



CONCERNED WOMEN *for* AMERICA OF SOUTH DAKOTA

FALL 2025

The Gospel on Display Through Erika Kirk

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From the moment she stepped onto the platform, every one of the 100,000-plus in attendance and the millions watching online could sense the supernatural strength that carried Charlie Kirk's widow to deliver her remarks at the service in memory of her late husband. Every step to the podium, every gesture, every word felt too heavy for ordinary human skill. She needed help from above. And that is precisely what she got.

But the most amazing thing is that the whole world stood as witnesses. If you have not watched it, please take the time to consider it. This is [no ordinary speech](#).



We didn't get to hear the most impactful thing about the speech. That prayer you could see her make as she prepared to speak—that moment between God and daughter—carried the whole thing through to completion.

God stood at the center of it all. Not Charlie. It is how Charlie would have wanted it. From the beginning, she quoted one of her husband's favorite Bible verses, Isaiah 6:8, "Here I am, Lord, send me." Charlie spoke about it as he shared his submission to the Lord at a rally, quoting it. She recalled how she cautioned him, "God will take you up on that."

Erika understands God is sovereign over all things. He is at work in all things. Even through this most sour experience for her and her family. "Over these past 11 days, through all the pain, never before have I found as much comfort as I now do. And the words of our Lord's prayer: 'Thy will be done.' God's love was revealed to me on the very day my husband was murdered."

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The Pro-Life Battleground: Where We Stand

"For You formed my inward parts; You knitted me together in my mother's womb." –Psalm 139:13

As a pro-life organization founded in 1979, Concerned Women for America provides ongoing involvement at all levels of pro-life advocacy, including education, lobbying, media presence, and grassroots efforts. Currently, there are about 926,000 abortions per year in the U.S. Here is an update on the latest ongoing issues.

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Stop Sexually Explicit Books in School Libraries

"I will set before my eyes no vile thing." –Psalm 101:3

In school districts across South Dakota, students as young as 10 years old have access to sexually explicit books, some with graphic illustrations, sexual content, and gender ideology.

Books like *Tricks*, *Gender Queer*, *Flamer*, *This Book Is Gay*, and *All Boys Aren't Blue* contain content so graphic that concerned parents reading excerpts at

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Erika Continued

Her faith in the Lord gives her a holy perspective. “One moment, Charlie was doing what he loved—arguing and debating on campus, fighting for the Gospel Truth in front of a big crowd. And then he blinked. He blinked and saw his Savior in Paradise. And all the heavenly mysteries were revealed to him.”

That is not a pabulum for the Christian. It is the truth of the Gospel. It is a great reality. For us, “to live is Christ and to die is gain.” (Philippians 1:21) We “do not grieve as others who have no hope.” (1Thessalonians 4:13)

But the power from where she spoke came to life for everyone to see, as she embodied the Gospel while speaking of her husband’s dream to reach young men:

“My husband, Charlie. He wanted to save young men, just like the one who took his life. That young man. That young man ... On the cross, our Savior said, ‘Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.’ That man. That young man. I forgive him. I forgive him because it was what Christ did and is what Charlie would do. The answer to hate is not hate. The answer we know from the Gospel is love and always love.”

This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ: the forgiveness of our sins, through the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. It is foolishness to the world, but it is the power of God for those who are being saved (1 Corinthians 1:18). It was the strength of the Gospel that, amazingly, led Erika to forgive the man who killed her husband. The Spirit of God gave her the strength to say those words out loud in front of millions of people, including her children, and the assassin himself. There was no dry eye for those hearing with ears to hear.

Choose the path Charlie wanted to lay out for America. Choose to walk, as Erika commended, as she finished her remarks. “Choose prayer. Choose courage. Choose beauty. Choose adventure. Choose family. Choose a life of faith. Most importantly, choose Christ.” Amen.

The September 22 unabridged version can be found [here](#).



CWA Director of Field Operations, Michelle Minor, presents Linda Schauer with the State Director of the Year Award at the Red, White and True Gala during the 2025 CWA Leadership Summit.

2025 Concerned Women for America State Director of the Year Awarded to Linda Schauer on September 12, 2025 in Washington D.C.

“South Dakota is stronger, freer, and more rooted in the values we hold dear. Her contribution cannot be measured in laws alone, but in the generations of children, families, and communities who will thrive because of her courage and dedication.” —South Dakota Speaker of the House, Jon Hansen.

For 25 years, Linda has dedicated her heart, time, and unwavering commitment to CWA. She has built a legacy of faithfulness and impact that inspires us all.

Pro-Life Issues from Page 1

June 26 - Supreme Court Confirms States’ Rights over Medicaid Funding:

In a victory for life, the Supreme Court upheld South Carolina’s sovereign authority in *Medina v. Planned Parenthood* to exclude abortion providers such as Planned Parenthood from receiving Medicaid funds. The Court’s decision affirms that states can administer Medicaid programs in alignment with their commitment to safeguarding life, ensuring taxpayer dollars do not support abortion or other harmful practices. You will be pleased to know that South Dakota does not allow Medicaid funds to be directed to abortion providers or Planned Parenthood.

July 28 - Planned Parenthood Fighting to Regain Federal Funding:

Planned Parenthood lost major funding of nearly half a billion dollars under the “Big Beautiful Bill” (BBB). So, they are now challenging the Trump Administration at the federal district court level by seeking an injunction to halt the loss of their Medicaid funding. This allows the pro-abortion group to receive

funds while the court case moves forward. Medicaid funds have already been banned by federal law from paying for abortion, but Planned Parenthood skirts that law by moving money to other services, such as overhead expenses. Planned Parenthood has shuttered 41 “clinics” since BBB’s passage, as of August 2025. Not all facilities perform abortions, but they do refer mothers to facilities that do.

July 30 - Planned Parenthood Reportedly Falsifies Services–Again!

A Pennsylvania Family Institute review uncovered false advertising by Planned Parenthood, showing that a number of facilities claimed to offer prenatal services. Further investigation revealed that no such services exist, and this false advertising had been ongoing since at least 2017.

August 11 - Little Sisters Under Siege–Again!

Having received a religious exemption after a second win at the Supreme Court in 2020, the Little Sisters of the Poor are once again being besieged by overzealous courts in Pennsylvania and New Jersey which still want the nuns to provide the “week-after pill” in their employee healthcare plan, despite their moral objections. The Sisters vow to fight this to the Supreme Court again.

August 14 - Abortion-Inducing Drug Regimens:

“Costco confirms it will not dispense abortion drugs at its 500+ pharmacy locations.” According to Bloomberg, Walmart and Albertsons also do not dispense the abortion pills. But some larger pharmacies and stores still do.

According to Guttmacher Institute’s latest abortion statistics, in 2023, chemical abortions accounted for 63% of all U.S. abortions in the “formal health care system.” In 2020, these abortions accounted for 53% of system-based abortions. This statistic does not include abortion pills ordered from other sources, such as online overseas vendors.

September 30 - New Abortion Pill Gains FDA Approval:

Commissioner Marty Makary’s FDA issued approval of Evita Solutions’ generic chemical abortion drug, the very same drug the agency just committed to review. CWA CEO and President, Penny Nance, immediately criticized the agency: “Our government should be rejecting drugs that kill unborn children and put women’s lives at risk, not approving them. We hope the FDA will reconsider its approval.” Just a day later, we joined a [coalition letter](#) demanding that Commissioner Makary rescind the approval. Population Research Institute President Steven Mosher, however, issued a somewhat optimistic statement: “I believe that, once the safety studies are completed, the abortion pill will be pulled off the market ... The real news is that, for the first time, a serious effort is underway under the leadership of RFK, Jr. to look at the large number of injuries and deaths from the abortion pill, which, when it is finished, will hopefully result in the use of this dangerous drug being proscribed altogether, or at least strictly limited.”

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Decalogue Displayed in Public School

“Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.” –Psalm 119:105

According to [South Dakota Codified Law 13-4-17.1](#), the words of the Ten Commandments may be displayed in any public school along with other historical documents.

TAKE ACTION

Approach the public schools in your area and ask them to post the Ten Commandments, the Declaration of Independence, U.S. Constitution, the Bill of Rights, the Preamble to the South Dakota State Constitution, and the state seal.

PRAY

Pray once again for your local schools. Pray they will be motivated to post these documents in the school.

Explicit Books from page 1

school board meetings have been silenced. If the content isn't appropriate for adults to hear in public, why is it allowed for children in schools?



And this isn't just a parental issue. Even if you don't have children in school, you are a taxpayer. You are paying for it. Is this really what you want to fund?

This is not about banning books, but about protecting childhood innocence, promoting transparency, and ensuring your money is used responsibly.

TAKE ACTION

1. Go to the [Rated Books website](#). Rated Books works to reveal sexually explicit books in school libraries, create reports, and post them to their website. Rated Books is a great start as a tool to alert parents and school officials, but because there are thousands of books in libraries, not all troublesome books have been reviewed and rated.
2. Click on "Find Your School." You will see a listing of school districts, along with links to "Books in Your Schools" and "eBook Service." At those links, you will see some of the books available in the district; however,

be aware that this is not a comprehensive list of books that contain sexual material.

3. Contact your school librarian, superintendent, or school board. Send them the link to **Rated Books** and ask them to audit and remove books with explicit content.
4. If the school does not respond positively, attend a school board meeting to speak up for our children. Share what you have discovered and bring printed examples/excerpts if needed to support your concerns. Simultaneously, alert others in your area to your experience and encourage them to contact their local school(s).

PRAY

- Pray for protection over children's minds and hearts.
- Pray for wisdom and boldness for parents, educators, and school board members.

"I contacted the superintendents and the librarian at two schools in my area. After explaining the problem, I sent them the link for Rated Books and encouraged them to read a few excerpts from the books listed in their school library. They were very cooperative and removed the inappropriate books." -Linda Schauer, State Director.

Pro-Life Issues from Page 3

October 9 - The 1976 Hyde Amendment Saved Lives, but Obamacare Looms:

According to the Charlotte Lozier Institute, the Hyde Amendment has saved nearly 2.65 million lives since its passage by Congress in 1976. But the 19 states, as of September 2025, that do allow Medicaid-funded abortions are circumventing the impact of Hyde. The Senate has not supported this year's version of Hyde, known as the Stupak-Pitts Amendment, which was passed by the House of Representatives. Pro-life senators cite the culprit as the continued support by pro-abortion senators for "Obamacare enhanced subsidies for insurance plans that cover abortions and gender transitions." (The Hyde Amendment prohibits federal dollars from being used for abortion except for rape, incest, or the life of the pregnant woman.)

October 14 - Ongoing Fight Against Mail-Order Abortion Drugs:

The State of Louisiana and Alliance Defending Freedom entered a Federal lawsuit against the U.S. Food and Drug Administration over mail-order abortion pills to states like South Dakota that currently have strong abortion restrictions. The Biden Administration in 2023 had removed the "in-person dispensing requirement from its Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy for the abortion drug mifepristone." This has made women even more at risk for safety, assault, and coercion, all in the name of "choice."

CWA Membership State & National: A donation of \$25 or more has TWO benefits: membership in CWA of South Dakota and membership in CWA national. All donations given to CWA of South Dakota remain in South Dakota for state projects. Write your check out to "Concerned Women for America," put "CWA of SD" on the memo line, and send in the envelope provided. Or, [GIVE ONLINE](#). Your renewed annual membership/additional donation is greatly appreciated. All donations sent to CWA national in response to their mailings are utilized in Washington, D.C. All contributions are tax-deductible.

CONCERNED
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