



## Usury is not Freedom!

Prophetic tradition condemns usury, fraud, exploitation and injustices, especially if it is directed toward the poorest members of society.

The payday lending industry has financially exploited economically vulnerable populations. Low-income families, the elderly, minorities, and military personnel have all been targets of these abusive lenders.

In Ohio, payday lenders have exploited over **300,000** low to moderate-income individuals by charging them exorbitant interest rates. In 1995, the Ohio General Assembly exempted payday lenders from Ohio's usury laws.

The industry takes advantage of borrowers' desperate need for cash, making loans at **391%** interest. This is not a just and fair way to do business. These predatory practices are very similar to the practices of moneychangers found in the New Testament.

Payday lending has also strained our social service providers, our state's hunger programs and emergency services, many of which are offered by the faith community.

Our various faith traditions offer strong admonishment against those who would oppress and victimize the poor and vulnerable.

Payday lending is not only a financially irresponsible practice; it is a morally irresponsible one as well. The practices of payday lenders constitute a modern day form of usury and people of faith have a moral responsibility to take action!

**Vote YES on Issue 5.**

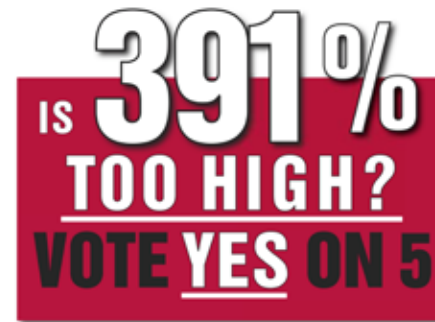
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**IS 391% TOO HIGH? VOTE YES ON 5 COMMITTEE**

Bill Faith, Treasurer

175 S. Third St., Suite 250, Columbus, Ohio 43215

<http://www.yesonissue5.com>



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