



CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF
**Religion &
American Culture**

Presents

Religious Freedom Forums Part I

The Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture at IUPUI is sponsoring three Religious Freedom Forums timed to coincide with the 2018 Indiana legislative session.

Summary: The US Congress passed the federal Religious Freedom Restoration Act in 1993. Indiana passed its own version of the legislation in 2015. The first forum in the series will address two related questions: “Do these Religious Freedom Restoration Acts sometimes pose a conflict between liberty and equality?” and “What do our choices say about our culture’s shared values?”

Topics will include:

- The Colorado baker who refused to make cakes for LGBT wedding ceremonies. This case is currently under consideration at the US Supreme Court.
- The recent decision by the US Department of Health and Human Services to create a new Conscience and Religious Freedom Division.
- The legislative “fix” to Indiana’s RFRA. Indiana Senate Bill 101 was passed on March 26, 2015, and after public outcry, the amendment was passed on April 2.
- The Hobby Lobby decision in the US Supreme Court exempting “closely held, for profit corporations” from certain regulations if they have religious objections and less restrictive alternatives are available.

Forum Part I will be held at 5:30pm on Thursday, February 15, at the Athenaeum, Upper Ballroom located at 401 E Michigan Street.

Panelists include:

Katie Blair, Director of Advocacy for ACLU of Indiana

James Bopp, Indiana attorney representing the Indiana Family Institute and the American Family Association of Indiana in their lawsuit to overturn Indiana’s RFRA “fix”

Beth Cate, Professor in the School of Public and Environmental Affairs, IU Bloomington

David Craig, Professor of Religious Studies in the IU School of Liberal Arts, IUPUI