



TRUTHS

about

HATE CRIME LAWS

▶ TRUTH 1 “HATE CRIMES” ARE NOT CRIMES OF HATE

Matthew Shepard’s killers wanted to take his money, not vent hate for his homosexuality. They were given life imprisonment for their crime—even though Wyoming does not have a hate crime law. The intervention of Shepard’s mother spared them from execution.

▶ TRUTH 2 HATE CRIME LAWS ARE A SOLUTION IN SEARCH OF A PROBLEM

FBI statistics show that hate crimes are a miniscule percentage of all crime and are, in fact, on the decline. Hate crimes are not more brutal, nor do they have a larger social impact than other crimes. Special laws against hate crimes are not needed. Criminal law already punishes violent offenders, whether they are biased or not.

▶ TRUTH 3 HATE CRIME LAWS CRIMINALIZE THOUGHT

American law has never punished thought or speech—just actions. But hate crime laws criminalize thought and speech. They empower police and prosecutors to arrest and charge offenders not merely for what they do, but for what they think and say.

▶ TRUTH 4 HATE CRIME LAWS VIOLATE EQUAL JUSTICE UNDER THE LAW

Hate crime laws dispense unequal justice. They give added legal protection to members of certain groups. Unequal justice violates God’s command given through Moses to “not show partiality in judgment.”

▶ TRUTH 5 HATE CRIME LAWS ARE ABOUT RECOGNITION, NOT FIGHTING CRIME

The true purpose of hate crime laws is social engineering—to teach Americans that prejudice against certain designated groups is absolutely forbidden.



CORAL RIDGE
MINISTRIES

Dr. D. James Kennedy, Founder

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▶ TRUTH 6 HATE CRIME LAWS BURDEN THE JUSTICE SYSTEM

Identifying a “hate crime” is a hopelessly subjective task. It requires police and courts to know the mind of the offender—an impossibility. The attempt to divine bias requires invasive and futile examinations of a suspect’s thoughts and associations.

▶ TRUTH 7 HATE CRIME LAWS ARE A VEHICLE FOR IDENTITY POLITICS

Hate crime laws divide Americans along fault lines of ethnicity, gender, and “sexual orientation.” They hasten what scholar Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., called the “disuniting of America.” They will move us toward a legal system based on group membership—not impartial justice.

▶ TRUTH 8 HATE CRIME LAWS JEOPARDIZE FREEDOM OF SPEECH

Laws banning “hate” have been used in other nations to criminalize speech. Pastors and others in Sweden, Australia, Britain, and Canada—all nations with hate speech laws—have faced arrest and prison for challenging homosexual conduct or Islam.

▶ TRUTH 9 HATE CRIME LAWS THREATEN RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

Federal hate crime legislation will open the door to charging pastors and other Christian leaders with criminal conspiracy. They can be charged if what they say or write is shown to have incited someone to an act of “hate.”

▶ TRUTH 10 HATE CRIME LAWS ADVANCE THE HOMOSEXUAL AGENDA

Hate crime laws have been used in the Netherlands, Vermont, New Jersey, and California as stepping stones for a long-term strategy to win the right for homosexuals to “marry.” The goal is total legitimization of homosexual conduct.



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