



Walter Cronkite

Dear Friend,

For years, I did my best to bring you the news of the day as objectively as possible — without revealing my own opinions.

But now I feel that I must speak out.

You see, as a person of faith, I have watched with growing concern as a genuinely radical movement in America has shrewdly manipulated religion to help implement its intolerant agenda.

They cloak their activities in the language of faith.

But their motives are in fact much more self-serving.

This extreme Religious Right movement, including the Christian Coalition, founded by Pat Robertson, and the Family Research Council, arrogantly claim to speak for every American of faith on the issues facing our country.

Well-funded and well-organized, they possess significant political influence.

In fact, as I write you, the Christian Coalition's powerful reach extends from local school boards in communities like yours directly to the highest levels of our government.

And any person or group who holds beliefs contrary to theirs is certain to be the target of hostility, recrimination, and ridicule.

Like you, I do not object to groups like the Christian Coalition and the Family Research Council expressing their views. That is their right. But **I will not remain silent while these political operatives manipulate religion** to condemn those who oppose their narrow agenda.

Do you share my concern? If so, I strongly urge you to join me today by supporting The Interfaith Alliance with a contribution of \$25, \$50, or even \$250.

The Interfaith Alliance is a diverse group — as diverse as America.

We are people of faith and good will who promote equality and compassion. Our members have come together from a number of different religious traditions to stand up to the hard-line politics of the Christian Coalition — and to serve as a voice for tolerance and inclusivity.

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As a growing movement for people of faith and good will in our nation, The Interfaith Alliance needs your help to bring civility and compassion to our political debate ... and to work at local and national levels to put an end to the destructive and mean-spirited politics that have come to characterize the efforts of the Religious Right.

You see, in the coming years Americans will decide whether we will move forward on a path toward tolerance and renewal — or whether we will submit to the Religious Right and their exclusionary ideology.

That is why The Interfaith Alliance needs your financial assistance today to encourage civic activism — educate the media and the public on the diverse views of people of faith — challenge the distribution of thousands of biased voter guides in houses of worship — and ensure that people of faith and good will make informed decisions at the ballot box.

Your generosity will give The Interfaith Alliance activists the resources they need to be advocates for inclusivity, religious liberty, equal rights for every American, and informed civic participation.

Can I count on you to support these critical efforts with a special contribution today?

I know in my heart that groups like the Christian Coalition and Family Research Council do not speak for the majority of men and women of faith in this country. And I, for one, am not prepared to allow them to veil their intolerant views in the banner of religious faith.

Nor will I sit passively while their narrow agenda gains greater political influence.

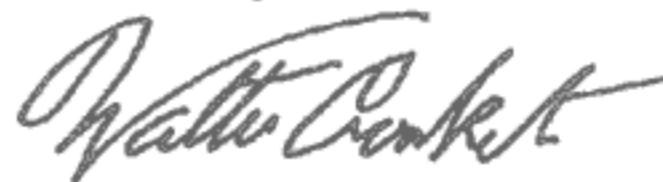
But you can rest assured that the Religious Right will not retreat from their divisive agenda until Americans of faith and good will speak out against religious political extremism.

Will you join me — and The Interfaith Alliance — in this important undertaking?

Your modest contribution of \$25 or \$50 will help The Interfaith Alliance act as a powerful voice of tolerance — and say that you've had enough of the Religious Right and their use of fear, confusion, and hatred to impose their religious and political beliefs on the rest of us.

With my sincere hope for your support, let me close by saying that I will be pleased and proud to welcome you as a new member of The Interfaith Alliance.

Thank you,



Walter Cronkite

P.S. If you are tired of the divisive tactics of the Religious Right, then please join other people of faith and good will in your community in calling for tolerance, diversity, and civility by sending a generous contribution to The Interfaith Alliance today.