

SATANIC THE TEMPLE

THE SATANIC TEMPLE 2021 END OF YEAR WRAP UP

As we approach 2022, TST is proud to report our progress in areas that advance religious reproductive access, ensure equal religious representation in public forums, and establish legal precedents that further TST members' religious rights. The following report outlines our major events and achievements in 2021.

RELIGIOUS REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS CAMPAIGN:

Consistent with our tenets that call for bodily autonomy and acting in accordance with best scientific evidence, TST religiously objects to many of the restrictions that states have enacted that interfere with abortion access.

Resolution of Judy Doe Supreme Court Case:

In January, the Supreme Court chose not to hear our appeal that asserts that Missouri's abortion regulations violate TST members' religious liberty. While we are disappointed that the Supreme Court passed on this case, we are nonetheless still empowered because the dismissal never actually addressed our fundamental argument. [Read more here.](#)

Ohio's New Fetal Remains Law:

In December, Ohio enacted a new regulation that requires those who undergo an abortion to bury or cremate the removed fetal tissue. TST has noted that we object to this law, which is an outrageous and unconstitutional affront to our religious liberty. [Read more here.](#)

FDA and Religious Access to Mifepristone:

In September, TST sent a letter to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to request that TST be able to access Mifepristone without being subjected to the agency's regulations. Typically, this medication requires a prescription and can only be dispensed in accordance with specific guidelines. However, TST has requested that we can directly supply TST members who wish to undergo an abortion in a religious context with this drug. [Read more here.](#)

RRR Billboards:

After many hurdles, TST posted our religious reproductive rights billboard designs in Dallas, Austin, and Miami. In addition, we obtained a billboard of our own in Phoenix, Arizona. [Read more here](#) and [here.](#)

Texas's New Abortion Laws:

TST stands ready to assist any member that shares its deeply-held religious convictions regarding the right to reproductive freedom. Accordingly, we encourage any member who resides in Texas and wishes to undergo the Satanic Abortion Ritual within the first 24 weeks of pregnancy to contact TST so we may help them fight this law directly. [Read more here.](#)

TST Sues Texas:

In February, TST filed a lawsuit against the state of Texas for imposing medically unnecessary abortion regulations on a member that violate her religious beliefs. After some complications with Texas's first response, the case is working its way through the courts. [Read more here.](#)

Religious Reproductive Rights Rally:

In September, TST held a rally celebrating Religious Reproductive Rights on the steps of Utah's State Capitol in Salt Lake City. There were nearly 500 people in attendance with a large number of counter-protestors that showed up at the scene. [Read more here.](#)

TST'S PROTECT CHILDREN PROJECT:

The Protect Children Project addresses abuses in public schools perpetrated by school officials and deemed legal. By asserting a religious claim consistent with our tenets, students who are TST members can legally exempt themselves from egregious forms of mistreatment. In May, after a 6-year-old was brutally paddled in front of her parent in a Florida school, NPR reached out to TST for comment. TST is one of only a few entities fighting corporal punishment, which is legal in 19 states and is the only entity that provides legal grounds for why the practice must not be used. [Read more here.](#)

TST'S AFTER SCHOOL SATAN CLUB:

After School Satan meets at select public schools where [Good News Clubs](#) also operate. Trained educators provide activities and learning opportunities based on self-directed education. Students are free to engage in, or they may opt to explore other interests aided by available resources. While the classes are designed to promote intellectual and emotional development in accordance with TST's tenets, no proselytization or religious instruction takes place. TST is working to re-open some programs at a couple of schools around the country alongside Good News Clubs. [Read more here.](#)

TST'S GREY FACTION:

Grey Faction is an educational and advocacy organization whose mission is to protect mental health patients and their families from dangerous pseudoscience and discredited therapies, particularly in the area of so-called "repressed memories." [Read more here.](#) In April, Grey Faction hosted its first annual conference. They discussed the origins of the Satanic Panic in the US and across the world, the unscientific practices in the mental health field, and the initiatives that Grey Faction is undertaking to fight these injustices. View videos from the conference [here.](#)

SATANIC MINISTRY AND ORDINATION PROGRAM:

TST unveiled our new program for members to become ordained. Milestone events such as weddings and funerals are deeply personal. These moments should be an authentic expression of who we are and what we believe. Members of TST can now have a ministerial role within their community by performing weddings, funerals, commitment ceremonies, unbaptisms, and other religious rituals in a manner consistent with one's values. [Read more here.](#)

TST SUES BOSTON:

In February, TST sued Boston for denying its request to deliver an invocation at the start of City Council meetings. The Boston City Council permits invocations from representatives of other faiths by invitation only. This practice ensures that only faiths approved by council members are ever allowed to speak. In July, a US District Court Judge TST's lawsuit against the city of Boston to move forward. [Read more here.](#)

TST, THE SCOTTSDALE SUIT, AND SATANCON IN 2022:

The trial against the city of Scottsdale, Arizona, concluded in January. The judge, in this case, ruled that Scottsdale discriminated against TST in their process for selecting religions to give invocations at the start of city council meetings and that the city has nothing against Satanists. [Read more here.](#) To that end, because the City holds they are TST-friendly, TST is inviting members from around the globe to attend our first annual SatanCon in Scottsdale in February 2022. [Read more here.](#)

BLADENSBURG RITUAL:

In response to a [Supreme Court decision](#), TST has designated the 40-foot-tall Bladensburg Peace Cross in Maryland to be a Satanic icon. TST will now refer to the monument as "The Bladensburg Satanic Peace Cross" and host a ritual in honor of Satanist veterans at the Bladensburg site. [Read more here.](#)

TST AND MAHANOEY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT:

TST distributed free hoodies to interested Satanists in Pennsylvania's Mahanoy School District as part of a religious ritual. This comes in response to administrators threatening to take disciplinary action against students who wished to participate in a peaceful protest by wearing hoodies against the dress code policy. The students wanted to protest the school district's suspension of a student who used general profanity about the school in a Snapchat message she sent while off school property. The hoodies were internally adorned with messages such as, "Fuck the Mahanoy School Board" and "Fuck Mahanoy's Petty Tyrants." [Read more here.](#)

DEVIL'S ADVOCATE SCHOLARSHIP:

TST announced the winners of our 2021 Devil's Advocate Scholarship. We expanded the submission categories this year to encompass many different types of learners. Check out our scholarship recipients' pieces [here.](#)

NEW CAMPAIGNS AND CONGREGATIONS:

Sober Faction:

The Satanic Temple Sober Faction provides peer support recovery for addiction free from the pseudoscience and superstitious dogma entrenched in most mainstream programs. Sober Faction, now with over 3500 members worldwide, promotes self-discovery backed by self-empowerment and compassion instead of shame and religious dogma. Sober Faction celebrates individuality while also empowering others as a community to celebrate their unique selves. The program incorporates cognitive-behavioral therapy, dialectical behavior therapy, and physical rituals in helping both individuals and communities work towards recovery. [Read more here.](#)

Satanic Representation Campaign:

The Satanic Representation Campaign is dedicated to promoting pluralism and fighting for the religious liberty of TST members who seek to freely and openly express their beliefs. We provide resources and strategic counseling to TST members who seek to have our religion represented alongside other religious voices by participating in limited public forums such as invocations and displays on public property. [Read more here.](#)

FDA and Religious Access to Mifepristone:

Satanic Good Works performs services that improve communities. From food and clothing drives to parks and road cleanups, Satanic Good Works assists members and congregations build a better world.

SALEM ART GALLERY OPENING AND EVENTS:

In April, TST's International Headquarters, the Salem Art Gallery in Salem, Massachusetts, re-opened its doors to the public with no appointment necessary. The gallery houses seasonal art exhibitions, hosts ritual celebrations, black masses, weddings, book talks, lectures, and is home to the internationally-infamous eight ½-foot-tall bronze statue of Baphomet. Visit [here](#) to see upcoming events and find information to plan your visit.

CLOSING COMMENTS

TST's efforts to advocate for the separation of church and state and to secure the religious rights of our members surely aren't met without animosity from the greater public. However, it is with the generosity of our members that we can continue our carefully-designed methods of activism and our efforts to promote religious liberty in accordance with our Tenets. As we look into the next year, TST will be continuing our existing efforts and advancing our campaigns, all of which will require support, morally, socially, and financially, from the TST community in order to achieve success on the national stage.