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"God governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without his aid?"

Ben Franklin

TODAY: The 52nd March for Life: The national [March for Life](#) is happening today in Washington, D.C. A rally is scheduled for noon by the Washington Monument, after which participants will march up Constitution Avenue, around the U.S. Capitol to the U.S. Supreme Court. Since the Supreme Court's *Dobbs* decision in 2022 which overturned *Roe v. Wade*, pro-lifers have focused their attention on speaking to legislators at the state and federal levels about the importance of legislation that protects life at all stages, especially the pre-born stage. For live coverage, please [click here](#).

President Trump Signs Executive Order Declaring Only Two Sexes

On his first day in office, President Trump completed over [200 executive actions](#) in an impressive move to fulfill many of his campaign promises. One of the most notable is the [executive order](#) which emphatically states that there are only two sexes, and is appropriately titled, "Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government." The order begins by stating that the "efforts to eradicate the biological reality of sex fundamentally attack women by depriving them of their dignity, safety, and well-being." The order explains that "the erasure of sex in language and policy has a corrosive impact not just on women but on the validity of the entire American system. Basing Federal policy on truth is critical to scientific inquiry, public safety, morale, and trust in government itself." The order then explicitly declares, "It is the policy of the United States to recognize two sexes, male and female. These sexes are not changeable and are grounded in fundamental and incontrovertible reality." Providing clear definitions for "male" and "female," "men" and "women," and "gender identity" and "gender ideology," the order issues a call for legislative action to codify these definitions into law. The order states that there will be "no federal funding of gender ideology," and calls on federal agencies to correct documents, guidance, communications, and government-issued documents (passports, visas, etc.) to reflect only two sexes. The order also protects single-sex spaces, such as prisons and abuse shelters, from being misused by a gender ideology that allows men in women's spaces.

Regarding education, the order specifically addresses the Biden administration's efforts to use the Supreme Court's *Bostock* decision to infuse education with harmful gender ideology. Stating that "this position is legally untenable and has harmed women," the order instructs the attorney general to "immediately issue guidance to agencies to correct the misapplication" of the *Bostock* decision. The order further specifically rescinds 14 documents that were issued under the Biden administration to promote the transgender ideology, 11 of which were published by the Department of Education.

An additional [executive order](#) addressed the efforts of the Biden administration to push diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) through government agencies and higher education. Titled "Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing," the executive order eliminates the DEI offices and positions in

all federal agencies, calling them “illegal and immoral discrimination programs.” The order also [requires a review](#) of the influence of DEI on higher educational institutions that receive federal funding.

[NEW! AACCS Today Podcast: A Deep Dive into Accreditation, Part 1](#)

Tennessee Special Legislative Session to Consider School Choice Next Week

Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee has called a special session of the Tennessee legislature to consider expanding the state’s school choice program. As the AACCS [reported](#), Tennessee has a limited school choice program for low-income families in a few counties. Lee has proposed expanding the program to 20,000 spots. Half of those spots would be reserved for disabled students or families making 300% below the federal poverty line, and half would be open to any student. Each student would receive \$7,075. In addition to school choice, the special session will also consider Hurricane Helene and disaster relief, teacher bonuses, and public safety measures related to immigration. Not all Tennesseans approve of the special session or the voucher proposal. House Democratic Caucus Chair John Clemmons [called](#) the special session “an unconscionable attempt to keep the general public in the dark and prevent sunlight from shining on our legislative process.” However, the state legislative leadership supports the governor’s Education Freedom Act. In a joint [statement](#), Tennessee’s lieutenant governor, House speaker, and majority leaders joined the governor in stating that “the majority of Tennesseans, regardless of political affiliation, have made it clear that they support empowering students with school choice, and the best thing we can do for Tennessee students is to deliver choices and public school resources without delay.”

NEXT WEEK: National School Choice Week

The [National School Choice Week \(NSCW\)](#) will take place next week, from January 26 to February 1, 2025. This event will give families and schools across the country an opportunity to highlight the positive influence that school choice has had in the lives of thousands of students. For materials and ideas to plan an event for your school during NSCW 2025, please [click here](#).

Nominations for Christian School Teacher of the Year Due February 14

The Herzog Foundation is accepting applications through Friday, February 14, for its [Christian Teacher of the Year](#) award. Each year, the foundation honors 12 teachers who embody excellence in education. Last year, [AACCS teacher Rachel Burrow](#) of Bob Jones Academy received one of the awards. Nominees must be current K-12 teachers in a Christian school and have served in K-12 Christian education for at least a year. In addition, nominees must have plans to continue teaching after receiving the award. The teachers must demonstrate excellence, be highly respected, and align with the Herzog Foundation’s [mission](#). The award recipients will attend a special reception in their honor this fall at the Museum of the Bible in Washington, D.C. Learn more and nominate a teacher [here](#).

In Case You Missed It:

[Weekly Market Update](#) provided by Jeff Beach of the [AACCS Investment Team at Merrill Lynch](#)

[Practical Legal Help for Christian Schools: ADF Ministry Alliance](#)

[Jamison Coppola Radio Interview on School Shooting at Abundant Life Christian School](#)

[Defense Secretary Nominee Pete Hegseth Wants to End Military-Funded Abortion](#)

[Government Website Offering Reproductive Rights Information Goes Offline Following Inauguration](#)