



Intelligent Design network, inc.

P.O. Box 14702, Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66285-4702
(913) 268-0852; IDnet@att.net
www.IntelligentDesignnetwork.org

Seeking Institutional Objectivity in Origins Science

January 30, 2007

NEWS RELEASE:

John Calvert, 913-268-0852

IDnet APPLAUDS KANSANS FIGHT AGAINST STATE MATERIALISM

The debate about evolution actually hinges on a deeper issue - materialism, also known as naturalism.

Materialism and naturalism are philosophies that claim that natural phenomena, including humans, derive simply from the interactions of matter, energy and the physical forces - by material or natural causes. Materialists reject any creative force or cause.

Many Kansans are concerned that proposed changes to Kansas Science Standards will cause Kansas Public Education to indoctrinate young children in Materialism, the philosophy that dominates Russian culture. This teaching model permits only material or natural causes to explain where we come from. It systematically excludes legitimate scientific controversies about materialistic theories of the origin of life (chemical evolution) and the origin of large scale changes in bio-diversity (macro-evolution).

Kansans are voicing their concerns in a variety of ways. A petition urging the Board to reject the materialistic proposals is circulating throughout Kansas. Over 2500 signatures were delivered to the State Board at its meeting on Jan 9. Yesterday the team that proposed the objective teaching model in the current standards posted the petition on their web site. This will allow people from all over the state to voice their concerns electronically.

<http://www.KansasScience2005.com/petition.html>

Kansans are concerned because Materialism is the origins story that is the foundation for a variety of non-theistic religions and religious beliefs. Atheism and Humanism depend on a purposeless self-existing universe with life being the product of unguided evolutionary change.

In response to the Petition one Board member has asked the Board's legal counsel whether it is appropriate for State Schools to promote materialism and to systematically exclude scientific information relevant to evolution that is critical of the theory.

"We believe the State should be scrupulously objective when it engages children in a discussion of the origin of life," Said Bill Harris, PhD, a research biochemist. Dr. Harris led the Team of scientists and educators who proposed the current model for teaching evolution.

"The current objective standards were scientifically and educationally validated by extensive hearings in May 2005," said Greg Lassey, a biology teacher who helped with the project.

A new movie about the hearings and the testimony of the 23 experts will be shown at the Glenwood theater on February 12, 2007 in Kansas City: *Kansas Science Hearings: Exposing the Evolution Controversy*.

Intelligent Design network, inc. is a nonprofit national organization that seeks *institutional* objectivity in origins science. Intelligent design is a scientific disagreement with claims that the apparent design of certain natural phenomena is an illusion that can be adequately explained by material causes. Objectivity is necessary because many institutions systematically suppress any objective consideration of that disagreement.