

The Blumenfeld Education Letter

"My People Are Destroyed For Lack Of Knowledge" HOSEA 4:6

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The purpose of this newsletter is to provide knowledge for parents and educators who want to save the children of America from the destructive forces that endanger them. Our children in the public schools are at grave risk in 4 ways: academically, spiritually, morally, and physically — and only a well-informed public will be able to reduce those risks.
"Without vision, the people perish."

Court Rules Secular Humanism Is A Religion

The ruling handed down in Mobile, Alabama, on March 4, 1987, by U.S. District Judge W. Brevard Hand, that secular humanism is a religion, is perhaps the most important court victory for Christians to date in the ongoing struggle between the two opposing world views.

The landmark 172-page ruling in this case of Smith v. Board of School Commissioners of Mobile County, Ala., affirmed what Christians have been saying for years: that the government school curriculum is based on and teaches the tenets of secular humanism and that this, therefore, constitutes an establishment of religion sponsored and sanctioned by the state, which is expressly forbidden by the Constitution of the United States.

Secular humanists for years have used the establishment clause to rid the government schools of any Christian practice or content. Christians are now using the same arguments to rid the public schools of secular humanism. What is particularly gratifying is that a federal judge in our humanistic judiciary system was, first of all, willing to hear the case, and second, willing to judge it fairly on the basis of his own examination of the evidence.

The case really boiled down to determining what is a religion. The plaintiffs contended that secular humanism is a religion; the defendants argued that it is not.

Since the U.S. Supreme Court has never stated an absolute definition of religion under the First Amendment, the judge wrote that "any definition of religion must not be limited, therefore, to traditional religions, but must encompass systems of belief that are equivalent to them for the believer."

He then wrote: "... all religious beliefs may be classified by the questions they raise and the issues they address. These ... may be grouped as [follows]: (1) the existence of supernatural and/or transcendent reality; (2) The nature of man; (3) The ultimate end, or goal, or purpose of man's existence, both individually and collectively; (4) The purpose and nature of the universe."

What then follows in this ruling is Judge Hand's lucid, logical, and concise examination of secular humanism as a belief system that easily qualifies it to be regarded as a religion. He wrote:

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