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(*Ephraim* is on p.666 of the LDS Bible Dictionary)

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On behalf of:

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To: U.S. Legal System

To whom it may concern,

Robert Callahan has requested that I vouch for the fact that a person's not wishing to use a Social Security Number can be legitimately held as a religious belief.

First, I will tell you that I have such a belief, and I hold it as an important part of my religious paradigm. I will also tell you that I personally know a good number of people (easily numbering in the hundreds) who share such a belief, and I would dare say that in the United States there are probably at least a million who likewise believe similarly in this regard. It is in no way an isolated situation unique to Robert Callahan. As webmaster of www.greaterthings.com (60,000 visitors per month), I encounter people all the time who believe along these lines. I have several pages on my website that approach this subject from a spiritual point of view, indexed from http://www.greaterthings.com/Conspiracy/SSN_SocialSecurityNumber_666/

You can do a search at Google.com and a whole slew of other websites come up under the search "ssn mark of the beast"
<http://www.google.com/search?sourceid=navclient&q=ssn+mark+of+the+beast>

The belief stems from several scripture-based premises.

Probably the most prominent is the prophecy in the book of Revelation (e.g. chapter 13) that speaks of a time when no man might buy or sell except he have the 'Mark of the Beast' in his right hand or in his forehead, and that this mark will be associated with the number 666. Every UPC symbol found on most any product for sale today has the number 666 incorporated into it (beginning, middle, end 'reference digits'). That is obviously a correlated actual phenomenon that spurs people to see that we live in an age when these prophecies are coming into fulfillment, and

that the groundwork is being laid for a more literal manifestation.

Meanwhile, people who see these things and desire to answer to their conscience seek to do what they can to distance themselves from the trends of the day that move us in the direction of the ultimate fulfillment of this prophet. It does not take a great deal of imagination to see the move to more and more dependence on the use of the SSN as being something that propagates a “mark of the beast” friendly mind-set among the Populus. Some people even believe that the SSN is in actuality the fulfillment of this prophecy regarding the mark of the beast. A good many others see the SSN as being in the same spirit as the mark of the beast, though not yet the literal fulfillment that they anticipate yet to occur.

Another current event that has prophecy-watchers on alert is the rising technology that enables microchip implant under the skin to contain vital pieces of information and to relay that information to monitoring sites. There is no doubt that as this trend increases, the SSN will be the first number to be encoded – at first voluntarily, but later (according to prophecy) by force, at the pain of death for refusal.

http://www.greaterthings.com/News/Chip_Implants/

According to the book of Revelation, the spiritual penalty for acquiescing to the mark of the beast is spiritual death. That tie-in is about as strong a reason for this belief to be classified as a “religious” belief as can be found.

As for a religious body that is recognized by the state, who holds this belief as a stated platform of their dogma, I doubt you could find such. First of all, they would loose their recognition status with the state for making such a statement. (Discouraging people from using a SSN would not answer favorably to the state). Second, most state-recognized churches pander to the mainstream, who, according to prophecy, as borne out by actual observation, are in a state of general slumber or stupor as pertaining to an awareness of the lateness of the prophetic hour. Such a belief about the SSN is usually held by people who often are either ostracized from their church, or who have chosen to stop attending because of the many inconsistencies they see. In fact, I would dare say that just about every congregation in the United States, on average, has at least one person who holds such a belief, and who is persecuted for it.

No, Robert C. Callahan is not alone. And yes, his belief can easily be shown to have a religious-based foundation that is substantial and for which there is ample modern evidence to support.

Sincerely,

Sterling D. Allan

posted online for verification of authenticity at
http://www.greaterthings.com/Conspiracy/SSN_SocialSecurityNumber_666/SSN666.pdf