

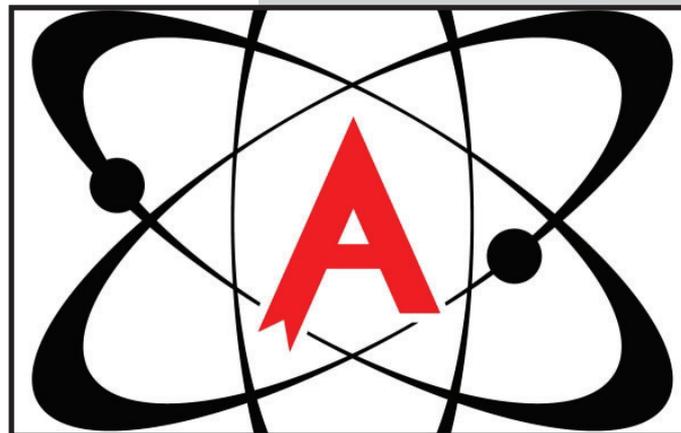


THE ATHEIST AGENDA

The foundations of religious freedom are crumbling. Accusing Christians of bigotry and intolerance is something we have come to expect with every headline. Same-sex marriage is the latest battering ram in a long siege that grows stronger by the day, and stories of cakes and florists, (and now pizzerias), convince us that this is so. As hate mail pours into the O'Connor family's pizza shop in Indiana, (a backlash against the shop's "wrong" convictions on catering gay weddings), what can we do besides watch the shop's doors close and brace ourselves for the next news frenzy?

First Things writer Robert P. George asks this same question in his article, "Who Will Stand?" He compares the struggle to the story of David and Goliath and states, "... I'm asking what ordinary people will do ... If we refuse to surrender, we will certainly be demonized; but everything will depend on whether we refuse to be demoralized."

As dedicated intercessors for America, we want to take Robert P. George's thoughts and run with them. Let's bring his call to duty to the next level and make it concrete, praying daily and individually for many of the key "heavyweights" of secularist thought who are fanning the flames of anti-theist sentiment we find in the headlines.



***“When the foundations are being destroyed, what can the righteous do?”
—Psalm 11:3***



New York Times gay columnist Frank Bruni recently suggested a new paradigm for freedom of religion: “freeing . . . religious people from prejudices that they . . . can indeed jettison, much as they’ve jettisoned other aspects of their faith’s history, rightly bowing to the enlightenments of modernity.” Rightly bowing? Perhaps Bruni has one thing right: *We should be rightly bowing before God in prayer.*

“ALWAYS BE READY TO GIVE A REASON... .” (1 PETER 3:15)

§ THE BATTLE IS REAL. We as the body of Christ will only stand firm in this siege in proportion to the amount of time we spend in prayer before God, the only One who can bring deliverance. Intercede for the following names and organizations - Christian leaders who are actively engaged in this collision of worldviews. Pray for God to give these Christian apologists and defenders of religious freedom the tenacity to speak truth and light to those who deny God’s existence. Pray John 15:5 (“... apart from Me you can do nothing.”) over their lives, ministries, careers, staff, and families. Thank God for these men of faith and conviction.

MATHEW STAVER is the founder and chairman of **Liberty Counsel®**, an international non-profit litigation, education, and policy organization dedicated to advancing religious freedom, the sanctity of life, and the family since 1989, by providing pro bono assistance and representation on these and related topics. With offices in California, Florida, Virginia, Washington, D.C., plus an outreach in Israel, Liberty Counsel has hundreds of advocates around the world.



ALAN SEARS serves as president, CEO, and general counsel of **Alliance Defending Freedom**, an alliance-building legal ministry that advocates for religious freedom to uphold justice and preserve the right of people to freely live out their faith. Alliance Defending Freedom and its allies have won 8 out of every 10 cases litigated to conclusion, including 38 precedent-setting victories at the U.S. Supreme Court.



WILLIAM J. MURRAY is president of the **Religious Freedom Coalition** in Washington, D.C. His team advocates for laws that, as the First Amendment guarantees, allow freedom of religious expression in the form of voluntary public prayer, acknowledgement of God, and the display of religious symbols and Scripture. Unlike his mother, Madalyn Murray O’Hair, who fought to ban prayer in public schools, Mr. Murray is a strong Christian who fights for the rights of Christians around the world.



CONGRESSMAN J. RANDY FORBES (R-VA) founded and chairs the **Congressional Prayer Caucus**. He has introduced such resolutions as H. R. 397 “America’s Spiritual Heritage Week” and H. R. 274 reaffirming the phrase “In God We Trust” in all public buildings and institutions. Forbes is a staunch defender of religious freedom from the nation’s capital.



IN GOD WE TRUST

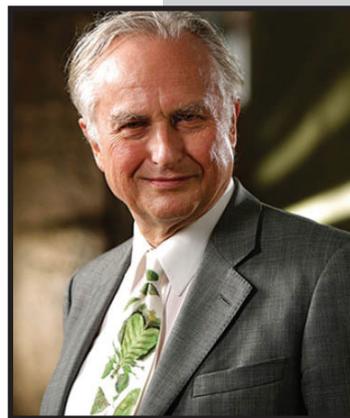
WHO ARE SOME KEY ATHEIST HEAVYWEIGHTS?

§ TAKE A LOOK AT THE FOLLOWING LIST, bearing in mind that this is just a small sampling IFA is providing as a springboard for prayer. Intercede for these names and organizations, and pray for God to powerfully intervene, changing hearts and minds to be receptive to His truth and grace (John 8:44, 2 Cor. 11:14, Eph. 6:11).

PETER BOGHOSSIAN has been called the best tactician that atheists have. He is the author of the book, *A Manual for Creating Atheists*, where he asserts that faith is a “virus,” and calls for an agenda that will “ultimately eradicate faith.” Peter works as the Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Oregon State University (OSU). The State of Oregon and the Oregon Department of Corrections supported his doctoral research studies. Peter’s writings can be found in a number of magazines, including *Scientific American*, the *Federal Probation Journal*, and the *Journal of Correctional Education*. He is an international speaker for the **Richard Dawkins Foundation for Reason and Science**, and currently serves as a fellow on the Global Secular Council and the Center for Prison Reform. He is also Chairman of the Prison Advisory Committee for Columbia River Correctional Institution. He wears many hats and his influence is felt in countless other arenas.



RICHARD DAWKINS is a best-selling British author and well known (atheist) evolutionary biologist whose reputation for criticizing creationism and intelligent design grew with the publication of two of his books, *The Blind Watchmaker* and *The God Delusion*. When asked what he would do if he had the powers of a dictator, Dawkins (who was raised Anglican) replied that he thinks he would “abolish schools which systematically inculcate sectarian beliefs”; however, he hates the thought of being “Big Brotherish.” Instead, he calls his efforts in writing and speaking a “consciousness-raising thing.” Dawkins founded **The Richard Dawkins Foundation for Reason & Science** in 2006. Its declared mission is to “remove the influence of religion in science education and public policy, and eliminate the stigma that surrounds atheism and non-belief.” The Foundation sees its job as “nothing less than changing America’s future,” suggesting that a failure to eliminate the outworking of religious thinking would mean that America will lose its standing in the world.





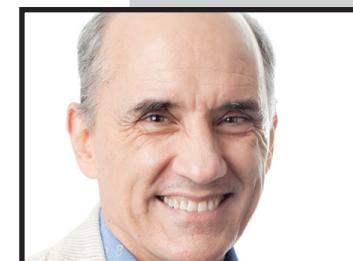
ROBIN BLUMNER is the President and CEO of **The Richard Dawkins Foundation for Reason & Science** based in Washington, DC. She is an expert on civil liberties and civil rights and has written extensively on church-state separation, free speech, privacy issues, economics, and the dwindling power of the middle-class. Blumner was executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Florida from 1989 to 1997, and executive director of the ACLU of Utah from 1987 to 1989. She led efforts to protect abortion rights, among dozens of other public policy battles.



SANDERSON JONES is a stand-up comedian who began the **Sunday Assembly** with fellow comedian and co-host **PIPPA EVANS**. The Sunday Assembly is a community of godless congregants that started in London in 2013 and is now being exported to the United States, Britain, Canada, and Australia. Jones grew up in a religious British family, and lost his mother (a Sunday School teacher with five children) to cancer when he was 10 years old. The tragedy propelled him toward atheism because he could not understand why God would allow pain and suffering. Today, Jones is the catalyst behind a network of “godless congregations,” which he launched to provide an alternative megachurch environment or “TEDTalk for the soul.” With 28 assemblies around the globe, Jones and Evans (also raised to be religious) started the Assembly because of the nostalgia they both faced when they stopped believing and missed community, volunteering, and music. They wanted to bring all of these things together in a way that “celebrates life” regardless of the lack of religious beliefs.



ANNIE LAURIE GAYLOR and **DAN BARKER** are married and work as co-presidents of the **Freedom From Religion Foundation**, which is responsible for (among countless other cases) suing the IRS for failing to enforce electioneering restrictions against churches and religious organizations. As a result, the IRS flagged churches involved with political intervention and marked 99 churches for “high priority examination.” As a former minister and evangelist, Barker became an atheist in 1983 and went on to write *Godless: How An Evangelical Preacher Became One of America's Leading Atheists*. **ANNIE LAURIE** serves on the Board of Directors of the Women’s Medical Fund, the longest continuously operating abortion rights charity in the nation. The Fund has prompted and/or supported more than 14,000 indigent Wisconsin-area women to pursue an abortion.





JASON TORPY (a) is president of the **Military Association of Atheists and Freethinkers**, an organization that has argued that military chaplains are not providing enough outreach for those who do not believe in God. A separate organization, **The Humanist Society**, endorsed Oxford-educated religious scholar Jason Heap in 2013 to be the first-ever humanist chaplain in the U.S. Navy. The MAAF supported the endorsement. The group claims that more people identify as atheists and humanists than any other non-Christian denomination.



a

WOLVES IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING PROJECT is a group with a stated goal to infiltrate the modern-day church as unbelievers posing as Christians. *CharismaNews* reported that the Project intends to integrate their member(s) into Pentecostal churches and pretend to fall away from the faith as a way to get a reaction, stir publicity, and perhaps influence the congregation as a whole.



b

DAVID SILVERMAN (b) is President of **American Atheists**, a non-profit, nonpolitical, educational organization dedicated to “the complete and absolute separation of church and state.” Silverman was the creator and Executive Producer of the 2012 **Reason Rally**.



c & d

THE CLERGY PROJECT is an organization formed in early 2011 after Dan Barker, co-president of the Freedom From Religion Foundation, met with Richard Dawkins and the idea crystallized through Dawkins’ encouragement. The earliest members of the Clergy Project were mostly recruited through Barker and through TCP’s co-founder, **Linda LaScola (c)**. LaScola co-conducted a study of nonbelieving pastors with **Daniel Dennett (d)**, an atheist philosopher who is one of “the four horsemen of New Atheism” along with Dawkins, the late Christopher Hitchens, and philosopher/neuroscientist and **PROJECT REASON** co-founder, **Sam Harris (e)**. The project now has more than 625 members, with many applicants awaiting clearance. The Project’s Web site indicates that a portion of its members use pseudonyms for their online IDs because they are currently in ministry and fear being ‘outed’ from their congregations. **Jerry DeWitt (f)**, a former preacher who converted to atheism, is one of The Clergy Project’s well-known, key catalysts. DeWitt is also a member of **RECOVERING FROM RELIGION**, founded and chaired by **Dr. Darrel W. Ray (g)**, a psychologist and author of four books, including *The God Virus*.



e



f & g

PRAYING SCRIPTURE

WE ENCOURAGE YOU to meditate on the Scripture verses below and allow these words to guide you in your time of intercession for each of the names and organizations listed on the previous pages.

“Finally, brothers and sisters, **whatever is true**, whatever is noble, whatever is right, **whatever is pure**, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—**think about such things.**”

—Philippians 4:8

“For the Spirit God gave us **does not make us timid**, but gives us power, love and self-discipline. **So do not be ashamed** of the testimony about our Lord... .”

—2 Timothy 1:7-8

“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the **powers of this dark world** and against the **spiritual forces** of evil in the heavenly realms.” —Ephesians 6:12

“The Spirit clearly says that in later times **some will abandon the faith** and follow **deceiving spirits** and things taught by demons.”

—1 Timothy 4:1

“You are the **salt of the earth**. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the **light of the world**. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.

Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, **let your light shine before others**, that they may see your good deeds and **glorify your Father in heaven.**”

—Matthew 5:13-16

(All Scripture references cited in this report are taken from the NIV.)



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To learn more about how to pray for religious freedom, visit:

www.cpcfoundation.com

This special report can be downloaded here:

<http://IFApray.org/resources/special-report>