

## On true religious freedom

1/30/2020

The Citizen Times deserves to be commended for including a diversity of voices, particularly concerning politics and religion.

In response to a recent letter on 'cleaning up this move toward Godless, immoral and secular rule of law,' I can sympathize. Abiding by our secular Constitution and our long history of separation of religion and state is a challenge, especially in these times when that essential barrier is being dismantled brick by brick.

The writer laments efforts to “silence American Christians.” Her published letter is evidence to the contrary, as is the loud and persistent voice of evangelistic believers on television, radio, internet and “pulpit politicking,” while increasingly pushing into our schools, legislatures and the highest levels of government. Christians are not being silenced or persecuted in any way. Yes, they are asked to play fair and consider the beliefs of other Americans (“do unto others”). Yes, they are told they can’t have special privileges.

Yes, they are told the rest of us don’t have to fund their faith. Is that being “silenced”? Of course not. The days of privilege and power for one religion to dominate the land are coming to an end. That’s a good thing for true religious freedom.

*Chris Highland, Asheville*

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