From:	Scott Snyder
To:	Preston Christie A
Subject:	Comments regarding Form 990
Date:	Friday, September 11, 2015 6:29:02 PM

Dear Christie,

It's my understanding that the government is currently looking for public comment regarding how non-profits are viewed/treated etc. and whether we should reconsider the practice of allowing churches to be exempt from filing a 990 form, while requiring secular groups to do so. Perhaps I'm missing something here, but it seems to me that everybody should be equal in this process, and that you either make all groups do it, or nobody. Certainly religious organizations shouldn't get any special treatment when it comes to how our government makes decisions on tax/money issues. I would think that kind of thing was a relic from the past. It's nice that we want to give folks a break when they're (in theory) trying to do some good work, and are not just devoted to raking in the cash, but why make discrepancies, especially using religion as the yardstick? One of the greatest things about this great country is our secular nature, where religion and government should never cross each others' paths. On a personal level, you do what you want. On a government level, a christian should be as good as a hindu, which should be as good as an atheist, and so on.

The reality is that little by little people are waking up to discover the inequalities of our system, and are recognizing that things like wealth, class, race, gender, theological beliefs, sexual orientation etc. should no longer be determining factors in how one should be treated, and that we've got to chip away at these obstacles, one step at a time. If these requirements/regulations/protocols regarding taxes aren't brought in line w/ modern thinking at this time, the attempts to reform will just keep reappearing until the playing field is finally leveled. Let's take care of this now, so as not to perpetuate what is likely a losing cause. Less red tape. More consistency. More fairness.

I appreciate you allowing me to express my opinion on this matter (another great thing about our country!). Perhaps I'm oversimplifying the issues and there are critical details that I'm not considering, but it seems pretty cut and dried, from my perspective.

Anyway, thanks for your time, and thanks for working hard and doing what you do. Happy autumn!

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