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| **From:** | charles griner |
| **To:** | Preston Christie A |
| **Subject:** | Form 990 comment |
| **Date:** | Saturday, September 12, 2015 10:30:26 PM |

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Dear Ms. Preston,

I have watched the  economic deterioration of my hometown of scranton pa. My entire life, and watched it accelerate in recent decades. Businesses leave and the city loses its tax base. Public services fail, streets are not maintained, whole city blocks go empty. But the local university is thriving and buying up as much vacant property as possible, and paying no taxes on its purchases. The university is owned by a church, which takes in millions of dollars while feeding nothing back to the local treasury. This is so wrong! The church may be technically a nonprofit, but they are a huge business!

All non-profit organizations should be treated equally, and churches should not be an exception, particularly by extension their university systems. Currently the IRS singles out churches and their universities for privileged treatment by exempting them from the disclosure requirements all other 501(c)(3) organizations must comply with, or lose their exemption. Taxpayers, who are subsidizing tax-exempt groups, have a right to know what entities are exempt from taxation and to review general financial disclosures. The privilege of not being taxed must come with some measures of accountability.

Thank you for your attention,

Charles griner