

CITIZEN

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND THE VALUES THAT MAKE FAMILIES STRONG

Vol. XXIV No. 6

November/December 2016

Major shift in KY House of Representatives as “Majority Party” status goes Republican

Republicans control the House for the first time since 1921.

In a stunning and sweeping shift in Kentucky politics, the Republican Party secured the last major institution of political power in the Commonwealth on Nov. 8. Though many conservative voters and strategists had hoped for a “flip of the House” from Democrat control, many were hoping for 53 to 47 or 55 to 45 margin at best.

On the evening of Nov. 8 the election results came pouring in and the numbers by the end of the night had Republicans with 64 seats and Democrats only 36. A stark contrast from the 53 to 47 majority the Democrats had enjoyed.

To add insult to the injury, the Speaker of the House, Greg Stumbo (D-Prestonsburg), also lost his seat. Many believe the election was a repudiation of Stumbo’s power politics where legislators were bound to do his bidding and the bidding of the Democrat Party — *not the will of the people in their Districts*. The Republican running against Stumbo, Larry Brown, won with 53 percent of the vote even though Republicans make up only 16.1 percent of the District, making it a bipartisan message of “No more politics as usual.”

To put an exclamation point on the Democrat losses, in addition to Speaker Stumbo, five committee chairman, one subcommittee chairman and a former Majority Whip also lost their seats. The Republicans picked up a total of 17 seats.

Not since 1921 -- 95 years -- had Republicans controlled the House of Representatives in Kentucky.

Conservative Democrats clearly voted Republican in this election cycle, likely because of social issues. With 1,693,489 to 1,339,594 statewide advantage (55.6% to 44.1%) in voter registration, the Democrats still managed to lose big.

In some sense, this rout was foretold by Democrat Senate Minority Leader, Sen. Ray Jones (D-Pikeville) on election night last year when Matt Bevin won the governor’s race. At that time, Jones said in a KET interview, “It is obvious that the Democratic message in Kentucky is off. We have lost ‘values voters.’ We have lost social conservatives that had historically voted Democratic. And we really have to look at the direction, not only of the Kentucky Democratic Party, but the National Democratic Party . . . [It] has become so liberal that it does not resonate with Kentucky voters.”



But some Republicans say they will not act on social issues.

“A ship in the harbor is safe. But that’s not what ships were made for.” This proverb conveys the very essence of what Republicans are debating right now in Frankfort. The practical application comes across more like, “A politician in office is safe for re-election. But some believe he has to actually stand for something in the Capital.”

The specific question troubling Republicans right now is, “Should we work on social issues that make some people mad, while satisfying the people who elected us? OR should we dodge those issues and simply get re-elected next election cycle?”

Unfortunately, over the years and across the nation, many new Republican majorities, which had been good minority groups, have proven to be poor majority leaders. In fact, some would argue that it was the Republican Majority in Washington that created the frustration which helped Donald Trump win the presidency — they just didn’t do what they had promised so voters were fed up with the “Establishment.”

In Kentucky, it was a Democrat establishment that had been stopping the debate of social issue legislation, but that kind of self-preserving leadership is not limited to one Party. On Nov. 8, voters – Republican AND Democrat – threw out the establishment. The hope of voters is that the new Majority will learn from their predecessors and get the people’s

will done . . . on fiscal AND social issues.

The final decisions have not been made for the 2017 Session, but everyday citizens must learn that *THEY* themselves can make a difference.

For More Involvement: See page 8 & the bottom of page 7.

Governor
Republican

Senate Majority
27 Republicans
11 Democrats

House Majority
64 Republicans
36 Democrats

The Family Foundation has edited a presentation by Congressman Daniel Webster that describes how a legislature is supposed to work. Webster is the former Speaker of the House in Florida. To view the 10-minute video, go to:

InsideFrankfort.com

[Click video box in the upper right corner.]

They are “Slippin’ daylight past the rooster”

Here’s an update on the six-year “Instant Racing” court case that has observers bewildered. It just doesn’t quite pass the smell test.

On Nov. 22, 2016, with only 24-hour notice, the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission convened a special meeting during the Thanksgiving holiday week to approve yet another new package of slot-type gambling devices and games.

Why the rush? Why the lack of public notice? Why during the Thanksgiving week?

Things were supposed to be different with the new Racing Commission, weren’t they?

Is one of Kentucky’s most prestigious public agencies being manipulated by powerful special interests to expand gambling in Kentucky?

All good questions. Those who know aren’t saying.

Now, there are not two, but three, types of electronic gambling devices and games which have been approved by the Racing Commission and are in operation at the tracks. The Racing Commission’s spontaneous (and mysterious) Thanksgiving-week action follows on the heels of the Commission’s earlier approval of two other types of electronic gambling devices and games, with several of Kentucky’s horse racing tracks now playing host to thousands of gambling devices.

As of September of this year, reports indicate that players have wagered some \$2.1 billion dollars (Yes, that’s “billion” with a “B”) on these electronic gambling devices. But wait just a minute. Did anyone vote to expand gambling in Kentucky?

Doesn’t the Constitution prohibit expanded gambling?

What happened to the cry of politicians to, “Let the people decide!”?

The fact is that the General Assembly never approved expanded gambling, and voters have not adopted a constitutional amendment. Yet expanded gambling is occurring before our very eyes.

But, how can that be? Those who know aren’t saying.

Kentuckians will recall that the Racing Commission and the race tracks have been in litigation with The Family Foundation for the past 6 years over the legality of these slot-type gambling devices and games. It was the Racing Commission and the race tracks which brought the court case in the first place, because they were concerned that the new gambling devices may very well be illegal. The Racing Commission and the race tracks wanted a court to decide the issue before they began licensing and operating the devices.

THEY asked the question.

Isn’t that litigation ongoing? Indeed, it is.

If the case is not over, how does anyone know if the gambling devices are legal or illegal?

No one knows.

Good questions which deserve answers.

The Family Foundation would like to know too, but those who know aren’t saying.

Pari-mutuel wagering on a horse race is legal in Kentucky. Pari-mutuel wagering requires bettors to be betting among themselves on a horse race.

Proponents say that the accumulation of bets over infinite periods of time equates to betting among each other. Proponents also say that a cartoon of a horse race is a horse race.

How can wagers made years apart on different cartoons of horse races be the same as pari-mutuel wagering on a horse race? Good question, but those who know aren’t saying.

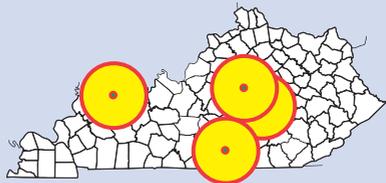
The irrational greed fed by preying on Kentucky’s most vulnerable citizens has yielded the worst of all policy outcomes. The Racing Commission even lacks the technical expertise to regulate the gambling it has authorized, so an outside consultant does the regulating. Yet, that consultant is paid by the gambling operators.

Unbelievable. Do you think he’s not going to find what they pay him to find?

Worse yet the Racing Commission and the gambling operators claim a “common interest” privilege so no one can even find out if any of this is aboveboard.

All this with only a total of \$8 million for the State’s general fund from the \$2.1 billion wagered. It is difficult to imagine a worse outcome.

All of this may be legal and appropriate, but it just doesn’t quite pass the smell test.



The Kentucky Marriage Movement

Jamestown, Jan. 9-10

Love and Lordship Presentation - Greg Williams
Kentucky Christian Minister’s Retreat
Lake Cumberland State Park, Jamestown, KY 42629

Nicholasville, March 17-18

Art of Marriage video presentation - FamilyLife
Catalyst Christian Church
101 North 1st Street, Nicholasville, KY 40356

Nicholasville, March 1-29

Love and Lordship Wed. Night Series - Greg Williams
Jessamine Christian Church
130 Courchelle Drive, Nicholasville, KY 40356

Owensboro, TBD

Love and Lordship Conference - Greg Williams
Bellevue Baptist Church
4950 State Route 56, Owensboro, KY 42301

For more information, call (859)255-5400 or go to www.kentuckymarriage.org

Update on AFA's Boycott of TARGET

The time for big corporations to be dictating to American families what to believe may be over.

Early 2016 found the citizens and legislators of several states weighing concerns over privacy, safety, and religious liberty as they debated proposed laws addressing restrooms and those who identify as transgender.

Target became the first national retailer to weigh in when they intentionally inserted themselves into the debate. They did so while trumpeting “inclusivity” as “a core belief at Target” and “something we celebrate.” The press release also

declared their support for the federal Equality Act which would add sexual orientation and gender identity as protected classes under the law in the same way as race, thus raising legitimate religious liberty questions and other concerns.

“Target didn’t simply publicize a bathroom policy, they trumpeted their position on transgenders and privacy as a core belief of Target.”

– Michael Johnson, policy

In response, the American Family Association called for a boycott of the national retailer at the end of April. Within days, over one million signed the pledge to boycott Target, clearly taking issue with its trumpeting of “inclusivity” as “a core belief.”

During the May-June period, the retailer was hit by a surprising 2.2 percent drop in traffic for the first time in a year and a half, the biggest slide since the Great Recession (outside of the massive data breach experienced a few years ago). This

surprising drop caused the retailer concern, and they revised their economic forecast for the remainder of the year.

Back-to-School sales provided them with a better third quarter and brightened the forecast for sales during the holiday season, but sales are still expected to be less than originally expected for the year.

Target also experienced a shakeup in September with both their Chief Marketing and Chief Digital Officers leaving the company.

Target has repeatedly denied that the sudden drop in traffic and sales has had anything to do with AFA’s boycott. In fact, Chief Financial Officer Cathy Smith claims that the boycott “results really haven’t been material.”

Despite saying that the two are unrelated, Target’s actions suggest otherwise. On the same day that Target reported disappointing sales and cut its forecast on future sales, it also announced the retailer would spend \$20 million to ensure a lockable single-toilet bathroom exists in every store for those that are uncomfortable with a public bathroom in which a transgender person is allowed.

“Target didn’t simply publicize a bathroom policy, they trumpeted their position on transgenders and privacy as a core belief of Target,” explained Michael Johnson, policy analyst with The Family Foundation. “They purposely linked their brand with this position. At this point, time alone will tell if their sales figures will support their stand on bathrooms.”



The Kim Davis Story: One year later . . .

Kim Davis stood her ground and went to jail . . . but Kentucky’s new governor – Gov. Bevin – stood with her.

It has been one year since Gov. Bevin provided a solution to the “County Clerk Controversy” in Kentucky. Upon taking office, he issued an executive order directing the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives to issue a revised marriage license form in which the name of the county clerk is no longer required to appear. This was later made permanent by the Kentucky Legislature.

This simple accommodation of sincerely held religious beliefs was all that the concerned county clerks had requested in the first place. It protects their right of conscience, which is guaranteed by the Kentucky Constitution and state law, while still abiding by the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Obergefell*.

It was former Gov. Beshear’s refusal to provide this or any other of several reasonable accommodations which resulted in the Kim Davis incident. You will recall that Kim Davis was taken to court by the ACLU and was jailed for five days because she refused to violate her conscience.

“Kim Davis went to jail not because of anything she did wrong, but because Gov. Beshear would not abide by the law of the Commonwealth and accommodate

her religious convictions,” said Kent Ostrander, executive director of The Family Foundation, at the Aug. 22 Religious Liberty/Rights of Conscience Rally in Frankfort.

The action taken by Gov. Bevin and the General Assembly resulted in Judge Bunning dismissing the three lawsuits against Kim Davis on Aug. 18. Mat Staver, founder and chairman of Liberty Counsel, the international nonprofit group that represented Davis, said, “This victory is not just for Kim Davis. It is a victory for everyone who wants to remain true to their deeply-held religious beliefs regarding marriage while faithfully serving the public.”

Despite the dismissal of all three lawsuits, the ACLU filed a request for \$233,058 in legal fees and costs on Sept. 19. Staver called the ACLU’s request a “Hail Mary,” saying “both courts have dismissed the cases and closed the files on the Kim Davis case . . . the door has been shut on the ACLU’s attempt to assess damages against Kim Davis.”

Unfortunately, the ACLU’s latest effort to punish Kim Davis for her beliefs ensures that Kentucky citizens must wait a little longer to turn the page on an incident which rendered a neighbor jailed for standing firm upon the ground of her conscience.

On Aug. 22, 2015, an airplane pulling a banner flew over the estimated 6,000 to 8,000 assembled on the Capitol Steps to stand with Kim Davis, Casey Davis and Kaye Schwartz – the three Kentucky county clerks who would not violate their consciences by signing their name to authorize a same-sex marriage.



House District 8
Parts of Trigg and Christian Counties



R Walker Thomas

House District 11
Henderson and parts of Daviess County



R Robby Mills

House District 13
Parts of Daviess County



R D.J. Johnson

House District 14
Ohio and parts of Daviess County



R Matt Castlen

House District 15
Muhlenberg and parts of Hopkins County



R Melinda Prunty

House District 16
Logan, Todd and parts of Warren County



R Jason Petrie



Meet the new class of Republican House members

House District 23
Barren and parts of Warren County



R Steve Riley

House District 24
Green, Larue and Marion Counties



R Brandon Reed

House District 33
Parts of Oldham and Jefferson Counties



R Jason Nemes

House District 48
Parts of Oldham and Jefferson Counties



R Ken Fleming

House District 49
Parts of Bullitt County



R Dan Johnson

House District 50
Nelson County



R Chad McCoy

House District 54
Casey and Boyle Counties



R Rep. Daniel Elliott*

House District 58
Shelby County



R Rob Rothenburger

*Last year 47 Republicans . Now with 17 seats flipped and some Republicans retired, there are 24 NEW *members. All-in-all, it's a godly group.*

By God's grace, Kentucky is on a trajectory to become a leading state in this troubled nation. Consider this: In the Spring of 2015, the Lord allowed the dark-horse gubernatorial candidate to slip past the two leaders and clinch the Republican nomination with only an 83-vote margin.

That Summer, after the U.S. Supreme Court *Obergefell* same-sex marriage decision, God gave us "Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego" in the persons of county clerks Kim Davis, Casey Davis and Kaye Schwartz. They stood strong for their own religious liberty . . . and for ours.

Next, our Frankfort "Religious Freedom/Rights of Conscience Rally" on Aug. 22 drew 6,000 to 8,000. THEN, there was an extraordinary victory sweep of Gov. Bevin, Treasurer Allison Ball, Auditor Mike Harmon and Ag Commissioner Ryan Quarles.

Any miracle has two parts – God's part and man's part. For example, Jesus *called out* to Peter and *handled* the water; and Peter *stepped out* of the boat and *walked* on water. I believe we have been watching the Hand of God at work in Kentucky; and, at the same time, God's people engaged to "do their part"

Now, in the November 8 election, 17 seats flipped from Democrat to Republican, breaking the deliberate logjam that Speaker Stumbo had constructed in the House of Representatives.

At this moment in history God's people in Kentucky believed . . . worked . . . gave . . . and voted! (*God's people let His voice be heard* as they "prophesied" through the voting booth.)

And God did His part . . . again.



Kent Ostrander is the executive director of The Family Foundation

The question now is: "Where will this new class of Republicans lead the state?"

That is difficult to discern at this point in the process, but here are a few indications that were gleaned from the *Kentucky Candidate Information Survey* that interviewed 18 of the 24 new Republican legislators prior to the election. Consider the answers of the 18:

QUESTION: "With one exception in the last 10 years, House Leadership has barred debate on pro-life bills on the House Floor. It should reverse this practice."

All 18 "STRONGLY AGREED" with this premise. There were none that were "UNDECIDED", "DISAGREED" or "STRONGLY DISAGREED."

QUESTION: "Public schools should allow students to use bathrooms and locker rooms in accordance with their 'gender identity.'"

Fifteen "STRONGLY DISAGREED" with this premise. One "DISAGREED." Only two were "UNDECIDED." None were "AGREED" or "STRONGLY AGREED."

QUESTION: "Students should be allowed to voluntarily express religious and political opinions and have equal access to public forums in public schools."

All 18 "STRONGLY AGREED" with this premise. There were none that were "UNDECIDED", "DISAGREED" or "STRONGLY DISAGREED."

This freshman class should be supported and encouraged. Join with us for this short 2017 Session (January thru March) to make a difference for Kentucky. [And go to page 8 and/or the bottom of page 7.]



House District 62
Owen and parts of Scott and Fayette Counties



R Phillip Pratt

House District 64
Parts of Kenton and Campbell Counties



R Kimberly Moser

House District 78
Harrison, Pendleton and parts of Scott County



R Mark Hart

House District 81
Part of Madison County



R C. Wesley Morgan

House District 84
Perry and parts of Harlan County



R Chris Fugate

House District 91
Lee, Breathitt, Estill, Owsley and parts of Madison County



R Toby Herald

House District 92
Knott, Magoffin and parts of Pike County



R John Blanton

House District 95
Floyd and parts of Pike County



R Larry Brown

House District 97
Johnson, Wolfe and Morgan Counties



R William Scott Wells

House District 98
Greenup and parts of Boyd County



R Dr. Danny Bentley

“Bathroom” issue to go before Supreme Court

The U.S. Supreme Court has accepted the case that has some trying to force biological boys and girls to use the same bathrooms.

On Friday, Oct. 28, the U.S. Supreme Court announced that it was adding *Gloucester County School Board v. G.G.* to its docket. This case involves a transgender student who identifies as a boy and desires to use the boys’ restroom at the Virginia high school.

Although the Court’s decision was not a shock, the announcement instantly made it the most high-profile case of the term so far.

The school board’s policy requiring students to use the restrooms and locker rooms that match the gender they were assigned at birth was originally upheld by the federal District Court. The District Court’s reasoning was based on a 1975 regulation allowing schools to provide “separate toilet, locker room, and shower facilities on the basis of sex” as long as the facilities were comparable.

But, in January 2015, the Obama Administration issued an opinion letter stating that if public schools separate students in restrooms and locker rooms on the basis of sex, a “school generally must treat transgender students consistent with their gender identity.” Relying on a 1997 Supreme Court decision that stated courts should generally defer to an agency’s interpretation of its own regulation, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit reversed the District Court’s ruling on April 19, 2016.

The Supreme Court will now weigh in on whether courts should defer to a letter like that involved in this case and whether the Dept. of Education’s interpretation of



the federal civil rights laws and the 1975 regulation should be given precedence.

Shortly after the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in their favor, the Obama Administration sent a letter to school districts across the nation which threatened the loss of federal funds unless they treat transgender students consistent with their gender identity.

A wave of lawsuits has followed, with at least 13 other active lawsuits across the nation. These courts have

been divided on the issue. Among those challenging the Obama Administration’s guidelines is a group of 51 families and 23 states, including Kentucky.

The Supreme Court ordered male and female bathrooms to be preserved in the Virginia school district until it addresses the question, and a federal court has ordered the Obama Administration to stop threatening schools with funding cuts. Local school districts across the nation *and in Kentucky* should hold off on letting transgender students use bathrooms in accordance with their gender identity until the Supreme Court addresses the issue, thereby respecting the privacy and safety concerns of all students.

“This case is ultimately about the privacy, dignity and safety of all students while they are vulnerable in bathrooms, locker rooms and shower rooms,” said Martin Cothran, senior policy analyst for The Family Foundation.

“This case is ultimately about the privacy, safety and dignity of all students . . .”

– Martin Cothran, senior policy analyst

ACLU and PP pushing liberal sex-ed in Louisville schools

It’s a bad news curriculum that they are selling as “mainstream.”

Louisville Sex Ed Now (LSEN), a community initiative partnering with Planned Parenthood and the ACLU, has been working quietly to infiltrate all Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS) with Comprehensive Sex Education.

In a separate but related move, JCPS Superintendent, Dr. Hargens mandated teacher training which includes programs from Advocates for Youth, another group working with Planned Parenthood to promote the Comprehensive Sex Education agenda.

At the Dec. 13 JCPS Board Meeting, Dr. Kendall Purcell, pediatrician and assistant professor at the University of Louisville, claimed, “study after study showed that Comprehensive Sex Education prevents youth and teens from getting [STDs].” She referenced studies claiming these programs delay the onset of sexual activity, while reducing STDs and pregnancies. Interestingly, she gave no specifics and cited studies which have been questioned by scholars.

Comprehensive Sex Education proponents have attempted to rebrand it by using the same language as that imbedded in Abstinence Plus, now known as Sexual Risk Avoidance (SRA). SRA education includes information about biology, anatomy, and respectful relationships, as well as contraception (including efficacy and failure rates). Comprehensive Sex Ed goes far beyond these boundaries by discussing various sexual activities and demonstrating “proper” condom and contraception usage.

During the Nov. 29th board meeting, there was mention of a petition in support of Comprehensive Sex Ed having been submitted to the JCPS Board but no reference to the number of signatures. Those opposed to implementing Comprehensive Sex Ed submitted a petition with nearly 2500 signatures after just two weeks. Over half of the overflow crowd at the board meeting remained until after 10:00 pm to get a chance to express their

concern over the Board’s Comprehensive Sex Education emphasis.

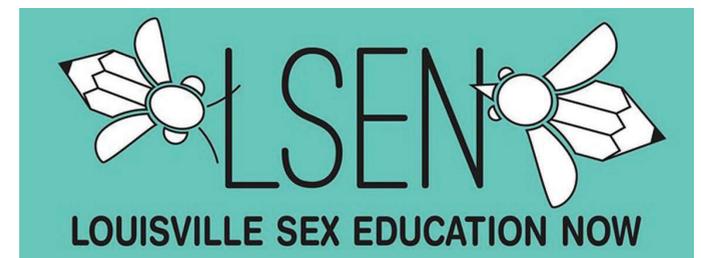
A number of concerned parents and citizens spoke, highlighting the pitfalls of Comprehensive Sex Ed. Angela Minter, president of Sisters for Life, said her group had “strong opposition to Comprehensive Sex Ed in JCPS, which would result in sexualizing our youth and allowing these organizations to push their pro-abortion agendas.”

Annetra Jones, single mother of three, speaking for many parents stated, “I want to know if what is taught will be in line with, or in direct opposition to, what I’m teaching at home.”

Another parent, Dr. Tom Beck, highlighted a potential reason for the lack of transparency, citing a study from the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services “showing more than 80 percent of students completing a Comprehensive Sex Ed curricula fared no better and often even worse than students who had not been part of such a program.”

Finally, Kentucky Marriage Movement director Greg Williams, pointed out a common strategy, “Every attempt to sneak a sex education program in without parental involvement is a Comprehensive Sex Ed program. If parents want Comprehensive Sex Education, so be it, but inform and educate them regarding all programs and affiliates for the sake of transparency and trust.” KMM, an outreach of The Family Foundation, promotes healthy marriages, families and communities.

Comprehensive Sex Ed programs lead to unhealthy relationships based on “protected” sexual activity that harms children. In the long term these practices harm society while creating more broken marriages and families.



To help with this concern, call us at:

859-255-5400

The new conservative House must step forward

On Election Day this year, Kentuckians voted to clean out the Augean stables and sent a hundred years of cronyism, backroom deals, and abuse of legislative procedure down the river of history. The change of power in the Kentucky House, completed a trifecta of Republican victories that began with the takeover of the Senate in 2000.

What difference will it make?

Traditionally, the problem with Republican majorities has been that sometimes the rhetoric they use during an election does not



Martin Cothran is the senior policy analyst for The Family Foundation

underscores their pro-life position.

But as soon as they land in the capital, they are taken behind the establishment’s closed doors and told that these issues will have to wait. That they need to “lead” with other, less controversial economic issues.

Then, just before dying of neglect, these social issues are trotted out again for the next election.

This is why when you get that survey in the mail from your new Republican representative, the list of issues from which you are asked to choose the one most important to you includes financial issues, health care issues, local infrastructure and

numerous other things. But issues like abortion, which are featured during the election, do not appear at all.

It is a strategy that almost always backfires, and it has created caution among rank and file Republicans, who greet new Republican victories by asking whether “they will actually do something this time.”

This is largely the result of each state’s party apparatus, which is almost always more timorous than the people who actually get elected. These are the people whispering in the ears of all newly elected state representatives and senators, telling them not to take any chances, to play it safe so they can keep their seats—despite the fact

When it comes to the culture, liberals are willing to die for their cause. Traditionally, Republicans are not.

that the issues on which they are asked to play it safe are the very issues that helped them get elected in the first place.

This establishment Republican strategy

stands in stark contrast to that of liberal Democrats, who push their cultural agenda even when it leads to short-term electoral losses.

When Obamacare was passed in the Congress, many Democrats voted for it even though they knew they might lose their next race. They championed same-sex marriage even when public support was half what support for traditional marriage is now.

When it comes to the culture, liberals are willing to die for their cause. Traditionally, Republicans are not.

Conservatives don’t elect leaders so they can watch them tread water; they want them to swim for the finish line. They want them to fight for the causes for which they said they would.

There are signs, however, that in Kentucky the normal rules may not apply.

Kentucky Governor Matt Bevin has shown repeatedly that he is not afraid to press the values issues on which he ran. His vigorous enforcement of the law on abortion clinics and his impatience with groups like Planned Parenthood show that he is not a shrinking violet when it comes to issues about which traditional conservatives care.

The Kentucky Senate too has shown itself to be a formidable conservative body. Its Republican caucus is filled with intelligent, capable conservatives who are willing to argue the case on the issues from which Republicans in other states shrink.

And the new Republican House majority? It is filled with men and women who ran on values issues in their districts. New House Speaker Jeff Hoover (R-Russell Springs) masterfully engineered the passage of the Kentucky’s Marriage Amendment on House floor in 2004. It would be hard to imagine that the House will not follow the lead of the Governor and the State Senate in getting things done on the issues about which Kentuckians care.

Their campaign literature almost always features “family values” and underscores their pro-life position. But as soon as they land in the capital, . . .

match what they actually do when elected. This is true on a number of issues; but is particularly true on social issues like religious freedom, marriage, and abortion.

Republicans running in a legislative race will run with social conservatism on their sleeves. Their campaign literature almost always features “family values” and

The 2017 Session: **YOU** really can help!

The ultimate influence in Frankfort comes from the people of Kentucky. Please join us now.

The Nov. 8 election results was a “God thing”! God moved in the 2015 election and now in the 2016 elections in an even greater way. The concern now is “Will the Republicans be ‘Bold and courageous’” as God has always encouraged His servants? OR, will they do what Republicans have often done when they secure a morality – lead “conservatively”? (Lead weakly.)

The truth is that the election was nothing more than a selection process that decided “who made the team.” On Nov. 30, that team selected their “coaches and captains.” (The 64 members of the Republican House Caucus came together to decide which five members should be chosen for their House Leadership.) NOW the team of 64 (59 plus its five “coaches and captains”) has to “win games” – *in other words, PASS GOOD LEGISLATION!* An election is not “victory”; good legislation is!

Because all men and all women are made with the same self-preserving inclinations, this team will have to wrestle within its own members as to how boldly to move forward. Some will say (and are saying), “Let’s not do the tough and controversial social issues.” Others, focused on their convictions and what is best for the future of all Kentuckians, are willing to take risks and stand for the things that got them elected on Nov. 8.

But the ultimate “deciders” of Kentucky’s future are the people of Kentucky. We the people elect legislators . . . and we can influence them in Frankfort. Please sign up and be a part of *OUR* team that will encourage legislators to act courageously.

New! Text ALERTS - Text “Kentucky” to 31996 in order to receive action items on your phone during the 2017 Assembly.

We must act!

January thru March is VERY important.

We are looking for new people and new churches that would like to lock arms with us. *Can you help us?*

We will have updates and materials to share during the 2017 General Assembly. *Can you help us?*

There are many people who need to get “connected” via email, Facebook and Twitter. *Can you help us?*

Please help us:

- volunteer;
- sign up for *UPDATE* and *Let Us Pray*;
- give as we go into the new 2017 Session.

You can contribute on our website, and volunteer and sign up via email.

kentuckyfamily.org

If we each do a little, a lot of work will be done!

Please help us!

“Like” us on Facebook:

The Family Foundation

Follow us on Twitter:

@KentuckyFamily

Email us for *UPDATE* and *Let Us Pray*.

kent@kentuckyfamily.org



The Kentucky CITIZEN

Executive Editor
Kent Ostrander

Editor
Sarah Roof

Contributing Editors
Martin Cothran

Jack Westwood
Ivan Zabilka
Michael Johnson

Joyce Ostrander
Greg Williams
David Moreland

The Kentucky Citizen is published by The Family Foundation, a Kentucky nonprofit educational organization that works in the public policy arena on behalf of the family and the values that make families strong.

The Family Foundation
P.O. Box 911111
Lexington, KY 40591-1111
859-255-5400

e-mail: kent@kentuckyfamily.org
Web site: www.kentuckyfamily.org

The Family Foundation
P. O. Box 911111
Lexington, KY 40591-1111

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. Postage
Paid
Lexington, KY
Permit No. 555

Can we trade? (We give to you & you give to us)

It's time for us ALL to be “salt and light.” We must shine into utter darkness and flavor that which does not want seasoning.

In its simplest form, The Family Foundation's goal is two-fold: A.) to help legislators and policymakers make godly decisions on behalf of Kentucky families; and B.) to get everyday godly citizens informed and engaged in the policymaking process. This way we really become a government of the people by the people and for the people.

The overall goal of The Foundation in these decades of cultural slide is to protect the family and the values that make families strong. That's why The Foundation works in Frankfort . . . and across the state getting legislators and citizens moving in the same direction for the family and family values.

Here are a few of the things we offer:

- 1) **The Kentucky CITIZEN Digest** - a bimonthly newsletter designed to inform and give perspective on issues that confront Kentucky citizens;
- 2) **The Kentucky Citizen ADVOCATE** - a special publication that comes out at various times when there is a particular need – like during a Session of the General Assembly. It encourages action from citizens across the state.
- 3) **Email UPDATES** - weekly emails that give information about the General Assembly. These often have an “action item” that can be accomplished with one phone call. Once the Session is over, the emails are less frequent.
- 4) **Let Us Pray** - a daily (Mon. thru Fri.) emailed prayer that focuses on one aspect of what Kentuckians are facing. It takes one minute to read and pray and it likely is “the largest daily prayer meeting in Kentucky.”
- 5) **Text ALERTS** - A new service that starts in January. Text “Kentucky” to number 31996 to receive updates and action items on your phone.

Here are a few things you can offer:

- I. **Faith!** We each need to pray and believe. That means pray and then step out in faith. Remember, James said faith without works is dead faith.
- II. **Service!** We at The Family Foundation need volunteers in every area of the state to take materials to their church and to other churches. Could you serve your county for a few hours in January and February?
- III. **Finances!** *If everyone gives something* – even just a little – *we will have enough.* The Foundation's work needs your generosity at this time.

Here's how we can move forward together – both you and us:

Sign up for the **Email UPDATES** - just email us - kent@kentuckyfamily.org
Sign up for the **Let Us Pray** - just email us - kent@kentuckyfamily.org
Sign up for the **Text ALERTS** - just text “Kentucky” to number 31996
Sign up others for **The Kentucky CITIZEN Digest** by sending us their information.

Please pray.

Please volunteer - email us or call us at 859-255-5400

Please contribute. [Mail gift to: **TFF PO Box 911111 Lexington, KY 40591.** All gifts are tax deductible. For your information, *The Kentucky CITIZEN Digest* costs us about \$10 per family per year to write, print and mail. A gift of any amount helps.]

It's a blessing to stand back and see the salvation of our God. It's even more fun to be a part of it. Join with us. Let's be about our Father's business.