The Family Room

By: Dr. Roy Don Whitehead

Vote "Yes" For Family Court

On Tuesday, November 5, the following amendment will appear on the ballot in Kentucky:

"Are you in favor of Family Courts in Kentucky by amending The Kentucky Constitution to allow the Supreme Court to designate a division of Circuit Court as a Family Court?"-

I urge you to vote "Yes" in support of Family Courts. Family Court is currently an experiment in twenty-six Kentucky counties, including Pulaski, Rockcastle and Lincoln. Now that these courts have proven themselves, it is time to pass a constitutional amendment and assure that all Kentuckians have access to these courts.

What are Family Courts? These are the courts that handle all matters relating to family law, such as divorce, domestic violence and juvenile offenses. Instead of seeing two or three judges for different problems, families will be seen by one judge. This will allow the judge to be more familiar with the family's situation. "One family, one judge" is the motto of Family Court.

Consider the fictitious Johnson family. Mrs. Johnson has filed an Emergency Protective Order against her husband for threatening her and the children. Mr. Johnson files his own protective order, claiming that his wife threatened him. Their fourteen year old son Johnnie has been skipping school and has been sent to juvenile court. Now Mrs. Johnson has filed for divorce.

That is certainly a complicated tangle of legal, social and psychological issues. Under the old system three different judges might have heard this case: one judge for domestic violence, one for Johnnie,s truancy and another for the divorce. Under the family court system one judge hears all these cases. This allows that judge to understand the complicated dynamics of this family in distress.

Family Court judges and staff receive specialized training in family relations, child development and psychology. Because these courts handle only family related issues, they can specialize in this area of law.

Family court judges also are in a good position to refer families to social service and other agencies who can help. The judges can order the family into counseling or to a divorce education classes. In the case of domestic violence, the judge may order the abuser to attend anger management classes and the victim to attend domestic violence education.

With all these good reasons in favor of the amendment, it should pass easily, right? Not necessarily. The amendment passed the Senate and House with ease, but Kentuckians have shown a reluctance to tinker with the state constitution. Many amendments, some bad and some very good, have been voted down at the polls. Amendments should be very carefully considered and this is one amendment that deserves to pass.

Family courts have proven their worth in the last few years. I hope you will join me in voting "Yes" for the Family Court amendment.

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On Thursday, November 14, at 7:00 p.m. I will be teaching the seminar "When Religion Gets Sick" at the Center for Rural Development in Somerset. For more information or to register call me at 679-4134 or 1-877-PASTOR-8.

Register by using your MasterCard or Visa or send a check to me at 402 Coomer St., Suite 204, Somerset, KY 42503. Cost is $20.

"Court News"

(Cont. from B-2)

court, $100 fine.

Kris Fletcher: Forgery, 3rd degree, costs and 6 months/credit time served/balance conditionally discharged two eyars.

Johnathan P. Foster: No insurance, $500 fine/suspend $450.

Howard Gadd: Contempt of court, warrant issued.

Brian J. Glenn: 395 Fed. Safe. Reg., paid $125.50 total fine and costs.

Stacy M. Harris: Theft by deception, dismissed on payment of court costs and restitution.

Nora Anne Horihan: Speeding, paid $160.50 total fine and costs.

Rebecca McGuire: Assault, 45 days/concurrent/to serve 30 and balance conditionally discharged one year.

Jonathan Osborn: Fines due, 30 days or payment.

Edward L. Rice: No Ky. Reg. Plates, warrant issued.

Gregory S. Richardson: Fines due, 20 days or payment.

Michael R. Ruggles: Operating motor vehicle under influence alcohol/drugs, warrant issued/license suspended.

David P. Snyder: Fines due $510.20, 30 days or payment.

Randall G. Abrams: Speeding, warrant issued/license suspended.

Michael J. Cromer: Operating ATV on roadway and operating ATV w/o headgear, paid.

Curtis Edward Hellie: Overlength and overwidth, license suspended for failure to appear.

Dustin A. Lear: Operating ATV on roadway and operating ATV w/o headgear, paid.

Matthew D. Miller: Speeding, paid.

Tina K. Pingleton: Faulty equipment, $20 and costs.

Joseph Franklin Snyder: Overlength and overwidth, license suspended for failure to apepar.

William R. Stimkorb: Speeding, license suspended for failure to appear.

Jerry Lee Thomas: Alcohol intoxication, warrant issued.

Carolyn S. White: Speeding, paid.

James Wynn: Operating ATV on Roadway, $35 and costs; Operating ATV w/o headgear, $35 fine.

Amanda Barnes: Theft by deception (5 counts), $10 and costs and 10 days/consecutive/conditionally discharged one year/each count.

October 23, 2002

Jason Clinton Allen: Use/Possession Drug Paraphernalia, $25 and costs; Possssion of marijuana, $100 fine and 10 days/conditionally discharged one year/confiscate and destroy contraband; Criminal Trespass, $100 fine/suspended on condition.

Scott Bryant: Fines due ($402.85), 10 days plus 10 days/consecutive or payment.

Lonnie W. Clark: Speeding and No Insurance, warrant issued/suspended license.

Leslie A. Gibbs: Overlength and overwidth, paid $95.85 total fine and costs.

Patty Hines: Fines due ($144.85), warrant issued.

Kevin Holt: Fines due ($156.85), warrant issued/license suspended.

Kimberly Gail Holt: Alcohol intoxication, $25 and costs; Contempt of court, $25 fine.

Troy D. Keller: Speeding, paid $130.50 total fine and costs.

Ricky Ray Kirby: Criminal trespass, $250 and costs/suspend $150 on condition; Driving Suspended License, $50 fine and 30 days/conditionally discharged; Use/Possession Drug Paraphernalia, $25 fine/confiscate and destroy contraband; Possession of marijuana, $100 fine and 30 days/consecutive/conditionally discharged one year.

Arthur W. Miller: Speeding, $18 and costs; Failure to wear seatbelt, $25 fine.

Brian P. Northern: Fines due ($110.50), warrant issued.

Mark A. Overbay: Fines due ($610.50), warrant issued/license suspended.

Dennis R. Robert: Fines due ($97.85), warrant issued/license suspended.

John T. Sasser: Speeding, warrant issued/license suspended.

Michael Saylor: Fines due ($144.85), warrant issued.

Thomas C. Stogsdill: Operating motor vehicle under influence of intoxicants, $200 and costs, $250 service fee, $20 victim compensation fund, 2 days/time served.

Samuel D. Keith: Alcohol intoxication, warrant issued.

Malcolm J. Shepherd: Speeding and Failure to wear seatbelt, license suspended for failure to appear.

Pamela McClure: Theft by deception, $10 and costs and 10 days/conditionally discharged on proof of restitution; Contempt of court, 10 days concurrent.

Billy L. Mason: Improper registration plates, $25 and costs.

I, Dale Johnson, and my Granddaughters, Katelyn and Faith, would like to ask for your support as I am seeking office for Constable in District 1. I think that our young people are an important part of our community and their safety should be an important issue. If elected, I will try to make our community a safer and better place to live.

When you go to the polls to vote on November 5th, remember

"No Bull" Johnson

Constable District 1

Paid for by Dale Johnson

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What Is Really Important In Electing Your State Representative

Know What The Person Who Will Represent You Stands For

Know What Their Agenda Is

Will They Take A Stand or Be a Yes Man?

★ Who is endorsed by Kentucky Right to Life? Danny Ford
★ Who is endorsed by the National Rifle Association? Danny Ford
★ Who has been named Ky. Taxpayers Friend for Keeping taxes lower? Danny Ford
★ Who is endorsed by Retired Firefighters, Police Officers and Widows? Danny Ford
★ Who is endorsed by Freedom Heritage Forum? Danny Ford
★ Who is endorsed by Kentucky Education Association? Danny Ford
★ Who voted against the measures that increased your health insurance cost? Danny Ford
★ Who supported posting the Ten Commandments in our schools? Danny Ford
★ Who says we must bring discipline back to our schools? Danny Ford
★ Who voted to keep the state from taxing your tobacco settlement monies? Danny Ford

Who Has A Record That He Is Not Ashamed To Publicize?

DANNY FORD

Your Representative

Dear Friends:

I want to take this opportunity to express my endorsement of State Representative Danny Ford. I have known Danny for over 30 years. During that time I have found him to be a very honest, hard working and dedicated public servant. I have had the opportunity to work with Danny on many occasions to help make improvements for the 80th District, which includes Lincoln, Rockcastle, and portions of Pulaski County.

While redistricting has created a situation where I no longer serve as Lincoln County's United States Representative, I know that you are in good hands with Danny and Representative Fletcher. Even though Lincoln County is not in my district, you can rest assured that I remain informed of the District's needs and still make every effort to assist in any way that I can.

HAL ROGERS
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

With the strong dedicated and proven leadership that Danny Ford exemplifies, I feel the people of the 80th District are well represented. Danny not only works hard to secure funding for the 80th district, he is endorsed by the Kentucky Right to Life, the National Rifle Association, and has been named the taxpayers friend by a Citizens Advocacy Group for helping to keep our taxes lower.

I hope that you will take time from your busy schedules to go to the polls and help re-elect Danny Ford, a proven leader.

By the way, while you're at it, I would appreciate those of you who still live in the 5th Congressional district voting for me also.

Sincerely,

HAL ROGERS
Member of Congress

For a ride to the polls call 256-4152 or 256-2400

Paid for by Ford for Representative Fund, Keith Smith, Treasurer

For Progress and Achievement...

I believe the next four years can be a turning point for Mount Vernon. It is our obligation to mold Mount Vernon into a community of progress and success for our future and the future of our young citizens. Decisions must be made to enact conservative spending and search for ways to increase revenue in our town. I believe we can expand tourism by marketing ourselves as a community of crafts and entertainment. I also believe we should explore all avenues to obtain available funding for municipal projects and goals. We must also keep all our streets, parks and sidewalks clean and maintained appropriately. And we have to treat each citizen equally, without political influence.

I want to be your mayor to accomplish all I've mentioned here, and more. Our citizens deserve a mayor who will represent them in a positive manner, and accomplish goals for our future. The office of mayor is not a job but an obligation. As your mayor I will be obligated to represent you in making our community a better place to live. This obligation involves listening to all citizens and making decisions that will be of benefit to the entire community.

Allow me to help build our town into a clean and prosperous community by electing me as your mayor on November 5th.

Fletcher

Mount Vernon Mayor

Paid for by Kevin G. Fletcher Campaign for Mayor, Lorinda T. Fletcher, Treasurer