

# The Church versus Vaccine Mandates

by Allen Quist

Are religious organizations conscience-bound to follow the new OSHA and Department of Labor vaccine mandates? They are not. To be more specific, are colleges and other schools that are owned and operated by groups of congregations (synods) conscience-bound to comply with the new OSHA vaccine mandates? They are not. Schools may choose to comply for other reasons, but if they do so, they need to have reasons other than matters of conscience.

Why is this? The Bill of Rights was added to our Constitution in order to protect the people, the states, and private organizations from government over-reach. The framers of the Bill of Rights put the most important guarantor of our rights first. It says:

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Does the OSHA mandate affect the “establishment” or “free exercise” of religion in schools owned and operated by church bodies? When we recognize that the OSHA mandate imposes a new professed legal requirement for anyone who is employed by the church, the answer is, yes.

We are dealing here with a conflict between our Constitution and OSHA along with other governmental bodies. Whenever we are dealing with a conflict of this kind, we need to determine which entity is the higher authority. Clearly the Constitution is a higher authority than OSHA, the Department of Labor, and other units of government. For this reason, under Romans 13, it is the Constitution we are conscience-bound to obey.

At the time of this writing, the issue is before the U.S. Supreme Court. Hopefully the Court will rule correctly. But as far as our conscience is concerned, it doesn't matter—the reason being that conscience-bound obedience to the Constitution means being obedient to what it says and means, not being obedient to what the Court says it means.

But doesn't government have a legitimate role in imposing safety standards on the church as in the case of building codes, for example? Yes, it does have that role, but this reality doesn't apply here because the OSHA mandates are detrimental to our safety, not supportive.

Let me explain. On the morning of January 6, 2022, America's Frontline Doctors filed the following brief with the U.S. Supreme Court:

It is the consensus of the medical community that the currently available Covid-19 vaccine injections do not prevent the spread of SARS-CoV-2. Relevant federal agencies have repeatedly acknowledged this consensus. Therefore, there is no scientific or legal justification for OSHA to segregate injected and un-injected people. Indeed, since the Covid-19 injections do not confer immunity upon the recipients, but are claimed to merely reduce the symptoms of the disease, they do not fall within the long-established definition of a vaccine at all. They are instead treatments and must be analyzed as such under the law.

That is, we know that this mandate by OSHA serves no useful purpose regarding safety as stated by the Frontline Doctors above. The recent infections of fully vaccinated Minnesota Governor Tim Walz, fully vaccinated Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison, and many other fully vaccinated persons who have become sick with Covid-19 provide real-world testimony to this fact. Because the shot serves no useful purpose at this time, the cost to benefit ratio for anyone considering the shot clearly favors those who refuse to take it.

And what about the many well-known examples of the shot creating major dangers, not safety? For example, scientific evaluation of the side-effects of the shot has demonstrated that pregnant women who are given the shot in the first 20 weeks of pregnancy have a 90 percent chance of spontaneous abortion.

- [On Preliminary Findings of mRNA Covid-19 Vaccine Safety in Pregnant Persons](#)
- [Researchers In Peer-Reviewed Study Call For “IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL of mRNA COVID Vaccines For Use in Pregnancy, Those Breastfeeding, Those Of Childbearing Age and Children](#)

The fact is that if a woman in the first 20 weeks of pregnancy takes the shot, doing so is essentially a death sentence for her unborn child. All of us need to be informing others of this suppressed scientific fact.

But how can this be? Why is the medical community hiding this important scientific fact from pregnant women? The medical community has been pressured by the politicians and pharmaceutical industry into promoting the vaccine regardless of its harmful consequences. The medical community actually encourages pregnant women to take the shot—telling them it is safe for everyone—a bald-faced lie.

If you have any doubts about the truth of all this, do an internet search on the current birth rate in the United States. You will discover that our birth rate has declined by 8% from December, 2020 to December, 2021. Demographers call this steep decline in just one year “unprecedented.” Add to this fact the numerous reports from delivery room nurses of major increases in spontaneous abortions, still-births, and major birth defects.

What has changed? The change is that some 61% of Americans have had one or more of the shots. We now have the opposite of the baby boom which occurred at the end of World War II. The baby boom has become the baby bust.

As a consequence all schools need to recognize they will have 8% fewer students entering the system, other things being equal, at a date certain in the future depending on the type of school. (grade school, high school, or college, etc.) Does requiring the shot affect the "free exercise" of religion? When it eliminates 8% of our prospective students, it obviously does.

Similarly, when there is a conflict between what OSHA says and what God's word says, we are to follow God's word, not OSHA. God's word says: "Do not harm yourself" (Acts 16:28). and Jesus answered by saying,

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and most important commandment. The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:34).

These two commandments take precedence over any mandates OSHA forces upon us.

What about persons not mentioned above? Are they being harmed by the OSHA mandates? Yes, they are. It is well-established in the scientific community that natural immunity to Covid-19 is far superior to any protection offered by Covid-19 shots. But if those with natural immunity take the shot, their natural immunity will be severely compromised and will likely be lost all together. People who have contracted the virus now have natural immunity. For these individuals taking the shot does more harm than good. Does OSHA make exception for natural immunity? Does it make exception for pregnancy? Does it make exception for religious institutions? In all these cases the answer is, no.

Our real moral responsibility is clearly stated by Jesus the Christ above as well as by the Hippocratic Oath which is summarized in these three words: "Do no harm."