

# FACT SHEET

## THE GRASZ NOMINATION



*Leonard Steven “Steve” Grasz is President Trump’s nominee for a seat on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. Grasz is an Omaha lawyer and a former Chief Deputy Attorney General of Nebraska. He has a record of hostility to LGBTQ rights and women’s rights. AFJ strongly opposes his confirmation.*

### WOMEN’S RIGHTS

*Grasz is on the Board of Directors of the **Nebraska Family Alliance**, an organization that has applauded the mass closings of clinics that offer women’s reproductive services, condemned Supreme Court decisions that protect women’s rights, and claimed that advocating for abortion rights puts “women’s lives at risk.”*

*Grasz has written that the historic denial of **civil rights** to Native Americans and African*

Americans is comparable to the denial of civil rights to aborted fetuses.

*As Chief Deputy Attorney General of Nebraska, Grasz defended laws banning abortion procedures as well as laws prohibiting the use of public funds for state grants to organizations that provided abortion-related services. His office fought the federal mandate requiring public financing for abortions for low-income patients who are victims of rape and incest.*

### LGBTQ RIGHTS

*The **Nebraska Family Alliance**, which Grasz serves as a member of its Board of Directors, has advocated for the dangerous practice of “conversion therapy” imposed on LGBTQ youth.*

*While serving on an Omaha city government panel, Grasz pushed for a measure that would have allowed employers to discriminate against LGBTQ employees under the guise of religious liberty.*

### DEATH PENALTY

*Grasz has vigorously advocated for the death penalty in Nebraska, serving as Assistant Secretary for Nebraskans for the Death Penalty and for Nebraskans for Capital Punishment. After Nebraska abolished the death penalty in 2015, Grasz represented Nebraskans for the Death Penalty before the Nebraska Supreme Court in a case that led to reinstatement of capital punishment in the state.*

### CHURCH AND STATE

*While serving in the Nebraska Department of Justice, Grasz petitioned the Nebraska Board of Education to require that evolution be taught not as “objective fact” but as theory, arguing that teaching evolution as fact interfered with religious rights.*

**GRASZ’S RECORD RAISES SERIOUS QUESTIONS ABOUT HIS ABILITY TO ADMINISTER EQUAL JUSTICE UNDER THE LAW. AFJ STRONGLY OPPOSES HIS CONFIRMATION.**