



Protecting Religious Liberty

Every July, we Americans celebrate our liberty, especially our very first one, freedom of religion. We often forget that most people once thought their state should choose a denomination and require everyone to support it. For example, Virginia made a habit of jailing Baptists who, contrary to the dictates of the state Episcopal Church, dared to preach the Gospel without a license. Patrick Henry earned his reputation in part by fearlessly defending Baptists in court.

Freedom won then, but it was costly. And, as you'll discover in this edition of *Family Voice*, battles over conscience aren't over. Two key stories in this issue reveal that zealots want you to promote their agenda: Your job is on the line if you're a Christian pharmacist who won't dispense the morning-after pill because it can cause abortions. Radical homosexual activists are pushing "hate crimes" legislation that has been used to try to silence the Good News that Jesus can set us free from all sin, including homosexuality.

Please read these accounts of how Concerned Women for America (CWA) state leaders, some of whom are featured elsewhere in this issue, and especially our President, Wendy Wright, are fighting to protect your religious liberty. Let's pray that God will give us leaders with enough character - like Patrick Henry - to weather the criticism they'll get for liberty's sake.

Sincerely,
A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Beverly LaHaye".

Beverly LaHaye
Founder and Chairman