PRESS RELEASE

Harvard Christians Urge Harvard to Protect Jews, Truth and Freedom

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- WHO: Christian alumni & friends of Harvard
- WHAT: Letter to Harvard to Protect Jews, Truth and Freedom
- WHEN: April, 2024
- **WEB:** JohnHarvardFellowship.com

WHY: The October 7, 2023, Hamas terror attacks in Israel resulted in the murder of 1,200 people and the hostage-taking of 250 individuals. Assaults have escalated, including a recent Iranian drone missile attack on Israel. Nonetheless, Harvard and related universities continue to protect and enable antisemitic and even genocidal language, activism and protests.

In an April letter to Harvard, Christian alumni and friends urge the university to return to its mission of truth, and stop endangering Jewish students, professors and staff. Requests include:

- 1) Add concerned alumni to the Presidential Task Forces on Combating Anti-Semitism.
- 2) Improve viewpoint diversity by rooting out all discrimination against Jews, Christians and other people of faith in hiring faculty.
- 3) Restore an environment in which all members of the Harvard community are welcome to engage in truth-seeking and robust debate without fear or favor.

Harvard alumnus and Princeton Professor, **Robert George**, highlights the urgent need for a return to academic freedom and viewpoint diversity on campus. Former Harvard president **Derek Bok** wrote that conservative thought is now "nearly absent" due to the predominance of Left-leaning professors who often outnumber conservatives by 10 to one — or more. The letter contends that Harvard's ranking on the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression (FIRE) free speech index, where it <u>ranks last among 248</u> <u>universities</u>, is a culture in which the search for truth, goodness, and beauty is not possible. It is also a culture which breeds ignorance, prejudice, and the abuse of vulnerable groups.

Alumnus Jim Melnick said, "The fact that Harvard, Yale, Columbia and others have descended to a point where Jewish students and faculty do not feel safe is a stain on all that these universities supposedly stand for. As evangelicals, we stand with the Jewish community at this critical moment in time and call for Christians of all backgrounds to do the same."

Kelly Monroe Kullberg, a former chaplain and founder of The Veritas Forum, said: "Harvard's advocacy of Progressive ideology is an injustice to the true Harvard founded in 1636 for Christ's glory, *In Christi Gloriam*, and later for Christ and the Church, *Christo et Ecclesiae*. Harvard's popular motto is now truth, *Veritas*, the pursuit of which the school seems to have also abandoned. Harvard is not just adrift, it is in rebellion against its founders and mission. This harms students and the future of nations. This is now Harvard's moment to re-discover its true heritage and future hope."

Letter and press release are at <u>www.JohnHarvardFellowship.com</u>. Alumni and friends of Harvard are invited to add their names.