



FACT SHEET ***In re: Rachel L.***

ABOUT In re: Rachel L.

On Feb. 28, in a case involving a homeschooling family, the California Court of Appeal ruled that any California parents who lack a teaching certificate cannot lawfully teach their children at home.

CURRENT STATUS OF In re: Rachel L. AS OF 6/20/08

On March 25, the California Court of Appeal agreed to a request by attorneys with ADF to reconsider their Feb. 28 decision, which made most homeschooling a crime in the state. The court scheduled a hearing for June 23.

FOCUS OF HEARING – WHAT IS AT STAKE?

The fundamental right of parents to make educational choices for their children is at stake. If the court's decision stands, parents in California without a valid teaching certificate who educate their children at home would be guilty of a criminal act.

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ABOUT ADF

ADF is a legal alliance of Christian attorneys and like-minded organizations defending the right of people to freely live out their faith. Launched in 1994, ADF employs a unique combination of [strategy, training, funding, and litigation](#) to protect and preserve religious liberty, the sanctity of life, marriage, and the family.

ABOUT Jeff Shafer

Jeffrey A. Shafer serves as senior legal counsel for the Alliance Defense Fund, having joined ADF in its Washington, D.C., office in 2005. He has litigated religious liberty and free speech cases in federal and state trial and appellate courts throughout the United States. He graduated with honors from the Regent University School of Law in 1995 and is admitted to the bar in the states of Ohio and Illinois.

ABOUT Gary McCaleb

Gary McCaleb serves as senior counsel for the Alliance Defense Fund, having joined ADF in 2002. McCaleb leads a litigation team comprised of attorneys and support staff at offices in District of Columbia, Arizona, Kansas, California, Louisiana, Georgia, and Tennessee. He has litigated religious liberty and free speech cases in federal and state trial and appellate courts throughout the United States. He graduated with honors from Regent University School of Law in 1997 and is admitted to the Arizona state bar.