

**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.

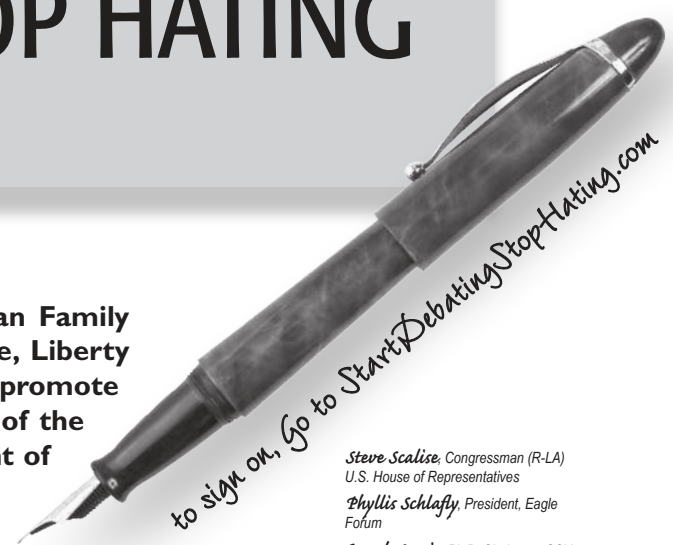
This is intolerance pure and simple. Elements of the radical Left are trying to shut down informed discussion of policy issues that are being considered by Congress, legislatures, and the courts.

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  
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**The Rev. Dr. R. Edgar Bonnivell**, Senior Pastor, Faith Christian Fellowship Church  
**William Boykin**, LTG(R) USArmy, Kingdom Warriors Ministry  
**David Bozell**, Executive Director, ForAmerica  
**L. Brent Bozell**, Founder and President, Media Research Center  
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**Floyd Brown**, President, Western Center for Journalism  
**Michael Brown**, Ph.D., Director The Coalition of Conscience  
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**Dave Bydalek**, Executive Director, Family First (Nebraska FFC)  
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**Mandi Campbell**, Legal Director, Liberty Center for Law and Policy

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**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  
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**David Denholm**, President, Public Service Research Foundation  
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**Bobby Jindal**, Governor, Louisiana  
**Bill Johnson**, President, American Decency Association

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**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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**Kevin Smith**, Executive Director, Cornerstone Action, NH  
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**Peter Wolfgang**, Executive Director, Family Institute of Connecticut  
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**Richard Ziser**, Director, Nevada Concerned Citizens

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