John Andrews, President
Centennial Institute

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I am writing regarding an article published by Centennial Review Volume 3 Number 1, February 2011 by General William G. Boykin. He appropriately exclaims that some religions with practices or rituals contrary to American law are not permitted to act out such. This is generally correct by law. It is the next sentence with which I take exception to the homogenization of the word "Momons". While he does acknowledge "some Mormons" may believe in polygamy they are not allowed to practice it. The word Mormon is a nick name and not a recognized religion. The official name of the 13 plus million members is The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Such polygamous practice was denounced and forbidden by the President of the Church, Wilford Woodruff on September 24, 1890 and has never been re-instituted.

If perhaps there are organizations believing in or practicing plural marriage in America today it is not The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I am certain General Boykin did not intend to infer such, however, having served in the United States Army he certainly must have had contact with commissioned chaplains approved by the Department of Defense, including L.D.S. chaplains called Mormons. My disappointment is his cavalier use of the term lumped with religions that call for animal sacrifice or the use of narcotics. Thus inferring that some members may believe in a practice that is unlawful by civil law and punishable by church cannon law

Respectfully, James Moore

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