

**ACTIVITIES
OF THE
RELIGIOUS
RIGHT IN
ARKANSAS
—1995**

**The Women's Watchcare Network
of the
Women's Project
2224 Main Street
Little Rock, AR 72206**

WOMEN'S PROJECT

June 1996

For the first time since 1992, the activities of Arkansas' religious Right were not included in the annual Women's Watchcare Network Log. The Women's Project still monitors such activities and enclosed is the 1995 report. We thought it more cost-efficient to produce the 1995 report ourselves and to distribute it to those members who are most interested in such information.

In another cost-saving move, we no longer subscribe to a clipping service for articles published in Arkansas newspapers serving local communities. We do monitor the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, the *Arkansas Times*, the *Free Press*, and the *Arkansas State Press* for articles pertinent to our work.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

1) We need you to monitor your local newspapers or other publications for any articles concerning racist violence, sexist violence (women killed by men or women), gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgendered violence, religious minority violence (e.g., anti-Semitic, anti-Catholic), police brutality, murders of youth (20 years old and younger), and satanic violence. Violence includes assault, harassment, vandalism, terroristic threatening, arson, and, of course, murder.

2) We need you to monitor your area for the activities of organized hate groups (e.g., KKK, Aryan Nations, White Aryan Resistance, skinheads, the Holy Alamo Christian Church).

3) We need you to monitor your area for activities of patriots, constitutionalists (e.g., We, the People), militias, and religious political extremists.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

1) When your local newspaper contains articles about any of the topics listed above, clip the article and send it to us. We must have the name of the newspaper and the date of publication for each article.

2) When you see hate group literature (brochures, fliers, or ads in publications), send it to us. We need the date and location where you acquired the literature.

3) Urge victims of hate activity to report their experiences to us.

If you feel that material sent to us by you would endanger you if it were published in our annual log, let us know that you do not want the material to appear in the log. Information that we cannot publish in the log still helps us to have a more accurate picture of the degree of violence and hate activity in Arkansas.

Thank you for your support.

American Family Association (AFA)

P.O. Drawer 2440
107 Parkgate
Tupelo, MS 38803
601/844-5036 Fax: 601/844-9176
President: Donald E. Wildmon

The AFA was founded by Donald Wildmon as the National Federation for Decency. The organization's main interests are pornography, homosexuality, adultery, sex, art, and the media. The organization specializes in boycotts of corporate sponsors of television shows that the organization dislikes. A current target of an AFA boycott is Kmart, which AFA considers a retailer of pornography through its Waldenbooks subsidiary. The AFA promotes the student-led national high school Christian club, Aletheia, and opposes the Goals 2000 educational reforms. Wildmon was accused of anti-Semitism for his inflammatory comments during his campaign against the film *The Last Temptation of Christ*. The AFA employs about 150 people and had an annual income of about \$6 million in 1993. There are at least 24 state chapter directors.

The AFA participates as a beneficiary in the LifeLine Long Distance service, based in Moore, Oklahoma, which gives 10% of a customer's long distance charges to the pro-family group of the customer's choice (*AFA Journal*, January 1995).

Arkansas Affiliate American Family Association of Arkansas (AFAA)

P.O. Box 9076
Jonesboro, AR 72403
501/932-5065
Director: Bobby L. Hester

Jonesboro, March

AFAA of Arkansas became involved with the parents in the Hoxie School District. The organization shared information about Outcome Based Education (OBE) with parents and teachers in that district. AFAA opposes OBE and such educational practices as team teaching, block study time, cooperative learning, elimination of letter grades, student portfolios, and multiculturalism.

March: *AFAA Newsletter*

Jonesboro, March

In an article that discussed complaints stemming from an AIDS awareness program presented in Springdale, the editor of the AFAA newsletter commented that parents should be very wary of any AIDS awareness program that the schools bring in. He then said that he was "very skeptical of the legitimacy of any of the programs."

March: *AFAA Newsletter*

Jonesboro, March

The AFAA continued to urge KAIT in Jonesboro to discontinue broadcasting "NYPD Blue." The organization claimed that they have received 100% support from local sponsors who have agreed to no longer advertise during the program.

March: *AFAA Newsletter*

Jonesboro, March

The AFAA urged members to make Arkansas' U.S. senators aware that the members do not approve of the United Nations Treaty on the Rights of the Child.

March: *AFAA Newsletter*

Jonesboro, May

The AFAA requested that Williams Baptist College, near Walnut Ridge, stop using the book *Anti-Bias Curriculum: Tools for Empowering Young Children* as part of their educational materials. According to the AFAA, the dean who was contacted "pulled that book" so that it would no longer be used by the college.

May: *AFAA Newsletter*

Jonesboro, May

The AFAA attended two Hoxie school board meetings as well as several meetings with parents concerned about OBE.

May: *AFAA Newsletter*

Jonesboro, May

In the May newsletter, Bobby Hester assured readers that the AFAA will continue to draw attention to the Arkansas Governor's School and "...the problems that this school causes...." The article indicated that the AFAA would continue to try to close the school.

May: *AFAA Newsletter*

Jonesboro, May

Bobby Hester pledged that the AFAA will continue to work on the problem of X-rated videos in Fayetteville, Benton County, and Pulaski County.

May: *AFAA Newsletter*

Little Rock, November

An evaluation team composed of three well-known educators concluded that there was no evidence of a liberal bias in the content presented at the Arkansas Governor's School. Students and their parents were interviewed by evaluators.

Bobby Hester commented that most of the students were being brainwashed and could not give a fair evaluation of the school.

November 7: *AD-G*

Northwest Arkansas, December

Bobby Hester addressed a meeting of the Christian Coalition in Springdale concerning how to use local prosecutors to remove obscenity from video stores. The AFAA urges residents to file complaints and pressure local prosecutors to enforce state obscenity laws.

Prosecutors in Washington and Benton counties say that the obscenity laws are broad and that each movie must be reviewed individually and handled as a separate case.

The prosecuting attorney in Washington County said that the last complaint he received was two years ago when Hester last visited the area.

December 11: *The Morning News of Northwest Arkansas*

Campus Crusade for Christ (CCFC)

100 Sunport Lane
Orlando, FL 32809
714/886-5224

Executive Director: William R. Bright

The Campus Crusade for Christ is a not-for-profit interdenominational Christian evangelistic and discipling ministry founded by Bill and Vonette Bright in 1951 at the University of Southern California. The CCFC specializes in converting large numbers of individuals who then become "witnessing" disciples themselves. During the years of CCFC's existence, it has conducted its operations under the names of a number of subsidiaries, affiliates, and programs designed to appeal to specific populations.

Bright believes that the troubles of the 1960s (campus violence, drug culture, race riots, and Vietnam War) were a result of the Supreme Court's rulings against school prayer. In the mid-1970s, Bright became involved with groups who were trying to help elect Christians to political office.

The CCFC began an outreach program to the military in 1966 and started programs for university students in 1967. The "Here's Life" campaign began in 1976. In an interview with *Sojourners* (April 1976), Bright acknowledged that the "Part of the great spiritual awakening is a plan to help bring Christ back into government." CCFC began outreach to high schools in 1987. In 1994, Bright joined James Dobson (Focus on the Family), Pat Robertson (Christian Coalition and 700 Club), and D. James Kennedy (Coral Ridge Ministries) in promoting the Promise Keepers. All four men are members of the **Council for National Policy (CNP)**, an organization founded in 1981 with the goal of making its members' shared moral values dominant in domestic and foreign policy.

In 1995, the Christian Leadership Ministries division of CCFC mailed letters to "concerned Christians" which contained a copy of an ad that was published in campus newspapers in 1994. The ad featured the message "Your Gay and Lesbian Friends Welcome You Back to School." CCFC took that ad to be "hard evidence of the struggle for the minds and hearts of students which is taking place on campus." The letter then presented a plea for money to support the placement of CCFC ads to feature leaders, women, and minorities who were changed by Christ. Literature and lectures on campus were also planned.

Arkansas Affiliate FamilyLife

3900 N. Rodney Parham Rd.
Little Rock, AR 72212
501/228-2341 Fax: 501/223-9804
E-mail: 76375.1430@compuserve.com
Executive Director: Dennis Rainey

FamilyLife sponsors weekend marriage conferences. Couples are told that a 50-50 relationship leads to isolation and that willingness to compromise is a weakness. Men are told that God designated the husband as the head of the relationship. The husband is the leader. Women are told that God designated the wife as the helper in the relationship. For women, loving their husbands entails unconditional acceptance, sacrificial action, and physical responsiveness. Differences between men and women concerning sexual intimacy are emphasized.

Christian Civic Foundation of Arkansas (CCFA)

8300 Geyer Springs Road, Suite 201
P.O. Box 193256
Little Rock, AR 72219-3256
501/568-0448 Fax: 501/568-0451
Executive Director: Larry L. Page
Associate Director: Bob Hays

The CCFA, organized in 1959, focuses on pornography, gambling, alcoholic beverages, and "attacks on the traditional family, abortion, euthanasia, secular humanism, and other matters adversely affecting the morality of society."

According to a flier distributed in 1995, the CCFA lists the activities given below as their recent accomplishments.

- After six years of lobbying by the CCFA, a bill was passed in Arkansas that provides for the revocation of the license of a driver stopped for suspicion of DWI when he either refuses to take a sobriety test or registers as intoxicated.
- Testified before committees of the Senate and House of Representatives and gathered signatures on a petition to oppose the expansion of gambling in Arkansas
- Lobbied Governor Tucker and legislators to pledge that they would not repeal or change the constitutional prohibition against gambling or the the unborn child amendment during the proposed state constitution revision
- Requested a bill to remove an existing requirement in the state pornography law that required a performance (film, video, or live) involving a minor be viewed by an audience of two or more people in order for a conviction to be possible.
- Testified in a committee hearing against repeal of the state's sodomy law. Argued that Arkansas should remain "one of the six states that still bans homosexual behavior...."

September 15: flier entitled *Our Part—Your Part: A Partnership for Applied Christianity*

Christian Coalition

P.O. Box 1990
 Chesapeake, VA 23327-1990
 800/325-4746 Fax: 804/424-9068
 President: Pat Robertson
 Executive Director: Ralph Reed Jr.

The Christian Coalition was founded in 1989 by Pat Robertson. Other Robertson groups include: the Christian Broadcast Network (CBN), the American Center for Law and Justice, the 700 Club, and Regent University (formerly known as CBN University). The Coalition has about 1,700 chapters around the U.S. Their 1995 budget was \$25 million. The Coalition is classified as a 501(c)(4) organization. They cannot legally endorse or oppose candidates. The Coalition conducts Leadership Schools which address the topics of how to start a chapter, how to raise funds for your candidate, how to be a candidate, how to canvass your voters, and how to deal with the media. The Coalition publishes the *Christian American* and the *Religious Rights Watch*.

Arkansas Affiliate Arkansas Christian Coalition

P.O. Box 25922
 Little Rock, AR 72221
 Executive Director: Bob Myshka

The Arkansas Christian Coalition has local chapters in at least eight counties. The state chapter was organized in 1992.

In a recent newspaper article, Kevin D. McCray, described as chairman of the Christian Coalition of Arkansas, estimated that there are about 10,000 members and activists in Arkansas. He defended the Christian Coalition's Contract with the American Family and argued that the modern pro-family movement is "a mainstream, common-sense, grass-roots, correction to years of liberal mistakes." Free copies of the Coalition's Contract may be requested from the Christian Coalition of

Arkansas, P.O. Box 2083, Jonesboro, Arkansas, 72402.

June 9: AD-G

The organization participates as a beneficiary in the LifeLine Long Distance program, based in Moore, Oklahoma, which contributes 10% of a customer's long distance charges to the pro-family group of the customer's choice (*Arkansas Times*, May 26, 1995).

Coalition of Arkansas Parents (CAP)

P.O. Box 192455

Little Rock, AR 72219

Ann Green—Home Schools 501/565-6583

Laurie Gross—Private Schools 501/758-0053

Mary Heber—Public Schools 501/664-0336

CAP is a new organization in Arkansas "that watches, promotes, and defends the rights of all parents to choose and oversee an education consistent with their beliefs and principles." The organization provides information, monitors legislation, trains lobbyists, and helps members to communicate effectively with the media. In addition, "CAP will be a clearing house for documentation concerning GOALS 200 (Outcome-Based Education) or any program which inculcates 'politically and psychologically correct' thinking."

CAP Flier

The first statewide CAP Education Conference was held on June 3rd, 1995, at Cedar Heights Baptist Church in Maumelle. Marilyn Simmons, executive director of Family•Life• America•God (FLAG), presented a workshop on how to effectively lobby elected officials.

CAP Flier

A witness who received a CAP flier was told by the woman distributing the fliers that the U.S. government is taking away our constitutional rights by taking prayer out of schools and that is why Arkansas has low test scores.

Witness statement and copy of flier

Concerned Women for America (CWA)

370 L'Enfant Promenade SW, Suite 800

Washington, D.C. 20024

800/458-8797 Fax: 202/488-0806

President: Beverly LaHaye

CWA was founded in 1979 by Beverly LaHaye specifically to fight against the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). It is classified as a 501(c)(3) organization. The group considers itself to be a "pro-family" alternative to the National Organization for Women (NOW). CWA works against abortion, pornography, sex education, the ERA, "secular humanism", and homosexuality. The organization works actively around the country for censorship of texts in public schools. CWA has been involved in requesting the abolishment of the National Endowment for the Arts because of its funding of "smut, child pornography, homosexual 'art', and pictures that blaspheme my Lord." The CWA vehemently opposes Outcome-Based Education (OBE). The National Education Association is a favorite target of CWA because of its endorsement of a Gay and Lesbian History Month for schools as well as its endorsement of the Rainbow Curriculum in New York public schools. CWA distributes two anti-homosexual pamphlets, *The Hidden Homosexual Agenda* and *The Homosexual Deception: Making Sin a Civil Right*.

CWA sends regular mailings to its constituency requesting action on issues it considers offensive and always mentioning the need for monetary contributions in order to deal with the threatening

situation outlined earlier in the document.

The lobbying organization affiliated with CWA is the Concerned Women for America Legislative Action Committee, a 501(c)(4) organization. It shares the same address, the same president, and the same board of directors as CWA.

Beverly LaHaye and her husband Tim LaHaye participate in the Council for National Policy.

**Arkansas Affiliate
Concerned Women for America of Arkansas (CWAA)**

P.O. Box 6472
Sherwood, AR 72124
501/834-9556
Area Representative: Ann Sullivan

Ann Sullivan discussed her experiences at the March 1995 United Nations Social Summit, the purpose of which was to address the issues of global poverty, unemployment, and social disintegration. In her opinion, the meeting was primarily about gaining power. Sullivan concludes that we must become involved in slowing the "process of creating a new global order."

May 1995: *The Good News Reporter*

Eagle Forum

Headquarters:
P.O. Box 618
Alton, IL 62002
202/544-0353
President: Phyllis Schlafly

Washington, D.C. Office:
316 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE, Suite 203
Washington, D.C. 20003
618-462-5415
Fax: 618-462-8909

The Eagle Forum was founded in 1972 by Phyllis Schlafly and is best known for its successful campaign against the Equal Rights Amendment. Gay rights and abortion are also vigorously opposed by the group. The American Library Association (ALA) is a favorite target of Phyllis Schlafly. The Forum has education, national defense, and Social Security committees as well as a Parents Advisory Center. Publications include the *Phyllis Schlafly Report*, *The Education Reporter*, books, and videos. There is also a radio show.

Phyllis Schlafly is uncompromising in her stand against abortion even in cases involving rape, incest, or the life of the mother. She favors "no tax funding for any abortions whatsoever."

According to one of the Eagle Forum's critics interviewed for an article in the April 24, 1985, issue of *Christian Century*, "Phyllis Schlafly's Eagle Forum, ..., will provide you with a form letter which you may use as a tool to intimidate local school officials...it provides a laundry list for frightened parents who believe the public schools are turning their children into sexually savvy, proleft, antireligious sybarites."

The Eagle Forum Collegians was established to develop the leadership skills of college students. The organization shares the Washington, D.C., address with the Eagle Forum. Phyllis Schlafly participates in the Council for National Policy.

**Arkansas Affiliate
Family • Life • America • God (FLAG)**

P.O. Box 21065
Little Rock, AR 72221
State Director: Marilyn Simmons

FLAG provides educational information and lobbying on issues such as homosexuality and school prayer.

Little Rock, June 3

Marilyn Simmons presented a workshop on how to effectively lobby elected officials at the first statewide Coalition of Arkansas Parents Education Conference.

Organizational flier

Fellowship Bible Church

12601 Hinson Road

Little Rock, AR 72212

501/224-7171

Pastor: Dr. Robert Lewis

The Fellowship Bible Church has a history of running television advertisements on family values issues, leading boycotts, and co-sponsoring with the Family Council a Life Chain protesting abortion. The church also allows the Family Council to use its facilities for the Council's Family Forums.

In 1995, the Fellowship Bible Church launched its "Speak Up for Decency" campaign which included distributing bumper stickers and airing television spots encouraging viewers to "turn off the trash". KTHV-TV, Channel 11, chose not to air the spot. KARK-TV, Channel 4, and KATV-TV, Channel 7, broadcast the spot. The "Speak Up for Decency" slogan was used previously in the church's campaign against the now defunct *Spectrum's* personal ads. (Bumper stickers reading "Speak Up for Tolerance" and "Speak Up for Liberty" are available around Little Rock as a counter statement to the "Speak Up for Decency" stickers.)

September 13: AD-G

Focus on the Family

P.O Box 35500

Colorado Springs, CO 80935-3550

719/531-5181 FAX: 719/531-3385

President: James C. Dobson

Focus on the Family was founded in 1977 as a 501(c)(3) organization by psychologist James Dobson. The organization produces several radio programs and magazines as well as books, films, videos, and audio cassettes. The group also publishes a fax newsletter, *Family Issues Alert*. Dobson is well known as an advocate of traditional discipline and corporal punishment for children. Dobson has also been active in anti-homosexual organizing since 1988. Focus on the Family sells a \$10 report titled *Setting the Record Straight: What Research Really Says About the Social Consequences of Homosexuality*.

Gary Bauer's Family Research Council (a 501(c)(4) group) was an affiliate of Focus on the Family from 1988-1992 until IRS concerns about Focus on the Family's status as a 501(c)(3) group led to an amicable administrative separation of the two groups.

According to *U.S. News and World Report* (April 24, 1995), Focus on the Family employs 1,300 people and has an annual budget approaching \$100 million. In the same article, Dobson is said to be ready to abandon the Republicans if they abandon the anti-abortion stand. He is quoted as saying that there can be no compromise on that issue.

Dobson participates in the Council for National Policy.

**Arkansas Affiliate
Family Council**

1900 N. Bryant, Suite A
Little Rock, AR 72207
501/664-4566 Fax: 501/664-2317
President: Jerry Cox

Family Council was founded in 1989 by Jerry Cox. The organization publishes the *Arkansas Citizen* as an insert in Focus on the Family's publication *Citizen*. The Family Council sponsors: the Family Council Resource Center, which gives Arkansans access to books, audiotapes and videos concerning the family unit; the Family Forum, a monthly meeting every fourth Tuesday of the month at Fellowship Bible Church in Little Rock; the Family Council Radio Program; Community Impact Committees in over 300 churches throughout the state; The Action Chain, a computerized calling system that activates a statewide network of individuals who receive information on current issues; and lobbying through the Family Council Action Committee.

During 1995, in addition to the activities described below, the Family Council participated in the removal of the movie *Showgirls* from Central Arkansas theaters, opposed Outcome-Based Education in Arkansas, and facilitated a meeting to introduce Little Rock lawyers to the Rutherford Institute. Located in Charlottesville, Virginia, the Rutherford Institute distributes tapes from Christian Reconconstructionist leaders such as R.J. Rushdoony, Phyllis Schlafly, and others. The organization also produces advertisements that urge citizens to become informed about and to help defend religious rights in public schools.

December 1995: Flier

Little Rock, June 27

The Family Council's Family Forum sponsored a program titled "America's Godly Heritage" by David Barton, an "expert" on the founding fathers and issues of church and state. The presentation was held at the Fellowship Bible Church.

May 1995: Flier and Family Council Letter

Little Rock, June

The Family Council began Community Impact Seminars in Arkadelphia, Batesville, Forrest City, Fort Smith, Jonesboro, and Russellville. Pastors and lay leaders participated to learn how to educate and activate their members on critical moral and social issues.

December 1995: Flier

Little Rock, August 17

The Family Council held an Open House to celebrate its new office.

Flier

Little Rock, September

The Family Council published an article warning readers about the use of the *Anti-Bias Curriculum: Tools for Empowering Young Children (A.B.C. Tools)* in Arkansas, particularly in Head Start programs around the state. Cited in the article are activities that portray images of diversity in family style, different activities for groups of different racial backgrounds, and activities with books that do not assume that all the readers are Christian. The article gives nine things that parents can do if the *A.B.C. Tools* are used in their children's education programs.

September 1995: *Arkansas Citizen*

Little Rock, September

An article appeared in the *Arkansas Citizen* that tells parents how to evaluate their children's schools by asking questions of the principals and walking around the school during the school

day.

September 1995: *Arkansas Citizen*

Little Rock, September 16

The Family Council hosted a fish fry to honor members of the Arkansas Legislature who are "Friends of the Family." Legislators who promoted family values during the 1995 legislative session were presented "Bulldog Awards." The dinner and program were held at Grace Church in Little Rock.

Flier

Little Rock, November 3

In an article about the favorable evaluation that the Arkansas Governor's School received from an evaluation team who interviewed students, parents, and high school personnel, a student was quoted as saying that you learn that "...some things need to be questioned." Jerry Cox, who has criticized the school on moral grounds, commented that the student's statement was "a worrisome statement to us" and "It is important to believe in *something*."

November 3: *Arkansas Times*

Plans for 1996

- Distribute approximately 800,000 voter's guides through churches and newspapers throughout Arkansas
- Review bills introduced in the Arkansas Legislature, draft legislation, and monitor the writing of a new Arkansas Constitution
- Host 21 Community Impact Seminars for pastors and laymen to activate church members concerning social, moral, and economic issues
- Begin a conservative, newspaper column to distribute to all Arkansas newspapers twice each month
- Distribute to public schools in four counties American Heritage posters produced by David Barton to highlight the faith of historical figures
- Continue the Family Forum Seminars
- Continue publications and research reports on issues such as leading cultural indicators for Arkansas and Outcome-Based Education

November 1995, Flier

Institute in Basic Life Principles

Little Rock Phone Number: 501-371-0995

Headquarters: Oak Brook and Hinsdale, IL (near Chicago)

The Institute in Basic Life Principles was founded in 1961 by Rev. Bill Gothard. In Gothard's ministry, he conducts seminars, runs a mail-order education program, send youths to teach religion in Moscow schools and has organized programs for juvenile delinquents. One of Gothard's basic principles is authority. One should obey those in authority because they were put into authority by God. Children should obey parents, wives should obey husbands, and employees should serve employers. Women play a traditional role. Alcohol, rock music, television, movies, and romance novels are forbidden in homes which use Gothard's home education curriculum. Should parents divorce, their children will be expelled from the program.

Green Forest, October

The Institute in Basic Life Principles proposed to establish a cabin colony near Carrollton, Arkansas. The colony will begin with five cabins on 700 acres donated by Steve Hamm, an Institute member. Each cabin will house one juvenile offender recommended by the court and

selected by the Institute. Most of the juveniles would be youths convicted of misdemeanor offenses. The juveniles will be supervised by two families, trained by the Institute, and each will bunk with two young men schooled in the Bible and educated through degree-granting programs run by the Chicago-based Institute. They will be home-schooled in a biblically-based curriculum and would live in isolation.

Neighbors of the proposed colony, Johnnie and Shirley Morris, collected signatures opposing the project. A public meeting was held on November 9th at the Alpena School.

10/15, 10/29: *Green Forest Tribune, AD-G*

Promise Keepers

P.O. Box 18376
Boulder, CO 80308
303/964-7600

President: Rev. Randy Phillips
Arkansas State Coordinator: Rocky Fleming
Area Ambassador in Little Rock: Eric Guthrie
Area Ambassador in Hot Springs: John Trieschmann
Greater Little Rock Promise Keepers Hotline: 501/835-4301

Promise Keepers was founded in 1990 by Bill McCartney, former University of Colorado football coach. The organization's first conference was held in 1991 and drew about 4,200 attendees. In 1994, Promise Keepers visited seven cities and attracted 278,000 men. The staff is now at 150 people with a budget of \$22 million.

The group's principles are outlined in *Seven Promises of a Promise Keeper*, published by Focus on the Family (James Dobson's organization). Evangelist Tony Evans, co-editor of the book, tells the Promise Keepers how to deal with their wives in "reclaiming" the leadership role in the family. He says that he is not suggesting a man ask for his leadership role back, "I'm urging you to **take it back**" (emphasis in the original). Evans also tells men that there is to be "no compromise" on authority.

Men are encouraged to make seven "promises" and to form smaller men's groups to carry on the group's message. McCartney has admitted to being influenced by the Word of God community, which has practiced "shepherding/discipleship," i.e., requiring total submission to a "head" organizer of all decisions in one's life. McCartney's pastor in Boulder, Rev. James Ryle, of the Word of God community, believes that the Promise Keepers are the fulfillment of the biblically prophesied end-time army described in the book of *Joel*. He has a vision of Promise Keepers purging America of secularism.

In a speech in Indianapolis in June 1994, John Maxwell revealed that Promise Keepers urges men to form "accountability" groups of no more than five members, within which they are expected to submit all aspects of their lives to review. Those small groups are led by a "Point Man" who answers to an "Ambassador" who reports to headquarters in Boulder, Colorado. The small groups are similar to Focus on the Family's Community Impact Committees that are organized at the state and regional levels and controlled from Colorado.

Critics of the group see it as exclusive of women, non-Christians, and homosexuals. In 1992, McCartney worked for the Colorado ballot initiative that would have prohibited any laws protecting gay men and lesbians from discrimination. McCartney is on the advisory board of the anti-gay Colorado for Family Values. And the Promise Keepers, although stressing racial harmony, is overwhelmingly white.

Little Rock, September

The Greater Little Rock Promise Keepers Task Force met at Immanuel Baptist Church to plan a general leadership seminar scheduled for November 10th and 11th at the church.

September 14: *AD-G*

Little Rock, October

A group of 70 men from the Bible Church of Little Rock traveled to the Texas Stadium in Irving, Texas, for a Promise Keepers meeting held on October 27th and 28th. Dennis Rainey, a Little Rock resident and executive director of Family Life, addressed the crowd.

The Rev. Jesse H. "Buzz" Yarborough, rector of Christ Episcopal Church in Little Rock, attended the rally as well as 80 men from Trinity Church in Hot Springs.

Local Promise Keepers organizers are hoping to host a meeting in War Memorial Stadium in 1997.

October 30, November 12: *AD-G*

Other Religious Right Activities

Little Rock, February

The Arkansas House and Senate passed bills allowing schools to begin the day with a "brief period of silence" for all "who desire to participate."

February 14: *AD-G*

Little Rock, May

The Arkansas Right to Life Convention was held on May 6, 1995, at St. Vincent Infirmiry medical center. Sessions and workshops were held on Post-Abortion Syndrome, Assisted Suicide/Euthanasia, Post-Abortion Reconciliation, and Planned Parenthood/RU-486.

May: *AD-G*

Little Rock, July 13-15

Flip Benham, national director of Operation Rescue, visited Little Rock at the request of a local lawyer. Charles Suphan invited Benham to Little Rock because, in Suphan's opinion, the local abortion-opposition movement had faded. The Victory Fellowship Church hosted the abortion protesters.

On Friday, July 13th, about 40 abortion opponents protested at the Baptist Medical Center campus where the Women's Pregnancy Counseling Clinic is located in the Medical Towers Building. That night, Benham told attendees at the rally at the church that the Christian right would leave the Republican Party if it fails to nominate a candidate who opposes abortion.

On Saturday, July 14th, about 65 abortion opponents demonstrated at the Women's Community Health Center on South University Avenue. There were about 40 pro-choice advocates at the clinic. The abortion opponents then picketed the homes of Dr. Curtis Stover in west Little Rock and Dr. Max Baldwin in Hillcrest. They also knocked on the doors of neighbors of the doctors to tell them about the doctors' work and to urge the neighbors to encourage the doctors to "...do something honorable for a living." Many of the neighbors did not appreciate the protest being held in their neighborhoods.

About 30 of the abortion protesters came from out of state. At most, 35 Arkansans joined in the anti-abortion protest.

July 14-17: *AD-G*

Little Rock, September

Lt. Gov. Mike Huckabee addressed the Christian Coalition convention on September 9th in Washington, D.C. He pleased the delegates when he spoke against the "culture of abortion." Phyllis Schlafly, of the Eagle Forum, spoke before Huckabee. She requested that political candidates sign a pledge supporting a call for a constitutional amendment against abortion, even in cases of rape and incest.

September 10: *AD-G*

Little Rock, October

The state Ethics Commission investigated Lt. Gov. Mike Huckabee's campaign finance reports related to his November 1994 re-election campaign for lieutenant governor. Questions revolved around a state law prohibiting candidates from raising money more than two years before a campaign except to retire debts from previous campaigns.

Huckabee requested that the Commission review the campaign finance reports from Gov. Jim Guy Tucker, Secretary of State Sharon Priest, Auditor Gus Wingfield, Treasurer Jimmie Lou Fisher, Attorney General Winston Bryant, and Land Commissioner Charlie Daniels.

The Commission did not find any legal improprieties but did identify some general problem areas with the law that need to be addressed by lawmakers.

October 12 and 14, November 20, December 16: *AD-G*

Little Rock, October

Lt. Gov. Mike Huckabee announced his candidacy for the U.S. Senate seat that Sen. David Pryor will vacate next year.

October 15, 16: *AD-G*

Little Rock, October

Seven conservative groups formed an alliance to fight the call for a constitutional convention in Arkansas. The alliance includes Arkansas Right to Life, the Christian Civic Foundation of Arkansas, the Coalition of Arkansas Parents, Concerned Women for America of Arkansas, the Family Council, Family • Life • America • God (FLAG), and the Pulaski County Property Owners Association. Larry Page of the Christian Civic Foundation of Arkansas also worked with the executive director of Common Cause of Arkansas to challenge the delegate-selection process in court.

Governor Tucker is quoted as saying, "It is interesting to note that the critics of this process outside the legislative chamber are primarily the special-interest groups that want to have a fight."

October 31: *AD-G*

Little Rock, November

The Arkansas Christian Educators Association (ACEA) held their conference at the Little Rock headquarters of the Christian Civic Foundation of Arkansas. The ACEA was organized by Jim and Jody Parson about a year and a half ago. It is affiliated with the Christian Educators Association International (CEAI), founded in 1953. The CEAI distributes to its members free New Testaments for classroom use.

Speakers who were featured at the meeting include Lt. Gov. Mike Huckabee, state Senator Fay Boozman of Rogers, and Senator Peggy Jeffries of Fort Smith. According to the ACEA, there are 200 members of the organization. Members are "permitted" to belong to both the ACEA and the Arkansas Education Association (AEA) or the Arkansas Federation of Teachers (AFT). Both the AEA and the AFT held conferences at the same time as the ACEA.

A bill passed the Arkansas Legislature that allowed teachers to earn staff development credit for sessions offered by the ACEA. Parsons commented that teachers should receive credit for listening to Lt. Gov. Huckabee's speech.

November 10: *Arkansas Times*

Little Rock, November

Arkansas Right to Life held its March for Life on Sunday, November 26, in downtown Little Rock.

November 20: *AD-G*

WOMEN'S WATCHCARE NETWORK UPDATE - June 1996

Sexist Murders

We have logged 23 murders of women in Arkansas from January 1 through May 10, 1996. Those murders do not reflect the women who were killed during robberies or drug deals.

Hate Group Activity

The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan announced their plans to hold four rallies in Arkansas and five rallies among cities in Michigan, Mississippi, and Oklahoma during 1996.

Police Brutality

In March a lawsuit was filed against police officers in Gravette for allegedly using excessive force when arresting an Oklahoma woman who was attending traffic court in Gravette. In May, a Little Rock man filed a complaint against one Little Rock police officer for hitting him several times during a traffic stop. Two other officers were involved in subduing the Little Rock man and were also named in the complaint to police internal affairs investigators.

Murders of Youth (20 years and younger)

We have logged 10 deaths of young people between January and May 1996. Two of the deaths involved infants and the other eight involved teenagers. A nine-month old girl died from head injuries and her parents were charged with first-degree murder. A one and one-half-year-old girl's death was described as "suspicious." In seven of the other eight cases, teenagers were shot to death in arguments or gang-related problems. A Florida teenager's throat was slashed at a private school in Missouri. An Arkansas teenager was charged with first-degree murder in that case.

Arkansas' Religious Right

The American Family Association of Arkansas began a campaign against local advertisers on KAIT-TV, Channel 8, in Jonesboro, because of "objectionable material" in shows aired on the ABC affiliate. One of the organization's monitors stated "I don't think society's proven that they can monitor themselves."

The Christian Civic Foundation of Arkansas urged supporters to write letters to the editor, work on voter registration, donate money, and encourage their churches to present programs about gambling as a way of being involved in the fight against legalized gambling. Executive Director Larry Page addressed participants of the Arkansas Baptist Conference concerning the ills of legalized gambling.

The Arkansas Christian Coalition sponsored a speech by a member of Take Back Arkansas, Inc. at Temple Baptist Church in Springdale. The topic was protecting private-property rights from government encroachment.

Arkansas' religious Right groups are gearing up for the next election as well as the next legislative session. In addition to promoting candidates who support their political agenda, religious political extremists are working in voter registration and voter "education." In next year's legislative session, expect to see efforts to "protect" marriage by defining marriage as between one man and one woman.

Women's Project

2224 Main Street
Little Rock, AR 72206

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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