



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022



CENTER FOR  
**PUBLIC JUSTICE**

# THANKFUL FOR GROWTH

*Dear Friends of CPJ,*

*What began as a small group of citizens seeking to develop an integral Christian perspective on politics, law, and society has grown into a nationwide community of Christians who continue to develop and apply that perspective to many of the greatest political challenges of our lifetimes, in our local communities, and in state and federal policy.*



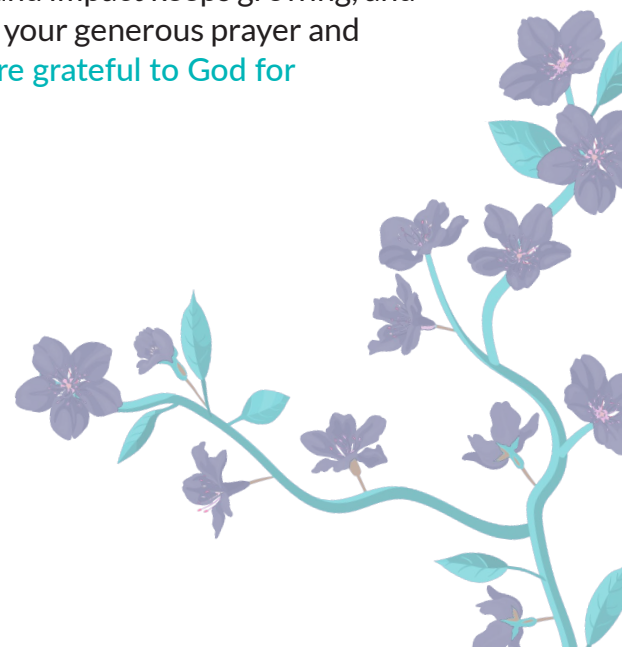
This 2022 Annual Report points to God's faithfulness not only in the past, but also in the present and into the future. Our history can't be summed up in a short timeline, but I hope these reminders cause you to give thanks to God for some important seasons in our shared story. This year, to better capture CPJ's work in the public square, CPJ introduced our new brand identity, logo marks, and website. With our new brand identity, we hope to reflect that we are firmly held by Christ, pursuing God's good purpose for our political community, and committed to a pluralistic society in which all people and institutions engage one another with a spirit of respect and service. As we follow God's lead into the future, we are confident that our unique perspective and ability to work faithfully and patiently will continue to bear fruit that honors God.

As you will read in these pages, what the Lord has made possible for CPJ in 2022 reflects how CPJ is known for **equipping citizens, developing leaders, and shaping policy to serve God, advance justice, and transform public life**. CPJ's team, reach, and impact keeps growing, and it is an exciting season to be a part of this work! Thank you for your generous prayer and financial support, which helped make all of this possible. **We are grateful to God for your partnership.**

With gratitude,

*Stephanie Summers*

**Stephanie Summers**  
CEO, Center for Public Justice  
January 2023





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**STEPHANIE SUMMERS**

Chief Executive Officer



**SOFIA TIMINA**

Research Fellow

# THANK YOU FOR BEING PART OF THIS JOURNEY!



In April of 2022, CPJ celebrated its 45th anniversary by hosting a dinner, conversation, and lecture as part of the annual Kuyper Conference and the Henry Symposium on Religion and Public Life at Calvin University in Grand Rapids, MI. Reflecting on this milestone celebration and the ways in which CPJ has grown over the past 45 years, we are reminded of God's enduring faithfulness and filled with hope in Christ for the years ahead. We invite you to take a moment to recall some of our most memorable events and developments. **Thank you for being part of this journey!**



*Senator Mark O. Hatfield of Oregon*

## 1970's

The Association for Public Justice (APJ) and the APJ Education Fund are established to develop an integral Christian perspective on politics, law, and society.

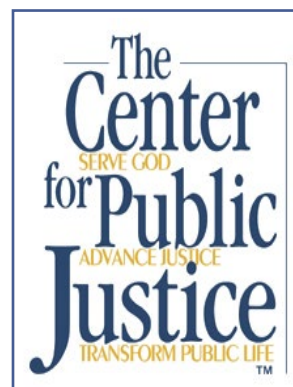
The first International Christian Political Conference, co-sponsored by APJ, brings together nearly 700 Christians from the United States and Canada to discuss a range of topics. In his keynote address, Senator Mark O. Hatfield of Oregon emphasizes the importance of Christian communal activity.

## 1980's



*Jim and Doreen Skillen celebrating the new office location in 1982*

Led by James W. Skillen, APJ is renamed to the Center for Public Justice and opens a Washington, D.C. office to focus on critical policy initiatives. Early research and policy focus on pluralism in American schools.



## 1990's

CPJ's work on welfare policy, led by Dr. Stanley Carlson-Thies, is nationally recognized. One outcome is the Charitable Choice provision of the Welfare Reform Act of 1996.

CPJ hosts its first Kuyper Lecture, which over the decades since features speakers including Charles Glenn, Clarke Cochran, Michael J. Gerson, John Inazu, Michelle Kirtley and Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach.



*Kuyper Lecture October, 2009*

## 2000's

CPJ begins the Pew Civitas Program on Faith and Public Affairs. 120 Civitas alumni go on to leadership roles in government, public policy, and higher education.



## 2010's



*Hatfield prize recipients, 2018*

Stephanie Summers, CPJ's CEO, inaugurates Shared Justice, CPJ's program to form young adults as engaged citizens. CPJ begins awarding Hatfield research prizes to student-faculty teams.



*Celebratory lunch after a press conference announcing the introduction of the Fairness for All Act, 2019*

CPJ equips citizens, develops leaders, and shapes policy through expanded programs including the Institutional Religious Freedom Alliance, Families Valued, Sacred Sector, and Political Discipleship.

## 2020's



*CPJ Team, 2022, PC: Whitney Ingram*

CPJ rebrands with a new logo that captures CPJ's historic and continuing work in the public square, firmly held by Christ, pursuing God's good purpose for our political community, and reflecting our commitment to a pluralistic society in which all people and institutions engage one another with a spirit of respect and service.



*CPJ 45th Anniversary Celebration, April, 2022, PC: April Ruiz*

## OUR NEW WEBSITE IS HERE!

We are excited to announce that the Center for Public Justice has officially launched its new website at [www.cpjustice.org](http://www.cpjustice.org)!



All CPJ programs—Shared Justice, Institutional Religious Freedom Alliance, Equipping Ministries Fellowship, Families Valued, and Political Discipleship—are now integrated into one website, making them easily accessible and better aligned with our central mission.

We are currently working on an external Resource Library Page where you will find all the resources, publications, articles, newsletters, policy briefs, and reports that CPJ has ever published.



# EQUIP CITIZENS

*"My internship at CPJ was a formative experience that prepared me well for the work I did on Capitol Hill before I came to CPJ, and I am excited to be able to equip interns at CPJ with tools and experiences to help them in whatever career path they choose as they finish school and graduate."*

- Emily Fromke, Program Director, Shared Justice



## CPJ'S INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

As a part of the internship program, interns are assigned to work with one specific staff member on our communications, development, advocacy, or Shared Justice team. Interns are assigned significant projects that move the work of CPJ forward and share in as well as lead our weekly all-staff prayer time. Interns also participate in a seminar-style class called Public Justice 101. This is usually one of the interns' favorite parts of the internship because they get to interact with each other, learn more about public justice and principled pluralism and how they apply to their work, and think about how that vision can be integrated into the vocations that God is calling them into.



*"My internship with CPJ gave me the chance to translate the theology of Christian politics into something that people unfamiliar with Kuyper or Reformed thought could understand. This translation helped me think about my own civic engagement as I pursue a career in politics. My spiritual, personal, and professional growth was supported by CPJ's strong leadership."*

- Mario Aguirre, CPJ Intern Alum



*"As an Advocacy Intern, I have had the opportunity to work on CPJ's advocacy issues and assist CPJ's Families Valued team. As a woman of faith, I appreciate CPJ's approach to advocacy through its willingness to seek out and follow God's vision for public justice. I am grateful to have been a part of a team that promotes learning and spiritual growth and that remains hopeful when tackling challenging issues."*

- Chandler Robinson, CPJ Advocacy Intern



## ADVANCING CHRISTIAN SCHOLARSHIP



Scan QR Code to read the reports and share them to inspire others toward this type of Christian scholarship.

The Hatfield Prize\*, part of CPJ's Shared Justice program, is awarded annually to three student-faculty pairs to research social policies that impact the well-being of children, families, and communities. The 2022 recipients were Grace Retz and Michael Ritter, Ph.D. (Houghton College, '22), Kyle Chu and Jason Renn, Ph.D. (Messiah University, '24), and Rachel Smith and Piljoo Kang, Ph.D. (Toccoa Falls College, '22).

This year, the Hatfield Prize reports looked at barriers to food security for refugees in Buffalo, New York; youth diversion policies as an alternative to youth probation in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; and access to child care for refugee families in Clarkston, Georgia.



2022 Hatfield Prize recipients Jason Renn, Ph.D. and Kyle Chu



*"It has been a joy to partner with the Center for Public Justice on the Hatfield Prize! (And I am on the board of Messiah University, so it was an extra special treat for me this year!)"*

*Our benefactor, Jack Murdock, believed strongly in the importance of civic engagement. As an organization serving the Pacific Northwest for more than 47 years, we have seen firsthand how complex challenges require creative solutions that engage diverse stakeholders in service to the common good. We are proud to support programs like the Hatfield Prize that embody these practices of civic engagement and instill these values in the next generation of scholars and leaders through research and solution development."*

**- Kimberly C. Thornbury, Ph.D.**  
Senior Program Director for Enrichment, M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust

\*The Hatfield Prize is made possible through the generous support of the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust and the Annie E. Casey Foundation. We thank them for their support; however, the findings and conclusions presented in the reports are those of the authors alone, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of these foundations.

# DEVELOP LEADERS

## CONVERSATIONS ON THE FAITH-BASED INITIATIVE

Stanley Carlson-Thies, Senior Director and Founder of the Institutional Religious Freedom Alliance (IRFA), a program of CPJ that promotes policies and organizational practices that safeguard institutional religious freedom, hosted a series of five virtual conversations on key topics relevant to local, state, and federal faith-based leaders from May to August 2022. Each conversation featured a special guest speaker who stressed the importance of government working specifically to engage faith-based and community-based organizations. Discussions ranged from non-financial partnerships between government and faith-based organizations to engaging Black churches as service partners. CPJ's Institutional Religious Freedom Alliance continues to host these conversations with faith-based officials to exchange ideas and tools on the value of faith and community engagement.

*"I have been very fortunate to work with Stanley for the last several years since I moved into the position with [the State of] Tennessee. He is a wealth of information, articulate and brilliant! I appreciate his non-partisan writing and his support of our government. I am looking forward to continuing my relationship with Stanley and will use the (IRFA) for research and thought-provoking commentary."*

- **Dave Worland**,  
Former Executive Director, Tennessee Governor's Office of Faith-Based & Community Initiatives



## EQUIPPING MINISTRIES FELLOWSHIP

The Center for Public Justice's Equipping Ministries Fellowship program is a two-year cohort designed to encourage and equip Hispanic-led congregations in Texas, who actively serve and love their communities.

The Fellowship consists of six training modules followed by an opportunity for participants to write a mini-grant proposal, so they can put what they have learned into practice.



Launch of the Equipping Ministries Fellowship in March 2022

One of the most encouraging aspects of EMF this year has been seeing the pastors begin to collaborate and share knowledge and resources in ways they have never done before. Stay tuned for the new podcast that will be launched in 2023. Pastors will have a new tool to engage, learn, and be inspired.



## TRANSFORMATIVE JUSTICE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH



Yasmine Arrington, CPJ Fellow and Host of the Juvenile Justice Convenings and Instagram Live Series

The Center for Public Justice has continued to explore one of the most urgent areas for reform within the juvenile justice system: juvenile probation. This year, we held three Restorative Justice Convenings focusing on promising practices in youth diversion and prevention. The October convening brought together more than 70 faith-based leaders and professionals to discuss how faith-based organizations can support transformative youth diversion programs.

During the convening, CPJ presented the faith-based toolkit “Reimagining Youth Justice” in partnership with Community Connections for Youth. The toolkit is designed to help faith-based leaders take practical steps toward supporting, advocating, and serving young people and their communities who are threatened by their entanglement with the justice system.

*You're invited to the official toolkit launch webinar on April 13, 2023 from 1-2 pm ET. Scan the QR code to register. Please share it with others who are interested in advocating for young people.*



Scan QR Code to access CPJ's virtual convenings and articles on juvenile justice reform

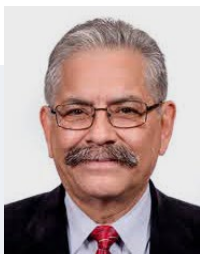
As part of the “Transforming Juvenile Probation Series,” CPJ Fellow Yasmine Arrington hosted eight Instagram Live sessions from January through September of 2022. The interviews featured juvenile justice experts who discussed effective strategies for youth diversion and ways faith-based leaders can support it. Shared Justice, CPJ’s online publication written by and for young adults, published 11 articles this year about juvenile justice-related topics ranging from credible messenger mentoring to Howard University’s Juvenile Justice Advocates program.

The goal of our ongoing juvenile justice work is to grow a faith-based community of practice that shares ideas, resources, strategies, and best practices regularly.

# SHAPE POLICY

## EXPANDING FAITH-BASED CHILD CARE

The Center for Public Justice has long advocated for a pluralistic approach to child care and education that caters to both the religious and secular preferences of the diverse families that make up our nation. CPJ calls for the government to design policies that honor freedom of religion and respect the religious character and practices of families and faith-based organizations.



*"The Institutional Religious Freedom Alliance (IRFA) has impacted my view on government and the concept of justice, providing clarity and parameters that have helped me understand our freedoms, rights, and protections."*

*As more churches or ministries look toward impacting their communities with daycare and afterschool programs, they often find they are limited with their funding and their ability to freely access government resources without prejudice. IRFA informs us on how to have an impact on communities within the parameters of religious freedom and government policy."*

- Gus Reyes, Director, Hispanic Partnerships, Dallas Baptist University

On July 15, 2022, CPJ's Stephanie Summers and Stanley Carlson-Thies spoke about expanded federal child care support at a Friday Forum organized by Faith and Law, a twice-monthly discussion series on Christian faith and public policy for congressional staffers and interns. The discussion focused on the **Build Back Better Act**, legislation that provides massive federal subsidies for child care and a new free UPK program with requirements that exclude many faith-based providers and schools. Stephanie and Stanley discussed the need to ensure that government child care subsidies welcome the participation of churches and other faith-based organizations as well as when and how faith-based organizations should accept government support in order to serve their neighbors.



Scan QR code to  
access the policy brief  
on the Child Care and  
Development Block  
Grant Act

As part of CPJ's continued efforts to advance religious freedom, Stanley Carlson-Thies published a policy brief on utilizing the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act to ensure faith-based providers have access to expanded federal child care subsidies. The findings of this policy paper have led to current ongoing research regarding the accessibility of information on government-subsidized child care to faith-based providers. The aim is to determine how accurate and understandable the information available on government funding for faith-based organizations is.



# THE IMPACT OF FAITH-BASED CHILD CARE

## A Michigan Case Study

According to a 2020 survey by the Bipartisan Policy Center, faith-based child care remains a preferred option for many families. The scope and nature of faith-based child care, however, have received little recent research. To address this gap, CPJ's Rachel Anderson, together with Laura Lunchies and Rachel Venema of DataWise Consulting (formerly Calvin University Center for Social Research), examined the child care landscape in Michigan.



Scan QR Code to access the policy brief



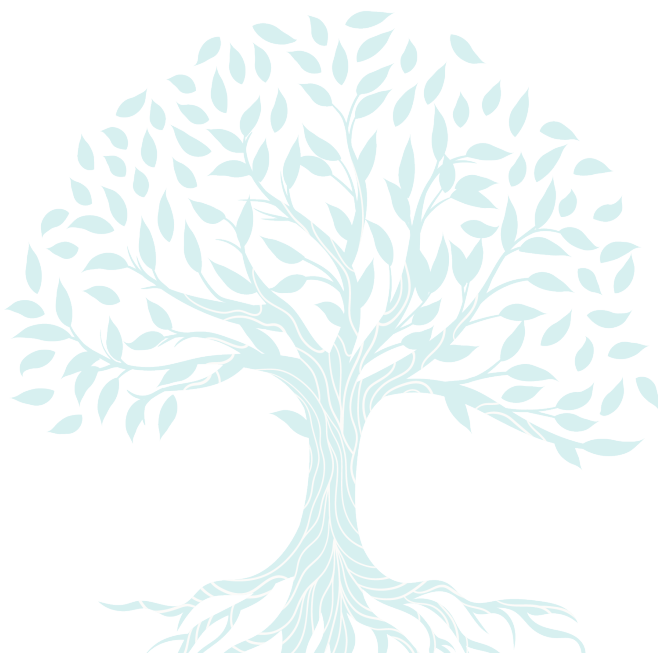
The policy brief on the initial findings of the research highlights the experiences of faith-based child care providers in Michigan to identify common faith-based practices in child care settings as well as attitudes held by faith-based child care providers about their work. The research identifies practices that could strengthen partnerships between advocates for quality early education and faith-based child care providers.



Scan QR code to watch webinar on the Michigan Case Study

On October 4, 2022, CPJ held a webinar to hear the key findings from the Michigan case study and discuss the role of faith-based child care within America's child care ecosystem.

In 2023, CPJ is working with Baylor University's Institute for Studies of Religion on a landscape study of faith-based child care in Massachusetts and Georgia, as well as conducting research about the information provided to prospective faith-based child care providers in Texas.



## PROTECTING FAMILIES

Building upon its experience of amplifying citizen voices, clarifying the roles of public and private institutions, and equipping faith-based organizations, CPJ's Families Valued program equips Christian citizens, employers, and policymakers to consider their roles in upholding all families through workplace and public policy.

### A Common Ground Proposal for Paid Family Leave

This year, CPJ was able to advance a vision for family love and flourishing by developing a theologically-grounded policy vision for what paid family leave should look like in the United States. CPJ's 2021-22 Families Valued Leadership Council, a group of Christian leaders representing diverse traditions, denominations, and political ideologies, published the Common Ground Proposal for Paid Family Leave in hopes of shaping the ongoing public conversation on family-friendly policies. During a time of political polarization and gridlock, CPJ believes in the importance of mutual learning, dialogue, and finding common ground to support those entrusted with the responsibility to care for the vulnerable in our society.



Scan QR Code to read  
CPJ's Common Ground  
Proposal



*"I have linked arms with CPJ's Families Valued team over the past few years and I am encouraged by their advocacy efforts. The Family Valued Advocacy trainings on family-supportive policies and specifically the training on Black motherhood helped bring awareness to the hardships that Black mothers face daily. But it doesn't stop there. Families Valued not only brings to light the injustices that so many face, but they also seek to highlight solutions by amplifying*

*the voices of those doing the work. This is advocacy done right and this is how Christians seek justice in a way that honors all of humanity while clinging to biblical values."*

- Cessilye R. Smith, Abide Women's Health Services, Founder & CEO

The Supreme Court's Decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* marked the first stage in new pro-life and pro-family



Scan QR Code to  
access CPJ's Advocacy  
Toolkit on paid family

efforts, not the end. CPJ's Families Valued team organized six advocacy trainings on family-supportive policies as part of the "What's a Family Worth?" series. These conversations featured thirteen speakers who offered a Christian moral framing for the need for more robust pro-family public policy agendas.

WHAT IS FAMILY WORTH?


PAID FAMILY LEAVE

ADVOCACY TOOLKIT

From the Families Valued Program  
of the Center for Public Justice







*"Stephanie Summers gave an excellent talk at a Faith and Law retreat on 'Principled Pluralism,' and I was immediately impressed by her incredible ability to explain complicated issues with ease and nuance. As I learned more about CPJ, I was drawn to their non-partisan, thoughtful work to engage the public policy arena while seeking to serve God well and reflect Christ in both their quality work and the way they go about speaking into the public square. The Center for Public Justice promotes the well-being of an entire society in right relationship with the larger world that God made."*

- **Lauren Noyes**, Executive Director, Faith and Law, a volunteer, nonprofit organization that helps congressional staff better understand the implications of the Christian worldview.



## CREATIVE PLURALIST POLICIES

As a Christian public policy organization, we are committed to policies that respect the dignity of all people, including LGBTQ people. In our society, with its many diverse communities of belief, justice requires creative pluralist policies.



Scan QR Code to watch CPJ's webinar on the Respect for Marriage Act

The Respect for Marriage Act, a federal law that *includes vital religious freedom protections for faith-based organizations committed to biblical marriage while guaranteeing the right of same-sex marriage*, was passed by Congress on a bipartisan

basis and signed into law by President Joe Biden in December 2022. The Center for Public Justice and its Institutional Religious Freedom Alliance were part of a coalition of religious organizations and pro-First Amendment

LGBTQ advocates who urged Senators to include significant religious freedom protections in the Respect for Marriage Act.

CPJ released several resources to raise awareness about the implications of the Respect for Marriage Act for churches and other faith-based organizations. CPJ will continue to work with allies to pass the Fairness for All Act, which combines religious protections with civil rights for LGBTQ individuals.



CPJ team recognized by the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities for their work to include religious freedom provisions in Respect for Marriage Act

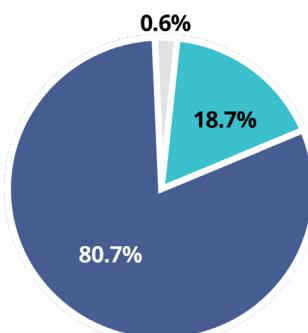
# FY22 STEWARDSHIP

CPJ is deeply committed to stewarding your gifts with integrity and purpose.

## Fiscal Year 2022 Revenue Sources:

**GRANTS:** (18.7%)  
**CONTRIBUTIONS:** (80.7%)  
**OTHER INCOME:** (0.6%)  
**TOTAL:** (100.0%)

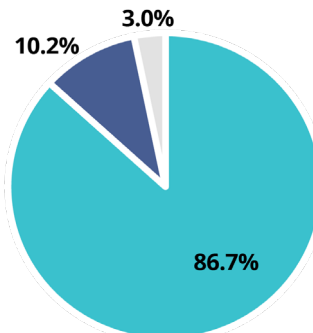
**TOTAL REVENUE  
& SUPPORT:**  
\$3,493,350



## Fiscal Year 2022 Expenses:

**PROGRAM:** (86.7%)  
**MANAGEMENT  
& GENERAL:** (10.2%)  
**FUNDRAISING:** (3.0%)  
**TOTAL:** (100.0%)

**TOTAL EXPENSES:**  
\$3,083,473



*Your gifts encourage growth. Thank you!*

All donors to CPJ are eligible to receive free estate planning services through our partnership with the Barnabas Foundation.

Non-cash gifts such as personal property, appreciated securities/stock, retirement funds, life insurance policies, and business interests can be donated through planned giving.

Qualified participants can give from their IRA or an employee match program.

Questions? Contact Dawn Brotherton,  
Director of Development at 202-695-2667.



We are fully committed to stewarding every gift with integrity and the purpose for which it was given. Thank you for trusting us with this responsibility. Your generosity makes the work of CPJ possible.

## INVESTING *in* TOMORROW

Many people make their most significant contribution to the Center for Public Justice by including a gift in their will.

By giving in this way, you model Christian stewardship to your loved ones AND extend the impact of your generosity well beyond your lifetime!

### LEARN MORE



Center for Public Justice



202.695.2667



Dawn.Brotherton@cpjustice.org







*45 years ago, the seeds of CPJ were planted by faithful Christians who desired to see God's wisdom and justice unfold in the political life we experience in the world around us. Those seeds have germinated and grown. Like a tree, the roots have grown deeper, the branches spread further out, and the fruit has multiplied.*

As the impact has grown, the need for more people to help facilitate the work has also grown. Board members, volunteers, fellows, interns, and this year, several new staff positions have been added. We are thankful to you as generous donors and to God as the faithful provider for making this happen.

Individual and family donors support our work through annual gifts, recurring gifts, gifts for special projects like IRFA, gifts that encourage others to give like matching funds, and legacy gifts like those planned into a will or estate.

Foundations and partner organizations have provided grants for special projects, research, and staff development.

Scan QR code  
to support CPJ



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