

Titus House Newsletter

Titus House Ministries, PO Box 2376, Tijeras, NM 87059

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Janice's Journal: A Small, But Significant Victory

Source: [ACSOL](#) Alliance for Constitutional Sex Offense Laws



Marion County, Arkansas, posted signs on the front door of registrants last year identifying those individuals as people required to register as a sex offender. The signs stayed in place not for one day, but for about two weeks – a week before Halloween, Halloween and then a week after Halloween.

This Halloween sign requirement was not a state law. In fact, it was not a county law. Instead, it was a decision by a county sheriff who printed signs with his name on it.

Implementation of the Halloween sign requirement in Marion County was different than Halloween sign requirements in most locations. In most locations, registrants were required to create a sign and then post it on their home. In Marion County, however, the signs were created by the government and then posted by the government on the front door of people's homes.

When a deputy sheriff arrived to post a Halloween sign on the front door of the plaintiff's home, he objected to the sign and asserted that his First Amendment rights would be violated by that sign. The deputy sheriff flippantly stated, if you don't like the sign, then sue us.

Fortunately, that's exactly what the plaintiff did. He called ACSOL and asked that a lawsuit be filed challenging the Halloween sign requirement.

After the lawsuit was filed in federal court, the attorney representing the sheriff's office argued to the judge that the posting of the Halloween sign was voluntary. The judge's reply is one to be remembered. He asked if posting a sign is voluntary when the person posting it is wearing both a gun and a badge.

Shortly after that hearing, Marion County decided to settle the case. In a written agreement, that county has stated they will no longer require registrants in Marion County to have a Halloween sign posted on their residence.

Given that there are only 65 registrants in Marion County, this is a small victory. It is a significant victory, however, because there are other counties in Arkansas as well as cities in other states that require Halloween signs. Those counties and cities now have a choice – stop requiring Halloween signs to be posted on the homes of registrants or be sued in federal court.





CA: Currently individuals convicted of PC 261.5, unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor are not required to register regardless of the age gap. SB1128 would make them register.

June 13, 2024 R H

Source: ACSOL

Up to 32,000 people could be added to the California registry if Senate Bill 1128 is enacted into law, according to the California Department of Justice. That is because the bill would require individuals convicted of Penal Code Section 261.5, unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor, to register if the age gap was 10 years or more.

Currently individuals convicted of PC 261.5, unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor are not required to register regardless of the age gap. If enacted into

law, the bill would be applied retroactively.

“If this bill is enacted into law, individuals convicted decades ago could be required to register for the first time,” stated ACSOL Executive Director Janice Bellucci. “Therefore, we must stop Senate Bill 1128 as soon as possible.”

According to the California Sex Offender Management Board (CASOMB), there would be a “significant cost” to state and local governments if SB 1128 became law. The bill would also unwind the stated purpose of the Tiered Registry Law, according to one CASOMB member. That purpose was to reduce what was previously considered a bloated state registry. Another CASOMB member added that passage of SB 1128 would set 32,000 people “up to fail” and make their lives as unstable as possible due to housing and employment challenges.

The co-authors of Senate Bill 1128 are Senator Anthony Portantino of the San Fernando Valley and Assemblymember Blanca Rubio of West Covina. Both legislators are Democrats. SB 1128 was introduced on February 13 and the Sen-

ate passed the bill on May 23. Senator Scott Wiener, author of the Tiered Registry Bill, voted against SB 1128 both during a Senate Public Safety committee hearing and on the floor of the Senate.

SB 1128 has been referred to the Assembly Public Safety Committee which will next consider the bill. That Committee, however, has not yet set a hearing date.

“We must oppose Senate Bill 1128 in order to prevent the addition of more than 30,000 people to the registry,” stated Bellucci. “ACSOL leaders will soon prepare a strategy to stop this bill and that information will be shared on this website as well as sent by email and text.”

Members of the California Sex Offender Management Board discussed SB 1128 during its meeting today. The Board plans to issue a point paper regarding possible impacts of the bill upon individuals convicted of PC 261.5 as well as state and local governments.

America Criminalizes Too Much and Punishes Too Much

Source: reason.com 8/6/24

When those on parole or probation are included, one out of every 47 adults is under “some form of correctional supervision.”

Not only have we adopted more criminal laws at an astonishing clip, but the punishments our criminal laws carry have also grown markedly. Beginning in earnest in the second half of the 20th century, legislatures began to adopt laws that had, as Judge Jed Rakoff has noted, “two common characteristics: they imposed higher penalties, and they removed much of judicial discretion in sentencing.” Notable among these laws were statutes imposing mandatory minimum terms of imprisonment for certain crimes.

Today, sentencing changes like these can propel some sentences into the stratosphere. A defense attorney in Florida told The Economist that, looking at his clients’ prison terms, it appeared to him

that the United States was conducting “an experiment in imprisoning first-time non-violent offenders for periods of time previously reserved only for those who had killed someone.” One of his clients who had been convicted of fraud was sentenced to 845 years. “I got it reduced to 835,” the lawyer said with a sigh. A group that looked across state prison systems found “a consistent upward trend in the amount of time people spend in state prisons” and that the “longest prison terms are getting longer.” Another group found that one out of every seven of those now incarcerated is serving a life sentence—more people in total than were serving any sentence in 1970. And while crime tends to be a “young man’s game,” 30 percent of those serving life sentences were found to be over the age of 55.

Thanks to developments like these, the United States is now a world leader when it comes to incarceration. Our

incarceration rate is not only eight times as high as the median rate in western European democracies, it is higher than the rates found even in Turkmenistan and Rwanda. As in those of many states, federal prisons have been operating for years around or above 100 percent capacity. And those who emerge from our prisons often confront collateral consequences that haunt them for years—including the loss of voting rights, licenses, public benefits, jobs, and access to housing.





Where's our Real Battle?

By Sandy Zalecki

I know that most of us have struggles. Some of the struggles we have are so intense it seems like we are in a battle. We have struggles against addiction, struggles against our own thoughts, and struggles against bosses, spouses, and others that get us down and make us wonder if our existence is worth it all.

Many of us search for earthly solutions for our issues. We seek out all the earthly places we have been programmed to go to for solutions. We lash out at the people around us hoping they will stop whatever it is they are doing to make our lives miserable. But people are not our problem. Seeking earthly solutions to our problem is only picking the fruit, we aren't getting to the root. The root cause of our problem is rooted in an invisible place that we can't see. Ephesians 6:12 says, "Our battle is not against flesh and blood, but against the authorities of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavens."

I have been doing an amazing study called, *Victory in Spiritual Battle* by Tony Evans. He has given me an insight into spiritual battle that I have never had. In the opening of the study he says,

Cosmic conflict in the invisible realm is the basis for all conflict in the visible realm. Unless we address properly the battle in the unseen realm, we cannot address successfully victory in the visible realm. In your life your ability to deal with the unseen will determine your victory in what you do see.

The most wonderful thing that Tony said was, "You aren't fighting **for** victory, you are fighting **from** victory." Jesus has already won the victory for you on the cross. The devil is the loser here. We aren't just his little puppets on the string doing everything he wants us to do and believing everything he wants us to believe.

In the Old Testament there were moves and counter moves by God and Satan. According to Tony Evans here are a few:

- God created the angels
- Lucifer rebelled and took 1/3 of the angel with him
- God created man a little lower than the angels
- Satan got Adam and Eve to turn the world over to his control
- Through Abraham, God created his own nation
- Satan trapped them in Egypt
- Through Moses, God redeemed them from Egypt.

You see where this is going. Finally, God said, "Forget this mess, I'm going to go into the physical realm myself and correct all of this." I'm paraphrasing of course, but He sent his son Jesus to die on the cross for us. I'm sure Satan thought he had achieved the final victory when Jesus died. But Jesus didn't
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Hebrew 13:3 - Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.

Remember if you change your address you need to let us know if you want to continue to receive this newsletter



I THINK THAT YOU HAVE SOME SERIOUS FAITH ISSUES

Where's our Real Battle?

stay dead. The **final** victory was His resurrection. This is also your victory. He gave us victory over sin and death and gave us the tools to fight the spiritual battles.

Jesus is now seated at the right hand of God in heavenly places. Your blessings are in heavenly places. According to Hebrews 1:14 angels operate for you in heavenly places. Demons also operate in heavenly places. The devil works through deception. He wants you to work in the physical so you will never get to the root of the problem.

How do we fight spiritual battles. According to Ephesian we have six different pieces of armor to fight with.

¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. (Ephesians 6:13-18 NIV)

The spiritual battle is not the same as a physical battle. We fight with truth, righteousness, and peace. I will be breaking down each of the six pieces of armor for you in subsequent articles so you will know how to fight the battle, withstand the deception of the devil, and have the final victory over your battles.



Circle of Concern has gone **ZOOM**

Circle of Concern is aimed at breaking down isolation and fear by providing a safe place for registrants and their loved ones to get together, build community, and learn ways to step out and take charge of their lives and overcome the stigma they face. The Circle of Concern is a group of concerned registered citizens, family and friends that meet together on the 3rd Sunday of each month. We are meeting this month on **September 15, 2024** at 3 pm—4 p.m. MST (Mountain Standard Time). We will meet on Zoom. We encourage and try to help each other. It is a safe place to share our strengths and struggles. We hope you will join us. If you are planning to attend call Don at **(505) 315-7940**. He will send you the link to join by computer or phone. You can contact him at the number above or email him at donmagicjohnston@gmail.com