

Resolution #1
On the Sanctity of Human Sexuality

WHEREAS, God has given us His gift of physical union between man and wife within the bonds of marriage to be enjoyed and celebrated (Genesis 1:28; 2:24-25), and

WHEREAS, this act of marriage is sacred and holy in God's sight (Hebrews 13:4), and

WHEREAS, Satan has continuously attempted to distort and undermine God's perfect design,

BE IT RESOLVED that the messengers to the sixth annual meeting of Southern Baptists of Texas Convention acknowledge and affirm the sanctity of human sexuality as God has designed within the bonds of marriage (Matthew 19:5), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we affirm and support the biblical standard of purity and this commitment of our young and single of all ages to remain sexually abstinent apart from marriage (1 Thessalonians 4:3-8; 1 Corinthians 6:18-21), and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that we acknowledge that sexual activity outside the bonds of marriage is sin, including all forms of perversion as listed in Scripture, including fornication, adultery, pornography, and homosexuality (Galatians 5:19).

Resolution #2
Gratitude for Governor Rick Perry

WHEREAS, you have strongly supported and signed the Defense of Marriage Act (SB7), the Prenatal Protection Act ("Unborn Victims of Violence Act") (SB319, HB246), and the Woman's Right to Know Act (HB15) as well as other pro-family-pro-life bills passed by the 78th Texas Legislature,

BE IT RESOLVED that the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention in Corpus Christi Texas, on October 27-28, 2003, wish to express our gratitude for your strong leadership regarding pro-family and pro-life issues and commit ourselves to pray for you as you continue to lead our great state.

Resolution #3
On Christian Citizenship

WHEREAS, in 2003, America celebrated two hundred and twenty-seven years as one nation under God, and

WHEREAS, our forefathers' exodus to America was a search for many things. One of the most important was religious freedom, the liberty to worship God in a way that would honor and please Him, and

WHEREAS, Baptists have played an important role in the birth of our republic. We as a denomination have invested heavily in the American experience, but the returns have been worth all the struggles and sacrifices. Christianity in America has prospered without state control, and

WHEREAS, it is most fitting that we as Southern Baptists of Texas Convention renew and pledge our appreciation, love, support and prayers for our great nation, and

WHEREAS, we recognize that true freedom comes only by knowing the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior. "If the Son therefore shall make you free, you shall be free indeed." (John 8:36),

BE IT RESOLVED that we, the messengers to the sixth annual meeting of the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, regard our opportunity to vote as a prayerful privilege and an urgent responsibility. With the coming election of 2004, there are many issues at stake that cry out for our participation, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, we challenge pastors and church leaders to encourage church members to be properly registered, informed, and mobilized to vote.

RESOLUTION #4
The Federal Marriage Amendment

WHEREAS, the Bible teaches that God created man and woman with instructions to be fruitful, and multiply and replenish the earth (Genesis 1:28P; that man and woman were intended to become one flesh (Genesis 2:24, 25), and

WHEREAS, the Baptist Faith and Message states that “marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime” and that marriage is “the framework for intimate companionship, the channel of sexual expression according to biblical standards and the means for procreation of the human race”, and

WHEREAS, the institution of marriage is under broad attack by special interest groups attempting to open the door to same-sex marriage through the federal court system, and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court in a June 26, 2003, 6 to 3 decision, effectively struck down laws against sodomy in Texas and 12 other states, and

WHEREAS, Representative Marilyn Musgrave (R-Colorado) and some 90 co-sponsors from both parties have proposed a U.S. Constitutional Amendment (H.J. Res. 56) stating that “marriage in the United States shall consist of the union of a man and a woman. . .” That in neither this constitution (U.S.) or the Constitution of any state, nor State or Federal law, shall be construed to require that marital status or the legal incidents thereof be conferred upon unmarried couples or groups, and

WHEREAS, this amendment would ensure (1) that neither state legislatures nor courts could decide issues concerning public marital benefits and (2) that the people would have the exclusive right to enact such measures,

BE IT RESOLVED, the messengers to the sixth annual meeting of the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention stand along with Rep. Marilyn Musgrave and others across political and denominational lines in support of the Federal Marriage Amendment (H.J. Res. 56), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, we encourage all Texas Baptists to become informed of this issue and make their voice known to their federal legislators in a timely fashion, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that we are committed to pray for all federal legislators as they consider the Federal Marriage Amendment to the Constitution of United States.

RESOLUTION #5
Church and State Relations

WHEREAS, there continues to be a debate within the fabric of our nation regarding the proper interpretation and enforcement of the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America, and

WHEREAS, the First Amendment of the Constitution prohibits the ability of Congress to enact any law respecting an establishment of religion, or the free exercise thereof, and

WHEREAS, both the “Establishment Clause” and the “Free Exercise” clause of the First Amendment accomplish separate and distinct goals aimed at the preservation of the freedoms intended by the Constitution itself, and

WHEREAS, in recent days there has come to the forefront of the media issues related to First Amendment provisions, including but not limited to the right to display the Ten Commandments in a public building and inclusion of the phrase “One nation under God” in the country’s Pledge of Allegiance, and

WHEREAS, the Bible (Romans 13:1-7, Titus 3:1, 1 Peter 2:13-17) offers guidance to people of faith on the proper response to government authorities, and

WHEREAS, the Baptist Faith and Message (Articles 15 and 17) addresses fundamental Baptist beliefs related to the social implications of the Christian faith,

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Corpus Christi, Texas, October 27-28, 2003, do hereby reaffirm our conviction that our nation was predicated on a fundamental commitment to individual religious liberty, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we claim and cling to, as a basic American right, the language of the first amendment which clearly recognizes an individual's free exercise of religion as a preferred and protected constitutional activity, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we affirm and pledge our obedience to the biblical mandate to live our convictions in the context of a public society, a reality that the "free exercise" clause both protects and values, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we assert that the exercise of our faith in public does not contradict in any way the prohibition of state established religion, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that within the biblical constraints as concisely stated in the Baptist Faith and Message, we will resist, object to, and seek to defeat any social or political agenda which seeks to foster an aggressive secularization or mandate in the marketplace that is hostile to or discriminatory toward the free exercise right of American citizens to express their religious convictions in public places.

RESOLUTION #6 On Missions Giving

WHEREAS, the central message of the Bible is the love of God for humanity, and John 3:16, and

WHEREAS, the love of God for us led Christ to die on the cross for our sins, Romans 5:8 "But God demonstrated His love for us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us," and

WHEREAS, Christ Jesus has saved and forgiven us and commanded us to share His love with others, Matthew 28:19, 20, and

WHEREAS, Southern Baptists are committed to evangelism and missions as acknowledged in the BF&M section XI, "Evangelism and Missions"... The Lord Jesus Christ has commanded the preaching of the gospel to all nations. It is the duty of every child of God to seek constantly to win the lost to Christ by verbal witness under girded by a Christian lifestyle, and by other methods in harmony with the gospel of Christ, and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge the strategic importance of the Lottie Moon offering and work of the International Mission Board in reaching the lost for Christ, and

WHEREAS, the Cooperative Program was created as an effective unified method for the churches to support mission endeavors, and

WHEREAS, Southern Baptists have given record amounts through the Lottie Moon offering in support of sending out over 1000 new missionaries each of the last two years, and

WHEREAS, God is answering prayers in calling out workers to the harvest in numbers exceeding the current level of financial resources, and

WHEREAS, all logistical support is provided through Cooperative Program giving and Lottie Moon giving provides for additional field ministry, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jerry Rankin, president of our Southern Baptist International Mission Board, has called for an increase of 33% in Lottie Moon giving for 2003,

BE IT RESOLVED we pledge to prayerfully seek God's leadership in increasing our gifts, tithes, and offerings through the Cooperative Program and through the Lottie Moon Christmas offering to support reaching the lost for Christ and fulfilling the Great Commission of our Lord.

RESOLUTION #7 Resolution of Gratitude for Dr. Harris

WHEREAS, the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention elected Dr. George Harris to the office of president during the convention's October 2001 Annual Meeting in Fort Worth, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Harris has provided exemplary leadership as president, and

WHEREAS, the vision, integrity, and wisdom of Dr. Harris have led this convention to greater strength and harmony,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the messengers to the 2003 Southern Baptists of Texas Convention Annual Meeting in Corpus Christi, Texas do affirm, applaud, and value the service of Dr. George Harris as president.

RESOLUTION #8
United States Supreme Court Decision on Texas Sodomy Law

WHEREAS, the Bible states that homosexual activity is a sin (Leviticus 18:22; Romans 1:24-28; 1 Timothy 1:8-10), and God's desire for people engaged in all forms of sinful behavior is redemption and reconciliation as stated in 2 Corinthians 5:17-21, Romans 5:6-8, and

WHEREAS, we have a responsibility as Christians to proclaim the truth of God's Word and hold high the standard of righteousness, and

WHEREAS, homosexual behavior was deemed illegal under Texas Penal Code Sec. 21.06

BE IT RESOLVED, we specifically oppose the recent United States Supreme Court decision (No. 02-102) for failing to uphold Texas law prohibiting homosexual activity in said Penal Code, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, we affirm that the biblical standards of morality should be held in the highest regard by every believer, citizen, executive, legislature, and judiciary in the state of Texas and the United States of America, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, we acknowledge that God is the ultimate authority over the conduct of humanity (Matthew 28:18; Romans 13:1-2), and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, we affirm our commitment to the Word of God and to pray for those in authority over us so that righteousness shall prevail. "Righteousness exalts a nation but sin is a reproach to any people." Proverbs 14:34

RESOLUTION #9
The Sanctity of Human Life

WHEREAS, the Word of God affirms the sanctity of human life, and

WHEREAS, the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention has historically affirmed the sanctity of human life,

BE IT RESOLVED, we affirm the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America for passing the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, we affirm President Bush in his stated intention to sign the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act into law.