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Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from god, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

1 Corinthians 6:19, 20

## From The President's Desk

The following material appeared in National Review (January 27, 2003). Read it carefully and I'll make a few comments anon.

“In October, the Indigo Girls played to a sold-out stadium at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich., a school that ‘pledge[s] fidelity to Jesus Christ,’ and whose faculty and students almost all belong to an evangelical strain of the Reformed church. For anyone who has ever listened to the folk-rock group in question, the situation will seem ripe for parody. In one of their more popular numbers released a few years ago, ‘Shame on You,’ the Indigo Girls sing of a friend who tells them, ‘Me and Jesus, we’re of the same heart. The only thing that keeps us distant is that I keep f\*\*\*in’ up.’ But there’s something else that usually keeps this singing duo distant from conservative-Christian venues: Besides supporting leftist causes from the Zapatista rebels to Leonard Peltier, the Indigo Girls are two of the most visible and outspoken lesbians in popular culture today.

“In order to deal with the apparent incongruity of its hosting these particular performers, Calvin organized a campus discussion on the Indigo Girls’ outlook and what Christian students should make of it. Though the panel of three professors didn’t exactly play to a sold-out house, the principle behind the combination of the concert and the panel—that students at

Christian colleges should be exposed to ‘the best’ that secular culture has to offer, but should be assisted in subjecting it to critical examination through the lens of their faith—merits consideration. As Calvin’s student-activities director, Ken Heffner, explained in the campus paper, ‘cultural discernment’ (as the administration likes to refer to the policy) means that ‘Calvin College finds a way for Christians to engage with culture without becoming of it.... It’s a way out of the trap of liberalism, which leads to no more salt-and-light [referring to Jesus’ words to the apostles to be ‘the salt of the earth’ and ‘a light of the world’], and it’s also a way out of the trap of fundamentalism, which leads to separatism.’”

Now this summary of events at Calvin College is supposed to assure parents that if they send their son or daughter off to Calvin they will have professors there to assure them that leftist causes are not our agenda and lesbianism is an unbiblical sexual lifestyle and should be avoided.

I don’t believe this for one minute. My guess is that the professors and certainly the Calvin Chimes newspaper will more than endorse any amount of leftist causes and either advocate the lesbian lifestyle or figure out a way to fuzz up the issue. The last time I spoke at Calvin the homosexual influence was very prevalent. I would be surprised if that has changed since then. If I’m wrong, however, and I hear from Calvin, I’ll pass that info along. Until then don’t hold your breath.

In the meantime, if you can wink at some higher critical hermeneutics (J.E.P.D.et.al.) Robert A.J. Gagnon’s *The Bible and Homosexual Practice: Tests and Hermeneutics* is a powerful case against homosexuality. Homosexual activity (male and female) is an insult to the Creator.

Would any professor or administrator at Calvin agree with Gagnon’s work? I seriously doubt it!! He will be painted as a liberal fundamentalist! And if any one thinks that the Calvin Chimes will review it favorably...well ice has a better chance in gehenna.



Month In Review



Q “All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power.

“Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For ‘the two,’ He says ‘shall become one flesh.’ But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him.

“Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.”

—1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Q “The sins of the flesh are bad, but they are the least bad of all sin. All the worst pleasures are purely spiritual: the pleasure of putting other people in the wrong, of bossing and patronizing and spoiling sport, and back-biting; the pleasure of power, of hatred. For there are two things inside me, competing with the human self which I must try to become. They are the Animal self, and the Diabolical self. The Diabolical self is the worse of the two. that is why a cold self-righteous prig who goes regularly to church may be far nearer to hell than a prostitute. But, of course, it is better to be neither.”

—C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity

Q “Now the whole offer which Christianity makes is this: that we can, if we let God have His way, come to share in the life of Christ. If we do, we shall then be sharing a life which was begotten, not made, which always has existed and always will exist. Christ is the Son of God. If we share in this kind of life we also shall be sons of God. We shall love the Father as He does and the Holy Ghost will arise in us. He came to this world and became a man in order to spread to other men the kind of life He has—by what I call ‘good infection.’ Every Christian is to become a little Christ. The whole purpose of becoming a Christian is simply nothing else.”

—C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

Q “We are not ‘so grossly ignorant of human nature as not to know that precept may be very sincere where practice is very imperfect.’”

—C.S. Lewis, *Preface to Paradise Lost*

Q “A scorpion asked a beaver to take him, across the river on his back. ‘Are you insane?’ asked the beaver. ‘While I’m swimming you’ll sting me and then I’ll drown.’

“ ‘Oh, come now,’ laughed the scorpion. ‘Why would I sting you? Then I’d drown too. Come on. Be logical.’

“ ‘That makes sense,’ said the beaver. ‘Hop on and off we’ll go.’ The scorpion climbed on the beaver’s back, but halfway across the river he gave the poor trusting beaver a mighty sting. As they both sank to the bottom, the beaver asked, ‘Why did you do such a wicked thing? You said yourself there would be no logic in you stinging me. Why then did you do it?’

“ ‘Logic has nothing to do with it,’ sighed the scorpion. ‘It’s just my nature.’”

Q “In his journals, the Romanian writer Mihail Sebastian, who during the Nazi occupation of his country had to earn his living by teaching, notes that ‘neither my students nor my “colleagues” have taught me anything new.’ In a strict sense, I have to say the same, at least about my students. They taught me nothing. What they did do, though, was remind me of the surprise of human possibility. I have taught courses that, so low was the intellectual voltage in the room, I felt the dismaying truth of W.H. Auden’s remark that a professor is someone ‘who talks in other people’s sleep.’ Today’s professors nevertheless seem to believe that their students are possessed of some special ignorance: ‘I asked the class what event marked the end of Communism, and one of them said, “The destruction of the Berlin Mall.” ’ ”

—Joseph Epstein, *Commentary* magazine, February 2003

Q “It is a paradox of our time that, just as the ideologies of atheism are losing their

stranglehold on humanity and religion is reasserting its claim to be the decisive factor in our destiny, the legacy of secularization has left most people helpless to understand what is happening or why. An observant Jew or a practicing Christian in North America or Western Europe at the dawn of the 21st century is a one-man rebellion against the most dominant, the most ubiquitous, and the most profane culture the world has ever known. To live according to the Law of Moses, or to bear witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, is to court hostility, ostracism, or ridicule in those places, preeminently the universities but also in every other advanced institution—including many churches and synagogues—where cultural standards are promulgated and transmitted.”

—Daniel Johnson, *Commentary* magazine, February 2003

Q “To commit our children to the care of irreligious people is to commit lambs to the superintendency of wolves.”

—Timothy Dwight, President of Yale, 1795-1817

Q “Men won’t commit to marriage because they enjoy a sexually active single life in a social climate that doesn’t push them to marry, a new report says.

“Young men are indeed ‘commitment phobic,’ which is bad news for young women who want to build a family before they get too old, said researchers Barbara Dafoe Whitehead and David Popenoe, who run the National Marriage Project at Rutgers University.

“ ‘The median age of first marriage for men has reached 27, the oldest age in our nation’s history,’ Mr. Popenoe said.

“ ‘If this trend of men waiting to marry continues, it is likely to clash with the timing of marriage and childbearing for the many young women who hope to marry and bear children before they begin to face problems associated with declining fertility,’ he said.

“There are several specific reasons why young men are avoiding marriage, Mr. Popenoe and Mrs. Whitehead said yesterday in their 2002 State of Our Unions report, titled, ‘Why Men Won’t Commit: Exploring Young Men’s Attitudes About Sex, Dating and Marriage.’

“The report is based on interviews with 60 single men, 25 to 33, who live in four parts of the country.

“Primarily, young men are enjoying a sexually active single life—often with a live-in girlfriend—and ‘are in no hurry’ to marry, the researchers said.

“ ‘I’ll know when I’m ready,’ and ‘Whatever happens, happens,’ were typical responses by the men.

“The researchers also found that young men are often wary of marriage because of worries that they will marry the wrong person, be forced to make too many compromises or take on too many burdens as a husband, or suffer huge losses if the marriage ends in divorce.

“An ex-wife will ‘take you for all you’ve got’ and ‘men have more to lose financially than women’ were common refrains.

“What young men aren’t worried about is a personal, biological deadline to have children, Mrs. Whitehead said.

“ ‘Men see marriage as the final step in a prolonged process of growing up,’ with children coming along in due time, she said. This isn’t true for young women, she said, but young men ‘don’t have much sympathy’ for women’s fertility problems. ‘As one man put it, “That’s their issue.”’

“Women, meanwhile, have been reminded that their biological clocks are ticking.

“In April, Time magazine, ran a cover article on how women’s fertility declines much earlier—after age 27—and much faster than most people realize.

“A woman’s ability to get pregnant drops considerably after age 35, and by age 40 half her eggs are chromosomally abnormal, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. More than 9 million women used infertility services in 1995, the CDC said.

“ ‘Advancing age decreases your ability to have children,’ the American Society for Reproductive Medicine says in a public-service poster, which uses an hourglass-shaped baby bottle with sand to illustrate its point.

“Already the median age of first marriage for women has risen to 25, after floating between 22 and 23 for the century between 1890 and 1990, Mrs. Whitehead said.

“Traditional social forces, such as the family, religion and the workplace, used to pressure men toward marriage, but that is no longer the case, she said.

“With the relaxation of social pressure, coupled with general silence about unmarried couples

living together, ‘men can relax their timetable indefinitely,’ she said.”

—Cheryl Wetystein, *The Washington Times*, June 26, 2002, p. 1

Q “Has no one noticed, is it not permissible to notice in our pluralistic, multicultural world, that there is a common feature of all the terrorist assaults on Israel, on New York, on a nightclub in Indonesia, on churches in Nigeria, on Christians and adherents of folk religions in the Sudan? It is Islam.

“Surely it is not all of Islam, of Islam as a religion. Or so we say. Perhaps it is not. We do not want a ‘clash of civilizations,’ war between the adherents of one great world religion and what remains of Christendom, which naming Islam as the enemy would bring about. Even though the churches may be all but moribund in Europe and strangely weakened in the United States, we are Christians in the eyes of the Muslims, and they do not like what they see. In a sense even the small number of Jews among us are seen as Christians with our persistent support of the small State of Israel. It is not our freedom, our democracy then, but rather our decadence, our idle wealth, our social and political corruption, the ease with which we accommodate ourselves to the most destructive trends in art, in society, in life.

“And is it not our blindness? We repeatedly refer to Islam as a ‘religion of peace,’ as President Bush did again in addressing Muslim leaders in the United States at the beginning of Ramadan. A religion of peace that suppresses Christianity and other religions when it has the power, that fosters bloody conflicts wherever it is present? May it be so; would that it were so! However, saying it will not make it so, no matter how often we repeat that pious wish. After violence erupted in Lagos, Nigeria, when a newspaper made an unwise remark about Mohammed, the leading imam accepted the apologies repeatedly offered by the writer, but he did not apologize for the death and destruction caused by his enraged fellow Muslims. ‘We take our religion seriously,’ he said, ‘and you must recognize that.’ Indeed we must. We do not take our own religions seriously, at least not seriously enough to think that they could really be the target of persistent and bloody hostility on the part of another.

“It is not necessary that all this must end in a hideous and frightful Armageddon, the end of our twenty-first-century sensate culture. Dangers unrecognized cannot be conquered. Islam may indeed reveal itself as a religion of peace in our new century; may it be so. But it will not be made so by our repeated declarations.”

—Harold O.J. Brown, *The Religion & Society Report*, January 2003

Q “In the current debate about reinstating a military draft, Americans have been misled by myths posing as arguments.

“The clear implication is that poor kids who ‘can’t afford college’ and minorities ‘who have no options in life’ are manning the front lines while their paler brat counterparts are gearing up for frat parties and shelling out daddy’s dough at tanning salons.

“First, let’s dispel the poor kids ‘n colleges myth. As both a native Floridian and the mother of a high school senior, I can say with some confidence that it is easier to avoid mosquitoes in a swamp than it is to avoid college if you’ve made good grades and gotten through high school without a felony conviction.

□ “Financial aid offices don’t look for qualified candidates—they hunt them. If you’re academically qualified, you can go to college.

“If you’re both academically qualified and African-American, you can often go quickly and free. If you can claim American Indian ancestry—or have a last name that suggests you’ve never been near a white male of European descent—you can let your dog eat the application and hang your book bag from the ivy-covered tower of your choice.

“Look for the white boys, meanwhile, to be dodging mustachioed Saddam clones on Baghdad Square.

“The fact is, the majority of high-risk military jobs are filled by whites, according to a new 11-page Pentagon report released Monday.

“While blacks make up 20 percent of enlistees, compared to only 12 percent to 14 percent of the recruit-age population, they make up just 15 percent of the combat force. Otherwise, blacks fill 36 percent of support and administration jobs, as well as 27 percent of medical and dental positions.

“Another report by the Defense Department and the Center for Naval Analysis looked at figures from the Vietnam War and subsequent conflicts and found that blacks constituted about 12 percent to 13 percent of all Americans killed, a figure proportionate to the black civilian population.

“A quick glance at other risk-related statistics suggests that young black males are far safer in the military, even during wartime, than they are in civilian life. Recent figures from the Children’s Defense Fund, for example, show that homicide is the leading cause of death among black males ages 15 to 24; the firearm death rate for black males 15 to 19 is four times that of white males the same age.



“In 1999, gunfire killed 3,365 children and teens—more than 38 percent of them black. Meanwhile, black males ages 15 to 19 are murdered at a rate more than seven times that of white males in the same age group.”

—Kathleen Parker, *The [Colorado Springs] Gazette*, January 15, 2003

Q “The commutation of the sentences of more than 160 inmates on Illinois’ death row by Republican Gov. George Ryan just two days before he left office is a miscarriage of justice. That a few of the inmates were wrongly convicted is not a sufficient reason to abolish the death penalty as society’s ultimate weapon to punish convicted murderers. The flaws can be fixed without eliminating the death penalty.

“Incoming Democratic Gov. Rod Blagojevich was right when he called Ryan’s blanket clemency ‘a big mistake.’ Blagojevich said these cases should have been considered individually, because, ‘You’re talking about people who have committed murder.’

“Among those spared a death sentence are a man and woman who murdered a pregnant woman, her 10-year-old daughter and 7-year-old son. They also cut the baby, who survived, from the woman’s womb. If the notion of ‘just deserts’ ever matters, it should matter in this case. Depriving people of liberty who have deprived others of their right to live is not equal justice under the law.

“Four of those spared were pardoned. Cook Country State’s Attorney Dick Devine said their cases should have been decided by the courts.

“Groups opposed to the death penalty want to convince the public that the state is executing innocent people who might be exonerated if there was more time to investigate their cases. This sounds reasonable until the facts are examined.

“Death-penalty opponents claim there is a 68 percent ‘error rate’ in capital cases. They base this on a study by Columbia University Law School, whose lead author, Prof. James Liebman, opposes capital punishment. But as Paul G. Cassell, a University of Utah law professor, wrote in *The Wall Street Journal* on June 16, 2000: ‘The 68 percent factoid is quite deceptive. For starters, it has nothing to do with “wrong man” mistakes—that is, cases in which an innocent person is convicted for a murder he did not commit.’ Cassell notes that the most critical statistic is ignored: ‘After reviewing 23 years of capital cases the study’s authors (like other researchers) were unable to find a single case in which an innocent person was executed. Thus, the most important error rate—the rate of mistaken executions—is zero.’

“Death penalty opponents, like Ryan, frequently point to the number of murder convictions

overturned by appeals courts as evidence of the system's unfairness. A 1995 study by the Criminal Justice Legal Foundation looked at cases where the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit (a notoriously liberal court) overturned sentences based on disagreement with state courts over capital sentencing law, and where the Supreme Court ultimately resolved the disagreement. On all but one of a dozen issues, the state court decision upholding the sentence was judged correct, and the federal court decision finding 'error' was itself erroneous.

“Appealing courts that overturn the ruling of trial courts frequently impose an anti-death penalty bias and find ‘errors’ to justify their preferred outcome. Error rates cited by anti-death penalty forces should be seen in this context.

“When the Supreme Court allowed capital punishment to proceed after earlier ruling it unconstitutional, it said, ‘the decision that capital punishment may be the appropriate sanction in extreme cases is an expression of the community’s belief that certain crimes are themselves so grievous an affront to humanity that the only adequate response may be the penalty of death.’

“Injustices and inequities can and should be repaired. But two brothers who beat a sleeping couple to death with baseball bats and a father who tortured his mute, severely retarded and handicapped stepdaughter for five years until she died (these were among the death-row inmates whose sentences were commuted by Ryan) deserve to have their lives taken from them and not to be permanent ‘guests’ of the state and a burden to taxpayers for the rest of their lives.”

—Cal Thomas, The [Colorado Springs] Gazette, January 15, 2003, p. M6

Q “If further evidence were needed that much of the world is not yet with us in the war against terrorism, consider this: The rotating chairmanship of the United Nation’s Human Rights Commission is about to be awarded to Libya.

“Libya’s longtime dictator, Moammar Gadhafi, is of course a world champion human rights violator. For more than 30 years he has permitted no freedom of speech and no political dissension within Libya’s borders. He has been responsible for numerous acts of terrorism. To name just a few: In 1986, his agents blew up the La Belle Disco in Berlin killing two Americans and wounding dozens; his agents struck again in 1988, when they blew up Pan Am 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, killing 270; and, in 1989, his agents blew up a French airliner over the Sahara Desert, killing 170. In addition, he has trained, equipped and financed numerous terrorist groups around the world, including the IRA (Ireland), ETA (Spain) and several Palestinian terrorist organizations.

“And, despite the fact that Libya has been largely off the front pages in recent years, Libya is in no danger of losing its post on the State Department’s list of state sponsors of terrorism.

“In recent years, Col. Gadhafi has been implicated in weapons sales to the Revolutionary United Front, a guerilla group in Sierra Leone best known for hacking off the limbs of ordinary citizens to drive them from areas where ‘blood diamonds’ are found. These diamonds are the currency for supporting insurgents, coup plotters and even al Qaeda in Africa. Equally troubling, Col. Gadhafi is believed to have shipped weapons to nearby Liberia, another country in desperate shape. Destabilization appears to be part and parcel of Libya’s plans for the African continent.

“Col. Gadhafi’s evil intentions extend to his ongoing programs to develop weapons of mass destruction—including nuclear, chemical and biological weapons. Of these, Libya is thought to have made the most progress with chemical weapons and actually produced some at a plant located in the town of Rabta. It also has built a chemical weapons facility inside a mountain (to better resist bombing attacks) in the town of Tarhuna. While not a signatory of the Chemical Weapons Convention, Libya remains a signatory of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Biological Weapons Convention. Its research programs almost certainly constitute violations of those agreements.

“For such activities, Libya was slapped with international diplomatic, financial and trade sanctions in 1992. Despite U.S. objections, the sanctions were lifted in 1999, after Libya handed over two Lockerbie bombing suspects, low-level operatives, one of whom has been acquitted. Sanctions imposed by the United States unilaterally remain in place.

“And now, Libya assumes the chairmanship of the U.N. human Rights Commission, a body that claims to be dedicated to promoting the cause of civil liberties around the globe. This is occurring because, under U.S. rules, the panel’s chairmanship rotates annually and this year it is Africa’s turn, and Africa’s dictators have chosen Libya because Col. Gadhafi has been generous with them, though not in ways that have led to any noticeable rise in their citizen’s standards of living.

“Does U.N. Secretary-General and Nobel Peace Prize winner Kofi Annan have an opinion regarding Libya’s suitability for this honor and responsibility? If so, we’ve yet to hear it.”

—David Silverstein, *The Washington Times*, January 23, 2003, p. A 19

Q “A Christian student group is suing Rutgers University at New Brunswick, arguing that the school revoked the group’s recognition, blocked access to campus facilities and stripped

its funding because its leadership is selected on the basis of religious beliefs.

“The InterVarsity Christian Fellowship says the New Jersey university’s actions violated its local chapter’s freedom of speech and religion, according to a lawsuit filed last week in U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey.

“Fellowship members said the college revoked the group’s recognition in September because InterVarsity’s constitution does not comply with university guidelines on nondiscrimination, the lawsuit states. The university’s nondiscrimination policy requires student groups to be open to all students and that any active member must be eligible to run for office.

“Sandra Lanman, a Rutgers spokesman, said yesterday that university officials have not suspended or ‘de-recognized’ the group and ‘have made it clear to the group that it still has access to the same facilities.’

“However, she did confirm that the university has stopped funding because ‘the group is not willing to operate under the university’s nondiscrimination policy.’

“Although InterVarsity says it allows anyone to become a member, its charter states that only those ‘committed to the basis of faith and the purpose of this organization are eligible for leadership positions.’

“Unlike campus ministry groups, InterVarsity’s student group is subject to the Rutgers’ nondiscrimination policy because it is eligible for school funding.

“ ‘The issue is whether organizations can choose their own leadership,’ said David French, an attorney in Lexington, Ky., who represents InterVarsity. ‘There is no applicable New Jersey or federal law that can plausibly be read to constitutionally require the fellowship to open its leadership to those individuals who do not subscribe to the fellowship’s purpose statement or basis of faith.’

“InterVarsity, which has more than 34,000 members and is active on more than 560 campuses nationwide, operates a campus ministry group and a student group on the New Brunswick campus.

“The incident at Rutgers is one of several such confrontations at college campuses nationwide.”

—The Washington Times, January 7, 2003, p. A3

Q “What I celebrate as a source of pride and self-esteem is the fact that I have brown eyes. You say, ‘Williams, that goes to prove what we’ve been saying all along. You’re a lunatic. Is having brown eyes some kind of accomplishment?’ Such a response is proof positive that you’ve missed out on an important part of today’s college education.

“Diversity worship and multiculturalism are currency and cause for celebration at just about any college. If one is black, brown, yellow or white, the prevailing thought is that he should take pride and celebrate that fact even though, just as in the case of my eye color, he had nothing to do with it. The multiculturalist and diversity crowd see race as an achievement. In my book, race might be an achievement, worthy of considerable celebration, only if a person was both white and through his effort and diligence became black.

“For the multiculturalism/diversity crowd, culture, ideas, customs, arts and skills are a matter of racial membership where one has no more control over his culture than his race. That’s a racist idea, but it’s politically correct racism. It says that one’s convictions, character and values are not determined by personal judgment and choices but genetically determined. In other words, as yesteryear’s racists held: Race determines identity.

“The multiculturalists are right in saying that in a just society, people of all races and cultures should be equal in the eyes of the law. But their argument borders on idiocy when they argue that one culture cannot be judged superior to another and to do so is Eurocentrism. For them, different cultural values are morally equivalent. That’s unbridled nonsense. Ask your multiculturalist friends: Is forcible female genital mutilation, as practiced in nearly 30 sub-Saharan African and Middle Eastern countries, a morally equivalent cultural value? Slavery is practiced in Northern Sudan; is it morally equivalent? In most of the Middle East, there are numerous limits placed on women such as prohibitions on driving, employment and education. Under Islamic law, in some countries, women adulterers face death by stoning, and thieves face the punishment of having their hand severed. Are these cultural values morally equivalent, superior or inferior to ours?

“Western values are superior to all others. Why? The indispensable achievement of the West was the concept of individual rights. It’s the idea that individuals have certain inalienable rights, and individuals do not exist to serve government but governments exist to protect these inalienable rights. It took until the 17th century for that idea to arrive on the scene and mostly through the works of British philosophers such as John Locke and David Hume.

“While Western values are superior to all others, one need not be a Westerner to hold Western values. A person can be Chinese, Japanese, Jewish, African or Arab and hold Western values. It’s no accident that Western values of reason and individual rights have produced unprecedented health, life expectancy, wealth and comfort for the ordinary person. There’s an indisputable positive relationship between liberty and standards of living.

“Western values are by no means secure. They’re under ruthless attack by the academic elite on college campuses across America. These people want to replace personal liberty with government control; they want to replace equality with entitlement; they want to halt progress in the name of protecting the environment. As such, they pose a much greater threat to our way of life than any terrorist or rogue nation.

“Multiculturalism and diversity are a cancer on our society, and, ironically, with our tax dollars and charitable donations, we’re feeding it.”

—Walter Williams, *The Washington Times*, January 4, 2003, p. A 10

Q “The act of abortion has undermined our respect for life at every stage of existence, from the cradle to the grave, and has opened the door to cloning, infanticide, euthanasia and child abuse.

“Promoters of abortion continue to couch the issue primarily in political terms, rather than acknowledging the profound moral and ethical questions involved. Far too many pastors and laymen also hide behind that subterfuge. They tell us that a woman’s right to choose is the only consideration. Yet in reality, research reveals that an alarming number of women are coerced to have abortions by their husbands, boyfriends, parents and most notably, by abortion clinic ‘counselors.’ That should come as no surprise in light of revelations from former abortion clinic workers who have told us that the industry is driven entirely by a profit motive. Carol Everett, who owned and operated several Dallas area abortion centers in the late 70s and early 80s before joining the pro-life cause, has said that money—and not ‘women’s rights’—is the governing force behind the abortion movement. In an interview on the ‘Physicians for Life’ Web site, Mrs. Everett said. ‘I was getting a commission of \$25 for every abortion I “sold.” In 1983, the year I got out [of the abortion industry], I would have pocketed approximately \$250,000.’ Projections for the following year suggested that she would net \$1 million.

“Regardless of facts as these, pro-abortion groups have suggested that unlimited access to abortion saves the lives of women who would otherwise be endangered by illegal, ‘back alley’ abortion procedures. Many pro-abortion activists claim that between 5,000 and 10,000 women died each year as a result of back-alley abortions in the ‘dark ages’ before the procedure became legal. This is a lie told for 30 years by abortion supporters. In 1972, one year before the killing of babies was legalized, only 39 women died from illegal abortions. Even Dr. Bernard Nathanson, a founder of the National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL) who has since joined the pro-life ranks, admitted that frightening statistics such as these were completely fabricated.

“The truth is that abortion is far deadlier to women than childbirth; it is linked to a 30 to 50 percent increase in breast cancer; it is related to high rates of abuse, suicide and death; and it causes many women to suffer for the rest of their lives with the physical and emotional scars of Post Abortion Syndrome. And, most importantly, it is an affront to the great heart of the Creator.

“Couching the abortion debate as merely a ‘women’s issues’ also ignores the personhood of preborn children. Science has now given us decisive evidence that points to the worth and humanity of babies in the womb. An unborn child is genetically unique at fertilization; its heart begins to beat at 19 to 21 days after fertilization; by the sixth week the adrenal gland and thyroid are functioning; eight weeks after conception all body systems are present; and the baby’s fingerprints are beginning to form by the twelfth week. Medical advances in the past 30 years have given doctors the ability to observe the development of a baby from its earliest stages. Anyone who has seen photos of an embryonic child will testify to the emotional impact of such things.”

—Dr. James C. Dobson, Family News, January 2003