



Freedom Forum

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Proposition 8 Victory!

San Diego, California: The passage of Proposition 8 on November 4, 2008, sent shockwaves across our nation. The secular progressives are outraged and cannot understand how it was accomplished in “liberal” California.

How did it happen? Well, there were many factors, but one of the most important is that California’s pastors took proactive leadership on the issue. As a result, the church finally woke up. We here at the WCLP were honored and privileged to work closely with pastors Jim Garlow, Miles McPherson, Chris Clark and many others in the effort to inform and encourage California’s pastors that they have both a moral obligation and the legal right to take a stand on this crucial moral and spiritual issue.

We have been repeatedly asked if our opposition's current legal efforts before the California Supreme Court to overturn Proposition 8 have any chance of success. Our opinion, which is the consensus of many legal scholars, is that the current legal attempts will not ultimately succeed. However, we can never say with certainty what the California Supreme court will actually do.

We are extremely pleased that marriage is still defined as the union of one man and one woman in California. But if we are to keep it so, additional legal and public policy efforts will certainly be required. Although many of us who engaged in this battle are somewhat weary, we also recognize that this is not a time to rest on our laurels. As you have seen in the news over the past month, our enemies are aroused, angry and on the move. Vigilance is the price of liberty. As resources allow, we commit to remain on the front lines in the fight for marriage.

A Win for Religious Free Speech!

Los Angeles, California: Last September, Barry Felis and Steven Davis were harassed by mall security guards and banned from the property for 90 days. Their "crime" was sharing the gospel in a low key and respectful manner with interested passers by.

After initial discussions were not successful, attorneys for Western Center for Law & Policy took strong legal action and filed a complaint against the offending security company and the mall owner in Los Angeles Superior Court. The defendants included one of the nation's largest property owners and one of the biggest security companies in the United States. These defendants were ably represented by two sizable Los Angeles law firms.

As the litigation commenced, Barry and Steve felt encouraged and emboldened by the support of the WCLP. Accordingly, they decided to return to the mall on two separate occasions to continue to share the gospel--in spite of the mall's threats and intimidation. The amazing result was that an additional 20 people accepted Jesus into their hearts!

Barry Felis, who is the founder and president of Barry Felis Ministries, declares "If you have a problem involving your First Amendment rights, you really need to contact the attorneys at the Western Center for Law & Policy.

They are experienced and professional, but they are more than just attorneys. Throughout the case, they provided us with much needed spiritual support and guidance.”

Because of the WCLP’s legal efforts, the case settled out of court just before Thanksgiving, on November 24, 2008. Although the specific terms of the settlement are confidential, suffice it to say that we made a meaningful difference and obtained a good result for our clients.

• **A Special Year End Request**

We understand that economic times are tough for many today. But we cannot expand our vital work without the charitable support of committed people like you. To make your tax-deductible donation, please click on this link: <http://www.wclplaw.org/support.html> or you may call or e-mail Darlene Carter at (760) 747-4529 or dcarter@wclplaw.org for more information. Thank you.

The WCLP’s staff wishes you a merry Christmas and a blessed new year!

Please consider forwarding the *Freedom Forum* to your friends and family.