

CITIZEN

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND THE VALUES THAT MAKE FAMILIES STRONG

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The 2015 Session was not as productive as it should have been . . . but it was very revealing!

House Leadership controlled the Assembly, not because citizens wanted them to, but because of personal ideologies and alliances.

Sometimes you hope for a particular result and it doesn't come, but what you learn in the disappointing outcome is invaluable. Such is the case with the 2015 Session of the General Assembly: Many good bills did not become law — pass both Chambers of the Assembly — but now everyone can easily see why.

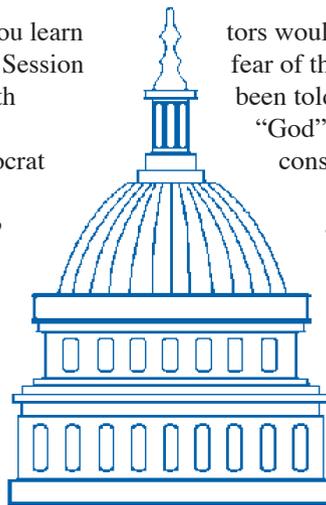
It has been recognized for years that the leadership of the House Democrat Caucus has been pushing its members, the entire House, and therefore the entire Assembly to the left on the sanctity of life issue — *there has been no new prolife bill allowed on the House Floor for a debate and a vote since 2004*. This means that regardless of what prolife bill the Senate passes, or what prolife bill any Representative introduces, none will be given the opportunity to be debated and voted upon. In that sense, House Leader-

ship is controlling the entire General Assembly on the sanctity of life issue.

This year was no different, and yet they expanded that control to other issues. First, the sanctity of life issue: Senate Bill 4 — The Face-To-Face

Consultation Bill and Senate Bill 7 — The Ultrasound Bill — would give a woman considering an abortion the guarantee of being able to talk with the physician face-to-face and see her ultrasound before she made up her mind. SB 4 and 7 passed the Senate 30 to 5 and 31 to 5 respectively, yet neither was even given a hearing in a House committee. When “discharge petitions” were filed to get them out of committee and on the House Floor for debate, they were ignored. This has been the *status quo* on the sanctity of life issue since 2004.

But the House also blocked two popular “student” bills because of the same left-leaning ideology. Consider Senate Bill 71 — The Student Free Speech and Religious Liberty Act. SB 71 would codify into the Kentucky Revised Statutes the freedoms that federal courts have acknowledged for students so that teachers and school administra-



tors would not find themselves in violation of federal law when they acted out of fear of the much bandied about “separation of church and state.” Students have been told they can't pray, can't bring the Bibles to school and cannot mention “God” in a valedictory address when in fact ALL of those are basic student constitutional rights.

Yet, SB 71 passed the Senate with a vote of 30 to 4 but was never allowed a vote in a House Committee, much less on the House Floor. Later, when SB 71 was amended in the Senate to a bill that had passed the House 88-5 and was sent back to the House for concurrence (agreement), House Leadership let the previously passed bill die because SB 71 was amended into it.

Similarly, Senate Bill 76 — The Student Privacy Act — was passed by the Senate with a vote of 27 to 9 and rejected by House Leadership. No committee vote and no Floor vote. This was a very popular bill with parents because they do not want

biological boys in the girls' restrooms, locker rooms and shower rooms with their daughters. When SB 76 arrived in the House it was given no hearing even though the lobbyists for The Family Foundation knew the House had the votes to pass it. (See page 7 for more on SB 76)

“If a court system can have something called ‘obstruction of justice,’ then a legislative body can have ‘obstruction of the will of the people,’” said Kent Ostrander, executive director of The Family Foundation. “Both are incompatible with our republic form of democracy. For more than a decade Kentucky has had a chronic problem with it in the House.”

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Both are incompatible with our republic form of democracy.”

*– Kent Ostrander, executive director
The Family Foundation*

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The Family Foundation offers marriage *amicus*

It could be re-defined by the U.S. Supreme Court, but one attorney has written a sound legal brief on behalf of traditional marriage.

With two blows in 2014, one on Feb. 12 and the other on July 1, a Federal District Judge in Louisville struck down Kentucky's marriage laws as unconstitutional. Finding that Kentucky's non-recognition of out-of-state gay marriages was unconstitutional, Judge John Heyburn went on to find that laws defining marriage as between one man and one woman violated the U.S. Constitution. Even though 74 percent of Kentucky voters approved the constitutional amendment in 2004 defining marriage between a man and a woman, Heyburn held that traditional marriage was without a "rational basis" and that

Stan Cave is the attorney for The Family Foundation. He has already submitted three *amicus* briefs in this case (at the District and Circuit Court levels) and just filed his fourth before the U.S. Supreme Court.



any argument that children need a mother and a father made "little sense."

The case was appealed to the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals where it was combined with similar marriage cases from Michigan, Ohio and Tennessee. On Nov. 6, 2014, the Court of Appeals reversed and reinstated traditional

marriage laws, finding that there was a rational basis for the laws and that they were indeed constitutional.

On Jan. 16, 2015, the Supreme Court of the United States undertook to review the cases from Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and Tennessee. The parties are in process of filing briefs.

On March 31, Stan Cave, acting as counsel for The Family Foundation, tendered an *amicus curiae* (friend of the court) brief seeking to have Kentucky's marriage laws upheld. Here is the essence of his brief:

Cave argued that the Constitution nowhere requires states to recognize/license

same-sex marriages, nor is same-sex marriage deeply rooted in the history of the United States. Conversely, because marriage has as its genesis the biological ability of a man and a woman to procreate, traditional marriage laws have served state interests in regulating the effects of male/female intercourse: children. It is logical to see why people would think it rational to regulate male-female relationships.

Same-sex marriage not only redefines marriage. It also redefines parenting by withholding either a father or a mother while telling the child that it is all the same. Same-sex marriage denies children something they long for while at the same time telling children they do not need what they naturally crave, a mother and a father. Same-sex couples' arguments in these regards are self-centered and selfish.

Traditional marriage opponents opted for having appointed judges declare marriage laws unconstitutional instead of following the democratic process – which appears to be working for them in some other states.

Contrary to what some have maintained, the basis for traditional marriage is not a dislike or prejudice toward gay people. This issue is about parenting and children. Under the opponents' view, any disagreement with them can only be borne of "irrational prejudice." If this was true, not only must statistical evidence be ignored, but all voters and judges who disagree must be the product of some irrational prejudice. Such arguments are nonsensical.

Same-sex couples also assert that loving and committed relationships are sufficient for formal marriage; yet such a standard is immeasurable and will require states to recognize polygamous or polyamorous marriages.

It is hoped that the Supreme Court will leave the issue of marriage to the states as it has for decades. With the expected date of the decision's release in June, time will tell.



It is time for the nation to pray for marriage

The Sixth Circuit is the only federal Circuit Court to support traditional marriage – and it's the only case that had four states praying!

This article is not smeared all over the front page to capture attention, but it is nonetheless critically important. We do not need to be standing on the street corner praying . . . but we do need to be praying, and especially for marriage at this moment in history.

The Family Foundation has already submitted three *amicus* briefs in federal District and Circuit Courts in this marriage case, and we just submitted our fourth last week to the U.S. Supreme Court.

I am grateful for what we have done through those first three, and for what we just submitted, but my trust is in the Lord – not in our legal briefs . . . or in anyone else's.

Let's look "at the record": When our case went up to the Sixth Circuit in Cincinnati for oral arguments, we at The Family Foundation connected with similar groups in Tennessee, Ohio and Michigan and launched prayer campaigns in each of our respective states. *THAT* is why we received a sound decision and that is why *only* the Sixth Circuit has defended traditional marriage and the state amendments that protect it.

Consider II Chronicles 7:14 – a road map for the healing of our nation:

“ . . . if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

Starting now through April 28 (when oral arguments are scheduled) all the way through late June (when the Supreme Court is expected to release its decision), we will be offering our own series of prayer for this case and for marriage "in general" across the

nation . . . But we don't claim to be the only "prayer-makers" that can win the day. We believe that *everyone* should be praying, each in the way that they are most fervent and most effective.

Wouldn't it be refreshing to see the Body of Christ – across denominational lines – standing as *ONE* in prayer for marriage? Who knows what mountains the Lord would move?

So, I urge you to do your part. You are welcome to join us and our email prayer network . . . Or you are welcome to initiate your own efforts. Either way, we need to be praying and believing so that we might indeed see a miraculous deliverance for marriage.



Kent Ostrander is the executive director of The Family Foundation

Kent

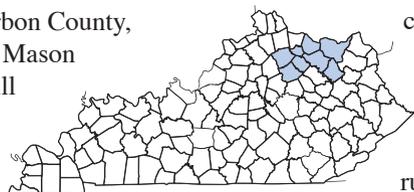
P.S. To receive our prayer emails for the next 60 days or if you want a digital copy of our Supreme Court *amicus* brief, email us: kent@kentuckyfamily.org
And checkout Facebook for prayer: [pray4marriage](https://www.facebook.com/pray4marriage)

Steve West wins 27th Senate District seat

Republicans will now control the State Senate with a 27-11 advantage over the Democrats, who control the House 54-46.

Steve West, a Republican from Bourbon County, and Kelly Caudill, a Democrat from Mason County, squared off on March 3 to fill the vacant seat of Sen. Walter Blevins, Jr. after his victory as the Rowan County Judge/Executive last Nov. 4. West emerged the victor in this Special Election.

Though actual voter registration in the district favored the Democrat, voter turnout was the difference. West received 5,337 votes, or 54.4 percent of the ballots



Senate District 27

cast, compared to Caudill's 4,471 votes, equalling 45.6 percent.

Each of these two candidates were chosen by the respective Party County Committees. Caudill, an attorney, had never run for political office. West, a farmer and also an attorney, had challenged Rep. Sannie Overly (D-Paris) for her House seat in Bourbon County several years ago.

With this election, Republicans now control the State Senate 27-11 while Democrats continue to control the

State House of Representatives with a 54 to 46 majority.

This election is consistent with the two-decade trend of Republicans gaining ground in Kentucky's political sphere, one that was once almost entirely Democrat. The Governor's Mansion and the State House continue to be bastions of strength for the Kentucky Democrat Party.



Sen. Steve West

Support The Family Foundation by shopping at Kroger

There are different regions within the Kroger system in Kentucky. We are continuing to work through the different forms with each respective regional office. We are currently enrolled in three of the five regions within their system.

Kroger recently launched a program called Kroger Community Rewards® to give back to local communities through schools, churches and other nonprofit organizations. The Family Foundation is proud to be a participant in this program . . . but we need your help! Will you join us?

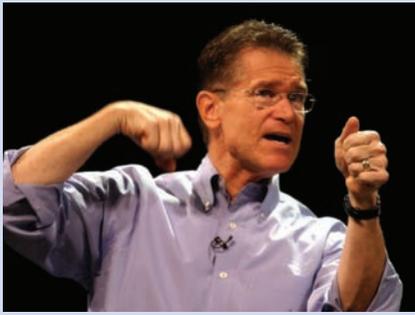
You can easily enroll your Kroger Rewards Card to benefit The Foundation. A percentage of your purchases will then be donated to The Family Foundation. Please join us in this simple fundraising effort (***at NO ADDITIONAL COST TO YOU***). It takes a couple minutes to register your card — *just follow the steps below and note our official incorporation name.*

1. Go to www.kroger.com/communityrewards
2. Sign into your account (or create a new one).
3. Click the "Enroll Now" button.
4. Go to "Find Your Organization," find **Family Trust Foundation of Kentucky, Inc** (or use code below). Click "Enroll."
5. For most of Kentucky, use code #92920. For Northern KY (Cincinnati suburbs), use code #24726. For Western KY (Murray-Paducah) use code #11977. Northeast KY (Ashland) & Southwest Central KY (Bowling Green-Glasgow) are not yet online.

Please call us at 859-255-5400 if you have trouble enrolling, and we'll be happy to help you. Thank you!

"Let's go Krogering!"

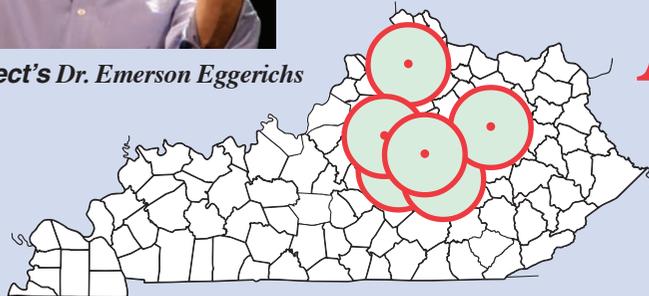




Love & Respect's Dr. Emerson Eggerichs



Love & Respect's Sarah Eggerichs



The Kentucky Marriage Movement

Movement

Various regional events listed below

Lexington, April 17-18

Love & Respect video conference - The Eggerichs
Gardenside Christian Church
940 Holly Springs Drive, Lexington, KY 40504

Lexington, April 21

Love and Lordship - Greg Williams
Tates Creek Christian Church (Victory for Life)
3150 Tates Creek Road, Lexington, KY 40502

Salt Lick, May 22-25

Love and Lordship Event - Greg Williams
Kentucky Church of God Family Retreat
3169 Mudlick Road, Salt Lick, KY 40371

Dry Ridge, June 7

Love and Lordship Presentation - Greg Williams
Macedonia Baptist Church
14460 Jonesville Rd., Jonesville, KY 41086

Lexington, June 21

Love and Lordship Presentation - Greg Williams
Boone's Creek Baptist Church
185 N. Cleveland Rd., Lexington, KY 40509

Nicholasville, July 17-18

Love and Lordship Conference - Greg Williams
Church of the Savior
1301 Brannon Road, Nicholasville, KY 40356

For more or to register, call [\(859\)255-5400](tel:8592555400) or go to www.kentuckymarriage.org

The Family Foundation will be working on the sanctity of life issue in select counties. Are you willing to assist with a meeting in your county?

If so, please contact us. Call us at [859-255-5400](tel:8592555400) or email us at: kent@kentuckyfamily.org



Hands On Originals gets its day in court

The ultimate question is whether religious freedom and free speech are still primary in America or if new rights now trump them.

On Thursday, March 13, Alliance Defending Freedom attorneys in oral arguments in Fayette Circuit Court represented *Hands On Originals*, a Lexington-area T-shirt printer. The Lexington-Fayette Urban County Human Rights Commission has been attempting to force Blaine Adamson, the owner of *Hands On Originals*, to print messages that conflict with his religious beliefs, so ADF attorneys appealed the Commission's earlier decision.

"Every American should be free to live and work according to their faith without fear of punishment by the government," said Jim Campbell, the ADF attorney who argued before the court. "Our government was formed to be freedom's greatest protector, not its greatest threat. But in Blaine's case, the government is coming after both his freedom and his ability to make a living."

In December 2014, ADF appealed an order from the Commission which erroneously concluded that Adamson violated a local ordinance prohibiting discrimination when he

declined to print expressive shirts promoting the Lexington Pride Festival, hosted by the Gay and Lesbian Services Organization (GLSO). The Commission reached its decision even though Adamson regularly does business with and employs people who identify as homosexual.

The Commission's ruling has the potential to affect all Lexington-area printers regardless of their views, as a GLSO representative admitted at a hearing last year.

Adamson declined to print the shirts because he did not want to convey the messages that would be printed on them. He nevertheless offered to connect the

organization to another printer that would produce the shirts for the same price. Unsatisfied, the GLSO filed a complaint with the commission.

"Americans oppose unjust laws that strong-arm citizens to express ideas against their will," said ADF co-counsel Bryan Beaman. "Blaine should not be forced to print messages with which he sincerely disagrees, and neither should any other printer. Americans should tolerate a diversity of opinions, not use the government to punish fellow citizens who have different views."

At the end of the hearing Circuit Judge Jim Ishmael said his decision would be forthcoming.

2015 Primary: Get informed and vote!

The 2015 KCIS Survey will be online on May 5.

Primary Election Day is set for Tuesday, May 19 when Kentucky voters will decide who will represent each party in the Fall's election of statewide constitutional officers – Governor/Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, Commissioner of Agriculture, State Treasurer and State Auditor.

Jack Conway is expected to easily become the Democratic candidate for Governor; however, there could be a tight race on the Republican side with four candidates vying for that office – Matt Bevin, James Comer, Hal Heiner, and Will Scott. Altogether, there are 19 candidates seeking the other Executive Branch offices, and it can sometimes be hard to determine which candidate best represents you. Responses to the *Kentucky Candidate Information Survey (KCIS)* will once again be made available *in the candidates' own words*.

"The key to election is informed voters," said Sarah Roof, *KCIS* project coordinator. "It cannot be overstated for voters to make the effort to educate themselves by getting to know the candidates and then, of course, going to vote."

Survey responses will be available at www.votekentucky.us after May 5. The *KCIS* has been published since 1993 and is a non-partisan project with the purpose of serving candidates by helping them get their message out and serving voters by providing them with reliable candidate information.



HANDS ON ORIGINALS



Kentucky Candidate Information Survey

To get info about the May 19 Primary candidates *in their own words*, and/or . . .

To print off information on races that you can copy and give to others (*after May 5*), go to:

www.votekentucky.us

All information has been handled with IRS standards and is suitable for churches and nonprofit organizations.

Send us your email for a digital copy that you can print, or call us and we will mail you the Survey:

sarah@kentuckyfamily.org or (859)255-5400

Bardstown “Fairness Ordinance” fails 5-1

Because they cannot pass legislation in the General Assembly, activists have created a statewide strategy trying to win small cities.

On March 10, the Council Chamber at the Bardstown City Hall Annex Building was packed to capacity while others crowded in the hallway. The Bardstown-Nelson County Commission on Human Rights was proposing the local human rights ordinance list “sexual orientation” and “gender identity” as specially protected classes.



The same changes had been proposed and rejected by the Nelson County Fiscal Court only last year. The necessity of such changes was questioned by the Fiscal Court and magistrates explained they were unaware of any discrimination on a sexual orientation basis within Nelson County.



The Commission’s intent to propose the addition of “sexual orientation” and “gender identity” to the city ordinance came to light only after some of their actions raised eyebrows among public officials and the press.

Michael Johnson, regional policy analyst for The Family Foundation, lives in Bardstown and attended the meeting. He testified that the proposed changes were not required or necessary.

“In fact,” he said, “the majority of states, the Kentucky legislature, an overwhelming majority of Kentucky localities, and the Nelson County Fiscal Court have deemed these changes to be unnecessary.”

Amelia Clements, a member of the Commission, expressed her belief that “maintaining the current wording of the ordinance helps to protect everyone from discrimination.” She also warned of unintended consequences by explaining that “in ordinances and state laws around the country where sexual orientation language is included it is posing a problem for some religious institutions, individuals, and business owners.”

A local business owner, Stephanie Greenwell, warned that “in the process of trying to help someone, you are going to hurt so many more.” She explained these changes could force business owners to “feel like they are taking part in something they don’t think is right when it is their money, their time, everything they’ve done to run their own business.”

A local pastor, Ray Johnson, spoke of his experience and what he had dealt with firsthand during his 16 years in California where similar language was added to laws. He cautioned councilmembers to consider the fact that “adopting such language actually begins to bring discrimination against others whereas the goal was to protect.”

Larry Duncan pointed out that no evidence was presented to support the apparent inference that this type of discrimination happens in Bardstown. He went on to warn that “trying to build an ordinance on the basis of assumption is not a wise foundation to build any ordinance.”

The City Council listened to the concerns of the 11 who spoke in opposition to the changes and took note of the strong message sent by the presence of such a large turnout. A surprising five of the six City Council members stated their opposition to the proposed “fairness ordinance” language. No further action was taken.

Bardstown Human Rights Commission jolted

Clearly the overall goal is basic human respect.

Public officials and local media became concerned when a member of the Bardstown-Nelson County Commission on Human Rights, tasked with promoting “mutual understanding and respect” preventing discrimination, attacked one of their own in response to her religious views and opinions.

Amelia Clements, a recent Commission appointee, was calmly explaining her concerns about the proposed addition of “sexual orientation” and “gender identity” to Bardstown’s human rights ordinance when Luke Barlowe, a member of the Commission’s executive committee and treasurer, stood and began shouting at her. Before storming out of the meeting, he yelled out his sexual orientation (gay), told Clements she was unwelcome on the Commission, and then attacked people of faith, proclaiming “there is no God.”

Kathy Reed, the chair of the Commission, admitted that there was no reason for his behavior and that similar outbursts had happened before.

Barlowe is a gay rights activist and a plaintiff in the federal lawsuit to overturn Kentucky’s marriage protection amendment that is now before the U.S. Supreme Court. (*See related articles on page 2.*) He has since turned in his resignation to the Commission.

The ordinance establishing the Commission requires that it be broadly representative of the community. Unfortunately, the recent actions have revealed this has not been the case. Seeking broader representation, Nelson County Judge/Executive Dean Watts asked Bardstown Mayor John Royalty to bring the Commission to a healthier balance.

Concerns about such ordinances are justified

Regardless of where “Fairness Ordinances” are pushed, certain pitfalls will ultimately become manifest.

Here are a few problems with “Fairness Ordinances”:

- The “sexual orientation” and “gender identity” language is not required by state or federal law, and the language itself is ambiguous, allowing for a huge range of inconsistency.
- A majority of states, the Kentucky Legislature, and an overwhelming majority of Kentucky localities have *NOT* deemed the adoption of “Fairness Ordinances” to be necessary.
- Where such language has been added, privacy and safety concerns have been raised as restroom, locker room and shower room use is based on another’s self-identified “gender identity”, regardless of biological sex.
- This language has been used across the nation and in Kentucky to force business owners to speak a message they disagree with and support a message that is contrary to their deeply held religious beliefs.
- Efforts to pass ordinances using such language is often orchestrated by outside groups and results in bringing division to a community where no problem existed beforehand.



**A male wants to shower beside
your 14-year-old daughter.**

Are YOU ok with that?

This was the ad The Family Foundation used on Facebook that rallied 40,000 Kentucky citizens to be in support of Senate Bill 76 – *The Student Privacy Act*. SB 76 offered a better policy for schools than what had been imported from California and adopted by Atherton High School. At Atherton, the student questioning their gender identity was handled with great sensitivity, but at significant cost to other students. Good policy would have the student treated with care without other students forfeiting their basic constitutional right of privacy.

SB 76 allows schools to accommodate gender-conflicted students and suggests options such as **1)** providing a single-user bathroom, **2)** providing a uni-sex bathroom, or **3)** allowing the gender-conflicted student to use the faculty restroom (with the oversight and protection it provides). However, SB 76 clarifies that schools *MAY NOT* place students of opposite biological genders in the same bathroom, locker room or shower room at the same time.

Opinion: Reasonable minds must not sit this debate out.

Gender & Common Sense

There are certain things that we all used to take for granted. There were no debates about them because almost no one disagreed about them.

Up until about 15 years ago, no one would have thought that marriage was anything but a relationship between a man and a woman—not even gays. This was a time when the biological sex you were born into the world with was actually considered an indication of your gender.

And you wouldn't have to go back even that far to find yourself in a time when everyone expected that boys would use the boys' bathroom and girls the girls' bathroom.

But today, on issue after issue, the traditional Judeo-Christian view of human sexuality is being challenged. No longer are we allowed to believe what everyone in every culture in every era of human history has believed until just a few years ago.

The new view of human sexuality now being imposed on us declares that men and women are interchangeable: that there is no meaningful difference between the two. The distinction between males and females, we are told, is arbitrary and socially constructed.

The reigning philosophy behind this new view of gender is called "constructivism." Constructivism is the view that things which we have always assumed are basic to our nature – such as gender – is the result not of anything intrinsic to us, but purely the result of the



Martin Cothran is the senior policy analyst for The Family Foundation

environment we grow up in.

Boys are boys because when they were growing up they were taught to play with trucks and girls are girls because they were taught to play with dolls: Had we switched the trucks and the dolls, boys would be girls and girls would be boys.

If you think this sounds preposterous, just go down to your local university sociology department. There are people who actually believe this. In fact, it is the reigning academic paradigm in the social sciences today: There is no such thing as "human nature." Who and what we are – including our gender – is purely a product of our culture. Had our culture been different, we would have been different.

And though this sounds preposterous to those of us who believe in a God-given human nature, it is the view that lies behind the same-sex marriage movement, the transgender rights movement, and numerous other and more exotic beliefs.

You can now "self-identify" as any gender you like. And the thing about it is

that you are no longer limited to just two genders. Facebook, for example, now offers 58 different gender categories for its users.

No word yet from

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All gifts are tax deductible. Kindly make check to "The Family Foundation" and mail to:

TFF P.O. Box 911111 Lexington, KY 40591

I thank you for your trust.

P.S. If each of us gives *something*, we'll have enough. (And we won't have to prune the mailing list.)

The Kentucky *CITIZEN*

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Facebook or anyone else whether we can arbitrarily choose a "racial identity" and decide which one we want to "self-identify" as. Just imagine what would happen if a White person decided to "self-identify" as an African-American.

"But wait," you say. "I thought gay rights groups thought that sexual orientation was inborn?" And that's true. Except on Tuesdays. Tuesday is the day that it becomes politically inconvenient to be a constructivist. It is the day when the political benefits of saying that gender is inborn exceed the benefits of saying exactly the opposite – like in court cases where saying that people are born gay helps you qualify for designation as a "suspect class" in anti-discrimination laws. No one ever said consistency was a strong suit of the Cultural Revolutionaries. Of course if you question the soundness of this new sexual orthodoxy, you will be called a bigot. If you point out the

inconsistencies you are called hateful. And if you point out there is no good science to support it, you will have your sanity questioned.

The gender ideology that currently dominates government, academia, and the media is having its day, but, like all such fads it will eventually be eclipsed by something else . . . common sense.

This is the way ideology works. It is how cultural radicalism manifests itself. But this too shall

pass away.

The gender ideology that currently dominates government, academia, and the media is having its day, but, like all such fads it will eventually be eclipsed by something else. And if we keep articulating the simple truth about human beings, hopefully what it will be eclipsed by is common sense.