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# IRS Grants Tax-Exempt Status to Lesbian 'Pussy Worship' Church

by ADRIENNE GONZALEZ



Last week, [Peter Reilly wrote in Forbes](#) that an IRS decision to grant coveted tax-exempt status to the lesbian-

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interesting time for a lesbian-led organization to come out (no pun) and take such a strong stance on the issue.

“The Pussy Church serves Women and Girls only. Males are not permitted to participate, regardless of how they identify. We expressly reject the concepts of gender identity, transgenderism, and gender as being meaningful to defining what a Woman or Girl is,” PCMW [writes on its website](#). “We come together to form a congregation of adherents to our female born, lesbian-feminist-based religions beliefs and traditions,” it reads. “At Pussy Church, we serve Women and Girls and our emotional and spiritual needs. We cannot serve these needs in the presence of men, as men as a class are the cause of the harm that women experience globally.”

I'll be honest: they ain't wrong (please forward hate mail to me [on Twitter](#)). Though Antonia Elle D'orsay of The Trans 100 disagrees.

“This church is relying on a religious belief founded in secular materials which are often explicitly hostile to religion as a whole,” she told Forbes. “It would be like the IRS recognizing a group which promotes slavery texts as a basis — there is no genuine religious belief there.”

You mean ... like the Bible? I'm no theologian but that thing is jam-packed with all kinds of messed up stuff. Take St. Paul in 1 Timothy 2:12 for example: “I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man; she must be silent.” Or, perhaps slightly more on topic, sage advice for the beholden in 1 Peter 2:18: “Slaves, submit yourselves to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the cruel!”

The Pussy Church isn't the first example of a controversial religious order enjoying the benefits of tax-exempt status. I mean, donations to the Westboro Baptist Church for them to purchase “God Hates Fags” signs for their next protest are tax-deductible for Christ's sake. Or perhaps not for His sake, specifically.

Back to Forbes, Reilly says his source informed him that “the approval process was reasonably quick and there was no push-back from the IRS,” which he credits to good legal work on the part of the church.

He writes:

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as a layman, I see the handiwork of a good lawyer in the articles of PCMW. Whether an organization is a church or not as far as the IRS is concerned is a facts and circumstances determination that has nothing to do with its underlying belief system.

It is in this spirit that we have to recognize the IRS's position here. In approving tax-exempt religious organizations, it is not up to them to determine whether or not that organization is morally ideal. To do so would go against the view of our founding fathers, who came to America for the purpose of religious freedom. Either we live in a country of religious freedom or we don't, there is no in-between here.

Still, the public at large has every right to hem and haw over whether or not this decision is just. The IRS simply used its "is this a church" checklist to approve the church's application for exempt status. Since 2011, the IRS has allowed transgender peeps to deduct the costs of hormone therapy and sex reassignment surgery from their gross income as medical expenses for the treatment of gender identity disorder, so no reasonable person could say the IRS hates trans people. Hell, the IRS hates all of us equally. God bless 'em.

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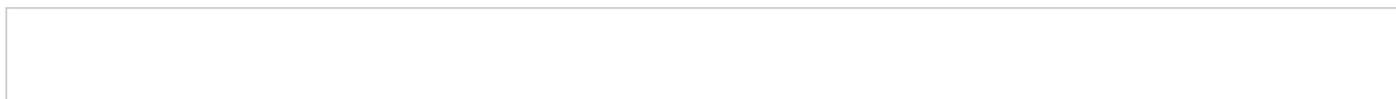
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“It is in this spirit that we have to recognize the IRS’s position here. In approving tax-exempt religious organizations, it is not up to them to determine whether or not that organization is morally ideal.”

This is a great point. It’s probably why the Catholic church still has tax-exempt status.

P.S. Having “Pussy Worship” in the article heading is great click bait. It worked on me. Well done, HG.

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**SouthernCPA** says:

AUGUST 7, 2018 AT 4:34 PM

Welcome back, already this site is worth reading again.

As to the issue at hand, if Smilin’ Joel Osteen can have his church own his homes and helicopters, and be tax-exempt (and not even have to file a 990), then Pussy Church shouldn’t have to worry about it either. Both are equally fake and fraudulent.

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