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### Christians in Politics

Christians should be involved in politics, have patience towards others, but stand firm to the truth. An article written by Richard J. Mouw develops this idea contending that “[Christians] should seize the present opportunities for humble participation in the conversation about the social good we can seek together” (33). Having a role and a voice in politics is an effective way to “seize present opportunities”, and make a positive impact on the community, especially the non-believers in it. However, believers often shy away from participation in politics because of the large cultural shift that goes against biblical beliefs that have taken over society (Mouw 34). Although the correct counter-reaction to this should not be aggressively pressing particular beliefs onto others, because we should recognize that God gave us free will, Christ followers can humbly and earnestly tell others the truth that we have from our loving Creator. Christians find truth in God, and He tells them how they should think and act. So, it makes sense that these beliefs and truths would come to light in conversation in believer's lives

Political engagement should serve as a form of evangelism. It should not be seen as a totally alienated area from religion. Amy E. Black, quoting John C. Barrett, contends, “I saw politics not as a separate field from evangelism but as a field for evangelism-one that Christians should be engaged in” (513). The article later goes on to consider the Great Commission, and how the ends of the earth includes the political world, proving that Christians should not hold back from participating in it. The role of the church to spread the Gospel to all people and

selflessly love others while pointing them to Jesus should be found everywhere, even in the harsh environments that are often created within politics.

Although believers know the Great Commission, they often get caught up in the comfort that comes with sitting back and not being involved in politics. An article by Peter O. Dahlen expresses his discomfort with the idea that Christians have become accustomed to completely separating the church and government (4). He hopes that followers of Christ will be compelled to “do two or three times more in the political realm”, and compares the modern-day Church to the early Church (Dahlen 4). He analyzes the major impact that the early Church had on every aspect of society, including politics, and hopes that this will urge Christians to begin to become more involved in the political realm of society. In conclusion, Christians need to be more present in politics and lovingly participate, while living out the Great Commission through it all.

Works Cited

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- Dahlen, Peter O. "Why So Much Silence?" *Clergy Journal*, vol. 77, no. 3, Jan. 2001, p. 4. *EBSCOhost*.
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