

RESOLUTION ON HOMOSEXUALITY IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Submitted by

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Whereas, many adult members of our congregations work and witness in government schools, this resolution should not be construed to discourage adult Christians who labor as missionaries to unbelieving colleagues and students;

Whereas, the Bible clearly teaches that homosexual behavior is sin (Leviticus 18:22, 1 Timothy 1:8-10, Romans 1:24-32, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11);

Whereas, homosexual activists are aggressively working to transform the moral foundation of our culture by promoting homosexuality as an acceptable lifestyle and advocating legalization of “homosexual marriage”;

Whereas, homosexual activists have attempted to hijack the language of the civil rights movement by falsely claiming that disapproval of homosexual behavior is the equivalent of racial prejudice;

Whereas, homosexual activists are devoting substantial resources and are using their political influence to shape the curricula and institutional rules of public schools to promote acceptance of homosexuality among schoolchildren as a morally legitimate lifestyle because, as one pro-homosexual author has written, “Whoever captures the kids owns the future”¹;

Whereas, thousands of public middle and high schools have officially sanctioned homosexual clubs;

Whereas, homosexual activists and their allies, such as the National Education Association and its affiliates, are pressuring state legislatures and bureaucrats to transform public school sex education curricula to promote acceptance of homosexuality as a legitimate lifestyle in grades k-12;

Whereas, many public schools are promoting acceptance of homosexuality as a legitimate lifestyle through programs that use such deceptive labels as “Safe Sex,”

¹ Patricia Nell Warren, “Future Shock”, *The Advocate*, October 3, 1995, p.80, as quoted by Paul E. Rondeau, “Selling Homosexuality to America”, *Regent University Law Review*, Vol. 14, No. 2, Spring 2002, at p. 470.

“Diversity Training”, “Multicultural Education” , “Anti-Bullying”, and “Safe Schools”;

Whereas, there is evidence that the homosexual lifestyle reduces life expectancy more than smoking;

Whereas, homosexual behavior is associated with a drastically increased risk of contracting various cancers, venereal diseases, and other diseases and physical afflictions;

Whereas, studies have shown that homosexual identity is associated with increased risk of self-destructive behaviors such as illegal drug use, smoking, excessive alcohol consumption, and “domestic” violence;

Whereas, any school district that recognizes homosexual clubs or treats homosexuality as an acceptable lifestyle is a clear and present danger to all of its children and is violating the community’s trust;

Whereas, Christian parents should not place their children under false teaching and must remember the warnings of Scripture that “a student is not above his teacher, but when he is fully trained, he will be like his teacher” (Luke 6:40 NIV);

Whereas, the Southern Baptist Convention passed a resolution in 1996 urging Baptists to boycott Disney because of an employment policy that “accepts and embraces homosexual relationships”, the promotion of a book “aimed at teenage homosexuals”, and its promotion of “Gay Days”;

Whereas, the promotion of homosexuality as a legitimate lifestyle in the public schools constitutes a far greater risk to far more children than the “Gay Days” and other pro-homosexual practices of the Disney Company;

Whereas, the Baptist General Association of Virginia recently severed its ties to Averett University over a "gay pride week" held at that school;

Whereas, the Baptist General Association of Virginia also severed its ties to the University of Richmond in 1999 over that university's giving tacit approval to homosexual behavior by extending its "anti-discrimination" policy to "sexual orientation;"

Whereas, just as Baptists cannot support institutions that promote acceptance of homosexual behavior as a legitimate lifestyle to 18 to 22 year-olds, Baptists cannot countenance educating children in k-12 schools that promote acceptance of homosexual behavior;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the 2005 Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention commends the Christian teachers, administrators, and other school employees that work and witness in the public schools;

Resolved, Further, that the 2005 Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention urges Baptists to pray for the salvation of homosexuals and their deliverance from their same-sex attraction;

Resolved, Further, that the 2005 Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention rebukes homosexual activists for slandering minorities by claiming that homosexual behavior has any authentic connection with the civil rights movement;

Resolved, Further, that the 2005 Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention encourages every Baptist church to investigate diligently whether the school district in which the church is located has either one or more homosexual clubs or curricula or programs in any of their schools that present homosexuality as an acceptable “lifestyle”;

Resolved, Further, that the 2005 Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention recommends that every Baptist church located in a school district with either (1) curricula or programs that treat homosexuality as an acceptable lifestyle or (2) one or more homosexual clubs inform the parents of this fact and encourage them to remove their children from the school district’s schools immediately;

Resolved, Further, that the 2005 Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention encourages all churches to work vigorously, both individually and in collaboration with other churches, to provide or generously support (1) Christian schools, (2) homeschooling, and (3) alternative models for providing Christian education such as University Model Schools and Christian One Room Schoolhouses, giving particular regard to the needs of children from low income and single parent families.