

CONNECTOR



LIFE ISSUES INSTITUTE, INC.
SERVING THE EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF THE PRO-LIFE MOVEMENT

The Girl Scouts

Promoting a pro-abortion agenda

By J. C. Willke, MD



Recently the Boy Scouts of America distanced itself from the Girl Scouts and entered into an agreement with American Heritage Girls to provide mutual support to one another.

The mission of Boy Scouts has always been to prepare young men to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Okay, but where are the Girl Scouts in this picture and who are American Heritage Girls?

American Heritage Girls was founded to offer faith-based leadership and character development programs to girls age five to eighteen. Its mission is to “build women of integrity through service to God, family, community and country.” The small all-girl unit within the American Heritage Girls troop structure provides a nurturing environment for learning and building positive relationships, character development and spiritual enrichment.

At this point you may be thinking this is what Girl Scouts have been doing. Well, the Girl Scout’s Executive Director, Marty Evans, has boasted, “We’re not your mother’s Girl Scout troop.” How true! Let’s take a closer look at why this is the case.

It is quite obvious that Boy Scouts are now considered a controversial group because they won’t allow homosexual troop leaders. You may also be thinking that the Girl Scouts aren’t controversial. These cute little girls who sell you cookies are all

sugar and spice and everything nice? Well, not if the current generation of Girl Scout leaders has anything to say about it. For they hope to make these little girls the “shock troops” of an ongoing feminist revolution.

Let’s look back on the history of Girl Scouts, for change has been slowing coming on for years. In 1972, they dropped loyalty to their country from their oath in favor of “I will do my best to be honest and fair.” In 1975 the first Catholic Archdiocese cut off all support for the Girl Scouts because of their sex-ed program.

During 1993, the Girl Scouts made “God” optional in the Girl Scout promise. “On my honor, I will try to serve God and my country, to help all people at all times, and to live by the Girl Scout law.” But the Scout manual notes that the word “God” can be interpreted in a number of ways depending on one’s spiritual beliefs. “When reciting the Girl Scout Promise, it is okay to replace the word God with whatever word your spiritual beliefs dictate.” Note that Boy Scouts have been sued over keeping God’s name obligatory in their oath.

Central to these changes has been achieving affirmative action for girls vis-a-vis boys. This mandates gender equality in sports and endorsement of affirmative action in “recruitment, hiring, training and promoting...” They are taught to support a decision to pull a life support system from a dying relative and (here it comes) given

information and justification for “ending a pregnancy.”

They still sell cookies, but here are some new badges to earn: “domestic violence awareness, stress management, girl power and decisions for your life” (teen pregnancy, etc.). Let’s note a few examples of these changes:

- In Pennsylvania, Junior Girl Scouts (age-12) can attend a workshop on puberty designed by Planned Parenthood to earn their “becoming a teen” badge.
- In Connecticut, Girl Scouts honored a Planned Parenthood official for promoting “healthy practices” in local troops.
- In Amarillo, TX, Girl Scouts have sponsored Planned Parenthood sex-ed seminars for 4th through 8th graders.

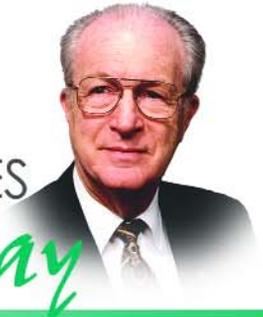
The following quotes indicate the Girl Scouts are abandoning their original foundation on biblical principles consisting of definite moral rights and wrongs:

- “You can rarely state that something is definitely right or wrong.” (See Exploring Spirituality—WAGGGS 2000)
- “There is no right way to live, look, talk, dress, eat, or act.” (See Brownie/Girl Scout Handbook—1993)
- “Our movement is secular and founded on American democratic principles,

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LIFE ISSUES *Today*



with J.C. Willke, MD

The Baby Boom is Over

It looks as though the recent mini-baby boom has crested and dropped back. Actual numbers look like this:

A developed nation needs 2.1 babies to be born per woman in her lifetime in order to maintain ZPG (zero population growth) that means neither climbing nor declining population. It was above that back in post-World War II, and that higher rate persisted during the 1950's and 1960's.

With the coming of abortion, however, in the early 1970's, it dropped to 1.8. Remember now, you need 2.1. It stayed in that general range, well below replacement level, until 1990 when it began to slowly climb and reached a peak of 2.08, just a shade under the number needed to simply replace those dying. That seems to have been a crest, for it is now dropping.

Why the mini-baby boom? Almost certainly, it was the women who had delayed child bearing and then, conscious of their biologic clocks ticking, they decided to have a child before it was too late. This raised the birth rate. But that phase is passing, and we're back down to a negative replacement level.

Now you've heard, though that a record 52 million students are enrolled in public and private elementary and secondary schools. You've heard talk about overcrowding in schools and building plans in others. Well, there are always relocations of people, with certain areas building up and others shrinking. However, the total number of children coming up to these schools will now be shrinking.

Why, then, is our population still growing? For two reasons, we have had a sharply increased number of immigrants in the last decade or two, and this alone pushes that number up to where, instead of a

shrinking population, we have a growing one.

The other big reason is the delaying of death. It used to be that a person in their 80's was a rather unusual survivor, and people in their 90's were written up in the newspaper. Now 80-year-olds are commonplace, and most of you know some in their 90's. The point is we're living longer and, as such, we still contribute to the total population.

Finally, one obvious comment, the birth dearth is very clearly being caused by abortion. About 4 million babies are born every year, but 1.2 million more are killed. If and when we could stop the slaughter, then our birth dearth would not exist.

Demographer Ben Wattenberg, who is pro-abortion, summed it up by saying, "American fertility—perhaps the single most important long-term social indicator we have—is back down in a ditch, moving toward the potentially catastrophic European-style pattern."

He tells us that this will in the future have a major impact on American society. Because of the low birth rate, businessmen will have fewer customers, schools fewer students, our armed forces fewer recruits. There will be fewer and fewer taxpayers to support aging baby-boomers who had hoped to retire someday.

His answer to Social Security? "You don't put in dollars, you put in babies."

Scarcity

Let's talk more about population. We've been told a great many frightening stories that over-population is causing raw materials to disappear; there won't be enough oil left; we're turning forests into

wastelands—and it goes on and on.

But do understand. The only real measure of whether a specific commodity is becoming less scarce—that is, less difficult to obtain, or more scarce and harder to get—is what you pay for it. Now we can't measure these figures in dollars because dollars keep getting cheaper. One way we can measure them, that is steady, is how long a person would have to work in order to earn that kind of a reward.

Not too many years ago the economist Julian Simon made a bet with Paul Ehrlich, the author of *Population Bomb*. Ehrlich has been the source of many of these frightening stories and continues to predict that there are too many people, and we're all going to starve.

Their bet depended upon whether the prices of any of five major resources, such as copper and oil, would rise or fall in a given period of time. This would indicate whether we *were* running out of that commodity or whether there was more of it available. Ehrlich said we would run out. Simon said there'd be more. Ten years went by. The result? The prices of all of them had fallen in terms of real value. Simon collected his bet. This showed that everything had become less scarce.

You see, whenever a particular material resource—be that a mineral from the ground, a pool ball, rice, or whatever—becomes scarcer, what happens? The price goes up. Humans are very creative, and certain inventive people will get around to inventing something to take advantage of that price rise. They'll search for further reserves, find alternative ways, and invent new things. And the end result? The scarcity disappears, the price drops, and we are all the better for it. 🌀

one of which is freedom of religion.” (See What We Stand For—2003)

Jim Sedlak of the organization Stop Planned Parenthood has stated that the Girl Scouts have said they would not take a position on abortion or birth control. That is the “official” position. However, many troops affiliate and work with Planned Parenthood, which is the largest provider of abortions in the United States. Further, their sex education programs are obviously aimed at young people and getting kids into sexual situations, which of course means more abortions for Planned Parenthood.

One of the initial controversies was quite revealing. A Girl Scout Council in Waco, Texas gave a “Woman of Distinction” award to the local chief of Planned Parenthood who runs an abortion chamber in Waco. The Waco, Texas area council then called for a boycott of the annual Girl Scout cookie sales and voted to end their partnership with Planned Parenthood

of Central Texas. The Girl Scout officials denied that they supported Planned Parenthood. However, the Girl Scouts Blue Bonnet Council had sponsored Planned Parenthood’s “Nobody’s Fool” teen and pre-teen educational events in the past. In 2003, Planned Parenthood announced in a “Nobody’s Fool” flyer that every child in 7th through 9th grade would go home with a free copy of the book, “It’s Perfectly Normal,” and 5th and 6th graders would be given a copy of “It’s So Amazing.” These books offered sympathetic treatment of abortion, masturbation and homosexuality. Pressure to stop this resulted in a firestorm of protests about the local Girl Scout and Planned Parenthood entanglement. As a result, a number of troops in the Waco and Houston areas disbanded or severed ties with National Girl Scouts. However, this remained relatively local and did not spread nationally at the time.

While the Girl Scouts claim neutrality on abortion, their website is clear. The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts promoted their participation in

a march advocating “sexual and reproductive [abortion] rights.” The participants demanded the following rights:

- All young people must have access to comprehensive sexuality education and sexual and reproductive [abortion] health services, including contraception and emergency contraception, in order to avoid unintended pregnancies.
- Accessible, affordable and safe abortions should be made part of the minimum packages of sexual and reproductive health services.

The World Association of Girl Scouts hosted a panel at the United Nations annual commission on the status of women. According to the Catholic Family and Human Rights Institute, the Girl Scouts

Many Girl Scout troops affiliate and work with Planned Parenthood, which is the largest provider of abortions in the US

allowed Planned Parenthood to distribute a booklet entitled, “Healthy, Happy and Hot.” Much of it was too sexually explicit to print in this article. It purports to be a sex guide, advocating every imaginable kind of sexual activity stating, “There is no right or wrong way to have sex. Just have fun, explore and be yourself.” Clearly, nothing is off limits, even for children below the age of consent.

Regis Nicoll, in an article on Charles Colson’s Breakpoint website, states, “Planned Parenthood is a welcomed guest in 20% of the Girl Scout Councils nationwide.” During such events, the attendees are given the “It’s Perfectly Normal” book. Planned Parenthood believes that sexual activity of any kind is a human right at any age. It is never too early to start.

The Boy Scouts went to the US Supreme Court to fight attempts by homosexuals to assume leadership positions in Boy Scout organizations. Sadly, the Girl Scouts did not welcome a similar guideline. In one of the scouting books, there are coming-of-age stories such as an essay entitled,

“All I really needed to know about being a lesbian I learned at Girl Scout Camp.”

And then there is the Covenant of the Goddess. This is a Wiccan “witch” website that describes their awards program. There is an Over the Moon Award, age 8 to 11, and a Heart and Crescent Award, age 12 to 18. These are offered to “any young person who is a member of any nature-oriented religion (Wicca, Druid, Asatru, etc.) These award patches are to be worn on the Girl Scout uniform.

In the last two years, the Girl Scouts have launched a new leadership program. It purports to take the Girl Scouts on a series of “age specific” journeys, culminating with senior scouts becoming ambassadors to “change the world for the global good.”

Has Girl Scouting been captured and brain-washed by New Age theorist? No, it has not been captured; its leadership has voluntarily surrendered. This venture in moral relevance began 40 years ago when the Girl Scout laws went from a standard of clear cut absolutes to a series of suggestions which began with “I will do my best to...” and then made the word “God” an option in the pledge. Now it may well be that a continuing flow of the membership will do the same.

So if you think that your 12-year-old daughter, who joined the Scouts to go hiking, collect leaves, make candles and to do bird-watching is in safe hands, it may be time to for you to investigate what your Girl Scout troop and council are doing. We certainly should emphasize that there are

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1821 W. Galbraith Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45239

Phone: 513.729.3600

E-mail: info@lifeissues.org · www.lifeissues.org

President & Publisher

J.C. Willke, MD

Editor in Chief

Bradley Mattes

Design

Andrew W. Mellish

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hundreds of troops that still observe the traditional family-centered, God-centered practices of the original Girl Scouts. But they are now fewer and fewer, for the philosophy coming down from national is spreading. In the meantime, please understand there are almost four million Girl Scouts, each of whom pay a yearly membership fee directly to the national office. In 2009 alone, this brought in over \$32,518,000 to its national treasury. Several years ago, the National Catholic Registrar noted that there are still some Christian people in its leadership but, “we are outnumbered. The feminists have been infiltrating for too long. We should have started fighting back years ago.”

American Heritage Girls

An alternative does exist. In a response to the radical left capture of the leadership of the Girl Scouts of America, Patti Garibay, a former Girl Scout leader, founded the national American Heritage Girls in 1995 in Cincinnati. It has 300 troops in 38 states, with over 12,000 members and a presence in 3 countries. Its program includes the Judeo-Christian values that our countries were founded on. It strives to enhance the girl’s life experiences with fun-filled activities supervised by trained adults, supported by family members and to do all the things that Girl Scouting was originally founded to do. As noted above: In the National Girl Scout

Promise it reads, “I will try to serve God,*” God now has an asterisk indicating that you can interpret this word any way you wish and substitute it with any other word. Patti Garibay says, “God in our lives is not optional. We believe that character-building programs for youth, such as scouting, demand a moral compass. Our scouting programs are based on a philosophical basis of biblical truths and a continued commitment to assist girls as they grow in their relationship with Christ.” American Heritage Girls takes this oath: I promise to love God. Cherish my family. Honor my country. And serve in my community.

For more information on this alternative to Girl Scouts, contact: American Heritage Girls, 175 Tri-County Parkway, Suite 100, Cincinnati, OH 45246. www.ahgonline.org or 513.771.2025

A Word from Dr. James Dobson

I would like to offer an alternative to Girl Scouts of the USA which I can no longer recommend to parents. That organization has changed radically since 1993 when it began making references to God “optional” and marking the word with an asterisk. Then came mandates against Christmas caroling, praying at meetings and singing hymns. Now we see a surge toward the left that is deeply disturbing to many Christian parents.

For example as part of Girl Scouts United States of America, A Maze Program

for middle school scouts, the girls read a quote from Buddha and are encouraged to explore mazes and stone or dirt labyrinths—symbols rooted in pagan mythology and the New Age movement. They are used as meditation tools along with “transformation circles.” Eastern mysticism through Zen Gardens and Buddhist writings are part of the curriculum. Moral relativism is evident throughout, which teaches that ethical issues are up to the individual. GSUSA’s definition of right and wrong includes the statement “whatever is consistent with your character.” The curriculum has a strong, anti-boy tone. Boys are mentioned only in negative situations. There is minimal emphasis on mother, father or family. Girls are not taught pride of country. The United States is depicted as antiquated and incompatible with globalism. One program involves girls in the United Nations Population Fund. Translated that amounts to a massive effort to limit human procreation by means of abortion.

Many of the female role models lauded by GSUSA are radical feminists, lesbians, existentialists or Communists, including the former chairwoman of the American Communist Party. There is much more to disturb parents including a consistent infusion of lesbian and homosexual propaganda. In short the organization has been “captured” by advocates of an extreme leftist ideology that is now being force-fed to millions of vulnerable girls. Its board of directors and many troop leaders are intent on converting every girl from the youngest Daisy to a mature Ambassador into an “agent of change” who is programmed to implement an extreme international agenda. The media has kept this transformation a secret for more than a decade but it is information that all parents should know.

Dr. Dobson goes on to enthusiastically recommend American Heritage Girls as an alternative organization. 

[Click here for documentation on this article.](#)



PRO-LIFE TELEVISION WINS PRESTIGIOUS EMMY® AWARD

Facing Life Head-On is now in its fifth season, but from the very beginning it gained a reputation for compelling pro-life messages and quality production. Now the TV program has achieved national acclaim by winning a regional Emmy® Award. The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences presented *Facing Life Head-On* with the Emmy® statue at a black tie awards ceremony for being the "best of the best" in the category of Interview and Discussion. While accepting the award, Brad Mattes, host and executive producer, thanked his television guests for being an inspiration to their viewers. He dedicated the award to the men and women in Afghanistan and Iraq who risk their lives and sometimes die to defend the freedoms we hold dear.

Facing Life Head-On airs on various networks, giving it access to over 100 million households. Viewers are also able to watch online. Each week Brad covers topics that promote thought-provoking awareness on the life issues. He takes you inside the homes and workplaces of guests who daily demonstrate they are facing life head-on. Covering topics as diverse as adoption, disabilities, abortion, stem cell treatments, medical technologies, and end-of-life care, there's no other program like it. *Facing Life Head-On* is filled with passion, personality and life, and fuses education with entertainment to promote the value of life at all stages.

The program has been credited with changing countless hearts and minds on abortion and related life issues. Many women have contacted the program to say it has greatly impacted their lives and the way they view the abortion issue. Others have contacted us to say it's changed their minds about having an abortion or has given them the courage to choose life for their unborn babies during difficult pregnancies.

Facing Life Head-On has also created international awareness of critical, life-saving organizations and individuals that have been featured on the program. As a result of this widespread exposure, they have been able to impact many more lives.

Last year, *Facing Life Head-On* was the recipient of two other prestigious awards: A Telly Award which honors the best



Dylan Cahall (Editor), Brad Mattes (Host and Executive Producer) and John Colmar (President of ZoneCG, accepting for producer, Rachel Reeves)

in local, regional and cable television programs, as well as the finest video and film production and work created for the Internet. Today, the Telly is one of the most sought-after awards by industry leaders, from large international firms to local production companies and ad agencies. More than 11,000 entries were received for the 30th Annual Telly Awards.

The Accolade Award of Excellence is an internationally respected award which recognizes film, television and videography professionals who demonstrate exceptional achievement in craft and creativity and those who produce standout entertainment.

Find out how you can watch *Facing Life Head-On* by visiting our website at: www.facinglife.tv. You can also view a photo gallery of the Emmy® Award night, as well as watch the program that received this honor. 🌀

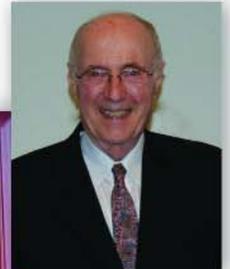
HONORING TWO LONGTIME BOARD MEMBERS

Life Issues Institute had the recent privilege of honoring two longstanding Board Members upon their retirement from the board: Donald P. Klekamp and William Butterfield. For 19 years of service on the board of directors they have been instrumental in assisting Life Issues Institute since its founding in 1991. Mr. Klekamp and Mr. Butterfield were both presented with plaques from the staff and board of Life Issues Institute, commemorating their significant investment in the protection of innocent human life.

The staff and board of Life Issues Institute hereby express their heartfelt appreciation and love in recognition of 19 years of dedicated service to America's unborn babies. Thank you and may God bless you!



Raymond Clark (board member), Dr. and Mrs. Willke, Marianne and Donald Klekamp and Bradley Mattes



William Butterfield

Changes with the Life Issues Institute Staff



Andrew W. Mellish has moved into the position of Director for Advancement Services. In this role he will oversee all aspects of fundraising and donor relations for Life Issues Institute. He joined the Life Issues Institute team in January 2004 and has served as both the Communication Specialist and Administrative Manager for the international headquarters in Cincinnati, OH. Mr. Mellish holds multiple degrees from Cedarville University and has deep roots in the Cincinnati region. Contact him: andrew.mellish@lifeissues.org

Jessica Powell has been part of Life Issues Institute since November 2004 when she was hired as our Information Technology Specialist. We are happy to announce the birth of Liya Elizabeth Powell, Jessica and Jason's first child, born September 2, 2010. Jessica has decided to be a full-time stay-at-home mother. Although we will miss Jessica on our work team, we rejoice in the birth of baby Liya!



Trey Borland is replacing Jessica Powell on our staff as the Information Technology Specialist. Trey is a recent graduate of Xavier University. He is a welcome addition to our pro-life family.





NEW YORK CITY ABORTION DOULAS

New York City has a reputation for the unusual. Now it's given birth to the idea of "abortion doulas." The ironic choice of words was intentional. Lauren Mitchell and her colleagues, Mary Mahoney and Miriam Perez, have formed what they call the Doula Project operating from two Manhattan abortion mills, one specializing in late-term abortions.

Doula comes from a Greek word meaning a female caregiver. A modern-day doula provides non-medical assistance before, during and after childbirth. Her goal is to see to the physical and emotional needs of both mother and child. This could include pre-birth advice on parenting, massages during labor and even help taking care of the child and household chores after delivery. If Mitchell et.al. get their way, the positive, life-affirming reputation of doulas could be tainted by abortion—teaching to coach mothers not in the birth, but killing of their children.

Originally dubbed the Abortion Doula Project, the word "abortion" was likely dropped to appeal to more potential customers who may be put off by killing unborn babies, but are in need of legitimate doula services.

Abortion doulas are paid for their macabre services or may act as volunteers. Internet accounts from most abortion doulas reflect involvement with late-term abortion procedures. After reading several of these, I'm led to believe their primary role is public relations and damage control. One could legitimately surmise that their goal is to keep the woman from focusing on the reality of the procedure and becoming an emotional wreck.

Lauren Mitchell was with a woman who could see the ultrasound image of her unborn child about to be killed by a

lethal injection. Mitchell's role was to essentially be a visual buffer hiding the reality of this mother's action. The mother turned her head and buried her face in Mitchell's arms.

A key function of the abortion doula is to reinforce the mother's decision to abort. They claim their services are needed to provide "extra reassurance" to the teen who's having an abortion without the knowledge of her parents, or for the woman who's hiding her pregnancy from the father of the baby. Instead of enabling these women to abort in secret, these key members of their families *should* be involved in this permanent, life-changing decision. Laura G. Duncan, an abortion doula from Brooklyn, admitted there's an "incredible [amount of] shame and stigma surrounding abortion." Obviously they feel it's their calling to free pregnant women from these obstacles to "choice." But where will these abortion helpers be when days, months or years later, these hurting mothers are faced with an inescapable sense of loss, depression and regret?

An article posted on *Women's eNews* reported that abortionists can do 30 abortions a day "in an assembly-line fashion" with little time to offer critical counseling. Sadly, personal attention, such as holding their hand, hot water bottles and foot rubs aren't what these women require most. They need someone to look them in the eyes and say, "You don't have to kill your unborn child. There are other life-affirming choices that both you and your baby can live with." This type of care and compassion for women facing an

unexpected pregnancy is desperately more important than a warm blanket.

The so-called abortion doulas are getting pushback not only from legitimate pro-life doulas. They're receiving flack from their own side. Some fellow pro-abortion activists are furious these women would even acknowledge the negatives of abortion. They've spent decades claiming that terminating pregnancies does not bring

It would be all too convenient to mobilize a network of abortion doulas to expand the workforce of this killing industry

difficult, painful or troubling consequences. Promoting this service is the ultimate admission they were wrong.

This latest scheme by supporters of the abortion industry is a thinly veiled attempt to mainstream abortion by blurring the line between the act of bringing a child into the world and intentionally killing them. Mary Mahoney admitted that their goal is to train abortion doulas throughout the nation. I would expect them to attempt using abortion doulas as a platform to expand the shrinking number of abortionists in America. Pro-abortion activists have already advocated allowing nurses to perform abortions, particularly chemical abortions. It would be all too convenient to mobilize a network of abortion doulas to expand the workforce of this killing industry.

In the past, women have had to inquire if their OB/GYN did abortions. Now we may be coming to an era when women will have to ask the same question of their doulas. 🌀



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It's not enough to simply believe life is a precious gift.

Vote like life depends on it.

It does!



Vote Pro-life November 2nd