

Can Morality be Legislated?

"Everyone did that which was right in his own eyes." Judges 12:25

We often hear people say, "You can't legislate morality." Yet morality has been and continues to be legislated. **The question is: Whose morality should be legislated?**

Consider all those who have imposed their "morality" on over 43 million unborn children--killing them, while emotionally and physically damaging their mothers. Just whose "morality" is being promoted? It's the abortionists, pro-abortion groups, pro-abortion lawmakers, and judges who rule from the bench.

Many homosexual activists are imposing their perversion (yes, sin) on society by demanding special rights, rights reserved only for God-ordained marriage. They insist on adopting children who deserve both a mother and a father. They use persuasive tactics among impressionable students. They silence those who oppose their behavior (including the church). Lawmakers, Hollywood, and activist judges pander to the homosexual lobby, imposing their "morality" on our culture.

Consider the atheist. He wants to remove all traces

of God from schools, our heritage, etc. He seeks to remove our national motto, "In God We Trust," and the words "under God" from our pledge. He has removed prayer and the Ten Commandments from the public square.

Freedom, prosperity and happiness require responsible boundaries and a virtuous standard.

The Thirteenth Amendment declared that slavery was immoral. We have laws criminalizing murder, pedophilia, theft, rape, etc.—all someone's "morality."

Biblical Israel's downfall was *"everyone did that which was right in his own eyes."* Judges 12:25.

People of various ideologies want their "morality" legislated. Morality has always been legislated.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

- **Web Master** to update our state CWA web site.
- **Communications Coordinator** to complete our State Steering Committee. Requires basic computer and writing skills.

Call Linda at 1.605.439.3630

Contact Your State Legislatures

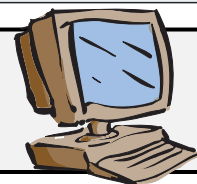


<p>Governor Mike Rounds 500 East Capitol Pierre, SD 57501-5070 Phone – 605.773.3212 Fax – 605.773.4711</p>	<p>Representative _____ Senator _____ 500 East Capitol Pierre, SD 57501</p>	<p>Message for State Legislators</p> <table> <tr> <td>House Lobby Phone 605.773.3851 Fax 605.773.4576</td> <td>Senate Lobby Phone 605.773.3821 Fax 605.773.4576</td> </tr> </table>	House Lobby Phone 605.773.3851 Fax 605.773.4576	Senate Lobby Phone 605.773.3821 Fax 605.773.4576	<p>Internet Access: www.state.sd.us/ state/legis/ lrc.htm</p>
House Lobby Phone 605.773.3851 Fax 605.773.4576	Senate Lobby Phone 605.773.3821 Fax 605.773.4576				

Contact Your National Elected Officials


<p>Rep. Stephanie Herseth 1504 Longworth House Bldg. Washington, DC 20515 1.202.225.2801 Sioux Falls 1.866.371.8747 Rapid City 394.5280 Aberdeen 626.3440 Fax/202.225.5823 stephanie.herseth@mail.house.gov</p>	<p>Senator Tom Daschle 509 Hart Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510 Ph/202.224.2321 or 1.800.424.9094 Fax/202.228.4136 or 202.224.2047 Tom_daschle@daschle.senate.gov</p>	<p>Senator Tim Johnson 502 Hart Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510 Ph/202.224.5842 or 1.800.537.0025 Fax/202.228.5765 TIM@johnson.senate.gov</p>	<p>President George W. Bush 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. Washington, DC 20500 Ph/202.456.1111 (comment line) president@whitehouse.gov</p>
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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 site for information and updates on family issues.

www.cwfa.org



Concerned Women for America

of

SOUTH DAKOTA

Protecting the Rights of the Family Through Prayer and Action

P.O. Box 2
New Holland, SD 57364
Phone 605.439.3630
Fax 605.439.5302

Fall 2004

Director's Notes

It is the Duty of Christians to Vote

Do we assume that all our Christian friends vote? If you were to take a count to confirm your assumption, you might be surprised.

The Susan B. Anthony List, a prominent pro-life lobbying organization, discovered that 37 percent of their members were not registered to vote and 40 percent either never or only sometimes voted. Another pro-life group, Priests for Life, was astonished to find that almost half of its members were not registered to vote. In the 2000 elections, of the 59 million eligible evangelical voters, less than 60 percent were registered to vote. In addition, only 25 percent of the 59 million actually voted! **That means only one in four evangelicals voted in 2000.** These are disconcerting statistics for the Church. I wonder if our CWA membership would show similar figures.



What prevents Christians from voting? Do they regard voting as "not spiritual"? Do they think, "Politics' is dirty business"? Are they ill informed? Are they merely complacent?

In Matthew 13:25, Jesus gives a parable about a man who sowed good seeds in his field. But while he was asleep, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the good seeds. **Much of the blame for the condition of America rests on the shoulders of the good men, the Church, the people of faith who went to sleep and allowed the enemy to enter and sow his tares.** Edmund

Burke said in the late 1700s, "All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men [and women] to do nothing."

God instituted government (Romans 13), not with the intent that His people should ignore it, but rather participate in it. God has given us several areas of stewardship—our family, our work, our finances, and our church. **Sadly, the area of stewardship that is often neglected is the area of citizenship and government.**

President Garfield (who was also a minister) said, "Now, more than ever before, the people are responsible for the character of their Congress. If that body be ignorant, reckless, and corrupt, it is because the people tolerate ignorance, recklessness, and corruption."

Citizens once felt responsible for maintaining good government. They were well-informed and active voters. It was their Christian responsibility. For example, the election of Daniel Webster in 1824 for U.S. House of Representatives yielded a 100 percent voter turnout.

It is the responsibility and duty of every Christian to cast his informed and prayerful vote. Fr. Frank Pavone of Priests for Life, said, "Sometimes people of faith say, 'Well, God is going to take care of everything.' **But what Christians need to realize is that God takes care of everything precisely through His people. He always calls His people into the battle.**" (Citizen, July 2004)

Exodus 18: 21 *"But select capable men from all the people—men who fear God, trustworthy men who hate dishonest gain—and appoint them as officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens."*

—Linda Schauer, State Director



Miss Wendy Wright, senior policy director from CWA's Washington DC office, will be among the speakers for the South Dakota Right to Life Convention. Plan to attend and meet Miss Wright.

You say you are not able to pre-register by October 1, but you still wish to attend the convention? Then please e-mail or call Cindy at flakfarm@drtel.net or 605.358.8651 to make arrangements. No one will be turned away from this opportunity to see and hear Wendy Wright.



Update on Planned Parenthood Lawsuit

Memo to CWA from
Attorney General Long

South Dakota has a common sense law, SDCL 34-23A-6, requiring all abortions performed after 12 weeks to have certain restrictions for the welfare of the woman. Planned Parenthood has challenged the constitutionality of our law in *Planned Parenthood of MN/SD v. M. Michael Rounds*, claiming, "The state imposes a substantial obstacle on women's access to abortion services, and there is no medical justification for doing so."

The South Dakota Attorney General's staff is standing firm in their fight to defend our pro-life laws. On September 9, Attorney General Larry Long issued this statement to CWA of South Dakota: "In January 2002, Planned Parenthood sued in federal court to strike down South Dakota's law which required second trimester abortions to be performed only in a hospital or clinic which had a supply of blood immediately available. The district court struck down the law; the State appealed and the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals reversed and sent the case back to the District Court. The Eighth Circuit Court held that the District Court erroneously concluded that abortions were generally available in hospitals in South Dakota. The State has asked the Court to fix a briefing and filing schedule, but Planned Parenthood is resisting the proposed schedule and has asked for more time for discovery. **South Dakota has not won the war in this case, but we did win a battle and we are encouraged.**"

County-by-County Prayer Vigil

Prayer Guide Available

In the June election, a CWA member planned a prayer vigil in her county on Election Day with outstanding results. She recruited prayer warriors to pray for an hour or a half hour each during the 12 hours the polls were open.

Imagine the impact we could have on the election if every county in South Dakota organized a prayer vigil. Do you know at least 12 people in your county who would commit to pray? Would you

be willing to organize an Election Day Prayer Vigil in your county?

Please request our free prayer guide to assist you and your prayer warriors. Our prayer guide will list petitions with appropriate Scripture so you can **"pray the Scripture"** as the Holy Spirit leads you.

You may request your prayer guide using the response envelope or calling the state office at 605.439.3630.

"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16b

South Dakota RIGHT TO LIFE's Annual Convention

presents

"LIFE: The First Right - Taking a Stand"

* Saturday, October 9, 2004 * Registration: 8:00 AM* Banquet: 5:30 p.m.
Ramada Inn Convention Center, Aberdeen

+++ Featured Speaker: Fr. Frank Pavone +++

President of non-denominational National Pro-Life Religious Council

"The Necessity of Christian Involvement in the Political Process"

also featuring:

- Dr. Wanda Franz, president - National Right to Life Committee
- Dr. Paul Byrne, bioethicist/advisor - Culture of Life Foundation
- Wendy Wright, senior policy director - Concerned Women for America



Miss Wright will be speaking at the following sessions:

Teens for Life: "What Teens Can Do That Others Can't"

Workshop: "Hot Topics for Pro-Lifers"

General Session: "Unraveling Abortion Advocates' Strategy"

Plus workshops and booths

For more information, contact:

Concerned Women for America of South Dakota

Phone: Linda 605.439.3630 or Cindy 605.358-8651

E-mail: lschauer@valleytel.net or cindycwa@yahoo.com

What you can do to impact the outcome of the election

- ✓ Register to vote—and vote! (To register on line, go to www.cwfa.org.)
- ✓ Have your family and friends register to vote—and vote.
- ✓ Organize a voter registration drive in your church.
- ✓ Assist shut-in folks to vote absentee.
- ✓ Assist college students and snowbirds to vote absentee.
- ✓ Encourage voters to vote early at the county courthouse.
- ✓ Volunteer by giving rides to the polls on Election Day, poll watching, etc.
- ✓ Volunteer for your favorite candidate's campaign.
- ✓ Pray and organize a County Prayer Vigil (see below)
- ✓ Vote your values!

Encourage a Legislator--Our Sixth Year

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

Rep. Thomas Hennies thanked his encourager, "Just a note to thank you for praying for me and the rest of our state's legislators. It means a great deal to all of us, that you and others think of us." Rep. Kathy Miles expressed her appreciation for our adopt a legislator program, "I take my responsibility as a legislator serious and I pray daily that I make the right decision for the people of South Dakota. We all need God's guidance in our decisions."

Because CWA believes prayer is crucial to revive and restore our nation, we would like you to join us by participating in our Encourage a Legislator Campaign for the 2005 South Dakota Legislative Session.

South Dakota has 105 legislators. Will you commit to adopting one and praying for him or her daily during the six-week session in January and February? Each week you will send your legislator a CWA-pro-

vided postcard. Simply copy the provided Scripture verse/inspirational quote, express appreciation for the legislator's service, and note your prayers for him or her. Then, you simply stamp and mail the card.

We need the participation of 105 faithful prayer warriors. Please indicate your commitment to the Encourage a Legislator Campaign on the response envelope or call (605) 439.3630. CWA of South Dakota will assign a legislator and supply you with CWA postcards and simple instructions early in January.

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



Governor Removes State's Link to Planned Parenthood

Gov. M. Michael Rounds urged the State Library Board to remove a Planned Parenthood link from the State Library's Web site for teens. On July 12, Gov. Rounds stated in the Argus Leader, "I'm not sure the state should be in the business of promoting a particular cause. ... A clear pro-choice message comes through strongly."

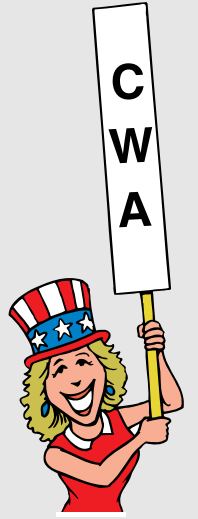
It was reported that a Huron middle-school librarian in a Christian school had previously objected to the site when she discovered such items as a link called "Go Ask Alice," which provided explicit advice on having sex. Bishop Robert Carlson of the Diocese of Sioux Falls then made the governor aware of the site.

The big question for Christian families is: How did we get to this point and what can we do so that all young people will be spared the evil, ungodly agenda of groups like Planned Parenthood?

On August 20, Gov. Rounds reiterated his desire to stand up to Planned Parenthood when he stated in a press release, "We need to assure the public that content found on the state Web site is in the public's interest and is appropriate for all citizens."

CWA of South Dakota praised Gov. Rounds immediately after he announced he was urging removal of the objectionable site. On July 29, your leadership received a response thanking us for sharing our thoughts and telling us to share his comments with "anyone else who is interested."

Please send your own personal thank you to Gov. Rounds. (See his contact information on page 4.) His courage and forthrightness in dealing with this issue makes us proud to have him as our governor!



CWA Member Helps Influence Party Platform

Mary Jean Jensen, CWA of South Dakota member from Lemmon, recently had the privilege of attending the "Protecting Families" sub-committee hearing at the Republican National Convention. She stated that the sub-committee "kept ALL the pro-life planks and statements" that

were in the previous version of the platform. Members "were not able to discourage the 'family planning' issues, but did add more abstinence statements."

These statements did indeed remain in the final version of the platform, at the completion of the platform sessions of the convention.

Mary Jean spoke with a CWA steering committee member about the need for all citizens to stand by our beliefs when working to influence voters, and how necessary it is for candidates to read, understand and take to heart a political party's platform when conservative values are at stake.