

# The Anti-Christian Thought Police

*“Hate-crimes” legislation could actually punish the way you think.*

“You have the right to remain silent, and anything you say can and will be used against you.”

We’ve all heard police on television read this to criminals after making a dramatic TV arrest. However, Christians could begin to hear it live and in person simply for speaking Biblical truth about homosexuality if certain legislation gets through Congress and past President Bush’s veto pen.

## **The left-wing legislative agenda**

Radical homosexual activists are again calling for legislation to address “hate crimes,” “homophobia” and workplace “discrimination.” But with liberals in control of Congress, there’s a very good chance homosexual activists will get nearly everything they ask on their wish list.

Rep. Sheila Jackson-Lee (D-Texas) has introduced H.R. 254, otherwise



*Do you think homosexuality is wrong? Under “hate crimes” legislation, you might be a criminal.*

known as the David Ray Hate Crimes Prevention Act, and Rep. John Conyers (D-Michigan) has introduced H.R. 1592, the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act, another and even more dangerous “hate crimes” bill.

Concerned Women for America (CWA) also expects liberals in Congress to reintroduce the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) later this year. ENDA prohibits businesses with fifteen or more employees from “discriminating” against current or prospective employees based on “sexual orientation” or “gender identity.” This means that the owner of a Christian book store

who refused to hire a 6-foot-4-inch fellow in high-heels and a dress could be sued for “discrimination.”

### **Radical legislative agenda a direct assault on how you think**

Both “hate crimes” legislation and ENDA pose serious dangers to our freedoms of speech, religion and association. “Hate crimes” laws and ENDA send us down the road toward religious persecution. The laws are already being used as a tool in the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada and even right here in America to intimidate and silence people who honor the Biblical model of human sexuality and who value the sanctity of marriage. If you speak out against homosexual behavior, then you could be guilty of “hate speech” under the “ethnic intimidation” aspects of similar “hate crimes” laws.

These laws turn police into mind readers and punish offenders for their thoughts. Both “hate crimes” and

ENDA create a special class of victims based on sexual preferences and chosen behaviors. Under these laws, a 5-foot-2-inch woman who is assaulted as she leaves her Bible study would receive less justice than the 6-foot-4-inch homosexual man leaving a “gay” bar who is attacked by the same assailant.

Law abiding people don’t advocate violence or harassment of any kind. And there are laws in place to protect all Americans from both violent crimes and harassment. Violators of those laws should be prosecuted to the full extent of the law, and there’s no evidence to suggest that they are not.

### **Current law already adequate**

Workplace harassment is already illegal. The vast majority of companies even have self-imposed policies that protect people based on sexual preferences and behaviors. Criminal acts of violence against anyone already require stiff penalties, regardless of whether the victim is a homosexual or a heterosexual.

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*The problem with 'hate crimes' legislation is that it favors one group over another. Under such legislation, the man in this picture would receive greater protection than the elderly woman.*



But homosexual activists would have you believe that “hate crimes” and workplace discrimination occur at epidemic levels. This simply isn’t true. According to FBI statistics, “hate crimes” of any kind comprise 1/15th of one percent of crime in America and are on the decline.

So if “hate crimes” and workplace discrimination aren’t the problem that homosexual activists claim, then what is the true motive behind “hate-crimes” and ENDA?

Similar state laws have already proven the true purpose is “thought control”

The evidence is all too clear. Both “hate crimes” and ENDA are bold attempts by the left to ultimately silence anyone who would publicly advocate a Christian worldview on issues of human sexuality.

Passing these laws could ultimately

replace our First Amendment’s “right to free speech” with the “right to remain silent,” which is precisely what those on the left are hoping.

*By J. Matt Barber, Policy Director for Cultural Issues* ■

## PRAY

Ask the Lord to protect the thoughts and words of His followers from “hate crimes” legislation.

## PRAISE

Thank God for the thousands of men and women who have broken free from the bondage of homosexuality.

## ACT

Contact lawmakers in your district and ask them to vote against “hate crimes” legislation and ENDA.