

# Church and State Case Could Separate Kids from Playground

*Bill in the news: Newsmax.com*

*The U.S. Supreme Court is set to hear oral arguments in an important religious liberty case. The issue is pretty straight forward. When it comes to the disbursement of public funds for a secular purpose, can a state treat a religious entity in a manner that is different from a non-sectarian institution?*

*Trinity Lutheran Church in Columbia, Mo. applied for a state grant to pay for a playground that serves its preschool. It was turned down: aid to churches is forbidden by the Missouri Constitution. Trinity Lutheran filed suit, arguing that its religious liberty rights, as affirmed by the First Amendment, have been violated; it also maintained that the Fourteenth Amendment's provision ensuring "equal protection before the law" has been sundered. [READ MORE HERE](#).*