

Light

THE CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMISSION OF THE SOUTHERN

BAPTIST CONVENTION

OCTOBER-DECEMBER, 1989

'Behold, Lord...I give to the poor'
(Luke 19:8, RSV)



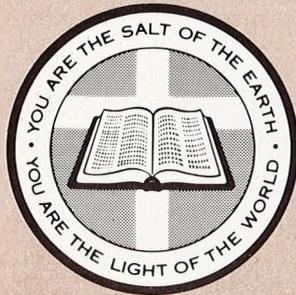
**Observe World Hunger Day
October 8, 1989**

Sign up now for Sanctity of Human Life Conference Dec. 4-5, page 4-5

- 3 Hunger theme
- 4 Upcoming meetings
- 6 CLear-TV boycott
- 7 Abortion ruling
- 8 Point/Counterpoint
- 11 CLC hires James Smith
- 12 AIDS teleconference
- 13 Resources
- 14 Light from the Capital
- 15 Drunk driving

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 Richard D. Land, Executive Director
 Louis Moore, Managing Editor



**Christian Life
 Commission
 Of The Southern
 Baptist Convention**

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Think about it!

By Richard D. Land

I have received numerous queries about "Operation Rescue," the umbrella name given to the multiplicity of efforts by people in scores of cities across the nation to save babies from abortion through non-violent civil disobedience (i.e., disobeying laws concerning trespass and obstructing access to abortion facilities, etc.).

It is clear from a wide range of events and statements that Southern Baptists disagree about Operation Rescue. Even among the significant majority of Southern Baptists who are adamantly opposed to abortion on demand, there is disagreement concerning either the *acceptability* or the *advisability* of Operation Rescue.

Two questions must be answered in addressing this issue. First, is nonviolent civil disobedience ever *acceptable* for a Christian? The apostle Paul commands us to be "subject" to the civil magistrate "for conscience sake" (Rom. 13:1-6). Jesus, however, teaches us to "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's" (Mark 12:17).

Jesus is not contradicting Paul. He is telling us that we are to obey the civil magistrate unless doing so brings about disobedience to God. If, and when, that conflict arises, Christians must obey God rather than man. Otherwise, our ultimate loyalty is to the state rather than to our Heavenly Father. When God and Caesar make conflicting demands, for the Christian, God must have supremacy. Our ultimate loyalty and obedience must be to the God who commanded us, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me" (Ex. 20:3).

Is nonviolent civil disobedience ever *acceptable*? Yes, it is, if God is to remain sovereign. Francis Schaeffer put it succinctly in *A Christian Manifesto* (1981): "One either confesses that God is the final authority, or one confesses that Caesar is Lord."

The second question of whether the nonviolent civil disobedience of Operation Rescue is *advisable* in the present situation is a far more complex question. Many pro-life Southern Baptists differ in their answer. Some would argue that legal and political remedies to abortion on demand have not been exhausted, and extra-legal measures are only justified if legal measures prove insufficient. They would point to the Supreme Court's decision in the *Webster* case as an encouraging legal development mitigating against civil disobedience. Others would argue that while legal and political remedies run their uncertain course, babies are being killed daily, and they feel called of God to seek to hinder or to stop the killing now.

Both those responding positively and negatively to Operation Rescue should always remember that **when** the point of invoking civil disobedience has been reached is a question that must always remain one of individual conscience. I would call upon those who have reached that point not to judge those who have not, and those who have not, not to judge those who have.

My own position is one of sympathetic neutrality. I am **sympathetic** with the concerns and goals of Operation Rescue, but **neutral** concerning the methodology they feel compelled by conscience to employ.

Think about it!

Richard D. Land

'Behold, Lord ... I give to the poor'

By Robert Parham

An estimated 730 million people face each day with little prospect of enough food to eat. They live in Mississippi and Mali, Texas and Tanzania, Georgia and Guatemala. They live in the slums of Nashville and the shantytowns of Nairobi. They live in the barren hollows of Appalachia and the barrios of Argentina. They are hungry in large measure because they are poor.

Both the Old and the New Testaments list the poor as those who are vulnerable to hunger. The Old Testament speaks about the widow, orphan and foreigner as vulnerable members of society who need care and justice (Deut. 10:18-19, 15:1-18; Jer. 22:3; Zech. 7:8-10). The New Testament gives us a similar list (Luke 14:12-14; Acts 6:1). Indeed, the biblical insight about who is most at risk to hunger corresponds to today's hunger list: women, children, migrants, immigrants, refugees and the handicapped.

The Bible also gives us insight into the proper relationship

between our conversion to Christ and our responsibilities to care for the impoverished.

When Zacchaeus made his commitment to Jesus, he had a change of heart and lifestyle. He reversed directions. He stopped exploiting people and started caring for them.

"Behold, Lord," Zacchaeus said, "the half of my goods I give

We give witness to our commitment to Christ when we do both charity and justice for the poor.

to the poor." The man who had become rich as the chief tax collector saw for the first time the plight of the poor and sought to change their situation. The love of Jesus caused him to love others. He practiced radical charity.

But Zacchaeus did not stop with charity. He sought to do justice: "If I have defrauded any one of anything, I restore it fourfold." He recognized that unfair practices or unjust laws were

forms of fraud--deceit, trickery and cheating. He knew that justice was necessary to correct past wrongs and present evils which caused poverty and hunger. He restored fourfold to those whom he had treated harmfully.

Like Zacchaeus, we must see that conversion to Jesus Christ is the beginning point for Christian involvement in social issues.

We can express our faith on the hunger front in many ways. We can do acts of charity through hunger contributions sent to the Foreign and Home Mission Boards. We can also do acts of justice through practicing fairness in the marketplace, working for better tax systems, reforming harmful laws and supporting effective programs.

We give witness to our commitment to Christ when we do both charity and justice for the poor. We show our love for Christ when we act in a hungry world to feed others and to help the hungry to feed themselves.

Robert Parham is an associate director of the Christian Life Commission responsible for hunger concerns.

Hunger gifts drop to lowest level since 1984

By Louis Moore

For the first six months of 1989, Southern Baptist gifts to their denomination's program of worldwide hunger ministries have dropped to their lowest point since the same recording period in 1984.

Cumulative figures from the Southern Baptist Foreign and Home Mission Boards indicate that hunger gifts to date stand at \$3,163,411, compared to

\$4,076,496 at the same point in 1988, \$3,182,648 in 1987, \$3,877,085 in 1986 and \$6,004,267 in 1985.

Records for the same period in 1984 from the HMB are unavailable, but HMB total hunger receipts for that year were \$617,871. The FMB received \$2,059,574 during the first six months of 1984.

The FMB reported that gifts to hunger relief and development abroad during the first half of

1989 were \$2,652,459, compared to \$3,524,367 in 1988 and \$2,612,285 in 1987. A \$1 million gift to the Foreign Mission Board in January 1988 boosted hunger giving for the first six months of that year.

Contributions for domestic hunger through the Home Mission Board stood at \$510,952 through June 1989, compared to \$552,129 for the same period in 1988 and \$570,363 for the same period in 1987.

(Continued on Page 10)

Abortion, AIDS, addictions focus of upcoming meetings

By Lamar Cooper

Abortion, AIDS, addictions and family crises represent the focus of the three upcoming events sponsored by the Christian Life Commission.

The three meetings will be held December 4-5 in Dallas, February 12-13 in Nashville and March 12-14 in Birmingham.

The "Sanctity of Human Life" conference will convene at the Harvey Hotel near DFW airport in Irving, Texas, in December. The conference begins at 1 p.m. Monday and concludes at 1 p.m. on Tuesday.

The Monday evening session will include a dinner program with Ed Young, pastor of the Second Baptist Church, Houston, bringing a major address. Ralph Smith, pastor of Hyde Park Baptist Church, Austin, will bring the theme interpretations.

Speakers include Sylvia Boothe, Coordinator for Alternatives to Abortion Ministries at the SBC Home Mission Board; Lynn R. Buzzard, Professor of Constitutional Law, Campbell University, Buies Creek, N.C.; James T. Draper, Jr., pastor of First Baptist Church, Euless, Texas; Carol Everett, legislative liaison for Texas Right to Life; Raymond E. Higgins II, Instructor in Christian Ethics, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; Paul Jones, Director of the Christian Action Commission of the Mississippi Baptist Convention; Richard Land, Executive Director of the Christian Life Commission; Liz Minnick, Eagle Forum lobbyist for Texas; Dorothy Patterson, Adjunct Faculty, Criswell College, Dallas; and John Sullivan, Executive Director, Florida Baptist Convention.

Topics will include: "The Do's



Ed Young



J. Alfred Smith

and Don'ts of Lobbying State Legislatures," "The Impact of Crisis Pregnancy Centers on the Local Church and Community," "What Really Happens in an Abortion Clinic," "The Obligations of Being Pro-Life," and "What the Webster Case Did and Did Not Do."

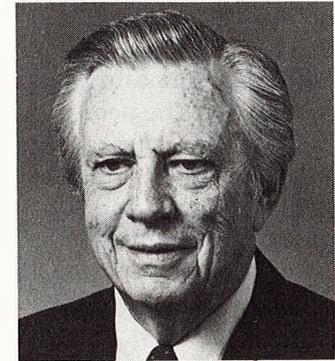
A national conference on the AIDS crisis will meet February 12-13 at First Baptist Church of Nashville. The Christian Life Commission is cosponsoring the conference with the Church Administration, Discipleship Training, Family Ministry, and Student Ministry departments at the Baptist Sunday School Board and the Missions Ministries Division of the Home Mission Board.

The meeting is a follow-up to the nationwide AIDS teleconference on BTN, to be broadcast October 8.

Speakers for the February



Sylvia Boothe



John Drakeford

conference include Richard Goodgame, SBC missionary to Uganda; Beverly Hammack of the Home Mission Board; James Mason, Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta; John Sullivan, Executive Director of the Florida Baptist Convention; and William Tillman, Professor of Ethics at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Topics include "The Medical Status of AIDS," "AIDS in the Third World" and "Ethical Issues Related to AIDS."

The annual national seminar in March will use the theme "Addictions and Family Crises." It will be held at the Wynfrey Hotel at the Galleria in Birmingham. The conference will begin at 1 p.m. Monday and conclude at noon Wednesday. Speakers will include Doug Anderson, Director of the Family Ministry

(Continued on Page 5)

SEMINARS

Upcoming meetings

(Continued from page 4)

Department, BSSB; Nancy Badgwell, Marriage and Family Therapist and Certified Sex Therapist, Dallas; Charles Carter, pastor, Shades Mountain Baptist Church, Birmingham; Mark Corts, pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, and chairman of the SBC's Foreign Mission Board; John Drakeford, Professor of Counseling Emeritus, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; Monsignor Joseph Dunne, founder and former president of the National Council on Compulsive Gambling; Paul Hegstrom, founder and Director, Domestic Violence Project (D.V.P.) Learning Centers, Denver; Sarah Hines Martin, counselor, Marietta, Ga., former SBC missionary and author of *Healing for Adult Children of Alcoholics*; Frank Minirth, Co-founder of the Minirth-Meier Clinic in Dallas.

Also included are J. Alfred Smith, pastor, Allen Temple Baptist Church, Oakland, Calif.; Glen Stassen, Professor of Christian Ethics, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; and Richard Wells, Professor at the Samford Divinity School.

Topics to be discussed at the seminar include "Ways Churches Can Respond to the Drug Crisis," "Workaholism," "Gambling Addiction," "Pornography Addiction," "Sexual Addictions," "Alcohol and Drug Addiction," and "Domestic Violence as an Addictive Behavior and the Church's Response."

For registration information, contact the Christian Life Commission, 901 Commerce Street, Suite 550, Nashville, TN 37203 or telephone (615) 244-2495.

Lamar Cooper is an associate director of the Christian Life Commission responsible for seminars and conferences.

Join us for our

SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE CONFERENCE

Christian Life Commission, SBC
Harvey Hotel, Dallas/Fort Worth Airport
DECEMBER 4-5, 1989

Conference speakers include:

- **Sylvia Boothe**, Coordinator for Alternatives to Abortion Ministries, HMB
- **Lynn R. Buzzard**, Prof. of Constitutional Law, Campbell University, Buies Creek, N.C.
- **James T. Draper, Jr.**, pastor, First Baptist Church, Euless, Texas
- **Carol Everett**, legislative liaison for Texas Right to Life
- **Raymond E. Higgins II**, Instructor in Christian Ethics, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth
- **Paul Jones**, Executive Director, Christian Action Commission of the Mississippi Baptist Convention
- **Richard Land**, Executive Director, Christian Life Commission
- **Liz Minnick**, Eagle Forum lobbyist for Texas and a Christian Life Commission commissioner
- **Dorothy Patterson**, Adjunct Faculty, Criswell College, Dallas, Texas
- **Ralph Smith**, pastor, Hyde Park Baptist Church, Austin, Texas
- **John Sullivan**, Executive Director, Florida Baptist Convention
- **Ed Young**, pastor, Second Baptist Church, Houston

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- \$35 Conference registration without Monday dinner.
- \$31.50 Conference registration and dinner for spouse or student.
- \$17.50 Conference registration for spouse or student without Monday dinner.

**For registration call
(615) 244-2495
or return this form to
Christian Life Commission
901 Commerce Street, Suite 550
Nashville, TN 37203**

To register for

March 1990 Seminar

see page 16



CLear-TV sponsors Mennen-Clorox boycott

Richard D. Land, executive director of the Christian Life Commission, has endorsed the boycott of the Mennen Company and Clorox Corporation being promoted by Christian Leaders for Responsible Television.

According to CLear-TV, the two companies were leading sponsors of sex, violence and profanity during the sweeps period of April 27-May 24.

CLear-TV is a coalition composed of approximately 1,600 Christian leaders, including the heads of over 70 denominations and scores of bishops and leaders from nearly every denomination in America.

Land said, "I feel that the efforts of CLear-TV deserve support by those concerned with the increasing amount of sex, vio-

"Networks, which use the public air waves, have by abandoning their self-policing system drastically lowered their standards for programming."

lence, profanity and anti-Christian stereotyping being shown by the networks. CLear-TV tried for three years to convince the advertisers and networks to change their programming, but their voices went unnoticed." Land said selective buying is good Christian stewardship. "In this case, it will also send a clear message not only to Mennen and Clorox, but to other advertisers and thus to the networks that the American public wants more

clean, wholesome, family-oriented programming and less sex, violence and profanity," he said.

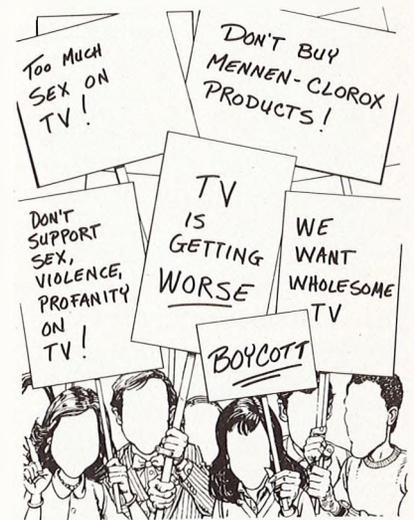
"I agree with the philosophy of CLear-TV in dealing with the violence and vulgarity on television. Their philosophy is that the networks are free to show what they want, the advertisers are free to sponsor what they desire, the consumers are free to spend their money where they desire. This system works and it protects the rights of all parties involved. I encourage others to support the boycott of Mennen and Clorox so that they, other advertisers and the networks get the message."

Land said advertiser boycotts are an especially effective democratic procedure for communicating public dissatisfaction with free-enterprise companies such as television networks because television executives are business people who are fixated on "bottom line" profits.

"Networks, which use the public airwaves, have by abandoning their self-policing system drastically lowered their standards for network programming," he said.

"Network programming is different in nature from other forms of entertainment," Land said. "It is not like a video which you buy or rent, or a record which you purchase and bring into your home, or a movie which you go to see. You turn on a TV in your home and network programming is there. That is why it must be dealt with differently. No other form of entertainment invades our homes as pervasively as network TV.

"A recent poll by consumer research firm Oxtoby-Smith of New York showed that 72 per-



cent of the American public believes it is a good idea for consumers not to buy products of advertisers who sponsor offensive programs," Land said.

Clorox products which CLear-TV is asking concerned individuals to boycott include: Act laundry detergent, Clorox bleach, Clorox 2, Formula 409 cleaner, Fresh Scent liquid bleach, Soft Scrub cleanser, Strike household cleanser, Tackle cleaner, Tilex cleaner, Twice as Fresh deodorizer, Wave dry bleach and powder detergent, Fresh Step and Litter Green cat litter, Hidden Valley Ranch dressing, Kitchen Bouquet microwave browning spray and seasoning, Kingsford and Matchlight charcoal, Liquid-Plumber drain opener, and Lucite paint.

Mennen products include: Speed-Stick and Lady Speed Dry deodorant, Afta after shave lotion, Hawk cologne, Mennen after shave, Millionaire cologne, Skin Bracer toiletries, Baby Magic shampoo, Protein 29 hair products, and Smooth Legs shaving lotion.

Clip and Save

Court provided opportunity, not victory

By Richard D. Land

We can give thanksgiving to God that the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in the *Webster* case allows us to celebrate at least the beginning of the opportunity to end this dark night of our nation's soul in which so terribly many of the most defenseless among us, our unborn, have been denied the "right to life"--the right without which all other rights have virtually no meaning.

The decision should be viewed as providing an opportunity, rather than a victory.

The Supreme Court's decision in the *Webster* case was clearly less than what the pro-lifers desired, but it was also clearly more than the pro-abortionists wanted. This decision does not mean that the struggle to preserve pre-born life is over. It does not even signal, to quote Churchill at a crucial turning point in World War II, "the beginning of the end"; it will perhaps mark the "end of the beginning." The decision should be viewed as providing an opportunity, rather than a victory.

It is fitting and appropriate that the U.S. Supreme Court issued its opinion on the eve of the 4th of July when we commemorate the signing of the *Declaration of Independence*, that incredible document that our forebears announced to the

world in 1776. The *Declaration* proclaims the essence of our beliefs about ourselves as a nation, and it defines our vision and goals as a people when it says:

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

These stirring words of pristine majesty were, and are, an affirmation and a promise. They are not a statement of what was, or what is, but of what ought to be, what should be--and what, with God's grace, will be. Penned by a slaveholder at a time when men owned other men and women could not vote, the *Declaration* has been defined ever more inclusively as more people have claimed its promise and called upon America to be her best self and to redeem her promises.

As the judge emphasized so eloquently in the film, "Judgment at Nuremberg" (United Artists, 1961), what we stand for is "justice, truth, and the value of a single human being." We hope and pray **this** is the moment when that will begin once again to include our pre-born children. We hope and pray **this** is the moment when we can begin again to stop individual parents from imposing their morality on children they consider too ill, too expensive, too embarrassing, or too inconvenient to live.

Southern Baptists have become greatly disturbed by the wholesale slaughter produced over the past 16 years by abortion on demand. Our abhorrence

has manifested itself in the adoption both by our Southern Baptist Convention and by many of our state Baptist conventions of numerous strongly worded resolutions opposing abortion on demand. While these resolutions are not binding on the conscience or practice of any Southern Baptist member or church, they do express who we are as a people.

We have repeatedly made it clear that we believe life is sacred. Human life derives its sanctity from its divine origin (Gen. 1:26-27). Job says God "made me in the womb" (31:15, NIV). The psalmist declares God "knit me together in my mother's womb" (139:13, NIV). God told Jeremiah, "Before I formed thee ... I knew thee and before thou camest forth out of the womb, I sanctified thee" (Jer. 1:5).

Southern Baptists have had

Nevertheless, we have been far more united in our agreement that legal change is needed than we have been divided about some of the difficult circumstances about which disagreement persists.

differences about some of the circumstances in which abortion might be justified. Disagreements about the morality of

(Continued on page 10)

By Paul F. McCleary

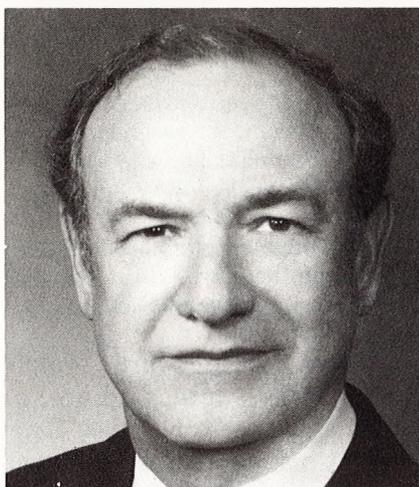
World hunger cannot be understood as a temporary shortage of food. Neither can it be responded to with a short-term feeding program. World hunger is chronic poverty expressed in high infant mortality rates, low educational achievements, large families, poor health, poor nutritional levels and low family income. This poverty cycle is passed on from generation to generation. The Christian response to world hunger is to break the poverty cycle so that it ceases to repeat itself in each succeeding generation.

Christian Children's Fund, Inc. began in 1938. A Methodist missionary on furlough from China appealed to a Presbyterian pastor for assistance for Chinese children suffering from the scourge of war by the Japanese invasion of China. A group of businessmen in Richmond, Virginia, formed China's Children's Fund to meet the challenge. The concept of sponsoring a child was instituted by CCF as the means of providing ongoing support for children in Christian

The Christian response to world hunger is to break the poverty cycle so that it ceases to repeat itself in each succeeding generation.

institutions, mainly orphanages, under the supervision of missionaries from Baptist, Methodist, Lutheran, Presbyterian and other Protestant churches.

Child sponsorship as a means of development



Paul F. McCleary

The concept of sponsorship has changed a great deal over the years. Today, no cash subsidies are given directly to children. Institutional care, once so primary to child development, is no longer necessary in most cases. The developmental needs of children are best met in the context of family and community. Child development is understood as a part of human development and best takes place when understood in that larger context. That having been said, however, it is clearly evident that in our world today the needs of children have hardly been met.

For many years I was skeptical of the developmental contribution of sponsorship. It seemed to me that it embodied all of the negatives one can think of. I have to say that most of those evaporated once I tried it!

I sponsor children because:

- Through correspondence, I find the one-to-one relationship meaningful for me and for the child.

- I want to help with the world's problems, but I feel frustrated because they seem to be overwhelming; through sponsorship I can come to terms with the problems of the world because I can deal with those of one child in a very concrete and specific way.

- Through the child I am introduced into the family and community environment; the child becomes the lens through which I can become knowledgeable about the child's day-to-day life.

- Through the relationship with the child I can bridge language and cultural barriers and come to new appreciations of others which I might not otherwise make the effort to do.

- In addition to the child's parents, I can serve as an adult "reference point" for the child.

- Sponsorship offers the possibility for a long-term relationship with the child. This means that I have the opportunity to accompany the child during a period of time when development and maturation takes place. This longitudinal perspective provides insight into change and growth for myself and for the child.

One can get as much or as little out of sponsorship as one wants. In that sense, it is like any other relationship. Sponsorship is a two-way street, offering personal growth and challenge to both parties. Many of the values of the gospel are expressed in this relationship: It is personal and direct; it is inclusive of the family and community; and it

(Continued on page 10)

By John R. Cheyne

A recent Reuters Library report reveals there are 60 million children living in the streets of Latin America--half are in Brazil. Some 7 million are said to be totally abandoned, and a total of 36 million lack housing, food and other vital necessities. Some are semi-abandoned, some are missed in the melee of moving to the cities, and still others risk running away, thinking life is better on the streets. Mothers are often left to eke out a living in the trauma of miserable villages where millions of squatters merge in subhuman squalor.

The fact is that we are now near a catastrophic international child crisis. It is obvious something more must be done, and that it must be done now!

One of the "How" questions being asked relates to the concept of child sponsorship. Is this the most effective or the most efficient method of dealing with the problem? Even if the additional administrative costs for identifying individual children, photographing them, getting

The fact is that we are now near a catastrophic international child crisis. ...something must be done now!
--John Cheyne

interpreters to write letters, and the administrative link required for prospective sponsors were minimal, one would have to challenge the concept in terms of simple logic. The enormity of the problem indicates that the

A better way exists than child sponsorship



John R. Cheyne

issue requires more than the willingness of donors, whose primary motivation is often best measured as a self-satisfying response for a one-on-one relationship encouraged through pictures of pitiful children.

Children do need to be sponsored! But that sponsorship must go far beyond any existing personalized approach. They need total physical, emotional and spiritual rehabilitation.

It is time for multinational corporations, federal and municipal administrators and every denominational and para-church leader to work together to find more effective ways to deal with the issue. We cannot afford the luxury of personalized appeals in this critical issue. For any program to have a broad impact, it must involve the major manufacturers to open up both job training and entry level job opportunities for these children.

Government authorities will need to consider creating skilled training programs specifically designed for street children.

Churches and para-church agencies must come together with them to coordinate their efforts through local churches and civic groups, providing firsthand assistance to relocate and sustain these children in groups during the process of their skill training and initial job placement.

When nations like Peru indicate that 45 percent of their nation's children live in a "situation of risk" with many of these being abandoned, it is time for those of us involved to pull together and to care for them much in the same way we did when the Vietnamese refugees came to the United States.

A few Latin countries are already beginning to set aside significant sums of money to work on this problem. Ecuador is attempting to raise about \$7.7 million in additional tax money for children's work. Colombia spends about \$100 million per year for this type of work and yet deals with only 20 percent of those in need.

However, money alone cannot buy enough food, uniforms, books or other vital necessities to make a significant mark in the awesome problem of needy children.

Our concern should not center primarily on methods of raising funds, but on ways of dealing with the problem. Funds used to administer personalized child sponsorship should be redirected toward group sponsorship through which multiple numbers of these children may be rehabilitated.

I am convinced most donors are more concerned that their

(Continued on Page 11)

Hunger gifts drop to lowest level since 1984

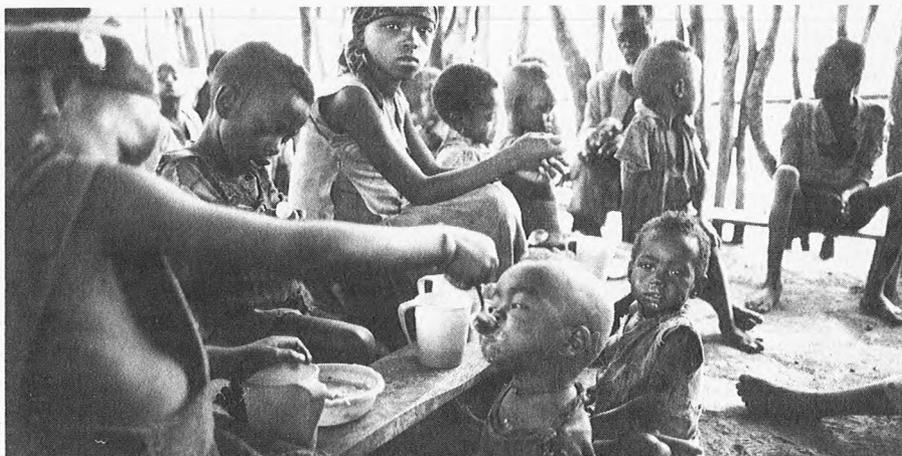
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In 1985, Southern Baptists contributed a record \$11.8 million for combined hunger ministries abroad and at home, shattering the previous record of \$7.2 million in 1984. Hunger giving in 1986 dropped to \$9 million where it leveled off in 1987 and 1988.

"The drop in hunger gifts is most disappointing," said Robert Parham, associate director of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission responsible for hunger concerns. "We may be headed toward the lowest level of hunger giving since 1984.

"Southern Baptists in the past decade have fed millions of people and helped hundreds of thousands of hungry people to feed themselves. I hope and pray that Southern Baptists will not let the hunger-giving channel dry up during the remainder of 1989," Parham said.

"The Convention's hunger



Family members feed children at Ethiopian relief center.

ministries are operated with an extraordinarily high level of integrity. One hundred percent of hunger contributions through the Foreign and Home Mission Boards are spent on hunger needs. Moreover, the ministries are most effective," he said.

John Cheyne, senior consultant for human needs ministries at the Foreign Mission Board, said, "At this stage, it is difficult to ascertain why these gifts have

dropped so much." He said the decline may relate to the lack of media attention to hunger needs lately and other actions.

Nathan Porter, hunger consultant for the Home Mission Board, said the decline means "it is extremely urgent that churches observe World Hunger Sunday in October, that our people become familiar with the needs of world hunger and that we give accordingly."

Land: Give thanks for Court's progress

(Continued from page 7)

abortions in such cases as rape and incest have been real. Nevertheless, we have been far more united in our agreement that legal change is needed than we have been divided about some of the difficult circumstances about which disagreement persists.

Southern Baptists also have realized that the areas of disagreement concerning exceptions represent a minute percentage

of the approximately 1.5 million abortions performed annually.

Southern Baptists must now resolve to strive through the democratic process to stem this deadly tide of death that has engulfed millions of babies whose "right to life" has been denied.

In that task, I wish them Godspeed. I also call them to remembrance of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "but they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount

up with wings as eagles, they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint" (Isa. 40:31).

Before anything else, however, I urge Southern Baptists and other Christians of all faiths to join me in going to their houses of worship to offer thanksgiving for what has been accomplished and to pray for the guidance, for the strength, and for the resolve to accomplish the still formidable tasks that lie ahead.

Sponsorship a means of development

(Continued from page 8)

transcends linguistic and cultural barriers.

Sponsorship provides the means to respond to world hunger at a very individual and

personal level over a number of years. I believe it provides the Christian with a very viable means of expressing one's love for the neighbor.

Dr. Paul F. McCleary is executive director of Christian Children's Fund, Inc. in Richmond, Virginia.

Christian Life Commission hires James A. Smith to staff Washington, D.C., office full time

By Louis Moore

The Christian Life Commission has hired James A. Smith, an employee of the House Republican Study Committee, as its first full-time staff member in its Washington, D.C., office, CLC executive director Richard D. Land has announced.

Smith, 24, will work with members of Congress and other government leaders on legislation and other matters pertaining to the program agenda of the Christian Life Commission, Land said.

"If we are to do the solid, effective job Southern Baptists want us to do in Washington, we simply must have staff there on a full-time basis," Land said.

"We have had an office in Washington for many months now, but budget constraints have kept us from placing any staff there on a full-time basis," Land said. "The SBC Executive Committee recommended a net increase of approximately \$37,000 in our Cooperative Program funding level for 1989-1990 in order to enable us to establish such a presence."

Smith was Director of Communications for the Republican Study Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives. He was employed by the Republican Study Committee in June 1987.



James A. Smith

He graduated cum laude with a degree in political science from Dallas Baptist University in 1987. During his senior year in college he was both president of the DBU student government and Texas Executive Director of Students for America, a political organization. Land described Smith as "a preacher's son" and one who "is deeply committed to the cause of Christ and to the Southern Baptist Convention."

"Jim's position with the House Republican Study Committee familiarized him both with the legislative process and with many of the personnel with whom he will be working in his new position," Land said.

The CLC hired Smith on a temporary basis, effective August 15, but Land says he has notified

the CLC's commissioners that he and the Commission's executive committee will unanimously recommend the hiring of Smith on a permanent basis at their annual meeting in September.

Smith will serve as assistant director of the CLC's Washington office. Land said that "as funds are available, we plan to expand our staff by adding a person with doctoral-level credentials" as associate director in charge of the Washington office. "In the interim, Larry Braidfoot, the CLC's general counsel and the staff person who has most often represented the CLC in Washington in past months, will continue to work closely with the Washington office, as will other Nashville-based staff," Land said.

Smith grew up in a number of states while his father, Floyd, was a career military man. He spent his high school years in Fort Worth, Texas, while his father attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. The elder Smith currently is pastor of Westside Baptist Church in Red Springs, N.C.

The younger Smith and his wife, Linda, have an eight-month-old daughter, Lauren. They are members of Capitol Hill-Metropolitan Baptist Church in Washington.

A better way than child sponsorship

(Continued from page 9)

funds meet real needs than they are in knowing a name, seeing a picture, or even being able to write to "their" child. When they are confident their dollar will not be misspent and will provide for many children, instead of just

one, most will respond positively. Churches, along with para-church groups, civic clubs and government agencies working together might begin to effect real change. Working together we stand a better chance of making a mark. Let's not waste the few funds we have.

A small trickle of response has begun. It is now up to those of us already involved to turn this into the force of a flood.

John Cheyne is director of the human needs department of the Foreign Mission Board.

AIDS teleconference is Oct. 8

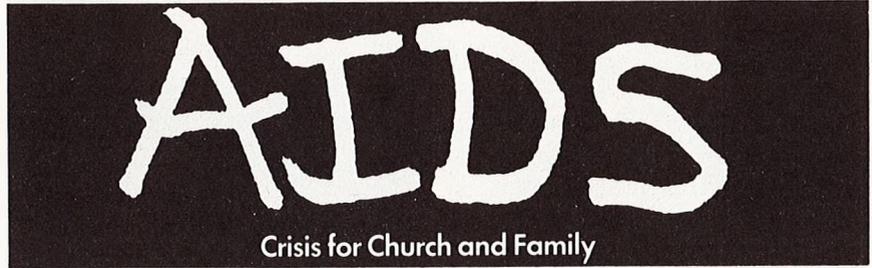
"AIDS: Crisis for Church and Family" is the title of a significant teleconference to be aired on BTN. The program will air from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. (Central) on Sunday, October 8, 1989.

The teleconference is designed for church leaders and parents and will include these four one-half hour segments:

- The Realities of AIDS
- What Southern Baptists Need to Know About AIDS
- How Families Can Respond to AIDS
- How Churches Can Respond to AIDS

Each segment will include time for professionals to share their insights and to respond to phone calls from viewers.

Cohosts for the teleconference include Douglas Anderson, director of the Family Ministry Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board; Roy Edgemon,



director of the Discipleship Training Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board; Richard Land, executive director of the Christian Life Commission; and Joe Stacker, director of the Church Administration Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Joining these hosts on the program will be Richard Goodgame, Foreign Mission Board medical missionary; Fred Loper, Home Mission Board national medical missionary; and Carol Reece, Christian social worker. Panel discussions will also fea-

ture Larry Braidfoot, Christian Life Commission; Jim Hightower and Richard Ross, Church Administration; Morlee Maynard, Family Ministry; Sheryl Churchill Lewis, WMU; and Bill Stephens, Discipleship Training.

Plan now to make the teleconference a significant event in your church. Arrange for a meeting room, adequate viewing screen and access to a telephone. Enlist others to help you spread the word to church leaders, parents and concerned adults. Churches need the information the teleconference will provide.

AIDS: Crisis for Church and Family

First Baptist Church, Nashville, Tennessee

February 12-13, 1990

A conference for church staff, denominational workers and concerned laypersons cosponsored by the Christian Life Commission; Church Administration, Discipleship Training, Family Ministry and Student Ministry Departments, BSSB; and Missions Ministries Division, HMB.

Speakers:

- **Richard Goodgame, M.D.**, Foreign Mission Board
- **Beverly Hammack**, Director, Missions Ministries Division, Home Mission Board
- **James Mason, M.D.**, Centers for Disease Control
- **John Sullivan**, Executive Director, Florida Baptist Convention
- **William Tillman**, Professor of Christian Ethics, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

The conference will also include a number of workshops dealing with family and ministry issues associated with AIDS.

The conference begins at 1:30 p.m., Monday, Feb. 12, and ends at noon, Tuesday, Feb. 13, 1990

Registration Form

AIDS: Crisis for Church and Family

Name _____
 Address _____
 (Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

- Enclosed is \$40 registration fee for me.
 - Enclosed is \$20 registration fee for spouse or student.
- Call (615) 244-2495 for hotel room information.

Make check payable to:
 AIDS Conference

Return form to:
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 P. O. Box 25266
 Nashville, TN 37202-5266

World Hunger Resources Order Form

Quantity	Materials	Unit Price	Total
	Guide - World Hunger Awareness/Action Guide	\$.75	
	Guide - Hunger Alert: World Hunger Awareness/Action Guide for Youth	3.30	
	Pamphlet - What Are Southern Baptists Doing About Hunger?	.11	
	Pamphlet - The Bible Speaks on Hunger	.17	
	Pamphlet - Issues and Answers: Hunger	.17	
	Christian Actions for the World's Hungry (package of 10)	1.10	
	New Testament Studies for a World Hunger Emphasis (package of 5)	1.10	
	Old Testament Studies for a World Hunger Emphasis (package of 5)	1.10	
	Bulletin Inserts for World Hunger emphasis - undated (package of 20)	1.20	
	Poster - World Hunger Promotional Poster - undated	.55	
	Calendar - World Hunger Wall Calendar - undated (package of 10)	1.70	
	Placemat - World Hunger Placemat (package of 20)	1.20	
	Play - "The Unseen Guest" - Playscript	.22	
	Bank Sticker to Support World Hunger Relief Offering (package of 5)	1.10	
	World Hunger Resource Set - 1 sample copy of each of above resources	5.50	
	Book - "What Shall We Do In a Hungry World?" by Robert M. Parham	4.95	
	Videotape: "What Shall We Do in a Hungry World?" 1/2" VHS, 45 minutes. Show date:	Rental \$ 11.00	Purchase \$ 27.50
	Videotape: "Give Us This Day" 1/2" VHS, 28 minutes. Show date:	11.00	27.50
	Videotape: Missions USA Video Magazine: "No Place Like Home" (Report on the Homeless) 1/2" VHS, 13 minutes. Show date:	11.00	27.50
	Videotape: Missions USA Video Magazine: "An Uncertain Harvest" (The Farm Crisis Challenge) 1/2" VHS, 30 minutes. Show date:	11.00	27.50
	Videotape: "Love in Action in a Hungry World" 1/2" VHS, 12 minutes. Show date:	11.00	27.50
	Film: "What Shall We Do in a Hungry World?" 16mm, 45 minutes. Show date:	27.50	275.00
	Film: "Give Us This Day" 16mm, 30 minutes. Show date:	27.50	220.00

Resources for Sanctity of Human Life Sunday

Quantity	Abortion-Related Materials	Price	Total
	New Pamphlet - Critical Issues: What the Bible Teaches About Abortion by Larry Lewis	\$.33	
	Pamphlet - Abortion and the Law	.22	
	Pamphlet - Alternatives to Abortion: Suggestions for Action	.22	
	Pamphlet - Issues and Answers: Teenage Pregnancy	.17	
	Sanctity of Human Life Sermon Outline	.22	
	Bulletin Inserts for Sanctity of Human Life Sunday - undated (package of 20)	1.20	
Resources from the National Conference on Abortion			
	Speaker	Audio Cassettes	
	Bob Terry	The Bible a Witness to Life	3.30
	Fred Loper	Abortion Following <i>Roe vs. Wade</i> : Patterns and Perspectives	3.30
	Paul Jones	Where Did the Early Church Stand on the Issue of Abortion?	3.30
	Joe Trull	Where Do Evangelicals Stand on the Issue of Abortion?	3.30
	Robert Parham	Where Do Southern Baptists Stand on the Issue of Abortion?	3.30
	Susie Hoeller	Abortion and the Law: A Review	3.30
	Andy Merritt & Jane Delaney	Pathways to Mission Action: Alternatives to Abortion	3.30
	Book of Proceedings (Includes each title listed above)		3.30
	Save \$3.10 on entire package of 7 audio cassette tapes		20.00

Mail either or both order forms above to

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Light from the Capital

By Larry Braidfoot

Let me ask you a question. Have you written your representative a letter about child-care legislation pending in Congress? Do you intend to write? Then do it now. If you will look at the last two issues of LIGHT, you can get some directions on what to say.

But I want to give you some specific advice. Tell your representative this simple message: "Look out for Mom." Use your own words, but make the message clear.

I hope you have noticed that an important part of the child-care issue is the concept of a tax credit. A tax credit is better than a deduction. A deduction cuts down on the amount of taxable income. A tax credit cuts down directly on the amount of taxes.

Several bills approached the issue of child care almost exclusively from the standpoint of tax credits. None gained majority support.

The Senate bill (S. 5), to the surprise of many, was amended to include a major component based upon tax credits. This amendment allows parents to use the money to pay for child care or to use it to help a parent stay at home and provide home-based child care.

Provisions of the Senate bill related to tax credits did the following:

- Provided that the dependent care tax credit be made refundable for families with low or moderate incomes.

- Increased slightly the percent of child-care expenses which families with adjusted gross income below \$10,000 can treat as a dependent care tax credit.

- Added a supplement for young children to the section on

earned income tax credits. This supplement, at lower income levels, will provide a general tax credit of \$500 for one child under four or \$750 for more than one child under four.

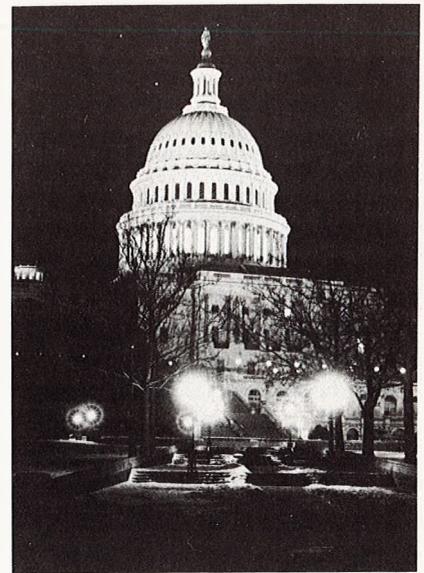
The bill, S. 5, even with these tax credits, has serious problems. The staff of the Baptist Joint Committee regards the church-state problems in the bill as insoluble. The insurance tax credit championed by Senator Bentsen is not only highly controversial and suspect but appears unrelated to the child-care debate.

The House Ways and Means Committee bill would provide about \$14.5 billion in tax credits over the next four years. These

Why should tax credits be available to help pay child-care expenses for the mother employed outside the home, but be unavailable to the mother who remains at home to provide home-based child care?

earned income tax credits, unlike the dependent child-care credit, would be available to parents who provide home-based child care. The new credits would vary, depending upon whether the family has one, two, or three or more children. A special supplement also would be available for children under the age of six.

The "stay-at-home-mom" part of the debate has become the



most intense. Why should tax credits be available to help pay child-care expenses for the mother employed outside the home, but be unavailable to the mother who remains at home to provide home-based child care?

Increasing numbers in Congress, having thought about that question, have concluded that there is no positive answer to it.

Much remains to be done. It is very unclear what final shape the House legislation will have.

House members need to hear from you--NOW. Urge them to pass no legislation that does not provide increased financial support for the mother who stays at home to provide home-based child care.

Three other points need to be emphasized: (1) focus whatever funds are allocated for child care to low-income families where the needs are greatest, (2) oppose any new program which would establish a new federal bureaucracy in the area of child care, and (3) insist upon adequate church-state safeguards as suggested by the BJCPA.

Larry Braidfoot directs Christian citizenship concerns for the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention.

More Light from the Capital

A new offensive against drunk driving

By Robert Parham

Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, in his last major press conference, launched an all-out offensive against drunk driving.

Each year the toxic mixing of alcohol and automobiles claims more than 24,000 American lives and injures another 500,000 people. Almost two million people are arrested for driving while intoxicated. A staggering 9 out of 10 teenage driving accidents involve alcohol. Alcohol-impaired crashes cost the nation annually between \$10 billion and \$15 billion.

Two of Koop's key recommendations to reduce this human and economic wreckage are likely to receive the most attention on Capitol Hill.

First is an increase in the federal excise tax on beer, wine and distilled spirits to at least five cents a drink. Federal excise taxes on beer and wine are the same today as they were in 1951. Not surprisingly, a six-pack of beer is often cheaper than a six-pack of soda.

Raising the federal excise tax on alcoholic beverages could provide the government with up to \$20 billion in new revenues--revenues which could reduce the \$100 billion budget deficit and fund alcohol-impaired driving programs.

Strong evidence exists that an increase in the price of alcoholic beverages--which would be accomplished with taxation--delays underage, illegal drinking and reduces excessive consumption. Taxation could curb up to 11,000 premature highway fatalities annually.

Second is action related to

alcohol-related advertisements and promotions. Mass communication is a major source of youth learning about alcohol use. Alcohol advertisements imply a link between drinking and athletic, social and sexual success. Such glamorization gives a one-sided view, basically overlooking the health and safety consequences of alcohol use.

Koop's 17 recommendations related to advertising and marketing include: (1) matching the level of alcohol advertising with effective pro-health and pro-safety messages; (2) eliminating alco-

Strong evidence exists that an increase in the price of alcoholic beverages--which would be accomplished with taxation--delays underage, illegal drinking and reduces excessive consumption.

hol ads and promotions on college campuses where a significant portion of the illegal drinking occurs; (3) eliminating alcohol-related sponsorship of musical concerts and athletic contests; and (4) halting the use of celebrities who have a strong appeal to youth in ads.

While congressional hearings on these two aspects of Koop's recommendations and others will be scheduled this fall and some



legislation is expected, pro-health and pro-safety forces face an uphill battle.

The alcoholic beverage industry is a powerful lobby which invests heavily in Congress. According to the Center for Science in the Public Interest, members of Congress between January 1985 and November 1988 received more than \$3.5 million in political action committee contributions and honoraria. Additionally, the Gallo, Coors and Bronfman families gave \$465,525. Such contributions could play a significant role in the legislative process.

Southern Baptists must write their senators (U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510) and representatives (U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515), urging support for Koop's recommendations.

The nation's chief health officer has provided a road map for action. Now it is our turn to act.

Robert Parham is an associate director of the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention responsible for alcohol and drug abuse concerns.

Join us for the annual seminar
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- **John Drakeford**, Professor Emeritus, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
- **Monsignor Joseph Dunne**, Founder/former president, National Council on Compulsive Gambling
- **Paul Hegstrom**, founder and Director, Domestic Violence Project Learning Centers, Denver
- **Sarah Hines Martin**, counselor, Marietta, Ga., former SBC missionary and author of *Healing for Adult Children of Alcoholics*
- **Frank Minirth**, Minirth-Meier Clinic, Dallas
- **J. Alfred Smith**, pastor, Allen Temple Baptist Church, Oakland, California
- **Glen Stassen**, Professor of Christian Ethics, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
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