

RADIO SPOT # 3

RELEASED TIME CLASSES

This is Attorney Timothy Denney for “Christians and the Law”. Have you ever heard of “released time” classes? Don’t feel bad if you haven’t because you are not alone. “Released time” classes refer to classes held by churches or other religious groups for public school students. With their parents’ permission, these students are released from the public school during the school day to an off-site location so they can be taught religious values. If the parent requests it, Michigan law specifically authorizes public schools to release students for these classes up to two hours per week. But hasn’t the Supreme Court banned “released time” classes? The answer is “no”. Almost fifty years ago, the Court ruled these classes were lawful. In the face of troubling school violence, I’ve heard many people say that our public school students need to be more exposed to godly values. If that’s true, maybe “released time” classes deserve a second look. If you have comments or questions, please call me, Timothy Denney, toll-free at (877) 256-1758.