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From the desk of Tom Brejcha, Founder and President…

November 10, 2026

Dear Friend,

Thanksgiving is fast approaching—our very special national holiday that honors the faith and courage of the Pilgrims, who gathered for the first Thanksgiving back in 1621.

Think of what they endured! They braved the unknown. They crossed an ocean. They survived starvation and disease. They buried too many loved ones. **Yet they never despaired!** They drew strength from their deep faith. They gave thanks to God for keeping them alive, despite the many hardships they faced and endured in this New World.

That is why so many among us still cherish that traditional Thanksgiving portrait, painted in the 1940s by famed artist Norman Rockwell and originally published on the cover of America's once weekly magazine, *Saturday Evening Post*. Now it's been reprinted far and wide, as it epitomizes what this Thursday celebration in late November signifies.

The simple truth is that the sacred values of Faith and Family are at the very heart of Thanksgiving and they remain core, traditional values that we cherish as Americans.

Our U.S. Supreme Court recognized this a century ago, declaring that "**the child is not the mere creature of the State."** Parents—not civil government officials—bear the right and responsibility for directing the education and upbringing of their children.

Today too many civil officials—school boards, city officers and council members, judges, and Attorneys General—have lost their grasp of this core element of our nation's tradition and natural law, which is also a fundamental tenet of our constitutional law.

Heedless of the family's primacy, they are trying to push parents aside, silence people of faith, and strip away protections for mothers and their unborn babies, while ignoring fathers' rights as well as responsibilities. You know what can happen when government power goes unchecked. And the worst *has* happened. Family rights have been widely ignored, sidestepped, or trampled and suppressed!

But the same spirit that sustained and emboldened the Pilgrims through those earliest hard years is alive and well. Indeed, it thrives and flourishes in the families we represent in our current hard-pressed, successful efforts to restore and protect families' rights.

These families refuse to back down! Let me tell you what just happened in one small New Jersey town.

New Jersey school board claims our Supreme Court win is *"not binding"* on them.

On June 15th, the president of the Chathams, New Jersey, school board stood before a room full of parents and dared to claim that the landmark U.S. Supreme Court victory that our legal team won in *Mirabelli v. Bonta* is—get this!—"***not binding*** on public school districts in New Jersey."

Not binding? A ruling of the Supreme Court, premised on the United States Constitution, that extends across all our fifty states? **Absurd!**

Four months later, on October 12th, after we went into high gear to bring Chathams' officials up to speed, that very same board voted **7–0** to abandon what had been its ***secret gender transition policy***—for good. Who seconded the motion? **The very same board president!**

That is the same triumphant result we're now striving to repeat around the entire U.S., state by state, school district by school district. Our **Supreme Court victory will protect parents and kids *only* when it's enforced.** And that's our role!

The Chathams case is one of **six critical battles** that our Thomas More Society lawyers have fought just this past month—from New Jersey to Nebraska, from Arizona to California. In every one, officials have twisted the law to get their way by trampling on families' constitutional rights. In every case we've filed so far, **we are standing in the gap** and we mean to keep going!

Facing our lawsuit, the Chathams board has now agreed—in writing—to obey the Supreme Court!

Under its "Policy 5145.7," once a child asked to be treated as a member of the opposite sex, **a school counselor—neither Mom nor Dad—**was given responsibility to decide "whether, and to what extent, parents/guardians can be involved."

At the bidding of such a counselor, the school could give your child a new name and new pronouns, at variance with his or her biological sex. Or change his or her official school records. Or refer him or her to outside "transgender support" groups. **All without telling you!**

As our lawsuit put it, a child could "**live an entire double life at school hidden from his or her parents."** And if another little boy or girl refused—even once—to use a classmate's newly chosen pronouns? He or she could be disciplined. **Even suspended or expelled!**

The parents who stood up against this—our contemporary counterpart inheritors of the brave Pilgrim spirit of four centuries ago—are practicing Christians with two young daughters attending the district's elementary schools. They taught their girls this timeless truth: God created us as male and female.

For speaking up, these parents were doxxed and harassed. The threats grew so serious that **a police car had to be posted outside their home.**

Is this what "equity" or "inclusion" looks like in a New Jersey public school?

We sent the board a formal demand letter in May. In August, our Senior Counsel **Christopher Ferrara** took the board to federal court on behalf of a national group called **Moms for Liberty** and these brave parents.

The school board finally backed off! Under the final settlement we filed in federal court, the Chathams school board officially committed that it:

- Will never readopt Policy 5145.7—or any version of it;
- Will honor parents' constitutional rights under *Mirabelli v. Bonta*, *Mahmoud v. Taylor*, and *Wisconsin v. Yoder,* controlling U.S. Supreme Court rulings; and
- Will hand a copy of the agreement to **every current and future district employee!**

Our Chris Ferrara, himself a New Jersey lawyer, put every school board in America on notice: "Districts that choose to still hide children's gender transitions from their parents can follow the Chathams' lead and change course now, **or they can explain themselves to a federal judge."**

Our fight is far from over on this issue. Trans activists elsewhere are already hunting for loopholes. **Your gift keeps our attorneys ready for the next school board that thinks it can defy the Supreme Court.** And if any court dares such defiance, we'll appeal!

A Nebraska city threatens Christian counselors with jail—for helping children embrace the bodies God gave them!

Tom Dierks has been a dedicated counselor ministering to people in urgent need of help for more than 27 years. He's a lifelong man of Faith who listens and prays with clients who want it. He lets each client set his or her own goals. He uses only "talk therapy."

Yet in Lincoln, Nebraska, Tom's prayerful conversations could land him in jail!

Picture a teenage girl struggling with gender dysphoria. She walks into Tom's office and asks for help embracing the female body that God gave her—and living out the faith she shares with her family.

The City of Lincoln says that Tom can't utter even a few words to help her. If he does, he faces **up to six months in jail, fines, and the loss of his counseling license.**

But if that same girl wanted to "transition" to the opposite sex? Lincoln would let another counselor guide her right down ***that trans path***—no questions asked!

Why should a counselor face jail for helping a child to do exactly what she asked if it's to embrace her physical self—but not if she wants to do the opposite and ingest hormones and otherwise pursue a "gender transition" that results in irreparable harm?

Frankly, we're flabbergasted. This past March, in *Chiles v. Salazar*, the U.S. Supreme Court **already ruled against—by 8 to 1!—**Colorado's biased pro-trans counseling ban nearly identical to Lincoln's.

Yet another example of George Orwell's *dystopian novel **1984*** and its fictional dictator **Big Brother coming to life** in the person of Lincoln, NE officialdom, squarely in our nation's very heartland!

We warned Lincoln. Twice. We asked the City to repeal its flagrantly biased and illegal ban. Lincoln refused. So in early October, we filed a federal lawsuit against Lincoln on behalf of Tom and a second Christian counselor who also works with children and young adults.

As our Senior Counsel **Matt Heffron** said, "The Supreme Court has spoken, and City of Lincoln officials should listen. *If they won't, we trust a federal court will help them hear*."

Every child and adolescent caught up in the hurt and pain of gender dysphoria deserves the chance to talk to a trusted adult with a sympathetic ear—unhindered by any dictatorial, lawless government prohibition on counseling, that is, on free speech. **If you can send a gift today to help us *uphold the Law of our Land*, please do so!**

A widowed grandfather's pro-life sidewalk ministry is now in the hands of a federal appeals court!

Last month I told you about **Roger Lopez**—the retired grandfather who has helped more than 100 women choose life outside San Diego's downtown Planned Parenthood. On October 29th, our Senior Counsel **Michael McHale** stood before the 9th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals to fight for Roger.

San Diego has wrapped an eight-foot "bubble zone" (i.e., a roving no-speech zone) around people near hundreds of health care facilities, schools, and houses of worship. If Roger steps inside it to offer a leaflet, he could face **three months in jail** for his first offense—and **six months** if he dared to become a "repeat offender"!

But Planned Parenthood staff and escorts? **They're exempt!** They can freely approach, "educate," and "counsel" the very women Roger may not go near. That's not free speech. **That's the government picking one side of a life-and-death debate against the other side!**

Michael asked the court to restore Roger's freedom—and took direct aim at *Hill v. Colorado*, the "zombie" High Court precedent said to justify "no-speech zones" like San Diego's across all of America.

We're advocating, in step with a majority of Supreme Court Justices, who opined that *Hill* "distorted First Amendment doctrines," that it's past time to bury (that is, to overturn or severely narrow or distinguish *Hill*) this aging, discredited, distorted precedent!

"I believe Jesus is calling me there to stand there in His place and to reach out to those who need help," Roger told us. "**You can't give up on them."**

We won't give up on Roger as we await the ruling and prepare, if need be, for further appeal to the Supreme Court itself. Please keep Roger, Michael, and our whole legal team in your prayers.

An Arizona judge struck down life-saving protections for mothers and their babies. We're helping pro-life lawmakers on appeal.

In Arizona, a Judge struck down laws that guaranteed mothers **time, information, and an ultrasound test** before an abortion. Some of these crucial laws had stood since 2009!

The Judge's excuse? Arizona's 2024 abortion amendment. Citing no evidence, the Judge said "[v]irtually every regulation of abortion" ***interferes*** with the so-called "right" to abortion.

Does letting a mother see her baby on an ultrasound screen "interfere" with anyone's rights? Does giving her the facts and a little time to decide? Emphatically ***not***! Arizona voters chose narrow words for their amendment. The Judge simply ignored them.

On behalf of Arizona Right to Life, our veteran Senior Counsel **Mary Catherine Martin** and ace Staff Counsel **Christopher Galiardo** filed an *amicus curiae* (friend-of-the-court) brief asking the Arizona Court of Appeals to restore these wholly valid, longstanding pro-life laws.

The culture of death deplores such allowances of time, information, and ultrasounds as "burdens." We call them mothers' "rights." **Your gift helps us stand up for mothers and babies in Arizona and elsewhere.**

California's crusade against Abortion Pill Reversal is now "under advisement" before our Oakland, CA Trial Judge!

Two Christian charities, our clients Heartbeat International and RealOptions, share this simple truth: **women who regret taking abortion pills *may still choose to save their babies!***

For telling women about this potential life-saving truth, California's Attorney General, Rob Bonta, claims that this is false "commercial advertising."

He's asking our Oakland, California state Trial Judge to bankrupt and silence these charitable pregnancy resource centers, by imposing **more than $25 million in crushing fines** and a **permanent gag order**. Yet during six weeks of trial, "Big Brother" Bonta could not produce a single woman who was "harmed."

Not one! Nor are these charities remotely "commercial"! A decision is expected by mid-December. By the time I write you next, we may well have a ruling. Plain and simple: *the truth is on our side*. Pray for justice!

Illinois's new "assisted suicide law" is *blocked* against nearly all Catholic and many Christian and other medical providers!

Last month I told you about our big win against Illinois's evil new assisted suicide law. A federal court order—agreed to by State enforcers—now shields **more than 95% of Illinois's Catholic health care institutions** and thousands of other conscientious and religious caregivers.

True, the order is temporary. Illinois still defends its law, so we're also preparing to ask the federal court for entry of a preliminary injunction—a step toward 100% protection against this law. We won't stop until this evil law is struck down!

This Thanksgiving, will you stand with us in defending the rights of parents, pro-life ministries, faithful counselors, and the unborn?

A Mom and Dad so harassed for protecting their little girls that a police car had to stand guard outside their home. Your support just made it possible for them to win in court.

A Catholic counselor risking jail for helping a teenage girl do exactly what she asked—to overcome her "gender dysphoria" and find comfort with her God-given body.

A grandfather is silenced on the sidewalk and cannot even hand a pro-life leaflet to a frightened, abortion-bound young woman—all while pro-abortion escorts roam free!

And mothers in Arizona can now be rushed toward an irreversible choice to abort without the information, or the ultrasound, that Arizona's pro-life laws once had guaranteed her.

None of this is hypothetical... These are the real threats our heroic clients are facing *right now*. With your support, we can stand in the gap and fight for what's right.

Here's the key: ***You*** make the difference in every one of these fights.

So please, will you help us defend life, family, and freedom with a gift of **$500, $250, or $100?** We also need lots of gifts in the range of **$75, $50, $35**—or whatever you can sacrifice.

We will gratefully accept your generous contribution, ***no matter how small, no matter how large!*** If the Lord has blessed you financially, please prayerfully consider gifts of **$5,000, $2,500, or $1,000.**

I'm praying one hero will step forward with $10,000, five with $5,000, and ten with $1,000—these gifts make a tremendous impact in the fight for freedom and justice.

Your prayers and gifts sustain us at Thomas More Society, and this Thanksgiving, I am especially grateful for them. I hope that you and your loved ones enjoy a blessed Thanksgiving. May God bless you in His own best way!

Yours faithfully,



Tom Brejcha
Founder and President
Thomas More Society

P.S. Wins like our most recent one for families in New Jersey are exactly what your support makes possible. Please send your most generous gift today!