

### Big Win for Eagle Forum and Free Speech for Everyone

As you likely know, Eagle Forum drafted a model bill and organized a coalition to support legislation, known as the VACP bill, to ban medical intervention for minors seeking to transition from one sex to another. After 3 years the bill passed this past session and was signed into law. The Act was immediately challenged by a group of parents as to its constitutionality in a lawsuit in federal court. The Department of Justice intervened as a party to the suit. In August, the DOJ issued a frightfully abusive and chilling subpoena to Eagle Forum seeking 5 1/2 years of our records relating to our advocacy of the Act as well as all communications with any member of the legislature, their staff, the Governor's office, the Attorney General, any notes describing our meetings, strategies and goals, all witness communications, every speech, every mass mail out, every media post, and more. All this and Eagle Forum is not even a party to the law suit.

We are grateful to Alliance Defending Freedom and for John Mark Graham of Phelps Dunbar, LLP for filing our Motion to Quash the subpoena on September 7, 2022, and for defending our right to petition our government. The public was overwhelmingly supportive of our motion. Many filed amicus briefs in support of our motion. One brief was signed by 53 organizations and individuals from across the country who say this is an attack on all our rights to advocate positions contrary to those the current administration holds. Attorney General Steve Marshall has defended the law. The case on the merits is not scheduled for trial until fall of 2023.

Justice prevailed when Federal Judge Liles C. Burke sternly reprimanded the DOJ and ordered the subpoena to be quashed in its entirety. We praise our Lord for this case of justice being served.



*May His  
perfect peace  
fill your  
hearts and home this  
Christmas Season.*

*Eagle Forum of  
Alabama*

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## Eagle Forum Foundation Banquet a Huge Success



**The Honorable Michele Bachmann**

The Eagle Forum Education Foundation held its annual banquet on November 15, 2022, at the Embassy Suites in Hoover. We had a full house and a wonderful program. Members gave our Eagle Forum President and Foundation Vice President Eunie Smith a wonderfully deserved recognition. Iva Hendon, our Action Group leader, received the Olive Spann award for meritorious service to Eagle Forum for her work in establishing, growing and leading the formation of our 19 Action Groups (and growing) here in Alabama.

We had a special visit by General Jeff Sessions, former Senator and Attorney General who encouraged and thanked Eagle Forum for our great work through the years for God and Country.

Our guest speaker was the Honorable Michele Bachmann, former member of Congress and now Dean of the Regent University School of Government. As a long time friend of Phyllis Schlafly and Eagle Forum, Michele shared how much Phyllis had influenced her life and career. She started reading the Phyllis Schlafly Report while she was in college and used it as a guide to forming her political philosophy throughout her career. As she said, if Phyllis reported it in a *Phyllis Schlafly Report*, “you could take it to the bank”. Mrs. Bachmann also expounded on the recent mid-term elections and the need to take the presidency in 2024. She warned us about the G-20 (world government leaders) and the B-20 (world corporate leaders) who are rapidly advancing their goal of a one world government and the Great Reset. She also told of the recent gathering of world “religious leaders” at the UN Climate Change Conference. Under the banner of “caring for the planet”, these leaders from all the major world religions, met on Mount Sinai in Egypt to unveil their plans for “climate justice” via their “ten universal commandments” promoting “climate-friendly” actions to reduce emissions and save the planet. It is a form of earth worship rather than worship of our true God.

She ended with a positive note bringing it all back to our faith in Jesus Christ and our need to stay in prayer and the Word and stay active.

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## UN Climate Conference 2022 in Egypt

The UN Climate Conference (COP 27) met in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt on November 6 through November 16, 2022. Developed countries agreed to create a fund to help developing countries pay for the catastrophic “consequences of climate change”. They agreed to set up a committee to design a new fund to fund developing countries who suffer events related to climate change. It has not been decided as yet which countries must provide financing and which will be eligible, but it is certain that the US will be expected to be a major payer.

Thankfully, their overarching decision does nothing to push the world toward more ambitious climate action—a decision that comes after an all-night debate over whether to call for a phaseout of all polluting fossil fuels. UN climate talks broke without fresh vows to phase out fossil fuels, an omission that officials and climate change advocates called a major failure of the negotiations.

According to the *Washington Post*, “The lack of consensus about stopping the use of fossil fuels—even at some undetermined date far in the future—revealed the deep divisions that remain about how urgently the world must take steps to avoid the worst effect of global warming.”

It seems the only thing they really agreed on is that they think climate change is a danger and that the U.S. and other developed countries must pay.

Source: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/climate-environment/2022/11/19/cop27-climate-conference-egypt-updates/>

Do you want to see Education Choice enacted here in Alabama? According to Alabama Senator Arthur Orr of Decatur, this is up to the voters. Orr, who chairs the Senate Education Trust Fund budget committee, addressed this on “The Dale Jackson Show” in Huntsville. He said, “I think it depends on the public.” He said that people need to let their legislators know and be earnest about it by emails, phone calls, letters, whatever. He added that a lot of what happens in legislative bodies is driven by special interest groups. And sometimes, a lot of times, those special interest groups have money. He added that if they feel like the public doesn't care about education choice, then the special interest groups will win out. We must be prepared to follow this issue and let our legislators know what we think.

*1819 News 11-13-22*

Alabama Attorney General Steve Marshall announced on November 14, 2022 that Alabama will be getting \$7.6 million of \$391.5 million from a 40 state settlement with Google regarding the company's location tracking practices. Google had been using location tracking technology to provide targeted advertisements to users even when the users had said that they did not want their location tracked. Marshall stated that “Google will be required to allow users to have more control of their own information, to easily turn on or off tracking or sharing, and Google must make their account settings more accessible, transparent, and understandable. They must provide links to clear and understandable information, and they must end any sharing of precise location data with third parties without express consent of the user. This historic settlement is an important milestone in restoring consumer online privacy.”

*1819 News, 11-15-2022*

According to the CDC, 564,000 people died from opioid overdose between 1999 and 2020. According to an annual report from the Alabama Opioid Overdose and Addiction Council, opioid deaths in Alabama rose sharply in 2016. They reached a high in March 2021 at 474. Alabama ranks in the middle of states in opioid deaths. The majority of illegal opioid use is fentanyl, mostly from foreign countries such as China and entering through the southern border. It is cheap, potent and easy to cut with other substances, but just two milligrams can be potentially lethal.

*1819 News, 10-3-2022*

Promises Kept! Alabama Secretary of State-elect Wes Allen has notified the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC) the state would withdraw from its system once he assumes office in January. Allen pledged to supporters on the campaign trail that he would end Alabama's involvement with ERIC, which collects names, addresses, and partial Social Security numbers in a centralized database. ERIC has long ties to Democrat organizations and was founded by George Soros. It is unclear what ERIC does with that information beyond its work with Alabama to maintain our voter rolls. Allen said that as he campaigned for office he heard repeatedly that people want us out of ERIC and he plans to set up a cooperative program with other state agencies to maintain our voter database.

*Sources; 1819 News and Yellowhammer News, 11-16-2022*

“None are so hopelessly enslaved as those who falsely believe they are free. The truth has been kept from the depth of their minds by masters who ruled them with lies. They feed them on falsehoods til wrong looks like right in their eyes.”

*-Johann Wolfgang von Goethe*

“The physician treats, but nature cures.”

*-Hippocrates*

“Illnesses do not come upon us out of the blue. They are the consequences of daily sins against nature. When enough sins have accumulated, disease manifests.”

*-Hippocrates*

“It is difficult to get a man to understand something, when his salary depends on his not understanding it.”

*-Upton Sinclair*

“No one is more hated than he who speaks the truth.”

*-Plato*

“The welfare of humanity is always the alibi of tyrants.”

*-Albert Camu*

“Deficient observation is merely a form of ignorance and responsible for the many morbid and foolish ideas prevailing.”

*-Nikola Tesla*

“We learn from history that we do not learn from history.”

*-George Hegel*

The above quotes are from the book Dying to be Free- How America's Ruling Class is Killing and Bankrupting Americans, and What to Do About It by Leland Stillman, MD



## **George Washington and Christmas**

By Rev. John Killian, Special Contributor to Eagle Forum

Christmas celebrations are a major part of our current American culture. A recent Gallup poll shows that 93% percent of Americans celebrate Christmas. However, only 71% percent of Americans recognize the religious aspect, down from 82% percent just a decade ago. Among those who consider themselves religious, 96% celebrate Christmas. Among those who say that religion is not very important, 85% still celebrate Christmas.<sup>1</sup>

Christmas celebrations have not always been a part of American culture. In the 1600s, Puritans boldly opposed any celebration, strongly condemning the celebration of Christmas as a time of revelry and drunkenness. Scottish Presbyterians boldly condemned the gluttony of Christmas.

But by the time of the founding of these United States, opposition to Christmas celebrations subsided. President George Washington would spend great sums in his celebration of Christmas. In fact, Washington's life could be chronicled by a recounting of his various experiences on Christmas.

In 1741, an eight-year-old George Washington watched as his home burned to the ground on Christmas Eve. Young George sadly spent his Christmas in a Kitchen outside their home. Young George saw disappointment in this sad Christmas.

In 1751, George Washington ate an Irish goose aboard a ship leaving Barbados in route to Virginia where George had visited his brother Lawrence who had visited Barbados thinking the warmer climate would be good for health purposes. As a young man, George faced loneliness at Christmas.

In 1755, George Washington was a warrior in the French and Indian War, facing a skirmish with French-supporting Indians on Christmas Day. Soldier George learned duty at this crucial Christmas.

In 1758, George Washington married Martha Dandridge Custis on Christmas Day. As a happy young married man, George Washington gave his vows before God and man, vows that he evidently kept. George Washington learned commitment combined with love. One year later, he was caring for his sick wife on Christmas Day. Washington lived out those vows "in sickness and in health" as he cared for his beloved Martha.

On Christmas 1776, Washington crossed the Delaware in freezing cold. This crossing led to the victorious Battle of Trenton. One year later in 1777, Washington was camped in the snow at Valley Forge. Half of his troops were sick or dying. These challenges in war taught Washington patriotism and duty.

In 1787, Washington paid 18 shillings for a man to bring a camel to Mount Vernon for a show. As his years went on, Washington made great celebrations at Christmas time. Washington celebrated, giving shillings to his servants, and enjoying great food and giving of gifts at Christmas time.<sup>2</sup>

Washington saw the celebration of Christmas as not just an opportunity for a holiday, but a celebration of Jesus Christ. Washington was a student of Christ, served as Vestryman in his Church and gave abundant references to his faith in Christ. On Washington's tombstone we find the words of Jesus "I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord, he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. St John 10:25-26."

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<sup>1</sup><https://news.gallup.com/poll/272357/percentage-americans-celebrate-christmas.aspx>

<sup>2</sup><https://www.mountvernon.org/the-estate-gardens/mount-vernon-christmas/george-washington-at-christmas/#:~:text=So%2C%20you%20might%20wonder%2C%20did,6%2C%20extended%20the%20holiday%20season.>

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# Another Major Win for Free Speech

## Campus Free Speech Bill Supported by Alabama Supreme Court

As you may recall, in 2019 the Alabama legislature passed a bill, HB 498, now codified as Alabama Code Section 16-68, called the Alabama Campus Free Speech bill. The initial draft of the bill was written by Eagle Forum of Alabama. We got Representative Matt Fridy, now a judge on the Alabama Court of Civil Appeals, to sponsor the bill and he masterfully carried the bill to passage. The bill provided that the “outdoor areas of a campus of a public institution of higher learning shall be deemed a forum for members of the campus community, and the institution shall not create free speech zones of other designated outdoor areas of campus in order to limit or prohibit protected expressive activities.” The bill goes on to say that “any person whose expressive rights are violated by a violation of this act” may bring suit to enjoin non-compliant university policies.

A group of students belonging to the Young Americans for Liberty and a UAH student filed suit against the University of Alabama at Huntsville (UAH) claiming that the university maintained its “free speech zones” while barring spontaneous expression in the other generally accessible outdoor areas of the campus in violation of the law. The suit was initially dismissed in the Madison County Circuit Court this past February. But



the YAF and the student appealed the case to the Alabama Supreme Court. Alliance Defending Freedom is representing the plaintiffs. On Tuesday, March 29, 2022, Eagle Forum of Alabama (EFA) filed an amicus curiae brief with the Supreme Court of Alabama in the case of Young Americans for Liberty v. St. John, University of Alabama at Huntsville.

As reported by *AL.com* on Nov. 19, 2022, “The court reversed the dismissal and remanded the case back to the Madison County Circuit Court and found the UAH policy violated the Alabama Campus Free Speech Act by creating free speech zones.” In the ruling the court said that the policy requiring permits for free speech events was “unresolved” and parties are free to submit evidence regarding its validity.

The article quoted Chief Justice Tom Parker who wrote that Alabama courts should independently interpret the state constitutional protections. He wrote, “Regrettably, state courts, including Alabama’s, have at times succumbed to blindly following federal constitutional interpretations in interpreting state constitution. In practice, courts should consider addressing State constitutional issues before determining whether federal constitutional issues must be addressed.” He further wrote that when there may be differences in interpretations between federal and state constitutions regarding such areas as free speech, Alabama courts have a role in highlighting deeply erroneous Supreme Court decisions and recognize that “an illegitimate decision is due no allegiance.”

Eagle Forum of Alabama is proud of our work on this important civil protection issue. We applaud the Alabama Supreme Court upholding our rights to express our political and other opinions in public forums. We applaud the UAH students Alliance Defending Freedom for standing against the woke policies of UAH and persevering in appealing the case to the Alabama Supreme Court.

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## Education Insanity or Heads in the Sand?

Emma Gibney, policy communications manager for the *1819 News* publication, has done a deep dive into the truth about the status of education in Alabama. She has reported her findings in an article they published on November 25, 2022 entitled “Education insanity: What the 2022 NAEP scores actually tell Alabamians.” As soon as the results of the 2022 National Center of Education Statistics ((NAEP) scores were published, we saw an avalanche of celebrations that Alabama scores are no longer last in the nation and touting that Alabama schools are “on the rise”, etc.

NAEP, often called the “Nation’s Report Card”, assesses what students know in various subjects. It is mandated by Congress and is a project of the National Center for Education Statistics and sponsored by the Dept. of Education. Gibney’s article quoted Governor Kay Ivey as saying, “This year’s NAEP results confirm that Alabama’s focus on core learning like reading and math is working and that in-classroom instruction matters.”

But what is the whole story? Although Alabama’s ranking increased, its test scores didn’t with the exception of one point out of 500 in fourth-grade reading from the 2019 NAEP scores. Our ranking improved only because other states performed worse because they had closed their schools during the pandemic. We went from dead last (52nd) to 40th in math. In reading we went from 49th to 39th. However, no states improved in math and the average reading scores fell by 3 points in 4th and 8th grades.

No matter the spin from the education establishment, the reality is that Alabama public school students test results aren’t far superior to years past but that other states performed more poorly because their students were for the most part not in school. If Alabama test scores actually fell, there is no way we can say that things have improved. All Alabama scores decreased for 8th grade math and reading. There was no improvement in 4th grade math. 4th grade reading was the only area that increased and that only by 1 point.

These results are not cause for celebration. They show that Alabama scores are the same or lower than 24 years ago. It shows continued failure to improve and that we are, in fact, on the wrong road. As the old saying goes, “If you do what you have always done, you will get what you have always gotten.” We need systemic change in Alabama.

As EFA continues to stress, that change needs to dump Common Core.

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### “Woefully Little Safety Data”

Those were the words used by Harvard University professor of medicine Mark B. Garnick in comments about recent *New York Times* coverage of growing concerns about the use of Lupron, the most commonly used puberty blocking drug by gender clinics. Professor Garnick was involved in studies leading to approval of the drug for the treatment of prostate cancer. Such drugs are promoted as a safe, reversible way for transgender-identifying children to pause unwanted development while they decide whether to pursue a gender change. But, in a letter to the *Times*, Garnick cites a range of safety issues with adult cancer patients on the same drug. He warns also about “significant bone loss in adults” and safety concerns about “cognitive, metabolic, and cardiovascular effects.” Such warnings are in line with what Eagle Forum found in researching for the VCAP bill. Hopefully, this bill will be upheld in court. (See page 1 story on VCAP bill).

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### American Lack of Fitness Has National Security Implications

Fiscal year 2023 is projected to be the most difficult year for military recruiting since the start of the all volunteer force in 1973. Every branch of the military is reporting extreme challenges in recruiting enough volunteers to fill their ranks. Not only are fewer volunteering, but there are fewer eligible Americans to recruit as the prevalence of obesity grows and disqualifies more people from military service. Potential recruits may be disqualified for reasons of education, criminal background, and health. Among the trends in disqualification, the major one is obesity. This year the Army announced a program to help potential recruits lose weight or improve their fitness. This is a good first move, but more needs to be done to improve overall fitness of our youth. The world is becoming more dangerous every day and we need a fit and healthy military force.

Source: *The Daily Signal* 11-5-2002

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## Exposing the Woke School Counselor Cabal

In our quest to improve education, Eagle Forum of Alabama is constantly working to protect children from the pressures that confront them on a daily basis. We see the indoctrination in the schools through the use of Critical Race Theory concepts; Diversity, Equity and Inclusion goals; and Social Emotional Learning. These are pillars of the whole concept to change the relationship between parents and children and thus to change our society. They are wrapped up in the concept called Culturally Responsive Teaching, another CRT.

Columnist Michelle Malkin wrote an article on this subject on September 14, 2022, published in *BizPac Review* that is right on target. In the article she wrote:

“Modern school counselors are zealous social justice meddlers bent on replacing parents and exposing your children early and often to anti-white, anti-American, anti-nuclear family propaganda. Speakers at the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) brag openly about being “master manipulators” of children and train their members on how to become an LGBTQ-inclusive school.”

She wrote about a group of parents called Courage Is a Habit, an action group founded by Indiana parent activist Alvin Lui. This group videotaped multiple seminars held at ASCA’s 2022 national conference in July. They collected conference materials outlining “learning objectives” such as being able to “define transgender, gender expansive and other important terms related to sexuality and gender identity” and “how to identify legal resources” for transgender and gender expansive students.

Malkin wrote that school counselors at the conference were also told to collect data and snitch on any student who is not transgender and complains about being uncomfortable with transgender and gender expansive students — complaints which ASCA deems a form of “bullying and harassment.” Courage Is a Habit also caught ASCA’s past president and current Ethics Committee Chairman, Carolyn Stone, laughing as she told attendees about a school counselor who took a child to a clinic to obtain contraceptives in defiance of her mother’s wishes. That counselor asked Stone for advice on what to do next. Stone gave a group pop quiz: Do you tell the counselor to tell the child “to tell her parent,” or “two, do you tell the girl’s mother yourself and confess,” or “three,” withhold all information and “hold your breath and pray?” The conference broke out in cackling laughter as they all voted for the third, parental autonomy-undermining choice, at which point Stone exulted that “you are all ready to be part of the ethics committee.”

Malkin went on to write:

“As I’ve reported the past three decades, the overriding agenda of the education elite and their ancillary left-wing allies in the nonprofit, corporate and government swamps is to drive a wedge between parents and children. That’s what the establishment of school-based health clinics was all about — as was outcome-based education, Common Core math, the infiltration of Big Tech, critical race theory and the entirety of social-emotional learning conditioning for which school counselors act as ‘master manipulators.’ Their. Own. Words.”

“As Courage Is a Habit’s founder Alvin Lui told me this week, ‘One of the biggest hurdles parents face is that schools hire third parties that deliver surveys, SEL lessons, resources, etc., and it’s technically not part of the ‘curriculum.’ So when parents say ‘let me see the curriculum,’ it doesn’t always look so bad but they aren’t aware of all these third parties. For the parents who are aware, they get stonewalled because they say that it’s a third party so the material is proprietary. In the same vein, school counselors are not a part of any K-12 curriculum or policy, but school counselors are trained in all these highly woke methods and ideas, and the school counselors pass that to children. Unless parents know who ASCA is and really dig, they have no idea where to even look.’”

Courage Is a Habit, a private, non-profit group, offers actionable tools and strategies for parents to defend their child from indoctrination in K-12 schools and to help parents and advocates push back against what is a massive and complicated bureaucratic monster. As Malkin concludes in her article, this includes efforts to indoctrinate students in the transgender cult, birth control and white guilt.

Their website is <https://courageisahabit.org/>

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***Eagle Forum of Alabama  
Education Foundation Newsletter***

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