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Subject: "...under God"

Posted by [warranto](#) on Mon, 10 Jan 2005 18:30:27 GMT

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Nukelt15Quote:"separation of church and state" isn't in the Constitution or any law. It was merely a theory presented and related to the founding of our governmental structure.

Frankly, the thought of living in any country where church and state are not separated scares me (and the entire world is shaping up to be one scary place to live in, the way things are going). Government, especially in a nation such as the US, can not be the lapdog of one particular religion- that would exclude all others (read that: millions of people), and lead to those groups feeling like outsiders to the rest of the country. One needs only look at history to see that government based on religion is the one sure path to oppression, and if left in place long enough, genocide.

There are common ideals and morals which all people share; those are what government should be based on. Religion has its place; that place is to govern the actions and beliefs of the individual who believes in that religion. It has no place in determining what is right or wrong for people who may be of other, different religions.

Keep in mind though that there is a difference between separation of church and state (state matters should not be influenced by religion), and separation of church and the people of the state (not allowing christian christmas decorations to be displayed etc.). Just be careful that this debate about the pledge actually has to do with influencing state matters, and not simply the people.

Is this a matter to be endorsed as falling under the category of tolerance, or is someone believing that God is in support of the state so bad that it can not be expressed officially?

Remember, it's pledging allegiance to the flag and for what the republic stands for. The "Under God" part is simply the expression of the belief that God is in support of the country (as I mentioned above, but to reiterate), followed up by liberty and justice for all. The "Under God" phrase is sort of an extra put in. You're not pledging to God, just saying that God is supporting the country. There is nothing religious about it other than it refers to God's protection.

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