



## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF EVANGELICAL CHAPLAIN ENDORSERS (ICECE)

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### Press Release

The International Conference of Evangelical Chaplain Endorsers (ICECE) strongly condemns the Department of Defense's deceit, hypocrisy, sophistry and arrogance in its historic change of policy allowing Armed Forces service personnel to "officially" wear their uniforms in San Diego's Gay Pride day parade, a blatantly political event.

Out of one side of its mouth, DOD proclaims its official policy following the repeal of the ban on homosexual behavior (known as "don't ask, don't tell") is supposed to be sexual orientation neutrality. That means it has no position for or against the appropriateness of homosexual behaviors. Out of the other side of its mouth, as shown by its historic change in policy abandoning any pretense of political neutrality, DOD puts its official stamp of approval on the very behavior it now forbids its members to criticize. It forbids such criticism although volumes of health and medical studies characterizing such behaviors as risky and unhealthy. This is not neutrality, but blatant political favoritism.

DOD ignores the fact that those who seek to practice and normalize homosexual behaviors are part of a political movement characterized by practices the majority of DOD's own personnel and those in civilian society characterize as sinful, unhealthy and deviant. Allowing its military personnel to represent DOD in a Gay Pride parade is in fact DOD's approval of 1) the political objectives and agenda of the LGBT lobby and 2) of such behaviors.

DOD's approval of participation through its members in an event that resulted in the award to firefighters of substantial damages because of the character of the parade shows an arrogant and deliberate disregard for the values of the millions who hold such practices are immoral, as well as, unhealthy and risky as confirmed by numerous scientific and health studies. This demonstrates not neutrality but DOD's overt hostility to those who hold traditional moral and religious values.

ICECE calls upon other political, religious and social groups who organize public events, e.g., the March for Life, Tea Party gatherings and parades, to petition the DOD for approval of service personnel to wear their uniforms to such events. Given DOD's announced policy of "neutrality" now defined by its approval of official participation in Gay Pride parades, approval for such events should be given as a matter of fairness and a demonstration of true neutrality.

James F. Poe,  
CAPT, CHC, USN, Ret.  
Chairman, ICECE

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**"And his feet shall stand that day upon the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem. . . and the Lord shall be King over all the earth; in that day the LORD will be the only one, and His name the only one." Zech. 14:4,7**