

## Special Events

- **Wed Apr 3** [New Member Coffee Meetup](#)
- **Fri Apr 5** [Stockton Meetup and Discussion](#)
- **Mon Apr 8** [The Play](#)
- **Fri Apr 12** [Oakdale Game Night](#)
- **Sat Apr 13** [Stockton Brunch and Atheism](#)
- **Sat Apr 13** [Highway Cleanup](#)
- **Sat Apr 13** [Lodi Wine Stroll with appetizers](#)
- **Sun Apr 14** [Ancient Christian Study Group](#)
- **Sun Apr 14** [Holocaust Survivor Eliz. Igra](#)
- **Sun Apr 14** [Lodi Freethought Movie Night](#)
- **Mon Apr 15** [Book Club: God on Trial](#)
- **Tue Apr 16** [Free-thought Roundtable](#)
- **Thu Apr 18** [Free-thought Dinner](#)
- **Fri Apr 19** [Stockton Drinking Sceptically](#)
- **Sat Apr 20** [Dan Barker on Religion in Gov](#)
- **Sat Apr 20** [Potluck Game Night](#)
- **Sun Apr 21** [El Dorado Hills Breakfast](#)
- **Sun Apr 21** [Brunch with Dan Barker \(FFRF\)](#)
- **Sun Apr 21** [Turlock Brunch and Atheism](#)

Continued on Pg. 5

Sac Coalition of Reason  
Calendar: [sacramento.unitedcor.org/sacramento/page/events](http://sacramento.unitedcor.org/sacramento/page/events)

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Volume I, Issue 4

Issue Theme: Separation of Church and State

April 2013

## Dan Barker in Sacramento April 20

### “Should Religion Separate From Government?”

[CLICK HERE TO BUY TICKETS](#)

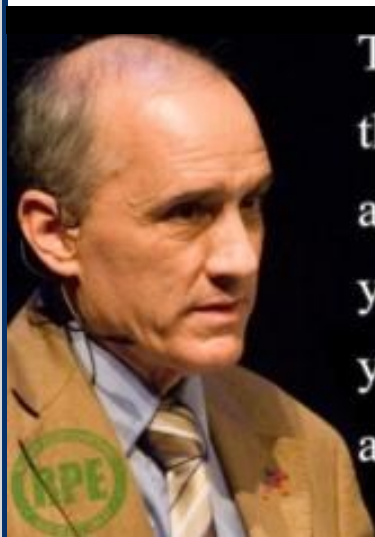
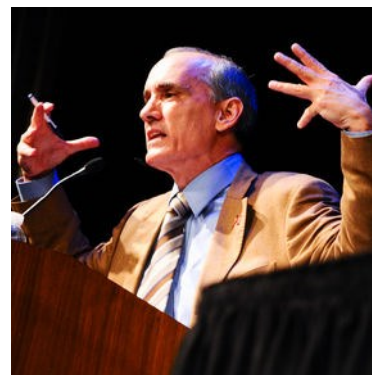
A former evangelical pastor and now the co-president of the [Freedom From Religion Foundation](#), Dan Barker is an atheist and advocate of freethought, and will be talking about the importance of separation of church and state on April 20 at CSU Sacramento, 2:00.

Mr. Barker will also be announcing the formation of a new chapter of FFRF here in Sacramento. This chapter was formed after one of our fellow atheists had to stand publicly and alone, fighting her nearby town on a separation issue last holiday season, illustrating an obvious need to bring FFRF to Sacramento. Monitoring our government is the purpose of FFRF. The most egregious instances often happen at the local level.

Tickets to hear Dan Barker are available online [here](#). Members of FFRF may join the local chapter by [emailing here](#). CSUS Secular Student Alliance is co-sponsoring this event with the Greater Sacramento Chapter of FFRF. Proceeds from this event help send CSUS students to the SSA Leadership Conference.

Existing and new FFRF members are also invited to an intimate Brunch with Dan Barker Sunday morning, on the river in Old Sac. \$20 covers everything. To join FFRF, [click here](#). Then RSVP for Brunch: [SacFFRF@gmail.com](mailto:SacFFRF@gmail.com). Details will follow.

You can watch an interesting video of Dan Barker addressing a crowd in Australia, telling of his “coming out” as an atheist after being ultra-evangelical. [Video here](#).



The very concept of sin comes from the bible. Christianity offers to solve a problem of its own making! Would you be thankful to a person who cut you with a knife in order to sell you a bandage?

Dan Barker



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In the beginning there was nothing, and God said, "Let there be light, and there was light". (Genesis 1:3) And there still was nothing, but you could see it.



Don't believe everything in print.

## Book Club

*God on Trial* relates the stories of six recent cases in communities that have become battlefields in America's growing religious wars. Join the discussion even if you haven't finished reading it. ... Our [2013 book list is here](#).

Open to everyone,  
[Coffee Garden](#),  
[2904 Franklin Blvd](#),  
[April 15 6:30](#).

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Sacramento Reason

## "Ask The Social I.Q. Lady" - A Christian Nation?

Dear Social I.Q. Lady,

What can I say to my Christian mother-in-law who insists the United States was founded as a Christian nation and should remain that way? -- Pete

Dear Pete,

While many of the founding fathers were religious, they wanted to create a government that allowed all citizens religious liberty. The Bill of Rights made it explicit that we are to have freedom of religion. That means no one is allowed to use the law to force religion on anyone else, or even a particular version or nuance of a religion. To do so would be a violation of one's rights in this country.

We live in a democracy. Christians should embrace that. Under a theocracy, state-sanctioned churches become puppets of the government. Some state officials might read the Bible literally (slavery, polygamy, strict observance of holy days, roles of women, etc.) and others allegorically (flat earth, geocentric universe, the flood story, creation story, etc.) This is of course assuming that Christianity would be the only state-sanctioned religion.

Ask your mother-in-law to which version of Christianity she subscribes. Ask her to imagine a government that enforced just a slightly different version. What if she believes in creationism but the state religion mandates evolution? What if Mormonism was the new state-sanctioned religion? Everyone thinks their version is 'right', and are eager to use force to control others, sometimes even creating differences for more control.

Separation of church and state protects the rights of everyone, especially believers. It allows your mother-in-law the freedom to attend the church of her choice without fear of punishment, even though she may pray differently or believe differently than what might become law under a similar version of her religion.

Freedom is the true foundation upon which America was founded. In order to remain free, we need to continue to maintain separation of church and state.

*Andrea Griffith is a Social Intelligence expert. Learn what to say and do to get the results you want.*

**Are you receiving multiple emails each month for Sacramento Reason?**  
**There's a reason for that.... You can help by subscribing, then waiting.**

We announce our new issue to every member of every local freethinking group, so if you belong to several groups you will receive several emails. The solution is to Subscribe to the newsletter. When our subscription list covers a certain percentage of all group members we will no longer mail to group lists. Our thanks for Subscribing and for your patience. Subscribe: [http://eepurl.com/ss6\\_D](http://eepurl.com/ss6_D) ... Thanks for spreading the word.

## US Religious Right Testing Takeover Methods in Uganda (documentary)

Our US lawmakers use Uganda to hone their takeover methods, including incitement to hate, beginning with gays, which rallies others to fall into obedience. Dominionism is their goal for all the world. Article about the film here. <http://www.godlovesuganda.com/> Watch for a nearby screening.

### New Member Meetup

**New to the freethinking community?** Come to this casual event for a quick overview of the community and plenty of time to just hang out and get to know each other.

- What SacFAN Meetup (event host) is and why we exist
- Other local, related groups of interest
- Recent news and announcements
- Upcoming events



Photos by Matt Martin

After that, everyone is invited to continue to socialize. Stay as long as you like. The sandwiches here are quite good. (Or \$1 donation)

Coffee Garden, 2904 Franklin Blvd., April 3, 6:30pm - 9:00 pm.

### “How To Discuss Atheism” - New Monthly Meetup on 4th Thursdays

Too often we are caught off-guard when someone brings up religion or atheism. In this supportive, friendly atmosphere of like-minded people, we will learn the tools of talking atheism. Feel free to just sit back and listen, or participate when you feel ready. Every level of experience is welcome.

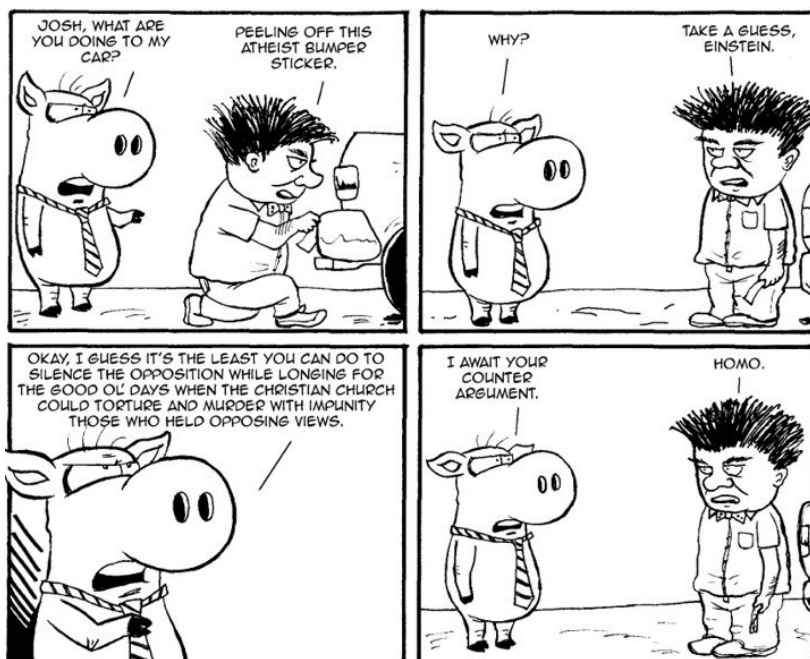
- Logical fallacies explained, with examples
- Problems with the Christian bible in particular
- Common believer comebacks
- Role Playing discussions at every meeting
- Why it's important to speak up when you're ready
- How to speak up in different situations
- Reading your listener - is each discussion worth it?

Every fourth Thursday of the month, hone your skills, share your experience, or just listen in.

The largest part of being well-spoken is being prepared. This is where you prepare.

Arcade Library, off Hwy 80 at 2443 Marconi Ave. 6:30-8:30 every 4th Thursday.

[More info here.](#)





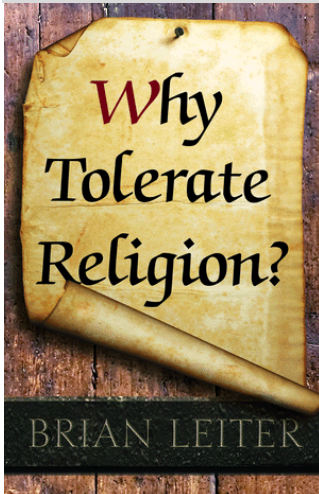
## Some popular 'Meet, Eat n Drink' Addresses and Maps:

Apr 13 10:00 am Brunch and Atheism: Panera Bread 10718 Trinity Pkwy Stockton [Map here](#)

Apr 18 6:15 pm Freethought Dinner: Three Sisters Mexican 5100 Folsom Blvd [Map here](#)

Apr 21 11:00 am Blasphemy Brunch: Mel's Diner 565 Howe Ave [Map here](#)

Apr 26 6:30 pm Skeptics in the Pub: Hoppy Brewing Company 6300 Folsom Blvd [Map here](#)



### Excellent New Book by Leiter

Governments are wrong to single out religion and religious demands as deserving any special legal protection. Leiter contends that the reasons for tolerating apply to *all* claims of conscience—and that governments are not required to grant exemptions of *any* kind, religious or otherwise, from laws that promote the general welfare. [Buy it here.](#)

### Freethought

#### Roundtable

Good discussion forum. [April 16, 7:00pm. Coffee Garden, 2904 Franklin Blvd.](#)

They have great sandwiches, too!

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## Potluck Game Night - Sacramento version

Who: Atheists and non-atheists all welcome. Bring a friend, roommate or honeypie.

What: Chatting, eating, playing, laughing. Sound good? If you have special dietary needs, let us know on your RSVP on the SacFAN website. People can just as easily choose one dish as another and most people are happy to accommodate.



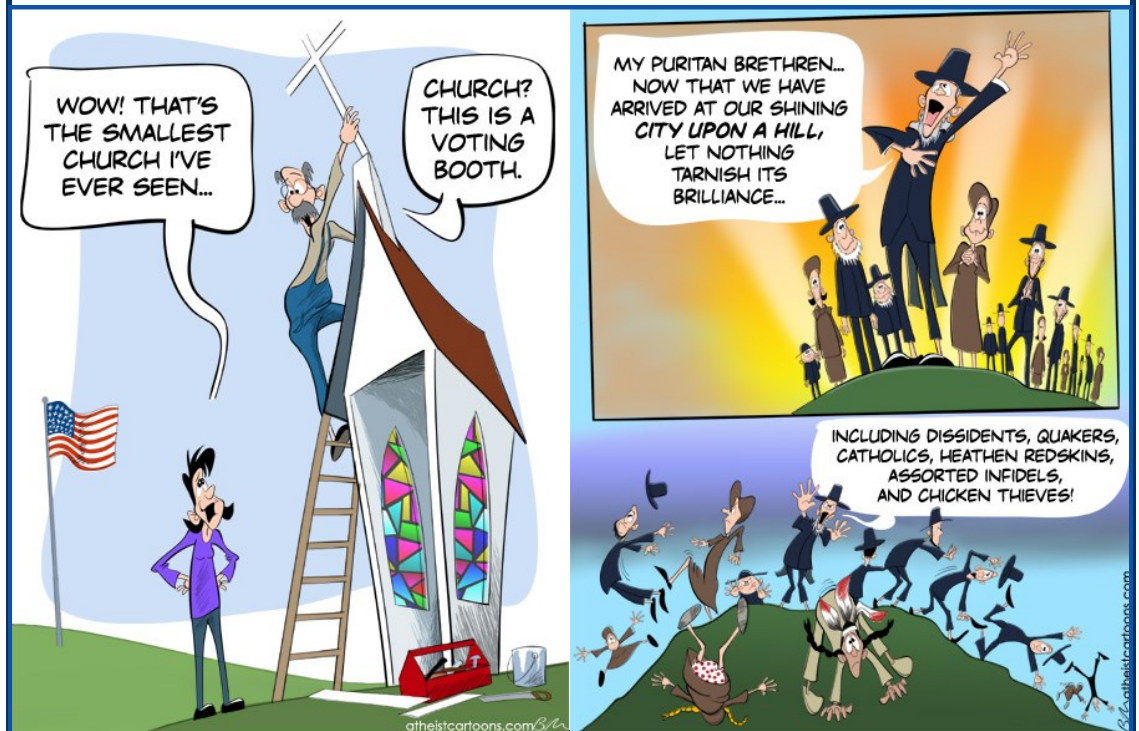
Photos by Matt Martin

Where: Find Spanos Ct on the map of your choice. Come to the end of that cul-de-sac and park anywhere in the parking lot or on the street. It's River Glen Apartments by the River and it's the only complex down there.

Don't drive through any gates! When you get there, give me a call on my cell and I will come out and get you - it's gated. [Details and cell number here.](#)



Also see Lodi Game Night. [Lodi details here.](#)



## Freethought Dinner—April 18, 6:15 pm

A fun dinner social for friends and members of the local community of reason. Feed your mind and feed your body, join your freethinking pals at the **Three Sisters Mexican Restaurant** 5100 Folsom Blvd, for good food, good drink and sparkling conversation about all things freethoughty! [Map click here.](#) Details click here.



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### Help Feed The Hungry

Help set up & serve those in need. April 30 4:30 - 7:00, Davis. Martin's Episcopal Church. [Details and map link here.](#)

### Highway

#### Cleanup

Help keep our Atheist stretch clean. Hwy 99 at Elkhorn. [Apr 13 9 - 11 am.](#)

### Calendar cont'd.

- **Sun Apr 21** [Blasphemy Brunch Arcade/Arcade](#)
- **Sun Apr 21** [Kathleen Barry on Unmaking War](#)
- **Thu Apr 25** [How To Discuss Atheism](#)
- **Fri Apr 26-28** [Stockton Asparagus Fest](#)
- **Fri Apr 26** [Skeptics in the Pub at Hoppy Brwg](#)
- **Fri Apr 26** [Lodi Godless Game Night Fun](#)
- **Sat Apr 27** [Ask an Atheist Old Cemetery Tour](#)
- **Tue Apr 30** [Davis, Feed the Hungry](#)
- **May 1** [New Member Coffee Meetup](#)

## Holocaust Survivor to Speak - A Legendary Opportunity

April is Holocaust Remembrance Month. *How* did it happen? *How could* it happen? Could it happen again? What would it look like in the beginning? It was not the first genocide, nor the last, nor perhaps even the worst. But it reflects them all, staining history's page like a bloody tear. Six million Jews murdered, that alone must stagger us, but it was not *just* Jews: gays, gypsies, the handicapped, atheists, humanists, war resisters, political dissenters, too. Many families completely decimated. A generation lost.

At this special meeting, on the day of [Yom HaShoah](#), Holocaust Remembrance Day, AOF will host speaker Elizabeth Igra, president and founder of the [Central Valley Holocaust Educators Network](#).

Now a retired educator, Elizabeth is a Holocaust survivor.

Together with her mother, Liz survived Nazi persecution by escaping from a ghetto in Poland, walking from Poland across Czechoslovakia to Hungary, and hiding there until the end of the war. Join us **April 14, 2:00.**

**Location :** Sierra II Community Center - Room 10, 2791 24th Street, Sacramento  
**Contact :** 916-447-3589, or click to our [Contact Page](#)



## Unmaking War, Remaking Men - Kathleen Barry, author

Dr. Kathleen Barry, having taught at major universities for over twenty years, is now a university Professor Emerita. An internationally recognized feminist/human rights activist, she lectures widely in the U.S. and abroad.



*Unmaking War, Remaking Men* introduces new concepts such as core masculinity and expendable lives. It exposes how the military prepare men as testosterone-based killing machines. She introduces new approaches to world peace and a new masculinity that is already in the making.

This promises to be an intensely interesting meeting. Your edible and potable contributions to the snack table will, as usual, be most welcome. Coffee will be provided.

**Sunday, April 21, 3:00pm - 5:30pm.** Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento (UUSS) at 2425 Sierra Blvd, Sacramento. [Details here.](#)





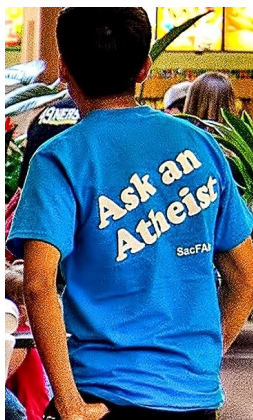
## Marathon - Atheist Relay Team

Can you do 1/4 Marathon in Sacramento next December? We're putting together an Atheist Relay Team, with bright "Ask an Atheist" tech running shirts! Email: [64spokes@gmail.com](mailto:64spokes@gmail.com) for more details. [Event website here.](#)



## "Ask an Atheist" at the Old Cemetery

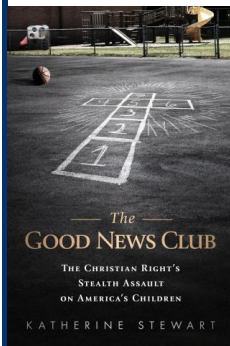
See where Mark Hopkins is buried, doctors who died during a cholera epidemic, our own Casey Jones who died saving passengers, founders, Donner Party, Mayflower family, and more. Inspirational docent tour. [April 27, 10:00am, Old Cemetery 10th & Broadway.](#) Buy your "Ask an Atheist" shirt there, \$10. Show everyone that atheists also care about Sacramento.



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## Why They Want Children

A baby elephant learns it cannot pull up the stake and chain, so soon gives up. As an adult, merely the feel of the ankle iron keeps the elephant in its pen despite the fact it could easily uproot stake and all with one gentle tug. So, too, churches know to indoctrinate their dogma early in children's minds. They worm their way into schools using voucher misdirection and other methods, hoping to instill fear, obedience and guilt early. Our local churches like to have services in schools, such as in Woodland and Folsom high schools, posting the link prominently on signs wherever they can.

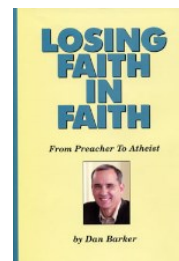
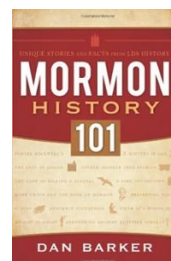
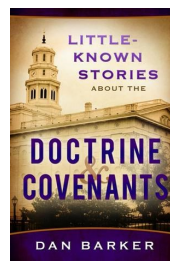
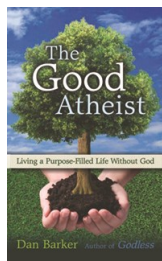
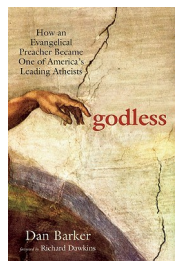


## Book Uncovers School Infiltration

The Good News Club bills itself to parents as an after-school bible study, but is an evangelical agenda to convert and use children to proselytize each other. The Supreme Court, in an amazingly biased misinterpretation, deems this simply free speech, therefore a legal infiltration into school, citing how it teaches morality - which it does not. [Order the book here.](#) See a video of Katherine Stewart addressing a FFRF national convention ([44 minute video](#)).



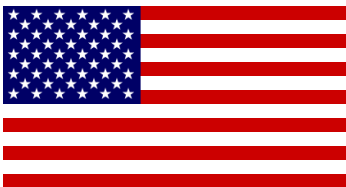
## Books by Dan Barker - Order Now



Having been an evangelical preacher, Dan Barker has a way with words. From describing his turning away from religion to historical accuracy to morality to finding one's purpose in an atheist life, Dan Barker has unique wisdom and insight he delights in sharing. Above are just some of his works. See Page 1 for information about his speaking engagement in Sacramento on April 20. [Do join us!](#)

# Local Groups to Visit or Join

Name	Emphasis		Tax Ded		Website
Agnostic & Atheist Student Association (AgASA)	UC Davis student group Meets Tuesdays, 6:10 great topics	Y		Y	<a href="http://agasadavis.wordpress.com">agasadavis.wordpress.com</a>
Americans United for Sep of Church and State (Sac Chapter)	Promotes individual activism, confronts violations	N	Y	National only	<a href="http://au-sac.org">au-sac.org</a>
Atheist Student Organization (ASO)	CSUS student group Meets Fridays at noon.	Y		Y	<a href="http://csusaso.wordpress.com">csusaso.wordpress.com</a>
Atheists and Other Freethinkers (AOF)	Events both social and presented, for growth and fun.	Y	Y	N	<a href="http://aofonline.org">aofonline.org</a>
Brights Action	Translate our naturalistic worldviews into constructive actions for school/library/media	Y	Y	Internat'l only	<a href="http://the-brights.net/">the-brights.net/</a>
FACTS Church	Church-like hymns, rituals, all the trappings in secular form.	Y	Y	N	<a href="http://factschurch.com">factschurch.com</a>
Greater Sacramento Chapter of Freedom From Religion Foundation	Protecting the constitutional principle of separation of state and church.	Y	Y	N	<a href="mailto:sacffrf@gmail.com">sacffrf@gmail.com</a>
Humanist Association of the Greater Sac Area (HAGSA)	Humanist events, speakers, focus is on doing good.	Y	Y	National only	<a href="http://hagsa.org">hagsa.org</a>
Sacramento Area Coalition of Reason	Directing the community to the various groups of reason.	Y	N	Y	<a href="http://SacramentoCoR.org">SacramentoCoR.org</a>
Sac Area Skeptics (SAS)	Promotion of skeptical thinking, awareness of reality, logical skills.	Y	Y	Y	<a href="http://sacskeptics.org">sacskeptics.org</a>
Sac City Freethinkers	Sac City College student group Meets every other Wednesday.	Y		Y	<a href="http://saccityfreethinkers.wordpress.com">saccityfreethinkers.wordpress.com</a>
Sac Freethinkers, Atheists and Nonbelievers (SacFAN)	Meetup for variety of fun, learning, singing, projects, games, activism.	Y	N	Y	<a href="http://SacFAN.org">SacFAN.org</a>
Sac Organization for Rational Thinking (SORT)	Discussions of rational thinking and science over mysticism and anti-rationalism.	Y	N	N	<a href="http://home.comcast.net/~kitray2/site/?/home">home.comcast.net/~kitray2/site/?/home</a>
Sac Think Atheist	Events, podcast, and forum to fight anti-atheism and gain tools.	N		N	<a href="http://thinkatheist.com/group/sacramentocalifatheists">thinkatheist.com/group/sacramentocalifatheists</a>
Secular Coalition for California	Train to engage media and lobby state politicians. Activist resource.	N	N	Y	<a href="http://Secular.org/states/chapters/california">Secular.org/states/chapters/california</a>
Secular Student Alliance or Freethinkers of Sierra	Sierra College student group Meets Thursdays at 1:00.	Y		Y	<a href="http://secularstudents.org/sierra">secularstudents.org/sierra</a>
Stockton Area Atheists and Freethinkers (SAAF)	Meetup events, variety	Y		Y	<a href="http://StocktonAAF.org">StocktonAAF.org</a>
Sun City Roseville Humanists	Humanist opportunities for our Sun City residents. Meets 1st Sundays from 1:00 to 3:00.	N	N	N	<a href="http://scred.org/sub_category_list.asp?category=98">scred.org/sub_category_list.asp?category=98</a>



We firmly support the United States Constitution and Bill of Rights, including the First Amendment: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion" and Article Six "no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States".

Save these 2013 dates:

**May 4** [Freethought Alliance Conf, Anaheim](#)

**May 30** [AHA Conf in San Diego](#)

**Apr 22** Earth Day

**June 9** [AOF's 20th Anniversary Dinner \\$15](#)

**June 15** [SkeptiCon in Berkeley](#)

**Aug 8-11** [Skeptic's Toolbox, Oregon](#)

**Oct 12** [Freethought Day Sacramento](#)

Can I make tax deductible donations? **Yes!**  
Many freethinking groups are 501c(3).

**We're on the Web!**  
[SacramentoCoR.org](http://SacramentoCoR.org)



**SACRAMENTO AREA  
COALITION OF  
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Photographer, Matt Martin

**Subscribe**

## This issue's theme - Separation of Church & State

All the other modern countries of the first world have pretty much dumped religion out of their governments. Their religious folks now worship privately, and religion is not much of a discussion. It's when religious people expect to infiltrate our government that they cause a stir among nonbelievers and believers who know better than to allow that. Atheists are generally complacent about other people believing in mythical tales and being superstitious, but when they want to get into our legal system with these beliefs - that's when a war occurs. We're not trying to destroy religion. We're trying to destroy religion in government. And they should, too, if they know anything about history.



### Examples to Remind You

A few religiously-based laws in the US: Anti-sodomy laws, anti-gay marriage, no alcohol sales on Sunday, suicide is illegal even in humane cases, anti-stem cell research, abstinence only sex ed, atheists cannot hold office or testify, when a fetus has rights, disposition of remains cannot be done privately even in a safe manner, holidays for Christian traditions like Jesus' birthday, parents allowed to let infants and children die instead of forcing medical attention, breast feeding, gambling is illegal in most states, prostitution even if safe and monitored, changing the US motto and more. We should be able to decide these without dogma. "Get your religion out of my government!" ([buy this phrase on a shirt at cafepress.com](#))





## Celebrating Beverly Church

Beverly Ann Church died unexpectedly in her bed at her mother's house in Rockwood, Tennessee on January 26. She was born on August 28, 1953 and raised in Baltimore, Maryland. She married an Air Force pilot, with whom she eventually moved to Edwards Air Force Base in California. Her husband subsequently died, following which Bev moved to Sacramento. She received her nursing credentials from Antelope Valley College and worked in that field her entire adult life.

Beverly was a vibrant and enthusiastic member of the Sacramento freethought community. She had many friends in Sacramento and was very well liked by all. She was a member of UUSS (Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento) and served as the president of AOF, vice-president of HAGSA, and chair of the Sacramento Freethought Day Committee. She always enjoyed Freethought Day (and the fundraising receptions she hosted on the eve of that event) and managed to pull a rabbit out of the hat when she got the Mayor of Sacramento to issue the first ever Freethought Day Proclamation in Sacramento. She also was active with the First Atheist Church of True Science (FACTS) and provided support for lawsuits that were designed to promote separation of church and state. Bev co-chaired the American Humanist Association's Chapter Assembly Committee and was subsequently elected to the AHA Board, where she was proudest of her work with the Publicity Committee. They developed and implemented a new media campaign to get the word out about Humanism in the United States in a positive manner. She worked most recently at the California Department of Health Services, but an on-the-job car accident seven years ago injured her back. She was never able to fully recover. She retired from the state in 2011 and moved to Arkansas to live with her son and his family. Then in 2012 she moved to Tennessee to help her mother out. She is survived by her son, Eric Lufkin, his wife Jessica, and seven grandchildren: James Terry, Dallas Lufkin, Daniel Lufkin, Eric Lufkin Jr., Clarann Lufkin, Memphis Lufkin and Austin Lufkin. Condolences can be sent to Eric Lufkin.



2004, with Mynga Futrell



2007, with Mel Lipman

Submitted by  
Tom Ikelman

## Special to *Sacramento Reason*

### FIVE RIGHT WING CHRISTIAN U.S. SUPREME COURT JUSTICES EVISCERATE THE ESTABLISHMENT CLAUSE

*by John Dunn, Freedom From Religion Foundation Member*

The majority of five U.S. Supreme court justices: Chief Justice John Roberts and justices Antonin Scalia, Anthony Kennedy, Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito are outright enemies to the Establishment Clause contained in the 1st Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

All five of the above named U.S. Supreme Court Justices are members of the Roman Catholic denomination of the Christian religion and are very obviously Right Wing Christian conservatives. These five Right Wing Christian conservative Justices, in 2007 and 2011, made rulings on two important Establishment Clause cases which, in effect, have nullified and invalidated the most important clause in the U.S. Constitution and have blown a large hole in Thomas Jefferson's doctrine of the "Wall of Separation between Church and State". The above named Supreme Court Justices have, by their decisions, provided the greatest assistance to the advancement of the ideology of the Right Wing Christian fanatics since they first became a noticeable element of the Republican Party in about 1970.

The governmental structure of the United States of America would have degenerated into a Christian Theocracy many years ago (possibly from day one) had it not been for the Establishment Clause in the U.S. Constitution and Thomas Jefferson's Doctrine of Separation. The Establishment Clause is the most important clause in the U.S. Constitution because all other clauses in the Bill of Rights (providing for the personal freedoms that we enjoy) were developed and exist because of the Establishment Clause. Under the despotic rule of a Christian Theocracy the personal freedoms provided by the Bill of Rights would not exist. The U.S. Constitution as it is written would not exist; instead, it would consist of a set of rules and laws totally derived from the Christian's Holy Bible and strictly enforced by despotic Christian Holy men.

Ever since day one of the ratification of the U.S. Constitution, Christian religious zealots on public school boards, city councils, state legislatures, etc. have engaged in continuous ongoing efforts to circumvent and/or violate the Establishment Clause. From the trial of John T. Scopes in 1925 up until 2007 the most egregious violations of the Establishment Clause were challenged and many halted by lawsuits. In general, with a few exceptions, the courts ruled in support of the Establishment Clause. Unfortunately, in 2007 and 2011 the above named five right wing Christian conservative Supreme Court Justices made rulings not in support of the Establishment Clause.

Prior to the 2007 case of *Hein v. Freedom From Religion Foundation*, federal courts including the Supreme Court had maintained a precedent existing since 1968 that Establishment Clause violation lawsuits involving the spending of taxpayer funds to support religious organizations had "standing" and could go to trial. In the aforementioned lawsuit, the five above named right wing Christian Supreme Court Justices reversed the precedent that had existed since 1968 and ruled that taxpayers in general did not have "standing" and they dismissed the case. In 2011 the same five right wing Christian Supreme Court Justices dismissed the case of *Arizona Christian School Organization v. Winn* by again ruling that the taxpayers in general did not have "standing" to sue. This is an example of the damage that can occur to democ-

racy and the U.S. Constitution when Right Wing Christians obtain positions of power in government. A Right Wing Christian President appoints Right Wing Christian judges/justices to Federal Appellate Courts and the Supreme Court. The Right Wing Christian judges/justices ignore the U.S. Constitution and make decisions to support the agendas of the Right Wing Christian zealots.

By their rulings in the aforementioned lawsuits the five Supreme Court Justices have essentially told Right Wing Christian zealots who control government entities that they can do whatever they want to do in regard to violating the Establishment Clause of the U.S. Constitution and spend unlimited amounts of tax payer's money to directly support the operations of Christian religious organizations. If anyone files a lawsuit against the unconstitutional expenditure, the majority on the Court will invoke the "Doctrine of Standing" and dismiss the case.

There are no words in the U.S. Constitution or laws created by the U.S. Congress describing the Doctrine of Standing. The Doctrine of Standing is a legal gimmick conjured up by the Court to give it a convenient device to get rid of cases that it did not want to hear or to nullify a clause in the U.S. Constitution that the (majority on the) Court does not like. The majority on the Supreme Court invoked The Doctrine of Standing to dismiss the aforementioned lawsuits because of their right wing Christian ideology; they do not like the Establishment Clause and wanted to nullify and invalidate it. Right Wing Christian zealots in general do like the Establishment Clause and Thomas Jefferson's doctrine of the Wall of Separation between Church and State, and very much want to eliminate both.

There is no reasonable explanation whatsoever to justify the actions of the Right Wing Christian majority on the Supreme Court to invoke the Doctrine of Standing to dismiss the aforementioned lawsuits. Both lawsuits were clear-cut, indisputable and unconstitutional violations of the Establishment Clause and should have been permitted to go to trial and each evaluated and judged on its own merits. The only explanation for the decisions of the five conservative Christian majority that makes sense is that their right wing Christian ideology totally overwhelms any concept of reason, justice and their oath of office to support and defend the U.S. Constitution. The ideology of the Right Wing Christians now reigns supreme over justice, reason and the words of the U.S. Constitution. The decisions made by the five Right Wing Christian conservative Justices on the Supreme Court now permit government entities to violate the Establishment Clause as they please. Lower Federal Courts are now denied the authority to rule that even unconstitutional activities of government entities are unconstitutional. Plaintiffs in lawsuits challenging unconstitutional activities of government entities in violation of the Establishment Clause are now barred from access to Federal Courts. The decisions of the five above named Supreme Court Justices have effectively nullified and invalidated the Establishment Clause; this is absolutely, totally wrong, and without any logical justification based on reason, justice or words of the U.S. Constitution.

#### References:

<http://www.supremecourt.gov> Hein v. Freedom From Religion Foundation. Also, Arizona Christian School Organization v. Winn.

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