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How Secular is Georgetown University?

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Georgetown University has long been troubl
ed by its own religious. University faculty and
administrators, for example, have had to
meetings to discuss whether the school is
truly a secular institution. Yet a binding deter
mination of whether Georgetown is in fact secu
lar will be made by Judge Leonard Bruce, who
will act as judge in the Gay Rights Coalition
case.

This lawsuit centers on the issue of whether
the university's requirement for its students to
 adhere to the Catholic Church's teaching on
homosexual acts is a violation of the First
Amendment's protection against religious discri
mination.

Georgetown is a private, non-profit institution
and has the right to define its own standards
for student conduct. However, in recent years,
many universities have been forced to defend
their policies against legal challenges.

The case involves a student who was expelled
from Georgetown University for engaging in
homosexual activity while attending the school.
The student, citing his religious beliefs, refused
to comply with the university's policy on
homosexual conduct.

Judge Bruce will hear arguments from both
sides and is expected to issue a ruling soon.

The outcome of this case could have impor
tant implications for universities across the
country, as they grapple with the growing
pressure to accommodate students' religious
beliefs.

If Georgetown were to lose this case, other
universities might be required to adopt similar
policies.

The case also raises important questions
about the role of religion in public life and
whether universities should be required to
comply with the First Amendment's protections
against religious discrimination.

The case is closely watched by advocates for
both gays and religious freedom and could
have significant implications for the future of
higher education in the United States.