

The surest sign one is losing a debate is to resort to character assassination. The Southern Poverty Law Center, a liberal fundraising machine whose tactics have been condemned by observers across the political spectrum, is doing just that.

The group, which was once known for combating racial bigotry, is now attacking several groups that uphold Judeo-Christian moral views, including marriage as the union of a man and a woman.

How does the SPLC attack? By labeling its opponents "hate groups." No discussion. No consideration of the issues. No engagement. No debate!

These types of slanderous tactics have been used against voters who signed petitions and voted for marriage amendments in all thirty states that have considered them, as well as against the millions of Americans who identify

with the Tea Party movement. Some on the Left have even impugned the Manhattan Declaration - which upholds the sanctity of life, the value of traditional marriage and the fundamental right of religious freedom - as an anti-gay document and have forced its removal from general communications networks.

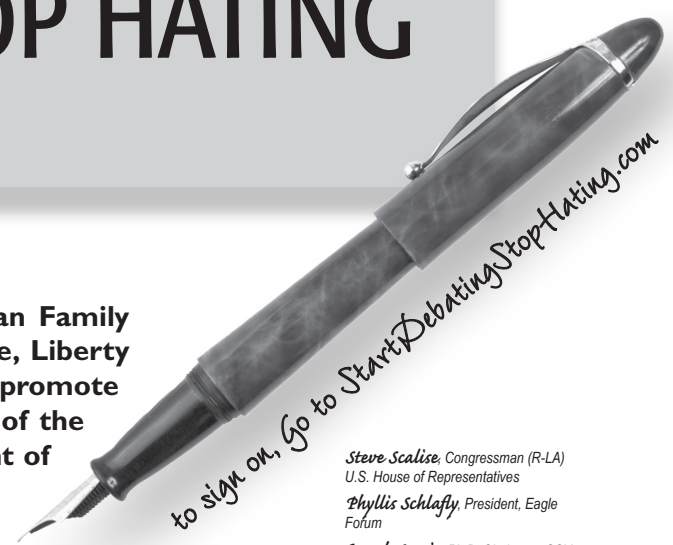
This is intolerance pure and simple. Elements of the radical Left are trying to shut down informed discussion of policy issues that are being considered by Congress, legislatures, and the courts.

Tell the radical Left it is time to stop spreading hateful rhetoric attacking individuals and organizations merely for expressing ideas with which they disagree. Our debates can and must remain civil - but they must never be suppressed through personal assaults that aim only to malign an opponent's character.

START DEBATING | STOP HATING

You can take action by adding your name to the following statement:

We, the undersigned, stand in solidarity with Family Research Council, American Family Association, Concerned Women of America, National Organization for Marriage, Liberty Counsel and other pro-family organizations that are working to protect and promote natural marriage and family. We support the vigorous but responsible exercise of the First Amendment rights of free speech and religious liberty that are the birthright of all Americans.



Julaine Appling, President Wisconsin Family Action
Michele Bachmann, Congresswoman (R-MN) U.S. House of Representatives
Diana Banister, Vice President, Shirley & Banister Public Affairs
Matt Barber, Director of Cultural Affairs, Liberty Counsel
Gary Bauer, President, American Values

E. Calvin Beisner, Ph.D., National Spokesman, Cornwall Alliance for the Stewardship of Creation
Dr. William J. Bennett, Best-Selling Author and Host of "Morning in America"

Tom Benton, MD, President, American College of Pediatricians
Morton Blackwell, President, Leadership Institute
Ken Blackwell, Chairman, Ohio Faith and Freedom Coalition

Andresen Blom, Executive Director, American Principles Project
John Boehner, Speaker-designate (R-OH) U.S. House of Representatives
The Rev. Dr. R. Edgar Bonnivell, Senior Pastor, Faith Christian Fellowship Church

William Boykin, LTG(R) US Army, Kingdom Warriors Ministry
David Bozell, Executive Director, ForAmerica
L. Brent Bozell, Founder and President, Media Research Center

Rensselaer Broekhuizen, Pastor, Retired
Brian Brown, President, National Organization for Marriage
Floyd Brown, President, Western Center for Journalism

Michael Brown, Ph.D., Director The Coalition of Conscience
Sam Brownback, Governor-elect, Kansas
Phil Burgess, President, Citizens for Community Values

Dave Bydalek, Executive Director, Family First (Nebraska FPC)
Herman Cain, CEO and President, THE New Voice, Inc.
Mandi Campbell, Legal Director, Liberty Center for Law and Policy

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John Carter, Congressman, (R-TX) Secretary, House Republican Conference, U.S. House of Representatives
Clint Cline, President, Design4 Marketing Communications
Victoria Cobb, President, The Family Foundation of Virginia

Chuck Colson, Founder, Prison Fellowship and The Colson Center for Christian Worldview
Carroll Conley, Executive Director, Christian Civic League of Maine
Ken Cuccinelli, Attorney General, Virginia
David Crowe, President, Restore America

Jim DeMint, Senator (R-SC) United States Senate
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Len Deo, Founder & President, New Jersey Family First
Bill Donohue, President, Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights

Kyle Drennen, News Analyst, Media Research Center
Becky Norton Dunlop, President, Council for National Policy
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William Greene, President, RightMarch.com
Matthew Hadro, Media Research Center
Colin Hanna, President, Let Freedom Ring

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John Helmerberger, Chief Executive Officer, Minnesota Family Council

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Mike Huckabee, Former Governor, TV/ Radio Commentator

Chuck Hurley, President, Iowa Family Policy Center
Jody Hutchens, Regional Director, Traditional Values Coalition
Bishop Harry Jackson, President, High Impact Leadership Coalition
Cindy Jacobs, President, Generals International

Phillip Jawregui, President, Judicial Action Group
Bobby Jindal, Governor, Louisiana
Bill Johnson, President, American Decency Association

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Rick Joyner, President, The Oak Initiative
Ray Kastner, President, Concerned Citizens for Family Values of Connecticut
Alveda King, King for America

Steve King, Congressman (R-IA) U.S. House of Representatives
Robert Knight, Senior Writer, Coral Ridge Ministries
Andrea Lafferty, Executive Director, Traditional Values Coalition
Dr. Richard Land, President, Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission

Curt Levey, Executive Director, Committee for Justice
Mark Levin, President, Landmark Legal Foundation
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Robert E. McDonnell, Governor, Virginia
Rev. Jason McQuire, New Yorkers for Constitutional Freedoms

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Fr. Frank Pavone, National Director, Priests For Life
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Dan Pennell, CEO, WMTek Corp.

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Alfred Regnery, Publisher, The American Spectator

Patrick Reilly, President, Cardinal Newman Society
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Rick Santorum, Senior Fellow, Ethics and Public Policy Center

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Phyllis Schlafly, President, Eagle Forum
Joseph Sergio, Ph.D, Chairman, CCV of Indiana PAC

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Tom Shields, Chairman, Coalition for Marriage and Family
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David Smith, Executive Director, Illinois Family Institute

Kevin Smith, Executive Director, Cornerstone Action, NH
Lamar Smith, Congressman (R-TX), U.S. House of Representatives
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Peter Wolfgang, Executive Director, Family Institute of Connecticut
Wendy Wright, President, Concerned Women for America

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