



South Side Christian Church

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August 16, 2004

We, the ministers of South Side Christian Church, strongly oppose the reservation casino complex proposed for Lynwood, Illinois. We know from first-hand experience through our ministry to those struggling with addictions how devastating gambling can be to individuals, families, and finances. The manager of the Hammond Marina recently informed us that people from the casino next door occasionally wander over to the marina seeking financial assistance because, after a night of gambling, they do not have the money to get home. We do not wish to see a similar experience develop for people in the Lynwood area.

We also have been victims of crime at our church, having experienced several thefts to our church property and finances. We can only imagine that this problem will grow as desperate gamblers steal to feed their addiction.

Finally, we oppose any enterprise that destroys the connection between work and pay as taught in the Bible. Gambling substitutes luck for work, and winnings for earnings. As a church with the responsibility to care for souls and as moral leaders of our community, we ask you to say no to the casino.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sky Allen".

Sky Allen, Minister

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Grant Ray".

Grant Ray, Associate Minister

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Clark".

Steve Clark, Youth Minister