



Spring/Summer 2017
News Report



Praying, Informing and Mobilizing to Action

“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.” Matthew 5:14

A Word From Our State Director

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Where Does Our Hope Lie?

If you are like me, the recent fluctuating viewpoints with regard to HB2 has filled you with anticipation, uncertainty, and angst. Last month, we watched as our highest Republican leadership lead the assembly to repeal HB2. A cacophony of different voices loudly blasted the issues both prior to and after the vote. CWA of North Carolina is incredulous with this so-called compromise as we observed our Republican leadership and our Democrat governor, normally polarized in opposition, were in agreement with this repeal. As our Lieutenant Gov. Dan Forest rightly reasoned, “If HB2 was right to begin with, which I believe it was, then why are we repealing it? If it is wrong, then why wait four years to fix it? Such ambiguity undercuts the legitimacy of a law that we have fought so hard to defend. We are yielding the moral high ground and giving in to a new form of corporate extortion from an unaccountable, out of state,

non-elected, tax-exempt organization (NCAA) and for what?... a ballgame? Why are we allowing them to dictate to us, laws that govern the protection of our people? We should have the backbone to tell them to take a hike.” Can I get an AMEN?!

So, we have essentially kicked the can down the road for four more years in order to win back the NCAA who has been bullying North Carolina with the loss of tournament games in our state. The author of HB2, State Sen. Dan Bishop said, “It almost inescapably implies that 32 months hence, handfuls of local officials can use government power to coerce people to embrace an ideology of sexual ethics contrary to their values.” Whatever legislature is in session in 2020 will be forced to deal with this same issue yet again. What is really puzzling is that many of these legislators easily won with strong accolades by the people in the 2016 elections because of their bold courageous



**HE IS RISEN!
HE IS RISEN INDEED!**

Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen. (Revelation 1:5-7)

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Hope

“Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. For me to write the same things to you is not tedious, but for you it is safe ... Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 3:1, 12-14)



Together we can help change the course of events through prayer and action.

stand in defense of HB2, so why the change of heart now?! What could be at stake that so many who we counted on to vote in favor are now flipping their votes? Perhaps it's the business community threatening to withhold support from our legislators running for office next year. At any rate, I agree with Dr. Mark Creech, Executive Director of the Christian Action League who remarked, “It's inconsistent to bitterly complain about activist judges, but then pass the decision to the courts.”

As bewildering to watch, it has also been somewhat confounding to explain to others. Just this week I was interviewed by some political science students

from Ohio State University on the topic of HB2. Their understanding was somewhat different from the facts that I shared with them. After leading them through the timeline and listing the different facts, I believe they were a bit surprised to learn that in the end our side capitulated. There are questions we may not yet know. Might our legislature foresee a plan for making provisions and adequate protections to include in the future ruling of this bill? Time will tell. Regardless . . .

Where does our hope lie? Is it in our legislature? In our leadership? Do you feel powerless? Daniel 2:21 reminds us that He is sovereign over all, “He

changes times and seasons; He removes kings and sets up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding.”

So let us persevere as we continue to diligently pray and take action. For it is in these things that we will be held accountable to the Lord. CWA Founder and Chairman Beverly LaHaye has said many times, “We are not called to win. We are called to fight.” “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.” (2 Corinthians 5:10)

Moments of Light



By Mary Frances Forrester, Associate Director, State Legislative Liaison

I read a story once about several sailors who were shipwrecked and adrift in a small boat on a stormy sea. One night, after several days had passed, they spotted the lights of a large ship in the distance. How could they attract the attention of someone on that ship? They had a lantern and only one match. Was it possible to light the lantern and signal that ship?

Someone had to be the one to strike that one match and light the lantern. They were gripped with fear. How could they decide who would accept that responsibility? They decided to cast lots. The youngest sailor won the task. His lips quivered as he prayed that the match would

light and that he could keep the flame cupped in his trembling hands until the lantern was lit. The young sailor lit the stub of the candle, closed the door of the lantern and they all watched as the little light flickered. No one breathed for fear it would go out. Their lives depended on that little light.

The light caught and the lantern was carefully raised in a distress signal to the distant ship. The lookout on the bridge spotted the light and notified the captain. The sailors were rescued.

Every Christian has a responsibility to use their moment of light to change the course of events for good. Sometimes it requires great courage and considerable risk. Other

times a small flicker can accomplish a great mission.

Matthew 5:13-16 tells us to “let your light so shine that others will see our good works and glorify our Father who is in heaven.” What about your light? Would you like to join it with ours? Please pray about participating in the many opportunities we offer this year.

We would love to have you join with CWA of North Carolina as we encourage our state and national delegations, as well as our president, first lady, vice president and second lady during April, May, and June. If you would like to join with us, please contact Jill Coward, State Director, at director@northcarolina.cwfa.org or 704-516-0820.

State Legislative Update



By Andrea George, Legislative Action Leader

HB328, the Athletic Associations Accountability

Act would investigate whether the NCAA and the ACC have violated their tax-exempt status by engaging in political or legislative activities with a provision for transparency related to the state's participation in intercollegiate athletic association. (Go to ncleg.net/gascripts/BillLookup/BillLookup.pl?Session=2017&BillID=hb328 to read bill and check status.)

HB62 Women's Right to Know/Ashley's Law adds language to the current bill which would inform the woman prior to her drug-induced abortion (i.e. RU-486) of the option to reverse her abortion, a procedure that has a 55% success rate and pioneered here in North Carolina by Dr. Matthew Harrison. Go

to ncleg.net/gascripts/BillLookup/BillLookup.pl?Session=2017&BillID=HB62 to read bill and check status.)

HB789 End of Life

Option Act would make physician-assisted suicide legal in North Carolina. Ryan T. Anderson, a Heritage Foundation scholar, states this is in great conflict with a physician's Hippocratic Oath, which proclaims, "I will keep them from harm and injustice. I will neither give a deadly drug to anybody who asked for it, nor will I make a suggestion to this effect." Yet, we learn that just last year the American Medical Association (AMA) is considering changing its position from *opposed* to *neutral* (my.ncfamily.org/site/MessageViewer?em_id=4730.0&dlv_id=8570). We are especially concerned for our elderly, that when their care should become more

important, their lives are being devalued instead. Currently, five states and the District of Columbia have legalized physician-assisted suicide and 16 other states have introduced bills to allow it. (Go to ncleg.net/gascripts/BillLookup/BillLookup.pl?Session=2017&BillID=hb789 to read bill and check status.)

TAKE ACTION:

- Encourage your state house representative and senator to vote accordingly if these issues come before them for a vote: YES on HB328, YES on HB62, NO on HB789.
- Call the AMA at (800) 621-8335 and urge them not to change their stance on physician-assisted suicide.

PLEASE PRAY for all these issues.



"... When the day of evil comes ... stand your ground, and after you have done everything ... stand. Stand firm then ... that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel."
Ephesians 6:13-14, 19

Speak Up For Those Who Have No Voice In Your City



By Katherine Hearn, Home Team Captain

The genocide of abortion in North Carolina affects us all. In 2015, of the 27,631 abortions that occurred in our state, 22,846 of them were done on North Carolina residents. Most abortions in our state occur within 10 counties (with Mecklenburg totaling the highest number of 10,073 followed by Wake County's 7,530). Yet, the data shows that pregnant women in every county are still having abortions, even though they may have to travel to obtain one. (For more information go to

ccnrtl.org.)

God is the Creator of all life: "God created man in his own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them" (Genesis 1:27). The psalmist in 139:13-16 beautifully portrays God's precious creation as "knit together in my mother's womb and wonderfully made." God reveals not only His creation but His plans for us. "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet

to the nations." (Jeremiah 1:5). Many more affirming words from our Creator God states His purpose, plans, and value He has given to all human life from the moment of conception.

What is the Christian's responsibility to the unborn and to the woman with an unplanned pregnancy? God, again, has made it clear in His Word, beginning in Genesis 9:5-6, "And for your lifeblood I will surely demand an accounting. I will demand an accounting from every animal. And

from each man, too, I will demand an accounting for the life of his fellow man. Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made man. Further in Proverbs 24:11-12, God commands us to "rescue those being led away to death ... If you say, 'But we knew nothing about this,' does not He who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not He who guards your life know it?"

Please begin to pray about how you might be led to speak up for those who



have no voice in your city. "With God all things are possible." (Matthew 19:26). Let us continue to pray and stand as Concerned Women for America here in North Carolina until the day when abortion ends!

Important Note: As a post-abortive parent, I thank God for His forgiveness, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness" (1 John

1:9). There is help and healing available if you have had an abortion. Please do not hesitate to let me know if I can help you on that journey. Give me a call at 704-877-2551.

Let's Return to Biblical Parenting



Featured writer Dr. Rosemary Fernandez Stein, M.D., Pediatrician

As a pediatrician, author, and speaker, I am often asked: How did our society break down, why are our children no longer resilient, and our adult children without faith, values and morals? How have we strayed so far from our Judeo-Christian roots? Though most blame the problem on the media, technology, and the school system, the core of the problem lies in our child rearing. Our main responsibility is to build and prepare tomorrow's generation of people.

For over 150 years, American parents used a traditional parenting method where parents were the center of the home and children were satellites placed there to learn from their parents. "Kids were seen and not heard" and expected to learn the morals and values from their parents in an active manner.

Sixty years ago, Dr. Benjamin Spock turned child raising upside down with his book, *Baby and Child Care*, advocating that children learn through their own experiences, deciding what and when to eat, when to sleep, and that parents were there to help them in this

process. Self-esteem became the attribute to foster in children. Mom's role became damaged when she turned into a human vending machine and unknowingly and irreparably changed the outcomes for our children's futures.

Notice when you're out in public that children are using pacifiers at age three, in diapers at four and unable to cope as they age. Older children fall apart easily, attempt suicide or harm others, all starkly different from 60 years ago and the direct result of our modern parenting method. Parents now consult their pediatricians, books, and parenting sites to help them, rather than their own parents' guidance. This sad outcome has resulted in children unprepared for life, a snowflake that melts at the first encounter with life's trials. But there is hope!

Women can change this! We are the ones who raise the adults of tomorrow — hopefully, such a mom raises instead a Ronald Reagan, the greatest American President of modern times... or a mom who empowers responsible daughters who later become like Michele Bachmann! We must save one child at a time ...

beginning with changing how and why we raise children, individually, and as a community of moms who are in the people building business. It is our job to train our children as self confident and resilient.

It is time for an American Parenting Revolution. We can reclaim the health, safety and future of our children by preparing them for the trials of life. American women can save America one child at a time!

Dr. Stein is our featured writer for this newsletter. You may check out her website at: drrosemarystein.com/.

Dr. Stein was educated in New York, in the Dominican Republic, in Canada, and went to medical school in New Jersey. She and her husband, Dr. David Stein, founded their own pediatric practice, are strongly pro-life and have supported pregnancy centers, helped under privileged children, and provided tutoring programs for neglected or abandoned children.



YWA is a student-oriented initiative that is geared toward high school and college campuses to bring active groups of like-minded women together to promote conservative values in their schools and the nation. For more information on this CWA project, go to concernedwomen.org/special-projects/ywa/.



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO THE
CWA OF NORTH CAROLINA

Defender of the Faith
_____ ✝ _____

**P R A Y E R
B R E A K F A S T**

TO BE HELD
SATURDAY
MAY 6, 2017

Billy Graham
Evangelistic
Association
Headquarters

4350 Westmont Drive
Charlotte, NC 28217

10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Please register
by April 25

SPEAKERS

Roy Austin Graham
Vice President of Donor Relations,
Billy Graham Evangelistic
Association & Son of Franklin
Graham

Dr. Tom Phillips
Vice President, Billy Graham
Evangelistic Association & Executive
Director, Billy Graham Library

Mario Diaz, Esq.
Legal Counsel, Concerned Women
for America & Constitutional Scholar

Tami Fitzgerald
Executive Director for NC Values
Coalition, Chairwoman of Vote FOR
Marriage NC & former Executive
Director of NC4Marriage

AWARDS TO BE PRESENTED

The framed resolution designating Dr. Billy Graham as *World Evangelist* will be presented to Dr. Graham's grandson, Roy Austin Graham, for the Billy Graham Library.

Annual Senator James S. Forrester Award: *"Outstanding Legislator in Defense of Family Values"* to a North Carolina state legislator who has stood boldly and courageously for our Biblical family values. This year's recipient will be Sen. Dan Bishop (R-District 39).

**This Is an Event
You Don't Want
to Miss!**

It will be an exciting time for like-minded supporters and friends to come together from across the state to join us for our May 6 Prayer Breakfast in Charlotte at the beautiful Billy Graham Evangelistic Association Headquarters!



Make plans now to attend and be sure to invite your friends!



Women, men and teens are all encouraged and welcome to attend.

**Please register by
April 25 by calling:
Jill Coward
State Director
704-516-0820**





“Act, and God Will Act”

Let us Act and Pray for the Injustice of Human Trafficking in North Carolina



By Tammy Harris, Prayer/Action Chapter Coordinator and Prayer/Action Chapter Leader

I am so proud to call myself a member of Concerned Women for America. The core values of CWA are directly aligned with the teaching of our Lord. We are called by God to protect and care for our neighbor. We are expected to give a voice to those who cannot speak for themselves. We are expected to do more than feel saddened by the plights of the abused. As Christians we are called to pray and ACT in a world full of injustice.

I am honored to serve as the Prayer/Action Chapter Coordinator of North Carolina. I am able to connect with many amazing members of CWA throughout this great state. Also, I am privileged to act as the Director of Development for Redeeming Joy, a housing and restoration center for female, adult victims of sex trafficking. Over the last year, I have learned much about the epidemic of trafficking. And let's be clear, trafficking in the state of North Carolina is an

epidemic. The media is finally giving attention to this reality, one that is occurring right under our noses. Many of you have read these under-estimated statistics:

1. It is the fastest growing business of organized crime, and it is estimated that more than 1,700 girls are trafficked in North Carolina each year.
2. Over 72% of sex trafficking victims are currently or were homeless.
3. The average entry age is 12 years old.
4. Nationally, there are only 682 beds to give refuge to all rescued victims of sex trafficking (The Home Foundation estimates that each year there are less than 100 beds for each 100,000 victims).
5. Nationally, a total of 33 residential programs were found to be currently operational for trafficking victims.
6. North Carolina is a “top 10” state for sex trafficking in our country, and Charlotte is number six in the nation for this crime.

These staggering statistics tell me this is a crime that is not being taken seriously by our current representatives. Why is there such inadequate funding allocated to the homes that give refuge to victims (no increase in funding in almost a decade)? Why are our law enforcement agents only required to attend two hours of training a year to identify victims of human trafficking? How can they identify victims with a lack of resources?

So, what can we do? Pray that our representatives will take appropriate action. Take Action. St. Joan of Arc, the Patron Saint of sexual assault victims, said, “Act and God Will Act!” We all have a responsibility to do more to help the victims in our nation. Someone once told me that when we say, “I’m too busy”, it gives Satan pleasure. What change can we bring if we are all too busy to act? Yes, prayer is fundamental to change. Yet, let us not forget the words our God gave to us in James 2:26, “As a body without a spirit is dead, so is faith without deeds”.



Be Our Friend!

Concerned Women for America of North Carolina



Stay Informed! Stay Inspired! Stay Active!

Visit nc.cwfa.org regularly for legislative updates, event invitations, project opportunities and much more. *Check it out!*

Let Us Work Together to Defend Our Freedoms in Washington



By Miriam Harris, 535 Coordinator

Justice Neil Gorsuch!

As I'm sure you know, Judge Neil Gorsuch has been confirmed by the U.S. Senate as the addition to the U.S. Supreme Court. It was a hard battle, but we did it.

Right after the vote on Friday CWA's CEO and President Penny Nance stated, "Today we witnessed an historic victory for our country. One that proves government 'for the People, by the People' is alive and well. The Senate overcame historic partisan obstructionism and restored original Senate precedent.

"On behalf of our members, I want to thank Leader McConnell, as well as Sen. Grassley, for their decisive leadership, which gave the American people a voice in November on the kind of justice they believed should fill the Supreme Court vacancy.

"I also want to thank President Trump for keeping his promise to nominate a constitutionalist judge to the Supreme Court. It is hard to imagine someone better suited to serve on our nation's highest court than Judge Gorsuch.

"Judge Gorsuch follows the law wherever it leads, regardless of personal opinion or political preference. His constitutional jurisprudence makes him an ardent

defender of the rights that keep us free.

"Judge Gorsuch will elevate the proper role of the judiciary and refuse to legislate from the bench. He is what America needs in this time of partisan dysfunction and obstructionism from the far left-the bipartisan support for his confirmation is proof.

"Our prayers continue to be with Judge, soon-to-be Justice, Gorsuch and his family as they begin this new chapter."

Please be sure to visit ConcernedWomen.org for more information about Justice Gorsuch.

Repealing and Replacing Obamacare

Repealing and replacing Obamacare and the defunding of Planned Parenthood will continue to be in the news until Congress can agree upon a bill guaranteed to replace the American Healthcare Act (AHCA). As I am sure you all know, the AHCA was pulled from the floor of the House and will not receive a vote. Right now, we are left with ObamaCare. CWA was responsible for assuring that there was 100% pro-life language in the AHCA. CWA will work against the passage of the AHCA if it does not have pro-life protections. We will not capitulate to replacing Obamacare with a plan that covers or incentivizes

abortion. To meet our standards for promoting the passage, we will also ensure there are specific detailed protections for life and conscience which has been communicated to both houses of Congress, to Vice President Pence, HHS Secretary Tom Price, and President Trump. We are working to ensure that future administrations cannot arbitrarily effect new changes through executive orders so we are working to ensure these protections are written in non-negotiable statutes. Please call and write your Congressman urging them not to back down from their campaign promises. Find your Congressman at house.gov/representatives/find/.

States Win with HHS Title X Rule Repeal

Good news! On March 30, the Senate voted to pass S. J. Res 13 51-50, sending the Congressional Review Act to President Trump's desk. This resolution repeals the Obama Administration's midnight HHS rule that prevents states from redirecting Title X funding away from abortion providers to centers that they deem provide the best care for their citizens.

Religious Freedom

Religious freedom policies will continue to be very important this year as we see Americans losing their jobs and businesses because of their Christian beliefs. For North Carolina, this



CWA national staff Cheri Short, V.P. External Affairs, with CWA of North Carolina Jan Lewis, Legislative Action Leader in Washington, D.C. at the March for Life.

It's Not Too Late to Sign Up for the Encourage-A-Legislator Project

Our North Carolina state and federal legislators, Council of State, President and Vice President, more than ever, need our prayers and encouragement.

Please consider contacting us today to be part of our Encourage-A-Legislator team. You simply commit to praying for one specific individual listed above for the months of May and June and send an encouraging postcard, which we provide, for each of those months.

This is not a lobbying effort, only prayer and encouragement.

Contact us today to sign up! (Contact information is on the front cover.)

emerges in the now repealed bathroom bill, gender identity public school instruction calamity (ncvalues.org/jacobs_new_dress), the blocking of a Raleigh pregnancy center from opening (brnow.org/

News/February-2017/Pro-life-ministry-barred-again-from-Raleigh-facility), as well as the attempt to block the pro-life voice at a Charlotte abortion clinic (lovelifecharlotte.com/single-post/Love-Life-Charlotte-is

-Coming-Under-Fire-From-The-Charlotte-City-Council)

We must keep watch over our city and state officials as they attempt to establish or acquiesce our religious liberties. "Let every person

be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God." (Romans 13:1)

Events You Don't Want to Miss!

**SAVE
THE
DATES**

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7

17th Annual Day at the Capital

North Carolina Legislative Building in Raleigh

A time filled with such things as a policy briefing on the current issues on which CWA of North Carolina is taking a stand, visiting with your legislators, worship and prayer service in the chapel and more.

★ Sign up today by contacting us at director@northcarolina.cwfa.org.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 -
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30**

CWA of North Carolina Joins

Love Life Charlotte

A Preferred Women's Health of Charlotte

3220 Latrobe Drive

Charlotte, NC 28211

Love Life Charlotte (lovelifecharlotte.com) is a 40-Week Journey of Hope, a campaign uniting and mobilizing the Church to create a culture of love and life that will bring an end to abortion in Charlotte in 2017. CWA of North Carolina has committed to sponsoring the week of September 24-30 concluding with a prayer walk on September 30 at the A Preferred Women's Health of Charlotte that goes from 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

★ Watch for more information to come on our webpage at nc.cwfa.org.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

CWA Leadership Training

Charlotte (TBD) 12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., lunch included

For current CWA leaders, those interested in leadership and those interested in getting more involved. Neighboring states are welcome as well as young women who may be interesting in starting a CWA Young Women for America chapter.

★ Watch for more information to come on our webpage at nc.cwfa.org.

OCTOBER (DATE TBD)

CWA of North Carolina Joins

40 Days for Life

Outside several abortion clinics around the state and country.

40 Days for Life is a focused pro-life campaign with a vision to access God's power through prayer, fasting, and peaceful vigil to end abortion.

★ Go to 40DaysForLife.com for more information.

OCTOBER

CWA of North Carolina Joins

Love Letters

A letter-writing project (abortionworker.com/loveletters) sponsored by And Then There Were None (founded by Abby Johnson, a former Planned Parenthood clinic director) to reach the abortion clinic workers who feel trapped, offering options resulting in exiting the industry, for emotional and spiritual healing. CWA of North Carolina has committed to participating throughout the month of October.

★ Watch for more information to come on our webpage.

Make plans to attend one or more of these events.

Invite a friend! Women, men and teens are all welcome and encouraged to attend!

Leadership Opportunities Now Available!

Interested in state legislation, communicating CWA of North Carolina's message via multi-media? How about writing and acting on one of our seven core issues on a regular basis? We are currently looking and praying for a Legislative Action Leader, Communications Coordinator and Issues Specialist. If you are at all interested in discussing any of these opportunities, contact us today! Email us at director@northcarolina.cwfa.org, or give us a call at 704-516-0820. You are needed! We look forward to hearing from you!

