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# **INTELLIGENT DESIGN NETWORK RESPONDS TO AAAS RESOLUTION THAT SEEKS TO BAN INTELLIGENT DESIGN IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Shawnee Mission, KS. - On October 18, 2002 the Board of Directors of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) adopted a resolution urging public schools to ban any scientific discussion of evidence that supports the view that life may have originated via an intelligent cause. This call for censorship in education is reminiscent of the 1925 Scopes Monkey Trial that has been popularized by the movie "Inherit the Wind." In that case Tennessee refused to allow the teaching of evidence that supported the view that life originated and diversified by a mindless and undirected natural process. We have now come full circle with an AAAS proposal that seeks a Tennessee approach to origins science.

Today, IDnet sent its detailed response to the AAAS Board.

"We looked at the resolution and just laughed," said John Calvert, a Managing Director of IDnet. "The evidence of intelligent design is becoming more compelling with each new scientific discovery about the information processing systems of life. If you remove your naturalistic blinders and take a hard look, you can't miss it."

"We believe any discussion about where we come from should be conducted objectively and without philosophic or religious bias. The AAAS resolution urges schools to conduct a one-sided "Evolution Only" discussion for philosophic, not evidentiary reasons. That is nothing more than indoctrination in a naturalistic world view," said William Harris, Ph.D, a research biochemist and Co Managing Director of IDnet.

"In 1925 Clarence Darrow fought for academic freedom when Tennessee sought to censor Darwinian evolution," said Calvert, an attorney. "Ultimately, the Supreme Court held that the censorship of one of multiple theories of origins violates the obligation of the state to be neutral in matters touching "religion and nonreligion" under the Establishment Clause. Censoring ID in 2002 is no different than censoring evolution in 1925. The principles are the same, only the names have changed. The idea now being attacked by censors is not evolution but ID.

In seeking to ban ID, the AAAS claims that evolution is a "robust theory" that deserves to be protected from criticism. If it were truly "robust" it would not need to be guarded by the heavy hand of a censor.

The IDnet response contains a detailed discussion of why schools should reject the AAAS policy. It is posted as a pdf file at <http://www.IntelligentDesignNetwork.org/ResponseToAAAS.pdf>

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Intelligent Design network, inc. is a member based nonprofit organization. IDnet promotes objective evidence-based science education with regard to the origin of the universe and of life and its diversity. It also seeks to increase public awareness of the scientific evidence of intelligent design in the universe and living systems.

Intelligent Design is a scientific theory that intelligent causes are responsible for the origin of the universe and of life and its diversity. It holds that design is empirically detectable in nature, and particularly in living systems. Intelligent Design is an intellectual movement that includes a scientific research program for investigating intelligent causes and that challenges naturalistic explanations of origins which currently drive science education and research.