

July 22, 1976

Director of the Office for Civil Rights
U. S. Department of Health, Education & Welfare
Washington, D. C. 20201

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Section 86.12 (b) of "Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 Prohibiting Sex Discrimination in Education," this letter is to advise you that Union University of Jackson, Tennessee, is an educational institution which is owned by the Tennessee Baptist Convention, that we do not receive federal financial grants, but our students do participate in federally financed student aid programs, and that the following portions of the above mentioned regulations are not consistent with the religious tenets of such organization:

1. Sexual immorality, whether on the part of a man or woman, is contrary to the tenets of Southern Baptists. In so far as these regulations require Union University to treat the pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy or termination of pregnancy of an unmarried woman as a mere temporary disability, such regulations conflict with the tenets of Southern Baptists. Such regulations pertaining to unmarried women, whether students or prospective students, or employees, or prospective employees are inconsistent with the policies of the University and Southern Baptists, and this institution requests exemption on this basis. These inconsistent regulations include Sec. 86.21(c); 86.39; 86.40; 86.51 (b) (6); 86.57 (a)(1), (b), (c); 86.60(a).
2. Southern Baptists do not ordinarily practice the ordination of women to serve as pastors of local churches. The college requests that it be exempt from the regulations of equal number

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of male and female students selecting church-related vocations and receiving equal scholarship assistance for these church-related vocations. Sections 86.37(a)(b); 86.51; 86.53; and 86.55(a) of such regulations are inconsistent with this Southern Baptist tenet.

Union University has tried to comply with other parts of the Title IX regulations and will have on record the results of our study, evidence of our modifications of policies and practices, and the proper grievance procedures for complainants.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. Craig
President

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