

## **Major Areas of Church/State Conflict**

1) Prayer, scripture reading, Ten Commandments- USSC cases, "In God We Trust" in schools and public spaces and government events.

2)"Under God" in the Pledge.

3) Religious leaders and groups exerting political pressures on elections and legislation. Catholic Bishops' statements. Bills to permit direct pulpit politicking.

4) The religious backdrop on the great "moral" issues  
Reproductive choice issues  
Gay and Lesbian rights – Gay Marriage amendments

5) Discrimination against religious minorities. Schools and prisons.  
In public ceremonies. ? Wiccans and Atheists treated the same?

6) Public funding of religious groups:

Faith-based charities – vouchers

Prison programs

Head Start

"Compassionate Capital Fund" – to build church buildings and facilities. California's Historic Catholic Missions

Vouchers for religious schools and colleges. Denver pre-school proposal.

Crucial problems with vouchers: accountability & discrimination

7) Creationism vs. evolution in schools. Intelligent Design. Stem cell research controversy.

8) Religious uses of public facilities. Religious meetings in public schools

9) Legal relief: Property and sales tax relief; ministers' tax relief; lack of employee rights; inspection exemptions of facilities and finances