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Your donations help COPE continue its mission by helping to cover ongoing costs, including office supplies, public engagement, website and technology support, and legal proceedings.

Checks should be made out to COPE and sent to our mailing address. Donations may also be made using our website via PayPal.

COPE is a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation. All contributions are tax deductible. You will receive a donation receipt by mail.

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information,
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Join COPE



Persons interested in joining COPE may submit the Membership Application Form that may be found on our website: www.COPEinc.org. The completed form may be mailed to our address below or else submitted as an e-mail attachment.

COPE will protect the privacy of all who are accepted for membership. No fees, dues, or assessments are required.

Members will receive periodic reports on COPE's activities. Also, members will be notified of opportunities to serve as they arise.

Contact COPE



Citizens for Objective Public Education
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Citizens for Objective Public Education



COPE's Mission:

COPE promotes objectivity in public school curricula that address religious questions and issues so that the educational effect of the teaching is religiously neutral.



Religious rights in the classroom:

COPE promotes the religious rights of parents, children, and taxpayers. We support the right of parents to direct the religious, as well as academic, education of their children.



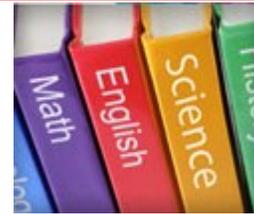
COPE's Methods

- ◆ Policy research.
- ◆ Education of the public.
- ◆ Education of government officials.
- ◆ Grassroots mobilization.
- ◆ Studies of federal and state academic education standards.
- ◆ Analysis of federal, state, and local education policies.
- ◆ Publication of position papers.

Feel free to contact COPE to:

- ◆ Ask questions about COPE's mission and methods.
- ◆ Report a state or local issue that appears to violate religious neutrality.
- ◆ Seek advice in drafting legislation, policy statements, or education standards.
- ◆ Request a speaker on a particular issue.
- ◆ Inquire about other issues or situations that may fall under COPE's mission.

Religious rights in public schools



Q. What is a religious issue?

A. An issue that deals with an ultimate question; *i.e.*, Where did we come from? What is the nature and purpose of life? How should I live morally and ethically?

Q. How should public schools deal with subjects touching on religious issues?

A. When such subjects are taught, disclose the religious issue and present the subject in an objective manner so that the effect of the teaching will be religiously neutral.

Q. What does "religion" include?

A. Religion is an activity that profoundly relates the life of man to the world in which he lives. U.S. courts have ruled that religion includes theistic, atheistic, and pantheistic belief systems.

Q. What topics deal with religious issues?

These include, among others, the origin, development, and nature of life and the universe; the sanctity of life; family and marriage; human sexuality; morality and ethics; and religion in culture and history.

Q. Does COPE support school choice?

COPE believes that parents should be free to choose among public, private, and home school options for their children. Control by parents and local school boards is best.

Next Generation Science Standards



Q. Why is COPE concerned about NGSS?

A. NGSS addresses religious questions, but provides only materialistic (atheistic) answers. This violates the religious neutrality principle in the First Amendment.

Q. What topics are of most concern?

A. Origins science (origin/development of life and the universe) and environmentalism (climate change, sustainable development).

Q. Does NGSS contain evidence for or consideration of teleology (design or purpose in nature)?

A. No. NGSS uses methodological naturalism, an arbitrary doctrine that restricts science to materialistic explanations.

Q. What is COPE doing to combat NGSS?

In September, 2013 COPE filed suit in federal court against the Kansas State Board of Education, alleging that NGSS has the effect of establishing an atheistic/materialistic worldview.

Q. Is NGSS related to Common Core?

A. NGSS science is designed to "align" and "cohere" with Common Core mathematics and English language arts standards. COPE is opposed to these and any other "national" standards that detract from local control.