

# Christian Action Ministry Newsletter

Involving the Christian in Community Action

July—August 2021 ★ Vol. 31, Number 04

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## The Equality Act: A Frontal Attack on Religious Liberty

by  
Pastor Billy Gotcher

### The Equality Act: A Frontal Attack on Religious Liberty

*A guest article by the Superintendent of Williston's Trinity Baptist School*

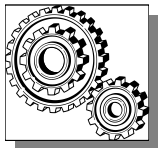
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### Timeline for Proposal 5

*Where does this proposal stand in the legislative docket?*

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**If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please call 802-872-3202, email, or contact our website (see back page)**



### In the Works

Are you interested in becoming involved? CAM is looking for interested and active people to act as liaisons to their church, helping to keep the Christian community informed. Contact CAM at 802-370-9560.

President Joseph Biden issued a proclamation in support of Pride Month on Tuesday, June 1st. He stated: “While I am proud of the progress my administration has made in advancing protections for the LGBTQ+ community, I will not rest until full equality for LGBT+ Americans is finally achieved and codified into law. That is why I continue to call on Congress to pass the Equality Act, which will ensure civil rights protections for LGBT+ people.” The President is calling on the Senate to fall in line and follow the lead of the House of Representatives who voted to pass the Act by a vote of 224 to 206. The vote was basically along partisan lines with 3 Republican representatives joining forces with the Democrats.

We are witnessing a chilling collision between the Constitutional rights of American citizens to worship and the newly invented rights of the moral revolutionaries. Making gender and sexual identity a civil right will be the end of Religious Liberty and completely transform our nation. Starting on the first day of his administration, President Biden directed all the federal agencies to fully enforce all federal laws that prohibit discrimination on the basis of gender identity or sexual designation. In addition, the president signed an executive order demanding that transgender Americans be

allowed to serve in the armed forces of the United States.

This bill is a frontal assault at all Christian ministries as it would require denial of Biblical authority over faith and practice. Biblical convictions concerning human sexuality will be considered a form of hate/abuse that must be stopped. Our governing authorities continue to make brazen demands for complete accommodation to these newly invented rights. The Secretary of State, Antony Blinken, has ordered the U.S. embassy that resides in the Vatican to fly an LGBTQ+ flag. It is clearly meant to say to the Catholic Church that they are standing on the wrong side of history. It is also messaging forward to say to all who object that they intend to silence us by removing our right to stand by our convictions.

Unfortunately, most Americans do not understand that our religious liberty is the foundation upon which all other liberties stand. Our Founding Fathers understood this and established religious liberties as our 1st amendment. Federal encroachment of our religious liberties was addressed in 1993 with the bi-partisan passage of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act. The Equality Act explicitly denies any appeal to that Act for protection.

The lead sponsor of the Equality Act is representative David Cicilline, a Democrat from

Rhode Island. He has directly stated that this Act will be applied to religious institutions (i.e. Christian Schools, Colleges, Churches, Adoption Agencies, etc.). According to Cicilline, a government-appointed agent or agency will be tasked to determine what is and is not part of our core functions as a religious organization. Once the State determines what our core beliefs are or are not, religious freedom will no longer exist.

The moral revolutionaries are using the coercive power of the state to assault Christian ministries. They have filed a lawsuit against 25 Christian Universities for violating the “rights” of LGBTQ+ students. Bethany Christian Services abandoned their Biblical convictions concerning human sexuality to satisfy the demands of the LGBTQ+ community and not be shut down by the State. A professing Christian College, The College of the Ozarks, has been ordered to allow male students who identify as female to be housed in the girls' dormitories or lose Federal funding. Passage of the Equality Act will bring the coercive power of the state upon all Christian ministries and radically alter the freedoms we have long enjoyed.

*Pastor Billy Gotcher is the Superintendent of the Trinity Baptist School in Williston, VT*

## I'm a Human Being

I'm not a "positive pregnancy test"; I'm a human being.

I'm not an "unplanned pregnancy"; I'm a human being.

I'm not an "accident"; I'm a human being.

I'm not "pregnancy tissue"; I'm a human being.

I'm not "uterine contents"; I'm a human being.

I'm not a "blob"; I'm a human being.

I'm not a "conceptus"; I'm a human being.

I'm not a "clump of cells"; I'm a human being.

I'm not a "non-human life form"; I'm a human being.

I'm not "fetal tissue"; I'm a human being.

I'm not a "fetal-placental unit"; I'm a human being.

I'm not a "parasite"; I'm a human being.

I'm not a "non-person"; I'm a human being.

I'm not a "political issue"; I'm a human being.

I'm not a "choice"; I'm a human being.

I'm not "unwanted"; God loves me.

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*Kay Trudell is a published writer and poet who has written approximately 1,800 poems during her lifetime. She has won or placed in several national poetry contests. Her poems focus on pro-life, religious, patriotic, and political themes. She has been writing poetry since the fourth grade. Kay also serves as Secretary of the Christian Action Ministry and attends Ignite Church in Williston, VT.*



**“Since this is an era when many people are concerned about ‘fairness’ and ‘social justice’, what is your ‘fair share’ of what someone else has worked for?”**

***Thomas Sowell***

# Timeline for Proposal 5 - - - A Proposed Amendment to the Vermont Constitution

1 ————— 2 ————— (We Are Almost Here)

### Step One

Proposal 5 was introduced and then passed by the 2019 — 2020 Vermont Legislature.

### Step Two

Proposal 5 is being considered by the 2021 - 2022 VT Legislature. The full VT Senate voted in favor of Proposal 5 on April 9, 2021. The vote was 26 - 4. House Rules require a Public hearing on Proposal 5 before the House takes a second vote in 2022.

### Final Step

If passed by the Vermont House in 2022, Proposal 5 will appear on the 2022 November General Election Ballot for a YES or NO vote by the voters of Vermont. If the vote is YES, The Vermont State Constitution will be thus amended. If the vote is NO, the Amendment will be defeated.

This chart is a modified and amended version of the original chart prepared by Policy Analyst Sharon Fraser Toborg for the Vermont Right to Life Committee. Proposal 5 would amend the Vermont Constitution to allow abortion up to the moment of birth.



**“America will never be destroyed from the outside.  
If we falter and lose our freedoms,  
it will be because we destroyed ourselves.”**

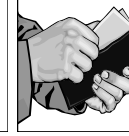
*Abraham Lincoln*

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What can I do?



*Faith without  
works is dead  
James 2:17*

e-mail : [camnetvt@gmail.com](mailto:camnetvt@gmail.com)

website : <https://christianactionministry.org/>

**In the 31 years I have been writing for and editing this newsletter, there have been only a few issues that have so many negative consequences for a Christian audience. Abortion and sexuality issues are two of them. It seems that our country, founded on Christian principles, is losing its moral vision. The Equality Act will require us to choose between God's edicts for us concerning His view of our sex (heterosexual male or female), or politically correct edicts developed by politicians.**

**“Personal reproductive autonomy” is the new version of “choice”, but the action and the results are the same: the taking of a human life, unable to protect itself, so you can be free of responsibility and the cost of personal involvement. This also impinges on the freedom of Christians to live by Biblical values. These two broad categories of issues void the rights granted to Americans under the First Amendment — and by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.**

**Dick Trudell**

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Williston, VT 05495

📞 (802) 773-2602  
*Call to confirm date*

### Next Meetings

*July 19, 7:00 pm  
Parkinson home  
Hinesburg, Vt.*

*August 2, 7:00 pm  
Parkinson home  
Hinesburg, Vt.*

To reach our website enter <https://christianactionministry.org> and select the first listing below that reads **Christian Action Ministry Network VT** and open it. Then bookmark our website calling it CAM or else Christian Action Ministry. Then when you want to go to our website in the future, click on the bookmark name you entered in your list of bookmarks.

**Making A Difference  
In Vermont!**