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While they promise them liberty, they themselves are slaves of corruption; for by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is brought into bondage.

2 Peter 2:19

From The President's Desk

As most of our readers know the National Education Association is a Secular Humanist organization. It is also a powerful union that dictates America's educational polity. Of course, extracting \$500 a year from its members, it can do a lot of damage with its \$1.25 billion a year in revenue.

Then, too, as Robert Holland points out in his article on the NEA (The American Conservative, April 7, 2003) the union is very generous—to themselves. He notes, “Some state affiliates have dozens of officers drawing more than \$100,000 a year.” And he says, “The big dogs live even fatter: in 2002, the NEA's top three officers pulled down a combined \$616,000 in salary, plus \$544,000 in cash allowances and travel. The staff perks at state and national levels fairly scream Fat City. And so it goes.

Paul Craig Roberts likewise speaks to the subject of the NEA and his remarks are worth reading carefully—

“If you have a child in public school, you need to read *The Worm in the Apple: How the Teachers Are Destroying Education*, a new book by Peter Brimelow.

Public schools are run by the National Educational Association. They are not run by people you can hold accountable, such as teachers, superintendents and school boards. The NEA

opposes merit pay, charter schools, and any decision by any school administration that has not been determined in advance by collective bargaining. Simply put, the NEA opposes everything except its own power.

“In Connecticut the teachers’ union filed a grievance demanding pay for an extra 2 minutes a week that the union claimed teachers worked. In Pennsylvania, a grievance was filed because coffee and doughnuts were not provided during a teacher training day. Jaime Escalante, a teacher whose extraordinary success in teaching calculus to inner-city Hispanics resulted in a Hollywood movie, was run out of his California school district by the teachers’ union.

“Mr. Escalante, it seems, violated union rules by complaining about teachers who used the teachers’ lounge as a real estate office and called in sick to extend their weekends. A high school principal who requested that teachers write daily objectives on the classroom board was denounced by the union as a ‘draconian zealot.’

“Meanwhile, kids aren’t learning. The vocabulary of the average American 14-year-old has dropped from 25,000 words to 10,000. San Francisco Examiner reporter Emily Gurnon asked teenagers to identify the country from which America won its independence. Among the answers: ‘Japan or something, China. Somewhere out there on the other side of the world.’ ‘It wouldn’t be Canada, would it?’ ‘I don’t know; I don’t even, like, have a clue.’ ‘I want to say Korea. I’m tripping.’

“Mr. Brimelow next introduces the teachers. Sara Boyd, a recipient of many awards and accolades during her teaching career experienced difficulty passing a mathematics competency test. She sued the state of California, claiming the test was racially discriminatory. But at her deposition she was unable to answer the question: ‘What percent of 80 is 8?’

“Teachers can’t teach because the union won’t let them. Perhaps it is just as well. Here are some course listings in the education department at the University of Massachusetts: Embracing Diversity, Diversity and Change, Oppression and Education, Introduction to Multicultural Education, Black Identity, Classism, Racism, Sexism, Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Oppression, Jewish Oppression, Oppression of the Disabled, Erroneous Beliefs.

“Schools of education have turned teachers into agents of the therapeutic state, a new form of government analyzed by Paul Gottfried in his recent book, *Multiculturalism and the Politics of Guilt*. Indoctrination and social reconstruction have replaced the traditional emphasis on reading, writing and arithmetic.

“When you can stop laughing or crying, pay attention. Mr. Brimelow is serious. He knows the NEA inside out. But the media do not. Mr. Brimelow has a chapter describing how the NEA bribes the media for favorable stories by handing out ‘media awards.’ The Dallas

Morning News won three awards for promoting a trip by area teachers to the state capital to lobby for money for teachers' raises.

“In 2000, when NEA delegates voted to strengthen their policy against merit pay for teachers, the Associated Press reported the opposite. Newspapers across the country then editorialized on the basis of the erroneous AP report.

“The problem, says Mr. Brimelow, is that the NEA is the backbone of the Democratic Party and public education is a government monopoly. Mr. Brimelow asks V.I. Lenin's question, ‘What Is To Be Done?’ and replies with 24 reforms.

One senses Mr. Brimelow believes reform has little hope when it is opposed by NEA lobbying. If the NEA is to be undone, its undoing will come from parents and teachers deserting the schools. Homeschoolers, without benefit of fancy facilities, science labs, and huge expenditures of money, outscore public school students.

“Teachers themselves are dropping out, demoralized by lack of professionalism, chaos and crumbling educational standards. As readers recently pointed out to me, teachers are being imported from India and other Third World countries under the H-1B visa program to take the jobs American teachers are abandoning.

“Mr. Brimelow uses the wrong tense when he writes ‘the teacher unions are destroying American education.’ They have destroyed it.”

Month In Review

Q “They have forsaken the right way and gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; but he was rebuked for his iniquity: a dumb donkey speaking with a man's voice restrained the madness of the prophet. These are wells without water, clouds carried by a tempest, for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.

“For when they speak great swelling words of emptiness, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through lewdness, the ones who have actually escaped from those who live in error. While they promise them liberty, they themselves are slaves of corruption; for by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is brought into bondage.

“For it, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning.

“For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than

having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them. But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: ‘A dog returns to his own vomit,’ and, ‘a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire.’”

—2 Peter 2:15-22

Q “Immortal, invisible, God only wise, In light inaccessible hid from our eyes, Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

“Unrested, unhasting, and silent as light, Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might; Thy justice like mountains high soaring above thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

“To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small; In all life Thou livest, the true Life of all: Thy wisdom so boundless, Thy mercy so free, Eternal Thy goodness, for naught changeth Thee.

“Great Father of Glory, pure Father of Light, Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight. All laud we would render. O help us to see ’tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee.

—Walter C. Smith

Q “I’ve been reading Alexander Whyte. Morris lent him to me. He was a Presbyterian divine of the last century, whom I’d never heard of. Very well worth reading, and strangely broad-minded—Dante, Pascal, and even Newman, are among his heroes. But I mention him at the moment for a different reason. He brought me violently face to face with a characteristic of Puritanism which I had almost forgotten. For him, one essential symptom of the regenerate life is a permanent, and permanently horrified, perception of one’s natural and (it seems) unalterable corruption. The true Christian’s nostril is to be continually attentive to the inner cesspool.”

—C.S. Lewis, Letters to Malcolm

Q “We do not need to get good laws to restrain bad people. We need to get good people to restrain bad laws.”

—G.K. Chesterton

Q “If you stack thousand-dollar bills, one on another, when you have a stack which is three inches high, you have a million dollars.

“If you continue to stack them up to 250 feet high, you have a billion dollars.

“If you continue to stack them up to a height of forty-seven miles, you have a trillion dollars.

“The amount to pay off our national debt would be a stack of thousand-dollar bills almost 188 miles high.”

—Henry C. Jones

Q “If you began to count dollar bills at the rate of one a second, it would take you ‘only’ 11.57 days to count to one million dollars. At the same rate, it would take you 31.69 years to count to one billion dollars. And at the same dollar a second rate, it would take you 31,688.09 years to count to one trillion dollars. The current national debt is more than three and one-half times that much.

Q “The two scientists who discovered the structure of DNA in Cambridge 50 years ago have used the anniversary to mount an attack on religion.

“When they revealed DNA’s double-helix structure in 1953, James Watson and Francis Crick helped to invent biotechnology, provided the foundation for understanding the diversity of life, revealed the mechanism of inheritance, and shed light on diseases and even the origins of antisocial behavior.

“From Copernicus to Darwin, scientific pioneers have tended to offend religious sensibilities. Most scientists, even Darwin, have tread warily and avoided attacking religion, but Mr. Watson and Mr. Crick are both outspoken atheists.

“Speaking recently, Mr. Crick, 86, said: ‘The god hypothesis is rather discredited.’ His distaste for religion, he said, was one of his prime motives in the work that led to the 1953 discovery.

“ ‘I went into science because of these religious reasons, there’s no doubt about that. I asked myself what were the two things that appear inexplicable and are used to support religious beliefs: the difference between living and nonliving things, and the phenomenon of consciousness.’

—Roger Highfield, *The Washington Times*, March 24, 2003, p. A19

Q “The antipathy to religion of DNA pioneers is long-standing. In 1961, Mr. Crick resigned as a fellow of Churchill College, Cambridge, when it proposed to build a chapel.

“When Sir Winston Churchill wrote to him, pointing out that ‘none need enter [the chapel] unless they wish,’ Mr. Crick replied that, on those grounds, the college should build a brothel, and he enclosed a check for 10 guineas.

“ ‘My hope is that eventually it will be possible to build permanent accommodation within the college, to house a carefully chosen selection of young ladies in the charge of a suitable Madam who, once the institution has become traditional, will doubtless be provided, without offence, with dining rights at the High Table,’ Mr. Crick wrote.

“Mr. Watson, whose mother was a devout Roman Catholic and raised him and his sister as churchgoers, described how he gave up attending Mass at the start of World War II. ‘I came to the conclusion that the church was just a bunch of fascists that supported [Spain’s General Francisco] Franco. I stopped going on Sunday mornings, and watched the birds with my father instead.’”

—Roger Highfield, *The Washington Times*, March 24, 2003, p. A19

Q “As Colin Russell tells it in his book *Cross-Currents: Interactions Between Science and Faith*, the idea of a war between science and religion is a relatively recent invention—one carefully nurtured by those who hope the victor in the conflict will be science. In late nineteenth-century England, several small groups of scientists and scholars organized under the leadership of Thomas H. Huxley to overthrow the cultural dominance of Christianity—particularly the intellectual dominance of the Anglican church. Their goal was to secularize society, replacing the Christian worldview with scientific naturalism, a worldview that recognizes the existence of nature alone. Though secularists, they understood very well that they were replacing one religion by another, for they described their goal as the establishment of the ‘church scientific.’ Huxley even referred to his scientific lectures as ‘lay sermons.’”

—Nancy R. Pearcey and Charles B. Thaxton, *The Soul of Science*, p. 19

Q “One day while browsing through a library in Colorado Springs, [Julian]Huxley came across some essays by Lord Morley in which he found these words: ‘The next great task of science will be to create a religion for humanity.’ Huxley was challenged by this vision. He wrote, ‘I was fired by sharing his conviction that science would of necessity play an essential part in framing any religion of the future worthy of the name.’ Huxley took up Morley’s challenge to develop a scientific religion. He called it ‘Evolutionary Humanism.’”

—Norman L. Geisler, *Baker Encyclopedia of Christian Apologetics*, p. 346

Q “Marriage in the United States shall consist only of the union of a man and a woman. Neither this constitution or the constitution of any state, nor state or federal law, shall be construed to require that married status or the legal incidents thereof be conferred upon

unmarried couples or groups.”

—The Federal Marriage Amendment

Q “Ten years ago, The Washington Post carried a front-page story on evangelical Christians. The writer, Michael Weisskopf, famously dismissed this significant demographic as ‘poor, uneducated and easy to command.’ Uproar ensued, and members of this particular class telephoned and faxed their bona fides, noting their degrees from accredited and mainstream universities.

“Mr. Weisskopf was forced to amend his story, explaining he meant ‘most’ evangelicals are poor, uneducated and easy to command. That brought more objections from the same class of people. The Post ombudsman at the time, Joann Byrd, wrote a column in which she tried to explain Mr. Weisskopf’s faux pas. Ms. Byrd said readers needed to understand that most journalists don’t know any of ‘these people.’ Don’t want to know them is a better explanation.

“Now comes the newly minted New York Times op-ed columnist, Nicholas D. Kristof, with a similar statement. He not only displays the kind of ignorance such people like to attribute to evangelicals but also will reinforce in the minds of many what might be called the ‘evangelical bias’ that causes so many Christians to distrust the mainstream media.

“First, a definition: An evangelical Christian is one who believes that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and who has repented of sin and accepted Jesus as his or her savior. The evangelical believes he has the privilege and obligation to share the ‘good news’ that Jesus came to save sinners with others so they might go to heaven rather than hell.

“Clearly, Mr. Kristof, like his Post predecessors, would not recognize an evangelical if he saw one. He correctly writes that ‘it is impossible to understand President Bush without acknowledging the centrality of his faith.’ He notes that ‘evangelicals are increasingly important in every aspect of American culture.’ And he accurately says, ‘In its approach to evangelicals, the national news media are generally reflective of the educated elite, particularly in the Northeast. It’s expected at New York dinner parties to link crime to deprived childhoods—conversation would stop abruptly if someone mentioned Satan.’

“Having made the case for the presence and importance of evangelical Christians in our country and culture, Mr. Kristof, who acknowledges that a Gallup Poll last December found that 46 percent of the country identified with the labels ‘evangelical’ and/or ‘born again,’ then writes this incredible sentence: ‘Yet, offhand, I can’t think of a single evangelical working for a major news organization.’

“Mr. Kristof needs to spend less time at those New York dinner parties and engage the real world. Throwing modesty to the winds, the most widely syndicated op-ed columnist in the

United States would identify with the label ‘evangelical Christian,’ though he dislikes labels unless people first define them (see above). This fellow also has a TV show on a secular cable network and has worked in ‘major news organizations’ nearly all of his professional life. He is not alone.

“Depending on one’s definition of a major news organization, there are perhaps hundreds of evangelical Christians working at newspapers, television and radio stations and even in Hollywood. An international reporter for USA Today is a strong evangelical Christian. A White House correspondent for a major wire service covered the Jimmy Carter campaign for president and his presidency, as he did Watergate, with distinction, fairness and credibility. There are many more examples.

“While Mr. Kristof laments the separation of media from faith and the media’s failure to understand and explain faith to consumers, he and his newspaper have the power and the staff to open their eyes (if not their souls) to the ‘good news,’ or at least to the largest and most ignored (by elites) demographic in the country. If they won’t do it as a matter of faith, they should do it as a matter of business. If the New York Times cares about covering not only evangelical Christians, but religion in general, it might begin by reading World Magazine’s March 8 issue (www.worldmag.com). The cover story, ‘What We Don’t Know Can Hurt Us,’ chronicles the failure of ‘major news organizations’ to get a grip on religion coverage and how that has hurt the public’s right to know.”

—Cal Thomas, *The Washington Times*, March 7, 2003, p. A 20

Q “Here is a question for the San Francisco appeals court judges who last week let stand a ruling, signed last summer by two of their colleagues, that it is unconstitutional for students to say ‘under God’ in public schools.

“Dear Judges: If we are not under God, whom are we under? Who is the final authority for our law?

“Alfred T. Goodwin is the judge who authored the court’s opinion striking down the practice in California’s Elk Grove Unified School District of saying the Pledge of Allegiance at the start of each day. Judge Goodwin argued that the ultimate authority over these schools is not God, but the Constitution itself—or, that is, the Constitution as interpreted by him and Judge Stephen Reinhardt, who joined his decision, and the majority on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit who let it stand.

“Judge Goodwin argues that in the First Amendment—which says, ‘Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion’—the Framers adopted for the U.S. government a doctrine of neutrality on the question of whether there is a God.

“It follows from this, even if we only discovered it last year, that the United States has been an officially agnostice nation ever since ratification of the Bill of Rights in 1791.

“Because it invokes the words ‘under God,’ argues Judge Goodwin, the pledge ‘is a profession of a religious belief, namely, a belief in monotheism.’ Thus, it ‘impermissibly takes a position with respect to the purely religious question of the existence and identity of God.’

“The most obvious problem with Judge Goodwin’s theory is that the Americans who wrote the Constitution held the opposite view. They believed not only in God but also in His authority over acts of government.

“In Seedtime of the Republic, historian Clinton Rossiter chronicled the arguments of the Founding Fathers. ‘[I]n America,’ wrote Mr. Rossiter, ‘all political theorists...assumed the applicability of “the Laws of Nature and Nature’s God.” ’

“The ‘best known and most widely cited’ definition of this, he said, came from Sir William Blackstone’s Commentaries on the Laws of England published in 1765. Wrote Blackstone: ‘This law of nature, being coeval with mankind and dictated by God himself, is of course superior in obligation to any other. It is binding over all the globe in all countries, and at all times: no human laws are of any validity, if contrary to this; and such of them as are valid derive all their force, and all their authority, mediately or immediately, from this original.’

“This conviction, of course, was echoed most famously in the Declaration of Independence, but not only there.

“Alexander Hamilton, a principal author of the Constitution, was the greatest political rival of Thomas Jefferson, the principal author of the Declaration of Independence. But Hamilton mirrored Jefferson when he wrote: ‘The sacred rights of mankind are not to be rummaged for among old parchments or musty records. They are written, as with a sunbeam, in the whole volume of human nature, by the hand of Divinity itself, and can never be erased or obscured by mortal power.’

“Robert L. Cord notes in Separation of Church and State—Historical Fact and Current Fiction that the same Congress that drafted the First Amendment also hired the first congressional chaplain. On the day after the House approved the First Amendment, it asked President Washington to ‘recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed, by acknowledging, with grateful hearts, the many signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a Constitution of Government for their safety and happiness.’

“The Framers of the First Amendment thanked God for the constitution—in an act of

Congress.

“The founding idea of our Republic is that our elected representatives will seek, through constitutionally limited government, to honor God’s law in our own.

“The Framers understood that if we refused to recognize God’s ultimate sovereignty over the state, we would be forced to recognize someone else’s. It might be a king or an army. Or, as we are learning today, it might be a band of federal judges.”

—Terence P. Jeffrey, *The Washington Times*, March 9, 2003, p. B3

Q “This is a statement that was read over the PA system at the football game at Roane County High School, Kingston, Tennessee, by school Principal Jody McLeod. I thought it was worth sharing with the world and hope you will forward it to all your friends. It shows clearly just how far this country has gone in the wrong direction.

“ ‘It has always been the custom at Roane County High School football games to say a prayer and play the National Anthem, to honor God and Country.’

“ ‘Due to a recent ruling by the Supreme Court, I am told that saying a prayer is a violation of Federal Case Law. As I understand the law at this time, I can use this public facility to approve of sexual perversion and call it “an alternate lifestyle,” and if someone is offended, that’s OK’.

“ ‘I can use it to condone sexual promiscuity, by dispensing condoms and calling it, “safe sex.” If someone is offended, that’s OK.

“ ‘I can even use this public facility to present the merits of killing an unborn baby as a ‘viable means of birth control.’ If someone is offended, no problem.’

“ ‘I can designate a school day as ‘Earth Day,’ and involve students in activities to worship religiously and praise the goddess “Mother Earth”, and call it “ecology.” ’

“ ‘I can use literature, videos and presentations in the classroom that depict people with strong, traditional Christian convictions as “simple minded” and “ignorant,” and call it “enlightenment.” ’

“ ‘However, if anyone uses this facility to honor God and to ask Him to bless this event with safety and good sportsmanship, then Federal Case Law is violated.’

“ ‘This appears to be inconsistent at best, and at worst, diabolical. Apparently, we are to be tolerant of everything and anyone, except God and His Commandments.

“ ‘Nevertheless, as a school principal, I frequently ask staff and students to abide by rules with which they do not necessarily agree. For me to do otherwise, would be inconsistent at best, and at worst, hypocritical. I suffer from that affliction enough unintentionally. I certainly do not need to add an intentional transgression.

“ ‘For this reason, I shall “Render unto Caesar that which is Caesar’s,” and refrain from praying at this time.

“ ‘However, if you feel inspired to honor, praise and thank God and ask Him, in the name of Jesus, to bless this event, please feel free to do so. As far as I know, that’s not against the law—yet.’

“One by one, the people in the stands bowed their heads, held hands with one another and began to pray.

“They prayed in the stands. They prayed in the team huddles. They prayed at the concession stand and they prayed in the announcer’s box.

“The only place they didn’t pray was in the Supreme Court of the United States of America—the Seat of ‘Justice’ in the ‘one nation, under God.’ ”

—Art Malott, *The Powerhouse*, March 2003, p. 15

Q “According to the March 18th issue of *The Advocate*, Republican supporters in the Senate of homosexual ‘rights,’ including Oregon Senator Gordon Smith, ‘say passage of a hate-crimes bill would be the best way to prove that Republicans aren’t bigots’ in the wake of the Trent Lott fiasco. ‘Even Senate Judiciary Committee chairman Orrin Hatch (R-Utah), once an opponent of such legislation, now says he is open to it and that he is working with Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.) on a new, gay-inclusive version of a hate-crimes bill.’ ‘If it’s written right,’ insists Hatch, ‘I can support it.’

“ ‘I’m very confident that a hate-crimes bill will pass by a very wide margin in the 108th Congress,’ Sen. Smith told the homosexual-themed publication in an interview. During a recent Republican leadership conference, Smith told fellow GOP legislators ‘that if you want to change your image, you should support hate-crimes legislation, because this is consistent with the civil rights views that the majority of Republicans have.’ That such laws are utterly inconsistent with the Constitution and the moral foundations of our society apparently matters little to image-obsessed political hacks like Smith.

“Smith also predicts that passage of a national ‘gay-friendly’ hate-crime law will be ‘the straw that breaks the camel’s back. Once you deal with that, you can deal with...other

things’—such as homosexual ‘marriage’ or its equivalent, federal anti-discrimination protections for homosexuals, and other forms of radical social engineering. ‘I think [gay rights] is an idea whose time is arriving,’ gloats Smith.”

—The New American, March 24, 2003, p. 6

Q “We are writing to thank you for sending the shipment of excellent books for use by the students at the Verity Accelerated Learning Center in Flint, MI. These materials (Mind Siege, Battle for Truth, and Clergy in the Classroom) are absolutely outstanding. Our sincerest thanks and appreciation to those who laboriously researched and wrote these important publications. Your work is outstanding and desperately needed throughout America. These textbooks will be distributed to students attending Verity, a school committed to raising up Godly young people who will help restore our nation to its Christian foundations.

“Thanks again for the shipment of books. In Jesus Name, Pastor W. S., Director, Verity”

Q “I am finally writing in response to the insert letter included in my copy of The Battle for Truth. After reading the book around August last year, I have now bought 4 copies of it (2 through your amazing offer of a discounted version through the AiG newsletter) and given three away to friends and family members, as I honestly believe that is the best and most important book I have ever read outside of the Bible itself; not a light claim, as I am widely read!

“Never has a book taught me so much and answered so many questions in such a concise manner—it is a fantastic tool I cannot recommend highly enough.

“Thanks to all who put the resources together to make it available to the AiG readers as well.

“I would like to enquire whether there are any copies left to David Noebel’s other book, Mind Siege? If so, I would very much like to obtain a copy.

“Many thanks and blessings to you, B.P., Victoria 3192, Australia”

Q Summit Ministries, Tim LaHaye Ministries, Students for America and the Christian Anti-Communism Crusade are all helping to fund and distribute Mind Siege to thousands of students around the world. The Campus Book Distribution project continues to be a great success. Baylor University’s BSU has just agreed to distribute the book throughout that university. If anyone in our audience wishes to help in this project, please contact us.

Q “The Supreme Court will hear oral arguments today in a case that could create a constitutional right to sodomy.

“Opponents contend that the ultimate goal of *Lawrence v. Texas* is not to end sodomy laws, but to advance the ‘ambitious agenda’ of homosexual activists.

“ ‘They want a court win to change the definition of marriage, because the real goal is to legalize same-sex ‘marriage,’ said Jordan Lorence, senior counsel for the Alliance Defense Fund in Scottsdale, Ariz.

“Michael Adams, an attorney and spokesman for the Lambda Legal Defense Fund, which brought the case, insists that opponents are overstating the implications.

“ ‘For us, the case asks a germane, basic question, which is whether the government has the right to invade the privacy of any citizen in this country,’ he said.

“Nevertheless, Annise Parker, an openly homosexual member of the Houston City council, sees the case as ‘One more battle, one more step’ for homosexual rights.

“ ‘I think there will be a huge celebration if we win it,’ she said.

“The case is a direct challenge to the Supreme Court’s 1986 decision, *Bowers v. Hardwick*, which said there is no federal constitutional right to practice homosexual sex, known as sodomy.

“Lorence charged that homosexual activists ‘want a win that will lift restrictions on homosexual conduct in the military, to legalize adoption by same sex couples, and to restrict free speech rights of individuals who have faith-based objections to endorsing, funding, or supporting homosexual behavior.’”

—WorldNetDaily, March 26, 2003

Q “A recent news story about a teacher who assigned her students to write anti-war letters may have seemed like just an isolated episode, but teachers using students for their own little ego trips is by no means uncommon. Perhaps the worst recent example was a teacher who unleashed her venom on the children of military personnel who had gone off to fight in Iraq.

“Just last week I received a bundle of letters from students who have apparently been given an assignment to write to me by a teacher in an English class in Flat Rock High School in Flat Rock, Michigan. This was occasioned by a column of mine that said some things that were not politically correct.

“The first of these letters was from a girl who informed me, from her vast store of teenage wisdom, of things that I knew 30 years ago, and closed by telling me that I needed to find out about poverty. Since I spent more years in poverty than she has spent in the world, this would

be funny if it were not so sad.

“With American students consistently scoring at or near the bottom on international tests, you would think that our schools would have better things to do than tell kids to write letters to strangers, spouting off about things they know little or nothing about.

“Flat Rock High School’s envelopes, in which the students wrote their assigned letters, have the motto: ‘Where Tomorrow’s Leaders Learn!’ Sadly, they are learning not to be leaders but to be sheep-like followers, repeating politically correct notions and reacting with snotty remarks to anyone who contradicts them.

“Creating mindless followers is one of the most dangerous things that our public schools are doing. Young people who know only how to vent their emotions, and not how to weigh opposing arguments through logic and evidence, are sitting ducks for the next talented demagogue who comes along in some cult or movement.

“At one time, the educator’s creed was: ‘We are here to teach you how to think, not what to think.’ Today, schools across the country are teaching students what to think—whether about the environment, the war, social policy or whatever.

“Even if what they teach were true, that would be of little use to these people in later life. Issues and conditions change so much over time that even the truth about today’s issues becomes irrelevant when confronted with the future’s new challenges.

“If students haven’t been taught to think, then they are at the mercy of events, as well as being at the mercy of those who know how to take advantage of their ignorance and their emotions.

“Classroom brainwashing is not new. I wrote about it a decade ago in my book *Inside American Education*. Hearings at the Department of Education brought out the same things a decade before that.

“When will the voting public get the message? Where are the parents of these children? Do parents in Flat Rock, Michigan, want their children’s time in school wasted on their teachers’ ideological hobby horses, instead of being used to prepare an intellectual foundation for their further education?

“In the long run, the greatest weapon of mass destruction is stupidity. In an age of artificial intelligence, too many of our schools are producing artificial stupidity, in the sense of ideas and attitudes far more foolish than young people would have arrived at on their own. I doubt whether the youngsters in Flat Rock, Michigan, were brought up by their parents to say and do the silly things their teachers have assigned them to do.

“Weapons of mass destruction in the hands of an avowed enemy can destroy many Americans, but they cannot destroy America, because we are too strong and too capable of counterattack. Only Americans can destroy America. But too many of our schools have for years been quietly undermining the values and abilities that are needed to preserve any society—and especially a free society.”

—Thomas Sowell, *The [Colorado Springs] Gazette*, March 26, 2003, p. M6

Q “On February 15, hundreds of thousands of people around the world rallied in opposition to American plans to topple Saddam Hussein. The *Washington Post* reported on March 3 on the origins and composition of this new antiwar movement.

“ ‘The organizers say the February rallies were first agreed upon at a small strategy session in Florence in November. But their roots go back to the days just after Sept. 11, 2001, when activists say they began meeting to map out opposition to what they anticipated would be the U.S. military response to the terrorist attacks on New York and the Pentagon.

“ In Britain, according to organizer John Rees, several hundred activists first go together the weekend after Sept. 11. Most were from the hard core of the British Left—the Socialist Workers Party, the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament and the anti-capitalist organization Globalized Resistance, along with Labor Party legislators Jeremy Corbyn and George Galloway. Within weeks, they had combined with representatives from two more important elements—Britain’s growing Muslim community and its militant trade unions. By October they had a name: the ‘Stop the War Coalition.’

“Glenn Reynolds of *Instapundit.com* has dubbed this coalition the Communist-Islamicist alliance, and like the Molotov-Ribbentrop pact of 1939 it is at once shocking and yet oddly logical. Now comes the next logical step: An alliance that began with marches and demonstrations is now planning a campaign of civil disobedience.

“ ‘Campaigns to disrupt U.S. forces have also been launched,’ the *Post* reports. ‘Besides the dozens of activists who have traveled to Baghdad to volunteer as “human shields” against a U.S. attack, nine Dutch antiwar activists were arrested Tuesday for chaining themselves to the gates of a U.S. military center outside Rotterdam. In Italy, hundred of protesters occupied train stations and railway tracks for nearly a week to delay trains carrying U.S. military equipment from northern Italy to the Camp Darby military base near Pisa. Irish protesters broke through the perimeter fence at Shannon airport in January and damaged a U.S. Navy plane, causing other planes to divert their flights and refuel elsewhere. Trade union movements in Italy and France are pledging work disruptions and considering general strikes if war breaks out.’

“All my life, I’ve condemned the anti-war radicals of the 1960s. I never, ever could have imagined that the day might come when I would have a good word to say for them. But life is full of surprises. Compared to the Communist-Islamicist alliance that goes by the name of the ‘anti-war’ movement of today, the anti-Vietnam movement looks like an assembly of Giuseppe Garibaldi, Charles de Gaulle, Rudyard Kipling, and Nathan Hale. And it’s time to say so.”

—David Frum, *National Review*, March 24, 2003, p. 60