

But in areas where community-based organizations with strong reputations for early childhood programs exist or where the schools have mediocre reputations or are indifferent to early childhood programs, the earmarking of funds for school-based programs would not serve the interests of children, parents, schools or the federal government, he added.

Instead, Grubb advocated structuring a federal program that would provide parents with as much flexibility and choice as possible and would allow local variation to accommodate the different needs of children.

He suggested a voucher mechanism, such as that now being used in California, as one possibility. Vouchers -- as opposed to tax credits, which he described as poor instruments for funding child-care programs -- can direct funds to families with the greatest needs; expand parental choice; and provide information and monitor for quality, he said.

During the hearing, other witnesses voiced a need for federal child-care standards.

Deborah A. Phillips, an assistant professor of psychology at the University of Virginia, said proposed federal standards are minimum standards designed to protect the health and safety of children in child care. Although a variation exists among current state child-care standards, she added, a majority of states would be in compliance with federal standards now being considered.

"Any federal standards should be small in number and focused on the basic elements of quality documented by research, as well as on basic health and safety features," Phillips testified. "They should be phased in gradually to avoid disruption. And there must be technical and financial support available to states as they upgrade their standards."

Phillips, echoing the testimony of other witnesses, also pointed to the need for increased training and compensation for child-care providers; a combination of family subsidies -- based on income -- and consumer education; and adequate coverage of and inspections based upon established standards.

"I ask you always to keep in mind that child care is a service for children," Phillips concluded. "Child-care policy invariably involves business concerns, turf issues, issues of states' rights and powerful ideological arguments. But the end product that I believe we all seek is healthy, alert, trusting and spunky children."

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Southern Seminary names
evangelism professor

N- (CO
(SBTS)

Baptist Press
2/10/89

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--David F. D'Amico, executive director of the Metropolitan New York Baptist Association, has been elected Billy Graham professor of evangelism at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

D'Amico, 54, was approved unanimously Feb. 7 by the seminary's trustee executive committee. He will head the evangelism department at the Louisville, Ky., school and direct the seminary's Billy Graham Center for World Evangelism. He will begin teaching this fall.

D'Amico succeeds Lewis A. Drummond who was elected in March 1988 as president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C.

A native of Argentina, D'Amico is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, where he earned the master of divinity and doctor of philosophy degrees. He taught church history at Southwestern from 1968 to 1975.

D'Amico directed the ministry to internationals at Houston's South Main Baptist Church from 1976 to 1985 when he became executive director of the New York association. He also has been pastor and interim pastor of several Southern Baptist churches, including four years as pastor of Iglesia Bautista Buena, a Hispanic congregation in Fort Worth.

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D'Amico's expertise in areas such as urban and cross-cultural evangelism will help keep the Seminary "on the cutting edge of contemporary evangelism," said Southern Seminary President Roy L. Honeycutt.

"If we are serious about the challenge of winning this world to Christ, then we must find creative and authentic ways to share the gospel in urban and multi-cultural settings," he said.

D'Amico is married to Ana Padalina, also an Argentina native. They have four children.

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Missionary to Kenya
dies of leukemia

N - FMB

Baptist Press
2/10/89

ATLANTA (BP)--Charles E. Evans, a Southern Baptist missionary to Kenya for 30 years, died Feb. 9 in Atlanta, his hometown, after a four-year bout with leukemia. He was 65.

Evans and his wife, the former Betty Young of Insull, Ky., were appointed missionaries in 1958 and began Baptist work in the Kitale area of Kenya in 1961. One of the churches they started grew out of a fellowship that met in the living room of their home.

Before moving from Kitale in 1973, they helped establish a Baptist church association and open a pastors' school in an old farmhouse. They taught a three-year course there. By the time poor health forced Evans to leave Kenya for the last time in 1986, he had worked in three areas of the country in addition to Kitale.

Friends and co-workers said Evans was happiest when he was around people, especially Africans involved in Baptist work. He was a man of many interests, as much able to repair his car -- and the private airplane he flew -- as he was to preach the gospel in Kenyan villages.

His interest in shortwave radio and the good rapport he enjoyed with English-speaking people in Kenya led him to become involved with the East African Safari, an annual road rally through Kenya. During the race, he would man a checkpoint along the route. The Evanses had close friends not only among the Africans and English settlers, but also among merchant-class Indians in Kenya.

They also worked a short time in Mbeya, Tanzania, where he assisted with administrative work at the Baptist hospital and supervised evangelistic work in the area. During a brief stay in Uganda, they established a preaching point in Suam, near the border with Kenya.

Evans attended Emory University in Atlanta and received degrees from Mercer University in Macon, Ga., and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. Before his missionary appointment, he was pastor of churches in Georgia and Indiana.

Surviving him are his wife, three grown children, two grandchildren and a sister. The family requested that memorials be in the form of donations to church building construction in Kenya through the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

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Parents urged to model
morality for teenagers

By Jim Lowry

N - SSB

Baptist Press
2/10/89

NASVILLE (BP)--Parents who want to influence their teenagers' attitudes about dating and sexuality have a responsibility to model lifestyles equal to their expectations, according to experts participating in a live teleconference Feb. 6.

"Dating Today," a two-hour teleconference for parents and workers with youth, offered help for parents as they seek to understand problems encountered by youth in the areas of dating, sexuality and teen pregnancy.

Each of the four half-hour segments of the national teleconference transmitted live on the Baptist Telecommunication Network featured questions from viewers seeking advice on concerns about relationships. The teleconference was sponsored by the family ministry and church administration departments of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

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Subjects covered in the question-and-answer times included AIDS, limits for physical contact while dating, abortion, proper age for dating, involvement of parents in dating life of teens, responsibility of churches in sex education and communication between parents and youth.

Experts who responded to the 38 questions answered on the air included Wayne Grant, a pediatrician and layman from Trinity Baptist Church in San Antonio, Texas, who specializes in adolescent medicine; Lane Powell, associate professor of family life at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala.; and Richard Ross, youth ministry coordinator in the board's church administration department and part-time youth minister at Tulip Grove Baptist Church in Nashville. Jimmy Hester, editor of Living with Teenagers magazine in the family ministry department, was host of the program.

A total of 193 questions were called in from 92 viewing sites in 21 states. Trinity Baptist Church in Cayce, S.C., had 200 people watching the teleconference, which was one of the largest groups reported.

A common theme for the evening was honest, open communication between parents and teenagers.

Ross encouraged parents to talk about how their sexual values were formed, particularly in light of moral expectations parents hold for teens.

As an example, Ross said, "I guarantee a teenager will listen to you as a parent, if at the end of a situation comedy on television, the parent turns to the teen and says, 'I'd like to tell you why I decided that I would never sexually cheat on your mother (or father).'"

While teens might be embarrassed to engage in a conversation about sexual expectations, personal insights from a parent about how he or she arrived at a decision is likely to make a lasting impression, Ross said.

Grant encouraged parents to be involved in programs at church and provide opportunities for teenagers to be with peers there. Teenagers who attend church regularly will be less likely to experiment sexually because of the strong moral and Christian values they hear while at church, he said.

Parents need to "reaffirm the self-worth of teens and their ability to make decisions," Powell said. "Most teens are shy to talk about sex, but don't wait until they ask; provide information at different points, like books and other materials."

Concerning dating and proper conduct, the panelists agreed that maturity and a solid set of values are vitally important. For instance, they warned one questioner about the danger of a seventh-grade girl dating a high school senior.

Parents also were urged to encourage teenagers to make decisions about limits of physical contact before they begin dating, so decisions will not be made during a time when emotions are high.

"Teenagers should not think of kissing as recreation, but a form of communication of feelings with the opposite sex," Ross said.

Churches have responsibility to provide a setting for discussion between parents and youth, and to minister to youth who have made wrong decisions, the panelists agreed.

Particularly in the area of teen pregnancy, churches must provide caring and friendship to a girl who has become pregnant out of wedlock. Too often, they warned, the girl and her family are shut off from contact with church members. The result often is that the girl and her family drop out of the church because of a lack of support.

The goal in that instance is to care during a time of need without approving of the out-of-wedlock pregnancy.

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Parents and youth leaders who are struggling to build successful parent-teen relationships that point youth in a responsible direction need to remember "we serve a God of second chances," Ross said. "There is hope."

A videotape of the teleconference may be ordered by calling the Sunday School Board's toll-free telephone number, (800) 458-BSSB.

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(BP) photo mailed separately to state Baptists newspaper editors

Francisco remembered
as pulpiteer, teacher

By Pat Cole

N-10
(SBTS)

Baptist Press
2/10/89

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--Old Testament scholar Clyde T. Francisco was remembered during a Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Founders' Day address as a "20th century prophet" whose message touched the lives of his hearers both in the classroom and the church pew.

J. Kenneth Eakins, who studied under Francisco while earning his bachelor's and doctor's degrees at the Louisville, Ky., seminary, told the spring semester convocation audience the late Old Testament professor possessed a strong sense of call to the preaching ministry.

Eakins, professor of archaeology and Old Testament at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif., said Francisco agreed to join Southern's faculty in the mid-1940s only after he determined he would be able to teach at the seminary and still preach regularly in churches.

"He felt he would be able to multiply his ministry through his students while at the same time continuing his arduous work in the churches," Eakins said. Francisco taught at Southern from 1944 until 1981, when at age 65 he was struck with a fatal heart attack while preaching in a revival service in Helena, Ga.

Despite his accomplishments as a teacher and scholar, Francisco was known primarily as a popular preacher, Eakins said.

Francisco's preaching schedule "became legendary," he said, noting Francisco preached in hundreds of churches, both large and small.

"He was never reluctant to preach in small churches, and he liked to caution his students that a call to a big church did not necessarily make one a big preacher," said Eakins.

Francisco maintained that an "authentic word from God" should be the presented to people who come to hear preaching, he said. "He believed true preaching must be rooted in Scripture and must contain in varying amounts words of judgment and words of salvation, rebuke and grace, demand and gift."

Francisco's students "always expected a lift from the hour spent in his class, and they were rarely disappointed," Eakins said. "Those who would be preaching the next Sunday were always waiting for a sermon idea. They never failed to find one."

Francisco, the son of a barber, grew up in Danville, Va., and worked at a variety of odd jobs while obtaining his education at the University of Richmond and Southern Seminary. Eakins surmised Francisco's background helped him to become a more effective Christian minister.

"He understood and respected working men and women of all economic classes and could communicate with them both by his attitude and words," Eakins said.

Francisco's contact with grassroots Baptists helped him anticipate the denominational crisis the Southern Baptist Convention was to face in the 1980s years before the controversy erupted, Eakins said: "Partly because of his contact with many local churches, Dr. Francisco was aware of the dynamics shaping Southern Baptist life. In an Old Testament introduction class on Sept. 20, 1963, over 25 years ago now, he noted that the basis of the developing tension in the Southern Baptist Convention was the question of the inerrancy of the Bible."

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Just as the biblical prophets had their disciples so did the 20th century prophet Francisco, Eakins said, noting Francisco's disciples still are influenced by their mentor.

"Dr. Francisco's ministry continues unabated today through the preaching, teaching and writing of those who are proud to call him their master prophet," said Eakins.

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Church serves hot food
to shivering South Texans

N - Texas

Baptist Press
2/10/89

HARLINGEN, Texas (BP)--When the Siberian Express roared into south Texas, dropping temperatures from the 80s to the 20s and covering the area with ice, members of the Texas Baptist Men organization served hot meals to the homeless and to others unprepared for the atypical weather.

Volunteers from First Baptist Church of Harlingen began preparing and serving meals for the needy Feb. 7 at a shelter provided by the local Salvation Army. Food was provided by the Rio Grande Valley Food Bank.

"The first night, we served 35 on site and took meals to at least that many who couldn't get out in the cold," said Tommy Dulin of Harlingen, regional disaster relief coordinator for Texas Baptist Men. "Most of the people who have come to the shelter either are homeless or their homes are without heat."

About 20 volunteers were involved in the feeding operation, which was expected to continue at least through the evening of Feb. 10, Dulin noted.

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