

<b>GOP Claims:</b>	Religion is under attack. The founding fathers wanted a fusion between religion and government., The church should determine what is right and wrong not the government.
<b>Example Rebuttals:</b>	<p><b>1</b> The argument that the Founders of the American republic wanted a fusion of religion and government is false. Jefferson, Adams, Washington, Madison, Hamilton, and Franklin actually constantly argued for the exact opposite.</p> <p><b>2</b> For believers in democracy political truth is created through the process of free public deliberation and not from the church dogma. Government isn't attacking the church, government is protecting the constitution from the undermining of the foundation of the separation of church and state.</p>
<b>Their retort</b>	<b>1</b> My taxes fund public schools and I want my kids to go to private (religious schools), because <u>private schools</u> teach what I believe in.
<b>Secondary Rebuttal</b>	<p><b>1</b> Our constitution authorizes the collection of taxes to promote general welfare of all of its citizens. Educational use of taxes has been agreed to and a parent has a choice to not make use of the educational system provided by the government. The parent cannot use public money for religious education since this violates the constitutional first amendment.</p> <p><b>2</b> Public institutions have oversight by public resources, private schools do not have public oversight or accountability and do not provide equitable access to all students.</p>
<b>References</b>	<a href="https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2009/08/do-private-schools-serve-the-public-interest/23917/">https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2009/08/do-private-schools-serve-the-public-interest/23917/</a> <a href="https://www.gse.harvard.edu/ideas/ed-magazine/17/05/battle-over-charter-schools">https://www.gse.harvard.edu/ideas/ed-magazine/17/05/battle-over-charter-schools</a> <a href="https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2019/10/supreme-court-private-schools/599956/">https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2019/10/supreme-court-private-schools/599956/</a> <a href="https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2023/09/charter-schools-religion-public-secular/675293/">https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2023/09/charter-schools-religion-public-secular/675293/</a> <a href="https://www.aclu.org/news/religious-liberty/the-supreme-court-benches-the-separation-of-church-and-state">https://www.aclu.org/news/religious-liberty/the-supreme-court-benches-the-separation-of-church-and-state</a> <a href="https://www.newyorker.com/news/the-lede/is-this-the-end-of-the-separation-of-church-and-state">https://www.newyorker.com/news/the-lede/is-this-the-end-of-the-separation-of-church-and-state</a>