

From the New York State Council of Churches email newsletter:

## **The Supreme Court Hears Johnson v. Grants Pass the Most Important Case of Homelessness in 40 Years**



On April 22nd the U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments in Johnson V. Grants Pass, a landmark case concerning homelessness criminalization and the rights of people experiencing homelessness. This case will determine whether cities have the right to penalize people for things like sleeping outside with a pillow or blanket, even when there are no safe shelter options. The case will have widespread implications for cities such as New York, that has seen an increase in citations to those are unhoused for activities related to their status of being homeless and removal of encampments.

The New York State Council of Churches joined 1000's of organizations across the country, including the National Council of Churches, National Organization to End Homelessness and

National Homelessness Law Center to say that No one should be punished for not having a place to sleep. Let's advocate for housing, not handcuffs!

Follow the Case and Learn more on how to advocate against the criminalization of the homeless in your community at : <https://johnsonvgrantspass.com/>

---