

Unable to agree on what is right and what is wrong, rarely are Americans able to come to a moral consensus. Tragically, many people no longer even believe moral absolutes exist. Abortion, child abuse, substance abuse, the homosexual agenda, racial injustice, gambling, hunger, and homelessness are signs of a culture in crisis.

In the midst of this confusion and conflict, Christians are called to reach out to a hurting and dying world in Christ's name.

The Gospel commands Christ's followers — both individually and collectively — to change the culture for good by reaching one heart and one mind at a time for Jesus.

This is the heart of the mission of the Southern Baptist Convention's Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission (ERLC).

The ERLC has a twofold assignment—to help create and preserve a climate in which a Christian witness will be most effective. In fulfilling this role the Commission also maintains a full-time office in Washington, D.C., the Leland House, and has founded the Research Institute, whose roll is to advise and assist the ERLC in developing strategies and resources that bring biblical truth to bear on moral and public policy issues.

The Commission also helps believers understand the moral demands of God's Word on critical social issues. In carrying out this role, the ERLC produces and distributes informational pamphlets, posters, books, bulletin inserts, newsletters, and audio and video media.

For Faith & Family magazine educates and encourages readers on the ethical and cultural issues of the day. An electronic public-policy newsletter, *eSalt*, is also published by the Commission. Together, they provide a valuable source of scripturally based news and information to Christians across the nation.

It is imperative that Christ's followers speak clearly, live faithfully, and act wisely for the cause of Christ, seeking to apply the moral and ethical teachings of the Bible in their lives and in their community.



THE ETHICS & RELIGIOUS LIBERTY COMMISSION

OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION



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OUR VISION

An American society that affirms and practices Judeo-Christian values rooted in biblical authority.

OUR MISSION

To awaken, inform, energize, equip, and mobilize Christians to be the catalysts for the biblically based transformation of their families, churches, communities, and the nation.



“Please join me in praying that America will return to her biblical roots and become a society that affirms and practices Judeo-Christian values.”

Richard Land
Richard Land, President

IN A WORLD OF MORAL AMBIGUITY, Dr. Richard Land, a graduate of both Princeton and Oxford Universities, provides insightful viewpoints and a sound, biblical perspective on cultural matters through The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission's national outreach ministry, *For Faith & Family*. Broadcasting on radio stations across the country and simulcast on the Internet every weekday (go to www.faihandfamily.com), Dr. Land's cutting-edge radio programs feature guests and topics that are relevant to today's culture and consistently give listeners the tools they need to nurture their faith and family according to God's Word. Visit our Web site for a complete list of stations carrying the program, and learn more about the work of *For Faith & Family*.

Christians Challenging the Culture with the Absolutes of the Gospel

The work of The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission is undergirded by the biblical mandate to Christians to be purifying agents in the world. The ERLC seeks to awaken, inform, energize, equip, and mobilize Christians to preserve what is godly and to purify what is ungodly in our culture. God calls believers to integrate their faith into the affairs of their daily lives. We are to bring the revealing power of Scripture to bear on issues in our society.

One of the most effective means by which individual Christians can help transform America's moral climate is by becoming involved in the work of The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission in their local community. In the local congregation, this can be done by establishing a *For Faith & Family Impact Team*. Such a team is charged with the responsibility of educating, equipping, and exhorting believers to address the moral, religious liberty, and public policy issues that confront our nation.

The purposes of the *For Faith & Family Impact Team* should be to:

- **AWAKEN & INFORM.** A *For Faith & Family Impact Team's* first responsibility is to raise your church's awareness of issues that are being discussed in the local community, state legislature, federal government, or society at large. By planning special projects for the issues addressed by the ERLC, the team introduces moral and religious liberty issues to families in your church. We encourage interested church families to subscribe to the ERLC's publications, *eSalt* and *For Faith & Family* magazine.

- **ENERGIZE & EQUIP.** The *For Faith & Family Impact Team* also equips Christians to be effective in transforming society. Concerned Christians will be frustrated if they are educated about the problems in our culture but not provided user-friendly tools to reach family members, friends, neighbors, and elected officials with the life-changing and life-saving perspectives of the Christian faith. *For Faith & Family Impact Teams* enable believers to take practical steps to make a difference for Christ in the public square.

- **MOBILIZE.** A local *For Faith & Family Impact Team* can exhort believers to respond to specific calls for action on moral and religious liberty issues at the local, state, or national level. Examples include alerting your church to the needs of a local food bank or homeless shelter, calling on believers to address your city council regarding proposed homosexual rights ordinances or adult bookstore zoning, or encouraging letter-writing campaigns to legislators and other elected officials to support pro-family or anti-pornography policies.

What is the first step to becoming involved? Go to www.faihandfamily.com to find out more. The nation needs the influence of more Christians carrying the life-changing power of Scripture to our culture in obedience to our Lord.

The Commission's organized beginnings date back to 1908. Support for the Commission by the SBC Cooperative Program began in 1947, and the present organizational structure took shape in 1953.



www.faihandfamily.com

FOR SOLID BIBLICAL ANSWERS

to cultural issues that are threatening to overwhelm your family, turn to www.faihandfamily.com. This site provides Christians with an understandable overview of the issues and social concerns that are in and behind today's headlines. The site's Capitol Hill Connection helps Christians to respond to the issues in an informed and timely manner. By entering your zip code on the site, you can determine your elected representatives' names and addresses and can send an e-mail voicing your opinion on an issue.

You will find live and archived broadcasts of the *For Faith & Family* radio program and links to *Richard Land Live!* at www.faihandfamily.com.