

Editor/citizens of Marion County:

Have you thought about the homeless? In the midst of the bone-chilling weather that has hit Indianapolis; many people who are experiencing the warmth of their own home tend to forget about the needs of those who have no home. Proposal 291 is an attempt to address the needs of our men, women, and children who have been displaced from their homes. While Indianapolis' goal is to be a "World-Class" city, we cannot be regarded as that if we are only world-class for a certain segment of our community.

Proposal 291 is designed to provide protections for the homeless individuals and families so that they do not have to die or experience major health issues such as frostbite and other illnesses related to the cold weather. If our concern is for all of our citizens of Marion County, then we as community must provide the homeless with basic rights and basic necessities. Statistics reveal that poverty, joblessness, underemployment, stagnant and reduced wages suggests that many citizens in our community may be forced to spend a season homeless. Unlike many cities of our size, we have not provided the resources that allow people to survive and recover from life's setbacks.

In most organizations, people are considered to be their most valuable asset. Clearly, if our city can invest in cricket fields, condominiums, other building projects that involve brick and mortar then we need to be willing to build up people. Proposal 291 is not a "*Hand Out but a Hand Up!*" If committed community service providers, churches, and other non-for-profits can do their part, it is time for the city of Indianapolis to do its part and invest in our own people.

A vote for Proposal 291 is a vote for "*The Least Of Us.*" Community and community leaders, it is time to do the right thing!

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Purpose of Life Ministries