

CITIZEN

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND THE VALUES THAT MAKE FAMILIES STRONG

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ALL should give direction for state & nation

Kentuckians are rooted in traditional values and are grounded in common sense. Clearly, America needs those virtues now.

The phrase “elections have consequences” is often bandied about during election cycles in order to get voters inclined to vote one way or another. But the United States could not have had a more vivid expression of that truth than it has had over the last eight weeks with the confirmation of Judge Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The only reason that Kavanaugh was nominated was because Donald Trump was elected President in 2016. The only reason he was confirmed was because 51 Republican U.S. Senators were elected and were sitting in the U.S. Senate. That was important because those same 51 had worked to get Neal Gorsuch confirmed in 2017. And that was important because for the first time in more than 60 years the Supreme Court was tottering on a 4-4 liberal-conservative inclination, the resolution of which would be determined by the next appointment.

The 2016 election was most important in that process, but the elections in the last decade had set the stage.

The reason why members of the progressive side of

the American political spectrum were acting out was because they have counted on the liberal Supreme Court for decades to do things that a conservative court could never do because of their divergent approaches to the Constitution. Liberal Courts continue to modify the Constitution with their rulings and conservative Courts simply interpret that document and all the laws that Congress enacts. Bluntly, a liberal Court legislates from the bench.

This explains the outlandish behavior of left-wing activists – they knew they were losing their ultimate power. They knew they would have to pass legislation like every other segment of society in order to have their will done. They could no longer simply rely on liberal members of “their” Court to do their will.

Consider that *Roe v. Wade*, the right to end the life of an unborn human being, was decided in 1973 without a single vote by a Senator or Congressman. Similarly, more

recently, *Obergefell v. Hodges*, redefined marriage in 2015 with no debate or vote. Both of those decisions are reminiscent of the biased 1857 *Dred Scott* decision where the Court “decided” that a person of African descent was only three-fifths of a human being.

Hence, the crazy shenanigans of liberals and progressives in the confirmation process. The moral of the story – this *historical* story – is “Get out and vote your values on Nov. 6!”

See this unique, nonpartisan *Survey*

Listed side-by-side, candidates respond in their own words.

The *Kentucky Candidate Information Survey's* website has something for every Kentuckian. It's an excellent resource for the busy citizen who desires to be an informed voter.

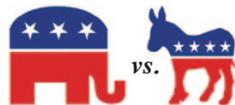
Find the resources and info you need, without the spin – We give you the facts and the candidates' own words, so you're the one who decides. (*See details on right*)

Do you support the proposed amendment to Kentucky's Constitution? Find the exact ballot question, background, a list of the proposed victims' rights, and the full bill text.

Which political party best aligns with your opinions? Explore a side-by-side comparison of the official Republican and Democrat party platforms in their own words.

Do your candidates support medical marijuana? Expanded gambling? Read your candidates' survey responses so you know where they stand on a variety of issues... in their own words.

What are your judicial candidates' qualifications? Their judicial philosophy? Get to know your judicial candidates with open-ended questions, allowing you to be introduced to who they truly are.



Kentucky Candidate Information Survey



Kentucky's best nonpartisan candidate website.

This website has candidates *in their own words*:

- 8 Congressional candidates
- 98 State Representative candidates
- 21 State Senate candidates
- 20 Kentucky Judicial candidates, including both Kentucky Supreme Court candidates (in southeast KY) and two of the four Kentucky Court of Appeals candidates.

Website: VoteKentucky.us

“Like” & “Share” on Facebook for others

Search Facebook: [@VoteKentucky](https://www.facebook.com/VoteKentucky)

Caution: It's just a Political Action Committee whose "values" are to elect Democrats. Its name is misleading.

“Kentucky Family Values” is a Super PAC; It is **NOT** a “family values” group.

Since the 2010 Supreme Court campaign finance decision, new groups have emerged on Kentucky's political scene. Often referred to as Super Political Action Committees (Super PACs), they influence elections by making independent campaign expenditures to support or oppose candidates.

The Kentucky Registry of Election Finance (KREF) designates Super PACs as “unauthorized campaign committees” and, as of July 2018, listed 15 registered in Kentucky.

One of these Super PACs, Kentucky Family Values (KFV), has attracted attention because of controversy surrounding its methods and messaging in the last few election cycles. At issue are KFV's logo and name and its claims to support conservative family values and oppose out-of-state big money groups that influence Kentucky elections.

“What initially caught our attention was that their logo and messaging was strikingly similar to that of our organization,” said Kent Ostrander, executive director of The Family Foundation. “Many of their radio ads described their organization and their candidates as having ‘family values’ or being ‘conservative,’ but the candidates’ values they supported were vastly different than what we stand for. I

“Kentucky Family Values” **IS NOT** associated with The Family Foundation!

assume they are just doing political tricks to get votes for their endorsed candidates.” (See logos above right.)

Voters have been misled. Even some legislators confused the newer Super PAC with the traditional values nonprofit group. During the November 2014 election, the



vs.



The Family Foundation and “Kentucky Family Values” logos

Is this deliberate deception?

nonprofit's staff received many calls and emails. “Citizens assumed the ads they were hearing on the radio and seeing were from us. Many were upset about the candidates they thought that we were supporting,” said Ostrander. “We repeatedly explained that Kentucky Family Values is not our group, and furthermore, our group does not endorse.”

Supporters of The Family Foundation were frustrated because candidates endorsed by Kentucky Right to Life Association were opposed by KFV. According to reports filed with KREF, in one Kentucky House race alone, KFV spent \$129,978 opposing the pro-life Republican incumbent and supporting his Democrat challenger.

Clearly KFV defines family values far differently than traditional conservative family values groups do. Most Kentuckians consider the sanctity of life, sanctity of marriage, and religious freedom to be examples of traditional family values issues. But those have not been the values of KFV.

According to Kenny Colston of WFPL News in Louisville, Kentucky Family Values is a Democratic Super PAC that helped “Democrats beat back the GOP's attempt to take control of the House.” Investigation into their spending in the last three general elections confirms that all money KFV spent was to elect Democratic candidates and defeat Republican candidates.

And where did their money come from?

Despite KFV's radio ads stating that voters were “tired of out-of-state big money influencing elections” and “spending millions to buy this election” and

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that KFV was from “here in Kentucky,” donor data obtained from the KREF shows that for the November 2014 and 2016 elections, the majority of KFV's donations came from out-of-state “big money,” mostly powerful Washington, DC-based unions.

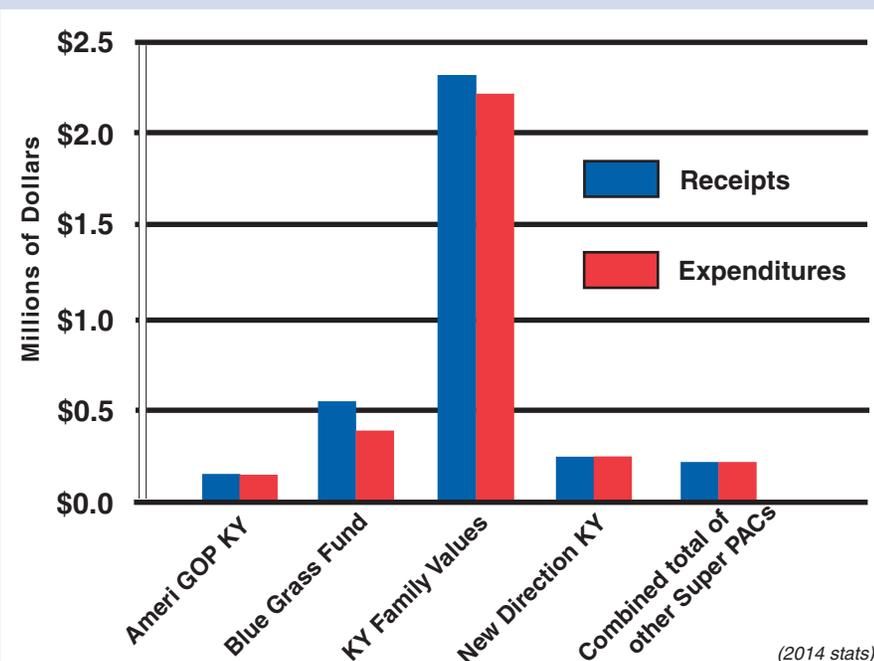
In the 2016 November election, KFV's contributions totaled over \$3.3 million with just over \$1 million coming from within Kentucky. That means over two thirds came from out-of-state sources, most located in Washington, DC. In other words, Kentucky Family Values is supported predominately by people with non-Kentucky values.

In the 2012 and 2014 general elections, KFV spent over \$2 million; in 2016 over \$3.3 million. To illustrate KFV's intensity, KREF reports for the November 2014 election show KFV spent more than all of the other Kentucky-registered Super PACs combined (See chart left). All the races it targeted were Kentucky House races.

Teachers' unions alone contributed \$1.375 million to KFV for the Fall of 2016 and it was spent supporting Democrats and opposing Republicans in State House Races.

Based on their spending, it would be more honest if they just said, “Our goal is to return the House to Democrat control.”

Kentucky Family Values vastly outspends all other Super PACs



Showdown: Unborn Child Dismemberment Ban

House Bill 454 is one of nine bills in the nation that limits this particularly barbaric abortion procedure.

November 13 marks the start of a multi-day courtroom showdown between the Commonwealth and abortion advocates.

The judge must decide whether to uphold the Commonwealth's interest in preventing the medical profession and society from becoming "insensitive, even disdainful, to life" in hopes that the medical community will "find different and less shocking methods" or declare a constitutional right to use a particular abortion procedure which often causes death from a loss of blood as the unborn child is "torn limb from limb."

Kentucky's House Bill 454, which passed in March with overwhelming bipartisan support in both the House (71-11) and Senate (75-13), seeks to ban the particularly brutal and grotesque procedure.

Kentuckians aren't alone in seeking to exclude the barbaric and gruesome procedure from civilized society. Alabama, Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Texas, and West Virginia have all passed similar legislation.

Abortionists and the ACLU asserted their right to this abortion procedure, which involves the dismemberment of an unborn child, in a lawsuit filed the day after Gov. Bevin signed HB 454 into law.

**If you would like to show your support for life on
Nov. 13 at the Louisville trial, please contact us for
information as soon as possible: (859)255-5400**

As former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Kennedy recognized in his dissent in *Stenberg v. Carhart* (2000), this particular procedure means the unborn child often "dies just as a human adult or child would: It bleeds to death as it is torn limb from limb."

Kennedy explained that "[s]tates also have an interest in forbidding medical procedures which . . . might cause the medical profession or society as a whole to become insensitive, even disdainful, to life, including life in the human fetus . . . One hope is that the medical community will 'find different and less shocking methods to abort the fetus in the second trimester' . . ."

Federal law already prohibits partial-birth abortion, which involves "extracting the fetus intact or largely intact and then piercing or crushing the living fetus's skull." That ban was upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court in 2007. Bevin's legal team argues that the procedure banned by HB 454 "differs in form, but not substance." They go on to write, "Piercing the skull of a living fetus is gruesome. So is tearing off or cutting its limbs, one by one, while it is alive."

Abortionists are also facing off against the Commonwealth's recent ultrasound law which seeks to ensure that mothers are fully informed before deciding to obtain an abortion. The District Court Judge's declaration that the law is unconstitutional is currently on appeal before the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Given the recent confirmation of Supreme Court Justice Kavanaugh, there is increased focus on the possibility that *Roe v. Wade*, which found a constitutional right to abortion, could be overturned. Planned Parenthood, America's largest abortion provider, has deemed Kentucky's ultrasound case as one of thirteen which could provide the Court with that opportunity.



Trump continues to move federal courts right

He's just doing what he promised to do when he campaigned for office in 2016. (It's actually quite refreshing.)

According to U.S. Senate Majority Leader McConnell (R-KY), "The most important thing the Senate is involved in is the personnel business" and "most important are the lifetime appointments to the courts."

Since President Trump took office, nearly two years ago, the Senate has confirmed a total of 69 judicial appointees.

Most notably, Trump's two nominees to the U.S. Supreme Court have been confirmed. Of the previous six presidents, none appointed more than three during their entire time as president and that was during an eight-year presidency. Three other presidents also served for eight years, but only appointed two justices during that time. Trump has appointed two in two years. There may be opportunity for Trump to appoint a couple more since Justice Ginsburg is 85 and Justice Breyer is 80.

McConnell said that the recent confirmation of Justice Brett Kavanaugh was his proudest accomplishment of his 34 years in the U.S. Senate. Kavanaugh was confirmed by a vote of only 50 – 48, the narrowest margin in recent history. The last time a vote was so contentious was when Justice Thomas was confirmed by a 52-48 vote in 1991.

Kavanaugh's confirmation was called into

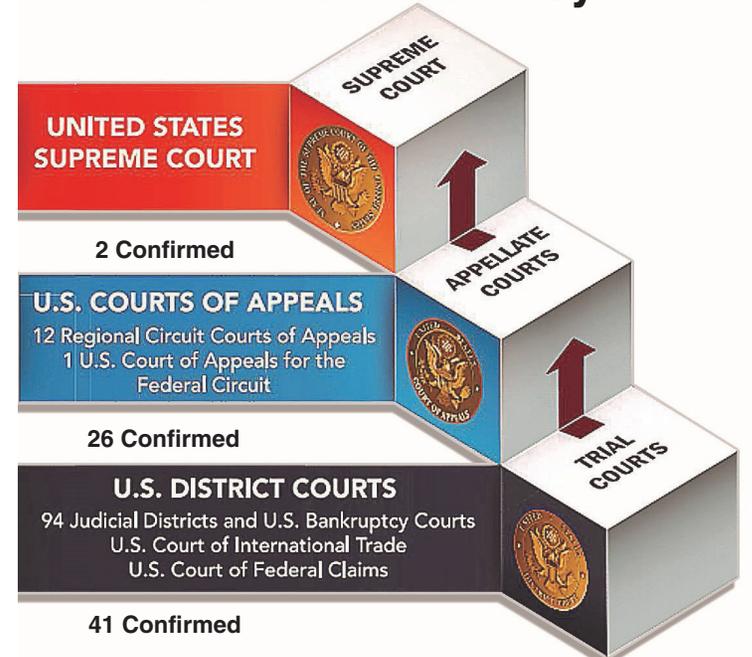
question after several accusations that he committed sexual assault during high school and college. The accusation that got the most attention resulted in a nationally-televised public hearing and a supplemental FBI investigation.

Americans were split on whether to believe Kavanaugh or his accuser, with a significant portion saying both came across as credible. Ultimately, the FBI investigation did not find corroboration of the accusation and the testimony failed to persuade enough Senators to defeat Kavanaugh's confirmation.

The Senate has also confirmed 26 appointees to the Circuit Courts of Appeals during the past two years, exceeding the previous six presidents' average nine nominees a year. With the Courts of Appeals having the final word on all but 0.14 percent of the parties that come before them, the appointments have a significant impact on the nation's legal landscape.

It is unclear what impact the contentious Kavanaugh confirmation process and upcoming November 6 mid-term election will have on McConnell's efforts to confirm the 71 judicial nominees currently pending. There are 143 vacancies on the federal courts.

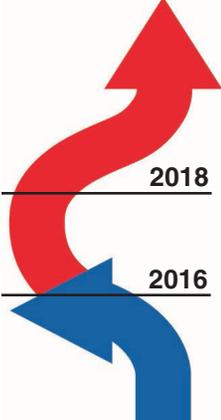
Trump's confirmation record with the Federal Court System



Consider these 2017-18 victories when you vote:

The list of successfully passed pro-family legislation over the last two years is a reason for which every family can be proud.

Major changes in how the General Assembly responds to the will and values of everyday Kentuckians has come into play. Simply consider the significant shift on the state level since November 2016 when the House flipped from a 54-46 Democratic Chamber to a 64-36 Republican Chamber and began its work in the 2017 General Assembly: 1) Six significant pro-life bills were passed and signed into law in two years, after no new pro-life bills had been allowed on the House Floor for 10 years; 2) Major reform of adoption and foster care was passed and signed into law; and 3) Two significant religious liberty bills were passed and signed into law. Many other pro-family pieces of legislation were also considered and passed into law. *(For more see page 5 right)*



Kentuckians will decide on Nov. 6 if they want to continue along this course or whether they want to go back to a more progressive or more liberal General Assembly. Fortunately, the choice is very clear for all who want to participate in the election. Prior to the 2016 election, Kentucky was moving in one direction. After that election cycle it went an entirely different direction.

Do your best to determine which direction you want Kentucky to go and then get out and vote! And encourage others to do the same.

Though the 2016 election was “revolutionary” in the change that took place for Kentucky and for the nation, the 2018 election is equally important because it will determine whether the state and nation stay this new course or turn back.



**Examine the Platforms
of both major Parties
and the candidates
side-by-side.**



Go to:

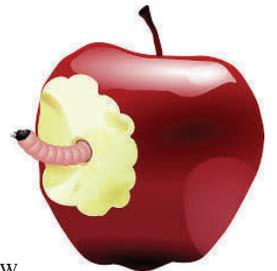
www.votekentucky.us

To let others know, “Like” & “Share” us on Facebook:

@VoteKentucky

The state pension issue IS important, but ...

Some are using our significant crisis as a political weapon rather than truly working to find the solution.



The 600-pound gorilla in the room this Fall is the question of state pensions. Clearly, just as bread has two sides, there are naturally two sides in this debate. Unfortunately, BOTH sides are credible. On one hand, Kentucky’s financial future is in serious jeopardy with the state’s massive pension liability – at \$60 billion, it is the worst in the nation. Without a good solution, Kentucky could go into bankruptcy, impacting both pension recipients AND every other Kentuckian.

On the other hand, when you promise a workforce retirement benefits, you cannot leave them high and dry – Period! Especially when removing those benefits when they are in retirement or approaching retirement.

It’s more than a matter of policy, it’s the foundation of integrity and credibility of state government. How can government ask its citizens to follow the law when it does not?

Without doubt, this is a MAJOR issue with HUGE ramifications. Both sides have valid concerns.

But the problem is actually getting even worse—far worse; there are those who, in the midst of this course-changing crisis, are turning it into a political issue rather than a fiscal and moral one. In other words, it’s being made into a political weapon to get “this” person elected over “that” one and to un-elect “those” persons in order to elect “this” slate. This practice is tantamount to price-

gouging basic supplies after a natural disaster – a political party profiteering from a genuine crisis.

Literally, bold-faced lies have been spread. For instance, some teachers have actually been told that legislators have used pension money for something other than the pension, in essence, “raiding” the pension fund. That’s just a classic vilification of a group on the basis of a falsehood. It’s not true; the pensions are in trouble for two key reasons: 1) Legislators from both Parties ignored a warning by an independent actuary concerning enhanced benefits passed in 1998; and, in addition 2) some of the benefits that were expanded included medical benefits for life.

Does anything rise more rapidly than medical costs?

Last Spring, the House and Senate passed Senate Bill 151, albeit in a very clumsy way. (It was heard by the Kentucky Supreme Court on Sept. 20; the court is expected to expedite its decision.) But it gave teachers and those with pensions about 98 percent of what they were asking for. Yes, it did change what will happen to new hires, without a doubt, but the benefits were made secure

for those already employed. And some have pointed out that the new hires may actually make out better with the new plan set up for them.

So adequate were the provisions in SB151 that in April the Jefferson County Teachers Association asked teachers NOT to consider a work stoppage; rather, just accept the new arrangements because they couldn’t get any better: “Consequently, the Association does not believe this is adequate rationale to maintain the support needed to be successful in an

extended work stoppage, and such, it would be irresponsible and ultimately extremely counterproductive to attempt to do so.”

Now, Frankfort observers are watching Attorney General Andy Beshear’s “fight in court” against the bill that passed, but many are wondering if he’s just trying to rev-up the teacher’s union for the Nov. 6 election and get them on his side for the elections of 2019.

ANY WAY you look at it, Kentucky and all Kentucky state workers deserve better.

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MAJOR leaps forward since Jan. 2017!

The two-year record is replete with pro-family, pro-life and religious liberty steps forward after years of only “crumbs.”

Here are a few of the Pro-Family Victories in 2017:

Senate Bill 5 – 20-Week Abortion Ban (Pain Capable Ban):



SB5 prohibits an abortion on a woman who is 20-weeks or more into her pregnancy because medical assessments indicate that an unborn child feels pain by 20-weeks gestation. Passed Senate 30-6 and House 79-15.

Senate Bill 8 – Defunding Planned Parenthood (PP):



SB8 set up a tiered funding approach so that federal and regional health care clinics for women would receive Title X monies first – before PP. With this bill, PP would likely receive little or no funding. Passed Senate 31-6 and House 75-13.

Senate Bill 17 – Student Free Speech & Religious Liberty Act:



SB17 prevents schools K through college from infringing on a student’s right of freedom of speech or expression, allowing such speech or expression on the same terms as nonreligious and nonpolitical speech. SB17 protects the right to pray at lunch or refer to God in speeches or composition. Passed Senate 31-3 and House 81-8.

Senate Bill 159 – Civics Test for Graduation:



SB159 requires students in Kentucky public schools to pass a civics test before they can graduate. The 100-question test is taken from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. Students are permitted to retake the test as often as needed in order to pass. Passed Senate 37-1 and House 79-15.

House Bill 2 – The Ultrasound Bill:



HB2 requires that an abortionist do an ultrasound on every woman seeking an abortion and describe what the ultrasound imaging presents. If the abortionist can detect a heartbeat, he is directed to make that audible for the woman to hear. She may decline to look at or hear the ultrasound. Passed House 83-12 and Senate 32-5.

House Bill 38 – Prohibiting Sex Offenders on Public Playgrounds:



HB38 prohibits sex offender registrants from being on the grounds of a publicly owned playground without advance written permission. Passed House 91-3 and Senate 37-0.

House Bill 128 – Biblical Literacy Bill:



HB128 allows the study of the Bible in public school for its literary and cultural contribution to Western Civilization and American culture. The bill does *NOT* permit the teaching of religion. HB128 passed House 80-14 and Senate 34-4.

House Bill 180 – Child Placement with Fictive Kin:



HB180 established that the Cabinet for Health and Family Services may approve fictive kin as a placement for a child. It defines “fictive kin” as “an individual who is not related by birth, adoption, or marriage to a child, but who has an emotionally significant relationship with the child.” Passed House 96-0 and Senate 37-0.

House Bill 14 – Hate Crimes Against Peace Officers:



HB14 upgraded to a hate crime offenses committed against an individual because of that individual’s actual or perceived employment as a peace officer, member of a fire department, or emergency medical services personnel. Passed House 77-13-1 and Senate 33-5..

House Bill 524 – Human Trafficking:



HB524 includes *the promotion of* human trafficking as a criminal offense if the victim is under 18 and requires that the national trafficking hotline be posted in public schools. Passed House 81-0 and Senate 38-0.

Here are a few of the Pro-Family Victories in 2018:

Senate Bill 71 – Abstinence Inclusion in Public School Education:



SB71 requires that if a public school has a Sex Education program, “abstinence” from sexual activity before marriage must be included in the program as the only guarantee against pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. Passed Senate 32-5-1 and House 77-14-9.

Senate Bill 112 – Ban on Telehealth Abortion:



SB112 was designed to expand health care across Kentucky by using the Internet for doctor-patient interaction, and an amendment specifically prohibits medical abortions via a “computer visit.” Senate 36-2, House 65-20-15.

Senate Resolution 170 – Defending Dignity:



This simple resolution recognizes the connection between pornography, the objectification of women, and sex trafficking. It asserts that a public health crisis has been created. SR170 was adopted by the Senate by voice vote.

House Bill 1 – Adoption and Foster Care Reform:



In response to years of requests, by citizens, legislators and professionals, that the Adoption and Foster Care system be improved, the 2017 General Assembly created an adoption task force to review those systems. HB1 passed their recommendations. Passed House 94-1-4 and Senate 38-0.

House Bill 454 – Banning Dismemberment Abortion:



HB454 prohibits an abortion via dismemberment, bodily crushing, or human vivisection of the live unborn child 11 weeks or greater, except in the case of a medical emergency. Passed House 71-11-18 and Senate 31-5-2.

HCR 34 – Responsible Marijuana Research:



House Concurrent Resolution 34 urges the expedited research and appropriate approval of marijuana derivatives for medical use, in contrast to a rushed legalization. Passed House 73-5-20 but not the Senate.

HCR 93 – Internet Trafficking:



This House Concurrent Resolution urged Congress to close the loophole in the Federal Communications Decency Act (FCDA) that gives immunity to online sites. HCR 93 passed the House 83-15 on Feb. 23 and just 4 days later the U.S. House of Representatives voted to do so.

HCR 152 – Honoring Pregnancy Help Centers:



This House Concurrent Resolution commends pregnancy help centers for their services to vulnerable women and their families (free of charge and at no cost to the taxpayer). It also disapproves of actions to undermine the centers’ mission/religious integrity. Passed House 80-14 and Senate 34-4.

Trail Life USA: A new option for boys, parents

“...that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God...”

In the midst of the Boy Scouts of America's (BSA) shifting image and decline in membership, Trail Life USA has emerged with the vision of being the premiere national character development organization for young men which produces Godly and responsible husbands, fathers, and citizens.

While the Boy Scouts' membership declined nearly 18 percent between 2012 and 2016, Trail Life USA held an initial organizational meeting in Louisville, launched, and has grown to almost 30,000 members and over 750 Troops across the nation.

When *The Blaze* asked Mark Hancock, CEO of Trail Life USA, about the Boy Scouts of America in 2015, he stated, “I suppose one could conclude that our growth, though small in comparison to the huge numbers of BSA members, is significant when placed alongside their loss of membership in the same year. You can't blame their loss on boys losing an

interest in the outdoors or parents being interested in pursuing excellence for their sons, because we are growing on those emphases.”

Hancock went on to explain, “There are many differences in our programs, but the most significant is our commitment to traditional conservative values while they appear to be abandoning theirs. Maybe there is a message

there. It's entirely possible that it wasn't outdoor adventure that was causing the [Boy Scouts'] decades-long decline, it was their departure from the values that had made them exceptional.”

While the Trail Life USA program is undergirded by Biblical values and unapologetically reflects a Christian worldview, there is also a clearly defined inclusion policy for youth. Accordingly, all boys are welcome irrespective of religion, race, national origin or socio-economic status. The stated goal is for parents and families of



every faith to be able to place their boys in a youth program that endeavors to provide moral consistency and ethical integrity in its adult leaders.

“Many parents are concerned that their children are raised according to time-honored truths and needs. I can assure that we have no intention of following the lead of the Boy Scouts of America,” Hancock told WTVM News in October 2017. “We will continue to offer a place where the wildness and the natural tendencies of boys can be encouraged and shaped, for their good and for the good of society.”

Trail Life USA is adamant that being a male is not some sort of social disease that needs to be eradicated. In fact, they claim the need

for boy-specific activities and

mentoring that provides challenge and reward has never been greater. They believe that, properly channeled and intentionally challenged, the drive and daring of healthy boys is exactly what's responsible for much of what is right with society when these boys become determined, focused, and winning men.

This commitment to letting boys be boys and traditional conservative values has earned the praise of Franklin Graham (CEO of Samaritan's Purse), Ronnie Floyd (Former Southern Baptist Convention President), Todd Starnes (Radio and Television Commentator and Author), Dr. James Dobson (Psychologist & Author, Founder of Focus on the Family). (See below)

While the Trail Life USA program is undergirded by Biblical values and unapologetically reflects a Christian worldview, there is also a clearly defined inclusion policy for youth.



The Boy Scouts of America created the need

Allowed Gay Scouts in 2013

Allowed Gay Adult Leaders in 2015

Allowed Transgender Scouts in 2017

Announced in 2017 that girls will be allowed In the organization in 2018

Announced in 2018 that their name is hanging to “Scouts BSA “in 2019

Worthy of Honor

“When so many are falling by the wayside, I thank God Trail Life USA is committed to training up the next generation.” - Ronnie Floyd, Former SBC President

“Trail Life USA is a great Christian organization that helps develop character and leadership in boys and young men.” - Franklin Graham, CEO Samaritan's Purse

“Trail Life USA is a great outdoor adventure program for boys and young men.” - Dr. James Dobson, Psychologist & Author, Founder of Focus on the Family

“Trail Life USA is one of the most important organizations in modern American history. An organization that teaches young boys how to Walk Worthy.” - Todd Starnes, Radio and Television Commentator and Author

For more information or to find a Troop, visit

www.TrailLifeUSA.com

Opinion: The gambling industry weasels it's way into the most favorable position. It's very good at sleight-of-hand.

Don't trust those who covet YOUR money

The gambling industry has made regular attempts to buy its way into Kentucky. Its first attempts, in the late 1990s, were blatant about wanting to bring full-blown, mechanized casino gambling to the state. For several years, it distributed campaign cash to politicians, hired an army of influential lobbyists, and ran expensive television commercials trying to sell Kentuckians on the benefits of being financially exploited.



Martin Cothran is the senior policy analyst for The Family Foundation

At first, the state's horse industry opposed this, knowing what it could do to the state's horse culture. But after calculating that the casino industry was too powerful to oppose, it agreed to support expanded gambling if it got a share of the take. As it turned out, thanks in large part to the efforts of The Family Foundation, which has led the opposition to expanded gambling in every General Assembly session, it turns out the

horse industry was wrong. The gambling industry has lost every year. This may be why the horse industry has dropped its support of casinos in recent years.

But then the strategy changed. The gambling industry stopped advertising the fact that it wanted to bring in mechanized slot machines, craps and roulette. Instead, it attempted to sneak casino gambling in under the guise of "historic racing" machines, machines that purport to be a form of pari-mutuel betting on horse

racing, but which, in fact, are really just slot machines with videos or cartoons of horse races.

The legality of these machines has been repeatedly rejected by courts in other states. Their legality in Kentucky is still being litigated in an ongoing eight-year court fight, which has pitted The Family Foundation against casino interests.

In most of these cases, pro-gambling legislators have acknowledged that Kentucky's Constitution prohibits any kind of gambling other than pari-mutuel betting on horses, charitable gaming, or the state lottery. So, they have proposed constitutional amendments to change the Constitution, none of which has ever received support by our state's House and Senate.

But, several months ago, the casino industry got a boost from a Supreme Court decision that ruled against a federal law that prevented states from legalizing sports gambling. The casino industry

has jumped at the chance and is now engaged in a full-on campaign to legalize sports betting in Kentucky.

The first problem is with the idea itself. The legislation they are contemplating would legalize betting not only on professional sports, but college sports. Amateur sports are especially prone to corruption from sports wagering. In fact, even without the gambling aspect, money itself seems to be corrupting, as anyone familiar with the recent scandals at the University of

Louisville knows.

The increased availability of gambling in general, particularly if online betting is a part of the package, which many believe it will be. Not only will it be harder for the amateur athlete to resist the temptation of affecting the outcome of a game, but it will offer new and destructive opportunities to the underclass, who studies show often wager portions of the mortgage and food budgets on other forms of gambling. And young people could be tempted to add gambling debts to their already substantial college debt.

But there is a second problem. Lawmakers in favor of allowing sports wagering are trying to pass a simple statutory bill to do it, completely ignoring constitutional restrictions. If there was ever proof of the corruptive influence of big gambling money, this is it. No one else gets to buy their way around the Constitution. Why does the casino industry get to do it?

Kentuckians should be concerned about the increased corruption sports wagering will cause through the increased incentives for people to lose their money. But they should be even more concerned about the corruptive influence it is already exercising over our very form of government.



It's all about YOUR money!

If there was ever proof of the corruptive influence of big gambling money, this is it. No one else gets to buy their way around the Constitution.



The Kentucky Marriage Movement

Lexington, Oct. 2 - Nov. 20 *Tues afternoons*

Love & Lordship Series - Greg Williams
Blackburn Correctional Facility
3111 Spurr Road, Lexington, KY 40511

Louisville, Nov. 10

Sisters for Life: Marriage for Life Series - Greg Williams
Hilton Garden Inn
2735 Crittenden Drive, Louisville, KY 40209

Lexington, Oct. 29 - Feb. 12 *Mon evenings*

Love & Lordship for Men - Greg Williams
Lexington Leadership Foundation
422 Codell Drive, Lexington, KY 40509

Louisville, Dec. 11

Enhancement Class: Love & Lordship - Greg Williams
Forest Springs Health Campus Clubhouse
4120 Wooded Way, Louisville, KY 40245

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

Voter registration lists for the state moving toward parity.

Kentucky mixes blue & red

For the first time in memory, Democrats have fallen below fifty percent of all registered voters in Kentucky.

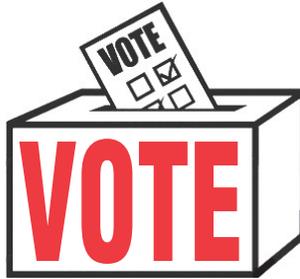
As of September 2018, Democrats accounted for 49.8 percent of registered Kentucky voters. That represents an eighteen-point drop since 1984, when Democrats accounted for 67.7 percent of Kentucky voters.

Democrat domination of Kentucky's voter rolls has dropped an average of 2.1 percent between each presidential election since 1984. The two most significant shifts have been a drop of 4.6 points between 1996 and 2000 and 3.7 points between 2012 and 2016.

A look at registration statistics from January 2017 to September 2018 reveals that the trend is continuing. While Democrats lost more than 3,000 registered Kentucky voters within that time frame, Republicans have added more than 61,500.

The changing landscape of the Commonwealth's politics is also evident by looking at the number of Kentucky counties with Republican voters in the majority. At the time of the 2000 presidential election, that count remained the same as in 1984 — only 29 of Kentucky's 120 counties had a Republican majority. In 2008, the count had increased by only a single county. Now, as of September 2018, Republicans enjoy a majority in 43 counties—an increase of 48 percent in ten years.

As many of Kentucky's previous Republican candidates can attest, voter registration does not determine the election outcome. But, it can provide a powerful indicator when considered alongside other factors such as voter enthusiasm and turnout.



The Kentucky *CITIZEN*

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Here's how **YOU** can be the “salt of the earth”

I'm just suggesting that you and your church get out and vote our Father's “family values.” God's people can lead the way!

Major decisions will be made for Kentucky and our nation on Nov. 6. God's people should not sit on the sidelines. Each citizen, *including each Christian citizen*, has been given a voice. Not to use that voice, when “our Caesar” is asking for input via the election process, would be tantamount to the Church refusing to be salty.

God's “kids” have been given the responsibility to be the salt, and part of that is the “prophetic” task of speaking truth into our culture. One way of doing that is by voting.

You have friends that need to be turned loose to reflect the values that you have imparted. Biblically speaking, our election should be much like that described in “*Choose wise, understanding, and experienced men, according to your tribes, and I will appoint them as your heads.*” (Deut. 1:13)

Your friends don't need to be told how to vote. If fact, they don't want to be told how to vote. They just need encouragement to get out and vote, and, when they do, to vote God's values. They should not “vote their wallet”, not their Party, not their association with this group or that group . . . but they should vote God's values.

This approach will help ALL people! Clearly, Scripture encourages us: “*When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; but when the wicked rule, the people groan.*” (Prov. 29:2) Part of our task as Americans (and as Kentuckians) is to help choose “the righteous.”

They should not “vote their wallet”, not their Party, not their association with this group or that group . . . but they should vote God's values.

To find out more regarding where the candidates stand, The Family Foundation has worked all summer long to interview candidates, record their answers exactly the way they responded and put them up on the state's largest and only truly nonpartisan candidate website. We call it the **Kentucky Candidate Information Survey**. The individual races can be downloaded, printed onto standard letter-size paper and shared at church or at any nonprofit group because the **Survey** meets IRS requirements of neutrality.

To reach well into your community, go to the **Kentucky Candidate Information Survey** website and encourage others to do the same. All you have to do is “**Like**” and “**Share**” it on Facebook so many more can get good information. Website and Facebook page are listed below.

Godspeed!

Facebook:

@VoteKentucky

Website:

www.votekentucky.us

P.S. We're in the middle of raising support to finish this year and for the 2019 General Assembly. If you can give, please do. Online: www.kentuckyfamily.org
Or mail to **The Family Foundation P.O. Box 911111 Lex., KY 40591**



Kent Ostrander is the executive director of The Family Foundation