Free” School Director

Arne Duncan, Secretary of Education, recently appointed and announced Kevin Jennings, founder of the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network ([GLSEN](#)), to become head of the “Safe and Drug-Free Schools” office. [Jennings an avid homosexual activist](#) has written several books and reports which suggest drastic changes in curriculum and policies of the current public schools. In *Always My Child*, Jennings urges a “diversity policy that mandates including LGBT [lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender] themes in the curriculum.” However Jennings seems to want only one side of the issue to be heard. “Ex-gay messages have no place in our nation’s public schools. A line has been drawn. There is no ‘other side’ when you’re talking about lesbian, gay and bisexual students,” writes Jennings.

As head of the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Office, Jennings will also be a strong influence regarding long-standing school policies such as bullying and discipline. “Safe schools” are described by Jennings as a school which “seeks to develop school climates where difference is valued for the positive contribution it makes in creating a more vibrant and diverse community.” He also finds that “homophobia and heterosexism undermine a healthy school climate” and those who do not comply with mandated policies of “safe schools” could be subject to “hate speech,” or quite possibly a “hate crime.”

Jennings is an avid proponent and supporter in educating not only high school students in “sexual orientation” and “gender identity,” but is aggressively seeking middle and elementary schools to be educated on the controversial issue. In a book titled *Queering Elementary Education*, Jennings included in the forward an essay

which stated that “queerly raised” children become “agents” through “strategies of adaptation, negotiation, resistance, and subversion.”

Other actions taken by GLSEN to promote the homosexual agenda in elementary schools include their distribution of a curriculum guide titled *Preventing Prejudice: Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Lesson Plan Guide for Elementary Schools*. According to [Concerned Women for America](#), “It includes a lesson, geared to children in kindergarten through third grade, using a children’s book titled *Jesse’s Dream Skirt*, by Bruce Mack. The story is about a young boy named Jesse who likes trying on his mother’s dresses and dreams of a skirt ‘that whirled, twirled, flowed and glowed, and felt soft inside.’”

The appointment of Kevin Jennings as head of the “Safe and Drug-Free Schools” office is a clear victory for the GLBT community. Not only have homosexuals been aggressively promoting their agenda through legislation on the national level, including tainting and destroying the sanctity of marriage, they now have access to promote their ideas and immoral behavior to children as young as 5 years old.

Attorney General Defends Hate Crimes

In an attempt to pro-long the process and passage of Hate Crimes in the Senate, Republicans called for a [hearing](#) to discuss the controversial issue. After [thousands of letters](#) were sent to Senate offices, Democrats agreed to the hearing. Attorney General Eric Holder, a public supporter of the bill, testified at the hearing, where he was met with some difficult questions. The legislation titled, “[The Matthew Shepard Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009](#)” (S. 909), is the exact same bill that passed through the house with a vote of 249-175.

During the hearing, [Attorney General Holder](#) referenced the recent murder at the Holocaust museum and stated, “One has to look at the unfortunate history of our nation. There are groups that have been singled out, that have been targets of violence. We have to face and confront that reality.” However, when faced with questions pertaining to the idea that criminals should be punished not only for their actions but also for their motive and “hate” behind such actions, the Attorney General struggled to answer and even further convince the opponents of the bill. Senator Jeff Sessions, ranking member of the Judiciary committee commented, “That's part of the problem. Some are protected groups and get special protection under this law. You argued your case. I've listened to it and I'm not persuaded.”

While Congress has gone on recess for the Independence holiday, it is expected that hate crimes will be picked up as soon as the Senators return. Hate Crimes represents a deep concern not only regarding the rule of law and the principles the law was founded upon, but also it threatens religious liberty and the right to free speech.

ACTION: Please encourage your [Senators](#) to Oppose [S. 909](#). “The Matthew Shepard Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009.”

Orphans Deserve Better

Hollywood has always made an effort to portray extreme circumstances to gain an audience, and their influence in the general public has been well noted. With Warner-Brothers new horror film “Orphan” many are concerned that the film will create a completely false and damaging depiction of the beautiful act of adoption and the children who need a second chance of love. In fact, one organization is not sitting on the sidelines and is organizing the campaign “[Orphans Deserve Better](#)” to counter the movie.

According to the [Christian Alliance for Orphans](#), “however far-fetched some stories are, they can still subtly shape the way we see the world. So when a major motion picture leaves the impression that *orphans are damaged goods* and that *adoption can destroy your family*, those who know the deeper truth must speak up.” The campaign will seek to educate people about the falsehood of the movie and the true picture of orphans and adoption. “People deserve to know better. They should hear about the great needs orphans face...the joy found in loving them...and practical steps each of us can take to do so.”

“Orphans Deserve Better” encourages families who have been involved in the adoption process to share their stories of success and discuss how adoption can bless a family and change a life. It also asks individuals to write

a letter to Warner-Brothers expressing their concern and disappointment in the movie industry to take a beautiful depiction of love and turn it into a horrifying example of violence and destruction in order to gain an audience. To find out more about the “Orphans Deserve Better” or to share your story of adoption and sign the petition please visit: “[Orphans Deserve Better](#).”

In Case You Missed It:

[U.S. Supreme Court Overturns Justice Sotomayor's Past Ruling](#)

[What Congress Can Learn from Georgia's Universal Preschool Program](#)

[Defense Secretary Robert Gates Looks at Minimizing 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell'](#)

[“Our Families, Our Wealth”](#)

[Boehner: Pelosi’s National Energy Tax Will Be the Defining Vote of This Congress](#)



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