



# Sexual Politics: The Christian and Public Policy

1 PETER 2:9-17

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## 1 Peter 2:9-10

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

# 1 Peter 2:11-12

Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul.

Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

# 1 Peter 2:13-15

Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people.

# 1 Peter 2:16-17

Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

I. Our Primary Citizenship is in  
the Kingdom of God. v. 9, 10

*“...you are God’s people.”*

cf. John 18:36

## II. Our Secondary Citizenship is in this World. v. 11,12

*“...as sojourners and exiles... Keep  
your conduct among the Gentiles  
honorable...”*

cf. Genesis 1:28; Matthew 5:13-16; John 17:14-19

III. Our citizenships obligate  
us to secular political  
involvement. v. 13,17



## A. We Submit to Governing Authorities. v. 11,12

*“Be subject for the Lord’s sake to every human institution.”*

**Prayer** - 1 Timothy 2:12

**Obedience** - Romans 13:1-5

**Taxes** - Romans 13:6

**Respect** - Romans 13:7

## B. We Promote the Public Good.

v. 16, 17

*“Live as people who are free...  
living as servants of God.”*

### **What is the Public Good?**

Shalom - Jeremiah 29:7

# **What is the Role of Civil Government?**

Public Order

Protection from External Threats

Promotion of Public Welfare

## **What is Good Public Policy?**

Consistent with God's Word

Consistent with historical experience

Consistent with social sciences and economic theory

Popular

Enforceable

Affordable

Benefits the poor

# What are our Common Mistakes?

*Laissez-faire* Pietism

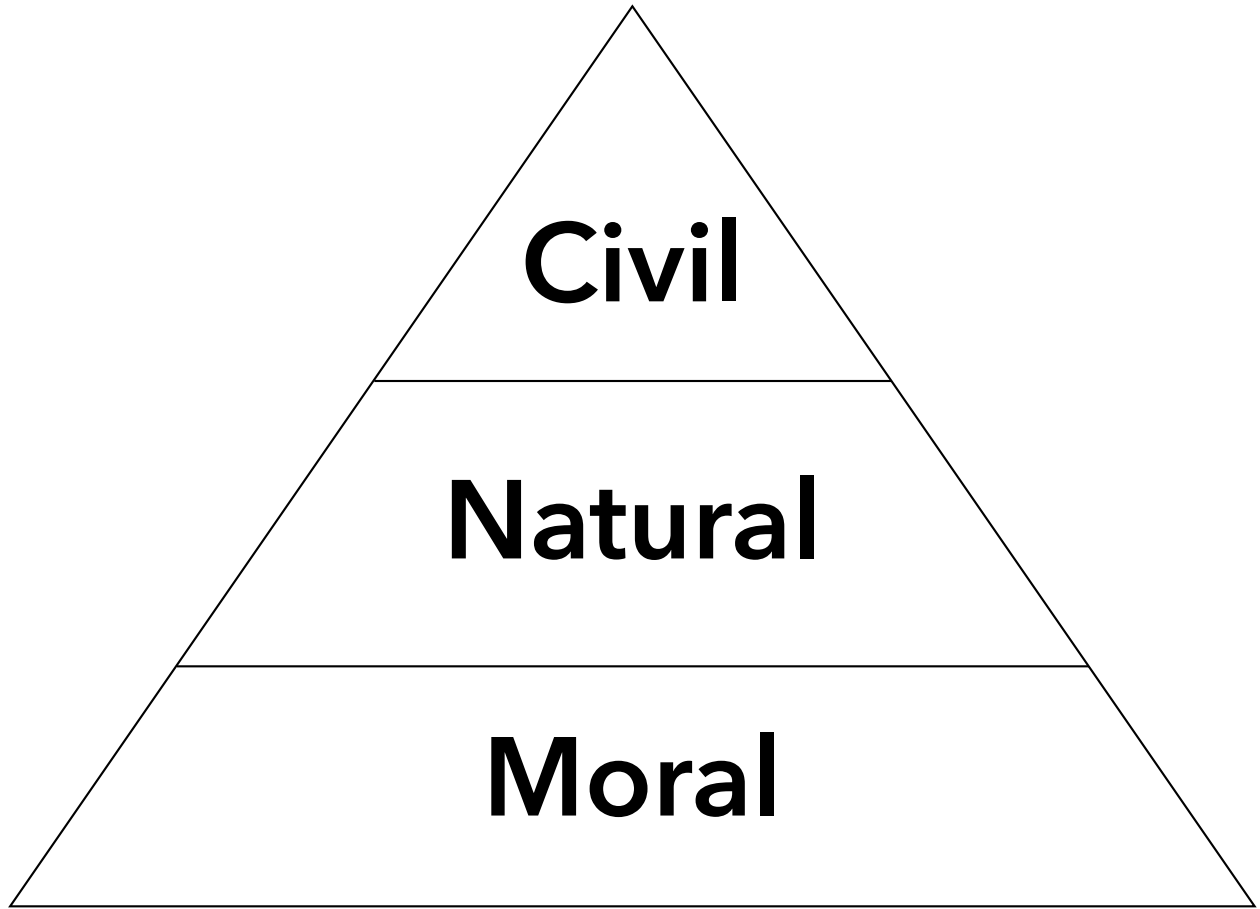
Coercive Moral Imposition

## **What is the Wisest Way to Shape Public Policy?**

Understand what the Bible Says.  
(moral law)

Understand what Science and Reason Offer. (natural law)

Understand the Interests of the State  
(civil law)



<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>Moral</b>	<b>Natural</b>	<b>Civil</b>
<b>Source of law</b>	God's Word	God's creation	Society
<b>Nature of law</b>	Eternal/ absolute	All times All cultures	Particular
<b>Relationship to science and reason</b>	Consistent with	Mediated by	Argued from
<b>Reception of the law</b>	Faith	Inference	Consent
<b>Application of the law</b>	Repentance	Conscience	Force
<b>Goal of the law</b>	Glorify God	Help humanity	Promote state



## **The Pressing Sexual Issues of Our Day:**

Life Issues: abortion, stem cell research, in-vitro fertilization

Marriage Issues: divorce, child support, gay rights

Censorship Issues: pornography

Educational Issues: sex ed

# **Action Steps:**

**Pray**

**Engage**

**Chill out**