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“You shall love your neighbor as yourself. Love does no harm to a neighbor;
therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.”

—Romans 13:9–10

SUMMIT ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

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a word about Summit Alumnus James Strang

James Strang (#23 in the picture on the right) is a four-time All American in cross country and track and qualified for the 2008 open trials for the Olympics—as one of the youngest on the line. But stepping up to the line at the Olympic trials was something James had not even dreamed about five years earlier—he actually didn't even plan to be a collegiate athlete. However, over the course of his athletic career he has been extremely successful and is using his God-give ability to bring glory to the Kingdom.

Growing up in Chattanooga, TN, James enjoyed an active lifestyle and being outside. In high school, he participated in a variety of sports, but thinks running is the most honest because it's truly the most individually competitive.

While James attended the University of Colorado at Boulder, his cross country team won the NCAA title in 2004. Spiritually, however, Boulder presented a more difficult challenge. As a freshman, he found himself surrounded by liberal professors and peers and very little Christian fellowship.

However, James credits his Summit experience with helping to fill the gap. At Summit, he says he gained the foundation and training that helped him not crumble under the liberal pressure as so many other students did. The training James received at the Summit helped him in personal conversations as well as in writing papers. He credits his ability to participate in philosophical debates in high school and college to his upbringing and also to what he learned at Summit. He says, "It's difficult, but you must know both sides well and be able to out-think the critics."

After his freshman year at Boulder, James transferred to the University of Arkansas, where he joined the Sigma Chi fraternity and continued his collegiate running, this time under the legendary track coach John McDonnell. James found the spiritual atmosphere at Arkansas very different from Boulder, and he enjoyed a larger Christian fellowship. He says, "No matter what you do people are always watch-



ing you. Arkansas provided the running program I needed and an atmosphere without excessive ridicule or arrogance toward being a Christian.

"Overall I think Summit pushes you in a way that is intense, but pushes you into a deeper level of understanding that sitting in a church pew every Sunday does not do. You learn how to stand back, ask the right questions, and let the person who is making the claim or argument talk themselves into a circle. You learn the gaps and loopholes of their position, and it allows you to me more on the offensive when making your statement, claim, or point in a logical and calm manner."

James graduated from the University of Arkansas in 2009 with a degree in English. He will continue to live and train in Fayetteville, AR, where he is open to competing on the professional level in track and field. Knowing that he can't run forever, though, James plans on going to dental school later on and one day returning to Colorado Springs to practice with his father.

Honored Active Duty Summit Alumni



From Murfreesboro, TN, Cpt. Jesse McCreery (left) is a 2000 Tennessee Summit alum currently serving in Baghdad with the 441st Ordnance Battalion Explosive Ordnance Disposal.



From Virginia Beach, VA, Lt. Matthew Gill is a 1999 Colorado Summit alum currently serving in the Navy as a Public Affairs Officer in Naples, Italy.

Please keep these soldiers and their families in your prayers. More active duty Summit alumni will be honored in months to come.

from the PRESIDENT'S DESK

a word from Dr. Noebel

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The first order of business relates to Summit's fast approaching 2010 summer worldview conferences that are designed to prepare Christian young people to better understand their world and how to confront its challenges with Christ-like wisdom and grace.

For many years we at Summit Ministries have contended that only a handful of ideas rule the world and that Christians, especially Christian young people, need to understand these ideas sooner rather than later. To a great extent these ideas comprise the content of our student worldview conferences. Although this content is intellectually challenging, we believe our students not only can know and understand it, but also use it to guide their thinking and decision-making.

For example, in the discipline of theology, three worldviews are in play—theism, pantheism, and atheism. Christian students need to enter the classroom with an understanding that their humanistic university professors are more likely to teach (implicitly or explicitly) from an atheistic rather than a theistic worldview. That will be their first “cultural battle.”

Question: Are Christians prepared for the all-out skirmishes in this battle? And if they aren't, why aren't they? The sad truth is that most are not prepared, and until they are, they should not step foot into the classroom! The good news, however, is that Summit's two-week summer worldview conferences begin that preparation.

This year, we are offering twelve conferences in four different settings—Colorado (8), Tennessee (2), Virginia (1), and Wisconsin (1). Please consider directing, encouraging, and even insisting that the Christian teens you know attend one of these conferences to get their spiritual and intellectual feet on solid ground.

This year the discipline of economics is front and center in our thinking, and socialism is becoming a lightning rod for many young people. Some are even saying that Christians must be socialists—after all, Jesus was one, and the early Christians were, too (Acts 2). We hit this issue head-on in our worldview conferences to show that neither contention is accurate. If you are interested in the difference, read the first few verses of Acts 5 for the proper perspective.

It should concern us as believers in Jesus Christ that all the major totalitarian movements over the past 100 years have been socialistic. It should also concern us that the present U.S. House of Representatives reeks with socialists and socialistic organizations—the Congressional Progressive Caucus is a prime example.

It should also concern us that the President of the United States has a background steeped in socialism and Marxism. Neo-Marxist Saul Alinsky's *Rules for Radicals* (a work dedicated to Lucifer) is one of President Obama's major influences (via The Industrial Foundation while attending Harvard Law School).

The editor of *World* magazine recently interviewed Ted

Cruz, who acknowledged that there are more Communists on the Harvard Law School faculty than Republicans (Nov. 7, 2009).

Some say it's not important for young people to be aware of what's happening in the world. I strongly

disagree and have accepted the challenge to prepare this generation now by doing all we can to help them fully grasp the threats to their Christian faith before it's too late.

Here's just one example of something happening in the world right under our noses that we need to take note of: the United States Air Force Academy (just a few miles north of us at Summit Ministries) is inviting the public to attend a dedication ceremony for its new “pagan chapel.” You read that right. They're planning a March 2010 ceremony to honor Wiccans, pagans, and druids!

So why is it important for us to take note of this seemingly unimportant event? Didn't druid priests perform child sacrifices and other barbaric practices? Didn't these pagan practices include sacrificing prisoners of war to war gods and newborns to harvest gods? Chances are this information will not be mentioned at the dedication ceremony!

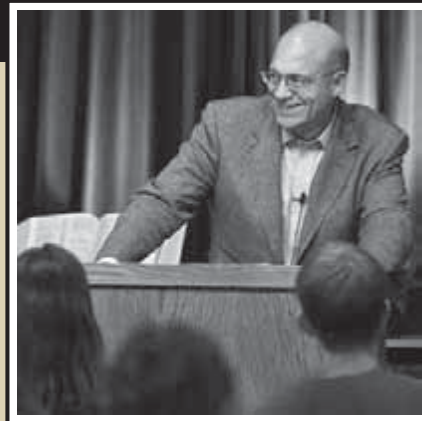
But let's connect the dots. Since Planned Parenthood is funded by the United States government, there really isn't much difference between pagan druids sacrificing newborn babies to their god of the harvest and our sacrificing unborn babies to the god of abortion.

I'm writing this jeremiad to impress upon you, our readers, the importance of Summit's summer worldview conferences that are geared to educate, motivate, and activate Christian teens to see their responsibility as believers and to act accordingly. We believe Christian young people should be fully informed about the events transpiring in their world that may impact how they will be able to live their lives as Christians.

On the following page I share part of a letter from a Summit student to encourage you to keep the faith and to continue to uphold this ministry and the Christian young people you know in your prayers now and throughout the summer.

Miss L. is from King George, VA, and in her letter she also raised a minor dispute or two in the curriculum, showing she's already thinking through these important issues. May her tribe increase!

And may our Summit family continue to inform others about our curriculum materials in addition to our summer worldview conferences and their potential impact on the lives of Christian young people.



A LOOK AT OUR WORLD

highlights from around the globe

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BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY

† Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law. For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “You shall not bear false witness,” “You shall not covet,” and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

—Romans 13:8–14 (NKJV)

Christian Love, either towards God or towards man, is an affair of the will.

—C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

Love, in the Christian sense, does not mean an emotion. It is a state not of the feelings but of the will; that state of the will which we have naturally about ourselves, and must learn to have about other people.

—C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

Charity means love. It is called Agape in the New Testament to distinguish it from Eros (sexual love), Storge (family affection) and Philia (friendship). So there are 4 kinds of love, all good in their proper place, but Agape is the best

This past summer I completed your *Thinking Like a Christian* worldview curriculum. I really appreciated what was said about the ten discussed disciplines [theology, philosophy, ethics, biology, psychology, sociology, law, economics, politics, history] all being sacred. Because they are sacred, Christians need to take part and learn about them. I also enjoyed the biology chapter, and reading about Creation versus Evolution . . . Thank you for your time, but more importantly, your ministry.

—K.L.

because it is the kind God has for us and is good in all circumstances.

—C.S. Lewis, *Letters of C.S. Lewis*, Feb. 18, 1954

I'm forgiven because You were forsaken.
I'm accepted, You were condemned.
I'm alive and well, Your spirit is within me
Because you died and rose again.

Amazing love, how can it be that You, my King, would die for me?

Amazing love, I know it's true. It's my joy to honor You.

Amazing love, how can it be that You, my King, would die for me?

Amazing love, I know it's true. It's my joy to honor You.
May all I do now honor You.

—B.J. Foote

ECONOMICS

According to [Barack Obama's] own budget, the federal deficit for 2010 is expected to reach nearly \$1.6 trillion, a record. And that would come on top of a \$1.4 trillion deficit in 2009 and before a \$1.3 trillion deficit in 2011. Between 1789 and 2008, the U.S. government borrowed a total of \$5.8 trillion. But in just the first three years of the Obama administration, the government is set to borrow \$4.4 trillion. And that would not be the end of it. If the Obama budget is adopted in full, federal borrowing will top \$18 trillion by 2020. Over the period 2011 to 2020, the president's plan is to run deficits totaling an astounding \$8.5 trillion.

—*National Review*, Feb. 22, 2010, p. 24

If you thought Wall Street's debt crisis was traumatic, wait till you see the consequences of Washington's debt crisis!

Never before in history has a world power like the U.S. been so utterly buried in debt! And never before has that debt been financed so massively by foreign investors!

Nineteenth century Mexico, Spain, and Argentina accumulated so much debt, they were forced to default.

In the 20th century, a similar fate befell Germany (1932) . . . China (1939) . . . Turkey (1978) . . . Mexico again in 1982 . . . Brazil and the Philippines (1983) . . . South Africa in 1985 . . . plus Russia and Pakistan in 1998.

Argentina kicked off the 21st century with a default in 2001. And barring a euro zone rescue, Greece, Spain, and Portugal are prime candidates for debt defaults this year.

But in NONE of these examples did we—or do we—see the debt crisis striking a dominant world power! In ALL

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cases, the debts represent little more than a small fraction of the total debts outstanding worldwide.

Not so in our case today!

In the entire world, the United States government and its agencies have, by far, the largest pile-up of interest-bearing debts (\$15.6 trillion), the largest accumulation of unsecured obligations (over \$60 trillion), the largest yearly deficit (1.6 trillion), and the greatest indebtedness to the rest of the world (\$4.8 trillion).

—Martin D. Weiss, *Money and Markets*, Feb. 22, 2010



What was the only country in the 27-nation European Union to register economic growth without going through a recession last year? The surprising answer is Poland.

Over the past couple of weeks, Greece has been grabbing the headlines as a poster child for bad fiscal management. The Greek tragedy is threatening to undo the Eurozone and cause a pan-European financial crisis.

There is no mystery as to why Greece is in the financial soup—its politicians have continued to spend far more than the government receives in taxes. The more interesting question is, What did Poland do right—and will Poland be better off or worse off if it joins the Eurozone?

Poland has been moving more toward economic freedom than Greece and, as a result, is slowly catching up to Greece and the average of the other EU states in terms of per-capita income.

Poland's normally diffident, free-market prime minister, Donald Tusk, said last month, "Who would have thought we would see the day when the Polish economy is talked about with greater respect than the German economy?"

In fact, the Poles have a long way to go to reach Germany's level of prosperity, but they clearly are learning from the mistakes of others, most notably keeping the growth in government spending under control.

The authors of the Index of Economic Freedom (produced by the Heritage Foundation and *The Wall Street Journal*) note that Poland "has continued to enhance its entrepreneurial environment, achieving one of the 15 highest score improvements in the 2010 Index." Despite Poland's having had growth averaging close to 5 percent for the past five years, improving its legal structure, and reducing corruption, much more needs to be done.

Poland, unlike Greece, still suffers from the legacy of four decades of communist rule.

—Richard Rahn, *Newsmax*, Feb. 19, 2010

HISTORY



Soon after Howard Zinn's *People's History of the United States* was published, the historian Oscar Handlin wrote a devastating review of the book for *The American*

Scholar (which was still a respectable magazine).

"It simply is not true," Mr. Handlin noted, that "what Columbus did to the Arawaks of the Bahamas, Cortez did to the Aztecs of Mexico, Pizarro to the Incas of Peru, and the English settlers of Virginia and Massachusetts to the Powhatans and the Pequots." It simply is not true that the farmers of the Chesapeake colonies in the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries avidly desired the importation of black slaves, or that the gap between rich and poor widened in the eighteenth-century colonies. Zinn gulps down as literally true the proven hoax of Polly Baker and the improbable Plough Jogger, and he repeats uncritically the old charge that President Lincoln altered his views to suit his audience. The Geneva assembly of 1954 did not agree on elections in a unified Vietnam; that was simply the hope expressed by the British chairman when the parties concerned could not agree. The United States did not back Batista in 1959; it had ended aid to Cuba and washed its hands of him well before then. 'Tet' was not evidence of the unpopularity of the Saigon Government but a resounding rejection of the northern invaders.

And on and on. In any normal world, Zinn would have stolen away in the middle of the night, fled to a mountain fastness in Peru, and taken up llama ranching. In this world, however, he went on to fame and fortune.

—Roger Kimball, *National Review*, Feb. 22, 2010, p. 30



More insidiously, it was an expression of contempt for the entire enterprise of which he was a privileged beneficiary. Contempt, in fact, was Howard Zinn's leading characteristic. Its primary focus was America, because that was the biggest game in town. But he had plenty left over for the rest of the world. As Oscar Handlin observed in his review, "It would be a mistake . . . to regard Zinn as merely anti-American. Brendan Behan once observed that whoever hated America hated mankind, and hatred of humanity is the dominant tone of Zinn's book. No other modern country receives a favorable mention. He speaks well of the Russian and Chinese revolutions, but not of the states they created. He lavishes indiscriminate condemnation upon all the works of man—that is, upon civilization, a word he usually encloses in quotation marks." Howard Zinn has left us. But his repellent ideas—and even more, the contemptuous nihilism that stands behind and fires those ideas—live on.

—Ibid.

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY



Editors note: Every reader of this *Journal* who values the institution of marriage (one man and one woman) needs to read "The Case for Marriage" by Bruce

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Houseknecht in *Citizen* magazine for February 2010. The article contains an excellent summary of the constitutionality of California's Prop 8 defending the biblical view of marriage. It also contains a summary of Charles Cooper's beautiful legal defense of marriage in language all can understand. The following is just an example of Cooper's analysis.

Pro-marriage point No. 1: The U.S. Supreme Court has already rejected the argument that same-sex marriage is a federal constitutional right.

Many people think the legal battles over the definition of marriage began in 2003, when the Massachusetts high court decreed that same sex marriage was a constitutional right. But it was seven years earlier, in 1996, that a trial court in Hawaii held that the state's one-man, one-woman marriage laws were unconstitutional. That case triggered not only the push for state marriage protection amendments, but the federal Defense of Marriage Act, signed into law by President Bill Clinton in 1996.

Back in 1972, the U.S. Supreme Court was asked to review a Minnesota Supreme Court decision holding that same-sex marriage was not a constitutional right under the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The case, *Baker v. Nelson*, was brought by two gay men who were denied a marriage license under Minnesota law, which limited marriage then (and now) to one man and one woman. The plaintiffs argued that Minnesota law could not prohibit them from marrying because the U.S. Constitution guaranteed them the "right" to do so. They lost that argument.

The men appealed their loss to the U.S. Supreme Court, which dismissed the appeal for, in its own technical words, "want of a federal question." In essence, the court was saying there is no such issue under the U.S. Constitution to even argue about.

The *Baker* case revolved around the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment. So does *Perry*. In most cases where the Supreme Court has ruled on an issue, that precedent must be followed in subsequent cases. Unfortunately, the federal trial judge overseeing the initial stage of the California case, Chief Judge Walker, has said he doesn't believe the *Baker* case applies to *Perry*, claiming they are too dissimilar.

Pro-marriage attorney Cooper and many other marriage law experts believe *Baker* will ultimately be a winning argument.

Pro-marriage point No. 4: Preserving tradition is a rational state interest.

Man-woman marriage is an institution that pre-dates our country and is universally and historically understood across nations and civilizations to be the very best—and basic—social arrangement for raising children and guaranteeing the future success of civilization.

Traditions are important state interests—including the tradition of one-man, one-woman marriage. The Supreme Court of California said as much, in the first state challenge to Prop. 8 (*Strauss v. Horton*). So did former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor in *Lawrence v. Texas* in 2003, which struck down Texas sodomy laws.

Further, argues Cooper, states ought to be allowed to take cautious, incremental steps in tinkering with traditional social institutions.

The people and their elected representatives are the proper players in a democracy to implement important changes in social institutions, and then deal with the results. "The redefinition of marriage sought by Plaintiffs," argues Cooper, "would work a profound change, going to the very essence of the institution of marriage." Such a profound change "is bound to have significant consequences, many of which may be unforeseen."

Who is better situated to deal with those unforeseen consequences: the courts, or the people and their elected representatives? The answer is obvious.

Pro-marriage point No. 5: The state is vitally interested in marriage.

So, why is the state interested in marriage, and especially in one-man, one-woman marriage?

The U.S. Supreme Court routinely has recognized marriage's procreative aspects, which assumes a man-woman union. In an 1888 case, the court observed that marriage "is the foundation of the family and of society, without which there would be neither civilization nor progress." In 1967, the court declared that marriage is "fundamental to our very existence and survival."

Simply put, the state is interested in self-preservation. Or, as Cooper puts it: "Government has an interest in marriage because it has an interest in children." Any state (or country for that matter) should be concerned about the next generation of citizens.

Natural marriage addresses the state interest by:

- Promoting the formation of naturally procreative unions.
- Promoting stability and responsibility in naturally procreative relationships.
- Promoting the natural and mutually beneficial bond between parents and their biological children.

The overwhelming weight of social science over the years demonstrates that children, adults, and society benefit the most from a strong marriage culture. And many federal and state courts have declared that encouraging the optimal union for procreation is a legitimate governmental interest.

—*Citizen* magazine, Feb. 20010, pp. 25, 27–28

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GLOBAL WARMING

☀ To heck with carbon dioxide. A new study performed by the London School of Economics suggests that, to fight climate change, governments should focus on another pollutant: us.

As in babies. New people.

Every new life, the report says, is a guarantee of new greenhouse gases, spewed out over decades of driving and electricity use. Seen in that light, we might be our own worst emissions.

The activist group that sponsored the report says birth control could be one of the world's best tools for fighting climate change. By preventing the creation of new polluters, the group says, contraceptives are a far cheaper solution than windmills and solar plants.

It is an unorthodox—and, for now, unpopular—way to approach the problem, which can seem so vast and close that it is driving many thinkers toward gizmos and oddball ideas.

"There is no possibility of drastically reducing total carbon emissions, while at the same time paying no attention whatever to the drastic increase in the number of carbon emitters," said Roger Martin, chairman of the Optimum Population Trust, a British nonprofit that sponsored the report and whose goal is to rein in population growth in the United Kingdom and elsewhere. "For reasons of an irrational taboo on the subject, [family planning] has never made it onto the agenda, and this is extremely damaging to the planet."

It is nothing unusual, of course, to think that the Earth could really use fewer of us.

In the 1700s, Thomas Malthus worried that population growth would outstrip the food supply. And a decade ago, writer Bill McKibben connected environmental concerns to his decision to have one child in a book called *Maybe One*.

What is new, in the British study and in a separate report from Oregon State University, are statistics that show exactly how much each life and especially each American life—adds to the world's emissions.

In the United States, each baby results in 1,644 tons of

carbon dioxide, five times more than a baby in China and 91 times more than an infant in Bangladesh, according to the Oregon State study. That is because Americans live relatively long, and live in a country whose long car commutes, coal-burning power plants, and cathedral ceilings give it some of the highest per-capita emissions in the world.

Seen from that angle, the Oregon State researchers concluded that child-bearing was one of the most fateful environmental decisions in anyone's life.

Recycle, shorten your commute, drive a hybrid vehicle, and buy energy-efficient light bulbs, appliances, and windows—all of that would cut out about one-fortieth of the emissions caused by bringing two children, and their children's children, into the world.

"People always consider the financial costs, and they consider the time cost," said Paul Murtaugh, one of the Oregon State researchers, who said that he does not have children but that he is open to the idea despite his research. "We're just attempting to put on the table the ballpark estimate of the environmental cost."

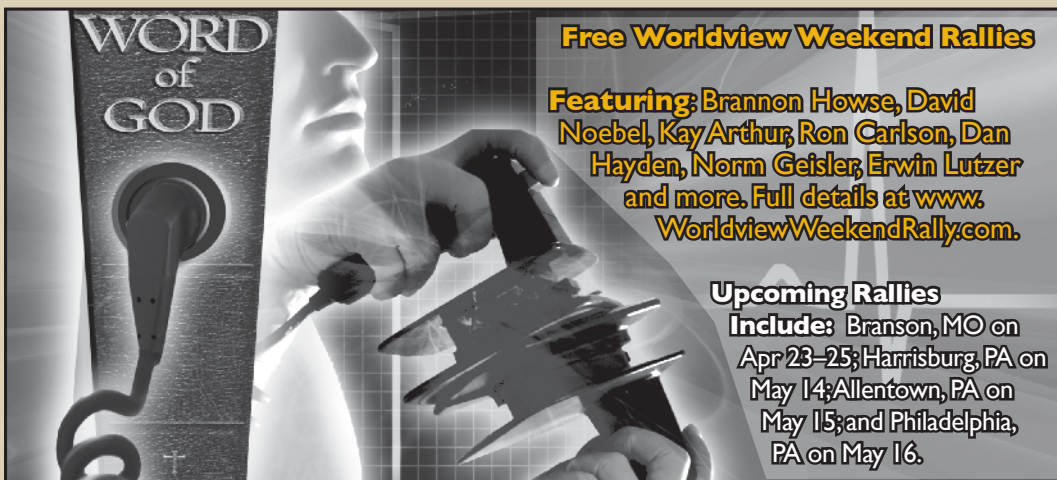
So what, exactly, is the world supposed to do with this information?

The researchers behind both studies are emphatic that they do not want people to be forced not to have children. But Martin, whose group sponsored the British study, said governments could help stop unwanted pregnancies by offering contraception and, in rare cases, abortion.

The British study found that \$220 billion, spent over the next 40 years, might prevent half a billion births and prevent 34 billion tons of carbon dioxide. The cost, measured in 2020, would be about \$7 for each ton reduced, the report said—far cheaper than solar power at \$51, or wind power at \$24.

—David A. Fahrenthold, *The Washington Post*, Sep. 15, 2009

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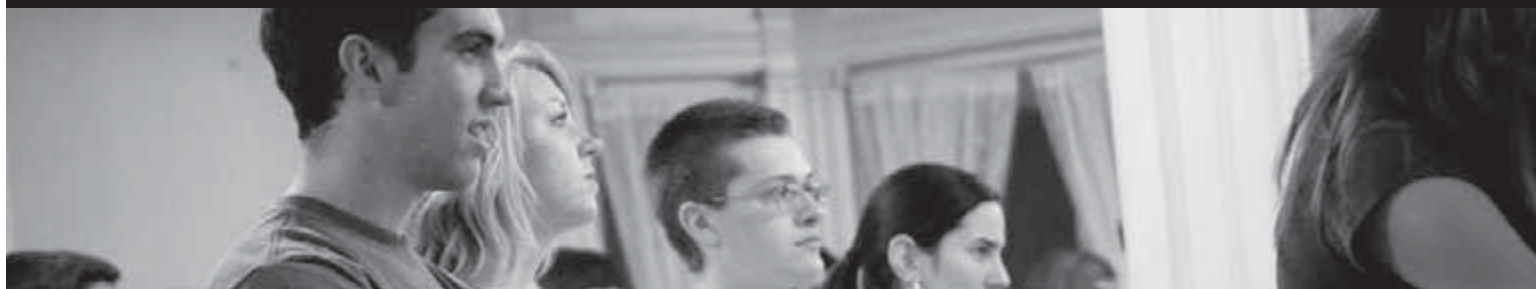
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SOCIALISM

What is not always realized is the fact that fascism and communism are forms of socialism.

—Richard Vetterli, William E. Fort, Jr
The Socialist Revolution, p. 7

Professor Carl Friedrich and Zbigniew Brzezinski, authorities on the emerging studies of modern totalitarianism, occur that “from all the facts available to us . . . fascist and communist totalitarian dictatorships are basically alike . . .” Harvard’s Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. also has come to the conclusion that “... the similarities [of communism, fascism, and Nazism] are vastly more overpowering and significant than the differences. The essential kinship among all totalitarians is illustrated by their historical record of collaboration against the moderates, whether in the Prussian Diet or in the Berlin transport strike before Hitler, or in the French Assembly against the Third Force. The interchangeability of personnel is notorious. Mussolini consorted with the friends of Lenin in Switzerland before the First War; and Jacques Doroit was a key figure in the Comintern before he began his career as collaborator with Hitler. . . .”

Hitler himself was quick to point out that “There is more that binds us to Bolshevism than separates us from it. There is, above all, genuine revolutionary feeling . . . I have always made allowance for this circumstance, and given orders that former Communists are to be admitted to the party at once.” Hitler’s Captain Rohm claimed he could turn the most ardent communist into a fervent Nazi in a month.

—Ibid., p. 4

What must be taken into consideration is the fact that Germany’s intellectual community had long since prepared the German people and the German youth for the acceptance of some form of militant socialism. As Hans Kohn reminds us, “within little more than a decade German intellectuals succeeded in leading German people into the Abyss. They could not have done so except for the generations of preparation in which Germanophilism and antiwesternism became more and more characteristic of German thought.”

The university faculties in Germany must share the blame for the youth of Germany having turned with enthusiasm to National Socialism. Professor Wilhelm Roepke, himself dismissed from the University of Marburg in 1933 by the Nazis, reports that the number of instructors and professors dismissed through defying National Socialism was “exceedingly small.” “It was a scene of prostitution.”

—Ibid., p. 87

Tonight, Glen Beck will air his must-see special on communism, which should artfully recount the historical development of that inherently evil, political ideology. While Beck’s narrative will focus on the past, we must not lose sight of the fact that communism has not gone away, and its continued existence in much of the world still brings misery, oppression and death to those unfortunate enough to be living under its yoke.

Take Vietnam, for example.

This week, the communists ruling that country took, according to a European Union spokesman, a “major and regrettable step backwards,” by sentencing four people to stiff periods of incarceration (remember, in communist societies that usually means hard labor in a “re-education camp). After a speedy, one-day trial in typical communist fashion (behind closed doors), Tran Huynh Duy Thuc received a 16-year sentence. Nguyen Tien Trung got 7 years. Le Cong Dinh and Le Thang Long each received 5 years.

What was their crime?

They had the audacity to post writings on the Internet *advocating freedom of expression and a multi-party system for Vietnam*. You see, by definition, communism cannot have a political rival—and even discussing such a thing in a communist state can land you in jail, or worse.

A communist judge convicted the men of “a well-organized campaign in collusion with overseas exile reactionary organizations, aimed at overturning the government with the help of the Internet.” The men were immediately taken away to begin serving their sentences.

Actually, Vietnam has been very busy putting people away lately for having similar views. In the last three months, 10 other democracy activists have been sentenced to long prison terms, and 6 students in the city of Haiphong received sentences of between two and six years for hanging up a pro-democracy banner. The irony here is that the Vietnamese government crackdown on dissent *comes before elections to be held next year*, where certain members of the Communist Party will try to gain coveted seats in the Party congress.

As harsh as these sentences are, these dissidents really are rather fortunate, as the authorities did show an uncharacteristic level of leniency. In Vietnam (and in nearly every other communist state, past and present), the normal punishment for the crime of dissent is death.

—Claude Cartaginese, NewsRealBlog, Jan. 22, 2010

HOMOSEXUAL AGENDA

Alameda Island is six miles across the bay from San Francisco, 68 miles from the capital and at the center of California’s testing of tolerance. Advocacy for the homosexual agenda is not unique to Alameda, of course, but this region of California has broken new ground in its demands for accommodation and the rationale for such demands.

In May 2009, the public school board of this island community of 72,000 sought to implement a classroom curric-

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ulum that presents homosexuality and same-sex relationships in a positive light. Such a move may otherwise have gone unnoticed, but the Alameda Unified School District (AUSD) Board created a firestorm by seeking to begin this teaching in first grade.

Storybooks, group discussions, art activities, and film are all part of the lesson plan for K-5th grade. In first grade, being “welcoming” to all classmates is equated with supporting homosexuality. The first-grade lesson plan trains children “to identify what makes a family” and teaches about same-sex couples. Third-grade vocabulary includes “two moms” and “two dads.” And fifth-graders are required “to identify stereotypes about lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people.”

—Karen England, *Citizen* magazine, Feb. 2010, p. 7



Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, declared himself against “don’t ask, don’t tell” in congressional testimony on the heels of Obama’s call for its repeal in the State of the Union. It’s important to remember the purpose of the policy, which wasn’t to persecute gays or to exclude them from serving, but to allow them to do so with a quiet dignity consistent with the overriding need for discipline and order in the ranks. It shouldn’t be controversial to note that sexual attraction is a powerful and potentially disruptive force. All thing considered, “don’t ask, don’t tell” has worked rather well, even with its imperfections. Gays and lesbians who have served honorably have been kicked out of the military on the basis of information provided by third parties. That’s unfair, but it’s the integrity of the military as an institution that matters most. Its purpose is not to be an instrument of social justice or to bestow symbolic recognition upon certain classes of people, but to fight and win the nation’s wars, and this requires maintaining a culture and practices different from those dominant in civilian life. No doubt, if most combat NCOs were asked whether they want the complexity of integrating openly gay soldiers into their units added to their already formidable tasks, they’d say no—waging two wars of counterinsurgency is already difficult enough. For us, that’s dispositive.

—*National Review*, Feb. 22, 2010, p. 4



I’ve been trying to avoid the Ugandan “Culture War” on homosexuality because I figure we’re busy enough with our own here in the USA. But that hasn’t stopped American homosexual activists and fellow travelers like Professor Warren Throckmorton of the “evangelical” Grove City College from insinuating themselves into the Ugandan situation. (Sadly, Warren has lost his faith in the ability of God to radically change homosexuals through Christ, and now busily works—even in Uganda!—to promote the faithless

and disheartening message that most “gays and lesbians” cannot change their basic “orientation”.)

Here’s the question I keep asking myself about the Uganda controversy: just what is it that qualifies the United States of America to lecture the Ugandans about homosexuality? Is it our public policy that enshrines immoral sexual behavior (oops: “sexual orientation”) and gender confusion (er ... “gender identity and expression”) as a “civil right”? Is it our homosexual “marriage” laws that make a mockery of this divine institution (laws about which Prof. Throckmorton is curiously silent)? How about our pro-homosexuality educational propaganda in K–12 schools that corrupts young students’ minds in the name of “tolerance”? Or the 24/7 “gay bathhouses” and sex clubs that proliferate in urban centers across the United States to facilitate quick-and-easy (and anonymous) deviant sexual hook-ups? (“Come to America: where you can have all the safe sodomy you want! Discounts for students (no joke) and free condoms available for your perverted pleasure!”)

Tell me: does Uganda have something to learn from Christian “defectors” like the opportunistic Prof. Throckmorton—who is now a de facto promoter of homosexuality as normal, natural, and healthy while ostensibly still claiming some sort of “Christian” mission at GCC? (Grove City College boasts in evangelical circles that it is “authentically Christian”—an advertising claim of diminishing accuracy the longer it abides the likes of Throckmorton.)

Challenge to Accommodationists: I stand corrected if Prof. Throckmorton or any Grove City prof—indeed, any homosexual activist or pro-“gay” apologist—can show me anything resembling “sexual orientation” in the Bible as this concept is currently understood and posited in academia, the media, and society.

Nope. What we’re seeing here is sheer Western activist arrogance. (Cliff Kincaid of *Accuracy in Media* calls it “Homosexual Imperialism.”) I haven’t yet studied the proposed Ugandan legislation but I agree with Bob Knight’s analysis below—and AFTAH is clearly on record opposing draconian penalties for homosexuality like those imposed by jihadist Islamic radicals. But I do know this: Uganda would do well to avoid the example set by America of a cultural-elite-driven society that celebrates homosexuality (along with other sexual immoralities)—and then reaps the whirlwind that results, including the following:

- devastating (public) health crises that are prolonged by the politically correct protection of the very sexual misbehaviors that helped spread the disease in the first place;
- the proliferation of “gay” activist groups that war against Judeo-Christian values and cruelly smear people of faith who dare to defend those values;
- pro-homosexuality, politically correct indoctrination—even on the job—masquerading as “diversity”—i.e., the

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gradual replacement of Christian proselytization with the institutional advocacy of sin, disguised as tolerance;

- public immorality and annual “gay pride” parades that subject children to immoral displays including public nudity;
- the undermining of historic Judeo-Christian teachings on sex and marriage; “queer” theological attacks on the Bible and sacred texts due to their unambiguous teachings against homosexual acts;
- the rise of “gay”—sympathetic, anti-religious bigotry, and even laws that criminalize the outworking of a biblically-informed conscience against homosexuality; legal and cultural harassment of moral-minded organizations like the Boy Scouts and Salvation Army that refuse to treat homosexuality as a civil right;
- the corruption and victimization of children—including ever younger “coming out” ages for children declaring their supposed “gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender” (“queer”) identity.
- turning the public schools into indoctrination zones for the “GLBT” ideology—all in the name of tolerance and “protecting kids”; the spread of “gay” school clubs, first to high schools, then to middle schools, and ultimately to grade schools.

As you can see, most of America’s “lessons” on homosexuality for Uganda are negative ones. Could it be that the more faith-filled and Bible-trusting African Christians have something to teach jaded Americans like Barack Obama and Warren Throckmorton about homosexuality?

—Peter LaBarbera, Americansfortruth.com, Jan. 21, 2010

The *New York Times* is not alone, of course, in its relentless pursuit of homosexual orthodoxy. On Jan. 7, the *Washington Post* ran an editorial about Uganda entitled, “A barbaric proposal.” The *Post* editors, at least, did not engage in Christian bashing, and stuck to very real problems with the proposed law. They did repeat a gay mantra, however: “being gay is not a choice.”

Science has by no means settled the issue. None of the highly publicized studies by gay researchers in the 1990s has been replicated, and several have been discredited. Then, too, there is the inconvenient existence of many people who engage in homosexuality for years and later embrace the straight life. The “ex-gay” movement is large and growing, but the media are keeping it one of the best-kept secrets out of deference to militant gay activists in the newsrooms.

Uganda has been in the cultural elites’ hot water before by bucking the U.S.-backed condom crusade in Africa and slashing its AIDS rate with campaigns for abstinence and fidelity. The current homosexuality bill is seriously flawed. It contains such overreaches as jail terms for people who do

not report homosexual activity, and life imprisonment for people who engage in the behavior. But the *Times* and the *Post* go beyond criticizing the harsher aspects of the law and attack the underlying concern of Ugandans to defend marriage and family, avoid the corruption of their children, and put the brakes on AIDS and other diseases.

The *Times* and the *Washington Post* warn that Uganda will become a “pariah” nation if the law is passed. That may be so. But it might behoove the press to take a closer look at some other countries in Africa whose governments, in the grip of Muslim extremism, routinely cut off people’s heads merely for changing religions. Other nations, such as Egypt, have governments that look the other way as young Christian girls are abducted, raped, and forced into Muslim marriages. Do these nations qualify as “pariahs”?

The *Times’* editors need to come to terms with their knee-jerk spasms against evangelical Christians and others who defend family values. They routinely depict pro-marriage Americans as motivated solely by hatred and prejudice, never by genuine, heartfelt concerns.

—Robert Knight, *Worldnetdaily*, Jan. 12, 2010

On New Year’s Eve, when most Americans were waiting for the ball to drop in Times Square, the Obama Administration dropped another bombshell in its agenda to radicalize America by appointing its first openly “transgender” person to a high federal post. “Transgender” is an umbrella term for anyone who “expresses” a “gender identity” contrary to their biological sex at birth—in other words, men who claim to be (and dress as) women, and vice versa.

Mitchell Simpson, a man who had sex-change surgery and now calls himself a woman (named “Amanda”), was appointed as Senior Technical Advisor to the Commerce Department. Simpson announced that “as one of the first transgender presidential appointees to the federal government, I hope that I will soon be one of hundreds.”

The day after Simpson began work, *The New York Times* reported that the main website advertising jobs with the federal government now says there will be no “discrimination” based on “gender identity”—even though Congress has never passed a law saying that.

This new policy applies only to the federal government. But there is a bill being considered in Congress, the so-called “Employment Non-Discrimination Act” (ENDA), which would require every employer in America to open every position to homosexuals (by making “sexual orientation” a protected category) and “transgenders” (by protecting “gender identity”).

All American employers including Christian owned businesses and potentially Christian ministries would be affected.

“Gender identity disorder” is a recognized mental illness that should be treated—not affirmed and protected.

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And the right of employers to set “dress and grooming standards” for their employees should include the most basic standard of all—that people dress in a way appropriate for their biological sex.

Don’t let Congress and President Obama force American employers to hire homosexuals, transsexuals, and cross-dressers.

—Tony Perkins, Family Research Council, Jan. 6, 2010

SOCIOLOGY

The Bush family has been a long-time supporter of Margaret Sanger’s Planned Parenthood. Prescott Bush, the father of President George H. W. Bush and grandfather of President George W. Bush, was the treasurer of Planned Parenthood when it launched its first national fundraising drive in 1947; he had been active in the American Birth Control League since 1942. In 1967, Planned Parenthood gave its highest honor, the Margaret Sanger Award, to John D. Rockefeller III, recognizing his “lifetime concern with population issues.” (Ted Turner won the same award in 2004, as did Hillary Clinton in 2009.)

During the last 20 years, those who have bankrolled activities to stop the “population explosion” have included Bill Gates, the Packard Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, the World Bank, the UN Population Fund, the Ford Foundation, the Hewlett Foundation, the Mellon Foundation, Warren Buffett, the MacArthur Foundation, George Soros’ Open Society Institute, and Ted Turner.

The *London Times* recently reported that at a philanthropists’ summit meeting held in New York City in May 2009, a group of American billionaires convened by Bill Gates “discussed joining forces to overcome political and religious obstacles to change,” and decided by consensus that “they would back a strategy in which population growth would be tackled as a potentially disastrous environmental, social, and industrial threat.” The participants, who collectively have donated about 75 billion dollars to their favored causes since 1996, included David Rockefeller Jr., Warren Buffett, George Soros, Michael Bloomberg, Ted Turner, Oprah Winfrey, Eli Broad, Peter Peterson, John Morgridge, Julian Robertson, and the former CEO of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Stacy Palmer, editor-in-chief of the *Chronicle of Philanthropy*, described this billionaires’ meeting as “extraordinary” and “really unusual.”

—Lee Penn, *Making The World Safe for the Elite*
SCP Journal, Vol. 33:2, 2009

GOVERNMENT

With a pre-trial hearing in January, the Dutch government opened its case against parliamentarian Geert Wilders, head of the libertarian-conservative Party for Freedom. The full-dress trial will begin later this year. The charges against Wilders allege that he incited discrimination and hatred,

and furthermore “intentionally offended a group of people, i.e. Muslims, based on their religion.” If convicted, Wilders faces two years in prison and heavy fines. A central point is Wilders’s comparisons of the Koran to *Mein Kampf*, the latter currently banned in the Netherlands. For speaking of Islam as a murderous, intolerant religion, Wilders has received countless death threats, is under 24-hour police protection, and is obliged to sleep in an assortment of secret locations under armed guard. The political, judicial, and academic establishments of the Netherlands, like those of other Western nations, are sunk deep in “diversity” authoritarianism. Instead of hunting down Geert Wilders’s persecutors, the authorities have joined forces with them. There may be a political reckoning at hand, though: Polls show that Wilders’s party could now be the most popular in the Netherlands. The nation that gave birth to Erasmus, Grotius, and Spinoza may yet have some lessons to teach the world.

—*National Review*, Feb. 22, 2010, p. 12

“The government consists of a gang of men exactly like you and me. They have, taking one with another, no special talent for the business of government; they have only a talent for getting and holding office. Their principal device to that end is to search out groups who pant and pine for something they can’t get and to promise to give it to them. Nine times out of ten that promise is worth nothing. The tenth time is made good by looting A to satisfy B.

“In other words. Government is a broker in pillage, and every election is sort of an advance auction sale of stolen goods.”

—H.L. Mencken

In Haiti, after the earthquake, no country except the United States did more than Israel. It sent a delegation of about 235, which searched the rubble and set up a field hospital. According to one report, this delegation “treated more than 1,100 patients, conducted 319 successful surgeries, delivered 16 babies including three Caesareans sections, and saved many from the ruins.” And the team left behind more than 30 tons of medical equipment and supplies. It is remarkable that this tiny Middle Eastern nation—with more than enough problems of its own—should have cared so much about a woebegone people in the faraway Caribbean. Unfortunately, Israel has ample experience in disaster relief, having been bombed and terrorized incessantly. In 2003, Iran suffered a terrible earthquake, which killed more than 25,000 people. The Israelis wanted to come immediately and rescue those they could. But Iran refused. Better to die than to suffer the ignominy of being saved by Jews. This is an indication of the psychosis besetting the Middle East. Fortunately, Haiti, for all its problems, does not have that.

—*National Review*, Feb. 22, 2010, p. 12