

# Ten Commandments back on display in Virginia schools

January 22nd, 2011 4:25 pm ET

By [Dianna Narciso](#), Rationalism Examiner

They're down, they're up. They're out, they're in. [Giles County Public Schools](#) in Virginia can't make up their minds whether or not they want to push Christianity onto the children in their care, or follow the basic tenets of acceptance, common sense, decency, and the First Amendment.

- 5 The Ten Commandments had been posted in five schools in Giles County for quite some time before someone dared to call attention to the fact that such an overtly religious display--and one that demands allegiance to one particular god at that--is not a good idea in a public school. They were [placed in the schools](#) after the [Columbine](#) tragedy in which two mentally unstable boys killed or wounded more than thirty people at their school in Colorado. The
- 10 Ten Commandments were apparently meant to ward off such behavior in Giles County schools as some sort of talisman against evil.

The [Freedom From Religion Foundation](#) sent a letter of complaint about the displays [in December](#). Only at that point did common sense find its way into the heads of the powers that be and the displays were removed.

- 15 But after some two-hundred (Christian) students and parents, [rallied by Shahn Wilburn](#) of Riverview Baptist Church in Ripplemead, Virginia, raised a ruckus last Monday, the dominant, and domineering, Christian majority got their way and the displays were returned.

- 20 The rationalization for posting what is clearly a distinctly religious message in public schools is the same tired lie that the Ten Commandments are the basis of our laws and are, therefore, historical documents. Rubbish. The Ten Commandments are not only not the basis of our laws, they are not historical either...nor are they even the correct or complete commandments as laid out in the Bible that Christians claim to revere.

- 25 The rationalization is nothing more than that: a blatant attempt to disguise the Christian majority's intention of inserting their religion into the lives of other people's children.

Now all the children in five schools in Virginia can see that Christians are favored in Giles County schools.

Source : <http://www.examiner.com/rationalism-in-national/ten-commandments-back-on-display-virginia-school?cid=parsely#parsely>

## Comments

### *Anonymous 1 week ago*

I believe most all of our good moral standards come from our long history of reverence to God and to the Christian bible. It is what made up the basic foundation of our constitution. To remove the very thing that made us what we are would be to remove the foundation from under the house. It would simply fall.

### *Giles High School Class of 2010 1 week ago*

I live in Giles County. I graduated from Giles High School in 2010, and my brothers currently attend Eastern Elementary School.

First of all, I can tell you from experience that the citizens of Giles County WANT the Ten Commandments in our schools. Our county is in an uproar because everyone is mad that an outside organization is coming in and telling us what to do. The Fellowship of Christian Athletes club at Giles High School has 200-250 students at each meeting (There are only about 650 students at the school). My graduating class as a whole chose to have strongly convinced Baptist speaker for our baccalaureate service. In addition to the huge crowd that was at the meeting the other night. MANY people who were unable to attend sent e-mails to the school board, asking it to put the document back up. I was also at a huge community event last night (900-950 people from the area), and it was proudly announced that the Ten Commandments were displayed in the room. The room erupted into rally cheers and applause. The actions of the school board Thursday night represent the views of our county, and we are willing to fight.

Secondly, at the time the Ten Commandment were posted, they were displayed in a frame with the part of the Constitution as historical documents that our students need need to know about. Anyone who thinks that the Ten Commandments don't apply to US history and the formation of our most important documents needs to take a TRUE history class.

Lastly, what is our society's greatest fear, that the students of Giles County might actually read the Ten Commandments and follow them? Maybe they would read "Thou shalt not kill," and we wouldn't have repeats of the tragedies at Columbine, VT (which is 25 min. from central Giles County), or Arizona. Maybe they would read "Thou shalt not commit adultery," and our teen pregnancy and STD rates would drop. Maybe they wouldn't lie or steal. Maybe parents would actually be honored as the head of their homes. Maybe young adults would stop coveting what others have and learn how to manage money better than those before them. Maybe they would stop comparing their bodies to others and eating disorders and steroid use would drop. Wow, is promoting this type of moral behavior going to hurt our county's students? I think not!

God Bless America!

### *Citizen 6 days ago*

I'm a resident of Giles Co.(and a tax payer!), I'd say there are quite a few folks who never knew this was going on because 1) we don't attend a church or 2) our children are not yet(any longer) of school age.

I'm pretty furious that the school board would BLATANTLY break the law, as my hard earned money will go to fight the lawsuit that will follow. Brilliant.

Lucky?! for me, I am also a tax payer in Montgomery Co., and when the time comes I will do everything in my power to see that the kids are NOT in Giles Co. schools. How backwards.