



# The Caleb Report

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## BLAMING ABSTINENCE EDUCATION—AGAIN Planned Parenthood Seizes Upon Newly Released Statistics

In early January 2009, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued final statistics for births in 2006. The data showed that the teen birth rate increased in more than half of the states, which provided Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) with yet another opportunity to attack abstinence education.

In its initial report released in December 2007, the CDC noted that the teen birth rate increased for the first time in 15 years from 40.5 births per 1,000 women aged 15-19 in 2005 to 41.9 in 2006. The new and final report, "Births: Final Data for 2006," was released by the CDC's National Center for Health Statistics. It includes state-by-state teen birth rate data based on all birth certificates issued in the United States in 2006.



The data show teen birth rates were highest in the South and Southwest. Mississippi had a rate of 68.4 per 1,000. New Mexico was second (64.1) and Texas was third (63.1).

Teen birth rates were lowest in the Northeast. New Hampshire (18.7), Vermont (20.8), and Massachusetts (21.3) were lowest of all. The only states with a decrease in teen births between 2005 and 2006 were North Dakota, Rhode Island, and New York.



Richards/Obama

PPFA President Cecile Richards said the report "reaffirms what we at Planned Parenthood see in our health centers firsthand: abstinence-only programs deny teenagers' lifesaving, medically accurate information and do nothing to prevent unintended pregnancies."

"We have a preventable *public health problem* in this country—an estimated 750,000 American teens will become pregnant this year and nearly four million will contract a sexually transmitted infection (emphasis added)," Richards said. "The failed policies of the Bush administration's abstinence-only programs have wasted more than 1.5 billion federal and state tax dollars and left our country with the highest rate of teen pregnancy of all the most developed countries in the world."

"The report actually tells us very little," said LDI President Douglas R. Scott, Jr. "The most important omission is that it does not tell us which teens *wanted* to become pregnant. Furthermore, the final statistics include married teenagers, which greatly skew the numbers."

Scott said PPFA's problem is that the young people chose to give birth. "Let's remember that these statistics are not about teen pregnancy. They regard teenagers who became pregnant and chose life. If the young people had chosen to kill their children, Planned Parenthood would have no complaint. But they *chose* to give life to their children and Planned Parenthood just cannot tolerate it."

"There is absolutely no correlation between the CDC report and the success or failure of abstinence education programs," Scott said. "The PPFA hierarchy believes that any money not spent on their programs is essentially wasted."

PPFA uses every opportunity it can to trash abstinence education. In December 2008, PPFA used World AIDS Day to undermine such programs:

In the last decade, more than \$1.5 billion in federal and state funding has been wasted on dangerous abstinence-only programs that deny teenagers lifesaving information.

A recent study by the Guttmacher Institute [named for former PPFA President Alan Guttmacher] found that most federally funded abstinence-only programs do not help delay teens' sexually activity. Rather, the study found that comprehensive sex education programs had a positive impact on teen sexuality and should be more widely used.



Jonas Brothers

PPFA is looking ahead to better days. "We look forward to working with...[Barack] Obama and the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress to put the right foot forward and stop funding dangerous abstinence-only programs that deny young people information about how to prevent pregnancy, protect their health and make responsible decisions," Richards said.

Considering the pro-abstinence position espoused by The Jonas Brothers, it is difficult to understand why the popular young group performed for the Obama Inauguration Committee. We also wonder why The Jonas

Brothers continue to be associated with Hollywood Records, a subsidiary of the pro-Planned Parenthood Walt Disney Company.

### **PLANNED PARENTHOOD "ACHIEVEMENTS"**

According to Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA), 2008 was a year full of "noteworthy achievements." The pro-abortion goliath recently outlined its accomplishments, which were listed under several categories.

Under the first category, "Fighting for Women's Health," PPFA claims to have been "a leader in advocating for women's health care on national, state, and local levels." In 2008, PPFA:

- helped secure more taxpayer money for birth control programs "with the first serious funding increase for the Title X program since President Bush took office";
- used "youth activists" to campaign for "affordable birth control" at more than 220 college campuses in 40 states;
- helped convince eleven more states to refuse abstinence education funding from the federal government, bringing the total to 26;
- "led the opposition" against a proposed Bush Administration regulation that would allow abortifacient methods of "birth control" to be publicly labeled as such;
- helped defeat legislation and ballot initiatives across the country, including 33 of the 34 abortion ban bills introduced in state legislatures;
- used its celebrity allies (Board of Advocates) to promote "women's health and rights";
- worked to develop a "blueprint" for a "proactive women's health agenda" for the Obama Administration that will "help ensure access to affordable, quality reproductive health care in the U.S. and around the world"; and
- hired lawyers to fight for "reproductive rights," including a four-year effort to protect "reproductive health services and patient privacy from an assault by anti-choice forces" in Kansas, and helped keep "anti-choice" initiatives off the ballot in Georgia and Missouri.

The second category, "Providing Health Care," shows PPFA claiming to have "led the nation in providing sexual and reproductive health care." In 2008, PPFA:

- provided the means to "make responsible choices about sexual and reproductive health to five million people worldwide";
- provided "medical services" to more than three million people and "helped prevent an estimated 621,000 unintended pregnancies" in the United States alone; and

- launched the new condom line (Proper Attire) designed to help women feel more comfortable about buying and carrying condoms (see the January-February 2008 and September-October 2008 editions of *The Caleb Report*).

Category three was headed, "Providing Sexual Health Education Worldwide." PPFA "educated people on all aspects of sexual health, from protecting themselves from STIs [sexually transmitted infections] to creating healthy, loving relationships." In 2008, PPFA:

- indoctrinated more than 1.2 million teens, parents, and professionals about healthy sexuality;
- used its "Real Life. Real Talk." education program to reach parents through 150 local community partners, giving parents "the tools they need to talk with their children about sexuality and health";
- increased its online presence to 15 million visitors and laid the groundwork for the re-launch of the "flagship website" ([www.plannedparenthood.org](http://www.plannedparenthood.org)) that will include online appointment requests, automated phone and e-mail appointment reminders, and "ask an expert" chats with health educators;
- responded to the "crisis" that came to light after a study showed that at least one in four teenage girls have a sexually transmitted disease by "building a groundbreaking coalition that will launch an aggressive national public awareness, testing, and treatment campaign in 2009"; and
- worked with "global partners" by providing more than \$2.5 million in grants to 49 organizations throughout Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

### **PELOSI REBUKED BY POPE**

When Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., met with Pope Benedict XVI in Rome, she did not know the Pontiff would use the 15-minute meeting to scold her for promoting policies contrary to Christian teaching. The Holy See's press office released a statement shortly after the meeting:

Following the General Audience the Holy Father briefly greeted Mrs. Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, together with her entourage.

His Holiness took the opportunity to speak of the requirements of the natural moral law and the Church's consistent teaching on the dignity of human life from conception to natural death which enjoin all Catholics, and especially legislators, jurists and those responsible for the common good of society, to work in cooperation with all men and women of good will in creating a just system of laws capable of protecting human life at all stages of its development.

The Catholic News Agency reported that, "A significant number of Catholic and pro-life organizations expressed concern over how Pelosi would use the meeting with

Pope Benedict to further her position that it is possible to be Catholic and pro-abortion.” In fact, just one day before the mid-February 2009 meeting, Jon O’Brien, president of the so-called Catholics for Choice, told *The Hill* newspaper that the visit between the Speaker and Pope Benedict would be an opportunity to highlight that one can be pro-choice and Catholic and that there are much bigger issues out there to discuss, such as the fate of the poor in the global economic downturn. “That would be a real conversation about choice, instead of this micro-obsession with abortion,” O’Brien said. But any plans the rebellious “Catholics” (AKA: protestants) may have had were foiled by the strong, albeit diplomatic, papal rebuke.



**Pope Benedict/Pelosi**

A statement released by Pelosi’s office following the meeting made no mention of the fact that the entire meeting consisted of the Pope verbally slapping her on the wrist. “It is with great joy that my husband, Paul, and I met with his Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI today,” Pelosi said. “In our conversation, I had the opportunity to praise the Church’s leadership in fighting poverty, hunger, and global warming, as well as the Holy Father’s dedication to religious freedom and his upcoming trip and message to Israel.”

One of the most treasured parts for any politician meeting a Pope is the official photo, but Pelosi was not afforded such an opportunity.

This past August, Pelosi was scolded by several U.S. bishops for attempting to theologially justify her pro-abortion position during an interview on “Meet the Press.”

### **ABORTION PROMOTERS DROP STAFF**

Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA), American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), and NARAL Pro-Choice America! Despite their high degree of name familiarity, not even these behemoths are immune to the economic downturn. According to *The Washington Post*, the recession has negatively impacted the income of the nation’s leading pro-abortion groups.

ACLU claims to have cut its workforce by ten percent. It has instituted a hiring freeze, limited travel, canceled conferences, and reduced non-personnel costs, which have resulted in savings of more than \$9 million, but that was not enough. “Unfortunately, additional measures were needed and as a result, the ACLU national office was forced to eliminate 36 staff positions,” ACLU executive director Anthony D. Romero said.

NARAL Pro-Choice America! has also reported staff cuts. “NARAL Pro-Choice America! is not immune to the most severe economic challenges facing Americans in more than 50 years,” Ted Miller, the group’s communications director, told the newspaper. “Like many non-profit organizations that rely on individual contributions, we have made adjustments. We have reduced staff and cut expenses to both preserve the organization’s fiscal health and continue our work as a leader in advancing policies that protect women’s freedom and privacy.” Miller would not provide specifics regarding the size of the staff reduction.



**Iskander**

PPFA reports it has cut 20 percent of its national staff (nearly 30 individuals). “As with many other nonprofit organizations, Planned Parenthood has had to make staff reductions at our headquarters due to the challenging economic times facing our country,” said Maryana Iskander, PPFA’s chief operating officer. “While taking this action is never easy, we want to ensure the millions of women and men who rely on Planned Parenthood as a health care provider that the reductions will not impact our ability to deliver care to those in need.”

The economy is not the only reason for hard times at pro-abortion groups. The election of President Barack Obama has made complaisant those individuals who used to donate to the groups. In addition, there has been a significant reduction in grants, including those from two foundations that were wiped out by the Bernard Madoff scandal. For example, the \$1 billion Florida-based Picower Foundation, one of the major funders of pro-abortion groups, was shut down in December because its assets were managed by Madoff.

“As far as Planned Parenthood is concerned, I just don’t buy it,” said LDI President Douglas R. Scott, Jr. “Planned Parenthood has a \$1 billion annual budget and some \$400 million sitting in a savings account. Why do I smell a rat?” Scott said he suspects this is a ploy to get more money from taxpayers. He also noted that there are many wealthy foundations that continue to fund all three groups. “If there is one thing these groups do not need, it is money.”

### **“PRO-LIFE HYPOCRISY”**

It seems the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice (RCRC) is upset with LDI. An article by radical feminist author Cynthia L. Cooper, titled, “Attacks on Disabled and Ill Show ‘Pro-Life’ Hypocrisy,” takes LDI leaders to task for placing the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS) on the “Dishonorable Mention” list due to its support of embryonic stem cell experimentation.



In an RCRC publication titled, “The Medical Right: Remaking Medicine in Their Image,” RCRC explained that the phrase (“medical right”) was coined “to show the connection of religiously influenced medical organizations to the ‘Religious Right,’ a political force primarily comprising fundamentalists in the Protestant and Roman Catholic traditions.” LDI—a “medical organization”?

RCRC uses the phrase “Christian Right” to refer to organizations that are “religious in nature and also are involved in some political issues.” It admitted that the divisions “are certainly not clear” because “the Religious Right, by intention, mingles politics and religion.” Well, so much for a clear explanation. In any case, LDI is said to be part of the Medical Right.

Quick to offer an opinion, Cooper said that placing LLS on the “Dishonorable Mention” list shows “the Medical Right’s hypocrisy about ‘life.’” She continued:

Fetal life—and in this case, embryonic life—must be protected even though it will never develop and even at the expense of existing life, be it a pregnant woman’s or a suffering cancer patient.

According to Cooper, “The Religious Right fears that the enormous public support for [embryonic stem cell experimentation] will translate into greater acceptance of abortion rights, at least in the earliest stages of pregnancy.”

Cooper described LDI as “a small, unknown... organization dedicated to ending private funding for Planned Parenthood clinics...” She accused LDI of using “disgusting Nazi imagery to attack the Lymphoma and Leukemia Society [by claiming] the patients’ organization condoned murder by supporting research using embryo stem cells.” No proof of this accusation was provided. Why? Because it does not exist. The statement is the product of a baseless conclusion reached by Cooper—and she had more assumptions to make and conclusions to reach:

The attack on the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society—and the ill, suffering and disabled people it represents—reveals an underbelly of the stem-cell debate. Underneath the Medical Right’s absolutism is a fear that any slight acceptance of the use of embryonic stem cells for advancing research will completely unravel the “right-to-life” position and open doors to pro-choice views. The Medical Right’s opposition holds even if the embryos are left over from in vitro fertilization and will languish and ultimately be destroyed.

Although those eager for cures have difficulty seeing the relation of abortion to stem-cell research using leftover embryos slated for destruction [sic], the two issues have the same underpinnings in philosophy and strategy, as the LDI attack on the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society shows.

Cooper continued by praising the work of LLS and advocating embryonic stem cell experimentation. Her attention then returned to LDI:

Douglas R. Scott Jr., president of LDI, launched an attack against the Lymphoma and Leukemia Society in late August. LDI claims it was responding to a letter from the Lymphoma and Leukemia Society that said: “the Society does not ‘support the destruction of innocent life’...The Society opposes the fertilization of human eggs for the purpose of research.”

In LDI’s newsletter, *The Caleb Report*, and a press release, Scott wrote: “All this proves is that [LLS] opposes the fertilization of human eggs for the express purpose of conducting experiments on them. But if the embryos were created without that specific purpose in mind, it is okay to do whatever you want to them. We trust [the leukemia society representative] would be outraged if he were to hear someone say, ‘Sure, but the Jews are already dead. It’s okay to make lampshades out of their skin so long as we didn’t kill the Jews for the express purpose of making the lampshades.’”

In an effort to paint Scott as heartless, Cooper likened his comments to those made by a radio commentator. “This type of hyper-invective also was aimed at actor Michael J. Fox, who has Parkinson’s disease, when he appeared in advertisements supporting stem cell research,” she wrote. “Rush Limbaugh said the actor exaggerated the effects of the disease and called him ‘shameless’ and a shill.”



“The response to embryonic stem-cell research is a forewarning that, unless pushed back, Religious Right groups are willing to attack even the disabled and ill, if they stand in the way of their absolutist agenda,” Cooper concluded.

“What I do not know is whether Cindy Cooper truly believes such nonsense, which makes her delusional, or if she knows her statements are ridiculous,” said LDI President Douglas R. Scott, Jr. “Whatever the case, no one should be surprised that a pro-abortion activist is willing to lie and use innuendo to reach a conclusion that is favorable to her radical agenda. ‘Journalistic integrity’ has no place here.”

RCRC describes itself as “the only interfaith organization in America dedicated to preserving reproductive choice and religious freedom.” It claims to support “responsible policies in sexuality education, family planning, and healthcare that respect basic values and enable individuals to follow their own religious views in reproductive decisions.”

RCRC programs “strive to make reproductive justice a reality by ensuring the resources necessary for healthy

children, families and communities, with particular emphasis on the reproductive issues of people of color, those living in poverty, and other underserved populations.” It is important to remember that “religious” is not necessarily synonymous with “Christian.”

## UPDATE: CORPORATE FUNDING PROJECT

Color Me Mine is no longer a boycott target.

National Education Association (NEA) is a master of doublespeak. Consider the words of the NEA’s Melinda Anderson:

I received your letter indicating your belief that the Association “is publicly on record as a pro-abortion group.”

Let me assure you that NEA does not have a policy that advocates or supports abortions. The Association’s support of “reproductive freedom” is not a “pro-abortion” policy. It recognizes the Supreme Court’s decision in Roe vs. Wade, which protects a woman’s right to privacy and encompasses both the right to abortion and the right to choose childbirth.

In another letter from Anderson, she wrote simply, “Your concerns have been noted.”



Dalton

The chief executive of boycott target Pindar Group claims the corporation has been working with LDI regarding its inclusion on *The Boycott List*. “AlphaGraphics, Inc. [a Pindar subsidiary] has not provided support to Planned Parenthood, and we are trying to work with LDI to learn how they were identified as supporters. One could consider it irresponsible on LDI’s part to mis-identify [sic] the organization with whom they have a problem,” wrote Andrew Dalton. Yet while LDI has contacted the corporation on several occasions, it has *never* responded. So much for their “we are trying to work with LDI” line.

Dalton concluded by writing, “One of the finest and most cherished freedoms we all enjoy is the right to make our own choices within the boundaries of the law. AlphaGraphics, Inc. will continue to champion that right...” This should leave no question as to Dalton’s position on abortion.

## WHOLE FOODS MARKET APOLOGIST

Readers of *The Caleb Report* will recall the many ways in which executives at Whole Foods Market have misled the public regarding its support of Planned Parenthood. Despite the fact that the corporation’s support of the pro-abortion group is indisputable, it now has a vocal ally.

After learning that Whole Foods Market is a boycott target, Crystal M. Jones, a resident of Pittsburgh, Penn., contacted her local store. She received a response from Casey Dill, a store “team leader”:

Thank you for the heads up. Your instincts are correct and I wish everyone would confront us as you have rather than accept the boycotts at face value. It is against company policy for stores to donate to any politically charged organizations. We donate to thousands of organizations in our community, but we have never donated to Planned Parenthood, and I am disappointed that not one organizer of these boycotts has reached out to me to at least discuss their concerns. Thank you again.

Why Dill thinks LDI would contact a local “team leader” to discuss the boycott when it is a matter for the corporate headquarters is a mystery. Nevertheless, he was flatly wrong when he wrote that, “It is against company policy for stores to donate to any politically charged organizations.” (Maybe Whole Foods Market executives do not consider Planned Parenthood to be “politically charged”?)

Dill was exclusively addressing his one store when he wrote, “We donate to thousands of organizations in our community, but we have never donated to Planned Parenthood.”

A Whole Foods Market representative from the national headquarters chimed in on the matter:

Given our business and core values, we concentrate on issues involving the environment and living a healthy lifestyle. Additionally, both our customer base and shareholders come from diverse backgrounds and have a wide range of political and religious views. While Whole Foods Market’s donation policy allows our stores the freedom to choose organizations that are important to our communities and Team Members, on a corporate level, Whole Foods Market Inc. has not provided donations or financial support to Planned Parenthood.

We encourage you to contact the store where you shop to find out who they donate to. We do not call out any specific organizations by name as to who our stores can or cannot donate to. We thank you for your comments and hope you will continue to support Whole Foods Market because of our commitment to bringing you the most healthful natural foods available.

After hearing back from Whole Foods, Jones sent a scathing e-mail to LDI, the subject of which was, “BLATANT slander and false information”:

This is infuriating! How can you list Whole Foods on this boycott!?!? Whole Foods has NEVER donated to Planned Parenthood—not as a corporation, and not as individual stores! WF has a policy of not donating to ANY politically charged organization.

Who has started this list? Where did the information re: Whole Foods come from? I would like to contact the source in order to address this issue.

Here is a response from my local store’s management and the corporation itself. Please feel free to contact your Whole Foods and any other store on boycott lists—make sure the information is accurate! Boycotts are a serious matter that affect someone’s business and many employees and should not be applied lightly!

Also, be sure you CONTACT the company that you are boycotting. How are they to know/change their policies if you do not inform them of your decision?

Please check your facts before you publish slander and falsehoods.



Jones

As evidenced by the accusatory tone, Jones took the statements from Whole Foods Market's local store as gospel. What's more, she forwarded the e-mail she had sent to LDI to several people in the media and pro-family organizations—without even waiting for LDI to respond. (Jones apparently believed there was nothing LDI could say to change her mind.)

The statement by the company could not be clearer. "Whole Foods Market's donation policy allows our stores the freedom to choose organizations that are important to our communities and Team Members..." The corporate official attempts to downplay the policy by writing, "on a corporate level, Whole Foods Market Inc. has not provided donations or financial support to Planned Parenthood."

"All we can say is, 'So what?'" responded LDI President Douglas R. Scott, Jr. "It does not matter if the money going to Planned Parenthood comes from the corporate headquarters or a local store. The point is that it is coming from Whole Foods Market, along with the company's 'stamp of approval' for the pro-abortion group."

Whole Foods Market has been encouraging pro-life advocates to contact their local stores to determine if they support Planned Parenthood. If every boycott target could convince pro-life activists to do such a thing, the impact on the pro-life cause would be devastating.

LDI responded to Jones' e-mail. Several people in the media and from pro-life organizations have inquired about the Jones e-mail, but we do not know the names of everyone she had contacted. Consequently, LDI cannot provide everyone with the facts.

Jones, an employee at the Asthma and Allergic Disease Clinical Research Center at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, was not impressed with LDI's response, despite the fact that every point she made was addressed. She fired back. "I am not going to go away," Jones wrote. "This is a serious matter that should not be treated so lightly."

Anyone working for LDI routinely ends an e-mail or phone call with, "God bless you." Jones even took exception to this statement:

[H]ow DARE you say "God bless you"?... I do not care to have a member of LDI say "God bless you" to me when as far as I can tell the organization is careless and lacking in integrity.

We do not know Jones' position on abortion, but we do know that by doing the bidding of Whole Foods Market,

she has harmed the pro-life cause and she shows no sign of stopping. "It's a shame that some people have such an attachment to certain favorite businesses that they will look for a loophole in the evidence to justify shopping there," said Ken Garvey, LDI's director of communications. LDI has *never* and will *never* publish information that is even remotely questionable. If we are not 100 percent convinced of the accuracy, we do not release it.

**BACKGROUND:** see *The Caleb Report* for May-June 2005, July-August 2005, November-December 2005, March-April 2006, and November-December 2006.

## ANOTHER FILM PROMOTED

In the November-December 2008 edition of *The Caleb Report*, we noted that Planned Parenthood activists were "celebrating" their election victories by urging people to attend a special fund-raising screening of "I Had An Abortion." Directed by radical feminist author Jennifer Baumgardner, the film features ten women who describe their experiences with the deadly procedure. It was Baumgardner who came up with the controversial "I Had An Abortion" t-shirt. (For more information about the t-shirt, see the September-October 2004 edition of *The Caleb Report*.)



To "celebrate" the 36<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Roe v. Wade*, Planned Parenthood urged people to attend a special screening of "4 Months, 3 Weeks & 2 Days."

During the course of one day, "Otilia Mihartescu," portrayed by Anamaria Marinca, helps her friend and college roommate, "Gabriela 'Găbița' Dragut," played by Laura Vasiliu, get a late-term abortion. The story is set in 1987 Communist Romania, where at the time abortion was illegal.

Released in 2007, "4 Months, 3 Weeks & 2 Days" was written and directed by Cristian Mungiu. It was her sixth film as director.

## QUOTABLE QUOTE

"If every woman who had an abortion stood up for her right to make that decision, and then all the family and friends who loved those women stood up for the right to choose—then our opposition wouldn't stand a chance."

— Julie Redman, chief executive officer of Planned Parenthood of Louisiana & the Mississippi Delta

## CONSERVATIVE LEADER PASSES AWAY

On December 19, 2008, the chairman and president of the Free Congress Foundation, Congressman Ralph M. Hall, R-Tex., and Marion Edwyn Harrison, respectively, sadly announced the death of Paul Michael Weyrich, the organization's founder and national chairman.



**Weyrich**

Weyrich had been in a wheelchair for the past several years due to a combination of illnesses and a fall many years ago on black ice. While hospitalized several times and often in pain, Weyrich continued to work as a leader of the cultural, political and social conservative movement.

While still a student in his native Wisconsin, he became a radio and *Milwaukee Sentinel* newspaper reporter and later a CBS political reporter and newscaster. Weyrich first went to Washington, D.C., in 1966 as a senior aide to Senators Gordon L. Allot, R-Colo., and Carl T. Curtis, R-Neb.

In 1973, Weyrich co-founded the Heritage Foundation and he served as the organization's first president. One year later, he created the predecessor to the Free Congress Foundation.

During the past 35 years, Weyrich spoke and wrote extensively on cultural and other aspects of conservatism. In and after 1989, Weyrich visited the formerly Communist Soviet Union, where he held training courses for the promotion of democracy and individual rights.

"Paul Weyrich created institutions and networks that incubated new and old powerful policies and strategies to advance liberty..." wrote Grover Norquist of Americans for Tax Reform. "Most of the successes of the Conservative Movement since the 1970s flowed from structures, organizations, and coalitions he started, created or nurtured. Paul also lived a balanced life with work, family and his faith. We will miss his puns and wisdom and hard work."

"Paul once said to me, 'Doug, I see myself as a mentor to you.' Paul was not flattering himself; he knew I felt the same way," said LDI President Douglas R. Scott, Jr. "I learned a lot from Paul and have been able to accomplish much more for the Pro-Life Movement because of him. We had a special relationship. Paul was not only my mentor; he was my friend. I admired him and will miss him."

The statement released by the Foundation said it best:

Steadfast and courageous in causes and faith, and admirably stoic in continuing his extensive work during many years of illness, Paul Michael Weyrich will be missed by the many people with whom he worked and by his family and numerous friends.

In 1990, Weyrich was ordained a deacon in the Melkite Greek Eparchy, a conservative Catholic Church. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, five talented children, and 13 beautiful grandchildren. Weyrich was 66 years old at the time of his death. We at LDI pray the God will fill the void left by the passing of this wonderful man.

## THE PRAYER PROJECT

Join us in daily prayer for the people who are active in the Pro-Abortion Movement and those who have not been strong in their claimed pro-life convictions:

*January*—**Booth Gardner**, former governor of the State of Washington, who led the campaign to legalize physician-assisted suicide in the beautiful state; *February*—avid Planned Parenthood supporter and Emmis Communications Corporation Chief Executive Officer **Jeffrey Smulyan**; *March*—satirist and anti-Christian zealot **William "Bill" Maher, Jr.**; *April*—**Gene Simmons**, Planned Parenthood advocate, "reality show" star ("Gene Simmons Family Jewels" on the A&E Network, which is owned by boycott target The Hearst Corporation), anti-Christian activist, and co-founder of the now defunct heavy-metal band, KISS; *May*—First Lady and pro-abortion advocate **Michelle LaVaughn Robinson Obama**; and *June*—Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives **Nancy Patricia D'Alesandro Pelosi**, D-Calif.

## IN YOUR OWN WORDS

LDI 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!

### A Request We Are Happy To Grant

I want to thank you for the latest *Caleb Report*. It arrived just a few days ago after the United States elections. The recent election results were devastating for all the people that believe in the sanctity of life. The political party that supports abortion, embryonic stem cell research, The Freedom of Choice Act and Planned Parenthood won most of the elections. Ballot measures to limit or challenge abortion were defeated in California, Colorado and South Dakota. Planned Parenthood played a critical role and spent vast sums of money to defeat these state ballot measures. During this stressful time, it is important for everyone to come together in prayer and keep our faith in God. Could you please ask everyone that receives The Caleb Report to come together in prayer and ask God to help us stop Planned Parenthood and end abortions?

God please bless everyone at Life Decisions International and help us end abortion forever.

- Steven J. Walsh

### "Child Sacrifice For Prosperity"

I wanted to send a big thank you to all the people at LDI for their great work. Not only have you done excellent research, but you have not turned to the right or to the left in your ministry, unlike virtually every other "pro-life ministry" left in America today. Clearly, you are not making decisions based on your fears of our corrupt government or society, but rather you are asking, "What does God think about this?"

I did have to share my amusement with the thoughts shared by the pro-abortion advocate, published in the November-December 2008 edition of *The Caleb Report*. Poor Cindy, who has been assimilated into a mindless culture, unfortunately was not able to communicate here

thoughts in a coherent way. Perhaps she didn't have any propaganda near her when she wrote the letter. I thought it appropriate to translate her rhetoric. Here goes:

"I want to let you know that this list is being used against you. I don't pay much attention, but trust your judgment...I enjoy my selfishness and am hell bent on my own destruction. I desire for PP [Planned Parenthood] to continue in their destruction of others (because it justifies *my* selfishness). I have no concept of historical context and therefore believe that I live in a modern age where child sacrifice for prosperity has been replaced by child sacrifice for prosperity. I also have been told, by a very reputable source, that I live in an age of freedom, where women have been freed from the love and interdependence of their families. I believe that you will be surprised by knowing that a rebellious woman can use something for evil."

No, Cindy, I think you did was get a pile of people to pray for you (and your children). Now I need to go tend to my children. I have five, and if the next 20 years are as fertile as the previous ten, I should hope to have 15, all of whom will thank God for LDI.

- Violet Stephens

### Halleluiah!

I just want to let you know that I had given your brochures and some other material to a neighbor who likes Planned Parenthood. She had no idea what the group was really like and now she's against them. Thank you for producing such quality material that I can be proud and confident to share! Halleluiah!

- Tina Jean French

## PRO-ABORTION BILLBOARD



A storage company's billboard in New York City raised the ire of several community groups with its reference to abortion, but Manhattan Mini Storage, which is responsible for the advertisement, has refused to back down. The advertisement features a picture of a coat hanger

and the words, "Your closet space is shrinking as fast as her right to choose."

"These billboards, we think they're absolutely disgusting," said Kiera McCaffrey of the Catholic League told WCBS. Catholic League President Bill Donohue also spoke out against the billboard:

Those who like this billboard would no doubt be aghast at the sight of a billboard that featured a bloody baby who survived a botched abortion. They would be even more incensed if the picture were accompanied by the remark, "This is what happens when abortion fails."

Robert Peters, president of Morality in Media, told the *New York Sun* that he did not know why the company would want to turn away a significant number of potential customers, such as immigrants from more conservative cultures.

The founder of the public relations firm Flatiron Communications, Peter Himler, said that had he been consulted about the advertising campaign, he would have advised against using the reference to abortion. He said the issue is too divisive to promote a client's commercial interest. Himler said he found the billboard "in poor taste and shortsighted." At the same time, he told the *Sun* that such advertising gets news coverage, which serves as free advertising for the company.

Not surprisingly, a spokesman for Planned Parenthood of New York City had a different opinion. "We think it's fabulous," Robert Rathman told the newspaper. "We salute Manhattan Mini Storage for helping to make New Yorkers as aware as we are of the growing restrictions on reproductive freedom in this country."

NARAL Pro-Choice America! spokesman Mary Alice Carr, said most New York City residents support legal abortion. She lauded the company for its willingness to wear "its pro-choice values on its sleeve—or on its building."

Abortion is not the only issue addressed on Manhattan Mini Storage billboards. Other slogans the company has used include:

- "Your closet's so narrow, it makes Cheney look liberal."
- "The Democrats Cleaned The House...Now It's Your Turn."
- "Your Closet's Scariest Than Bush's Agenda."

The *New York Post* polled New Yorkers on the matter. Nearly 61 percent said they would use the storage company, calling the advertisement "awesome and interesting." Six percent would not use the company's service, calling the ad "horrible and offensive." And 33 percent said the ad was "horrible and awesome," but it gets people talking. (The poll was done online and was not the least bit scientific.)

Manhattan Mini Storage is owned by Edison Properties LLC, a private, family-owned company based in New York City. The company also owns Edison FastPark, Workspace (business office space at various locations), and the properties at 1120 Avenue of the Americas (Hippodrome) and 5030 Broadway.

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