

Beware!

There Is a Growing Aggression

We live in fascinating days. This upcoming election cycle at first seemed that it would be an uninteresting event. How quickly we have seen all that change as unrest and a clamor for change have brought a whole new level of interest to the presidential race.

We have watched with dismay as the prices of crude oil have escalated to all-time highs, exceeding \$100 per barrel and bringing unprecedented fuel costs. In turn, these costs have exacerbated the prices of everything from personal travel to essential goods. Further uneasiness has come from the housing crisis. Poorly conceived and implemented credit practices have sent record numbers of homes into foreclosure in nearly every city and community across the nation.

These issues and a number of others continue to dominate the headlines while sending chills of anxiety through families who are facing myriad challenges in raising their children and providing for their children's everyday needs. For some, the cost of providing a Christian school education for their children has reached new levels of concern. It is at this point that I would like to bring a note of confirmation to your decision to choose Christian schooling. Why is a Christ-centered education such an important issue?

In the book *What's So Great About Christianity*, Dinesh D'Souza writes, "It seems that atheists are not content with committing cultural suicide—they want to take your children with them. The atheist strategy can be described in this way: let the religious people breed them, and we will educate them to despise their parents' beliefs. So the secularization of the minds of our young people is not, as many think, the inevitable consequence of learning and maturing. Rather, it is to a large degree orchestrated by teachers and professors to promote anti-religious agendas" (2007, 31).

I would suggest that we must become adamantly aware of a growing aggression by those who would deny not only the existence of God but also His creation and His desire for our love and obedience. Again, I quote D'Souza in regard to this aggressive behavior: "Columnist Christopher Hitchens, an ardent Darwinist, writes, 'How can we ever know how many children had their psychological and physical lives irreparably maimed by the compulsory inculcation of faith?' Religion, he charges, has 'always hoped to practice upon the unformed and undefended minds of the young.' He wistfully concludes, 'If religious instruction were not allowed until the child had attained the age of reason, we would be living in a quite different world'" (Hitchens 2007).

D'Souza continues, quoting Sam Harris, who compares destroying religion to destroying belief in slavery: "I would be the first to admit that the prospects for eradicating religion in our time do not seem good. Still the same could have been said about efforts to abolish slavery at the end of the eighteenth century" (Harris 2006).

Why is a Christ-centered education such an important issue?

Alarming? Absolutely! I urge you to continue in the battle against those who desire not only to obstruct the development of faith in your children but also to render any belief in God as a belief that lacks reason. Your investment in your children through Christian schooling significantly affects a critical battle in this cultural and spiritual war. Your investment is worth the cost.

References

- D'Souza, Dinesh. 2007. *What's so great about Christianity*. Washington, DC: Regnery Publishing.
- Harris, Sam. 2006. *Letter to a Christian nation*. New York: Knopf, 87. Quoted in D'Souza 2007, 33.
- Hitchens, Christopher. 2007. *God is not great: How religion poisons everything*. New York: Twelve Books, 217, 220. Quoted in D'Souza 2007, 32.



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