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IN THIS ISSUE: Animals In The Womb: Television Program Inadvertently Helps Pro-Life Movement / This Is A “Catholic” University? / Quotable Quote / Update: Corporate Funding Project / The Prayer Project / In Your Own Words / “Grey’s Anatomy” Stars Speak Out

ANIMALS IN THE WOMB

Television Program Inadvertently Helps Pro-Life Movement

Since the dawn of time, the manner in which life develops in the womb has been a mystery. But continuing technological advances have allowed us to “go where no man has gone before.” We can now peek inside the womb and follow the growth of a living organism from its earliest stages. The mystery is no more.

Many pro-life advocates had believed that if people were just able to see inside the womb, abortion would soon be outlawed. But viewing photographs and film of a human being in the womb is apparently not enough. The expected, “Wait a minute! We’re killing *people!*” never came. Abortion apologists were quick to use rhetorical nonsense to convince people that they were not actually seeing what they thought they were seeing.

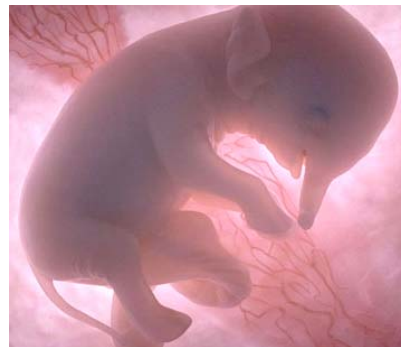
All is not lost. Late last year, people began to see images of animals in the womb. A preborn elephant. A preborn dolphin. A preborn dog. But that is not all. These animals are actually animated! The preborn elephant is walking. The dolphin is at swim practice. And the dog is panting. Every frame is breathtaking. Every movement fascinating. And most importantly, it is all educational.



Using a combination of four-dimensional ultrasound scans, computer graphics and miniature cameras, the people at London, England-based Pioneer Pro-

ductions have captured the entire process of development in the womb—from conception to birth. “These kinds of images from inside animals have never been seen before,” the company’s Jeremy Dear, who made a film of the wondrous events, told the *Daily Mail*. “We worked with dozens of zoos and animal sanctuaries across the world. There were a lot of different chal-

lenges—recording a dolphin is very different from an elephant, for instance.”



“Animals were trained to sit still near the scanners and we also inserted cameras into the womb via the elephant’s rectum,” Dear said, “But it has been worth it. It one sequence we

follow an elephant developing. When it is finally born, there is not a dry eye in the house.” He credited the “ingenuity and patience” of the production team led by Yavar Abbas and Dr. David Barlow, who had worked with some of the world’s leading veterinarians on the project. The images were created for “Animals in the Womb,” a two-hour program that began airing on the National Geographic Channel in December 2006. It has since been seen worldwide.

Researchers tracked the development of an Asian elephant for nearly 22 months—the longest gestation period of all mammals. The fetus starting to look like an elephant as the trunk developed



(around four month’s gestation). It took nearly a year before the trunk was longer than the legs. The elephant’s distinctive ears became clear around 14 months after conception. (The ears would eventually grow to nearly two feet across to help regulate the body temperature of the fully mature elephant. The wrinkles in elephant skin serve the same purpose.)

An elephant fetus develops a unique mammalian feature called “nephrostomes,” (funnel-like ducts in the kidneys). These ducts, which can be found in freshwater fish and frogs, allow elephants to swim more than 15 miles without stopping by using their trunks to breathe. Three months before birth, the elephant fetus is fully developed and weighs about 140 pounds. But the uterus becomes increasingly cramped as the fetus gains about a pound a day before birth. In its late stages, the elephant fetus is covered in bristly hair for protection from the sun and mosquito bites.

At birth, an elephant cannot see, nor control its trunk. Yet it can stand erect in order to reach its mother for nourishment. He will weigh around 260 pounds and be able to take his first steps within several minutes.



A golden retriever fetus is shown exhibiting some of the same behavior as already born family pets. The pre-born canine was seen

panting with his tongue sticking out. (In the absence of ample sweat glands, the body temperature of a dog is regulated by panting.) A canine forms eyeballs around 30 days following conception. At 60 days gestation, the fetus has developed a full coat of hair, nails, paw pads, and touch-sensitive nerve endings. The animal’s keen sense of smell and hearing has already developed. Finally, sensitive whiskers develop, making it possible for a dog to sense the presence, size and shape of nearby objects just by detecting vibrations in the air. A canine is born roughly 63 days after conception.

Canine eggs are not mature when released from the ovaries so they are not immediately ready for fertilization. Dog sperm attaches to the uterine wall



and waits for several days until the egg matures. Because of the time lapse, females can bear puppies from two different males in the same litter.

At birth, the mother dog licks her puppies clean to stimulate their breathing. She also eats the placenta, which releases a chemical to begin the production of milk. This instinctive behavior dates back to when dogs lived in the wild. It is believed that by eating the placenta, the mother would eliminate any evidence of puppies that might attract predators.



Researchers discovered that 24 days after conception, a dolphin embryo develops tiny “leg-like” buds, which disappear over the next two weeks. A dolphin learns to swim at around eight week’s gestation by practicing in the amniotic fluid. And it is a good thing, too. A newborn dolphin must be able to quickly follow his mother to the surface to take that critical first breath of air. (When dolphins breathe, they exchange 80 percent of the oxygen in their bodies. Humans, in contrast, swap out only 17 percent.)

At nine months, a dolphin has no more room in the mother’s uterus, so the fetus curls inside the uterine wall. Hairs like tiny whiskers



on the dolphin will fall out after birth as a result of water pressure, but the pores will remain open. Over the next several weeks a preborn dolphin develops flippers, a tail, a blowhole, and fins that clearly display a bone structure. The gestational period is about 12 months. Female dolphins have only one calf at a time and there is nearly 54 months between pregnancies.

The *Daily Mail*’s website includes comments by people who had viewed the photographs of preborn animals:

How beautiful! People should respect animals more...

– Georgina

What a fantastic and amazing thing to be able to see and follow, it’s amazing enough to see our own babies in 3d/4d form but to see animals as well is very special. I can’t wait to watch the footage when it is out on TV.

– Natasha

It’s amazing to see that technology has developed so far and graces us with a gift such as these pictures. I am amazed at how alike human and animal embryos are! What a beautiful discovery.

– Verity Reynolds

Great pictures. Most people would rightly think it wrong to butcher the beautiful baby elephant that is half way through its gestation period, yet when it comes to human babies, it happens...every single day. If we read that these animal fetuses had been aborted shortly after the pictures and scans were taken, what would the reaction be? How can we allow such brutality against unborn human beings to continue?

– Stewart Cowan

Amazing! Life really does exist in the womb!

– M.J.

Gives a different perspective to any abortion and especially late term abortion.

– Anthony Sakal

Maybe it will make people realize that if animals look like this and we recognize life in them at such early development, then we should reconsider the practice of discarding unborn human babies. Just a thought.

– Matthew

If it takes an animal fetus to teach the world that abortion is wrong, so be it. Thankfully, the connection between preborn animal life and preborn human life is not a difficult one to draw.

THIS IS A “CATHOLIC” UNIVERSITY?



Abbott

“Just say *no* to sex with pro-lifers.” This is the title of an article by freelance columnist Matt C. Abbott. The author is not ridiculing pro-life people or trying to be clever. He is merely quoting the text of a bumper sticker sold by several pro-abortion organizations. And it is not the bumper sticker that is the real problem. What concerns Abbott? The problem is a particular place where the bumper sticker can be seen.

The University of Detroit Mercy (UDM) describes itself as a “Catholic” institution. What exactly does this mean? UDM responds:

The University of Detroit Mercy (UDM) describes itself as a “Catholic” institution. What exactly does this mean? UDM responds:

How does God approach the world?

Over the centuries Catholic theology has understood God as loving the world first and as working to redeem the world as flowing from God’s love. The word “first” matters. The revelation of God as loving first is rooted in Genesis where God finds each day’s creation good and in the Incarnation. Jesus does not come to earth seconds before his redemptive death and resurrection. First he learns his way into a thoroughly human life, falls in love with the human condition and then lays down his life for its salvation.

This is not easy theology.

Nonetheless, the relentless drumbeat of human bad behavior has often tempted people to imagine that we must first defeat evil where we can, and create enclaves inside of which good can thrive. Catholicism emphasizes the longer view and works to integrate the many different textures of human condition into the life of faith. The process of human conversion is understood to be gradual and life long for everyone. At their best, Catholics engage the world with patience, courage, love and a durable sense of humor.

A Catholic University

A Catholic university like UDM sees its commitment to strong research and equally strong teaching and to service as a sacred calling. UDM studies the glories of creation in literature, science, the arts and the professions. UDM also works to

heal the world’s often brutal wounds as one part of its primary commitment: to serve God’s love for the whole of creation.

So far, so good. But UDM’s self-description is just beginning.



We want great things for you.

UDM explains that it “embodies the Mercy and Jesuit Traditions.” What exactly does this mean? A statement regarding each “tradition” is proffered. Sisters of Mercy is described:

Catherine McAuley, founder of the Sisters of Mercy in 1827, articulated a core insight that has inspired the works of the Community ever since: “No work of charity can be more productive of good to society or more conducive to the happiness of the poor than the careful instruction of women.” That societies fail when women are perceived to be lesser citizens is an insight still in manifestly short supply around the world. Educating women is more than a domestic kindness. To Catherine McCauley, the good of society as a whole requires it.

Catherine also recognized that the Dublin she lived in as a well-off citizen was not the whole of Dublin. Her commitment to poor women opened her and her sisters ever since to an awareness that God does not reside only in the well tended parts of society.

A statement about the “Jesuit Tradition” follows:

Ignatius Loyola founded the Society of Jesus in 1540 out of a mystical conviction that loving Jesus means following Jesus to anywhere in the world. In the words of Ieronomo Nadal, S.J., Ignatius’ personal representative: one of the primary houses of Jesuits is “the journey” by which “the whole world becomes our house.” Jesuits see their love of Jesus as a love of the wide world in all its complexity and beauty and challenges. It should be no surprise that UDM enrolls students from Asia, Latin America, Africa, Europe, and the Middle East.

Educating women, viewing them as equals in society, serving the poor. Sounds good, but what part of this means a “Catholic” university should teach radical feminism and promote groups like Planned Parenthood?



Women’s Studies Program logo

Enter now UDM’s “Women’s Studies Program.” The university claims the program, which was started in the 1990s by a “core group of faculty located primarily in the College of Liberal Arts,” was in response to “student concerns, academic developments of the late 20th century, and social movements around the globe...” This justification is purposefully vague.



Photo (left) shows Albrecht's name on her office door. While not in focus, photo (right) shows a closer view of the "I am Pro-Choice America" sticker at the right side of the professor's name.

While it is rather difficult to justify the creation of the Women's Studies program, it surely has a clear purpose.

"The Women's Studies Program is a

cross-disciplinary program that seeks to encourage the discovery and exploration of multiple scholarly perspectives within each discipline so that the voices of women in their diversity are heard," reads a UDM statement. The program's mission is defined—sort of:

The Women's Studies Program critically examines the place of women and gender in culture and society. Feminist theory is applied to traditional disciplines to analyze the origins and effects of power, dominance and gender. Since women's issues and gender issues encompass and modify all areas of knowledge, and since such issues as race, class, and sexuality are crucial aspects of such experiences, the Women's Studies Program is interdisciplinary and multicultural.

Students wanting to receive a Women's Studies Certificate must complete at least 18 credit hours in approved courses. Three courses are required:

WS 200: Introduction to Women's Studies—Critically examines the changing experiences and positions of women and the cultural forces shaping those positions in the U.S. and other countries. The course is interdisciplinary, drawing on resources from various fields including history, psychology, religion, and literature. The tools of feminist analysis will be applied.

WS 300: Women's Studies Practicum—Students choose among a range of opportunities to participate in diverse experiences of women of other races, classes, religions, ethnic identities, and nationalities. With the understanding that all knowledge is embodied knowledge, the practicum is an experience of learning by "being with." Students may work in organizations that provide health, legal, or economic services for women, advocacy groups, or professional organizations that respond to women's issues in the work place.

WS 400: Women's Studies Seminar—In a seminar setting, students have a chance to synthesize the insights that Women's Studies brings to various fields of academic discipline and work, and to integrate those with the students' own personal and career goals.

In his article, which appeared on the Renew America website, Abbott specifically mentioned Gloria H. Albrecht. She is associate professor of Religion and Ethics. Albrecht also teaches business and economic ethics, feminist ethics and theology, and women's studies.

"Albrecht's publications and presentations deal with issues of community, economic justice, women's issues, and epistemology in ethics," Abbott wrote. "She is doing research on economic paradigms as challenged by women's work." Albrecht has served as director of the Women's Studies Program. She holds a masters degree from St. Mary's Seminary and received a doctorate from Temple University.

Abbott's article did not stop at giving Albrecht's credentials and area of interest. "You can make out the 'I am Pro-Choice America' sticker on her name plate," he wrote. "She is also a supporter of same-sex 'marriage.'" Abbott had received photographs from a reader that proved the point.



Photo shows pro-abortion sticker on Oljar's office door.

Abbott is no fan of Elizabeth A. Oljar, assistant professor and chairman of the Philosophy Department. Oljar teaches ethical theory, applied ethics, philosophy

of law, political philosophy, epistemology, and, of course, women's studies. She received a doctorate from the University of Washington. It is Oljar's office door that bears the "Just Say No To Sex With Pro-Lifers" sticker.

Concern over UDM's Women's Studies Program is not limited to the choice of rhetoric used to describe it, the required course work, nor its faculty. The Women's Studies Program joined with the University's Theatre Department to sponsor "The Vagina Monologues." Written by Eve Ensler, the vulgar production was staged on the UDM campus on February 25, 2007. In advertising for the play, UDM pointed out that it "served as the springboard for the creation of V-Day, a global movement to end violence against women and girls." It should be noted that V-Day does not stand for "Valentines Day." It stands for "Vagina Day." The two departments had joined to bring "The Vagina Monologues" to campus in 2005 as well. (The Spring 2007 edition of *Special Reports* will be an in-depth look at V-Day and "The Vagina Monologues.")



Cole

Three days before "The Vagina Monologues" hit campus, the Women's Studies Program invited Elizabeth Cole, Ph.D., to give a speech titled, "Building Common Cause Across Differences: Feminist Coalition Politics." UDM provided information about both the presenter and the presenta-

tion:

“How do individuals simultaneously experience racial, class and/or gender identities?” Questions like these and others will be answered by Dr. Elizabeth Cole in her lecture “Building Common Cause Across Differences: Feminist Coalition Politics” at the University of Detroit Mercy.

Dr. Cole’s talk is sponsored by UDM’s Women’s Studies and African American Studies...

In her lecture, Cole will cover the intersections of the political work of feminism and movements dedicated to combating racism, homophobia, classism, and other forms of oppression.

Cole is an associate professor in Women’s Studies, Psychology, and the Center for Afroamerican and African Studies at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. She strongly believes in the idea that a person’s identity embraces race, class, and national identity as well as gender and we can find common ground across those groups rather than being limited to narrow categories that can separate us.

Her research, at the intersection of psychology and women’s studies, works to understand the social construction of categories like gender, race and social class. Feminist theorists have long argued that these categories are not natural or essential, but instead derive meaning from specific social and cultural practices and beliefs that vary in different times and places.

Consider some of the other events sponsored and/or promoted by the Women’s Studies Program:

- On October 27, 2006, Libby Blume and Peggy Stack from UDM’s Psychology Department teamed with Carla Groh from the Health Professions Department to discuss “Constructing LGBTQ Discourse in a Catholic Context: Intersections of Theory, Theology, and Pedagogy.” (LGBTQ stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, & Questioning; the latter referring to those who say they are unsure about their sexual identity). The presentation addressed “lesbian/gay, bisexual, and transgender issues in relation to Catholic colleges and universities.”
- On April 2, 2005, the Michigan Women’s Studies Association held a conference using the theme, “Feminist Activism and the Academy: Theory in Action.”
- On April 27, 2005, Central College (Pella, Iowa) hosted the sixth annual “Conference on White Privilege.” It addressed “society” and “the advantages that accrue to some but not others and about working to dismantle this system of privilege and oppression.”

There is more. The Women’s Studies Program’s webpage (part of UDM’s website) includes links to several organizations, all of which are rabidly pro-abortion and many of them are extremely anti-Catholic as well. These promoted groups include: Planned Parenthood Federation of America Inc., American Association of

University Women, Amnesty International—USA: Women’s Human Rights, Artemis Guide to Women’s Studies in the U.S., Feminist Majority Foundation, MADRE: International Women’s Human Rights, National Association of Women in Catholic Higher Education, National Council for Research on Women, National Domestic Violence Hotline, National Organization for Women, National Women’s Studies Association, Third Wave Foundation, United Nations Development Fund for Women, United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women, Women and Society, and World March of Women 2000.

Web links identified as “resources” include: Calls for Papers: Gender Studies, Center for Women & Information Technology, feminist.com, Feminist Activist Resources, Feminist Bookstore Index, Feminist Theory Website, Gender Equity in Sports, Gender-Related Electronic Forums, Global Fund for Women, Institute for Research on Women and Gender, Feminism and Women’s Studies, Institute for Women’s Policy Research, University of Wisconsin Women’s Studies Resources, Women on the Net, Women’s Information Services Database, Women’s International Electronic University, Women’s Studies Database, Women’s Studies Programs, and Gender, Science, and Technology.

Consider the words used to describe several pro-abortion groups that UDM’s Women’s Studies Program refers to as “Professional Associations”:

American Association of University Women (AAUW)...promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change.

The League of Women Voters encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy, gives the most up-to-date information, and provides tools to get involved in the democratic process at the federal, state and local levels.

National Organization for Women (NOW)...is the largest organization of feminist activists in the U.S. Its goal is to take action to bring about equality for all women. It works to eliminate discrimination and harassment in the workplace, schools, the justice system, and society; secure abortion, birth control and reproductive rights for all women; end all forms of violence against women; eradicate racism, sexism and homophobia; and promote equality and justice.

National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA)...has a vision of a world in which all persons can develop to their fullest potential and be free from all the ideologies and structures that consciously and unconsciously oppress and exploit some for the advantage of others. To this end, NWSA is committed to support and promote feminist teaching, research, and professional and community service. Integral to

this commitment is understanding [sic] the political ramifications in feminist teaching, research and service.

Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Inc. Best known pro-choice organization in the U.S. Provides information about planned parenthood [sic], AIDS, Congressional action, and more.

Two rabidly pro-abortion groups are listed as “resources” listed under the category “Reproductive Rights and Sexuality”—NARAL Pro-Choice America and Planned Parenthood Federation of America. A statement is provided about each:

“More than thirty years after Roe v. Wade [sic], the pro-choice movement is still fighting to protect and defend a woman’s right to choose. NARAL Pro-Choice America is the only organization with a proven history and expertise to combat an aggressive anti-choice movement intent on taking away women’s rights and freedoms.”

“Planned Parenthood believes in the fundamental right of each individual, throughout the world, to manage his or her fertility, regardless of the individual’s income, marital status, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, national origin, or residence.”

The same section list several book recommendations, including:

- *Baby Steps: How Lesbian Alternative Insemination Is Changing the World*, by Amy Agigian
- *Behind Every Choice Is a Story*, by Feldt, Gloria (former president of PPFA)
- *Beyond Choice: Reproductive Freedom In The 21st Century*, by Alexander Sanger (former head of PPFA’s New York City affiliate; grandson of PPFA founder Margaret Higgins Sanger)
- *Catholics and Contraception: An American History*, by Leslie Woodcock Tentler
- *Historical and Multicultural Encyclopedia of Women’s Reproductive Rights in the U.S.*, by Judith A. Baer
- *Sacred Rights: The Case for Contraception and Abortion in World Religions*, edited by Daniel C. Maguire (activist with “Catholics” for a Free Choice)
- *Sexuality Education: What Adolescents’ Rights Require*, edited by Roger J. R. Levesque
- *The War on Choice: The Right-Wing Attack on Women’s Rights and How to Fight Back*, by Gloria Feldt
- *Where Human Rights Begin: Health, Sexuality, and Women in the New Millennium*, edited by Wendy Chavkin and Ellen Chesler
- *Women and Bisexuality: A Global Perspective*, edited by Serena Anderlini-d’Onofrio

Referring students to radical groups such as Planned Parenthood and Feminist Majority Foundation is not surprising, especially when one considers the people who run the Women’s Studies Program. But how does one explain why such groups are included on UDM’s job placement webpage? UDM describes the service:

TitanCareerLink! is designed to assist UDM students and alumni with a self-directed career search. The site contains information, links and articles on career development and planning; job search, resume tips and provide additional online links employment resources available on the Internet. *TitanCareerLink!* also connects employers interested in recruiting UDM graduating seniors and students seeking co-op/paid internship positions. This is also the place where students and alumni can find information on...sponsored events such as Campus Interviewing, Career Expos, Information Sessions, Practice Interviews and Workshops on the Upcoming Events menu.



TitanCareerLink

The online recruitment system for students and alumni

Several groups are listed in the section titled “Job Search

Links for Diverse Populations.” A description is provided for each. Among those included are several “resources for women”:

- *American Association of University Women*—Provides information on current issues, research funding, and other resources specifically for women.
- *CareerWoman2000.com*—A career resource for women of all professions and backgrounds. Their database contains entry level to senior executive positions with companies throughout the U.S. who value a diverse workplace.
- *Feminist Majority Foundation*—Lists job banks in feminist, nonprofit, and general employment categories.
- *Feminist.com*—Links to sites relating specifically to women in business or a professional setting.
- *Jobs in Women’s Studies*—Provides listings of jobs related to women’s studies; maintained by the University of Maryland.
- *Planned Parenthood*—Lists dozens of clinical and non-clinical positions at Planned Parenthood clinics and similar organizations.

A link to the website of each group is provided. And the program is working. Page two of the Winter 2005 edition of *choice.*, the newsletter of Planned Parenthood of East Central Michigan Inc., included a section titled, “Welcome New Staff”:

Carol Codman-Elliott has joined the team as a Clinician working primarily at the Owosso site. Carol is licensed as a Certified Nurse Midwife and is taking the Women’s Health Practitioner exam. She hold a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from University of Detroit-Mercy...Carol considers herself “terribly

pro-choice" and finds Planned Parenthood a great place for women to have a voice in their own lives."



Stockhausen

At the helm of UDM is Rev. Gerard L. Stockhausen, S.J. He holds a doctorate in economics from the University of Michigan. Stockhausen's professional affiliations include serving as director of the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities and as a member of the Council of Presidents Conference for Mercy Higher Education. He is a board director for Wheeling Jesuit University and Creighton University, as well as a trustee of Loyola Jesuit High School in Detroit.

Unfortunately, UDM is not the only "Catholic" institution that seems to have lost its way; there are many more, including College of St. Catherine (St. Paul, Minn.), DePaul University (Chicago, Ill.), Dominican University of California (San Rafael, Calif.), Georgetown University (Washington, D.C.), Loyola University (Chicago, Ill., and New Orleans, La.), Our Lady of the Lake University (San Antonio, Texas), and Seton Hall University (South Orange, N.J.). Still, UDM is among the most egregious offenders.

"One of the best things about the Catholic Church is a strong dedication to principle," said LDI President Douglas R. Scott, Jr., who is not himself Catholic. "In the narrow sense, UDM and institutions like it cheapen what it means to be 'Catholic.' In the larger sense, it cheapens what it means to be 'Christian.' One cannot promote that which is contrary—even hostile—to Christianity while simultaneously claiming to be a disciple of Christ."



Bainbridge

"The Women's Studies Program at UDM is scandalous," said Patricia Pitkus Bainbridge, director of the Respect Life Office for the Diocese of Rockford (Ill.). "Rather than teach the truth of authentic feminism and Roman Catholicism, UDM continues to impart the destructive doctrines of moral relativism as espoused by Planned Parenthood and its ilk."

ACTION: Let Rev. Stockhausen know how you feel. Write to: Rev. Gerard L. Stockhausen, S.J., Ph.D., Office of the President, University of Detroit Mercy, 4001 W. McNichols Rd., Detroit MI 48221-3038; phone (313) 993-1455. Send a copy of your letter to the chair of UDM's Board of Trustees: Mr. William C. Young, President, Absopure Water Company, 8835 General Dr., Plymouth, MI 48170; phone (734) 459-8000. Send a copy to the His Eminence Adam Cardinal Maida, Archbishop of Detroit, 1234 Washington Blvd., 7th Fl., Detroit, MI 48226-

1875; fax: (313) 237-4642. You do not have to be Catholic to encourage people to do the right thing!

QUOTABLE QUOTE

"Freedom that grants all humans the opportunity to shape their destinies can only be a reality when our world is no longer sexist or racist."

— radical feminist Bell Hooks (born Gloria Jean Watkins); the statement is used by the University of Detroit Mercy to promote its Women's Study Program

UPDATE: CORPORATE FUNDING PROJECT

International Game Technology (IGT) is no longer a boycott target.

Effective at the end of February 2007, a new man will take over the leadership of Pfizer Inc. The contact information: ☎: Mr. Jeffrey B. Kindler., CEO, Pfizer Inc., 235 E. 42nd St., New York, NY 10017-5755; 📠: (212) 573-2323; 🌐: pfizer.com

There is new leadership at Levi Strauss & Company: ☎: Mr. R. John Anderson, President & CEO, Levi Strauss & Co., 1155 Battery St., San Francisco, CA 94111-1230; 📠: (415) 501-6000; 🌐: levistrauss.com

Whole Foods Market Inc. is going to pay \$565 million for Wild Oats Markets Inc., a chain of 110 natural and organic grocery stores, mostly in western states and British Columbia, Canada. Whole Foods will gradually rename Wild Oats Markets.

IN YOUR OWN WORDS

LDI often provides space for its supporters and detractors to have their say about various issues. If you have a comment/opinion on any issue relating to LDI or life issues, do not be shy! Send it to us!

"I wish I could send you billions of dollars for what you do," wrote Jason Prather, "but I don't have that." Even so, the sentiment is worth billions of dollars in encouragement.

Marilyn Ginnow wrote to say she will not support the American Cancer Society (ACS) because of its support of Planned Parenthood. (This is one of the most touching and encouraging messages we have ever received):

[W]e had two daughters with cancer, one who passed away from it, so I am always asked to support ACS activities. This is the reason I will *not*. To me, abortion is *another* life lost. May God bless all of your efforts. He knows we are trying to take the narrow road here.

THE PRAYER PROJECT

Please join us in daily prayer for the men and women who are active in the Pro-Abortion Movement and those who have not been strong in their claimed pro-

life convictions: January—Governor **Eliot L. Spitzer**, D-N.Y.; February—Judge **Judith Scheindlin** of “Judge Judy” fame; March—**Sumner M. Redstone**, chairman and chief executive officer of National Amusements Inc.; April—**John P. Mackey**, chairman, president and chief executive officer of Whole Foods Market Inc.; May—Mayor **Michael R. Bloomberg**, R-N.Y.C.; and June—Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives **Nancy P. Pelosi**, D-Calif.

“GREY’S ANATOMY” STARS SPEAK OUT

“I’ve always felt personally indebted to Planned Parenthood and very passionate about reproductive rights for women,” actress Kate Walsh told Planned Parenthood in an interview published on its website for teenagers (teenwire.com). “It’s something that you constantly have to fight and advocate for.”

Walsh, who plays “Addison Montgomery Shepherd” on ABC’s hit series “Grey’s Anatomy,” is not afraid to use her celebrity to impact public opinion and policy. “I think the biggest thing about playing the character I play is that it’s a great opportunity to make a contribution,” she said.



Walsh

Thirty-nine year old Walsh said she believes television has a responsibility to educate viewers about “safer” sex. “I think that the writers take it really seriously. There was an episode in the first season when there was a syphilis outbreak. The chief of surgery gave a lecture on how to put a condom on a banana because people were obviously sleeping with each other...and they weren’t using protection.” Walsh said it is no coincidence that such issues are addressed on the program given that half of its writers are women and the show was created by a woman.

Asked what she thinks about “sex education,” Walsh responded with the Planned Parenthood party line:

I’m an advocate for sex education. We’re a largely repressed, very confused culture sexually. It’s such an emotional and psychological issue. It’s one thing to go out and talk about practicing safer sex, but there’s also getting at it on a much deeper social and psychological level. Why don’t people want to talk about this? Let’s figure out ways that people can. If we can address that, we can have more effective communication.

The actress said that when she was in school there was “maybe one movie” shown about sex. “The message that I got was whatever you do, don’t get pregnant. That was really it. Use birth control. There was no discussion, and underneath that there was a deep level of

shame: You really shouldn’t be having sex at all but if you do, just don’t get pregnant.” Walsh said her experience as a youth consisted of “a very mixed bag with a lot of mixed messages, both culturally and at the family level.”

Walsh noted that she loves Planned Parenthood because the group had “helped” her several years back. “Planned Parenthood is where I got birth control pills when I was a teenager and throughout the years,” she said. And now Walsh wants to “give back”:

Preventing unwanted pregnancies and STDs is important to me, but I’m also really interested in the psychology behind that. When I was a teenager in the early ‘80s I volunteered at a hospital, and that was when the AIDS epidemic had first come out. There was a quarantine ward, and I was deeply affected by that. Up until then no one really talked about protection. It wasn’t ingrained in me to use condoms, it was really just about birth control. It wasn’t about STDs at all. So it was a big psychological shift for me in my late teens and early 20s to get comfortable with using condoms. Sex is deeply emotional, psychological, and spiritual, but that shouldn’t eclipse the fact that it’s still a physical act and it needs to be dealt with in a physical and medical way. That needs to be first and foremost. That’s the thing that I think is important. Have it be a given: if you’re going to have sex, use a condom. You can be in the moment and use a condom.

“I think what Planned Parenthood is doing is amazing,” Walsh said. “There needs to be a place for women to go to get safe, responsible, up-to-date medical care. If people are going to listen to me and think about getting an annual cervical exam because I’m on ‘Grey’s Anatomy,’ then that’s great.”



Oh

Walsh is not the only actress on “Grey’s Anatomy” to speak out. Sandra Oh, who plays Dr. Cristina Yang, is also a pro-abortion activist. The 36-year-old complained about her role as it relates to abortion in an interview with the New York City edition of *Time Out*.

I am constantly aware that I am working for a giant corporation, and that’s frustrating. In the first season, my character became pregnant and she wasn’t going to have the baby. But she couldn’t have an abortion; she had to lose the baby. And whenever you see a character on TV lose a baby, it’s because someone is saying you can’t have an abortion on television. You can’t even say the [expletive deleted] word. You have to call it a procedure. I find it all so intensely frustrating and limiting—it’s like the current administration and the religious right vilifying things that are real and shouldn’t be judged.

The comments made by Walsh and Oh may explain why “Grey’s Anatomy” is among the most flagrant users of overt sexual content on network television.

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