

# FAMILY BULLETIN ALERT

Faith, Freedom & Citizenship Class

Kempsville Presbyterian Church

July 10, 2005

The views expressed herein are the views of the Editor, Vernon Fix. FBA on the Web at <http://hrcc.exis.net>

## Cost of Government Day

The Founding Fathers rebelled at less than a penny tax on tea. Now, government consumes 50.4 percent of all personal income -- and this July 4 marked the date when the average American worker has earned enough to pay off his or her share of government expenses.

Broken down, it takes 125 days to pay for all federal, state and local spending, 60 days to pay for federal and state regulations. *From CITIZEN LINK.*

**Comment:** How many of you old timers can remember when the cost of government day was in April and then May. It will continue to be pushed ahead as long as we let it. Ed.

## 10 REASONS TO DEFEAT CAFTA/FTAA

In recent years, representatives from 34 countries have been working to expand the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) to Central America, South America and the Caribbean. The Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) is another example of the free-market fundamentalism that has created a global race-to-the-bottom that threatens the environment, families' livelihoods, human rights, and democracy. Once again, a sweeping "free trade" agreement is in the works that puts commercial interests above all other values.

1. The FTAA Expands a Proven Disaster. The FTAA is essentially an expansion of NAFTA. But NAFTA has proven to be a nightmare for working families and the environment. A look at NAFTA's legacy shows why these kinds of "free trade" agreements should be opposed. Working families suffer: In the US, more than 765,000 jobs have disappeared as a result of NAFTA. When these laid off workers find new jobs, they earn 23 percent less on average than at their previous employment. In Mexico, manufacturing wages fell 21 percent from 1995 to 1999, and have only started to recover. The

percentage of Mexicans living in poverty has also grown since NAFTA went into effect. The environment suffers: In the maquiladora zones along the US-Mexico border, the increased pollution and the improper disposal of chemical wastes have dramatically raised rates of hepatitis and birth defects. NAFTA should be repealed, not expanded. *From the New American Magazine.*

**Comment:** During the next weeks I will print the remaining reasons about 2 per week. Call your representatives and use them to oppose CAFTA. Ed.

## GREATEST THREAT TO CHILDREN

"It would be more productive if the question asked was whether or not liberals were in the home. The greatest threat to children today comes from liberals, especially those liberals who want to denigrate Christianity, those who promote a culture of death via abortion and euthanasia, and those who want to tolerate sin in the forms of homosexuality and pedophilia. A gun in the home might suggest that that homeowner is a conservative Christian dedicated to the constitutional freedoms espoused in the first ten amendments to our U.S. Constitution. Ask me to choose between a household with a gun or a liberal, the gun wins every time." *Max E., St. Clair Shores, MI from E-Brief 7/6/05(Reader's letter)*

## Corporations Dependent on Families Show Contempt for Family Values

It baffles me how some major corporations, whose success depends on the support of American families, show contempt for the values of such families. I am currently awaiting responses from two major corporations to letters I sent pointing out such inconsistencies. Wal-Mart, which has historically been responsive to pro-family concerns,

continues to sell a Carmen Electra video promising a "striptease-inspired workout" that "introduces you to the striptease basics." Meanwhile, Kraft Foods has paid \$25,000 to sponsor the "Gay Games" in Chicago this summer--an event known as much for after-hours sexual activity as for on-field athletic competition. And now, FRC has discovered yet another example of corporate devotion to the homosexual agenda.

A full-page ad for Tylenol PM pain reliever appears in the July 19 issue of the pro-homosexual magazine *The Advocate*. It shows a photo of two bare-chested men lying beside each other in bed. Under one is the caption, "His backache is keeping him up." Under the other is the caption, "His boyfriend's backache is keeping him up." Tylenol is produced by Johnson & Johnson--the same company that makes the famous baby powder. Contact Johnson & Johnson CEO William C. Weldon at 732-524-0400 or through the website below to let him know you are offended by this amoral advertising strategy. *From Family Research Council.*

**Comment:** Our only weapon here is public pressure. CEO's feel they do not answer to anyone, even the stockholders. We have to hit them in the pocketbook to get their attention. Ed.

## COMPANIES MOVING SOUTH OUT OF USA

**NAFTA/CAFTA/FTAA results.** The first company to develop overseas jobs for their engineering and support was GE. Now we see last week in the news that GM Corporation is closing plants in the US and letting go over 20,000. Several days later we see that GM is opening plants in Brazil and guess what, they will employ 20,000. Coincidence? What to do? Editor.

## Sexual Images Harm Kids

**SUMMARY:** New study finds that explicit media can lead to permissive attitudes about sex.

Sen. Warner, 441-3079 and Senator Allen at 518-1674. Congresswoman Drake - 497-6859.  
Cong. Randy Forbes 382-0080. Cong. Robert "Bobby" Scott - 380-1000

Many instinctively know that lots of sex in the media is bad for kids, but a lack of scientific evidence has prevented change. Now, a study from the Medical Institute for Sexual Health may prompt needed reform.

The study, conducted by the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, systematically reviewed all biomedical and social science research conducted from 1983 to 2004 that explored effects of mass media on youth. Of the 2,522 research-related documents examined, less than 1 percent addressed the impact of mass media on adolescent sexual attitudes and behaviors.

"Every parent and health-care provider should be very troubled by these findings," said Gary L. Rose, M.D., president and CEO of The Medical Institute. "Our children are saturated in sexual imagery. For example, the average teenager spends three to four hours per day watching television and 83 percent of the programming most frequently watched by adolescents contains some sexual content. Yet we have never stopped to ask what effect all this sexual content in television, the Internet and music has on young people."

Highlights of the study, published in the Journal of Pediatrics, include:

- \* Adolescents who are exposed to television with sexual content are more likely to overestimate the frequency of some sexual behaviors, have more permissive attitudes toward premarital sex, and, according to one research study, initiate sexual behavior. However, methodological limitations exist in all of these studies.

- \* The average American youth spends one-third of each day with various forms of mass media, mostly without parental oversight.

- \* In 1999, 22 percent of teen-oriented radio segments contained sexual content. The impact on adolescents is unknown.

- \* Forty-two percent of songs on ten top-selling CDs in 1999 contained sexual content, 41 percent of which was "very explicit" or "pretty explicit." The impact is unknown.

Few family advocates are holding their breath waiting for change, though, which is why Tom Neven of Plugged In magazine looks to parents.

"The most important one is the parents have to screen," he said, "have to know what it is that's out there and what their

kids are either watching and listening to or want to watch and listen to." *From FRC.*

**"Do your duty in all things. You cannot do more. You should never wish to do less." --Robert E. Lee**

**"Everyone wants to live at the expense of the state. They forget that the state lives at the expense of everyone." --Frederic Bastiat**

## A Plan for the Improvement of English Spelling

by Mark Twain

For example, in Year 1 that useless letter "c" would be dropped to be replaced either by "k" or "s", and likewise "x" would no longer be part of the alphabet. The only case in which "c" would be retained would be the "ch" formation, which will be dealt with later.

Year 2 might reform "w" spelling, so that "which" and "one" would take the same consonant, while Year 3 might well abolish "y" replacing it with "i" and Year 4 might fix the "g/j" anomaly wons and for all.

Generally, then, the improvement would continue year by year with Year 5 doing away with useless double consonants, and Years 6-12 or so modifying vowels and the remaining vowels and vowels consonants.

Year 15 or so, it would finally be possible to meekly over the redundant letters "c", "y" and "x" -- by now just a memory in the main of old dodgers -- to replace "ch", "sh", and "th" respectively.

Finally, then, after some 20 years of orthographic reform, we would have a logical, coherent spelling in our new English-speaking world.

**Comment:** Probably as good as "Whole Word" spelling. Ed.

**"One of the most essential branches of English liberty is the freedom of one's house. A man's house is his castle." --James Otis (1761)**

## Supremes

Since President Nixon in 1968 Republicans have installed 10 Supreme Court Justices to Democrats 2. The current court is made up of 7 Republican nominees and 2 Democratic. No Supreme Court Justice has ever been impeached and convicted. It is time we explored this option. Ed.

## FAMILY

"How many studies revealing the success rate of abstinence-until-marriage education must be done before the Planned Parenthoods...of the world realize abstinence saves lives? A new study released last week (6/27/05) by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, compiled by Mathematica Policy Research, Inc., examined attitudinal changes among junior high students in four abstinence programs which receive Title V funding. The interim report showed that, compared to their peers in a control group, students participating in these abstinence programs were more likely to view abstinence until marriage positively and to view premarital sex negatively. Also, these students had a better understanding of the negative consequences of unwed sex. In a further move to protect children from facing difficult life decisions alone, Representative Todd Akin (R-MO) and Senator Tom Coburn (R-OK) introduced the Parent's Right to Know Act. This bill requires clinics that receive federal funding to notify parents five days before dispensing contraceptive drugs or devices to minors. Parental notification is needed for ear piercing, school field trips and, in some states, even tanning booths. It is simple common sense for parents to be notified when their children make critical health decisions. It is not the government's role to decide unilaterally how to rear our children. How many studies are needed before the other side gets the message?" --Tony Perkins from the Federalist.

**Comment:** Please place the "Parent's Right to Know Act" on your list of items for your representative. Call them! Ed.

**Anniversary** In two days, July 12th, Dorothy and I will celebrate 53 years of wedded bliss. Thanks be to God.

## INSIGHT

"If you know the enemy and know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles. If you know yourself but not the enemy, for every victory gained you will also suffer a defeat. If you know neither the enemy nor yourself, you will succumb in every battle." --Sun Tzu

**"GET THE US OUT OF THE UN"**