

"For God and Country" Shows Fundamentalist Christianity Rampant in U.S. Armed Forces

Written by Center for Inquiry
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The **Center for Inquiry's Office of Public Policy** today released [a new position paper](#) that details a disturbing expansion and entrenchment of Christian fundamentalism in the U.S. military -- a cultural force which remains at times both tacitly and overtly endorsed by senior military leaders.

Over the past decade there have been multiple news reports highlighting an intensified tension regarding what constitutes proper religious expression in the U.S. military. However, there has been a scarce amount of thorough research examining the connection between these reports and, in addition, proposing possible solutions. As a result, there has been a lack of information with which to stoke change.

CFI's position paper, titled "For God and Country," presents several case studies demonstrating a clear pattern of unconstitutional religiously sectarian behavior; explores the merits of the competing philosophical perspectives on the proper role of religious expression by men and women in uniform; and concludes with recommendations that those in power should implement immediately in order to fully protect the U.S. military's necessarily secular foundation and the religious freedom of *all* who volunteer to serve.

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"For God and Country" was authored by **James Parco, PhD., Lt. Col. USAF (Ret.)**, an associate professor of economics and business at Colorado College. Parco graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1991, was a member of the faculty for many years, and retired from active duty as a lieutenant colonel in 2011. He has also served on the National Security Council at the White House during the Clinton Administration, as well as in a diplomatic capacity overseas with the American Embassy in Tel Aviv.

Read the full position paper [here](#) .

http://www.centerforinquiry.net/advocacy/for_god_and_country_religious_fundamentalism_in_the_u.s._military/