

Attempting to Stop the Harassment of West Coast Christians

(From AFA Indiana's Micah Clark)

It would be difficult to list the most underreported news stories of 2008, but high on the list would have to be the horrific harassment of Christians and supporters of California's Marriage Protection Amendment.

As you know, Californians voted for not once, but twice in just a few years, that marriage should be exactly what it is, the bringing together, not of any two people, but of the two sexes. The California Supreme Court ignored **Prop. 22** when it forced same-sex marriage upon the state last summer, forcing a marriage amendment battle, which voters in the liberal state approved by a strong margin.

What few people know, because it has largely been ignored by the mainstream media, is that since November 4th there have been scores of intentional and planned acts of violence, harassment and intimidation against people of faith and supporters of the amendment. Numerous pastors have required police escorts to their churches following the vote because of threats and protests by homosexual activists. Vandalism has been rampant against churches, homes, cars, private property and businesses. Homosexual activists have published target lists of donors to the Protect Marriage campaign and terrorized their families with protests and acts of hate and intimidation outside their homes and businesses.

Indiana attorney **James Bopp, Jr.** and the **Alliance Defense**

Fund have filed a lawsuit in an effort to protect supporters of marriage from the type of treatment many homosexual activists routinely claim people of faith aim toward them. (*I am convinced that many homosexual activists want to put Christianity in the closet from out of which they say they came in the 1970's.*) As attachments to the lawsuit, there are numerous exhibits consisting of hundreds of pages of reports and testimonials chronicling the incidents that have occurred following the passage of Prop. 8. Included as well is evidence of numerous homosexual web sites listing donors' names, addresses and business information and homosexual activists supporting the mistreatment of Prop. 8 supporters. I have yet to read where any of the attacks against people of faith have been labeled a hate crime, revealing again the politically correct nature of bias crimes statutes.

"No one should worry about getting a death threat because of the way he or she votes," said James Bopp, Jr., lead attorney for the supporters of Proposition 8. "This lawsuit will protect the right of all people to help support causes they agree with, without having to worry about harassment or threats."

"Our laws should ensure free participation in the democratic process, and not result in compromising the free speech and association rights guaranteed to all Americans," said ADF Legal Counsel [Tim Chandler](#), who is serving as local counsel in the case. "Citizens shouldn't have to choose between being involved in the democratic process and subjecting themselves to acts of vengeance."

Thankfully, the US District Court has reviewed the filing and agreed to hear the case on January 26th.