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IN TODAY'S REPORT

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INTELLIGENT DESIGN IN PUBLIC EDUCATION

A USA Today/CNN/Gallup Poll shows that while 55% of the American people believe in evolution, an even higher percentage (58%) believe in Creationism - this despite decades of pro-Darwinian propaganda.

Still, the liberal establishment and its enforcement arm - the federal courts - are determined that there will be no challenge to the reigning orthodoxy of evolution. We can pay for the schools. Most of us are forced by circumstances to surrender our children to public education. But when it comes to determining content, our values are cavalierly brushed aside.

On September 4, a U.S. district court judge will hear a challenge to a course in the Dover, Pennsylvania school system, which presents intelligent design as a possible explanation for life on earth.

Intelligent design is intended to be an alternative to Creationism, which the courts have consistently struck down as government promotion of religion (through the judiciary's standard misinterpretation of the First Amendment). Without positing God as the Creator, intelligent design theory says biological structures such as DNA are too complex to have evolved spontaneously. This would suggest that the universe and everything in it was planned.

From a Christian perspective, there are problems with intelligent design. The "designer" could have been the Hindu deity or an unknown power, rather than the God of the Bible whose labors are described in Genesis.

Still, it's telling that even this modest alternative to Darwinism has the establishment up in arms. Religion is often described as a dogma - an unproven and un-provable set of assumptions accepted on blind faith. But that describes evolution theory (which is usually taught as fact) perfectly. The difference - Christianity causes people to behave decently. Darwinian dogma often leads to an amoral survival-of-the-fittest ethic.

Whatever happens with the Dover, PA. curricula, the monkey is in retreat. Inquiring minds refuse to be stifled by a faulty theory posing as reality.

RELIGION IN CINCINNATI MAYOR'S RACE

Hamilton Democratic Party Chairman Tim Burke has denounced the views of a candidate for mayor of Cincinnati as "distinctly un-American." Christians who bring their faith into the political arena are frequently subjected to this charge - as if the Founding Fathers were 18th. century secular humanists.

In a 1989 book, mayoral candidate Charlie Winburn wrote: "We Christians must clean up politics. It is our job to elect only born-again believers to public office. If office holders aren't Christian and refuse to obey the laws of God, we must work hard, under the law, to unseat them."

If such sentiments make Winburn "un-American," then so too was the first Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. In 1816, John Jay admonished, "Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers, and it is their duty,

as well as the privilege and interest of our Christian nation, to select and prefer Christians for their rulers."

Feminists want to elect only feminists to public office. Why should not Christians favor those who share their faith? Voters often have a hard time knowing whether a candidate will keep his promises once he's elected. Surely, Christians can impose more confidence in believers than in those who lack a Biblical orientation.

GAY MARRIAGE BILL CLEARS COMMITTEE IN CALIFORNIA SENATE

A few years ago, after a hard-fought referendum campaign and by a vote of 61%, the people of California passed a law defining marriage as the union of a man and a woman. Currently the California Campaign for Children and Families is circulating petitions to collect the requisite signatures to put a marriage protection amendment on a statewide ballot next year.

None of that has deterred homosexual activists and their supporters in the legislature and judiciary from trying to impose gay marriage on the state.

Yesterday, by a 7-to-6 vote, a bill cleared the California State Senate

Appropriations Committee to change the definition of marriage from "a man and a woman" to "two persons" for the purposes of issuing marriage licenses. It now goes to the full senate for a vote. It's yet to be voted on by the California Assembly.

It's amazing that legislators who must stand for reelection would thus brazenly ignore the will of the people. It goes to show the growing influence and tenacity of the homosexual lobby.

For information on what you can do to save California from gay marriage, visit www.VoteYesMarriage.com.

OTHER NEWS

VISION AMERICA RALLIES THE FAITHFUL IN LONGVIEW, TEXAS

On the evening of August 23, Vision America and Christians Building Unity in Longview held a much-anticipated rally. More than 2,000 people packed the Maude Cobb Convention Center to hear former Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore discuss America's religious roots.

"There is hope, and it begins right here with you today and your children," said the man who's a hero for refusing to obey the unconstitutional order of a federal judge to remove a Ten Commandments monument from the Alabama Judiciary Building. "There is a spiritual war raging. Every one of you are warriors," the judge reminded his listeners.

I was honored to share the podium with Judge Moore on that special evening. The event in Longview is one more example of the way Vision America is mobilizing pastors and concerned Christians for the political battles ahead.

VISION AMERICA'S 2005 GALA A STUNNING SUCCESS

Last night, Vision America held its 2005 Gala at The Westin Galleria Hotel in Houston. Over 500 were in attendance at this event to honor courageous legislators as well as the pastor presented with our first annual Daniel Award. For their work on the Texas Marriage Amendment, which will appear on the state ballot in November, Texas State Representatives Warren Chisum and Robert Talton were honored. Pastor Steve Riggle was the first recipient of the Daniel Award. This award honors a pastor who displays exemplary courage in entering the public arena to contend for God's truth. Pastor Riggle has done so on countless occasions, especially in the summer of 2003, when he joined me in Montgomery, Alabama in standing with Roy Moore.

Our final honoree and keynote speaker was U.S. Senator Sam Brownback. A humble and courageous public servant, the senator received our Hero of the Faith Award for his commitment to applying God's truths to civil government. Sam told us of his last encounter with Mother Teresa, who left him with the words, "All for Jesus."

If you missed this year's Gala, I hope you can participate next year.

COMING EVENTS

Countering The War on Faith

We now have more details on Vision America's upcoming conference - Countering the War On Faith, October 17-18 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C.

The conference will consider the attacks on Christians and other people of faith by Hollywood, the news media, public education, academia, the judiciary and activist organizations (such as the ACLU, People for the American Way and the Anti-Defamation League). Besides educating ourselves and the public on the war on faith, the conference will offer proactive solutions to the secularist jihad.

Invited and confirmed speakers include: Sen. Rick Santorum, Phyllis Schlafley, Ed Meese, David Horowitz, Sen. John Cornyn, Gary Bauer, Congressman Tom DeLay, Rabbi Daniel Lapin, Hon. Zell Miller, D. James Kennedy and Alan Keyes. Individual registration -- \$149, Married couples -- \$259. To register call 866-522-5582.

The Omni Shoreham is making a limited number of rooms available at the special conference rate of \$229 a night on the evenings of Oct. 16 and 17.

Contact reservations at 202-234-0700

Help us fight the War on Faith - Get involved by following the action items above and by forwarding this alert to your friends and family. Your financial contributions are always appreciated. [Click here to contribute.](#)

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