



The Caleb Report

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WAL-MART AND PLANNED PARENTHOOD

Many pro-life Americans were pleased to learn that Wal-Mart would not carry Preven in its United States-based pharmacies. (The drug is carried by Wal-Mart pharmacies in Canada.) Needless-to-say, Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) and its legions were furious and they publicly and relentlessly attacked Wal-Mart.

Just when it seemed the controversy had died, the Spring 2000 edition of the Planned Parenthood's *Speak Out* included an article titled, "Wal-Mart: An EC Success Story":

Wal-Mart will put customers first when it comes to filling prescriptions—including those for emergency contraception (EC). Wal-Mart's pledge evolved from several months of conversations between the drug store chain and PPFA. PPFA had asked Wal-Mart to clarify a seemingly inconsistent policy: In the past, only some Wal-Mart pharmacists filled prescriptions for oral contraceptives that were to be used for EC, and the chain refused to carry the EC kit, Preven. At PPFA's urging, Wal-Mart has reaffirmed its "customer first" policy, which requires filling all prescriptions. If Wal-Mart pharmacists cannot fill prescriptions on-site, they must arrange to have them filled nearby. Further, Wal-Mart pharmacists will no longer share their religious or moral views with customers. The chain also is directing its pharmacies to give customers PPFA's toll-free number—800-230-PLAN—that will put them in touch with the nearest Planned Parenthood health center, plus the addresses and phone numbers of all Planned Parenthood facilities nationwide that provide EC.

LDI received messages from supporters who said American Life League (ALL) had publicly blasted Wal-Mart over the agreement. LDI investigated and sent a message to those who subscribe to our E-Mail Service stating that there is no concrete evidence of a relationship between the two entities—a relationship Wal-Mart strongly denies.

Following the release of LDI's e-mail, ALL sent a message to LDI stating that its investigation had not produced the same results as LDI's. An ALL staffer told LDI that he had been talking to Wal-Mart officials for quite some time and a corporate statement on the alleged agreement was often promised but never sent. LDI contacted Wal-Mart and was able to obtain a statement:

Wal-Mart Stores Inc. does not have an agreement of any kind with Planned Parenthood. Recently, it has been inaccurately reported that Wal-Mart pharmacists were referring customers to Planned Parenthood as part of a Wal-Mart policy. This is simply not true. Wal-Mart pharmacists are trained professionals who are given the autonomy to give independent professional counsel to their customers.

Even after Wal-Mart's written denial of an agreement with PPFA, ALL leaders are not satisfied because Wal-Mart is unwilling to *prohibit* its pharmacists from referring to Planned Parenthood. Wal-Mart pharmacists may refer or refuse to refer to Planned Parenthood or a crisis pregnancy center. It is left to each pharmacist's personal convictions and professional opinion.

While LDI is satisfied with the results of its investigation, our conclusions are based primarily on Wal-Mart's denial of the reported relationship. Since we cannot prove that an agreement exists, we must err on the side of caution. Nevertheless, LDI leaders remain concerned by some aspects of Wal-Mart's response during the investigation. LDI will continue to monitor the situation. ALL deserves a lot of credit for persevering in its efforts to get the facts.

THE FATE OF PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION

In June, the United States Supreme Court struck down Nebraska's ban on partial-birth abortion. While Douglas R. Scott, LDI's president, said the five to four vote in *Stenberg v. Carhart* was not a surprise, Gloria Feldt, president of PPFA called it a "hollow victory."

"Although this is a victory, there is still cause for concern," Feldt said. "Four justices stated their willingness to allow government interference with doctor's medical decisions and make women's health and lives subservient to other factors. Physicians, not politicians, must be free to decide what is best for their patients, in accordance with the medical standards of care that best safeguard a woman's life and health."

Feldt believes pro-life lawmakers at the state level will "see this one-vote margin as an 'invitation' to draft new bans on abortion procedures, laws that will then be tested by a future Supreme Court with a different cast of justices." She said that any decision by the Court that weakens *Roe v. Wade* will eventually undercut the decision in *Griswold v. Connecticut*, which recognized a "right to privacy" in "reproductive matters, including birth control."

Scott said pro-life activists should not be surprised by the Supreme Court's decision. "It has long been clear to me that a ban on partial-birth abortion would fail to pass constitutional muster when judged by *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*," Scott said. "Had the Supreme Court upheld the ban, it would have found the decision difficult to justify. After all, why couldn't Congress and the states then set out to ban other methods of killing the unborn child? The Court would surely not allow it and would have to draw the line somewhere."

Two of the reasons given by the Court for its decision were that the Nebraska law was "too broad" and did not include a "health of the mother" exception. Scott said an exception for "health," as defined by the Court in *Doe v. Bolton*, would render a ban useless. (President Bill Clinton has insisted that health exception language be added to the federal partial-birth abortion ban bill.) But Scott said these are not the most important points. "The key here is that the Court said the ban would place an 'undue burden' on mothers who seek to kill their children."

Scott called the effort to ban partial-birth abortion "an excellent educational tool, but that is where it stops. More people now understand that all children in the womb may be killed at any time in pregnancy—for any or no reason. That is a step forward. The problem is that far too many people still do not care. They justify the killing in their own minds," Scott said. "We must also remember that if this one procedure had been banned, abortionists would have found other ways to 'earn' their pay."

Scott said it is clearer than ever that the problem is not simply *Roe v. Wade*, it is "personhood" for the unborn child. Even if the Supreme Court were to reverse *Roe* someday, the matter would be returned to the states. Some would allow the killing; a few would not. We would once again live "half slave and half free." Scott has called on those pro-life organizations with multi-million dollar budgets to develop an advertising campaign to reach the minds of the nation. "And we need to pray that God will touch hearts," Scott said.

NO FREE SPEECH

Another June Supreme Court decision impacts the Pro-Life Movement. In a six to three vote, the Court upheld a Colorado law that requires demonstrators to stay at least eight feet away from people entering abortion facilities. The law applies to a 100-foot radius around any "clinic" entrance.

“Planned Parenthood is pleased that the Supreme Court recognizes that women should not be forced to run a gauntlet of harassment as they exercise their constitutional right to seek reproductive health care,” said PPFA’s Gloria Feldt. “While committed to the First Amendment rights of free expression, we agree that these rights are not curtailed by the Colorado statute upheld by the court today in *Hill v. Colorado*.”

“Anti-choice protestors are not just opposed to abortion. They also are opposed to medically accurate sex education, to contraception, and to the concept of responsible choice that access to reproductive health care represents,” Feldt said. “They gather at health care centers to harass and intimidate women whose childbearing decisions they do not personally support.”

“When speech is used as a weapon to intimidate and coerce and when it creates a climate of violence, it has crossed the line and become unacceptable,” Feldt continued. “The First Amendment is not a license for lawlessness. The dignity and safety of women should be a paramount consideration and must be protected with the full force of the law.”

LDI’s Douglas R. Scott said such a decision would never have been reached if the issue under discussion had nothing to do with abortion. “If the Klan, the ACLU, the NAACP, or the John Birch Society wanted to protest, their rights would have been protected by the Supreme Court. But not pro-lifers,” Scott said. “Pro-abortion activists do not simply want us to lose the battle over the so-called ‘right to choose,’ they want us to be silenced so no one hears the truth. They cannot even stand to have our side presented in the public square. What is it they fear with such fervor?”

TEEN PEOPLE LAUDS P.P.F.A.

The August 2000 issue of *Teen People* includes an article titled, “Preventing Pregnancy,” written by Matt Oppenheimer, a teenage volunteer at Planned Parenthood. “Since ninth grade, I’ve been trying to show other young males that taking an active role in teen-pregnancy prevention isn’t a lame thing to do,” Oppenheimer wrote. “The organization’s [Planned Parenthood] teen programs have helped me have a positive effect on my peers by giving me a chance to teach them about the dangers of unprotected sex.”

Oppenheimer was named PPFA’s Youth Volunteer of the Year at its March 2000 conference. He said the “honor” demonstrates that PPFA “really recognizes the great work that *all* youths are doing around the country.”

Mary Shallenberger, chairman of PPFA, recognizes the importance of reaching youth with their deadly indoctrination. “The youth won’t always be young,” she said. More than 800 attendees at PPFA’s conference were under the age of 25.

“RAISE YOUR VOICE!”

PPFA is concerned that the vast majority of its customers—those between 18 and 29 years of age—are also those less likely to advocate for their “right to those services.” But PPFA is using its Website to “find and motivate young people to speak out for reproductive freedom.”

Voices for Planned Parenthood (Vox) is now engaged in an outreach program on college and university campuses in Western Washington state and Wisconsin. In partnership with PPFA affiliates in Seattle, Milwaukee, and Madison, Vox has started groups on campuses with the goal of indoctrinating and organizing students to advocate for “reproductive rights.” Vox will also conduct voter registration drives on campuses and at concerts throughout the year.

Countering Vox propaganda is American Collegians for Life, which trains pro-life campus leaders to defend their position and equips young people to present a positive pro-life message. (If you know a college student, tell him or her about ACL’s annual conference. It will take place in Washington, D.C., on January 19-21, 2001. For more information, visit ACL on the World Wide Web at: www.aclife.org. We urge all pro-life college-aged young people to attend.)

PRESIDENTIAL RACE

The National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League (NARAL) has issued “grades” for potential running mates for presidential candidates Al Gore and George W. Bush. Top grades for a Gore running mate went to Senators Joseph I. Lieberman (Connecticut), John F. Kerry (Massachusetts.), Richard J. Durbin (Illinois), and former senator George Mitchell (Maine).

Senator Bob Graham (Florida) received a grade of “B.” Senator Evan Bayh (Indiana) and House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt (Missouri) earned a “C.” Alice Germond, NARAL’s executive vice president, said Gephardt and Bayh received relatively poor scores because of their support for a ban on partial-birth abortion.

As for Republicans, Senators Chuck Hagel (Nebraska) and Fred Thompson (Tennessee) earned an “F,” as did Rep. John R. Kasich (Ohio) and Governor Frank A. Keating (Oklahoma). Governor Tom Ridge (Pennsylvania), who is pro-abortion, earned a “D.” Germond said Pennsylvania is among the most restrictive states in the country when it comes to abortion and Ridge has done “nothing to change” that fact.

By the time you read this newsletter, Bush will likely have announced his choice for a running mate. Had Gary Bauer, Alan Keyes, or Steve Forbes been the Republican presidential nominee, there is no doubt that the running mate would be pro-life. But with Bush, pro-life leaders have been so fearful—so horrified, in fact—about whom he would select, many “warned” Bush not to pick a pro-abortion politician. This may speak to the confidence pro-life leaders have in Bush’s commitment to the Movement.

Focus on the Family’s Dr. James Dobson sent a letter to Republican National Committee (RNC) Chairman Jim Nicholson warning him that if Bush selects a running mate who supports abortion, the Republicans will lose the election to Al Gore because pro-life citizens will stay home or vote for a third party candidate. The letter was prompted by comments Nicholson made in *The Colorado Springs Gazette*. Nicholson told Dobson to “set aside (his) uncompromising view on abortion.”

“By suggesting that I set aside my uncompromising view on abortion and emphasizing again that yours is a party of inclusion,” Dobson said, “you provided additional evidence that the GOP has no intention of protecting the unborn child.”

“Chairman Nicholson welcomes Dr. Dobson’s views and he welcomes the views of other conservatives on this and any other issue,” said Cliff May, communications director for the RNC. “The issue of who will be the vice presidential nominee will be made by Governor Bush.” (This reminds us of a pat on the head while directing us to the back of the bus.)

May noted Vice President Al Gore’s position favoring abortion rights. “Dr. Dobson and others would recognize that Al Gore is not acceptable to them as a presidential candidate,” May said. In other words, Republican Party officials believe friends of the unborn child will have nowhere else to turn and Bush merely needs to be less pro-abortion than Gore.

It was Nicholson who strongly opposed the Lambert Resolution—an effort to require candidates receiving funds from the Republican Party to oppose partial-birth abortion. Yet in his initial campaign for party leader, Nicholson campaigned as a pro-lifer. Nicholson was blasted for opposing the resolution at a private meeting involving pro-family leaders and influential businessmen. Immediately afterward, Foster Friess, the wealthy chief executive officer of Brandwine Mutual Fund and chairman of Freiss Associates who calls himself “pro-life,” apparently feeling sorry for Nicholson, announced that he would donate \$100,000.00 to the RNC. Knowing this was not exactly a way to teach Nicholson there is a price to pay for his actions, pro-life leaders became even more upset and disgusted. (Pro-lifers were unsuccessful at mounting a successful challenge to Nicholson and he was subsequently re-elected.)

“My guess is that Bush will pick a running mate who is either as lukewarm on abortion as he is or one who is more strongly pro-life but unwilling to make it an important issue,” said Douglas R. Scott, president of LDI. “In any case, it will be just enough to appease pro-life voters.”

Meanwhile, PPFA’s Responsible Choices Action Network has been running an advertisement criticizing Bush’s positions on abortion and family planning. The ad will run on national cable stations through the Republican convention—part of a \$5 million campaign.

QUOTABLE QUOTE

“In a ‘son-preference’ society like ours, the journey of a girl child from the womb to the tomb is riddled with unsavory events. With deep-rooted social ills such as female feticide or female infanticide still very much in practice, it is difficult to perhaps foresee any immediate remedy for the fair sex.”

— Social worker Anju Gupta commenting on the continued and common practice of female infanticide in India.

ARGUMENT UNDERCUT

National Abortion Federation (NAF), a group of 200 abortion facilities, said, “Abortion is one of the safest types of surgery. Complications from having an abortion...are less frequent and less serious than those associated with having birth.” Yet a study conducted by researchers in Finland disputes long-used claims by pro-abortion activists that abortion is safer than childbirth.

The study involved post-pregnancy deaths of 9,192 Finnish women, aged 15-49, from 1987-1994. Researchers reviewed death certificates and health records and then narrowed the study to women who had a pregnancy-related event (birth, miscarriage or abortion) in the year prior to their deaths, which included suicide, accident, homicide and natural causes. The results show that a woman’s risk of dying within a year after an abortion was four times higher than the risk of dying after miscarriage or childbirth.

While pro-life leaders hailed the study as long overdue but very welcome, NARAL, National Organization for Women (NOW) and Planned Parenthood refused comment. “Of course they do not want to talk about it,” said LDI’s Douglas R. Scott. “It destroys a point abortion apologists have been making for years.”

WASHINGTON, D.C. GOVERNMENT SLAMS CATHOLIC TEACHING

The Washington, D.C. City Council has unanimously voted to require health insurance providers to pay for birth control. Its members rejected a “conscience clause,” which was supported by Catholic leaders.

Asking his colleagues not to defer “to Rome” on matters of sex and birth control, Jim Graham, D-Ward 1, was the harshest critic of any language that would exempt employers and their insurance companies from compliance for religious or moral reasons. Holding up newspaper clippings describing Pope John Paul II’s latest denunciation of homosexuality, Graham, who is homosexual, said he worries about setting a precedent. He spoke against “surrendering decisions on public health matters to the church” and said he has “spent years fighting church dogma.”

“This is a breach in the wall between church and state,” said Auxiliary Bishop William E. Lori. “I think it’s a sad day for religious liberty in our city.” He said Catholics are “not imposing anything—these are our institutions. It seems we ought to be allowed to be genuinely Catholic institutions.” Lori said that he found the “performance by a number of members of the city council shocking.” He called it “evidence of anti-Catholic bigotry of the unreconstructed kind.”

When first introduced by council members Charlene Drew Jarvis, D-Ward 4, and Carol Schwartz, R-At Large, late last year, the bill included an exemption for religious institutions, but that language was removed by a council committee after hearing objections from so-called “women’s health advocates.” Representatives from NARAL and Planned Parenthood helped to convince the committee to strike the conscience clause.

“The Catholic Church is here today saying they want to exercise their religious beliefs,” said Vincent B. Orange, D-Ward 5. “Let’s not belittle established church doctrine.” But in the end all Council members who had questioned Graham’s position voted with him.

Graham vehemently opposed all attempts to restore conscience clause language or compromise. He cited examples of what he called the Catholic Church’s unwavering stand on matters related to sex. He criticized the refusal of the church to cooperate on condom distribution in the 1980s, which he said helped spread the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) in Washington, D.C. Graham also said he worried about church interference concerning benefits for homosexual “partners” if the council took up that issue in the future. “We are permitting religious principles to dictate public health,” Graham said. “If we’re going to set this precedent, what does it mean in terms of domestic partnership?”

The battle is not over. Rep. Ernest J. Istook, Jr., R-Oklahoma, chairman of the congressional subcommittee that oversees Washington, D.C., said Congress would not allow the bill to become law without a conscience clause. When Washington, D.C. City Council Chairman Linda W. Cropp (D) went to Capitol Hill for a hearing on the city’s budget, she found herself with an outraged Istook who called the Council’s debate over the bill “a forum for bashing religion, and one faith in particular.” Istook, who is not Catholic, went on to tell Cropp that, “The failure of others to speak up or at least disassociate themselves, and the bigotry that was expressed to the council...is a great disappointment.”

Rep. Thomas M. Davis III, R-Virginia, chairman of the House Government Reform subcommittee on Washington, D.C., said the bill will pass only if it includes conscience language. Davis said several members of Congress were angered by the Council’s action and that one lawmaker told him, “You can’t let this happen.”

All legislation passed by the council, including the city’s annual budget, must go to Congress for review. Usually, Congress rejects council bills by amending the city’s annual budget. “It’s one thing when you talk about religion imposing itself on the state,” Davis said. “Here you have the state imposing itself on religion. That is unfortunate in a city that has long been a symbol of tolerance.”

Maryland was the first state to mandate coverage for prescribed birth control, passing a bill with a conscience clause in 1998. Only 12 states mandate birth control coverage.

N.R.L.C. INC. ON BIRTH CONTROL

In a previous edition of *The Caleb Report*, LDI has reported the indisputable scientific fact that many popular forms of birth control, including the Pill, can act as an abortifacient, National Right to Life Committee Inc., has refused to take a stand. *Kaiser Daily Report* notes that NRLC Inc. has “backed away” from the debate.

“For us, the birth control pill is completely a non-issue,” said NRLC Inc.’s Laura Echevarria. “We don’t consider using birth control an abortion...We think that it depends upon a woman’s cycle...”

Several years ago, NRLC Inc. refused to participate in a coalition of pro-family groups that worked to get Congress to end the Title X program. It did so despite the fact that Planned Parenthood gets nearly \$50 million in annual funding under the failed federal birth control program that targets young people. Consequently, the coalition’s efforts failed. Reports indicated that NRLC Inc. and Christian Coalition had sabotaged the coalition’s efforts with several members of Congress by telling them the effort was not all that important to their respective organizations.

LDI does not take a position on contraception (except when given to teenagers), but we do take a position of abortifacient methods of birth control. We wholeheartedly believe that any pro-life organization that fails to oppose the latter is being untrue to basic pro-life principles and ignores truth.

TEENAGE PREGNANCY

The pro-abortion United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that the teenage (aged 15-19) pregnancy rate dropped eight percent from 1995 to 1997. The pregnancy rate for girls under 15 declined eleven percent. Mary Goodwin, spokesman for the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, said the declines are probably due to increased use of condoms and long-acting hormonal birth control methods introduced in the early 1990s. While this response was to be expected, she also said studies indicate that teenage girls are becoming less sexually active.

Goodwin said CDC and other officials agree that teenage pregnancies are probably undercounted. She said abortion rates are likely underestimated and a lot of early miscarriages probably go unrecognized and unreported. "All those things lead us to believe, if anything, this is a conservative estimate of teen pregnancy." Community and school programs that bolster a teenager's self-esteem and encourage them to postpone sex and plan for the future "are all things that seem to have a positive effect," Goodwin said.

MORE MONEY FOR FAILED PROGRAMS

As reported in a previous edition of *The Caleb Report*, The William H. Gates Foundation is funding worldwide population control. But the billionaire is not the only one supporting it. The David and Lucile Packard Foundation has launched a five-year multimillion-dollar propaganda campaign in an effort to get the American public and Congress to support family planning programs around the world. Yes, while The David and Lucile Packard Foundation has given many millions of dollars to support population control, this effort of one of the richest foundations in the United States is to convince lawmakers that taxpayers should also support its pet project.

Backed by leading "women's, children's and environmental groups" that claim population control is the key to saving the lives of mothers, children and planet Earth, the campaign will cost \$13 million in its first year alone. "For so many years the adversaries of family planning have been very loud and very vocal," said Gloria Feldt, president of PPFA, one of the partners in the campaign. (Campaign partners also include CARE and Save the Children.) "I think it is high time for the message of the importance of being able to plan and space your family to be out there just as strongly as the adversaries are delivering their message," Feldt said. The campaign will include several television, newspaper and magazine ads as well as meetings with lawmakers. "International family planning can reduce population pressures on our planet," said John Flicker, president of National Audubon Society, another campaign partner. "It is our best opportunity to address the single most important root cause of environmental degradation."

Participants said the campaign would serve to remind the American public that the United States is no longer playing a leadership role in international family planning. This was blamed on pro-family forces in Congress.

In a message for World Population Day, United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan stressed "choice" and the "need" to stabilize world population. "Too many girls do not have the same chance of education as boys. Too many women still cannot choose when or whether to become pregnant. Too many women resort to abortions that are not safe," he said.

REWARD OFFERED

Canada's leading pro-life organization, Campaign Life Coalition (CLC), is offering a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the man who stabbed abortionist Garson Romalis as he arrived at his facility in mid-July. Jim Hughes, CLC's president, said he hopes others will add to the fund to make it a more significant amount of money. Hughes specifically suggested that funds from Canadian Abortion Rights Action League (CARAL), Planned Parenthood Federation of Canada (PPFC) and premier Canadian abortionist Henry Morgentaler could lead to the arrest of the person responsible for the attack.

Greg Smith, executive director with the British Columbia affiliate of PPFC, said his business is more focused on providing "services" to its customers than in posting rewards. Vicki Saporta, executive director of the Washington, D.C.-based National Abortion Federation (NAF), suggested that CLC's reward challenge shows little credibility because some of its officials have criticized Romalis for committing abortions. "This is not, I

think, a genuine offer for the right reasons,” Ms. Saporta said. “They’re trying to deflect criticism that their rhetoric and activities have led to this.”

Hughes, a member of LDI’s Board of Advisors, is strongly against the use of violence. He understands, however, that the new tactic of abortion proponents is to link speech to violence. “It’s come to the point that one cannot even speak against abortion in any way without some abortion activist blaming it for everything that’s wrong in the world—particularly violence,” said LDI’s president, Douglas R. Scott.

Scott notes that LDI has a clear statement against violence that was adopted soon after the inception of the organization:

While LDI upholds the proper and peaceful exercise of legitimate constitutional rights, we unequivocally condemn violence used in the name of the pro-life movement. The use of violence is morally unacceptable as it contradicts our fundamental premise that every human life is precious and deserving of respect.

In line with this policy, LDI will accept only those words and deeds that are life-affirming and God-honoring in dealing with the abortion holocaust and related evils. No amount of self-justification will change the truth that violence and intimidation are wrong—in and out the womb.

At this writing, the abortionist is in a hospital recovering from a single stab wound near his kidney. It was the second attack on Romalis who was shot in the leg by a sniper in 1994.

MANAGED CARE CONTRACTS

Under a bill signed into law by California Governor Gray Davis (D), community clinics may enter into managed care contracts with health maintenance organizations (HMO’s), allowing Planned Parenthood to contract with private insurers to give women “comprehensive reproductive health care services,” including abortions. This means that a California resident could actually be sent to Planned Parenthood for *basic* health care.

Kathy Kneer, chief executive officer of Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California, praised Davis for his action. “With a declining number of physicians offering abortions, the presence of Planned Parenthood as a provider within managed care networks is a positive step. The new law makes it possible for insured women in California to have access to high quality abortion services as part of their obstetrical and gynecological services,” Kneer said.

ANOTHER DEMAND FROM TAXPAYERS

Planned Parenthood has gone to court seeking a contempt citation against the State of Alaska for ignoring a judge who ordered it to use tax dollars to pay for “therapeutic” abortions for poor women. The judge apparently believes he is part of the legislative branch of government.

The Alaska state legislature ended such funding last year. The only exceptions are cases in which pregnancies result from incest or rape, or where an abortion is necessary to save the life of the mother. Consequently, the number of state-funded abortions fell from 843 in fiscal 1997 to eight in the first nine months of fiscal 2000.

In the lawsuit brought by Planned Parenthood and two abortionists, Superior Court Judge Sen Tan said the decision by the duly elected representatives of the people in Alaska is unconstitutional because it discriminates against pregnant women who choose abortion. Tan agreed that the legislature may choose to fund whatever programs it wants, but if it chooses to provide medical care for pregnant poor women, it cannot favor women who decide to deliver over those who seek an abortion.

At this writing, the deadlock continues. Alaska’s governor has been unable to convince the legislature to change its position. It seems to us that Congress could learn something about the separation of powers from the Alaska legislature.

WHAT’S IN A NAME?

We at LDI are often asked why we called our newsletter *The Caleb Report* (pronounced “kay-lub”). Caleb was an important figure in the Old Testament. *The Life Application Bible* describes Caleb as “not so much a man of great faith as a man of faith in a great God! His boldness rested on his understanding of God, not on his confidence in Israel’s abilities to conquer the land. He could not agree with the majority, for that would be to disagree with God.”

A profile from *The Life Application Bible* lists the following information about Caleb:

- Caleb was one of the spies sent by Moses to survey the land of Canaan.
- Caleb was one of only two adults who left Egypt and entered the Promised Land.
- Caleb voiced the minority opinion in favor of conquering the land.
- Caleb expressed faith in God’s promises, in spite of apparent obstacles.
- Caleb recognized that numbers are not an accurate measurement of what is right and wrong.
- Caleb believed that boldness based on God’s faithfulness is appropriate.
- For courage and faith to be effective, Caleb believed they must be combined with words and deeds.

This sounds like a fitting name for the newsletter of Life Decisions International to us!

ACTION SPEAKS LOUDER

Please take the following step:

- Write to Wal-Mart and tell the company how pleased you are there is no agreement with Planned Parenthood. Urge the Company to adopt a policy telling its pharmacists that Planned Parenthood is ineligible for referrals. Write: Customer Relations, Wal-Mart Stores Inc., 702 SW 8th St., Bentonville, AR 72716.
- *Prayer Project*: Join us in daily prayer for these individuals: July—actor *Michael J. Fox*; August—Majority Leader Rep. *Tom Delay* (R-Texas), September—*Madonna (Louise Ciccone)*; and October—author *John Irving*.
- As subscribers to our E-Mail Service know, Chris Tyrell, LDI’s secretary of the Board, and his wife Susanne were married on May 6, 2000. They are expecting the birth of their first child in February. Please pray for all three!

The Caleb Report is published six times per year. Subscribers also receive *Special Reports*, which is published quarterly. A minimum donation of \$38.00. (Please add ten percent if paying with a credit card.) Send changes of address to LDI at P.O. Box 75161, Washington, DC 20013-0161.

To schedule a speaker call (202) 347-2066. Our e-mail address is: ldi-hq@usa.net. Thanks for your support!

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