

IGNITE

An Enduring Cultural Transformation



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Blessed are those who hunger
and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled."

Matthew 5:6 (NIV)

conflict

“We see a great conflict between good and evil in our world. And if Christians do not rally to support and encourage those who are trying to bring an influence for good in civil government, it will leave a vacuum...that will be rapidly filled by powerful influences that are contrary to the standards of Scripture, the purposes of God, and the advancement of the Gospel in the world.”

Wayne Grudem, Ph. D.

Research Professor of Theology and
Biblical Studies at Phoenix Seminary

good

evil

government

Moment → Movement

Turning a Moment Into a Movement



Dear Friend of Minnesota Family Council,

You and I have an opportunity.

The November 2010 elections were “stunning.” I say “stunning” because that is the word I’ve heard over and over to describe the turnover of the Minnesota state House and Senate to pro-family, pro-life majorities for the first time in nearly 40 years.

Yes, the 2010 elections were a moment that will long echo through the corridors of power. But they were only that...a moment.

And while a single moment or election can serve as a spark for cultural transformation, it takes a movement to fan that spark into a flame that actually transforms the culture. You and I have a great opportunity to ignite that movement here in Minnesota.

You see, God has uniquely positioned Minnesota Family Council (MFC). Strategically, MFC works at the state level to unite a coalition of allied national and local organizations. Operationally, MFC works effectively in three key areas – biblical worldview education, legislation, and accountability – required to truly transform the culture. Philosophically, MFC works on a wide range of culture-defining issues. Organizationally, MFC works to inform churches, pastors, and their members through biblical worldview training and mobilize them to engage their communities and government as “salt and light”. Thus God has blessed MFC with the unique opportunity to be a catalyst for enduring cultural transformation rooted in spiritual renewal, for the glory of Christ and the good of our state.

With your help, MFC can ignite the embers that remain from the 2010 elections into a flame that will achieve cultural transformation through restoration of our moral and spiritual foundations for generations to come. I hope you’ll take a few minutes today to read through this plan to ignite an enduring cultural transformation in Minnesota.

“Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal.” (Philippians 3:13-14)

Pressing forward,

John Helmberger
Chief Executive Officer

“There is no one else that does the work of the Minnesota Family Council. They are absolutely vital.”

Warren Limmer
Minnesota State
Senator

Our Biblically-Based Beliefs

Moral, physical and spiritual **absolutes** exist and were given to mankind to govern all of life.

The **sanctity of marriage** between one man and one woman is the essential element of the family and a strong family is the essential element of a strong society.

Life is a gift from God and should be protected from the time of conception to the end of natural life.

First Amendment **religious liberties** are critical to our freedom as a people and must be protected and defended.



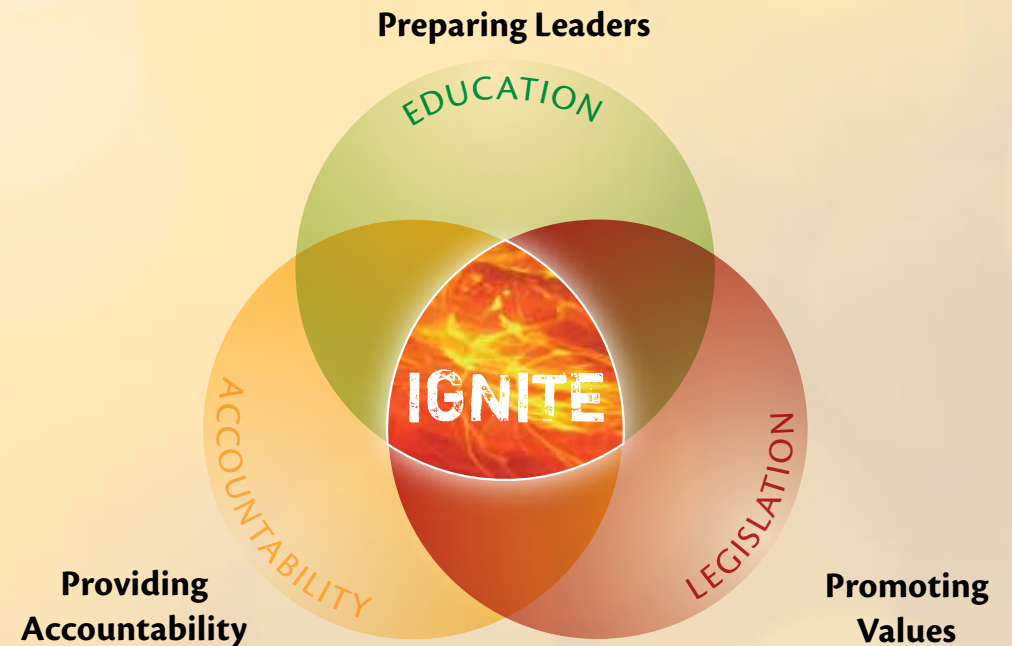
Parents have a fundamental right to guide their children's lives and to responsibly direct every aspect of their education and care.

"Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

John Adams
October 11, 1798



Our Unique Three Capacity Strategy



Minnesota Family Council (MFC) mobilizes Christians to transform Minnesota's culture so that it cherishes life, affirms religious liberty, preserves marriage, and strengthens families. Uniquely positioned at the center of a coalition that includes national, state, and local organizations, MFC serves as a catalyst for that change focusing its work in the three key areas where the culture war overlaps:

Preparing Leaders –Equipping Christian leaders with biblical worldview training to understand the times and effectively fight the battles that define our culture. (1 Chronicles 12:32)

Promoting Values – Engaging the Christian community as “salt and light” to advocate for laws that promote what is good and punish what is wrong in the eyes of God. (Proverbs 14:34)

Providing Accountability – Holding elected officials accountable for their actions by informing the Body of Christ on voting records, choosing candidates according to biblical criteria, and identifying godly leaders to run for public office. (Exodus 18:21)

“MFC’s ability to work in all three areas of the culture war is a unique asset that effectively leverages MFC’s work.”

Chuck Colson,
Chairman and
Founder, Prison
Fellowship|BreakPoint

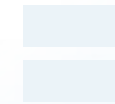
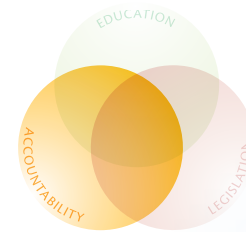
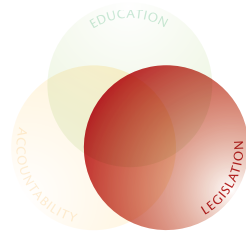
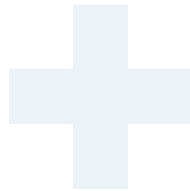
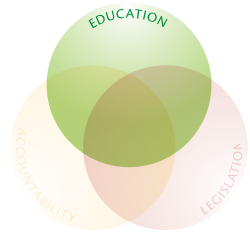
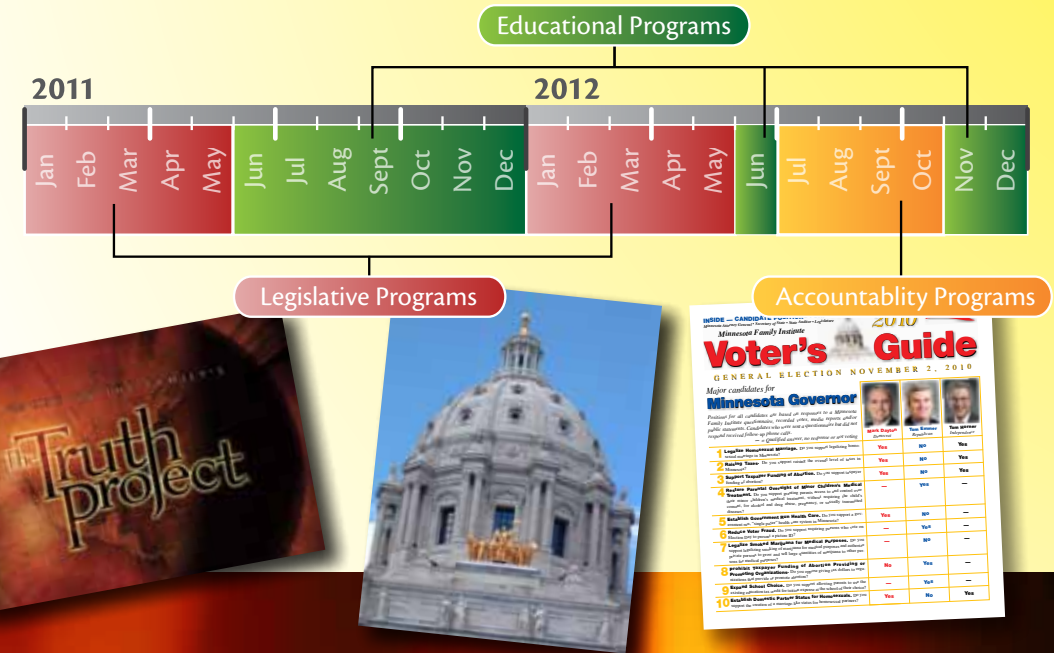
Igniting Transformation

By God's grace and thanks to the generous support of loyal partners, Minnesota Family Council is making a difference for Minnesota's families. But there's more to be done.

Attacks from those who work to undermine life, liberty, marriage and the family are more sophisticated, more aggressive, and more frequent than ever. "We the people" spoke loud and clear in November 2010 but that one moment, by itself, will not achieve the cultural transformation we seek. Achieving transformation requires a lasting movement working strategically in key, culture-defining areas.

"Ignite" is a two-year plan designed to fan the embers of November 2010 into a lasting movement built to achieve enduring cultural transformation - starting with passage of a constitutional amendment to preserve marriage as God designed it, the foundation of strong families and a strong society.

Three Capacities: A Plan for Cultural Transformation



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Education – Preparing Leaders

Cultural transformation begins with leadership. Leadership of all ages and backgrounds. Leadership grounded in a biblical worldview. Leadership armed with the information and skills to influence others. MFC's educational programs work to identify, train, and activate these leaders across Minnesota.

Truth Project Leader Training
Minnesota Worldview Leadership Project
Pastor Briefings
Christian Citizenship Training
Budget: \$1.71 million

Legislation – Promoting Values

Cultural transformation requires a system of laws that remain true to the vision of our Founding Fathers, rooted in a biblical worldview. MFC's legislative programs will not only ensure there's a voice for timeless values at the Capitol but also engage the faith community across Minnesota to advocate on behalf of those values.

Pass the Marriage Protection Amendment
Pass measures to reform no-fault divorce and strengthen marriage
End state taxpayer funding of abortion
Budget: \$1.04 million

Providing Accountability

Cultural transformation requires elected leaders be accountable for their actions. MFC's "Mobilize" get-out-the-vote programs serve as an antidote for political spin to ensure that Christians are faithful to vote, based on their faith, on Election Day.

Distribute 1 million voter's guides
Mobilize 1.3 million Values Voters
Engage 1,800 pastors and churches
Budget: \$2.5 million



A Record of Success

Thanks to the generous support of its loyal partners, MFC has record of success and a reputation for getting results on behalf of Minnesota families. It's upon that foundation that MFC seeks to ignite a movement that will transform our state for generations to come.

A Voice for Biblical Principles in St. Paul

MFC's legislative programs provide a strong and respected voice for biblical values in the legislature. MFC works to secure the sanctity of human life, defend parental rights, promote school choice, protect marriage, defend religious freedom and eradicate pornography and gambling in our society. With the help of our legislative allies, our loyal supporters, and by God's grace, MFC defeated "Comprehensive" Sex Education, held off homosexual "marriage" and stopped a deceptively named "anti-bullying" bill.

Educating and Mobilizing Voters

Working with the National Organization for Marriage, MFC conducted a statewide TV and radio ad campaign, distributed 250,000 non-partisan Voter's Guides mostly through 1,200 partner churches, made 500,000 get-out-the-vote calls across Minnesota, and sent 475,000 postcards and emails equipping voters with information about candidates' positions on marriage and other critical issues and mobilizing them to vote their values.

Minnesota state House and Senate turned over to pro-life, pro-family majorities for the first time in nearly 40 years, paving the way to pass a marriage protection amendment.

Training Leaders for Today – And Tomorrow

We can fight battles at the state legislature, but win, lose or draw they are only battles. The real war is the loss of a biblical worldview. We must restore our biblical roots before we can expect real change in our culture and at the Capitol.

MFC's biblical worldview educational programs have trained more than 1,500 Truth Project leaders in over 700 churches to be effective leaders across Minnesota.

The Minnesota Worldview Leadership Project is an in-depth, nine-month study program designed to help Christians understand what is happening in society and equips them to engage the culture and those around them boldly and winsomely.

Engaging Churches and Pastors

MFC's church and pastor network now includes more than 1,500 churches and pastors across Minnesota from numerous denominations. MFC serves this network by providing critical information about culture-defining issues and tools to help pastors and churches engage their congregations as "salt and light" in the public square.

"MFC has set itself apart as one of those rare organizations that doesn't just talk about what needs to be done, but actually gets those things done."

*Pastor Mike Haseltine
Maranatha Assembly
of God, Forrest Lake*



"If Christians will decide that though they can't do everything, they can do something and what they can do, they will do, we can change the nation."

Dr. D. James Kennedy



You Can Help Ignite Cultural Transformation

MFC is blessed to have thousands of supporters all across Minnesota committed to helping ignite an enduring cultural transformation. Their support and generosity is what makes MFC's work possible. Here are three ways you can help:



Pray

MFC's work to ignite an enduring cultural transformation is built on a foundation of prayer. Please help by praying for MFC's work and asking others to do the same. "Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it." (Psalm 127:1)

Share

MFC takes financial stewardship seriously and chooses not to spend thousands of dollars on advertising like organizations such as Planned Parenthood and the ACLU. MFC relies on its supporters to spread the word, so please be sure to tell your family, friends, and church leaders about how MFC is working to restore our biblical worldview foundation and ignite an enduring cultural transformation in Minnesota.




Give

MFC does not accept government funding and, therefore, depends entirely on the generosity of loyal supporters to do its work. Please consider supporting MFC financially by making a donation today or, if you can, pledging to support MFC's work with a contribution each month.

Contact

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Please Pray for Our Work

And [Jesus] told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.

Luke 18:1 (ESV)