

AMERICAN ATHEISTS, INC.

<http://www.atheists.org>

<http://www.americanatheist.org>

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ATHEISTS TO HOST FIRST "COMING OUT" PARTY EVENT, DE-BAPTISM BASH

Atheists, Freethinkers, Humanists and other nonbelievers will be attending the nation's first "coming out" party next Saturday, August 2, 2008 in Westerville, Ohio. The event will feature talks, social events, and even a "De-Baptism" ceremony for those who were enrolled in religious groups and now wish to disaffiliate from their houses of worship.

"This will be a day of celebration and education for anyone who doesn't believe in a God and is still 'in the closet,'" said Ashley Paramore, organizer of the event. "We're sending the message that it is OK to not believe in a Jehovah or Allah or some other deity, and live a secular lifestyle as an alternative to organized religion."

Frank Zindler, President of American Atheists and Edwin Kagin, the group's National Legal Director will be signing De-Baptism certificates. Zindler said that the organization has been handing out the certificates for years, "This is the first time, though, that we're having a party to welcome all the new people we expect to turn out." Zindler added that the De-Baptism ceremony would be a fun way for people who feel under pressure to conform to religious orthodoxy to make a statement about their newfound intellectual independence.

The Atheist Coming Out Party will be held on Saturday, August 2, 2008 beginning at 12:00 noon at the Everel Barn, 60 N. Cleveland Avenue in Westerville, Ohio.

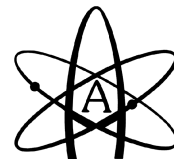
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ASHLEY PARAMORE (ashley@secularstudents.org)

AMERICAN ATHEISTS is a nationwide movement that defends civil rights for Atheists; works for the total separation of church and state; and addresses issues of First Amendment public policy.



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