

Director's Notes (continued from page 1)

Obama mostly likely will, by executive order, reverse the Mexico City Policy which prohibits taxpayer funding of abortions abroad. He is expected to overturn President Bush's ban on government funded embryonic stem cell research.

Obama has stated that he would repeal the federal Defense of Marriage Act which defines marriage as between one man and one woman in our federal code. Homosexual activists will expect to get "hate crimes" and the so-called Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) passed.

Universal government pre-kindergarten is another of Obama's promises, which would be funded by your tax dollars. He took it even further in a November 2007 speech, stating that he plans to "give every American child the chance to receive the best education America has to offer - from the moment they're born to the day they graduate college."

Religious broadcasters and conservative talk show hosts have been a great source of information for pro-family advocates. Liberals will seek to reinstate the "Fairness Doctrine" which is an arcane ploy to manipulate the public airwaves and stifle free speech by requiring broadcasters to offer opposing viewpoints.

The good news is that it is clear that when a majority of Americans inundate Congress or their state legislature with their views on an issue, they are able to make a difference. With God's help


Don't be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your home." --Nehemiah 4: 14

we can succeed in changing hearts and minds and restoring our nation to its founding principles. As God preserved the faithful remnant in the Old Testament, we must be faithful to the Lord and stand strong as His modern-day remnant. We must confess our national sins as Daniel did in Daniel 9. We serve an awesome, sovereign God who has won the victory at Calvary. "My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness" and "On Christ the Solid Rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand..."

Now, more than ever, we need you to help us fight the battles. Will you consider starting a Prayer/Action Chapter or a Home Team or becoming part of an existing one? Providing your e-mail address will enable you to receive alerts regarding legislation both in Washington and in Pierre. Participating in our Encourage-A-Legislator program will bless our South Dakota lawmakers and yourself as well. Please continue to pray for our nation and our leaders—liberal and conservative.

For further information on these issues and more, go to www.cwfa.org.
—Linda Schauer, State Director

"Don't give up your ideals, don't compromise. Don't turn to expedience... We can have that shining city on the hill---but we can have it only through God's grace, our own courage, and our own will to abide by the faith of our fathers."
-- Ronald Reagan



Concerned Women for America

of
SOUTH DAKOTA

"Protecting the Rights of the Family Through Prayer and Action"

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Fall
2008

CWA Director's Notes 

Every fall I attend Concerned Women for America's Leadership Conference in Washington D.C. Joining me this year were Cindy Flakoll, our Legislative Liaison, and Betty Morris, our Prayer Chapter Coordinator. This is always a valuable time for education, encouragement, honing our leadership skills, spiritual growth, and fellowship with other CWA leaders from all over the nation.

We joined the CWA 535 team and lobbied on Capitol Hill. CWA's 535 team is ladies living in the D.C. area and some from California who come to Washington D.C. every month to be briefed on a bill and then are sent to several Congressional offices to lobby. We lobbied in the Senate offices regarding S. 1810, the Prenatally and Postnatally Diagnosed Conditions Awareness Act. S. 1810 was a bill to provide information to parents whose unborn child is suspected to be Down's syndrome or have other

prenatally diagnosed conditions. We were pleased to learn that this bill did pass in the U.S. Senate and was signed into law by President Bush.

At the Leadership Conference after a morning of educational sessions, conference attendees participated in a Prayer Walk around the White House, the Capitol, and other government buildings and monuments. The Scriptures encourage us to pray for our leaders, and it was especially meaningful to pray outside the very buildings where they work and decisions are made.

Interestingly, when our group prayed on the steps of the Supreme Court, which should be the bastion of freedom, we were stopped. The policeman told us that we could not "demonstrate" on the steps, but we could "demonstrate" on the sidewalk, as that was public property but the steps were federal property. Sadly, peaceful prayer is considered a "demonstration." I believe that our Founding Fathers, who founded this nation on Christian principles, would be appalled. James Madison said, "I believe there are more instances of the abridgement of the freedom of the people by gradual and silent encroachments of those in power than by violent and sudden usurpations."



Prayer walk in our nation's capitol

Comments on the Election

With the election in the past, we look forward to the challenges we face in the days to come. **President-Elect Obama, along with a liberal majority in Congress, has goals that, if enacted, will be a serious threat to the family and to our freedoms.**

The President-Elect promised Planned Parenthood that he would sign the Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA). FOCA would nullify every federal and state restriction on abortion such as informed consent, parental notification, bans on partial birth abortion, etc. This act would require government funding of abortions.

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Contact Your State Legislators

Governor Mike Rounds 500 East Capitol Pierre, SD 57501-5070 Phone - 605.773.3212 Fax - 605.773.4711	Representative _____ Senator _____ 500 East Capitol Pierre, SD 57501	Message for State Legislators House Lobby Phone 605.773.3851 Senate Lobby Phone 605.773.3821 Fax 605.773.4576 Fax 605.773.4576 http://legis.state.sd.us/email/index.aspx?FuseAction=Member	Internet Access: www.state.sd.us/state/legis/lrc.htm
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Contact Your National Elected Officials

Rep. Stephanie Herseth-Sandlin 326 East 8th St., Ste. 108 Sioux Falls, SD 57104 1.202.225.2801 Sioux Falls 1.866.371.8747 Rapid City 394.5280 Aberdeen 626.3440 Fax/202.225.5823 stephanie.hersethsandlin@mail.house.gov	Senator John Thune 320 North Main Ave. Ste. B Sioux Falls, SD 57104 Toll free 1.866.850.3855 Fax/202.228.5429 Sioux Falls 334.9596 Aberdeen 225.8823 Rapid City 348.7551 http://www.thune.senate.gov/index.cfm?FuseAction=Contact.Email	Senator Tim Johnson 715 So. Minnesota Ave. Sioux Falls, SD 57104 Ph/202.224.5842 or 1.800.537.0025 Fax/202.228.5765 http://johnson.senate.gov/contact/	President George W. Bush 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. Washington, DC 20500 Ph/202.456.1111 (comment line) comments@whitehouse.gov
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When E-mailing your elected officials, be sure to provide your name and mailing address (street, city, state, zip code). They will disregard your E-mail if this information is not included. Please E-mail only one congressman at a time.

Check out CWA's Web sites for information and updates on family issues. <http://sd.cwfa.org> and www.cwfa.org

Will Sanford Dabble in Unethical Research?

"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made." --Psalm 139:14

In February 2007, South Dakota's Sioux Valley Hospitals and Health Systems received a \$400 million boost from businessman and philanthropist T. Denny Sanford, changing its name to Sanford Health. Since then clinics and hospitals in other South Dakota cities have become part of Sanford Health.

Mr. Sanford sought to promote research focusing on the cure of one significant disease, particularly a childhood disease. After much investigation, Type 1 or juvenile diabetes became the targeted disease to cure.

Over the months, the *Sioux Falls Argus Leader* reported what appeared to be concerns recruiting top-notch scientists to relocate to South Dakota and become part of Sanford's research team. **Since our state laws ban embryonic stem cell research, some consider our state too restrictive for scientific research.**

In 2000, our South Dakota legislature passed, and our governor signed into law, **prohibitions on "non-therapeutic research that destroys a human embryo" or poses a "substantial risk of injury or death" to a human embryo. The law prohibits the use for research purposes of "cells or tissues that the person knows were obtained" by embryonic stem cell research.** There are five other states with such bans.

In November 2007, Mr. Sanford donated \$20 million (given over the next five years) to the Burnham Institute for Medical Research in La Jolla, California. California permits state-sponsored embryonic stem cell research (ESCR), **making Sanford a partner in unethical and controversial research** through Burnham and other collaborative efforts which perform ESCR as well as adult stem cell research. The *Argus Leader* reported on September 17, 2008, that "the controversial method [ESCR] is not now part of Sanford Health's research plans." However, Kelby Krabbenhoft, Sanford Health Executive Director, said that he was keeping that option open.



Beth Spitzer

"Thou good and faithful servant"



Beth Spitzer wears several hats of leadership in CWA of South Dakota. She has assumed the duties of Records Correspondent on our state steering committee. Beth's responsibilities include keeping accurate financial records and preparing monthly activities reports of CWA of South Dakota. She has been a Home Team Captain since 2004 and received CWA's Home Team Captain of the Year Award in 2006. In addition, Beth has taken on the duties as our Web Master <http://sd.cwfa.org>.

Breakthroughs in Ethical Stem Cell Research Renders ESCR Futile

We have been told that the advantage of embryonic stem cells is that they are pluripotent--having the ability to be programmed to grow into different types of body tissue, something that is limited with adult stem cells. This advantage in embryonic stem cells, however, does not come without a serious downside: deadly tumors, patient rejection and the destruction of human life. **While embryonic stem cell research has yet to yield one successful treatment or human trial, adult stem cells have treated more than 70 different diseases and disabilities with no tumors, no rejection and no moral objections.**

Last year separate scientists in Japan and Wisconsin discovered a process that converts adult skin cells into stem cells that mimic the properties of embryonic stem cells. This amazing breakthrough provides all the flexibility and promise of embryonic stem cells without the immoral creation and destruction of human life.

The Japan/Wisconsin discovery has vindicated President Bush's opposition to extending federal funding for embryonic stem cell research. The Bush policy directed significant funding to alternative routes, which encouraged researchers to pursue alternatives, culminating in this amazing discovery.

Lt. Gov. Dennis Daugaard was quoted in the *Argus Leader* (June 15, 2008), "The whole ... **problem with embryonic stem cells is they come from embryos, and embryos are living persons. So if one can get stem cells from other means, then do the research that way.**"

We applaud Sanford for his efforts to cure diseases. Our hope is that he will do so with adult stem cell research, which does not involve the destruction of human life. **It is our prayer that Sanford will not attempt to defy South Dakota law by dabbling in unethical and unsuccessful ESCR.**

CWA membership—State and National

A donation of \$25 or more has TWO benefits: membership in CWA of South Dakota and membership in CWA national.

All donations sent to CWA of South Dakota P.O. Box 2, New Holland, SD 57364 remain in South Dakota for state projects. All donations sent to CWA national in response to their mailings are utilized in Washington, D.C. Your renewed annual membership/additional donation is greatly appreciated. All contributions are tax-deductible.

Will Victory Hail from Planned Parenthood v. Rounds?

"... And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." --Micah 6:8

Concerned Women for America's July-August *Family Voice* contained the evocative article by President Wendy Wright, "No 'Right to Choose' for Pro-Life Doctors." She reported that **Planned Parenthood filed suit against a South Dakota law requiring abortionists to tell women that unborn babies are a distinct, unique human being and that abortion terminates a life.** President Wright stated that a judge ruled that the law will probably be found unconstitutional because it "compels the speech of doctors."

However, in a happy turn of events, our Attorney General Larry Long reported on June 28 to the *Argus Leader* that the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in a 7-4 decision in St. Louis denied granting Planned Parenthood a new injunction. The court ruled to send the case back to U.S. District Judge Karen Schreier of Rapid City. There the constitutionality of the law will be decided.

The case, *Planned Parenthood v. Rounds*, began after Planned Parenthood sued to place an injunction against enforcement of **HB 1166**, a 2005 South Dakota law passed to give women full information before an abortion is performed on her and her unborn child. In 2005 and 2006, the state defended



the law stating that the law's requirement is medically accurate and does not inhibit the abortionist's speech.

At a luncheon in late August, when asked to comment about the current status of the case, Attorney General Long remarked that the latest 8th Circuit decision means that a judge would now "be considerably less inclined to grant Planned Parenthood an [new] injunction and would likely make Planned Parenthood go to trial." **He said he and his staff are "cautiously optimistic it will hold."** Mr. Long explained that the legislature "felt compelled" to pass **HB 1166** in 2005 because they had learned that the abortionist in Sioux Falls had not been giving "full disclosure" or fully informed consent to women who sought abortion at the facility.

HB 1166 took effect in July, awaiting the ruling that will eventually end in permanent enforcement or a striking down of the law as unconstitutional. For the time being, this is certainly another step forward for South Dakota in the ongoing, critical battle for the lives of our own unborn children. Defenseless as they are, they have friends in this administration who see fit to utilize their years of experience and wisdom to defend our laws rigorously. CWA of South Dakota wishes Godspeed to all who continue the good fight.

CWA's national bi-monthly magazine, *Family Voice* has gone online.

To subscribe, please go to <http://www.cwfa.org/fvsubscribe.asp>.

Komen- Perpetuating the Problem



You can see it on yogurt, cereal, bread and clothing catalogs, just to name a few. It's that little pink ribbon designating the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation and their so-called fight against breast cancer. Proceeds from these products and the Race for the Cure raise millions of dollars for breast cancer treatment and research. But did you know that the Komen Foundation donates hundreds of thousands of dollars to Planned Parenthood, the business which performs abortions that can activate a woman's body to produce breast cancer cells? Studies have shown since 1959 that there is a link between abortion and breast cancer, and by supporting the abortion provider, Komen is enabling the disease they are attempting to eradicate. "Perhaps Komen should focus more on preventing the disease than making money and giving it to Planned Parenthood, which only perpetuates the epidemic," stated Karen Malec, president of the Coalition on Abortion/Breast Cancer. <http://www.abortionbreastcancer.com>

Encourage-A-Legislator Campaign

"... prayers, intercession ... for kings and all ... in authority." --1 Timothy 2:1



In 2009 CWA of South Dakota will begin its **10th year of prayer and encouragement** for our 105 state legislators. You are invited to participate in our Encourage-A-Legislator campaign. Will you commit to adopting a state legislator and praying for him or her daily during the 40-day session? Each week you will send your legislator a CWA-provided postcard. Simply copy the provided Scripture verse or inspirational quote, note your prayers for him or her, then stamp and mail the card. This campaign requires the participation of 105 faithful prayer warriors. **Please indicate your commitment to the Encourage-A-Legislator campaign** on the enclosed response envelope or call Linda at 605-439-3630. In mid-January, CWA of South Dakota will assign you a legislator and supply you with CWA postcards and simple instructions.

"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing." --1 Thessalonians 5:11