

1982

Notes on Creationism

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Notes on Creationism

In a landmark decision, federal judge Overton struck down a creation science law in Arkansas. Judge Overton concluded that creation science is "simply not science" and that no group may use the organs of government to force its religious beliefs on others.

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As a social force, the creationists cannot be ignored. But in presenting "scientific" conclusions drawn from religious tradition and faith, the creationists are undermining the already weakened state of science education in schools and are holding forth to the public view a concept of science and scientific thought that is misleading and distorted.

Science 81 2 (10):53; 1981

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Adoption of creationist "theory" requires, at a minimum, the abandonment of essentially all of modern astronomy, much of modern physics, and most of the earth sciences. Much more than evolutionary biology is at stake.

Allen Hammond and Lynn Margulis

Science 81 2 (10):55; 1981

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". . . the last society to prohibit the teaching of Darwin in the classroom on a large scale was what the fundamentalist preachers often refer to as "godless, atheistic communism" — the Soviet Union under the sway of Lysenko. There, too, the objection was that Darwinian evolution seemed to contradict dogma, and for 30 years it set back Soviet biological sciences at a great cost to the Russian people." (Through lowered food production in Russian agriculture.)

Allen Hammond and Lynn Margulis

Science 81 2(10):57; 1981

Mr. Lloyd Dale, a "biology" teacher in South Dakota, was fired recently for teaching creationism in the classroom. Criticisms arose when Mr. Dale spent more time preaching than teaching. It was felt that the science of biology was being neglected.

Des Moines Register

Feb. 20, 1982

An excellent reprint from the December issue of *Science* 81 entitled, *The Creationists*, is available in bulk quantities from the National Science Teachers Association, 1742 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington, D.C., Attn: Bill G. Aldridge.

"Man cannot make principles; he can only discover them." Thomas Paine