



FAMILY
COUNCIL

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DECEMBER 2020
UPDATE LETTER

Dear Friends,

When I looked out my window, there was a little sparrow with a white wing.

Years ago, our office was located on North Bryant Street down the hill from Cantrell Road in Little Rock. The window at my desk faced a row of hedge bushes a short distance across our parking lot. Flocks of sparrows would congregate in those bushes to eat berries and hop from branch to branch. One day I spotted an unusual little bird among all the rest. One of his wings was white. I had never seen a sparrow with one white wing, but there he was. As I watched him that day I thought about the passages of scripture about how God feeds the birds and how He cares even more for us. What perfect timing because, at that time, Family Council was pretty much out of money.

That was about 25 years ago, and money at Family Council was really tight. For years, paying bills and meeting our small payroll usually gave me a knot in my stomach. I remember one time in particular. Christmas was coming, and we had to furlough one staff member, and I had to go without getting paid. I wondered if we might have to close our doors. Thankfully, our finances rebounded, but just barely enough for us to get by. In the midst of all of that, for about two years, that same little sparrow with one white wing would just show up, and I would watch him eat those berries God had provided for him.

In my heart, I would hear that quiet voice reassuring me that just as God was meeting the needs of that little sparrow, He was going to meet our needs too. What a simple but amazing reminder! All these years later, when our money gets tight—and even when it's not—I think about that little sparrow and how God provided for him and how He always has provided for us too. After all Jesus said:

Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Matthew 6:26, NKJV

It's been 35 years since I walked out of the classroom and left my career in education to begin this faith journey doing pro-life work and founding Family Council. We've never had a lot, but we've had all we need. Doris and I have raised four wonderful sons who are grown and married to four wonderful ladies. We have five grandsons and hope for more to come. I just turned 69 years old, and I must say that God is undefeated in my life. He has done it all!

You and our other friends across Arkansas are such an important part of our story. After all, God has met our needs through your kindness and the kindness of others. That's how He works. But I want to give credit where it is due. Standing with me, beside me, and for me every step of the way has been my wife, Doris. We just celebrated our 40th anniversary, and we're looking forward to many more great years. She jokingly says that it wasn't four boys that she had to raise but it was five boys, with me being the biggest one of all. I have to admit that she is probably right.

One thing I know I'm right about is that you and our other friends across Arkansas are the very best! As we approach another Christmas, I want to thank you for your prayers, your kind words, and your support that enables me to do a job that has been the joy of my life for all these years and, hopefully, for years to come.

May you and your family have a very Merry Christmas and a blessed new year!

By the way, if you look out your window and see a little sparrow with one white wing, just remember he may have been sent there to tell you something.

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Family Council
President Jerry Cox

MY THOUGHTS: A QUICK ELECTION RECAP

I know November 3, 2020, was several weeks ago, but the presidential election received almost all of the attention this year. I wanted to write a brief recap of the election in Arkansas—and make a few points that some folks might have overlooked. Below are some thoughts about the elections in Arkansas and how they may affect you.

No “Blue Wave” in Arkansas or the Rest of the Country.

Pollsters who predicted a “blue wave” in America were wrong once again. President Trump actually received about eleven million more votes this year than he did in 2016. In Arkansas pollsters said Sen. Joyce Elliott and U.S. Representative French Hill were in a dead heat for the Second Congressional District prior to November 3, but the election really wasn’t that close. All of this casts a lot of doubt on political polling.

Arkansas’ Congressional Delegation Remains Unchanged. U.S. Representative French Hill (R – Little Rock) won re-election in his race against Sen. Joyce Elliott (D – Little Rock); Sen. Elliott currently is in the middle of a term in the State Senate—meaning she will remain in the Arkansas Legislature. U.S. Senator Tom Cotton and U.S. Congressmen Rick Crawford, Bruce Westerman, and Steve Womack all were re-elected as well. U.S. Sen. Boozman was not up for re-election this year.

Issue 1 Passed. Voters passed Issue 1 to continue a one-half percent sales tax that was set to expire in 2023. In 2019 the legislature referred Issue 1 to the people for a vote. It writes the one-half percent sales and use tax into the state constitution permanently. The tax revenue will be used for state, county, and city roads, streets, highways, bridges, and other surface transportation. The sales tax does not apply to food and food ingredients.

Issue 2 Passed. Voters passed Issue 2 amending term limits in Arkansas. In 2019 the legislature referred Issue 2 to the people for a vote. Issue 2 amends Arkansas’ constitution. Currently state legislators can serve up to sixteen years in a lifetime. Issue 2 limits state legislators elected after 2021 to serve no more than twelve consecutive years. However, they will be eligible for re-election to the state legislature after four years out of office. This means in theory a state legislator could serve 12 years, take a break for four years, and then be re-elected to office and serve up to 12 more years indefinitely.

Issue 3 Defeated. Voters defeated Issue 3 that would have changed the initiative and legislative referral process. In 2019 the Arkansas Legislature referred Issue 3 to the people for a vote. Issue 3 would have amended the parts of the Arkansas Constitution dealing with the process of submit-

ting, challenging, and approving petition signatures, initiated acts, constitutional amendments, and referenda.

Votes On Issue 6 Were Not Counted. You might have noticed Issue 6 on your ballot last November. It was a referendum petition seeking to overturn Act 579 of 2019, which lets optometrists perform certain surgical procedures that previously were only performed by ophthalmologists. In September the Arkansas Supreme Court removed Issue 6 from the ballot. Because ballots already had been printed with Issue 6 on them, the state did not tally votes cast for or against Issue 6. Originally an Issue 4 and Issue 5 were slated to appear on the ballot as well, but the Arkansas Supreme Court removed them in August—before ballots were printed.

Eureka Springs Rejected Public Drinking. Voters in Eureka Springs rejected a proposal to allow public drinking in part of their town. Public drinking is a scourge on the community. It’s good to see voters reject a bad proposal like this one.

Charles Beckham Unseated Sen. Bruce Maloch in State Senate District 12. Charles Beckham (R – McNeil) unseated incumbent Sen. Bruce Maloch (D – Magnolia) in the race for Senate District 12. While I don’t know him personally, I’m confident Mr. Beckham will make a fine legislator. I have nothing but good things to say about outgoing Sen. Maloch (D – Magnolia). I have known Bruce for many years. He consistently behaved like a gentleman and a statesman at the legislature. In 2019 he voted against legislation to permit public drinking in Arkansas. He voted for pro-life legislation throughout his career, including legislation to prohibit abortion in Arkansas when *Roe v. Wade* is overturned. I want to wish him the very best as he leaves the state senate.

Ben Gilmore Unseated Sen. Eddie Cheatham in State Senate District 26. Ben Gilmore (R – Crossett) unseated incumbent Sen. Eddie Cheatham (D – Crossett) in Senate District 26. I’m confident Mr. Gilmore will make a fine legislator. Just like Sen. Maloch, I have nothing but good things to say about outgoing Sen. Cheatham. Over the years, Sen. Cheatham routinely voted for pro-life legislation—including the 2019 measure to prohibit abortion in Arkansas when *Roe v. Wade* is overturned. I want to wish him the very best as well. Mr. Gilmore’s victory—combined

with Mr. Beckham's win in District 12—means Republicans have picked up two additional seats in the Arkansas Senate ahead of the 2021 legislative session.

Howard Beaty Unseated LeAnne Burch in State House District 9. Howard Beaty (R – Crossett) unseated incumbent Rep. LeAnne Burch (D – Monticello) in Arkansas House District 9. In 2019 Rep. Burch was one of the chief sponsors of a bill that would have allowed Planned Parenthood-style comprehensive sex-education in Arkansas' public schools. Family Council worked relentlessly to defeat that bill. Even though Rep. Burch won't be returning to the Arkansas Legislature in 2021, we still need to be prepared to block any attempt to implement comprehensive sex-education in our public schools.

Four Candidates Planned Parenthood Endorsed Were Elected. Planned Parenthood endorsed Sen. Joyce Elliott for Arkansas' Second Congressional District; Celeste Williams for Arkansas' Third Congressional District; Suzie Bell for Arkansas House District 97; Daisy Bonilla for Arkansas House District 93; Rep. Denise Ennett for Arkansas House District 36; Lisa Hassell for Arkansas House District 68; Rep. Tippi McCullough for Arkansas House District 33; Rep. Clarke Tucker for Arkansas Senate District 32; and Rep. David Whitaker for Arkansas House District 85. Out of all of the candidates Planned Parenthood endorsed in Arkansas, only four were elected to office: Rep. Ennett, Rep. McCullough, Rep. Tucker, and Rep. Whitaker.



Old Fashion Butter Cookies Recipe

By Lisa Crook, Home School Director

1 cup of butter (melted)
¾ cups of sugar
1 egg
2 tablespoons of milk
1 ½ teaspoons of vanilla
3 cups of self-rising flour



Mix butter, sugar and egg. Add milk and vanilla. Sift flour into mixture. Stir and chill mix (can be made up ahead of time and frozen). Remove from refrigerator, spoon out a good amount of dough, and roll out on a floured surface. Sprinkle with a little more flour if it becomes sticky to the roller. When cutting out my cookies, I do not make my dough too thick or too thin. Roll and cut into desired shapes. Place on cookie sheet and bake at 400 degrees for five minutes. Cool for a few minutes; remove from cookie sheet for additional cooling.

Frost cookies with icing. I double my cookie recipe when making my cookies. Icing will depend on how many shapes you use and color selections. If I use just two colors, I use a two-pound bag of confectioner's sugar. I split the cookies in shapes! My family likes the Christmas Trees and Stars! I end up with two bowls of icing. One will be green and the other yellow.

Icing: Mix 3–4 tablespoons of melted butter and one teaspoon of vanilla with milk and stir. I add a few tablespoons of milk until a desired mixture occurs. Add milk slowly or you will have way too much icing and will need to add more sugar. Stir until it is somewhat thick and will spread easily, without running off the cookie. Then I add desired food coloring to icing mixture (green and yellow). My mother has used this recipe since the 1950s. I was taught to cook by my grandmother and mother who used a recipe—and sometimes did not use one. My icing recipe was taught to me by my mother from her memory. I have never written it down. I don't have the exact measurements. If you use store-bought, they will not taste the same!

I come from a large family that devours these cookies! I actually bake a double batch, bag them and give the family a bag on Christmas. Then I bake a double batch for us to enjoy at our family gathering. This is by far my whole families' favorite dessert for the holidays. I enjoy baking them, because my mother is no longer able to do so and I know it brings so much joy to my family. It definitely is a labor of love!!



Family Council's Greatest Hits From 2020

It's been a busy year. The coronavirus outbreak forced us to make some adjustments to how we work, but our team at Family Council met those challenges head-on. Here's a quick rundown of just a few of our "greatest hits" from 2020.



Jerry Cox speaks at a press conference opposing recreational marijuana in Arkansas (January, 2020).

Distributing 65,000 Arkansas Voter's Guides.

Since 1990 Family Council has produced Arkansas' only statewide, nonpartisan voter's guide. We survey the candidates on abortion, guns, education, taxes, or other issues, and we publish their responses in print and online. We also survey some of the judicial candidates, and we summarize any proposals that appear on the ballot. This year we distributed approximately 65,000 printed copies of the Arkansas Voter's Guide for the primary and general

elections, and we had thousands more people view candidate surveys and information at ArkansasVotersGuide.com. Family Council's voter's guides helped tens of thousands of Arkansans choose the candidates that best reflect their values. That's something to celebrate.

Shining the Light on Abortion Facilities Daily During the Pandemic.

During the COVID-19 shutdowns last spring, our team reported almost daily from outside the abortion facilities in Little Rock. You may have seen some of the videos we streamed from the sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood or Little Rock Family Planning Services. Those videos helped expose how abortionists were continuing to operate despite state health directives prohibiting elective surgical procedures—and how women were travelling to Arkansas from other states for abortions during the pandemic.

Providing Evidence Against Abortion Facilities During COVID-19 Shutdowns.

Luke and Charisse from our staff were in front of the abortion facilities almost every day earlier this spring during the COVID-19 shutdown. Because they were at the surgi-



Lawmakers and others gather outside the surgical abortion facility in Little Rock on April 10, 2020, shortly after the facility was ordered to stop performing elective surgical abortions due to COVID-19.

cal abortion facility so much, they were able to provide Arkansas Attorney General Leslie Rutledge's office with evidence when abortionists sued the state amid the COVID-19 outbreak. Luke and Charisse's photographs and testimony helped the A.G.'s office successfully defend the state against abortionists and the ACLU. When the Eighth Circuit ruled in the case, they noted that people were coming to Arkansas from out-of-state and that social distancing wasn't possible at a busy abortion facility—two points Luke and Charisse helped prove. I'm glad they could provide the Attorney General's Office with evidence it could use in federal court.

Receiving the Mary Rose Doe Award.

Family Council was honored to receive the Mary Rose Doe Award on Monday, January 27, 2020, at Arkansas Right to Life's banquet. Since 1985 Arkansas Right to Life has bestowed the award on individuals and organizations that go the extra mile in fighting for unborn children. Arkansas Right to Life President Andy Mayberry surprised Jerry and the staff by presenting Family Council with the Mary Rose Doe Award in recognition of 30 years of pro-life work in the state.



From Left: Charisse Cooksey, Luke McCoy, Jerry Cox, Doris Cox, Ken Yang, and Erin Hogan pose with the 2020 Mary Rose Doe Award.

Helping Churches Navigate COVID-19.

Last spring and summer we received dozens of phone calls, emails, and questions from ministers around the state asking us for advice on navigating the COVID-19 pandemic. Our team was in regular communication with state health officials, and we were able to explain the state's health directives and guidelines to folks all over Arkansas. We were able to help churches find ways to meet without having to worry that they might run afoul of the Arkansas Department of Health.

Hosting Monthly Prayer Meetings.

Family Council has hosted monthly prayer meetings all year long. We started the year by hosting these meetings at the Arkansas Capitol Building. After COVID hit, we moved those meetings online. These prayer meetings are an opportunity for believers to lift up our state leaders in prayer. We are very grateful that there are dedicated Arkansans who did not let the outbreak stop them from praying for those in authority. If you would like to be part of these monthly prayer meetings or if you would like to receive prayer requests from our office via email from time to time, give us a call at (501) 375-7000.

Closely Monitoring Pro-Abortion Groups.

Our team has kept a watchful eye on pro-abortion groups all year long. Besides reporting from Little Rock's abortion facilities last spring, we have also monitored Planned Parenthood's campaign reports and job openings. We have paid close attention to lawsuits Little Rock Family Planning Services and the ACLU have filed to overturn some of Arkansas' pro-life laws. We've reported every time pro-abortion groups like NARAL endorsed candidates in Arkansas. We've also kept close tabs on new pro-abortion groups, like Reproaction. Reproaction tries to appeal to younger women and is more aggressively pro-abortion than groups like Planned Parenthood. In May Family Council staff member Erin Hogan attended a virtual seminar Reproaction held teaching women about do-it-yourself chemical abor-



Charisse, Lisa, and Erin supported home schooling by walking in our Bridge-a-Thon last September.

tions at home. Earlier this year we alerted key individuals around the state about ways that these pro-abortion groups seemed to be working to make inroads on Arkansas' college campuses. We plan to continue monitoring these groups and reporting what we learn in 2021.

Helping Stop Public Drinking in Siloam Springs.

In May, Family Council helped alert our friends in Northwest Arkansas about a proposed city ordinance that would have permitted public drinking throughout much of downtown Siloam Springs. City officials heard overwhelmingly from their constituents. When it was all said and done, the city opted not to legalize public drinking. Public drinking is a scourge on the community. It raises serious concerns about drunk driving and public safety. It hurts neighborhoods and families. That's why Family Council was pleased to do our part to keep public drinking out of downtown Siloam Springs.

Equipping Arkansans to Pass Pro-Life Resolutions.

Family Council drafted model ordinances that cities and counties can use to declare themselves Pro-Life. We have distributed the language for these ordinances to supporters around the state. Our goal is to see hundreds of Pro-Life Cities and Pro-Life Counties designated all over Arkansas.

Forming the Rapid Response Network.

We have spent much of the summer and fall recruiting volunteers to be part of Family Council's Rapid Response Team. Right now some 400 volunteers are part of this group. These are people who will contact their legislators whenever important issues come up at the capitol—and they will find friends and neighbors who will do so as well. I told my staff that building the Rapid Response Team may be the single most important thing we do ahead of the 2021 legislative session. If you would like to be part of our Rapid Response Team, give us a call at (501) 375-7000.

Volunteers pray in the rain outside Planned Parenthood on October 28, 2020.





White Chocolate Peppermint Popcorn Recipe

By Erin Hogan, Family Council

10 cups popcorn (lightly salted or plain)
12 oz. white chocolate
1/4 tsp peppermint extract
6–7 candy canes (crushed)
Optional: sprinkles

Have your popcorn in a large bowl or on a large lined cookie sheet. Melt your white chocolate in a microwave for 15–20 second intervals. Mix melted white chocolate with the peppermint extract. Pour white chocolate over popcorn, if using a large bowl mix gently. Sprinkle over the top or mix in crushed candy canes and sprinkles. Let set at room temperature and store in an airtight container.

Yield: 10 Cups of popcorn. Enjoy!



Bill Filed to End Abortion in Arkansas

On November 18, Sen. Jason Rapert (R – Conway) and Rep. Mary Bentley (R – Perryville) filed S.B. 6 to prohibit abortion in Arkansas except in cases to save the life of the mother. The bill is virtually identical to Act 180 of 2019 that Sen. Rapert sponsored to prohibit abortion when the U.S. Supreme Court overturns *Roe v. Wade*. The main difference between S.B. 6 and Act 180 is that if passed, S.B. 6 would take effect in the summer of 2021. Family Council fully supports this good, pro-life bill. If passed, it will give the U.S. Supreme Court an opportunity to overturn pro-abortion rulings like *Roe v. Wade*, *Doe v. Bolton*, and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*. This is an opportunity for Arkansas to be a pro-life leader. For more than 40 years pro-lifers have said that we need to end abortion. Now is the time to make that happen. That's what S.B. 6 will do. I hope you will contact your state legislators, and ask them to support S.B. 6, the Arkansas Unborn Child Protection Act, when the General Assembly convenes in January. If you would like help contacting your lawmakers, please call us at (501) 375-7000.

Prayer Warriors Save Three Babies from Abortion in Little Rock

In October pro-life prayer warriors saved three unborn babies from abortion outside facilities in Little Rock. Two were saved outside Planned Parenthood, and one was saved outside Little Rock Family Planning Services. Needless to say, this is really good news. These children will get to live and grow up simply because somebody was there to pray for women going into the abortion facilities. If you would like to be part of this rewarding prayer ministry, give us a call at (501) 375-7000, and we will connect you with the volunteers who lead it.

Poll Shows Arkansans Believe Abortion Ought To Be Illegal

On October 28 the University of Arkansas released a poll showing 24% of likely voters in Arkansas believe abortion ought to be completely illegal. The poll also found 60% of

Taken together, these numbers reveal that 84% of likely voters in Arkansas believe abortion ought to be either completely illegal or legal only in certain cases.

likely voters believe abortion ought to be legal only under certain circumstances. **Taken together, these numbers reveal that 84% of likely voters in Arkansas believe abortion ought to be either completely illegal or legal only in certain cases.** That's huge. Additionally, half of likely voters said it ought to be more difficult to get an abortion. In other words, Arkansans feel like our current pro-life laws don't go far enough. Family Council has a long list of pro-life laws that we want to see passed in 2021. These laws will save the lives of unborn babies and help end abortion.





POPULAR VOTE IN AMERICA ILLUSTRATES NATION'S DIVISION

By David Cox, Assistant Director

In November, President Donald Trump received the second-highest number of votes of any presidential candidate in history. He garnered some eleven million more votes than in 2016 and approximately eight million more votes than Hillary Clinton did four years ago. Arkansans cast 70,000 more votes for Trump in 2020 than in 2016. Trump saw similar upticks in many other states—even states like Oregon and Illinois. In fact, more voters in California, New York, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Michigan voted for Trump in 2020 than in 2016.

The number of votes cast for Donald Trump and Joe Biden indicates the nation is deeply divided—almost 50-50. Assuming the vote tallies are accurate, Joe Biden received the most votes of any presidential candidate in American history—and he still barely edged out Donald Trump. That's how stark the political division in America is at this moment.

Ten Things To Expect From a Biden/Harris Administration

Normally by this time voters have a pretty clear idea who the next president elect will be, but this year has been anything but normal. As of this writing in mid-November, Joe Biden is the presumptive winner of the 2020 election, but President Trump's campaign is challenging the election outcome in several states. Hopefully our nation will have a little more clarity about the election by the time this letter reaches you. When Bill Clinton was elected president in 1992, I wrote a list of things to expect from his administration. We did something similar for President George W. Bush in 2000, President Obama in 2008, and President Trump in 2016. We already know what to expect from a second Trump Administration, so I won't hash that out here. A Biden/Harris Administration probably would look like the Obama/Biden Administration in a lot of ways. With that in mind, below are a few things our country could expect from a Biden/Harris Administration.

1. Ending the Mexico City Policy. Joe Biden has indicated his administration would overturn President Trump's expanded "Mexico City Policy." The Mexico City Policy prevents U.S. tax dollars from being used to promote or perform abortions overseas. President Reagan implemented the policy in the 1980s. President Clinton rescinded the order the day after he took office in 1993. President George W. Bush reinstated the policy in 2001, but President Obama rescinded it once again in 2009. In 2017 President Trump reinstated the Mexico City Policy, and his administration worked systematically to expand and enhance it. If Joe Biden takes office, Donald Trump's enhanced Mexico City Policy probably would be one of the first things to go.

2. Federal Pressure for States to Enact Pro-LGBT Policies: For eight years, President Obama and Vice President Biden's administration churned out pro-LGBT policies at the federal level. For example, in May of 2016 the Obama

Administration issued guidelines instructing public schools to let boys who claim to be girls use girls' shower facilities, locker rooms, and restrooms at school. States like Arkansas received a reprieve from these policies after President Trump took office. That's likely to change under Biden.

3. Renewed Attacks on Doctors and Hospitals Who Hold Christian Views About Biological Sex. The Biden Administration's Department of Justice probably would use federal laws to target Christian hospitals and physicians who decline to perform sex-change operations on children. Earlier this year a biological woman sued a Catholic hospital in Maryland for declining to perform a hysterectomy as part of a sex-reassignment surgery. Under a Biden Administration, hospitals like this one could face lawsuits from the U.S. Department of Justice.

4. Taxpayer Funding for Abortion. Joe Biden and Kamala Harris both have said they want to end the Hyde Amendment that prohibits taxpayer-funded abortion except in cases of rape or incest or to save the life or health of the



Ten Things To Expect From a Biden/Harris Administration *(continued)*

mother. The Biden Administration probably would renew President Obama's 2010 guidelines requiring immigration agents to provide illegal immigrants with taxpayer-funded abortion services.

5. Liberal Judicial Nominations. The Biden Administration likely would resume nominating liberal attorneys and law professors to federal courts across the country—much like the Obama Administration did. Biden's Administration probably will rely on input from leftwing organizations in making these decisions.

6. Targeting Faith-Based Adoption Agencies. Under the Obama Administration, faith-based adoption agencies that declined to place adoptive or foster children with same-sex couples faced backlash. It's likely that Biden's Administration would pressure and target these adoption agencies once again.

7. Renewed Funding for Medical Research that Uses Embryonic Stem Cells and Aborted Babies. The Biden Administration probably would support funding for embryonic stem cell research and for scientific research that relies on organs and tissue harvested from aborted babies.

8. Targeting Christians Who Decline to Participate in Same-Sex Weddings. The Obama Administration repeatedly failed to protect photographers, bakers, florists, artists, ministers, chapel owners, and others who declined to participate in same-sex weddings. As a result, courts penalized many of these people simply because they had moral objections to taking part in a same-sex ceremony. Last spring President Trump's U.S. Department of Justice filed a statement of interest in a federal court in Kentucky arguing that the government cannot force a Christian photographer to photograph a same-sex wedding. It is unlikely that the government would continue to stand up for religious liberty in cases like this one with Joe Biden in office.

9. Religious Discrimination in the Military and Elsewhere. Under the Obama Administration, members of the U.S. armed forces faced discipline and backlash for sharing Bible verses, supporting traditional marriage, and so on. Veterans Affairs officials squelched religious speech and religious displays in VA hospitals and public spaces. Court rulings and new policies have helped protect religious liberty in the military and at the VA, but that could change in the coming months if Joe Biden takes office.

10. Federal Funding for Planned Parenthood-Style Sex-Education. A Biden/Harris Administration almost certainly would pour millions of dollars into President Obama's failed comprehensive sex-education programs. Under these programs, groups like Planned Parenthood received millions of taxpayer dollars to teach sex-education to teen-

agers; in the Pacific Northwest, teens who went through Planned Parenthood's sex-education program actually were more likely to become pregnant or cause a pregnancy afterward—not less. The programs weren't any better elsewhere around the country. That's part of the reason the Trump Administration took steps to cut this funding. Planned Parenthood already has issued statements saying it hopes Joe Biden and Kamala Harris reinstate taxpayer funding for their sex-education programs.

11. Other Items on the Leftist Wish-List. If Republicans lose control of the U.S. Senate, here are other major concerns: First, Congress could vote to increase the number of judges on the U.S. Supreme Court from nine to 13. This would give Biden's administration a chance to pick four more liberal justices. Second, Congress could create a Canadian or British style healthcare system. Third, Congress could grant amnesty and citizenship to millions of illegal immigrants, giving them the right to vote in the next election. Fourth, Congress could offer statehood to Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico, creating a different balance of power in the U.S. Senate. Control of the U.S. Senate will be decided by the outcome of two runoff elections on January 5 for U.S. Senate seats in Georgia.

**Salvation doesn't arrive aboard
Air Force One. Our nation doesn't rise
or fall with the White House.**

Obviously, this isn't all to expect. Radical members of Antifa and the Black Lives Matter organization probably would feel emboldened by a Joe Biden victory. Biden's Administration almost certainly would team up with liberal members of Congress to support gun control legislation. And Biden's agenda for the country includes policies that will raise taxes for virtually everybody, hurt our oil industry, and eliminate tax incentives to save for retirement.

So is it all gloom and doom for our nation? No. As Chuck Colson said many years ago, salvation doesn't arrive aboard Air Force One. Our nation doesn't rise or fall with the White House. Even if all of our hope rested with the government, our country still is poised to retain a conservative majority in the U.S. Senate. Most state legislatures across the country are very conservative, and our courts arguably are not as liberal as they were a decade ago. It isn't all gloom and doom, but we need to remain faithful in our calling to stand for what is right.



Help Us Honor Arkansas' Longest-Married Couples

Next year Family Council hopes to recognize Arkansas' longest-married couples. If you know a husband and wife who have been married more than 75 years, please email info@familycouncil.org or call (501) 375-7000.

Family Council Will Continue to Oppose Government-Mandated Vaccinations

Since 1989, Family Council never has opposed vaccinations, but we have consistently opposed laws that would force people to get vaccinated against their conscience. In 2002 Chief U.S. District Judge Susan Webber Wright struck down an Arkansas law that protected people with religious objections from being forced to immunize their children before enrolling in a public school. In response, Family Council helped successfully lead the effort in 2003 to pass better legislation that says the state cannot force public school students to be immunized if the immunization conflicts with the parents' religious or philosophical beliefs.

Family Council always has viewed vaccination as something families and individuals should decide for themselves based on their own convictions. As COVID-19 treatments and vaccines become available, there is going to be pressure for states to force people to get vaccinated. Family Council plans to oppose government mandated COVID-19 vaccinations in Arkansas unless the mandates contain religious and philosophical exemptions. Again, we don't oppose vaccines or immunizations. It may be appropriate for some employers to require certain vaccinations, but the government ought to respect people's rights of conscience—even when it comes to vaccines against COVID-19.

Sen. Hendren and Rep. Love Pre-File Bad Bill to Enact Hate Crimes Law

On November 16, Sen. Jim Hendren (R – Gravette) and Rep. Fred Love (D – Little Rock) filed S.B. 3 enacting hate crimes legislation that would provide special protections for certain classes of people in Arkansas. As we have said before, laws like S.B. 3 simply don't work. They don't protect people from violent criminals, and they carry unintended consequences. Legislation giving some people more protections than others plays into the broader "cancel culture" that we're seeing in America right now. In our current political climate it's just too easy to weaponize these types of laws against people of faith. You can help oppose S.B. 3 and any other hate crimes legislation in Arkansas. Call our office at (501) 375-7000, and we'll help you contact your state lawmakers so you can make your voice heard against hate crimes legislation.

Discussion About Hate Crimes Proposals is Emboldening Arkansas' Liberal Cities

All the talk about hate crimes legislation in Arkansas this year has emboldened some cities to propose their own measures. Over the summer the Little Rock City Board passed a hate crimes ordinance, and the Fayetteville City Council proposed one as well. These ordinances are more subjective and open-ended than S.B. 3. Liberal city officials eventually could try to use ordinances like these against conservatives. You can help us oppose S.B. 3 and any other hate crimes legislation. Call our office at (501) 375-7000 to learn more.

Here Are Just a Few of Our Goals for 2021

We're wrapping up 2020. Looking back, I can honestly say the coronavirus outbreak did not slow us down one bit. It forced us to change how we do some of our work, but we still got the work done. We have big plans for 2021. Here are just a few of them:

- Review every bill filed at the Arkansas Legislature, and alert Arkansans about important legislation.
- Secure passage of legislation to end abortion in Arkansas.
- Defeat proposals to enact hate crimes legislation in Arkansas.
- Block efforts by nursing homes to shield themselves from lawsuits in the wake of COVID-19.
- Pass legislation preventing public funds from going to groups that perform or promote abortion.
- Establish hundreds of pro-life sanctuary cities and counties in Arkansas.
- Defeat legislation that would foist comprehensive sex education on our public schools.
- Support responsible reforms at the Arkansas Lottery
- Protect people from being forced to get a COVID-19 vaccine against their conscience.
- Secure passage of legislation protecting healthcare workers' rights of conscience.
- Work with our friends to defeat euthanasia and assisted suicide in Arkansas.
- Protect medical patients from being denied life-sustaining care.
- Stop boys from competing in girls' sports in Arkansas.

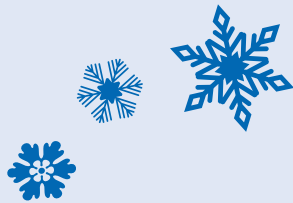
MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM ALL OF US AT FAMILY COUNCIL!

My staff and I hope you have a very merry Christmas and a blessed new year! Christmas is a time when our hearts turn to Christ and our thoughts turn to home. During the Christmas season I am almost constantly reminded how fortunate I am to have friends like you who believe in what we do at Family Council.

Last spring I had faithful donors tell me they weren't sure if they would be able to support us this year, because of COVID-19. I have no hard feelings about that. We've always trusted that God would meet our needs through the generosity of good people. Several wonderful folks stepped up to the plate over the summer and fall, and they helped make sure we had the resources to get our work done. I am so grateful to everybody who has helped us so far this year.

If you haven't helped us—or if you helped earlier this year, but would like to do more—I want you to know that there's still time to send a generous, tax-deductible donation to Family Council before the end of the year. Your gift will be like putting fuel in the gas tank. It will help us lobby the legislature, equip pastors and churches, educate Arkansans, defend the unborn, stand up for home schooling, speak the truth online and in the media, and so much more.

Thank you for partnering with us in this work. **Thank you for helping us have a successful year despite the many setbacks and challenges we all faced. Thank you for your kind words, your prayers, and your friendship.** I hope you will let me know if there is anything that my staff or I can do for you.



Sincerely,

Jerry Cox, President

Thank you!!



From Left: Ken Yang, Luke McCoy, David Cox, Jerry Cox, Doris Cox, Erin Hogan, Lisa Crook, and Charisse Cooksey.



About Us: Family Council is a conservative, Christian non-profit organization based in Little Rock, Arkansas. Jerry Cox founded Family Council in 1989 in association with Dr. James Dobson and Focus on the Family. Our mission is to promote, protect, and strengthen traditional family values. We educate and equip families and churches to make Arkansas a better place to live, work, and raise a family, and we lobby lawmakers and elected officials on important issues that matter to families. Our work is funded by generous supporters all over Arkansas.