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 **TODAY'S "QUICK HIT":**
OPPOSITION TO
VOUCHERS AND OTHER
CONSERVATIVE IDEAS –
PLEASE MAKE LIBERAL
ARGUMENTS
CONSISTENT!



By Stephen L. Bakke  April 11, 2017

Here's what provoked me:

I saw a guest opinion that argued against the school voucher program because public funds shouldn't be used to pay for religious instruction. I understand his concern, but his arguments are inconsistent with some position liberals have taken on similar concerns by conservatives. After reading the following, do you agree with my premise?

Here's my response:

Opposition to Vouchers and Other Conservative Ideas – Please Make Liberal Arguments Consistent!

On April 4, Steve Kelley made a plea in "Taxpayers must not pay for religious education." This is in opposition to the Administration's support for school vouchers and the title clearly states his message. He's really worried about public funds being used to teach religion because in his opinion voucher funds are co-mingled with other non-public school funds, thereby apparently subsidizing religious courses.

Kelley would probably refer to vouchers as a violation of the concept of "separation of church and state," while I prefer the concept be described as "religious freedom." I understand some of his concern. My only point is that this liberal argument contradicts some other statements about conservative ideas.

For example, conservatives object to funding Planned Parenthood because it's illegal for government funds to be used to pay for abortions. Planned Parenthood responds to this essentially with the argument that government funds are kept apart from the abortion services. That's a contradiction to Kelley's argument about vouchers because the funds are comingled in much the same way.

Let's also recall the Catholic Church's official objection to Obamacare's requirement for insurance coverage of birth control. The Obama Administration's response was to do a bit of "rhetorical separation" of the funds from the benefits and declared that all was well. But that was a ruse because once again, the funds are comingled in much the same way.

Please try to make your liberal arguments consistent. They will be better understood by friend and foe alike.