

# ISSUES YOU NEED 2022 LEGISLA



## CRITICAL RACE THEORY

Critical Race Theory and Cultural Marxism are spreading across the United States, but they do not have a place in South Carolina education. Lawmakers will be working to remove its inclusion, in any form, in our state's schools.



## PRO-LIFE LEGISLATION

After the passing of the Heartbeat Bill in 2021, the new pro-life agenda will expand to include opportunities for foster and adoptive care, as well as provisions to address the expanded availability of chemical abortions.



## SAVING WOMEN'S SPORTS

The growing "war on women" continues for the political Left. As Christian conservatives, we must ensure that our young girls are competing on an even playing field and not being trampled on to advance the LGBTQ+ agenda.



## RELIGION IS ESSENTIAL

As many of us realized during the pandemic, gathering with our church family is essential. In South Carolina, we must ensure that religious freedom is protected, no matter the situation.

# TO KNOW FOR THE ATIVE SESSION

## MEDICAL MARIJUANA

While some view the legalization of marijuana as the next logical step in medical care, we must understand that similar legislation has been detrimental in other states.



## HATE CRIMES LEGISLATION

In order to protect religious freedom for all businesses and citizens, we must avoid any legislation that demonizes Judeo-Christian values and establishes new classifications for people in South Carolina law.



## MEDICAL RIGHTS OF CONSCIENCE

Physicians and counselors have the right to be protected from strong-arming by the political Left. Medical Rights of Conscience protections added to South Carolina's Code of Laws will protect medical and counseling professionals across our state from having to perform procedures and therapies that violate their conscience.



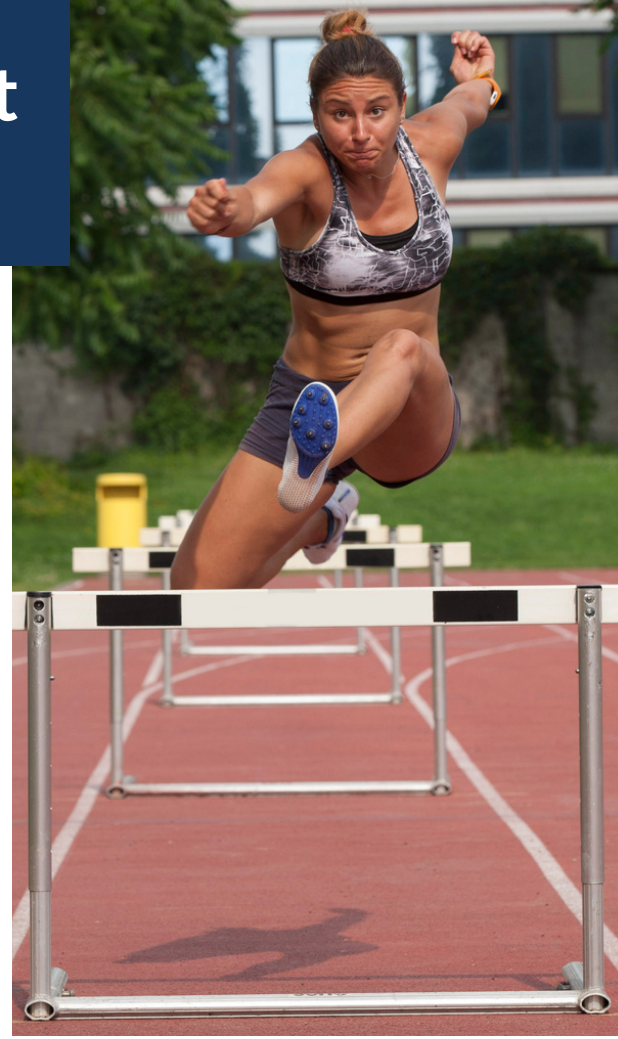
## EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

Parents across our state have the right to choose what type of learning environment positively impacts their children. Expanding educational choice is vital to building greater parental involvement in education.



**PALMETTO  
FAMILY**

# South Carolina Must Protect Our Women and Girls



By Tonya Shellnut

In 1972, Title IX was signed into law. Since then, it has helped ensure that women have equal access to educational opportunities, whether they be in the classroom, on campus, or on the athletic field.

Unfortunately, after nearly 50 years protecting women and girls, Title IX is now being threatened by policies that permit males to take away the opportunities and benefits for women. By including “gender identity” in educational nondiscrimination policies across the country, education officials have started to allow males to compete on women’s athletic teams—in direct contradiction to the stated purpose of Title IX.

This includes South Carolina. The South Carolina High School League issued guidelines to its member schools, requiring them to allow

males who identify as female to participate in women’s sports.

Allowing males to compete against women and girls destroys fair competition and shatters athletic opportunities for female athletes.

In athletics, biological sex is not only relevant, it is generally the key difference-maker. Given the well-documented athletic performance disparity between men and women, it ignores scientific reality to claim that an athlete with male genetics and male physiology can nonetheless compete against biological girls without consequence.

Men have larger hearts and lungs, denser bones, and stronger muscles. A recent study published in Sports Medicine found that male athletes consistently achieve performances 10% to 50% better than comparably fit and trained female athletes, depending on the sport.

This performance disparity is glaringly obvious when one examines male and female athletic world records. For example, sprinter Allyson Felix is one of the most well-known and accomplished female athletes of our time, holding more World Championship medals than any other person in history.

However, her lifetime best 400m run time of 49.26 seconds was defeated by 15,000 men and boys around the world, in 2017 alone. It would only take a few male athletes (they could even be high school boys) to knock Allyson Felix off her World Championship podium.

Despite what opponents might say, this is about biology, not bigotry. And it is not discrimination to point out these significant and scientifically measurable differences between men and women. In fact, ignoring those differences leads to discrimination against women.





Indeed, we are seeing more and more instances of women being forced to compete against men in sports in both high school and college athletics. Take what's happened in Connecticut with female athlete Chelsea Mitchell. Two male athletes start competing on a female team under a Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) policy.

As a result, Chelsea lost four state championship titles to male athletes. But Chelsea wasn't the only girl affected by this—these two males have won 15 women's track championship titles between 2017-2019 that were once held by nine different girls. Moreover, Connecticut girls have lost over 85 opportunities to advance to higher levels of competition.

And in Idaho, collegiate athletes Madison Kenyon and Mary Kate Marshall were forced to compete against a male athlete in their women's collegiate cross country and track events. Both girls had the deflating experience of running against and losing to that male athlete and being knocked down a placement level because of that athlete's participation. No girl should have to go through what Chelsea, Madison, or Mary Kate faced on the track. It's why Title IX was written in the first place: to create equal athletic and educational opportunities for women and allowing women's divisions in sports. Since the enactment of Title IX, female participation in high school

sports has grown by 1057% and by 614% at the college level.

All of these gains in female athletics are jeopardized when we deny the science and allow boys to compete in girls' sports. And as demonstrated above, it doesn't take a mass of male athletes competing in female events to destroy the accomplishments of female athletes—it only takes one.

Thankfully, this crisis has not gone unanswered. Since 2020, eight states have taken a stand for fairness in women's sports by enacting legislation that ensures that women and girls can compete on a level playing field.

These bills are a rational response to the nonsensical claim that males can compete against girls without consequence. What's more, polling has demonstrated that the average person finds legislation like this to be completely reasonable.

In a poll of 3,500 Americans from Women's Liberation Front, a feminist group that supports these legislative efforts, fewer than 20% of respondents supported allowing males to compete in women's sports. Another poll from the social-conservative advocacy group American Principles Project had similar findings.

These legislative initiatives are popular, logical, and necessary. So, it begs the question: why hasn't South Carolina enacted these protections?



This year, the South Carolina legislature had the opportunity to join those eight states with its own bill: the Save Women's Sports Act. This law would protect opportunities for women and girls in athletics by ensuring they are not forced to compete against men playing on women's sports teams.

Despite the popularity and necessity of this bill, South Carolina legislators have killed the bill, leaving it in the Republican-controlled House Judiciary Committee.

All South Carolina women—from kindergarten to college—deserve to compete on a level playing field. Allowing males to compete in women's sports destroys fair competition and women's athletic opportunities.

As a mother of female athletes, this legislation is personal for me. I want my daughters to be able to step on to the court and up to the starting line knowing their hard work and training will pay off. If males are included on their teams, that fair competition is gone.

It's time for South Carolina to step up and protect all women and girls by passing this vital legislation.

*Tonya Shellnut serves as State Government Relations Director at Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF), the world's largest religious liberty advocacy organization. She and her husband have been married for 24 years and have five children.*





# THE PUSH TO THE CULTURAL EDGE

By Dave Wilson

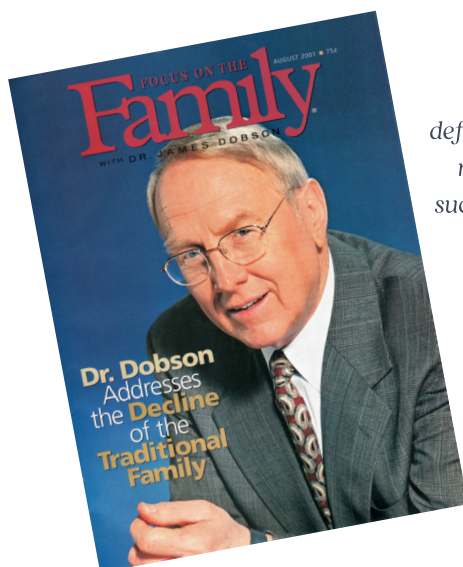
Every few years, our family faces the inevitable “Spring Cleaning” that turns up some of the oddest bits of history.

Emptying a file cabinet chocked full of financial statements and decades-old tax forms the other week, I came across the August 2001 edition of Focus on the Family Magazine. At some point, it had slid into a file folder in the back of the top drawer, not to see the light of day for 20 years.

Before I could begin thumbing through the pages, the title story caught my attention: “Dr. Dobson Addresses the Decline of the Traditional Family.”

I thought, “What would the observations from the founder of Focus on the Family on the ‘Decline of the Traditional Family’ say about today’s society that is careening toward the edge of the cultural cliff?”

Flipping open the magazine, centered within the article, I found this subheading: “How does the gay and lesbian agenda threaten the family?” Amazingly, Dr. Dobson’s 20 year-old answers were more prophetic than anyone could have realized.



*“First, it is attempting to destroy the definition of marriage as being between one man and one woman. If homosexuals are successful, marriage will lose its meaning. If it is not exclusively between one man and one woman, then any combination of temporary relationships could qualify, such as two men and three women. Polygamy itself would be legal. In short, if marriage means everything, then it ultimately means nothing.”*



*“Second, homosexual activists have targeted children and youth with the objective of capturing their hearts and minds. Public schools in California and Massachusetts, in particular, appear to be moving relentlessly in that direction. In some curricula, children are taught that homosexual behavior is acceptable and that traditional moral perspectives are hate-filled and bigoted. We must be diligent to oppose those initiatives.”*

His prediction that we would be considered “hate-filled and bigoted” is more than accurate. In fact, the LGBTQ+ agenda is running a head-on assault on the traditionally moral and Biblical worldview. Deliberately, the sexually pervasive movement of our day is intent on destroying the traditional, Biblical family. But they’re not alone.

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### **...homosexual activists have targeted children and youth with the objective of capturing their hearts and minds.**

*~Dr. James Dobson, August 2001*

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As Vivek Ramaswamy, author of the book *WOKE, INC: Inside Corporate America's Social Justice Scam*, says, “Stakeholder capitalism — the trendy idea that companies should serve not just their shareholders but also other interests and society at large — was no longer simply on the rise. It had been crowned as the governing philosophy for big business in America.”

In December, *Decision Magazine* featured an article on the new wokeness of corporate America. Speaking of the financial industry, the article said...

“Nasdaq, the world’s second-largest stock exchange, has proposed a ‘diversity rule’ that would require all U.S. companies to have a least one director who is an underrepresented racial minority or who self-identifies as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or as a member of the “queer” community in order to be listed on the exchange. The rule would also require all listed U.S. companies to have a least one director who self-identifies as female, without regard to the individual’s designated sex at birth.”

The unrelenting push towards supposed inclusivity is not just on the macro level with corporations setting the trends and tone of American discourse. It’s at the micro level — right in our own backyard in South Carolina — where LGBTQ+ partners are riding the Woke corporate wave right to the State House, with the “+” adding to their numbers daily.

In fact, in a June 12, 2021 article in *The State Newspaper* — “Despite waves of anti-LGBTQ efforts, SC advocates say they’re stronger than ever” — the state’s LGBTQ+ coalition spelled out the full-scale efforts they are taking to impact legislation in South Carolina.

*LGBTQ supporting organizations banded together to form a coalition: SC United for Justice and Equality. Members range from groups that specifically target the queer community — like the Alliance for Full Acceptance, the Campaign for Southern Equality, SC Pride and others — to groups that also focus on other issues, such as the ACLU of South Carolina, Planned Parenthood South Atlantic and the Women’s Rights and Empowerment Network.*

*They hired a lobbyist to work on their behalf at the State House. They brought dozens of queer folks and allies to deliver hours of testimony to lawmakers on why the bills they were considering were harmful. They held outside meetings between lawmakers and transgender children to talk face-to-face about the issues.*

Their campaign strategy is simple: continuously rebrand efforts by conservatives to demonstrate just how “hate-filled and bigoted” they are. The fight to Save Women’s Sports they say is to “bar transgender girls from participating in women’s sports.” The ability to protect minors from life-altering sex modification procedures and therapies they claim is to “ban doctors from providing gender affirming care to minors.”

The manipulation of language is seconded only by the absolute virtue signaling of corporate America. But our ability to preserve the culture that reflects Biblical values and a conservative worldview is dependent on each of us recognizing our opportunity to be the reflectors of Jesus Christ in our communities as we stand together as the cultural guardrail of our state.

*If you want to connect on this and other important issues facing our state, text the word “Guardrails” to 76076 and join with other conservatives across our state as a part of Palmetto Family*



# AN ECONOMIC STRATEGY TO

By Senator Josh Kimbrell

A strong culture contributes to a strong economy, and a strong economy supports a strong culture.

Typically, those who support pro-life and pro-family policy also support pro-economic growth and limited government. It's why I've long believed that fiscal and social conservatism go hand-in-hand – that each of the halves of this policy equation reinforce the other.

History shows us that if you simply overlay the spread of the Protestant Reformation on a map, you will clearly see how a Judeo-Christian social and economic ethic influences the ideology, foundations, and impact of a culture.

The backbone of any strong society is grounded in God's creation of the family, and families need economic opportunity to grow, thrive, and pass along an inheritance to the next generation. One way to accomplish this is reducing the tax burden on families, allowing them to keep more of what they earn.

As the legislature returns, I will be introducing the Tax Reform and Job Creation Act of 2022 that will not only eliminate state corporate income taxes, but also cut individual income taxes in half.

This will be the largest tax reform plan South Carolina has seen in more than 50 years, unleashing economic opportunity and supporting families and family-owned businesses in every county.

Why is this so important?

By eliminating state corporate income taxes – including those on family-owned LLCs, S-Corps, and sole proprietorships – our state will be able to build on the success of local businesses.

We will encourage additional investment, capital development, and economic infrastructure.

We will be able to provide jobs and opportunity for millions of South Carolinians.

Best of all, we will be able to protect our state's culture by leveling the economic playing field and ending the decades-old economic incentives catering that our state has had to do for large out-of-state companies that too often disagree with our values and culture.

It's not just companies that will benefit, though. Families will be directly impacted. By cutting the top tax rate in half – from 7% to 3.5% – and retaining the standard deduction, this tax cut will take financial pressure off of hard-working South Carolina families and provide greater stability at home.



# SAVE OUR STATE'S CULTURE

It will get the government out of the way of families fighting to succeed in our rapidly changing economic environment. But cutting income rates is not enough.

This tax reform will maintain the current sales tax rate while putting an end to hundreds of special interest sales tax exemptions that lobbyists have fought to maintain for decades.

By eliminating these exceptions, we will build on the economic impact of our state's number one industry – tourism – and bring in more than enough revenue from out-of-state visitors to cut income taxes at home without sacrificing a single dollar for education, infrastructure, healthcare, or other essential state services.

This is something that every single family and family-owned business in South Carolina needs. It will not only ensure that we grow our state's economy, but it will allow us to preserve the unique culture of faith, family, and freedom we have here in the Palmetto State.

Sen. Josh Kimbrell serves the 11th Senate District from Spartanburg County. A former conservative radio talk show host, Sen. Kimbrell is a charter aviation executive with Exodus Aircraft. He and his wife Liliya are parents to two boys.





# South Carolina's Marijuana Crisis

By Chief Mark Keel

I've been in law enforcement for 42 years. I've worked the streets as a narcotics agent. I know the evil that exists in this world.

When I look at the impact that something as "simple" as marijuana has done to communities, impacting people's lives, I shudder at the thought of doing anything to legalize it in South Carolina.

Since the 1970 Controlled Substances Act, marijuana has been labeled as a Schedule I drug – no different than opioids and fentanyl which have deadly outcomes when misused.

In South Carolina and throughout the country, marijuana is the number one reason for addiction and treatment admission for children ages 12 to 17. I have spent my career standing up for those who can't stand for themselves. This is why I consistently voice my concerns about legalizing marijuana in any form.

And as many times as I have spoken against this issue, South Carolina is edging toward the marijuana cliff and falling prey to a drug that has led to so much turmoil for our neighbors and friends. When the General Assembly returns to Columbia in January, they are slated to debate a bill that would legalize marijuana for specific medicinal uses and bypass the laws of our country.

Never have we needed South Carolina legislation for a medicine to be prescribed by a doctor or dispensed by a pharmacy. When medicine goes through the normal FDA approval process, legislation is not necessary. But, that's not what we are dealing with when discussing marijuana. Doctors cannot legally prescribe it. Pharmacists cannot legally dispense it. There is no way to accurately dose it.

Rather, some in the General Assembly are attempting to legislate around the FDA approval process by creating a complex scheme to cultivate, process, and dispense marijuana that still violates federal law. This bill also ultimately allows people to eat or ingest marijuana that has never been tested

or had any legitimate medical review. This is a truly dangerous proposition. Perhaps this is why 77% of South Carolinians in a 2016 Winthrop poll said marijuana should be regulated by the FDA.

It is not surprising that many proponents of legislation use words like "prescribe" when discussing marijuana. They do this to appear like all other medicines. The reality is, though, that this narrative is simply false. Marijuana allowed in this legislation remains a Schedule I drug. It cannot be legally prescribed. It cannot be legally dispensed in a pharmacy. It cannot be legally possessed by individuals without violating federal law.

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**Never have we needed South Carolina legislation for a medicine to be prescribed by a doctor or dispensed by a pharmacy.**

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The lengths that some of these companies will go to target our youth with these dangerous products is truly reprehensible. In states with medical marijuana, dispensaries with no in-house medical professionals pop up in local neighborhoods selling marijuana products with unknown potency, with no dosing instructions, and with flashy names designed to appeal to children. This is particularly true with vape products, edibles, and oils, all of which are all legalized under proposed legislation.

My heart goes out to those who are suffering from debilitating diseases and illnesses. They are the reason I support continued clinical trials, research, and forms of medicine that are legally obtained, FDA approved, prescribed by a physician, and dispensed by a pharmacist. This is what medicine is in the 21st century.

*Mark Keel has served as Chief of the S.C. Law Enforcement Division (SLED) since July 1, 2011. He is currently President of the Association of State Criminal Investigative Agencies and Co-Chairman of the state's Commission on Advancement of Public Safety.*





# CAN WE STOP THE MANHOOD MELTDOWN?

By Mitch Prosser

*Men are in a mess, and it's time we clean it up.*

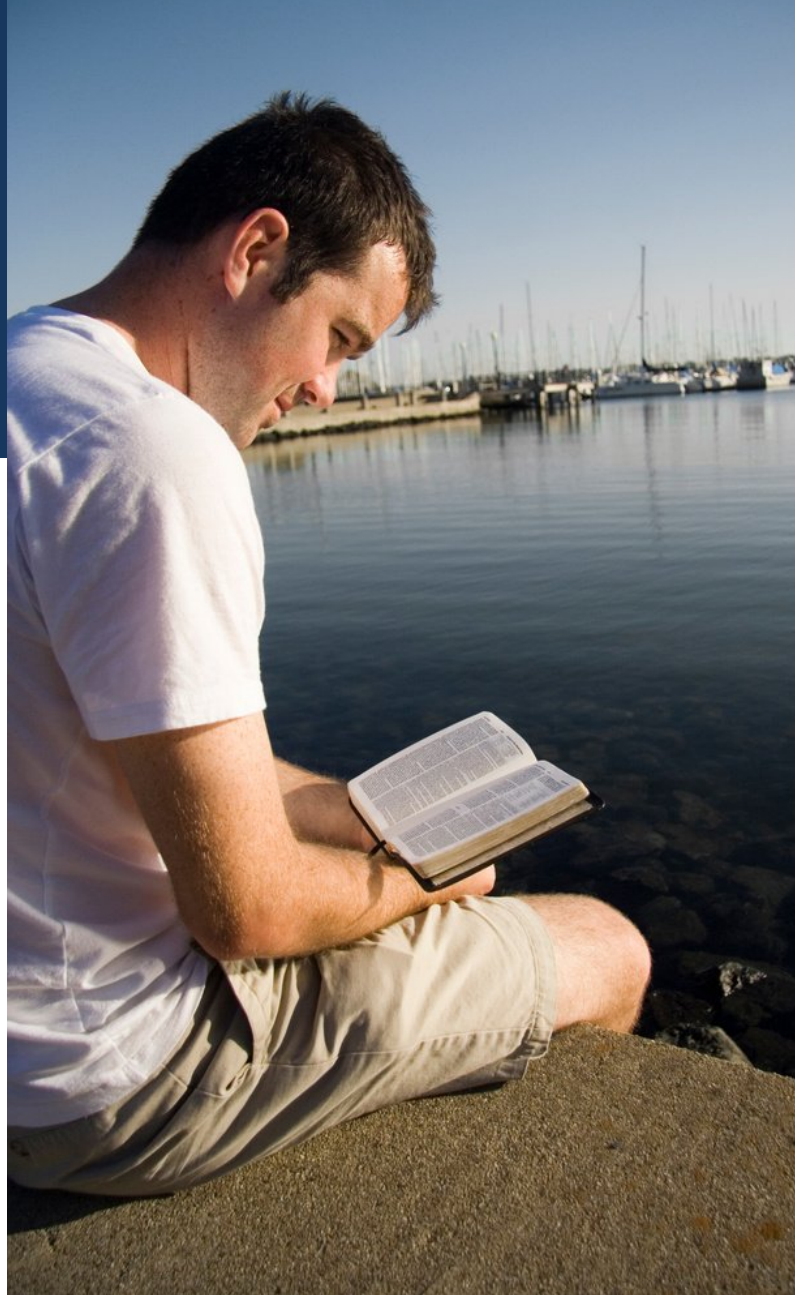
Long before COVID-19, a pandemic of epic proportions began sweeping across our country. In its wake, we now face a looming crisis that is hauntingly pulling our society into a self-perpetuating downward spiral of disaster.

The “Manhood Meltdown” is a crisis that has been slowly impacting us for generations, infecting boys and young men with a circus-mirror view of masculinity that they too often carry into manhood and fatherhood.

You may think, “*Is the problem so significant to use such audacious terms?*” Absolutely!

Somewhere along the way, the men of our society lost our collective way and abdicated our Biblical roles and responsibilities. We caved to the pressures of the world to be “big kids” or exude absolute “toxic masculinity,” neither of which fits the model of real manhood to which God is truly calling us.

Men of days gone by had sons who desperately craved their father’s attention and approval. When they couldn’t find it, these boys searched for it elsewhere.



They turned to the World, and the World inoculated them with cheap ideologies and media mockeries of male buffoonery.

The residue left behind is a new generation of men who carry a deadlier variant of manhood than their own fathers ever exhibited.

This downward spiral is made even more clear in the numbers and statistics. In a report from the Department of Justice — all the way back in 1998 — we could see the impact that fatherlessness in America had on homes across our society:

- 70% of minors detained in state centers and institutions.
- 71% of all high school dropouts.
- 85% of children who have behavioral disorders.
- 75% of all rapists motivated by displaced anger.
- 63% of all youth suicides.





In his book *The Boy Crisis*, Warren Farrell gives a clear picture of the detriment being done to our children (specifically our boys) by fatherless homes. He finds:

*Children from fatherless homes are at a significantly higher risk of drug abuse. Nearly two times as many academic high achievers come from 2 parent homes than single parent homes. In homes where fathers are absent, boys have a 100% more likelihood of being incarcerated than in homes with 2 parents.*

What's striking about these numbers is that they remain eerily constant across social, racial, and economic boundaries. No matter how you parse the numbers, statistics, and demographics one constant remains: When fathers are absent, children lose.

So how did we get in this mess?

[Trigger warning: What you're about to read would be canceled by today's WOKE culture.]

## MEN AND WOMEN ARE DIFFERENT

We aren't simply biologically different. We are emotionally different, mentally different, and psychologically different. Clearly stated, men aren't women and women aren't men. We were designed differently.

These differences that both sexes bring to a home are vital to the development of children. A home where a

mother and father are present — physically, emotionally, and spiritually — gives children the best opportunity for success.

But the opposite holds true, too. A home where both a mother and father aren't present creates an unnecessary risk of failure for the children of that home.

The pandemic of immaturity in so many men in our culture is having long-lasting, crippling effects. And yet, society is searching for answers to the problem in all the wrong places — within the labels of toxic masculinity, critical theory, and gender neutrality. Please understand, there's nothing toxic about true masculinity.

Real men treat women with respect.

Real men love their children.

Real men give to others through a tireless work ethic.

Real men speak into the culture with a voice of strength and honor.

Men, at our core, must be full of character and conviction — not fear and selfishness. We must not abdicate our roles and abandon our responsibilities to fulfill immature desires or alleviate external pressures.

Life is hard, full of pressure, and responsibility. So, man up!

To clean up the mess that we are in and pull out of the death spiral of the Manhood Meltdown, men must:

- Grow up and follow a pathway toward manhood.
- Be actively present and avoid the trap of passivity.
- Love passionately by pursuing a life of sacrificial love.
- Get support by surround ourselves with other men who will challenge us.
- Trust confidently by growing internal fortitude and showing Godly masculine assertiveness.

Only then will we see a society where God is honored, religious freedom is preserved, families thrive and life is cherished.

Read more about these practical ways to overcome the Manhood Meltdown by reading Mitch's column at [www.PalmettoFamily.org](http://www.PalmettoFamily.org).





Merita A. "Rita" Allison



William D. Bailey



John R. McCravy III  
Charter Member  
Moderator



Linda C. "Lin" Bennett  
Charter Member  
Executive Committee



Bruce M. Bryant



James Mikell "Mike" Burns  
Charter Member  
Executive Committee



William M. "Bill" Chumley  
Charter Member



Bobby Cox



Victor M. "Vic" Dabney



Shannon S. Erickson



Craig A. Gagnon



Billy J. Garrett



Leon "Doug" Gilliam  
Chair, Judicial Committee  
Executive Committee



Patrick D. Haddon



Jackie "Coach" Hayes  
Charter Member



David R. Hyatt  
Charter Member  
Executive Committee



William M. "Bill" Hixon



Chip Huggins  
Charter Member



Alex C. Hyde, Jr.



Jeffrey "Jell" Johnson  
Charter Member



Stewart Jones



Wallace "Jay" Jordan, Jr.  
Charter Member



Joshua D. "Josh" Kimbrell



Dwight A. Loftis  
Charter Member



Steven W. Long  
Charter Member



Josiah Magnuson  
Charter Member



Richard "Rick" Martin  
Charter Member



Robert J. "RJ" May III



Donald R. "Ryan" McCabe, Jr.



Sandy R. McGarry



Travis A. Moore



Adam M. Morgan



Dennis C. Moss  
Charter Member



V. Stephen "Steve" Moss  
Charter Member



Roger A. Nutt



Melissa Oremus  
Chair, Life Committee



Garret R. Smith  
Charter Member  
Executive Committee



Marvin "Mark" Smith



Tommy M. Stringer



Anne J. Thayer  
Charter Member



Ashley M. Cranham  
Charter Member



John "Jay" West IV  
Charter Member



Mark A. Willis  
Charter Member



Christopher "Chris" Wooten



Richard "Richie" Dow  
Charter Member



# ENGAGING THE NEXT GENERATION

There is no doubt that college sports in South Carolina have seen huge successes in recent years! Whether it was the Gamecocks or Chanticleers on the baseball diamond, Tigers on the gridiron, or the lady Gamecocks in women's hoops, athletes in the Palmetto State have dominated their sport. With all the victories we've seen, one may wonder, "How did all of these teams become so successful?"

constitutional clubs, to strong and vibrant church youth ministries, there is a movement of young people rising up!

The Jasper Fellowship is actively working to establish relationships with students to strengthen their biblical worldview and bolster our Christian conservative "bench". The Fellowship's namesake,



While each sport has its nuances and distinct challenges, one common thread weaves its way through every championship team. The secret to great teams is often in the way they recruit their talent. Another way to say this is great teams grow strong talent.

The Christian conservative lineup of talent in our home state is good, but Palmetto Family Council is working to make our team's bench great. We are actively working with national youth programs like Young Americans Foundation and state organizations and ministries that are recruiting, training, and growing talented young men and women. From Crisis Pregnancy Centers, youth outreach, and after school

William Jasper was a great young South Carolina hero of the War for Independence who gave his life for his country at only 29 years old. This training hub will target high school students specifically in their Sophomore and Junior years. Through mentorship programs, biblical worldview training, and a thriving network, students in our state will be given opportunities to hone their talents and serve in meaningful ways.

The Palmetto State has some of the finest Christian Colleges and Universities in America. Palmetto Family will be working in tandem with these great institutions to help our high school receive exceptional training with the intention of maximizing





their potential. We believe that one of the best ways to secure the blessing of liberty to ourselves and our posterity is to give the next generation the tools necessary to set them up for success.

We need your help. If God is speaking to you about raising up the next generation and strengthening the Christian conservative bench in our home state, please contact someone in our office about ways you can get involved. To keep South Carolina a great state to live, work, and raise a family, it's going to take every bible-believing South Carolinian rising to the occasion and stepping up to the plate. You can invest in the future of South Carolina by investing in Palmetto Family's Jasper Fellowship.

## CRT

something old. The reason we can't get rid of this racial crisis is we spend so much time rehearsing the old, we never get around to building the new. Kingdom Race Theology says the Bible is sufficient to deal with injustice. We don't have to go to secular theories to fix the church. But if the church would be involved intentionally in reconciliation... taking those who are divided and bringing them together again... you reconcile through service, not through seminars."

From a Biblical worldview, Dr. Janosik concludes, "The most critical thing we can do is share the gospel of Jesus Christ, because this whole movement is trying to deconstruct Christianity, because Christianity is the greatest obstacle to the goal they are trying to reach."

Dr. Evans agrees, "We need to tell Christians, 'Your real identity is your identity with Christ. Your humanity must adjust to that.'"

## WAYS YOU CAN ADDRESS CRT

As the debate over Critical Race Theory continues, here are ways that you can be involved.

1. Become more familiar with the concepts and ideas of CRT and understand how it is showing up in your community.
2. Watch for CRT language being used in your children or grandchildren's schooling. If you encounter it, speak to your local school board members, letting them know you do not want CRT's concepts taught in the classrooms of your community.
3. If, through your investments, you own shares in Woke corporations, be involved in annual shareholder meetings and express your concern that the company is seeking to divide, not unify, communities.
4. Open a dialogue with churches in your area that are of predominantly different races on ways to build up the entire Body of Christ in your community.

# HOW DID WE GET FROM THERE TO HERE?

By Dr. Tony Beam, Chairman of the Board

Speaking at the dedication ceremony for the National Archives Building in 1952, President Harry Truman, referring to the Constitution and the Bill of Rights said...



*We find it hard to believe that liberty could ever be lost in this country. It can be lost, and it will be, if the time ever comes when these documents are regarded not as the supreme expression of our profound belief, but merely as curiosities in glass cases.*

It has been almost 70 years since Truman spoke these words. If he were alive today, I wonder if he would conclude that our liberties have eroded to the point that our founding documents are now nothing more than curiosities in glass cases. What would his level of incredulity be if he knew the National Archives now include “trigger warnings” against the potentially harmful language of our founding documents?

There is no doubt in my mind that the Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, and the Bill of Rights still represent the supreme expression of our profound belief for a majority of Americans. The power of a Constitutional Republic means the freedom of individuals to choose to work together for a common goal that springs from our understanding of what is right and true. The definition of what is right and true must be rooted and grounded in an absolute source.... that source is the Word of God.

Religious liberty is the cornerstone of our individual liberties that combine to make us free from oppression. John Adams, our most traveled and one of our most well-read founding fathers said, "Our Constitution was made for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." We the people are tasked with the responsibility of holding our government accountable through free and fair elections. If we are to, as Benjamin Franklin said, keep our republic, it will be kept by a moral people who restrain themselves rather than depending solely on the restraining power of government. A moral people require fewer laws to restrain us from violating the rights of others. God's Word tells us "Where there is no prophetic vision the people cast off restraint, but blessed is he who keeps the law," (Proverbs 28:18).

Palmetto Family exists to promote and protect the values that South Carolinians hold dear. Our values include but are not limited to life, liberty, personal autonomy, the right to express our deeply held religious beliefs according to the tenets of those beliefs, and the ability to raise our children, inculcating our values into the next generation without government or any other outside interference. We believe in honesty, integrity, and justice tempered by mercy and grace.

Palmetto Family has worked to protect these values for well over 20 years. Over the last two years, Palmetto Family has grown into one of the chief vanguards of our shared values as South Carolinians. We are looking forward to continuing to grow, always with an eye on the present as we also look to the future and honor our past. We humbly ask for your prayers and your support as we continue to work to ensure our founding documents will never be relegated to mere curiosities in glass cases.

*Dr. Tony Beam serves as Director of Church and Community Engagement at North Greenville University and is also the Public Policy Director for the South Carolina Southern Baptist Convention. Tony and his wife Denise have been married for 40 years and they have three children and six grandchildren.*







# PALMETTO FAMILY

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## PRAY WITH US

### SUNDAY

### FAITH

Pray that our leaders will be led by God to make decisions that increase religious freedom.

### MONDAY

### MARRIAGE

Pray for God to strengthen Biblical marriages across South Carolina.

### TUESDAY

### PARENTING

Pray for parents and children across South Carolina to be united in their love for Christ.

### WEDNESDAY

### EDUCATION

Pray that all students in South Carolina grow in knowledge and wisdom.

### THURSDAY

### STEWARDSHIP

Pray for our leaders to be good stewards of the blessings and resources that God has given us.

### FRIDAY

### COMMERCE

Pray for our state to be a great place to work, own a business, and raise a family.

### SATURDAY

### CULTURE

Pray for the upholding of the Biblical foundations of our nation to promote life, truth, justice, and purity.

**Connect with Us:** Text "Guardrails" to 76076

