

ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE AA

PROTECT OUR CITY INDEPENDENCE, PEACEFULNESS AND UNITY

Since incorporation in 1962, Villa Park has been the Independent City "Where Friendship Blooms". Our friendly atmosphere and tranquility are being shattered by those who use their official positions to advance personal goals.

Last year, they provocatively proposed Invocations at Council Meetings, and were publicly admonished by the Mayor for using their official positions for this purpose.

Ignoring that conflict of interest, they now advocate the display in City Council Chambers of "In God We Trust", basically a religious motto cleverly disguised as being solely patriotic.

Their questioning of other Council Members' belief in God, recorded during the May 2008 Council Meeting, provides clear evidence of the real religious intent behind "In God We Trust".

A loving and tolerant religion is practiced in private religious situations, while an intrusive and intolerant religion is inappropriately introduced into official public situations.

Although patriotic mottos are meant to unite, this motto divides and certainly violates the Golden Rule of most world religions: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you".

True patriots do what they should to advance patriotism by unifying without causing harm: this attack upon minority beliefs tries what it can, and divides us with significant harm to city unity.

Jefferson, Madison, Washington and other Founding Fathers understood such key differences and were careful to guarantee genuine freedom for religious beliefs and practices, while equally guaranteeing genuine freedom from religious interference and domination.

Future City Councils will not be permitted to remove this divisive motto without voter approval through another referendum. They will only be permitted to change the motto's location within City Council Chambers.

**VOTE NO ON USING OFFICIAL POSITIONS FOR DIVISIVE
PERSONAL PURPOSES**

**VOTE NO ON DIVERTING CITY BUSINESS FROM MORE IMPORTANT
NEEDS
VOTE NO ON MEASURE AA**

s/ Arnold F. Goodman, PhD
Member of Former Villa Park Committee to Locate City Hall
in the Town Centre

s/ Robert E. McGowan
Four-Term Villa Park City Councilman, Mayor Twice