



The Caleb Report

November-December 2001

Life Decisions International

vol. ix • no. 6

IN THIS ISSUE: Election 2001 / Boycott Update / Success: MasterCard & CVS / Quotable Quote / Doctors Without Borders / The Prayer Project / Treacherous Websites / Advisory Board Member Wins Again / "Helping" In A Time Of Need / Funding Impact / Unregulated Acts Of Evil / Same Self-Serving Story / Where Oh Where Did Nicholson Go? / PTA Takes Pro-Abortion Position / More Kudos E-Mailed To LDI

ELECTION 2001

With her sultry voice, actress Kathleen Turner “sends chills up men’s spines,” read a commentary printed in *The Washington Times*. In a speech to a group of pro-abortion women, Turner argued that without the right to abortion, America’s claim to love freedom is hypocritical and “we are liars.”

Turner soon addressed politics. “The first question that should be asked of any political candidate is, ‘Are you pro-choice?’ and we must make it clear that they will be defeated if they aren’t, and all those who have the courage to protect women’s rights will be supported.” Turner said.

Jatrice Martel Gaiter of Planned Parenthood of Metropolitan Washington, D.C., said, “In Virginia, the survival of our lone clinic hangs in the balance due to the new legislative restrictions targeted at the elimination of reproductive choice, including birth control, sex education, abortion and depending on who wins the governor’s election, we may end up with a ban on holding hands.”

Karen A. Raschke of Planned Parenthood Advocates of Virginia later suggested that voters in her state had “a very clear choice” of gubernatorial candidates. She said they could choose between “someone who believes in freedom and someone who for some inexplicable reason is trying to curtail women’s freedom.”

Unlike those running in New Jersey, Virginia’s gubernatorial candidates avoided social issues, yet abortion marks one of the subjects where a stark contrast exists between Democrat Mark R. Warner and Republican Mark L. Earley. Warner fully supports abortion. (In fact, when Warner ran a losing race for the United States Senate, he openly made his position on abortion very clear.) Early, on the other hand, opposes abortion.

Raschke said Turner’s speech crystallized the pro-choice issue for her in terms of the freedoms we value but so often take for granted. “We have a deeper understanding of freedom, especially after September 11, that we are fighting for freedom—freedom of speech, freedom of religion and freedom of choice.”

“No matter your political preference, Jessica Rabbit is right about one thing: To be American is to be free. To be free is to have choice. To be pro-choice is to be pro-freedom,” the column, continues. “Ah, how sweet the sultry sound? Virginians turned their back on eight years of anti-choice leadership today, electing pro-choice Mark Warner to the Office of Governor, over anti-choice Mark Earley, largely on the votes of women.” Warner narrowly won the race in Virginia.

After the votes were counted, Kate Michelman, president of the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League (NARAL), declared, “Today, the women of Virginia decided who decides when it comes to

personal medical choices. Voters in Virginia today sent a clear message that they want a governor who will protect and defend the freedom of choice.”

“For eight years, Virginians have watched their governor restrict reproductive rights at virtually every turn. That sad chapter in the state’s history came to an end today as voters embraced the pro-choice policies of Mark Warner,” Michelman said. NARAL claimed to have played a “pivotal role” in the Virginia race, reaching out to almost 198,000 voters with 272,000 mail pieces and 200,000 phone calls.

In New Jersey, pro-abortion Democrat Jim McGreevey trounced staunch pro-life Republican Bret Schundler. “In New Jersey...women decided who decides highly personal medical choices,” Michelman said. “New Jersey voters...sent the clearest possible message that they value and respect a woman’s right to choose. When faced with a choice between McGreevey, who supports the right to choose, and Schundler, who would roll back women’s rights, they flocked to McGreevey’s campaign in overwhelming numbers.” NARAL’s New Jersey political action committee claims it contacted 359,000 voters, sent more than 105,000 mail pieces, and made more than 428,000 phone calls.

“Today’s outcome clearly demonstrates the power of the choice issue to move voters. From day one, Jim McGreevey stood firm in his belief that women should make these decisions, not the government. McGreevey’s position drew moderate voters, especially suburban voters and women, to his campaign, while Schundler’s extreme anti-choice stance cost him votes, a fact he himself has admitted,” continued Michelman.

In both races, Michelman claimed that her organization is responsible for the winning candidate’s margin of victory, but Douglas R. Scott, president of Life Decisions International, balks. “This is an effort to make the newly elected men believe they are beholden to NARAL,” Scott said. “In fact, as in most races, abortion was not a key issue for the vast majority of voters.”

Scott said that the campaign run by Earley was “one of the worst I’ve seen since coming to the Washington, D.C., area nearly 14 years ago.” Earley was easily intimidated into dropping those issues that would have galvanized his supporters. He chose instead to base virtually his entire campaign on taxes. While Scott expressed joy that Schundler was brave in standing for the rights of unborn, the candidate clearly could neither win nor lose on that issue alone.

“It’s common for pro-abortion leaders to claim they are responsible for wins by their pet candidates, but they grow very quiet when their candidates lose,” Scott said. “And pro-abortion leaders have been very quiet about Virginia elections for the past decade.”

BOYCOTT UPDATE

Rich Products is no longer a boycott target. To date, 78 corporations are known to have ceased funding of Planned Parenthood.

Douglas R. Scott, president of LDI, called “shameful” an inference by the chief executive officer of **Small Dog Electronics** Inc., that his organization is comparable to Afghanistan’s Taliban rulers. “One would think that such hideous remarks would be avoided at a tragic time like this,” Scott said, “but that is apparently not the case.”

Don Mayer recently wrote to Scott in response to a request that the company cease funding Planned Parenthood. “I am in receipt of your letter...with your invitation to be dropped from your nefarious and totally ineffectual boycott list,” Mayer wrote. “On the contrary, our contributions to the dedicated work of Planned Parenthood have increased substantially this year in large part due to your efforts in attempting to boycott my company. As I

told my customers about your boycott, they responded by making Planned Parenthood the leading recipient by a large margin in our charitable giving program.”

“Mr. Mayer is rather confused about our boycott,” Scott said. Small Dog may continue to fund any organization it wishes, and at any level, but it will not be done with the money of people who care about life. I personally know of many pro-life people who are *former* Small Dog customers.” Scott notes that several corporations, many of which have since ceased funding Planned Parenthood, also tried the “we are increasing our support to Planned Parenthood because of the boycott” tactic in an effort to intimidate, discourage or otherwise dissuade LDI leaders.

“The special contributions I make with each letter I receive from your group has also contributed to the large increase in Planned Parenthood funding by Small Dog Electronics,” the letters continued. Scott said that this is straight out of Planned Parenthood’s “bag of tricks.” The abortion-committing group has earned money from its supporters as part of a “Pledge A Picket” program. For every person picketing outside a Planned Parenthood facility, a donor promises to give a certain amount of money to the group. “If anyone thinks this will deter us, he or she is grossly mistaken,” Scott said.

“We will continue to support women’s reproductive rights and to oppose those, like your organization, that would impose their limited and backwards view upon others,” Mayer wrote. “In these difficult times, it is unfortunate that some peoples still seem to have time and the stomach for divisive attempts to impose their religious views upon others. Shame on you.”

Scott said that Mayer’s rhetoric, particular in the last sentence, is appalling. “Who are the ‘peoples’ to whom he refers? What groups are trying to ‘impose their religious views upon others’? What group seeks to ‘impose their limited and backwards view upon others’? It is clearly a reference to the Taliban and pro-lifers,” Scott said. “How Mr. Mayer could reference the tragedy of September 11 in such a way is amazing!”

“This comparison is ridiculous. After all, it is not pro-life people who want to see innocent human beings die. Such a comparison is just a ludicrous as comparing Planned Parenthood to the Ku Klux Klan. It is unfair to the Klan,” Scott said. “As murderous as the Ku Klux Klan has been and it has been horrific, believe it or not, Planned Parenthood has killed even more.” And Mr. Mayer thinks it is *we* who should be ashamed?

“Mr. Mayer seems to be saying that pro-lifers should have learned their lesson by what is taking place in Afghanistan,” Scott said. “He apparently sees little difference in our working to stop the killing in the womb and the Taliban regime forcing an entire country to its own way of thinking. We are in a democracy and we act accordingly.” Of course, this says nothing of Mayer’s religious bigotry, particularly his anti-Christian zealotry.

Scott urges pro-lifer people to continue boycotting Small Dog Electronics Inc., and to spread the word. He also asks people to beseech God to touch Mr. Mayer’s heart and mind.

While corporations are becoming increasingly leery about supporting Planned Parenthood, many are boldly supporting other controversial groups. For example, did you know that the following companies have funded homosexual groups and/or events: **Whole Foods Market**, Absolut, US Airways, Radisson Barcello Hotel, Suncoast, OmniDigital Studios, **Working Assets Funding Service**, Universal Gear, American Airlines, Subaru, Shell Oil, Chevron, Viacom, IBM, Verizon Communications, Office Depot, AOL Time-Warner, GE Financial, and **Bank of America**. This is only the beginning. Unfortunately, you will virtually never find corporations so bold as to publicly and proudly fund pro-life organizations.

Working Assets Funding Service has long been listed as a corporate supporter of Planned Parenthood. It also funds several other highly controversial organizations, including: United Nations International Children’s

Emergency Fund, Advocates for Youth, Children's Defense Fund, Educators for Social Responsibility, American Civil Liberties Union, National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League, "Catholics" for a Free Choice, Center for Reproductive Law and Policy, Feminist Majority Foundation, Medical Students for Choice, Ms. Foundation for Women, National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, National Organization for Women, People for the American Way, Pro-Choice Resource Center, Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice, Supreme Court Emergency Mobilization Fund, Zero Population Growth, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, Population Action International, Doctors Without Borders, and the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Youth Pride Fund, among many others. For a complete list, visit: www.giveforchange.com.

SUCCESS: MASTERCARD & CVS

As first reported in the November-December 2000 issue of *The Caleb Report* and again in the last issue, LDI had urged MasterCard International and CVS Corporation (a pharmacy chain) to stop funding pro-abortion UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund). As part of its "Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF" campaign, children had been urged to pick up a change box, available at CVS and other locations, and ask for donations as they went trick-or-treating. The "Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF" program has raised millions of dollars over the years.

For its part, MasterCard donated 25 cents to UNICEF every time a person made a minimum \$35 purchase on one of its cards in October 2000. MasterCard had set a cap of \$150,000 in support through the "Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF" program.

LDI could not get a straight answer out of MasterCard and CVS regarding their work with UNICEF this year. Consequently, we asked pro-life people to contact the two corporations to urge them to end the association. We are pleased to report that neither CVS nor MasterCard participated in the "Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF" program this year. Congratulations go to those who contacted the companies and to the many organizations and individuals who refused to participate in the program.

Unfortunately, our continued research shows corporate and organizational involvement with UNICEF by: Coinstar, Turner Network Television, Universal Studios, Pier 1 Imports, Sears Portrait Studios, IKEA, AOL Time-Warner, Proctor & Gamble (mentioned in a previous edition of *The Caleb Report*), National Basketball Association, Women's National Basketball Association, American Association of School Administrators, American Federation of Teachers, National Association of Elementary School Principals, National Education Association (giving UNICEF access to children), Rotary International (mentioned in a previous edition of *The Caleb Report*), Key Club International, United Methodist Church, Presbyterian Church USA, National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the U.S., Church Women United, National Peace Corps Association, and the National 4-H Council.

When the time is right, LDI will be encouraging you to contact some of these entities. However, it is not too early to let local affiliates/companies know of your displeasure.

QUOTABLE QUOTE

"Pro-lifers are a favorite target of leftists in the media and government, but of course they're only the tip of the ice-berg. Gun-owners, anti-tax activists and anyone critical of the government is suspect. We're all fair game, and all the expanded powers conservatives are eager for the State to deploy against 'suspicious-looking swarthy males' today are going to be used against conservatives tomorrow."

—Daniel McCarthy, a graduate student at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, In a LewRockwell.com piece entitled, "First the Arabs, then the Pro-lifers..."

DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS

Catholic World News reports that Doctors Without Borders, known internationally by its French name, Medecins San Frontieres (MSF), provided medical paraphernalia its officials knew were to be used for abortions in North Korea. This took place despite an “official policy” to take no stand on abortion

A MSF document describing the group’s activities in North Korea States: “Among patients hospitalized for gynecological reasons, around 505 are for abortions. Before MSF distributed standard gynecological supplies, hospitals were performing caesarians, abortions and other surgical interventions with rusty instruments and without [sic] little or no unaesthetic, sterilization equipment, antibiotics or anti-hemorrhaging drugs.” Other documents show that MSF provides abortifacient “morning after pills.”

An excerpt from the MSF publication “Refugee Health: An Approach to Emergency Situations” notes that MSF follows the guidelines of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. UNHCR has defined a “Minimum Initial Service Package” to be implemented on site as soon as possible, which according to MSF includes “the provision of emergency post-coital contraception [abortifacients] to those women who request it... guaranteeing the availability of free condoms to anyone who requests them...[and] planning for provisions of comprehensive reproductive health services,” which according to the United Nations includes abortion.

MSF’s Chris Torgeson concedes that the group’s doctors actually perform abortions. She said that MSF works in 80 countries, some of which allow abortions. “In some countries abortion is an important part of family planning policy,” she said. Torgeson sad MSF does emergency medical work and will work within hospitals where abortions are performed.

So what about MSF’s “official policy?” This is a question of what you say versus what you actually do.

ACTION: Tell Doctors Without Borders that you are appalled by its involvement in abortion: Doctors Without Borders 6 E. 39 th St., 8 th Fl., New York NY 10016. Phone: (212) 679-6800. Fax: (212) 679-7016. It may be helpful to include a copy of this article with your correspondence.

THE PRAYER PROJECT

The Prayer Project encourages Prayer for those in the Pro-Abortion Movement and those who have not been strong in their claimed pro-life convictions. Join us in daily prayer for: November—Senator *William Frist*, M.D., R-Tenn., December—Senator *Orrin Hatch*, R-Utah, and January—Senator *Strom Thurmond*, R-S.C.

TREACHEROUS WEBSITES

Marie Stopes International (MSI), which defines its mission as ensuring the “fundamental human right of all people to have children by choice not chance,” has a new website aimed at teenager. The site covers issues such as teenage pregnancy, sexuality, birth control (including “emergency” birth control), and sex. Planned Parenthood advocates love it. Visit the site: www.likeitis.org.uk/welcome_to_like_it_is.html. You are also encouraged to explore the MSI site itself at: www.mariestopes.org.uk.

Another website worth checking out is that of Planned Parenthood’s online store. The site can be found at: store.yahoo.com/ppfastore/birconchoc.html.

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER WINS AGAIN

Kevin Andrews, a member of LDI’s Board of Directors and Australia’s ruling Liberal Party, handily won reelection to that country’s House of Representatives on November 10, 2001. We are honored and thrilled to congratulate this remarkable man of courage.

Douglas R. Scott, LDI's President, wrote to his friend: "Congratulations on your great victory. I'm not surprised. The people of Australia are smart after all. I would, of course, prefer that you were Prime Minister, but all in good time. You're still young."

"Give the United States a President with the integrity and commitment of a man like Kevin Andrews," Scott said, "and the world would become a much friendlier place for its unborn children and families in general." You may learn more about Andrews at: www.aph.gov.au/K_Andrews_MP. Read a *Special Reports* authored for LDI by the honorable gentleman at: www.fightpp.org/fightpp/pubs/specialreports.asp (click on the "2000 Spring" link).

"HELPING" IN A TIME OF NEED

When countries throughout the world face famine, war, or other hardship, Planned Parenthood is there to "help." How does it do so? By sending abortion paraphernalia, condoms or other "essentials." The events of September 11 are no exception.

Earth Times reports that in the wake of the World Trade Center tragedy, Planned Parenthood reached out "to the women of New York City by offering free reproductive health care from September 18 through September 22." People in the area were invited to go to Planned Parenthood to receive "comprehensive reproductive health services." This included gynecological care, birth control, and testing for sexually transmitted diseases, including the human immunodeficiency virus.

The stated altruistic goal of providing free "care" was to "reach out to women who have been displaced and ease their fears." A Planned Parenthood of New York City Inc., spokesman said, "Everyone wants to do something. This is our response, this is our way of helping women in need." Of course, creating a future customer-base and getting the chance to bill taxpayers for "services" could not hurt, either.

Leave it to a Planned Parenthood affiliate to offer another brand of "help." Planned Parenthood of the Blue Ridge Inc., in Roanoke, Virginia, is selling red, white and blue condoms to raise money. "The incidence of unintended pregnancy rises dramatically in the weeks and months following a death or tragic loss," said David Nova, president & chief executive officer of the Planned Parenthood affiliate. "We have already seen this...in our clinics since September 11. Offering patriotic condoms will hopefully stem the increase of unintended pregnancies while letting Americans display their colors proudly."

Up to four condoms per person were available for donations and all proceeds were to go to the September Eleventh Fund created by the New York Community Trust and the United Way of New York City. The condoms were made available through a drive-through window at Planned Parenthood in Roanoke, and in similar clinics in Charlottesville, Blacksburg and Lynchburg, Virginia.

FUNDING IMPACT

The Chicago Tribune reports that some of the largest pro-abortion organizations are feeling a financial pinch in the wake of September 11 terrorist attacks, while others have actually seen an increase in donations. Apparently the main reason is that people who normally give to pro-abortion groups are giving to the September 11 relief efforts instead.

Molly Smith, a Planned Parenthood spokesman, said that due to the popularity of President Bush right now, it has been forced to set aside its criticisms of what it regards of his positions on "reproductive choice." She said such criticism would not be well received at a time when people want to stand together.

Planned Parenthood has canceled mailings and postponed events that would have fallen right after September 11. "People are delaying or reducing their levels of commitment," says Smith, "and we've recalculated our 2001

budget to anticipate a loss of \$2 million.” Smith said her group is fiscally sound and will not lay off any staff, but programs may be reduced. “We’re sending an e-mail to 50,000 of our donors saying Planned Parenthood is in business and here and committed to the future,” Smith said. “We want to acknowledge September 11 and stand in solidarity as an organization victimized by terrorism for decades.”

While individual donations to Planned Parenthood may be down, government funding of the pro-abortion group appears to be on track. Funding for United Nations population control efforts and the Title X (birth control) program will likely increase. Title X funds provide Planned Parenthood with more than \$50 million in tax money each year.

Another pro-abortion group, the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League, has seen an increase in funding—as much as ten percent. “We temporarily suspended our fundraising after the September 11 attack,” said NARAL’s William Lutz, “but we realized that the tragedy had caused many people to reassess their values and recommit to issues they cared most about. The pro-choice community was very motivated and fundraising has actually exceeded the goals that were set.”

Lutz attributes some of the unexpected donations to statements made by Rev. Jerry Falwell and Rev. Pat Robertson blaming abortionists, among others, for the September 11 terrorist attacks because their sin caused God to lift His veil of protection on the United States. “It’s been a real motivating factor to the groups. Our supporters were appalled that they used this time to push their personal agenda.”

Kim Gandy, president of the National Organization for Women (NOW), is concerned. “Our membership contributions are continuing at their usual levels, but we’re not seeing additional gifts. It’s disappointing because we have a lot of work to do,” she said. “While we defend the country and our freedoms abroad, we have to keep defending our freedoms at home. But it’s an uncertain time...”

Gandy said that recent events have created new opportunities for NOW. “In a sad way, it has let some of our issues come to the fore, including the treatment of women in Afghanistan. It has also given new impetus to passing hate crimes laws, something we’ve been trying to do for years. Maybe we can help keep these kinds of things from happening again.”

UNREGULATED ACTS OF EVIL

Zenit reports that while a great deal of publicity surrounded the decision of the Bush Administration to reinstate the “Mexico City Policy,” very little attention has been paid to the role of private foundations in financing population control. The Mexico City Policy prohibits federal funding for overseas groups that promote abortion, but there is no limit on the amount of private dollars going to such entities.

The sums involved in this private-sector activity are considerable. In 1997 alone, foundations gave \$128.5 million for “family planning.” That broke down to \$66.2 million for programs within the United States and \$62.3 million abroad.

One of the biggest financiers of “family planning” is the Ford Foundation (not affiliated with the Ford Motor Company). According to its report on grants for last year, \$88.5 million went to the category of human development and reproductive health.

Much of the Ford Foundation money went to groups well known for their promotion of abortion and birth control. For example, The Alan Guttmacher Institute, Planned Parenthood’s “research” arm, received a grant of \$1.5 million for work on “adolescent reproductive and sexual health.” The Population Council received \$5.8 million for programs in Egypt involving “research” and “education” in “reproductive health.” The Ford Foundation also gives regular support to “Catholics” for Free Choice. In 1999, the Foundation gave money to the branches of “Catholics” for a Free Choice in Uruguay, Brazil and Mexico totaling nearly \$1 million.

The Rockefeller Foundation gives large sums to “family planning.” From 1992 to 1998, it gave \$75 million to research and private groups for the development of birth control.

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation is another major financier of population control. In 1999, it gave \$13.3 million and \$25.5 million in 2000. The Foundation is a long-time backer of “family planning.” Beginning in 1977, the Foundation’s population program expanded with annual appropriations rising from roughly \$4 million in the late 1970s to roughly \$7 million in the 1980s. From 1977 to 1988, the Foundation gave \$74 million to population programs, including \$17.7 million to the Population Council.

The founder of CNN, Ted Turner, gained wide media coverage when he announced his decision to give \$100 million a year for the next ten years to the United Nations. Last March, a Turner foundation official announced that \$100 million, or 26% of the money given up to that date, had gone to the area of “women and population.” Another Turner foundation regularly gives large sums to support population control programs. For example, in 1999, NARAL received almost \$3.3 million.

Many of the newer foundations established by the billionaire founders of computer-related enterprises are enthusiastic supporters of “family planning.” One of these is the Packard Foundation (not associated with Hewlett-Packard). A relative newcomer to this field, Packard has quickly become one of the biggest sources of funds from the private sector. The foundation’s five-year plan, starting in 1999, concentrates on a number of “focus countries”: Ethiopia, India, Mexico, Myanmar, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, and the Sudan. The Foundation is also a strong supporter of abortion.

In 1998, the Packard Foundation gave \$51.7 million for population programs. That soared to \$79 million the following year. Last year, \$122.7 million went to 128 grantees in the population area. Examples of last year’s grants include “Catholics” for a Free Choice (\$2 million) for its activities in Latin America, with an additional \$655,000 going to its Mexican branch. NARAL was given \$10 million and the National Abortion Federation received \$1.2 million. The Population Council, responsible for the introduction of the abortion pill RU-486 in the United States, received \$3 million for “technology development in reproductive health.” Three branches of Planned Parenthood in the United States received a total of almost \$3 million.

Grants for 2001 continue the trend. According to a press release from the Packard Foundation, the Population Program grants for the third quarter totalled \$21 million. DKT International received \$3 million for “family planning” programs in Ethiopia. NARAL received \$7.5 million. Several other bodies also received substantial amounts including Partners in Population and Development (\$3 million), HSU Research & Training Institute Inc. (\$2 million), and The Alan Guttmacher Institute (\$1 million.)

The foundation started by the other half of Hewlett-Packard, the Hewlett Foundation, is also a major backer of population control. In 1999, it made 64 grants in the area of population totaling \$28.3 million. Among the 1999 grantees: \$1.85 million to Planned Parenthood (\$1.85 million), The Alan Guttmacher Institute (\$1.5 million), and the Population Council (\$3.5 million).

Last year, the Hewlett Foundation increased its support for population control to \$32.1 million. Several overseas branches of the International Planned Parenthood Foundation received a total of \$2.2 million, while branches in the United States were given \$1.5 million. Another \$3.7 million was given to a number of groups for the development of birth control.

The foundation established by the founder of Microsoft, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, is a supporter of “family planning.” In 1999, the Planned Parenthood Foundation of America received \$5 million, with another \$4.6 million going to International Planned Parenthood Federation activities. A Mexican “family planning” group received \$2.5 million, and The Alan Guttmacher Institute was given \$2 million.

Many smaller foundations regularly award \$1 million or \$2 million annually to population control programs. “Family planning” is not the only activity of these foundations. They support a wide variety of causes. Yet in the area of population the foundations almost unreservedly espouse the outdated pessimism of the “population bomb” thesis.

“We have the wealthiest among us supporting population control over true care for mankind,” said LDI’s Douglas R. Scott. “It’s exactly what Planned Parenthood’s founder, Margaret Sanger, hoped would happen. She appealed to the greed of the rich so they would become the best ally of population control. She could not have been more successful.”

SAME SELF-SERVING STORY

On October 17, 2001, the *Tallahassee Democrat* published a guest commentary by Gloria Feldt, president of Planned Parenthood Federation of America. It was entitled, “A Pioneer’s Fight for Reproductive Choice Continues”:

Eighty-five years ago this month, Margaret Sanger, a young nurse, opened the first family-planning clinic in the United States. Her daring act helped launch the modern birth-control movement and started what would become Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

In 1916, it was illegal to distribute information about birth control in the United States.

Sanger told the story of Sadie Sachs, who was married with three small children and bitterly poor. Sachs had been warned by her doctor that another pregnancy would kill her. She asked her doctor what to do to avoid getting pregnant again. He said, “Tell Jake to sleep on the roof.” Sadie became pregnant again and died in a desperate attempt to end the pregnancy herself.

“No woman,” Sanger said, “can call herself free until she can own and control her own body. No woman can call herself free until she can choose consciously whether she will or will not become a mother.”

These two beliefs—that every child deserves to be planned and wanted, and that loving couples should be able to enjoy sexual pleasure without fear—have become mainstream American values. Women’s health has vastly improved, and infant mortality has declined dramatically here in the United States and in many places around the world where birth control and safe, legal abortion are available.

But challenges still exist. The basic right of women in this country to make decisions about their own reproductive health is constantly contested, and many women still lack access to basic family-planning services.

Some state legislatures and the U.S. Congress seek to circumscribe our rights and narrow our access to services. State legislatures have passed more than 250 anti-choice laws in the last six years.

In June, Ohio enacted a law prohibiting the use of state family-planning funds to perform abortion-related counseling or referral. This gag rule also forbids agencies that receive funds from being physically and financially affiliated with groups that perform abortion services.

Fewer than 10 percent of schools teach medically accurate, comprehensive sexuality education, according to the Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States (SIECUS). And undemocratic gag rules threaten international family-planning efforts.

Most alarming of all, if the president appoints one more anti-choice Supreme Court justice, it could tip the balance against legal abortions, erasing 85 years of progress in the blink of an eye.

I issue a clarion call today to those who want their daughters and granddaughters to have reproductive choices. We need to elevate women's reproductive rights to their deserved place among other cherished fundamental civil and human rights, and then help create universal access to reproductive health services and education.

Personal childbearing decisions should be taken out of politics. And policy-makers should help ensure that all women, including the millions currently without health insurance, have access to medical care.

Every pregnancy should be the result of love and planning, and every couple in the world should be able to freely determine the number of children they want.

That was Margaret Sanger's dream, and we can make it closer to reality if we fight for our rights.

If this seems like a fund-raising letter rather than a guest commentary, no one should appear surprised.

WHERE OH WHERE DID NICHOLSON GO?

You may remember LDI's criticism of Jim Nicholson who, as chairman of the Republican National Committee, fought key pro-life initiatives. After President George W. Bush replaced Nicholson with Virginia Governor Jim Gilmore (who opposes only first trimester abortions), the President nominated Nicholson to be United States Ambassador to the Vatican.

P.T.A. TAKES PRO-ABORTION POSITION

The following is the text of an October 11, 2001, letter sent to members of Congress from Shirley Igo, president of the Parent Teachers Association:

On behalf of the 6.5 million members of the National PTA. I urge you to vote against the Rule on the fiscal year 2002 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill, H.R. 3061. The proposed rule would allow consideration of a controversial amendment, to be offered by Representative Hart, which would threaten approval of the underlying funding proposal. National PTA supports the \$7 billion increase for education that was include in H.R. 3061 after extensive bipartisan negotiations.

National PTA also strongly believes in state and local responsibility for establishing education policies and programs, and supports strong parent involvement in state and local planning and decision-making to assure accountability. The Hart amendment would impose unnecessary federal control on school districts and restrict their use of all ESEA funds for a provision wholly unrelated to ESEA programs.

We urge you to reject the Rule and approve the Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill. If the Rule should pass, we urge you to defeat the Hart amendment.

When it takes a position, the national PTA routinely sides with Planned Parenthood and its legions.

MORE KUDOS E-MAILED TO L.D.I.

LDI continues to receive mail about our fund-raising practices. While we occasionally receive critical or even hostile mail, those who write to thank and support us are by far in the majority (by more than a 20-1 ratio, we would estimate). LDI recently received the following e-mail:

Dear Mr. Scott and LDI Staff:

I just received my July-August issue of *The Caleb Report* and, as always, did not put it down until I had read every word. I was particularly troubled by the e-mail you received from "DeWayne." As a faithful reader for several years, I have come to not only understand by applaud your policy as it relates to giving away your publications. In fact, I am this minute going to write a check to send you to help in some small way with your heroic mission.

You guys are what is right and good with our movement in defense of life. God surely holds a special place for you in heaven. And on behalf of the millions who look to you for leadership on this issue, which so clearly will define us as a people, I ask that you stay the course, do not be discouraged, and don't go changin' to try to please everybody. After all, we love you "just the way you are."

Dave K.
Loveland, Ohio

Thank you, Dave! Thank you very much!

The Caleb Report, an official periodical of Life Decisions International, is published six times per year. A minimum donation of \$38 (US) or \$94 (CAN) per year is requested. Send changes of address to LDI at P.O. Box 75161, Washington, DC 20013-0161. Comments made herein do not necessarily reflect the views of every member of LDI's Board of Directors, Board of Advisors, or staff. To schedule a speaker call (202) 347-2066. Visit us on the World Wide Web at www.fightpp.org. Our e-mail address is: ldi@fightpp.org. Thanks for your support! This publication may be copied so long as it is done in full. It may be quoted so long as proper citation is provided with the quotation.

©2001 Life Decisions International.