

Louisiana Pastor Sues Library After Being Fired Over Preferred Pronouns

A Louisiana pastor is suing a public library after he says he was fired for refusing to use a co-worker's preferred pronouns, adding to a growing list of legal disputes that we can see as solid evidence of the West's continued departure from biblical teaching.

According to one report from WBRZ, Rev. Luke Ash, lead pastor of Stevendale Baptist Church, filed a lawsuit against the East Baton Rouge Parish Library after his employment was terminated over the issue.

Liberty Counsel, the Christian legal organization representing Ash, said the conflict began after he declined to refer to a co-worker by their preferred pronouns because doing so would violate his religious convictions.



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The lawsuit alleges supervisors reminded Ash of the library's policy, which states that employees are entitled to be addressed by their "chosen name and pronouns." According to the complaint, the library later terminated his employment because of his refusal to comply.

Ash argues the policy violated his constitutional rights by compelling him to speak in a way that conflicted with his Christian beliefs.

In the lawsuit, Ash claims the library's inclusivity policy violated his First Amendment rights and is asking the court to restore him to his former position, award back pay and provide

damages.

The case reflects a pattern seen in recent years as Christians across the West increasingly find themselves facing professional consequences for adhering to biblical convictions regarding sex and gender. While each case differs in its facts, the growing number of conflicts is part of a broader cultural shift away from the Bible's teaching that God created humanity "male and female."

As the lawsuit moves through the courts, it is likely to become another closely watched test of the balance between religious liberty, free speech and workplace policies requiring the use of preferred pronouns.

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