

Liberty 101

Grassroots Strategy Guide



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Dear Patriot,

Thank you for your interest in our Summer 2016 Liberty Packet.

No doubt, you are either experiencing, or will soon experience an attack on your religious liberty. The goal of the Indiana Liberty Coalition (ILC) is to provide assistance to you by leveraging our experience. The best way we can do that is through this Liberty Packet that will help you defeat these dangerous attacks on religious freedom. While we want to help, there is no substitute for the hard, grassroots, effort that it takes to make your presence felt.

You will find simple definitions, reasons these attacks are unwarranted (if not unconstitutional), and arguments on the dangers of Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity (SOGI) ordinances. You will also find sample Letters to the Editor, sample petitions, and sample ordinances. Stay connected with us on IndianaLibertyCoalition.com, or our Facebook page for the latest updates.

Thank you,
Indiana Liberty Coalition

Religious Freedom is Under Attack.

The left is no longer trying to hide their agenda. Attacks on people of faith are growing closer and closer together. All you have to do is turn on the news to see there is a full assault on religious freedom in America. The time has come for people to stand together and say **ENOUGH!** It is the hope of the Indiana Religious Freedom Alliance that we help you do just that! We don't have to remain silent. There are things that can and should be done! We will give you just a sampling of ideas. If you come up with more, email us and we will add them to the list!

Religious freedom attacks come in several forms. They can come directly through ordinances easily seen such as removing the Ten Commandments, not allowing a Bible study in your home, to the removal of all Christian holidays in schools. Those are easily seen. Sometimes they sneak in through ordinances like SOGI. These are the most dangerous kinds. These are the kinds of ordinances that criminalize people of faith like Aaron and Melissa Klein for simply not wanting to bake a wedding cake for a gay wedding. The government literally seized \$135,000.00 from their personal bank account for their "crime." Let's talk about what a SOGI is and how to defeat them in your town.



What is a SOGI and why is it so dangerous?

While SOGI is the main designation we use for these ordinances, they can go by other names such as a Human Rights Ordinance (HRO) like Valparaiso passed in late May. SOGI stands for "***Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity.***" This language is being placed on city, county, and state ordinances, and is touted as a civil rights issue like religion and race. It sounds innocent but in reality it causes devastating harm to our Religious Freedom, Individual Liberty, and Freedom of Conscience. LGBT lobby groups have figured out that they can pressure local cities to adopt these ordinances and then as more and more cities and towns approve them, simply cite the old adage, "every city is passing an ordinance like this, you don't want to be left out, do you?" As cities and towns pass them left and right, it becomes increasingly difficult to oppose. Sadly, most cities don't understand the true impact it will have. SOGI is one of the most dangerous enemies of the First Amendment to the Constitution because it represents the beginning of the erosion of First Amendment protections.

How does SOGI impact my Religious Freedom?

When SOGI laws are passed, there are **MANY** consequences to Religious Freedom, Individual Liberty and the Free Market. SOGI laws seek to control hiring practices and force associations. The ultimate goal is to completely gut the Free Exercise of Religion. The protection of the Constitution be damned, the long standing rights of churches (although they often receive carve outs), businesses and Christian organizations are being trampled. What are the results?

- A pastor is vulnerable to being forced to perform a same sex wedding against his convictions.
- Requiring religious organizations to host same sex weddings in their private facilities against their will.
- Requiring religious organizations to hire someone who opposes their fundamental tenets, beliefs, and goals.
- Requiring a business to provide a service that goes contrary to their deeply held religious beliefs. Examples:
 - Forcing a baker to bake a cake for a same sex wedding.

- Forcing a printing company to print material that they have deeply held moral convictions against.
- Give men, including sexual predators, (rapists and child molesters), legal access to women's and girl's restrooms, women's dressing rooms and women's shower areas placing women and children at risk of harm!
- Make it illegal for a Christian business owner (baker, florist, wedding planner, photographer, etc.) to refuse to participate in a homosexual wedding ceremony. This has already devastated Christian businesses across our country. [\(See Examples here\)](#)
- Elevate sexual activity over religious freedom.

The Anatomy of SOGI:

It is important to note that Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity (SOGI) laws contain two parts. Sexual Orientation typically impacts the free market, business world. Gender Identity and public accommodations usually means that the privacy of restrooms is taken away. (Men who feel like women being allowed to go to the women's bathrooms)

It is important to understand that this is not just about transgender men and women going into the bathrooms/showers/locker rooms of their choice. Gender Identity is intentionally made ambiguous so that any man/ women can have access to these facilities due to the way they "feel." There is no medical diagnosis required, it simply removes the protection of private space and opens it to any person who would like to enter into a facility of the opposite gender. This is beyond dangerous.

A SOGI is being introduced in my town, HOW CAN I STOP IT?

Five Steps to stopping a SOGI.

Now that we know the dangers of SOGI, what do you do when it comes to your town? How do you stop it especially when most are passed secretly? Here are five ways:

1. Educate yourself:

1. Know the issue and the implications of a SOGI if it is passed.

2. Know the partners and triggers. SOGI can be attached to community, state, and federal grants. When a community wants to apply for funding, sometimes it comes with stipulations. **READ THE FINE PRINT.** Some possibilities where a SOGI could be hidden is inside such things as Regional Cities and Stellar Grants it also can be presented not attached to any funding.
3. Know the Council dates and be a watchdog. Announcements are usually found on your cities website; you can also call your local city/mayor's office. Show up and be present!
4. Know how to organize. Find like-minded people and groups to connect with. This can be done through social media, churches, life groups, tea parties, conservative organizations, etc. **CONNECT, ENGAGE, AND UNITE!**

2. **Wear Green and Be seen!**

SHOW UP!!! When your city council tries to pass a SOGI law, the temptation (especially if you are new) is to timidly show up, sit in the back, and hope no one sees you. It is **NORMAL** to be afraid. That's OK! It's a war, and war is scary. There are some who have never done a courageous thing like show up to council to speak, but they understand the need, so they come and sit in the corner.

The problem with this is the media doesn't know who the supporters are and who the opposition is, so of course the liberal media says things like **HUNDREDS** come out to support the SOGI ordinance tonight, when in fact the room was **FULL** of opposition. **What if....** Every time a SOGI was introduced a **SEA OF GREEN** came out and boldly spread out over the room with confidence. This does two things. It shows the council they are being watched, and it tells the media, "You can't lie about the numbers!" This very thing happened at the rally the Indiana Pastors Alliance sponsored. Within hours of the rally, the media said 200 came out when in fact the **GREEN** shirts showed there was well over 1300. They could not deny our story, and were forced to retract their story. This also inspires your neighbor to come stand with you, and unites a brand new army each and every council.



3. **Speak up!** As these begin to unfold in your town, there are several ways to speak up.
 1. **Meet with your pastor.** These are busy men and women. They don't know everything happening around them. Show them what a SOGI is, and how it will impact them. Ask them if you can educate the Sunday School classes. Can you imagine the impact we would have if entire Sunday School classes showed up in GREEN?
 2. **Speak out on Social Media.** This is a great platform and it is free!
 3. **Write letters to the Editor.** Here are some tips for writing letters to the editor:

Ask yourself the following question, then begin. Who do you want to pay attention to the letter? Make a bold statement in your opening. You could say something like, *"Parents of _____ students, please understand that we need to contact our school board members."*

What is your concern?

Be specific. Don't want a boy in your daughter's restroom? Don't want a girl showering next to your son after PE class?

Organize your talking points.

What are the consequences if this new policy takes place? What are the consequences if it doesn't? Why does this policy bother you? Are you prejudiced against the transgender students? (You'll be accused of that, so be prepared.) Will there be unintended consequences? Is this favoritism? Is it safe? Is it legal? Is it discrimination?

Have some facts to back you up!

Of adult U.S. population, there are 0.3% transgender people and 99.7% non-transgender people. (Numbers are probably less among children.) About 1.7% gay or lesbian, 1.8% bi-sexual, and 96.2% straight. In the past, 30% of all children experience some sort of sexual abuse before reaching adulthood, making them squeamish about sharing restrooms with others as it is. Statistics show that 25% of all teenagers have body image problems, making them also squeamish about sharing situations where they will be in any state of undress.

Don't show anger to the point of blithering.

Don't share feelings to the point of crying tears on the reader. DO let others know how you feel but be straight forward about it.

Let people know why they should share your concern.

Then let them know what to DO about it. Invite them to the upcoming meeting to get more information. Give them a phone number or email address to contact others.

Prepare to hear from the opposition **and remember that opposing an unsafe situation is NOT bigotry.**

4. **Speak at City Council meetings.** Your voice needs to be heard!

Here are some simple tips when you speak:

SOGI Testimony Battle Lines:

Franklin Graham stated, "**LGBT activists are incredibly determined.** And so Christians need to be just as determined."

Instead of each person testifying by repeating the same thing over and over, unite and get specific. Have a number of people break up and coordinate what they will say so all topics can be covered. This assures you that even against the time constraints, all items will be pointed out to the council. Have the final person summarize and give the council or board a summary of the group's testimony.

QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF when planning testimony:

- Has the final decision on this issue already been made?
- What government money is attached to the passage of the ordinance?

When speaking specifically to Sexual Orientation, Gender identity ordinances, here are some tips.

POINT TO OTHER CASES: Across our country, Christians are being condemned and punished for practicing our faith. Some examples are:

- Aaron & Melissa Klein had a bakery in Oregon. They have lost the business and been fined \$135,000 for emotional and mental

anguish after declining to participate in the lesbian wedding of former patrons.

- In Washington state, florist Barronelle Stutzman has been financially penalized for declining to support a same=se wedding with her floral talents. The judge ruling in the case has opened her savings, personal possessions and even home up as a target or the homosexuals who wanted her artistic talents and now are claiming her assets as damages.
- A Christian photographer in New Mexico was fined \$6,700 for politely declining to photograph a lesbian commitment ceremony, despite the fact that such a union had precisely no legal recognition at the time in New Mexico whatsoever.

FAVORITISM: This kind of ordinance gives special consideration to those who identify as LGBTQ to the detriment of many others. Consider the population - 96% Straight, 83% Christian, 30% sexually abused as children, 25% of teens have body image issues, and you want to change bathroom laws for 3.8% LGBT (1.7% gay, 1.8% bi and 0.3% trans) Who will be discriminated against if this passes?

SAFETY: Safety IS an issue, not because of a fear of transgendered people, but because of predators who can use this ordinance as a tool to achieve access to unsuspecting women and children.

LEGALITIES: Read State & Federal Constitution points pertaining to such an ordinance. “The First Amendment to the United States Constitution prohibits the making of any law [respecting an establishment of religion](#), impeding the [free exercise of religion](#).” The Indiana Constitution, Article 1, Section 3. Freedom of Religious Opinions: No law shall, in any case whatever, control the free exercise and enjoyment religious options, or interfere with the rights of conscience.”

CIVIL RIGHT: Have a person with a different ethnicity explain why this is NOT a civil right.

DISCRIMINATION: Point out that discrimination happens throughout life - age to drive or drink, height to ride on roller coaster, handicap parking, money to pay entrance fee, entrance to a surgery room, etc. If there is bad discrimination here, it would be that this ordinance would discriminate against the female population by making restrooms unsafe for them.

Opposition to unsafe situations is not bigotry.

4. **Unite with Pro-Family Liberty groups** such as the Indiana Liberty Action Coalition and American Family Association of Indiana who are on the front lines fighting for these issues. Help them financially, pray for them, and put your boots on the ground for them! These are your front line warriors who will keep pressing forward no matter the cost!

5. **Pray like you have never prayed before.** There is a reason we fight. In Scripture, it says if we humble ourselves, seek His face and turn from our ways, He will hear us and heal our land. We can't use the excuse of silence. We simply can't. Many take the easy road and say, "Jesus is coming soon," and they do nothing. However, if you study Scripture, you will see when God's people prayed and cried out to Him, even though they were headed for judgement... God relented.

Transgender/ Gender Identity Policies

Why are they so dangerous?

May 13th 2016, the Obama Administration sent a letter or an "edict" to all school superintendents giving states and school administrators "guidance" on how to create a bathroom policy for the transgender community. It stated that anyone who accepts federal funding must adopt this policy, or he will remove it.

In essence ... "Open the bathrooms to any gender, or your low-income students won't eat." (This where is the majority of federal funding goes.)

Schools all over the nation scurried to figure out what this meant. They were boxed into a corner. Allow boys into girls' restrooms, or lose funding. It's important to note it's not necessary for any medical care or diagnosis of the transgender person be presented. Simply, if a boy "feels" like a girl one day, he should be able to use the restroom of his choice. This is a dream come true for a teenage boy. The edict also stated it was unacceptable for a school to provide separate accommodations for the transgender. If a girl has a problem undressing in front of a boy, she would need to request a separate bathroom. [The entire edict can be read here.](#)

How to defeat a "Bathroom Bill" in your school

1. Build a grassroots network: Connect with Social Media

- i. **Facebook:** Create a group and invite ALL parents and grandparents in your school district. Begin to unite there. This will be your communication hub. Keep abreast of meeting times, petitions, use this as a platform to educate moms and dads. It is critical to note that parents don't always know what is happening on the school board.
- ii. **Twitter:** Create Hashtags and call out your school board members. (Example: Did you know @schoolboardrogers voted to allow boys to shower with your girls. #bathroombill #protectourchildren #Unsafechoolalert)

2. **Start a Petition:** [Contact us](#) and we will help you start a petition to your local school board. It is vital that they hear from the community. Numbers say volumes.
3. **Make the Call:** Call your State Senator, State Representative, and Governor Pence. Ask them to step in and intervene. Let them know that you expect them to speak up on your behalf. [Find your lawmaker at this link](#). Governor Mike Pence: 317-232-4567
4. **Write Letters to the Editor:** Education is KEY. Parents are busy. They need to be informed about what is taking place on the school board. One way to do this is to write letters to the editor. We will have sample letters below that you are welcome to use. Attend the board meetings and find out what is being discussed. Get to know your school board members before you need to get their attention.
5. **Educate yourself:** Know the issue. Take a crash course on the issues. Know them inside and out.
6. **Attend your school board meeting:** Many things happen at these meetings. It is important to stay abreast of what they are doing. This will help you plan your rallies and meetings.
7. **Host a Rally:** Thousands of moms and dads standing in green shirts (especially before a school board meeting) is a very powerful sight.
8. **Host a Parent Meeting:** Unify around the cause. Many hands make light work. Exchange emails and phone numbers.
9. **Pass out Fliers:** Many moms and dads don't know what is happening because of their busy schedules. Educate them. Hand out flyers around your town and invite them to the rallies and parent meetings.
10. **Get your local Media involved:** Alert them to what is happening on this issue. Get to know the reporters around your city. When you give them information, typically they report it. (national media is a different story.)
11. **File to run for office.** Replace the lawmaker/school board member with someone who stands for your values. (June 30th is the deadline to file for school board)

Activist Checklist



So you are ready to get to work! Here is a great checklist for you to keep handy as you work!

- Obtain a copy of the ordinance or bill. Know the issue.
- Build a Grassroots Network.
 - Create a Facebook page/group to unite like-minded individuals.
 - Create a Twitter account. Utilize hashtags and tag appropriate people.
- Write letters to the editor. (organize 2-3 a week)
- Start a petition. (both online and hard copy)
- Call your State Representative and Senator
- Call your US Senator and US Congressman
- Attend School board meetings or City Council Meetings
- Hold a Rally.
- Host a Parent meeting.
- Pass out Fliers. (Churches, parking lots, ball games)
- Get your local media involved. Call a press conference.
- Run for office. Replace the leader not listening.
- Show up in MASS.
- Wear the same color. (i.e. green= Religious Freedom)

Appendix and Resources

Sample Letters to the Editor

Two weeks ago the Obama Administration send out an "edict" giving all states and School Administrators "guidance" on how to create a bathroom policy for the transgender community. It stated that anyone who accepts federal funding must adopt this policy, or he will remove their funding. In essence... "Open the bathrooms to any gender, or your low income students won't eat." (This where is the majority of federal funding goes.)

How absurd! Schools all over the nation scurried to figure out what this meant. They were boxed into a corner. Allow boys into girls' restrooms, or lose funding. OUCH! It's important to note it's not necessary for any medical care or diagnosis of the transgender person. Simply... if a boy "feels" like a girl one day, he should be able to use the restroom of his choice. THIS IS A DREAM COME TRUE FOR A TEENAGE BOY!! The edict also stated it was unacceptable for a school to provide separate accommodations for the transgender. If a girl has a problem undressing in front of a boy, SHE would need to request a separate bathroom.

As a mom of three children in the public school system, I can tell you, the transgender community is the least of my worries. My concern is not about hate. It is about the safety of my two boys and little girl.

Pandora's Box has been opened by this "letter." Some schools across the nation are taking it as law. It is NOT law. Letters are NOT laws.

Common sense says that opening bathrooms to the opposite sex is dangerous not only for our children's physical health, but their emotional health as well. Thirty percent of children have been sexually abused. Twenty-five percent of our teens have body image issues. It doesn't take a psychology degree to understand what causes "triggers" when exposed to certain variables.

I haven't met one parent who is OK with our teenage daughters being forced to take care of her personal needs in the stall next to a boy, or OK with their teenage daughter showering next to the opposite sex? Is anyone OK with your teen spending the night with the opposite sex on a field trip? (that's also in the edict) NO parent in their right mind would be ok with this stuff!

However, this is our new world, so what can you do about it?

1. Pray for your school board. Some districts are blessed with incredible school boards. All boards across the nation were thrust into the same battle they did not choose. The Obama Administration has gone for the jugular... FUNDING. Pray that they remain strong and fight for our families.
2. When you see the board, personally thank them for standing for our children. Write to them and say thank you. They are our last line of defense!

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Info@indianalibertycoalition.com

3. Most important... your politicians have been SILENT on this. Ask them to SPEAK UP and protect our school system from the Federal government. Ask Governor Pence to tell the Feds stay out of our education matters.

Templates for City Council:

RE: **OPPOSITION to the Human Rights Ordinance**

Dear Mr./Mrs. _____:

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed Human Rights Ordinance.

The Human Rights Ordinance violates Section 3 of the current Indiana Constitution as accepted by the Indiana General Assembly, which states: **“No law shall, in any case whatever, control the free exercise and enjoyment of religious opinions, or interfere with the rights of conscience.”**

Religious freedom matters to me. Yet, the Human Rights Ordinance will punish those who work and/or do business in Valparaiso and wish to enjoy such rights. I ask the Valparaiso City Council to oppose the Human Rights Ordinance and all attempts to compel the citizens of Valparaiso to compromise their beliefs or retreat from civil, political, or business life as the price for following their religious opinions. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Your name

Valparaiso Resident Template:

Dear Mayor _____ and _____ City Council members,

My name is _____ and I have lived in the city of _____ for _____ years. . I am in opposition to this ordinance for multiple reasons. I strongly disagree that taking one set of rights from a group of people in order to give rights to another group of people is what we need to be an inclusive community. This Human Rights Ordinance would be an overreach by our city council, especially when our Federal Constitution, Indiana State Constitution, and Religious Freedom Act cover these rights. This proposed Human Rights Ordinance is an infringement upon my religious liberties and would have negative consequences for the community that I call home.

Thank you

Employed by a business located in Valparaiso

Dear Mayor _____ and _____ City Council members,

My name is _____ and I have worked in the Valparaiso Community for _____ years. I am in opposition to this ordinance for multiple reasons. I strongly disagree that taking one set of rights from a group of people in order to give rights to another group of people is what we need to be an inclusive community. This Human Rights Ordinance would be an overreach by our city council, especially when our Federal Constitution, Indiana State Constitution, and Religious Freedom Act cover these rights. This proposed Human Rights Ordinance is an infringement upon my religious liberties and would have negative consequences for the business that I am a part of.

Thank you
{Full Name here}

Valparaiso Business Owner Template.

Dear Mayor _____ and _____ City Council members,

My name is _____ I currently own a business in the city of Valparaiso, and have for _____ years. I am in opposition to this ordinance for multiple reasons. I strongly disagree that taking one set of rights from a group of people in order to give rights to another group of people is what we need to be an inclusive community. This Human Rights Ordinance would be an overreach by our city council, especially when our Federal Constitution, Indiana State Constitution, and Religious Freedom Act cover these rights. This proposed Human Rights Ordinance is an infringement upon my religious liberties and would have negative consequences for the business I own.

Thank you
{Full Name here}

STUDENT TEMPLATE.

Greetings Mayor _____ and city council members,

My name is _____ and I am a student in the Valparaiso area. I am in opposition to this ordinance for multiple reasons. I have not experienced any of the discrimination that has been discussed in my school, and I strongly disagree that taking one set of rights from a group of people in order to give rights to another group of people is what we need to be an inclusive community, and would have a negative impact on our schools. This Human Rights Ordinance will not help the lives of students that do not feel like they fit in. We do not need rules to modify our behaviors, but we need principles and truths reinforced by our educators.

Thank you

{Full Name here

Sample Petition

Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) Civil Rights Ordinances are playing havoc across the United States of America. While this legislation has been defeated at both the federal and some state levels, cities are creating ordinances that include SOGI language. There is no substantial evidence of discrimination in the city of Valparaiso Indiana based on SOGI. Therefore, this ordinance is providing a solution for a problem that doesn't exist. In many studies cities and states that have enacted SOGI legislation actually have damaged their economies. Forbes also shows 8 out of 10 of the worst state economies in the USA have SOGI laws in place. California has lost an estimated \$2.3 Billion dollars from businesses who have relocated due to the SOGI legislation. This ordinance also provides grounds for business owners to be prosecuted because of their religious beliefs. The State of Indiana added to its code section 1. IC 34-13-9 on July 1, 2015. This section more commonly known as the, "Religious Freedom Act," we believe protects businesses from the prosecution as described in the Valparaiso Indiana SOGI ordinance. Section 8 of the IC 34-13-9 states, "(a) Except as provided in subsection (b), a governmental entity may not substantially burden a person's exercise of religion, even if the burden results from a rule of general applicability." Therefore, we feel the Valparaiso Indiana SOGI ordinance is unlawful in compliance with the State of Indiana Law.

We the undersigned call on the ____ Indiana City Council to eliminate the SOGI Civil Right Ordinance.

1. _____
First Name Last Name

Email address State of Residence

Helpful Websites:

- Indiana Liberty Coalition
<http://www.indianalibertycoalition.com/>
- Indiana Liberty Coalition Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/indianalibertycoalition/>
- Alternative School Districts.
<http://www.privateschoolreview.com/indiana>
- Who is My lawmaker?
<https://iga.in.gov/legislative/find-legislators/>
- Indiana General Assembly
<https://iga.in.gov/>

Conservative Blogs

- Monica Boyer
www.monicaboyer.com
- Amy Schlichter
www.amychlichter.com
- Ogden Politics
<http://www.ogdenonpolitics.com/>
- Add Your own:
