



The Caleb Report

March-April 2001

Life Decisions International

vol. ix • no. 2

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BOYCOTT UPDATE

Target Corporation and **Corning Inc.**, have been removed from *The Boycott List*. To date, 75 corporations are known to have ceased funding Planned Parenthood.

Bank of America Corporation has been added to *The Boycott List* released on April 12, 2001. *The List* includes the names of 48 corporations.

Small Dog Electronics Inc., is also new to *The Boycott List*, but its belligerent chief executive officer is not the least bit concerned:

Thank you for your note. It served to remind me that there are still some people out there that lack a basic appreciation of a woman's right to choose. Small Dog Electronics and our employees would be honored to be placed on the list of corporations that you boycott. It is great to be included with those other forward thinking companies.

In fact, your letter has prompted me to make a special monetary gift to Planned Parenthood to support their public education work to counteract the ignorance and lies that are spread by groups such as yours.

Send me a copy of those 75 corporations you mention [that have ceased funding Planned Parenthood] and I will make sure never to buy from them again!

Be assured that Small Dog Electronics and its owners will personally and corporately continue to support the extraordinary work of the committed workers at Planned Parenthood!

Sincerely,
Don Mayer
CEO

Dean Peters of American **Dairy Queen** wrote to object to the name of his company being listed on LDI's Website. While Peters first attempted to distance American Dairy Queen from its parent, **Berkshire Hathaway**, LDI explained how no separation could logically be argued. In his final correspondence Peters wrote, "I understand your position..."

THE TARGET CORPORATION STORY

As readers of *The Caleb Report* know, Dayton Hudson has changed its corporate name to Target. (The Target Corporation empire includes Dayton's, Hudson's, Mervyn's, Marshall Field's, and Target Stores.) Consequently, the Dayton Hudson Foundation then changed its name to Target Foundation.

Target Corporation has been sending a letter to persons who inquire about its past support of Planned Parenthood suggesting it was the now-defunct Dayton Hudson Foundation, not the Target Foundation that had been responsible for funding Planned Parenthood. LDI had noted that this was misleading because the

only thing that had changed at the Foundation was its name. The statement offered by Target Corporation in its letter was rejected as sufficient to remove it from *The Boycott List*.

After more than a decade on *The Boycott List*, Target finally changed its policy after Human Life International (HLI) purchased company stock and filed a shareholder resolution objecting to its support of Planned Parenthood. After telling the Federal Trade Commission that it had no idea there was a boycott against its company, Target officials decided to come clean. Its corporate attorney unambiguously told HLI that Planned Parenthood would not receive funds in the future because the Target Foundation has changed its focus of giving. The attorney also said that Planned Parenthood has been notified of this development.

A key person involved in the effort was Thomas Strobhar of Pro Vita Advisors and a member of LDI's Board of Directors. He had been working with HLI on the shareholder resolution. After Strobhar spoke with Target's legal counsel, he contacted LDI to determine if the statements made and the rhetoric used were sufficient to remove the company from *The Boycott List*. Once LDI concluded that Target's response was acceptable, Strobhar and HLI withdrew the resolution.

There are many factors that lead a corporation to stop funding Planned Parenthood. While one event or action may put a corporation "over the top," the philanthropic change would not have occurred without the work of many pro-life groups and individuals. Such is the case with Target. We at LDI want to thank all of the people who made this long and hard-fought victory possible.

WHY AREN'T THERE MORE VICTORIES?

While many people and organizations contributed to the Target Corporation victory, there are some who prevented it and other successes from being realized long ago. When LDI's co-founder, Patricia Pitkus Bainbridge, went into a Target Store for the first time, she mentioned to a store employee how happy she was to be able to shop there. When the employee inquired as to the circumstances, Bainbridge mentioned the boycott.

What was the employee's response? "Yes, but it was hypocritical of church schools to take Target's money while claiming to oppose abortion." This employee, who may or may not be pro-life, could see the hypocrisy. But some who claim to be pro-life either cannot see it or choose to ignore it, and that is a problem:

- When the director of the Department of Catholic Education at the Archdiocese of Baltimore chooses to promote doing business with a pro-Planned Parenthood company after receiving a letter from LDI detailing why the company should not be supported, there is a problem. (He chose to accept the word of corporate officials over that of LDI's leaders.)
- When the leader of Mission America (Maryland) *actively* urges his supporters to see a movie after learning that it is on *The Boycott List*, there is a problem.
- When organizations such as the National Right to Life Committee and Steve Ertelt's Women & Children First accept American Express for donations, there is a problem. (Ertelt also runs Pro-Life Infonet.)
- When the Catholic Family and Human Rights Institute (C-FAM) mails a fund-raising letter claiming that it is fighting Planned Parenthood while urging donations with an American Express card in the same letter, there is a problem. (C-FAM was praised in the September-October 2000 issue of *The Caleb Report* for removing boycotted corporations from its Internet marketplace, but they were replaced with others that fund Planned Parenthood.)
- When the Center for Reclaiming America (CRA) asks LDI to drop the name of The Walt Disney Company from a "Life Card" because CRA's parent organization wants to purchase time on Disney-owned television stations, there is a problem. (The "Life Card" project was a wallet-size card that included the names of several pro-Planned Parenthood corporations. CRA planned to use the Card as

a fund-raiser. CRA also expressed concern about American Express being listed on the card since some of its employees use the card. After long and painful discussions with the leader of CRA, LDI determined that we could not in good conscience give in to the organization's demands and the "Life Card" plan was scrapped.)

Far too many corporate leaders surely laugh at a boycott that is flagrantly violated by those one would naturally expect to join it. This is especially true when corporations need only offer a financial incentive for the violation to occur (such as coupons, sales, programs that support schools, and so on). Yet most corporate leaders believe pro-life people are generally unwilling to inconvenience themselves at all so not even a financial incentive is necessary. What would happen if all pro-life people, including those who call themselves "pro-life leaders," actually cared enough about the unborn child to *sacrifice*—not merely be inconvenienced? Yet far too many are not even willing to be inconvenienced!

While some pro-life "leaders" cannot seem to do the right thing, others can do so. For example, American Life League, Pro-Life Action League, Human Life International, and many others do not accept American Express *solely* due to its support of Planned Parenthood.

Thankfully, "ordinary" people—those who fund pro-life organizations—seem to care more than anyone. Here are just a few examples:

I just subscribed to your reports, which comes with *The Boycott List*. I have been looking for this information for a while, I just didn't ask the right person until about two weeks ago. Anyway, I would like to apologize for paying for the subscription with a Bank One credit card. I didn't know they supported Planned Parenthood (which is why I need your information). Thank you for your service! There are many of us out there who truly appreciate what you do. I'm sorry again.

Tiffany
via e-mail

Nine years ago my family stopped shopping at Target and Dayton's. It seemed like a huge move at the time since Dayton's was my primary place for buying clothes, shoes, jewelry, etc. It's a Minnesota institution. I loved that store and showed them by spending lots and lots of money there. I have always been strongly pro-life but many years ago, was very uninformed about corporations and their giving. My neighbor was the first to enlighten me on the issue and they started boycotting Target and Dayton's. Within days and during a time of prayer, God impressed upon my heart also to discontinue shopping there. In the process I had already called [Target] Corporation to verify that they were in fact giving substantial sums to Planned Parenthood. We cut up our credit cards and within a month, Dayton's was writing me to find out why we weren't shopping there anymore. We then began contributing to Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life and I believe it has been several years that we have contributed to your organization [LDI]. It shames me now that we haven't provided more.

All during this period, my daughter was attending a Catholic school and one of the fund-raisers was to volunteer time at Target stocking shelves and related duties. Target would pay the school \$7.00 per hour. At an all-school meeting one night, I brought up the issue about Dayton/Target funding PP and why a Catholic school would even consider this type of fund-raiser. It was my first experience at persecution and what a stinging experience it was! I was really naïve and thought people had a more heightened consciousness about the issue. It was clear that the school needed the money at all costs, and compromising was within their value system. My daughter did not return to that school the next year. She started attending a Christian school that had previously considered the Target fund-raiser. When two parents brought it to the attention of the principal concerning the corporate funding of PP, the fund-raiser was discontinued. That simple.

It's been nine years raising our now 15 and 12 year old daughters in the Kmart and Wal-Mart world of Minnesota. They have been curious about Target and Dayton's based on the high marks it

gets from other kids and they see the products everywhere. Yet, they have understood the necessity of boycotting and that money has a strong voice of its own. I'm impressed with their courage and ability to speak the issue intelligently.

When your letter arrived last week in the mail, my 12 year old daughter and I danced in the kitchen, giving each other the "high five," thanking God and thanking you for your tireless efforts in taking on Planned Parenthood. Although we are faith people and prayers, I must admit we are still dumbfounded by the notice you sent about Target and Dayton's. We have since walked into Dayton's and Target. It was a very, very weird experience. They are really nice stores though.

I can't thank you enough for the integrity you have shown in all your work, all of which I see in the form of literature, letters and *The Boycott List*. I know God honors your organization and believe His favor is greatly upon you. Thanks again.

Timothy & Sharon
Robbinsdale, Minnesota

Thanks for sending me a letter about Target. My boys are 11 and have wondered if they would ever get to go in a Target. We have been praying for them and God has answered our prayer.

Jean
New Ulm, Minnesota

"If anyone deserves credit, it is people like Tiffany, Timothy, Sharon and Jean," said Douglas R. Scott, president of LDI. "If it were not for people like them, we at LDI would have grown discouraged and ended the Corporate Funding Project long ago. We thank God for all of the 'Tiffany's, Timothy's, Sharon's and Jean's' of the world."

Thank you to the individuals and organizations that convinced 75 corporations to stop funding Planned Parenthood! It is because of *all of you* that this work is successful! **God bless you all!**

PROCTER & GAMBLE AIDS U.N.I.C.E.F.

Readers of *The Caleb Report* are familiar with the allegiance between the pro-abortion United Nations Childrens Fund (UNICEF), MasterCard and CVS Pharmacy (see *The Caleb Report*, November-December 2000). Joining the anti-life trio is Procter and Gamble.

From October 31 through December 31, 2000, a donation of six cents was made to UNICEF every time someone purchased Dawn Dishwashing Antibacterial Hand Soap. The total Procter and Gamble donation was estimated to be \$250,000.00. The funds were earmarked for UNICEF's fight against Tuberculosis in developing countries.

"Corporations should support worthy initiatives through organizations that do not have anti-family baggage," said Douglas R. Scott, LDI's president. "This has also been our message to those corporations that fund Planned Parenthood."

NEEDS TO REMOVE FOREST FROM EYE

"Pro-Life? If so, PETA believes you must be vegetarian," reads the Website of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA). "It is inconsistent to be pro-life and also support violence, misery, and death every time you eat," the Website continues. "The issue of abortion involves many decisions, but going vegetarian involves only one. We have to ask ourselves, 'Do I want to support animal abuse by eating the corpse of a tortured animal?' Not everyone faces the abortion question, but everyone eats. For a person committed to saving lives, the answer should be obvious."

PETA has launched a poster campaign on university campuses called “Pro-life? Go Veg [vegetarian]!” According to Aaron Gross, PETA’s College Action Campaign coordinator, “People who support slaughterhouses every time they lift a fork cannot truly call themselves ‘pro-life.’”

“If you’re concerned about the sanctity of life,” the Website continues, “please be concerned about all life. Eating meat causes immense suffering.” Ah, but does PETA take a stand against abortion? No. Its leaders are apparently not concerned enough to speak out against the “immense suffering” of *humans* in the womb. PETA skirts the issue:

We are not pro-life or pro-choice as an organization, for that is not part of our charter. We are an animal rights organization and our mission statement is that animals are not ours to eat, wear, experiment on, or use for entertainment. However, we have pro-life members and this message is brought to you by people who care about all life. We are asking people who feel in their hearts and souls that taking the life of an unborn child is wrong, to also consider the lives of other wonderful beings who do not want to die.

One part of PETA’s Website states: “No matter where you stand on the abortion issue, whether you’re pro-life or pro-choice, if you want to be kind, please do the right thing and go vegetarian.” PETA asks students to write a letter to the editor of their school newspaper stating that “while abortion may be a complex issue, choosing a pro-life diet is easy and saves many animal lives...”

We must make four points. First, abortion is not a complex issue. Killing someone in the womb is wrong. Very simple. Second, since current law allows for abortion on demand, anyone who claims to be neither pro-life nor “pro-choice” (neutral) is effectively “pro-choice.” Neutrality supports the status quo. The owners of slaughterhouses and abortion facilities alike love neutrality as it is the quintessential “pro-choice” position. If everyone were neutral on “animal rights,” nothing would change. Third, the issue here is whether PETA is willing to alienate its huge base of pro-abortion donors. Fourth, as with abortion, the real problem is not the pain suffered during the slaughter. After all, would PETA and pro-life organizations be satisfied if the killing were done painlessly?

“Once again we are told by people who are either pro-abortion or those unwilling to take a stand what we may and may not ‘truly’ call ourselves,” said Douglas R. Scott, LDI’s president. “Before offering such a challenge to pro-life college students, PETA should earn some credibility by urging its own supporters to oppose legal abortion.” Scott notes that most if not all of PETA’s prominent supporters *actively* support abortion, including Eddie Vedder of the band Pearl Jam, artist Peter Max, and actress Mary Tyler Moore—just to name a few.

Scott said he suspects “the vast majority” of all PETA supporters favor legal abortion. “We are pro-*human* life,” Scott said. “We do not take a position on animal life, although some of our supporters do so. PETA is pro-*animal* life. It does not take a position on the slaughter of human beings, although some of its supporters do so. It seems to me that PETA needs to reexamine its priorities,” Scott said.

“I am challenging PETA’s leaders to realize that it is inconsistent to call yourself a group of people who truly care about life or mankind while not speaking out against the ‘violence, misery, and death’ in the womb,” Scott said. “When the people of PETA speak out against the slaughter of their own kind, they will have some moral authority to criticize those who accept the slaughter of other species. Until then, PETA should not drag those involved in other groups into their cause.”

A.C.L. ELECTS STUDENT LEADERS

The Board of Directors of American Collegians for Life (ACL) elected its student officers for 2001-2002 at its Leadership Conference in January. “We are excited about the talented young men and women who are dedicated to spreading the pro-life message on college and university campuses,” said George Paci, chairman of ACL’s Board.

Students elected to serve are: Mattei Radu, president (Villanova); Michael Sheehan, vice president (Williams); Matthew Tralies, outreach director (Villanova); Courtney Laginess, outreach coordinator (Duke);

Eric Goldman, outreach coordinator (William & Mary); Colleen O’Boyle, education director (Villanova); Cristina Minniti, newsletter editor (Villanova); Steve Hong, Web director (Duke); and Carlos DeBayle, outreach coordinator (Villanova).

ACL is challenging organizations such as Vox and Medical Students for Choice (MSFC). Vox, the Latin word for “voice,” consists of college students who work in association with Planned Parenthood to organize events on campus, raise public awareness about “reproductive rights,” indoctrinate young people about “sexual health” at concerts, and mobilize young advocates for “reproductive freedom.”

“There’s power in the voices of pro-choice students on your campus and when you organize those voices and work together to take action for reproductive health and rights, you have a force that’s more strategic, focused, and powerful than if you work alone,” reads Planned Parenthood’s Website message about Vox. It is noted that organizing a Vox group is also a good way to “have fun, meet new people, and make connections on campus;” “develop organizing skills;” and “gain valuable personal and career experience.”

Planned Parenthood is enthusiastic about helping:

Health! Choice! Activism! The Planned Parenthood Guide to Campus Organizing will guide you through the process of starting a Vox group on your campus, covering such topics as seeking university recognition, recruiting members, organizing public events, advocating legislation, working with the media, and more.

If you’d like to start a Vox group on your campus, email us... We’ll connect you with your local Planned Parenthood affiliate and send you a free copy of *Health! Choice! Activism!*. Please be sure to include the name of your college, your full mailing address, and a phone number where we can reach you.

The McGill University *Daily* refers to MSFC as “an international organization of medical students that has been fighting for better abortion care education since 1993...” MSFC’s McGill campus coordinator, Rachael (she refused to give her surname), claims that most medical students will not commit abortions because they fear violence. “It’s a very good reason to say ‘I didn’t go into medicine to be threatened.’ Whether there’s a threat on your life, or the threat of feeling like people are going to hate or really judge because of what you do, for a lot of people that’s not what they want in medicine. [But] for other people, they see this very much like a calling or something that needs to be continued,” she told the newspaper.

Rachael is also troubled because medical schools do not teach about abortion in great detail. Students do learn the procedure, she continued, “[but] it’s definitely not presented as an easily accessible option. It’s something that’s easily avoided and a little bit harder to seek out.”

Stephanie, a medical student at the University of British Columbia (Vancouver) and a member of the school’s MSFC chapter, thinks that failing to teach students to commit abortions puts women who choose to have them at risk. She believes even doctors who do not commit abortions should be taught how to treat women who get them.

An employee at a Montreal abortion facility agrees with Stephanie—and in so doing concedes the danger of abortion. “Women are consistently being told that their abortion wasn’t well done, that it was incomplete,” said Genevieve Smith. “People have told us that there’s [sic] pieces of the fetus left when we know that we did a procedure on somebody and there wasn’t even a fetus. For us, that’s a problem,” Smith said.

Rachael believes a mother should be able to kill her unborn child the very moment she wants to do so. “You can’t wait with an abortion,” she said. “I think it’s something that’s acute...” MSFC provides “externships” in which students are paid a stipend to spend a month working with abortionists.

ACL’s Mattei Radu is willing to accept the challenge of facing a well-funded and organized opposition. “We don’t have the resources to hit every campus with the pro-life message, but we will do our best to present the truth to as many students as possible,” he said.

SO MUCH FOR MEDICAL STANDARDS

The San Francisco Examiner reports that a mother who went to Planned Parenthood to have her unborn baby killed remained pregnant following a botched job. She was awarded \$672,610. The unborn child lost two limbs as a result of the Planned Parenthood act before being successfully killed months later. “It’s definitely going to be appealed,” said Lynn Stocker, an attorney for Planned Parenthood Golden Gate, which oversees nine abortion facilities in the San Francisco area.

A San Francisco Superior Court judge held Planned Parenthood responsible for its refusal to turn over medical documents to the mother’s lawyer. Stocker said she would not comment on why Planned Parenthood refused to turn over the documents, saying only that the organization felt they were “irrelevant” to the woman’s case.

The plaintiff said the documents, which outline Planned Parenthood procedures and her medical records, must have contained something the organization did not want her to see. “If someone is covering up the evidence, it’s obvious they have something to hide,” the mother said. “Why would you wash your hands if they weren’t bloody?”

Medical experts testified that the mother was probably pregnant with twins, but the Planned Parenthood abortion only fully aborted one child. Though she was told the abortion was complete, the mother said, she still felt pregnant two weeks later in a follow-up exam, and called several times for advice. Each time, she was told that her symptoms were normal. The mother later demanded a urine test.

Planned Parenthood paid for the second abortion, but the mother claimed she was emotionally traumatized. An ultrasound at another abortion facility revealed the remaining unborn child had only one arm and one leg. “She sees the ultrasound, and has an emotional collapse,” Dolan said. “She has to go through a three-day procedure to terminate the fetus’ life, something that absolutely wrecks her.”

Since that abortion, Dolan said, his client has been haunted by visions of babies being killed, has contemplated suicide, and cries uncontrollably at the sight of young children—particularly twins. The award will be reduced due to a 1975 California law that limits non-economic damages in medical malpractice cases to \$250,000.

In another case, 24-year-old Lisa Joseph’s was awarded more than one million dollars after her breast cancer was misdiagnosed by Planned Parenthood Mohawk-Hudson in New York. The Glen Falls *Post Star* reports that Joseph has two to five years to live and is undergoing weekly chemotherapy. Joseph’s attorney, James Linnan, has given court transcripts to the New York State Department of Health in an effort to spur a full-scale investigation into Planned Parenthood Mohawk-Hudson’s medical practices.

During the trial, Planned Parenthood’s medical director defended its nurse practitioner who testified that she could diagnose cancer with her fingertips. Linnan said one doctor testified that such practice was “outrageous.” Another doctor voluntarily testified against Planned Parenthood despite his prior association with it.

On two separate occasions, Wylie told Joseph that the lump in her breast was not cancerous. Joseph was told she was too young to have cancer. Two months later, she sought a second opinion and had the lump removed. However, by that time the cancer had spread into her chest wall.

QUOTABLE QUOTE

“Violence is increasingly becoming the drug of choice for adults—and especially for teenagers.”

— child psychologist Ellen McGrath speaking about the recent rash of gun violence at schools

EMBRACING THE ABORTION DRUG

In January 2001, the British House of Lords turned down a bill to prohibit the over-the-counter sale of the “morning after” drug. The proposal was defeated by a vote of 177 to 95. Baroness Young of the Conservative

Party had proposed the ban, saying dispensing the drug over-the-counter “sends out a signal that unprotected sex is alright.”

“In the real world, things sometimes go wrong with responsible people’s normal method of contraception,” said Baroness Walmsley of the Liberal Democrat Party. “Should we be trying to punish women of all ages who suspend their normal good judgment or have an accident?”

Baroness Gould, a member of the ruling Labor Party, urged her peers to “accept the reality” that more than 250,000 British teenagers are sexually active before their sixteenth birthday. “The social and psychological impact of an unwanted pregnancy far outweighs concerns about the morals of prescribing emergency contraception,” Gould said. Interestingly, Gould was citing her own flawed statistics. She is also president of the Family Planning Association.

In Britain, the drug is available in two forms: Levonelle-2, a high-dose progesterone; and Schering PC4, a combined estrogen-progesterone pill. It is available to those who are at least 16 years of age. The drug was previously available only by prescription.

In the United States, the “morning after” drug is now offered online by the Georgia and Illinois affiliates of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America Inc. (PPFA). A for-profit company also offers the drugs online. According to *The Wall Street Journal*, a female may visit one of the Websites where she reads a consent form and provides information such as name, age, address and recent sexual history. She also gives her credit card number to pay a screening fee. In some cases, the form is reviewed by a doctor or nurse practitioner who then gives the woman dosage instructions and phones a prescription into a drug store where the patient buys the drugs.

The drugs used for “emergency birth control” are Plan B and Preven. Plan B is made by a Hungarian company and marketed by Women’s Capital Corporation of Washington, D.C. Preven is made by Barr Laboratories Inc., of Pomona, New York, and is marketed by Gynetics Inc., of New Jersey.

The chairman of Gynetics Inc., says his company does not endorse Internet programs that make any prescription drug available without requiring an examination by a doctor. But Sharon Camp, chief executive of Women’s Capital, says it can be a helpful tool for making Plan B available. “We’re trying to empower women to get [emergency birth control] quickly when they need it,” she said.

Is the desire to “empower” women overshadowing the need to protect them? Regulators have reacted negatively about Websites offering prescription drugs based exclusively on Internet screenings. The National Federation of State Medical Boards explicitly says that new prescriptions without a doctor’s visit are “outside the bounds of professional conduct.” Yet the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the American Medical Association are among more than 60 healthcare and advocacy groups that have petitioned the Food and Drug Administration to allow “emergency birth control” to be sold over-the-counter.

Planned Parenthood’s Chicago program began in December 2000 and prescribes either Plan B or Preven, but women are directed to one of its own clinics or to a Walgreen drugstore to purchase the drugs. The Georgia program, which started last fall, prescribes a traditional birth control pill because some stores do not stock the new drugs. There is no minimum age requirement.

David Grimes, clinical professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine who has also served as a member of PPFA’s Board of Directors, says there is no evidence that the pills will harm an existing embryo if a pregnant woman mistakenly takes them. (Grimes has said pregnancy is a “disease” that is “treated” by “evacuation of the uterine contents.” Yes, “evacuation” means abortion and “uterine contents” means unborn baby.)

The online effort is expanding. Women’s Capital, for example, recently struck a marketing agreement with Healthcentral.com to increase sales of Plan B by promoting it through Webrx.com.

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: April—Rep. *James P. Moran, Jr.*, D-Virg.; May—*Bill Maher*, host of ABC's "Politically Incorrect;" June—evangelist *Billy Graham*; July—First Lady *Laura Bush*.

KILLING IN OREGON

The Associated Press reports that 27 people used Oregon's assisted suicide law to end their lives in 1999 and 2000, respectively. According to a report published in *The New England Journal of Medicine*, more than one-third of these men and women said they feared becoming a burden on their families.

Oregon's notoriously pro-death United States Senator, Ron Wyden (D), has called on the Bush Administration not to do anything that would obstruct the unique state law. "There is no evidence of a crisis that would compel the federal government to pursue extraordinary means to overturn Oregon's law," Wyden wrote to Attorney General John Ashcroft. "There has been no substantiated claim of abuse of Oregon's law, nor has there been a rush to use the Oregon law."

In 1998, then-Attorney General Janet Reno ruled that federal agents could not act against doctors who help terminally ill patients die under Oregon's law. Following her decision, Senator Don Nickles, R-Okla., sponsored the Pain Relief Promotion Act that would have revoked the licenses to prescribe drugs of doctors who deliberately use federally controlled substances to aid a patient's death. The bill, vehemently opposed by Wyden, did not reach the floor for a vote last year.

Ashcroft, then a United States Senator from Missouri, was not among the 41 cosponsors of Nickles' bill, but he has spoken against using government money, such as Medicare or Medicaid, to support the state law. "We should not hook up Dr. Kevorkian to the United States Treasury," he said in 1997. But naturally, just as abortion proponents believe the government should fund their "constitutional right," so do physician-assisted suicide activists.

During the presidential campaign, George W. Bush said he would have supported Nickles' legislation. Now, assisted suicide opponents hope he will issue an executive order to make it more difficult for doctors to use the Oregon law.

Republican Senator Gordon Smith, who is Wyden's Oregon colleague in the United States Senate, had supported the Nickles bill. He called Bush and followed up with a letter in January asking that any executive order ensure that doctors still be allowed to treat excessive pain and avoid retroactive punishment for patients they had previously helped to die. Smith predicts that Bush will eventually act against the Oregon law.

"I can say one thing for sure," said Douglas R. Scott, president of LDI. "There are few things that would burden me more than to think my parents killed themselves because they feared becoming a 'burden' on me. What a sad, sad time we live in when we cannot offer the sick and elderly more than suicide."

At least 70 people have ended their lives through assisted suicide since the so-called Death With Dignity Act took effect in October 1997. Oregon is presently the only state that allows the practice.

"STATE OF EMERGENCY" DECLARED

Has the United States been invaded by the Communist Chinese? Has there been rioting in the streets of America? Has Mount Rainier erupted and leveled the Pacific Northwest? No, but the National Organization for (a few) Women (NOW) is declaring a "state of emergency" anyway. It is calling the program an "Emergency Act for Women's Lives."

NOW's leader, Patricia Ireland, says her group wants "to save women's rights to self-determination" and to "stop the packing of the United States Supreme Court with anti-abortion rights nominees." NOW plans to lobby extensively during the April 7 – 22, 2001, congressional recess and it scheduled a rally in Washington, D.C., on April 22, 2001. NOW is also asking pro-abortion webmasters to help promote the event by posting banners featuring coat hangers.

“We do not declare a state of emergency and call this campaign lightly,” Ireland said in a press release. “We fully appreciate the gravity of placing ourselves on such a high state of alert and calling on activists to disrupt their lives and set aside business-as-usual. But we simply refuse to be the generations that both win and lose the rights to birth control and abortion. We are determined not to risk a generation of women’s lives and opportunities without reproductive rights.”

“All of us will need to take extraordinary measures in these dangerous times,” Ireland said. “This is our opportunity literally to change the course of history and politics in this country. I know that, fighting together, we are up to the task.”

The “emergency” is endorsed by: The Feminist Majority Foundation, PPFA Inc., National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League, National Black Women’s Health Project, National Asian Women’s Health Organization, American Medical Women’s Association, Center for Reproductive Law and Policy, and the so-called Catholics for a Free Choice.

“ON A COLLISION COURSE”

The *Los Angeles Times* reports that “religious progressives” (read, “people who say they are ‘religious’ and support abortion) and other supporters of legal abortion met “to assert the morality of the right to choose and wrest the theological high ground from religious conservatives.” Eleanor Smeal, president of the Feminist Majority Foundation, said religious groups and feminists have often been “on a collision course,” but they need to work together for reproductive choice.

Carlson Veazey says that pro-abortion “clergy” have been “negligent” in promoting the message that “there’s more than one religious viewpoint on this issue.” Veazey is president of the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice (RCRC), an interfaith organization that hosted the gathering.

“The right has been successful in promoting their message that abortion is not only wrong, it’s murder. They won by default,” Veazey said. “I’m trying to do what the right is doing. Even though I disagree vehemently with their message, they are very insightful to connect the religious with the political.”

RCRC includes groups from: United Methodist Church, Presbyterian Church (USA), United Church of Christ, the Episcopal Church, Moravian Church in America. It also includes American Baptist Witness for Choice, “Catholics” for a Free Choice, Church of the Brethren Women’s Caucus, Disciples for Choice, Episcopal Urban Caucus, Episcopal Women’s Caucus, Lutheran Women’s Caucus, Methodist Federation for Social Action, Presbyterians Affirming Reproductive Options, YWCA of the USA, the Rabbinical Assembly, United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, Women’s League for Conservative Judaism, Federation of Reconstructionist Congregations and Havurot, Women of Reform Judaism: The Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, Union of American Hebrew Congregations, North American Federation of Temple Youth, Women’s Rabbinic Network, American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress, Anti-Defamation League of B’nai B’rith, Hadassah (WZOA), Jewish Women International, Na’amat USA, National Council of Jewish Women, Women’s American ORT, Unitarian Universalist, American Humanist Association, and American Ethical Union. The group’s motto is: “Pro-Faith, Pro-Family, Pro-Choice.”

“Saying one is ‘pro-family’ and ‘pro-choice’ is like saying you are ‘pro-war’ and ‘pro-peace,’” said LDI’s Douglas R. Scott. “While there may be more than one ‘religious’ viewpoint on abortion, there is only one true Christian viewpoint on abortion.”

RCRC’s Website does offer “help” to pregnant women, including a link to the RCRC pamphlet, “Abortion: Finding Your Own Truth.” What else does the Website offer to women in need? The phone numbers of pro-abortion organizations:

Pregnant? Need Help?

If you are pregnant or think you are facing an unintended pregnancy, you may have spiritual concerns you want to address as you consider your options. Including your spirituality in your decision-making can enrich and enhance this experience in your life.

Please remember that it is important to talk to someone you trust—a family member, a close friend, or a member of the clergy. You should also consult a member of the medical profession to discuss your options and what would be best for you and your health.

The Religious Coalition is an educational and advocacy organization and is not able to provide medical advice or assistance. However, we work with organizations that can help with information on pregnancy, abortion, and family planning. They can help you find someone in your community who can help you make the decision that is right for you.

Planned Parenthood Federation of America
1-800-230-PLAN

National Abortion Federation
202-667-5881

KILLING “SERVICE” ADDED

Planned Parenthood of the Columbia/Willamette (PPCW) has announced that its new Vancouver, Washington, site “added abortion services” on February 5, 2001. “We are really glad that we were able to add the services...” said Julie Powers, PPCW’s interim executive director.

L.D.I. LEADERSHIP CHANGES MADE

LDI’s Board of Directors has altered its own membership and that of its Board of Advisors. Members of the Board of Directors (organizational affiliations listed for identification purpose) are: Michael Schwartz, Concerned Women for America (chairman); Patricia Bast Lyman, Esq., American Collegians for Life (vice chairman); Stuart W. Nolan, Jr., Esq., author and attorney at law (secretary); Sheila A. Moloney, United States House of Representatives (treasurer); Ted Gerck, Life Internet (Canada); James J. Giese, Dubuque County (Iowa) Right to Life; Rev. Richard Hogan, Natural Family Planning Outreach; John Hof, Campaign Life Coalition (Canada); Hon. Penny Pullen, Life Advocacy Resource Project; and Thomas Strobhar, Pro Vita Advisors.

Members of the Board of Advisors are: the Honorable Kevin Andrews, member of Parliament (Australia); Margaret Andrews, editor, *Marriage, Family & Society Issues*, and *Threshold* (Australia); Patricia Pitkus Bainbridge, M.A., co-founder, Life Decisions International; Ronald L. Bauer, M.D., breast surgical oncologist; Will Dodson, J.D., Southern Baptist Convention; Rev. Brady Bobbink, University Christian Ministries; Gary Gillespie, M.A., Northwest College of the Assemblies of God; Jim Hughes, Campaign Life Coalition (Canada); Rev. Thomas J. Euteneuer, Human Life International; Gregg Cunningham, Center for Bio-Ethical Reform; Steven W. Mosher, Population Research Institute; Countess Josephine Quintavalle, Comment on Reproductive Ethics (United Kingdom); Joseph M. Scheidler, Pro-Life Action League; Thomas L. Jipping, J.D., Free Congress Foundation; Thomas A. Glessner, J.D., National Institute of Family and Life Advocates; and Mercedes Arzú Wilson, L.H.D., Family of the Americas Foundation.

ACTION SPEAKS LOUDER

Please take the following steps over the next two months:

- Write to four corporations on *The Boycott List*, especially those newly added.
- Tell Procter and Gamble that you object to it having any association with UNICEF. Write to: Mr. Alan G. Lafley, President & CEO, The Procter & Gamble Company, P.O. Box 599, Cincinnati, OH 45201-0599.
- Tell your members of Congress how you feel about federal efforts to overturn Oregon’s assisted-suicide law.

The Caleb Report, an official periodical of Life Decisions International, is published six times per year. Send changes of address to LDI at P.O. Box 75161, Washington, DC 20013-0161. To schedule a speaker, call (202) 347-2066. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of every member of LDI’s Board of Directors, Board of Advisors, or staff. 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.

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