

FLORIDA FAMILY ASSOCIATION

May
2006

FFA ASKS FLORIDA CABINET TO REPEAL "GAY RIGHTS" RULE

Florida Family Association (FFA) is calling again upon members of the Florida Cabinet to repeal the "sexual orientation" provisions in the Department of Education's Code of Ethics after the Florida House of Representatives voted unanimously (116-0) on April 26, 2006 to exclude such category from the School Safety Act (HB 535).

On July 21, 1992, the Florida State Board of Education added "sexual orientation" to the discrimination provisions of the Department of Education's Code of Ethics. The 1992 Florida State Board of Education was made up of Governor Lawton Chiles and the Florida Cabinet.

The Florida Cabinet amended "6B-1.006 Principles of Professional Conduct for the Education Profession in

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JUDGE RULES FFA LAWSUIT AGAINST HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY PROCEED

Florida Family Association (FFA) filed a lawsuit against the Hillsborough County School District when that government agency decided to block emails from Florida Family Association's supporters.

FFA asked thousands of people to send emails to the Hillsborough County School District Board members and the superintendent in October 2005 when these officials appeared ready to drop Christian and Jewish holidays from the school calendar.

The Hillsborough County School District decided to block emails from Florida Family Association supporters. FFA asked the school district to remove the block. They claimed that they removed the

Continued on page 3 ... Court Rules On FFA Case

MITSUBISHI DROPS ADS ON PLAYBOY SHOW AFTER RECEIVING EMAILS

In less than twenty four hours after Florida Family Association (FFA) launched an email campaign, Mitsubishi Motors North America stopped advertising on *E! Channel's* Playboy's "Girls Next Door" show.

Mitsubishi Motors North America was the leading advertiser on Playboy's "Girls Next Door." They were also the only automaker to advertise on the program. Mitsubishi did not respond to FFA's faxes regarding the program so FFA urged supporters to send emails to Mitsubishi dealerships.

See page 4 ... Mitsubishi Drops Playboy Show

LAMAR ADVERTISING COMPANY REMOVES TODD ADULT BILLBOARD

Florida Family Association asked several companies about a year ago to stop blighting our highways and interstates with signs for adult entertainment establishments that direct people to the porn industry.

As a result, Lamar Advertising Company has removed the Todd Adult ad copy on their Interstate 4 billboard as well as another Todd Adult billboard located on North Florida Avenue in Tampa. Lamar is the third major outdoor advertising company to stop doing business with sex shops in Florida.

Continued on page 3 ... Lamar Drops Billboards

VOLKSWAGEN DROPS ADS ON THE MAN SHOW

Volkswagen of America stopped advertising on G4TV channel's "The Man Show" after FFA faxed letters to Volkswagen dealerships. G4TV, a game show channel watched by millions of kids, is airing The Man Show. The Man Show is one of the most

See page 4 .. Volkswagen Drops The Man Show

CALL FOR REPEAL OF "GAY RIGHTS" RULE FOR STUDENTS

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Florida" to read: "(3) *Obligation to the student requires that the individual: (g) Shall not harass or discriminate against any student on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national or ethnic origin, political beliefs, marital status, handicapping condition, sexual orientation, or social and family background and shall make reasonable effort to assure that each student is protected from harassment or discrimination.*"

Homosexual activists have used and continue to use the "sexual orientation" provision of the Rule 6B-1.006 to convince school board members to add the "gay rights" policy for hundreds of thousands of students to follow in Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Hillsborough, Pinellas, Marion and many other Florida counties.

The political composition of the Florida Cabinet changed in 1998 after Jeb Bush won his bid for governor and other new elected officials took positions in the Florida Cabinet.

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YOUR SUPPORT IS THE REASON FOR OUR SUCCESS

The results of our efforts reported in this month's newsletter is another testimony to your support, prayers and participation. You are the reason for our success.

Many of you have supported our efforts for five, ten, fifteen or more years. Because of your faithful and generous support Florida Family Association has been able to achieve many of our long term goals which include: Influencing the removal of Howard Stern from television and conventional broadcast radio; Influencing twelve major oil companies to adopt and enforce contract provisions to prohibit the sale of pornographic materials at over 100,000 retail locations; Influencing more than 20,000 retail locations to stop selling pornography; Influencing over 3,000 companies to stop advertising on explicit television shows; and Influencing numerous other public policy changes that have benefited our moral environment.

We are involved in numerous other efforts with the goal of improving and protecting our moral environment. Your support, prayers and participation is the heart of this ministry and the key to our continued success.

Please pray for our efforts. And please help us to be strong in all of our efforts by sending a gift in the enclosed envelope. THANK YOU. God bless you and your family.

Sincerely,

David Caton, Executive Director



DAVID E. CATON
Executive Director

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COURT RULES ON FFA CASE

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block when in fact they had not removed it. The school district continued to receive emails from other citizens on the calendar issue. FFA's email server was the only IP address that was blocked on this issue.

Florida Family Association deemed the school district's decision to block supporters' emails but not the emails of other citizens to be a major affront to FFA's First Amendment rights. The First Amendment states in part, "*Government shall make no law ... abridging the right of the people ... to petition their government for the redress of grievances.*"

FFA could not allow this government agency to get away with blocking emails from citizens based upon the content of their message. This would be a bad precedent to allow. Other government agencies may likely follow this bad example. Government's obligation to respect and honor the First Amendment, among other virtues, is what distinguishes our democratic form of government from that of Communist China.

Additionally, the pro-family position on issues would suffer in strength of support if only emails representing our position were blocked. Assistants normally prepare reports for their elected bosses that summarize the number of "for" and "against" calls, emails and letters on certain issues. News organizations often times will report these "for" and "against" numbers to the public at large thereby influencing public opinion on such issues.

The school district's decision to block, censor and destroy FFA emails hurt our supporters' First Amendment rights, denied their voice to be summarized and included in reports to the elected officials and denied their chance of influencing public opinion through published reports by the news media.

Florida Family Association filed a lawsuit against the Hillsborough County School District in the U.S. Middle District Court of Florida in

November 2005 for blocking FFA's emails and violating FFA's First Amendment rights.

The Hillsborough County School District asked U.S. Middle District Court Judge Susan C. Bucklew to dismiss FFA's lawsuit on numerous grounds. However, Judge Bucklew denied their request on Friday, April 21, 2006. The judge ruled that FFA's lawsuit may move forward to seek damages against the school district for violating FFA's First Amendment rights to petition government for grievances.

G. Donovan Conwell, Jr. with Conwell, Sukhia & Kirkpatrick, P.A. (csklawfirm.com) is representing Florida Family Association in this lawsuit. Mr. Conwell has successfully represented Florida Family Association in numerous other lawsuits involving our First Amendment rights since 1990.

LAMAR DROPS BILLBOARDS

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Florida Family Association influenced Viacom Outdoor, Inc. (now CBS Outdoor, Inc.) late last year to remove a dozen adult bookstore billboards (X-Mart) in Central Florida and several billboards for a nude club (Rachel's) in South Florida.

Now the three largest billboard companies in Florida, CBS Outdoor, Inc., Clear Channel Outdoor, Inc. and Lamar Advertising Company have policies against accepting billboard advertisements from adult entertainment establishments.

Florida Family Association is working to influence the following companies to stop blighting our highways with billboard advertisements for the respective sexually oriented businesses near the respective cities:

Moseley Outdoor Advertising
Adult Business: Cosmic Kiss
Location: Fort Pierce, Florida

Lakeland Outdoor Advertising
Adult Business: Show Girls
Location: Plant City, Florida

SG Outdoor – Champion Outdoor Advertising
Adult Business: Todd Adult
Location: Tampa, Florida

MITSUBISHI DROPS PLAYBOY SHOW

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Dan Irvin, Director of Corporate Communications with Mitsubishi Motors North America email response stated in part, *"Our media buying agency has contacted E!, at our direction, and we have asked that our advertising no longer appear on this program. We will continue to advertise on the E! network - but have asked that the program "Girls Next Door" be put on our "do not air" list for all future airings on their network."*

Florida Family Association supporters have influenced One Hundred Forty Seven (147) companies to stop advertising on Playboy's *"Girls Next Door."*

VOLKSWAGEN DROPS THE MAN SHOW

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pornographic and degrading shows ever aired on unrestricted advertiser supported television. Many children who tune in to watch the video gaming on G4TV may be unnecessarily exposed to The Man Show's pornographic, degrading and irresponsible content.

Volkswagen, a leading advertiser on *The Man Show*, did not respond to FFA's letters regarding the program so FFA faxed letters to Volkswagen dealerships describing The Man Show's degrading content.

Karen Marderosian, Director of Marketing Communications with Volkswagen of America response letter stated in part, *"We are in agreement with the concerns centered around content that glorifies blatantly lewd or irresponsible behavior. This type of placement is not in keeping with the values we attribute to our brand."*

Florida Family Association supporters have influenced over Fifty (50) companies through email campaigns to stop advertising on The Man Show.

Are you receiving FFA's Email Alerts?

Thousands of citizens have signed up to receive email alerts from Florida Family Association (FFA). Citizens participating in FFA's email campaigns have helped to influence numerous victories. To sign up, simply log onto www.floridafamily.org, click on the button labeled "Email Updates" in the left hand column. After reading the information on how the system works, click on the "Register" or "Sign Up" button and complete the form.

CALL FOR REPEAL OF "GAY RIGHTS" RULE FOR STUDENTS

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FFA began urging members of the Florida Cabinet in 1999 to repeal the "sexual orientation" provision adopted by the previous cabinet. FFA informed Florida Cabinet members that homosexual activists were using Rule 6B-1.006 to advance their extremist agenda in a manner that affected hundreds of thousands of students across Florida.

Unfortunately, political conditions in subsequent years prevented members of the Florida Cabinet from taking action to repeal the "sexual orientation" provisions of Rule 6B-1.006.

However, the Florida House of Representatives voted unanimously (116-0) on April 24, 2006 to approve the Student Safety Act. The Student Safety Act prescribes that school boards adopt policies that prohibit students from discriminating against or bullying other students in GENERAL TERMS without the use of the "sexual orientation" category that gives special status to homosexuality. Florida Representatives made it clear by their vote that such categories detract from protecting all students from all forms of harassment.

PLEASE SEND THE ENCLOSED POSTCARD or write a personal letter to urge Florida Chief Financial Officer Tom Gallagher and Florida Attorney General Charlie Crist, current members of the Florida Cabinet, to repeal the "sexual orientation" category from State Board of Education Rule 6B-1.006.

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