

(BP)

-- BAPTIST PRESS
News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

NATIONAL OFFICE

SBC Executive Committee
901 Commerce #750
Nashville, Tennessee 37203
(615) 244-2355
Herb Hollinger, Vice President
Fax (615) 742-8919
CompuServe ID# 70420.17

BUREAUS

ATLANTA Martin King, Chief, 1350 Spring St., N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30367, Telephone (404) 898-7522
DALLAS Thomas J. Brannon, Chief, 333 N. Washington, Dallas, Texas 75246-1798, Telephone (214) 828-5232
NASHVILLE 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37234, Telephone (615) 251-2300
RICHMOND Robert L. Stanley, Chief, 3806 Monument Ave., Richmond, Va., 23230, Telephone (804) 353-0151
WASHINGTON Tom Strode, Chief, 400 North Capitol St., #594, Washington, D.C. 20001, Telephone (202) 638-3223

March 3, 1994

94-37

SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL
LIBRARY/ARCHIVES
Historical Commission, SBC
Nashville, Tennessee

MISSISSIPPI -- Casinos as top liquor buyers: ominous trend, exec warns.
OKLAHOMA CITY -- Wrapup: CLC seminar speakers warn of family, cultural breakdown.
OKLAHOMA CITY -- Happiness as right brought family decline, Bennett says.
OKLAHOMA CITY -- Pornography should be fought by every believer, Kirk states.
OKLAHOMA CITY -- District attorney says Americans can win war against pornography.
OKLAHOMA CITY -- Crisis in black families demands action, pastor says.
OKLAHOMA CITY -- Schaefer warns of danger in Outcome-Based Education.
OKLAHOMA CITY -- Huckabee offers commentary on nation's cultural crisis.
OKLAHOMA CITY -- Evangelicals still can win policy battles: CLC staffer.
OKLAHOMA CITY -- Defining family crucial to saving it, Mohler says.
OKLAHOMA CITY -- Strack cites tragic reality of gang-based affirmation.
TEXAS -- Pastor says church authority should be rightly exercised.
TEXAS -- Church views on budgets, women examined in Texas CLC workshops.
TEXAS -- Marshall: 'Patriarchal' church hinders women's peace with God.
DALLAS -- Annuity Board trustees mark another record year.
DALLAS -- Annuity Board leaders recount SBC Exec. Committee discussions.
ALABAMA -- Boomer, buster qualities listed by singles minister.
ALABAMA -- Boomer, buster differences could empty classrooms.
TEXAS -- Author says B.H. Carroll book proves 'God can use all of us;' photo.
MISSISSIPPI -- Mississippi College narrows candidates for president.
MISSISSIPPI -- Ice storm is first call for new WMU disaster unit.

Casinos as top liquor buyers:
ominous trend, exec warns By William H. Perkins Jr.

Baptist Press
3/3/94

JACKSON, Miss. (BP)--Mississippi's casinos dominated the state's liquor purchases for the last half of 1993, according to figures released by the Alcoholic Beverage Control division of the Mississippi State Tax Commission.

Casinos occupied 17 of the top 20 places on the list, which identified total cases purchased by organizations licensed to distribute liquor by the drink in Mississippi. Beer and package store figures were not included on the list.

Gulfport's Grand Casino, currently the state's largest gambling facility and number one on the Tax Commission list, bought nearly 7,700 cases of liquor between July and December of last year.

Splash Casino in Tunica County was a distant second, with almost 3,350 cases purchased during the same period.

Amerigo Restaurant in Ridgeland was the first non-casino operation to crack the list at number 13, with nearly 1,100 cases.

Paul G. Jones II, executive director of the Mississippi Baptist Convention's Christian Action Commission, said no one should be surprised since most casinos ply patrons with free drinks while they gambled.

"As early as 1988, we were warning legislators and county voters about the radical increase in alcohol consumption that goes along with legalized casino gambling," he pointed out.

--more--

Jones said recent sales figures reveal other sectors of Mississippi's liquor industry are stagnant, but casino purchases are "going through the roof."

"While consumers are moderating their intake of alcohol for health and other reasons, casinos are adding to society's problems by giving away huge amounts of free alcoholic beverages. It's a frightening picture of what casinos are doing to our state," he said.

To underscore his message, Jones pointed to a recent fatality in the parking lot of a Gulf Coast casino, where a man drowned after he drove his car over a guard rail and into the water. His blood-alcohol level was nearly 2.5 times the legal limit for operating a motor vehicle in Mississippi.

Jones said he believes addictive tendencies are linked, which means compulsive people may not be able to control one addictive behavior (drinking) while indulging another (gambling).

As another example, Jones said some casinos have installed high-tech air filtration systems to handle the massive amounts of smoke created by tobacco use -- another addictive behavior.

"All of this plays into an addictive personality," Jones said. He said he foresees more alcohol-related crime, accidents, work absenteeism and social problems because of the increase in consumption around casinos. In addition, he said he believes local businesses will suffer.

"Casinos have a dangerous edge on liquor use. While normally permitted local businesses like restaurants must charge for their drinks, legislators have one-upped these local businesses by allowing casinos to give away liquor," he said.

--30--

WRAPUP

CLC seminar speakers warn
of family, cultural breakdown

By Louis Moore

Baptist Press
3/3/94

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP)--The breakdown of American family life can be reversed by a concerted emphasis on the role of the husband and father in the traditional two-parent family, where husbands and wives share mutual affection and respect and where children are disciplined in love, speakers to the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission's "Family in Crisis" 1994 annual seminar said.

At the same time, speaker after speaker criticized the elements in American society today they say are destroying the family, such as sex outside marriage, drug abuse, pornography, homosexuality and educational institutions, government entities and media outlets that enable or glorify such immoral behavior.

Over and over speakers said the traditional family of a man and woman with children is God's ideal presented in the Bible.

For the first time since the CLC began holding annual seminars, the 1994 meeting was held in a local church, First Southern Baptist Church of Del City, Okla. The seminar drew the second largest registration of any CLC seminar ever, 746, and was the largest CLC seminar in more than a decade.

"The family is the most basic unit of society," said Southern Baptist Seminary President R. Albert Mohler Jr. "God intended it that way."

Christian Life Commission Executive Director Richard Land said, "The family has almost ceased to function in a nurturing, moralizing way in major segments of society."

"We must not only reawaken intact families, revive intact families," he said, but Christians must reconstruct within communities of believers a biblical understanding of the family as God meant it to function.

"There is a way back from this moral abyss, but it is only found in God's Word and God's institution of families," Land said.

Baptist Sunday School Board President James T. Draper Jr. said the hope of America lies in returning to biblical principles of the family.

--more--

"The crowning achievement of God was the creation of the family," he said. "When sin entered the world, things changed, but God did not abandon his plan for the family. It was his plan for a unified world."

Draper said authority, affection and admonition are the principles God laid down for a unified family.

Southeastern Baptist Seminary President Paige Patterson said families must rear their children in the "fear of the Lord."

"Parents must store the Word of the Lord in their hearts and express profound love for God," he said.

Several speakers said pornography and homosexuality are two of many ways Satan is attacking families today.

Every Christian needs to be involved in the fight against pornography, said Jerry Kirk, founder and president of the National Coalition Against Pornography (N-CAP).

"Pornography is anti-child, anti-woman, anti-man, anti-marriage, anti-family, anti-church and anti-God, and it is filling America," he said. Kirk, a former Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., pastor, called for a united Christian effort to eliminate child pornography and all illegal pornography in America.

Americans can win the war against pornography, but they will have to do it one battle at a time, said Oklahoma City District Attorney Bob Macy, also a Presbyterian.

"My goal has been and will always be to make Oklahoma City the safest and most decent city in this nation, a place where families can raise their children in safety and a moral climate," Macy said. "In order to achieve that goal, something had to be done about pornography."

Macy is credited with spearheading a citywide effort to drive out pornography-related businesses and prostitutes. His efforts are said to have lowered the rate of sexually related crime in the city and saved the taxpayers millions of dollars.

In his keynote address to the seminar, former U.S. drug czar William Bennett said happiness "has moved ahead of commitment in modern American thinking." During the 1960s and 1970s some Americans embraced the belief they "were not only entitled to the pursuit of happiness, we were entitled, as a right, to happiness itself," he said.

Bennett, a Roman Catholic, said he believes the United States is on the "edge of a moral, religious revolution" which will re-establish and reinvigorate the family in this country.

Another speaker said the crisis shaking the very foundations of families in the African American community requires decisive action on the part of churches and individual Christians.

"Satan is boldly taking from us what was given to us at Calvary," said Fred Luter Jr., pastor of Franklin Avenue Baptist Church in New Orleans. "God wants us to do something" to confront such problems as absentee fathers, the drug epidemic and young people virtually raising themselves.

While ministering to the ills of families in society, Christians must guard against erosion in their own homes, said Harold O'Chester, pastor of Great Hills Baptist Church in Austin, Texas, and his wife, Barbara O'Chester.

The O'Chesters said the breakdown of Christian families because of infidelity is increasing rapidly.

"People today are asking why immorality is wrong," O'Chester said. "God says, 'Thou shall not commit adultery.' That's why it's wrong. God forbids it."

Draper said the tragedy today is that Christian morality and ethics is often no different from that of the world. "Marriage is an exclusive union. It excludes a sexual relationship with anyone other than one's spouse. It is never right to compromise God's standards."

During a special public-policy luncheon, Christian Life Commission staffers said Christians also must focus on government policy that influences families.

James A. Smith, CLC director of government relations, said, "There is too much doom and gloom" among evangelicals over whether they can impact government policy.

American evangelical Christians can win federal public policy battles even though President Clinton and often the Congress and Supreme Court are aligned against them, Smith said.

Fort Worth, Texas, dentist, Richard Neill said Christians can fight back individually against aspects of the media they find offensive. He told seminar participants about his personal campaign to remove the Phil Donohue talk show from the airwaves in his hometown.

To conduct such a campaign, Christians need to take a positive perception of what they are doing, to work with passion, to be persistent and to let their motivation evolve from their Christian commitment, Neill said.

During the seminar, the CLC presented Neill with its 1994 Distinguished Service Award for his battle against Donohue.

Nancy Schaefer of Family Concerns Inc. in Atlanta, urged seminar participants to oppose the goals of Outcome-Based Education. She said OBE goes by various aliases, such as PASS; Success for All; and Performance Based, Mastery Learning.

Schaefer said OBE advocates changes in the American public education system which will undermine the family, undercut religious values and "regulate citizens from the cradle to the grave by using the educational system to challenge fixed beliefs through a religious cleansing."

--30--

Tom Strode, Tammi Ledbetter, Dana Williamson and Dave Parker contributed to this story.

Happiness as right brought
family decline, Bennett says

By Tom Strode

Baptist Press
3/3/94

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP)--The acceptance by Americans of the idea happiness is a right which they deserve has resulted in the disintegration of the family, William Bennett said at the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission's annual seminar.

Sometime in the 1960s or '70s, American citizens embraced the belief they "were not only entitled to the pursuit of happiness, we were entitled, as a right, to happiness itself," Bennett said March 1 at First Southern Baptist Church in Del City, Okla., "and if we weren't getting it, it was somebody's fault" -- whether it was a spouse, the government or someone else.

Happiness "has moved ahead of commitment in modern American thinking," said Bennett, who served as secretary of Education for President Reagan and drug czar for President Bush. "When that occurs, the dissolution of critical institutions is bound to follow.

"The family is, was and will always be the first, best and most important department of health, education and welfare. Its dissolution is the most important fact in American life."

In speaking at graduation ceremonies, he tells students to pursue knowledge, work, commitment, love, faith and the object of faith rather than happiness, he said.

Despite the dire conditions, "something is stirring in America," Bennett said.

"I think that we may be at the edge of a moral, religious revolution in this country," said Bennett, whose "The Book of Virtues" is on the best-seller list.

If residents of inner cities were given a choice between receiving \$10 billion in additional federal aid or having someone like John Wesley preaching to change hearts in their communities, more people "than five years ago would agree that John Wesley would be better and more important and more needed," Bennett, a Roman Catholic, said.

--more--

Other reasons Bennett said he believes change may be near are Yale law professor Stephen Carter's book, "The Culture of Disbelief," which says liberals have been too critical of religion, and the way Americans are beginning to respond to the crisis.

"People are starting to fight back in the right way -- by good argument, by good reasoning, by good example," he said.

The fundamental problem in the society is spiritual, and the major political problem is Democrats and Republicans are asking government to provide solutions it cannot provide, Bennett said. An example is Americans are expecting the government to be a father to children, he said.

Washington "is overrated, and what goes on in Washington is overrated," he said. "We should say to the government, 'We want our money back and with it our sense of responsibility.'

"The president of the United States, I believe, recognizes the kind of problem we have," Bennett said of Bill Clinton. "I don't believe that he will do the sorts of things that need to be done, but there have been Republicans who haven't done that either.

"I want to give (Clinton) credit for at least speaking about things in ways that are constructive."

One of the things Clinton has said is adults, especially public officials, should be "moral examples to the young," Bennett said. "Now that he has spoken it, may he live it. Now that he has spoken it, may we all live it. It is important to say, even more important to live it."

More educational freedom should become a reality in the next few years, he said. He predicted educational choice would be adopted in some state.

"One of the great injustices in America is that wealthy people, people of means, can pick their school for their children," Bennett said. "People that don't have much money can't."

The "current monopoly" by public schools of American education will end, he said.

"What will bring it down is the dissatisfaction of the American people with the low performance of American education" on tests in comparison to that of other countries, Bennett said.

--30--

Pornography should be fought
by every believer, Kirk states By Dave Parker

Baptist Press
3/3/94

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP)--Every believer needs to be involved in the fight against pornography, according to Jerry Kirk, founder and president of the National Coalition Against Pornography (N-CAP).

Kirk was in Oklahoma City Feb. 28 as part of the 27th annual seminar of the Christian Life Commission, held at First Southern Baptist Church of Del City.

The former Presbyterian pastor said a Bible passage, Matt. 18:5-7, made him wonder who is causing the temptation of children with pornography:

- the pornographers who produce the material;
- the outlets that distribute it;
- the salespeople;
- the male and female actors;
- the people who buy it, or
- the people who know that the material is in the stores and don't do anything about it.

"I came to the conclusion that it is all of the above," Kirk said. "I had met the enemy and it was I."

At a men's Promisekeepers meeting in Colorado last year, he said he was besieged by many g dly m n asking for prayer because of their addiction to pornography.

--more--

One of the men confessed he had been addicted to pornography since he was a teen. Even though he owned his own business and was a leader in his church and community, he had recently been arrested for having sexual relations with a young girl, the man said.

Kirk said the man turned to several other men and said, "Get help while you can."

"Pornography is anti-child, anti-woman, anti-man, anti-marriage, anti-family, anti-church and anti-God and it is filling America," he said. "Every believer needs to be concerned and involved within the limits of time to take back the night and to protect ourselves, our families and God's family by eliminating child pornography and all illegal pornography from America."

Kirk said "pornography promises love but produces lust; it promises fun but produces despair; it promises self-fulfillment but produces self-doubt and self-hatred; pornography promises freedom but produces addiction, shame and guilt; it promises joyful sex and health but it leads to promiscuity and to devastating diseases and in many cases death."

"Every one of you is a victim. The only question is how directly you are a victim and how powerfully you have been impacted," he said.

He showed a video of a woman telling about the rape of her 3-year-old daughter by a 12-year-old boy. The only reason investigators could find for the boy's actions was that he was exposed to pornography at a critical time of his life.

"Pornography continually undermines a healthy and wholesome sexual love to which God has called us," Kirk said. "Pornography and its influence on us through pop culture is destroying something precious within all the families and all the people whom God is calling us to love."

God calls Christians, Kirk said, "to protect our marriages and to love our children and young people who are losing their innocence and their freedom not to be exposed to these images."

Kirk said pornography affects both males and females in families.

For females in the family, he said, it "humiliates, degrades and promotes their sexual abuse. Pornography undermines the dignity and personhood of women by objectifying them as sex objects, play toys and servants of men. Pornography degrades and humiliates women and girls as of less value and inferior to men and unworthy of respect."

He said it makes women feel unworthy and inferior by idealizing "highly endowed young women ages 18-23" and by portraying all women as nymphomaniacs.

"It leads young women to feel like they are prudes if they are not sexually active" and leads all women to be fearful of men, Kirk said.

Pornography affects males by affecting their thought lives and by leading to addiction. He said surveys in Kansas City and Cincinnati revealed that 99 percent of high school boys had seen pornography, and the average age when they first saw it was age 10.

"Pornography is the primary sex educator of young males in America," he noted. "Children are losing their innocence and latency period before they are mature enough to choose what is good and wholesome."

"It leads children to become obsessed with sex before they are emotionally and spiritually ready to make wise decisions."

Two different national commissions in 1970 and 1986 found that boys ages 12-17 are among the largest consumers of pornography, Kirk said.

"Pornography affects the moral and spiritual strength of the young men your daughters and granddaughters are going to be dating," he said. "Pornography portrays the notion to young people that violence and sex together are desirable at the very time these young people are most vulnerable."

Kirk told of the efforts of the late George Harper leading to the shutting down of 120 sex establishments in Oklahoma City through Oklahomans Against Pornography. In Cincinnati, he said N-CAP had gotten all adult bookstores, topless bars and adult video stores shut down. He also said 80-90 percent of the convenience stores in Cincinnati will not even handle "soft-core" magazines.

District attorney says Americans
can win war against pornography By Dave Parker

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP)--Americans can win the war against pornography, but they will have to do it one battle at a time, said Oklahoma City District Attorney Bob Macy.

Macy, the district attorney for Oklahoma County since 1980, spoke March 2 on the final day of the 27th annual seminar of the Southern Baptist Convention Christian Life Commission.

"Steven Spielberg was quoted in last Sunday's paper as saying that film is the most powerful weapon in the world," Macy said. "Other than Almighty God, he may be right. It's absolutely amazing what a producer or a director can do utilizing film."

He told of viewing the movie "The Getaway," in which the heroes are criminals trying to elude police. Although he has been in law enforcement all his life, and although his son and daughter-in-law are police officers, he said he found himself "emotionally siding with the criminals. If that movie affected me that way, what did it do to the young people and children watching?"

"The power of the entertainment industry cannot be overestimated, and when a segment of that industry sets out to destroy the morals of our nation, our country is in imminent danger, and it's time to go to war, with no holds barred."

Macy said the quote he tries to live his life by comes from "The Virginian": "If there's a wrong, fight it; if you don't, you become a part of it."

"Pornography and obscenity are a wrong," Macy said. "Don't you be too timid to fight for what is right, because I believe it's better to die on your feet than to live on your knees."

In 1958, he said Oklahoma City was known as an open city, where all kinds of vices were allowed. The police chief said he could not do anything about it until the leading citizens quit patronizing the illegal businesses.

"That statement holds true today," Macy said. "Your police and prosecutors will be as successful as the citizens will allow and encourage them to be."

When he became district attorney, he said Oklahoma City had 163 pornography-related businesses, and prostitutes openly walked the streets.

"My goal has been and will always be to make Oklahoma City the safest and most decent city in this nation, a place where families can raise their children in safety and a moral climate," Macy said. "In order to achieve that goal, something had to be done about pornography."

He said fellow church member George Harper attended a conference on pornography, then started pressuring Macy to take action.

"He hounded me and pushed me; every time I looked up George was standing there with another study in his hands," he said. "As time went by I realized this man was truly a warrior sent by God."

Macy finally became convinced, and with the help of the Oklahoma City Police Department's Special Projects Division, he began attacking pornographic businesses. At the same time Harper's Oklahomans Against Pornography picketed businesses and sponsors.

The first thing police found was that the main attraction of adult bookstores was peep show booths where homosexuals could have privacy while watching pornographic videos. Macy led the state legislature to pass a law requiring the doors to be removed from those booths. Without privacy, the peep show booths lost their appeal, and many adult bookstores began losing money, then closed.

When police raided an illegal escort service, they forward all the business' phone calls to the police station. A female police employee took the information from the person wanting an "escort," then police arrested the customer.

"This technique literally put all the escort businesses in Oklahoma City out of business," Macy said.

Another effective technique was publishing the names of people arrested for soliciting prostitutes in the local newspaper.

From 1984-89, police closed 150 of 163 sex-related businesses. "But that's not really the great part," Macy said. "The great part is while the number of rapes was increasing in the rest of the state, rate numbers in Oklahoma County decreased by 27 percent from 1983-89," and sexually-transmitted disease rates also fell.

That decrease meant 2,256 fewer women and/or children were raped or assaulted. He estimated that the county saved \$5 million in the cost of prosecuting sex criminals.

"Can we win the war against pornography?," Macy asked. "You bet we can. It's going to have to be won one battle at a time."

There has to be a coalition of law enforcement, prosecution, religious and civic groups to win the battles.

Macy asked that Christians:

- pray for everyone involved in the battle;
- write letters;
- talk to the managers of stores showing pornography;
- learn about the laws, and
- provide support for lobbying groups that are taking a stand.

"In order to wage this war, you have to go after it as if your children's lives depend on (winning it)," he said.

--30--

Crisis in black families
demands action, pastor says

By Louis Moore

Baptist Press
3/3/94

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP)--The crisis shaking the very foundations of families in the African American community requires decisive action on the part of churches and individual Christians, an African-American pastor told participants at the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission's 1994 annual seminar here.

"Satan is boldly taking from us what was given to us at Calvary," said Fred Luter Jr., pastor of Franklin Baptist Church in New Orleans. "God wants us to do something"

Luter cited five reasons for the crisis in African-American homes:

- absentee fathers and husbands, who have either physically or emotionally abandoned their families.
- the loss of discipline which has created a whole generation of young people who have practically raised themselves.
- the drug epidemic which is tearing apart African American families and neighborhoods.
- "gangsta" rap music which he said "is destroying our youth and encouraging the young people to rebel against all authority."
- peer pressure which is exercising extensive destructive influences on African American youth.

Luter said each of these reasons for the breakdown must be countered with the help of churches and individual Christians, both African American and Anglo.

"We must disciple and develop the black male," he said. "If you want to save the family, you've got to save the man. As the man goes, so goes the family.

"We've got to get men back into the church," he said. "And we've got to teach them how to be husbands and fathers."

At the same time, churches must support and minister to single-parent families, Luter said. "We need to develop singles ministries and 'Parenting by Grace' seminars."

Churches also must offer "creative alternative youth programs for the youth," he said.

Such programs would get African American youth off the streets, away from drugs and into an environment of positive peer pressure, he said.

--more--

But beyond programs, Luter said Christians need to practice what they preach so their lives are an example for others whose homes are collapsing.

"We've got to be real. We've got to be genuine. They're watching us and they've got to be sure we're practicing what we preach," he said.

"We've got to care. We've got to be creative. We've got to change our methods without compromising our message," he said. "We're dealing with a completely different mind-set today, and we've got to be willing to try something new."

--30--

Schaefer warns of danger
in Outcome-Based Education

By Tammi Ledbetter

Baptist Press
3/3/94

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP)--Believing an educational elite of government educational engineers, educational professors and experts, and tax-exempt foundations has forced implementation of Outcome-Based Education across the nation, Christian activist Nancy Schaefer warned whoever wins the cultural and moral battle raging across America will own the children.

Schaeffer, president of Family Concerns in Atlanta, centered her remarks to the 1994 Christian Life Commission "Family in Crisis" seminar around the objectives of the "Goals 2000: Educate America Act," also known as H.R. 6, which includes much of proponent William Spady's Outcome Based Education (OBE) agenda.

OBE goes by various aliases, Schaefer said, such as PASS; Success For All; and Performance Based, Mastery Learning. The federal legislation is currently in the conference committee stage.

"Families are denied in this federal takeover of American education," with parents "looking into the eyes of a potential totalitarian state headed for a one-world government," she contended. While many opponents of OBE believe educational reform is in order, they want to preserve the right of parents to determine how their own children are best educated, she said.

"As we move closer to the 21st century, we can see the educational elite and the social engineers moving forward in their efforts," which will be paid for by state, federal, international and tax-exempt foundation funding, she predicted.

Schaefer further predicted such efforts will regulate citizens from the cradle to the grave by using the educational system to challenge fixed beliefs through a "religious cleansing."

Schaefer noted "choice in education" as the only recourse against what she identified as the ultra-liberal monopoly of the National Education Association.

"Choice in education won't be an option under Goals 2000," she added. "The choice in education is the ultimate solution for this educational tragedy. Not choice through financial assistance that ultimately controls the child, but financial assistance or vouchers from tax dollars that follow the child, help open schools in needy areas, and cannot regulate the child or his parents."

Having researched the objectives of Goals 2000 in her capacity as director of Family Concerns, Schaefer warned it will:

- replace academics with attitude;
- limit future college and university opportunities;
- create servants of the state;
- be operated by federal appointees, organized labor, business and chosen agencies;
- monitor parents and violate parental rights;
- abolish report cards, thus giving the appearance of graduating more students;
- require "community service" for graduation;
- mandate state-approved thinking;
- eliminate choice in education; and
- demand performance-based outcomes for future employment.

--more--

She projected the cost of implementing Goals 2000 at \$420 million, with expenditures including a national panel, a council for standards, state and local systemic improvements, as well as unwritten and hidden costs for a new health care system for site-based health clinics, promotion of OBE, assessment testing and magnet or charter schools.

"One doesn't need to be a genius to accurately predict what a totalitarian takeover, developed through critical thinking curricula will do to America," Schaefer added. "Our constitution, granting God-given rights to citizens will be considered worthless as citizens are reduced through education to servants of the state."

She praised the Grassley and Burns Amendments which passed the Senate version of Goals 2000, requiring parental consent before children participate in activities involving personal values, beliefs or sexual behavior, and the exclusion of private, religious and home schools from mandated curriculum and assessments.

Seeing the public outcry that prompted the amendments as a victory for the rights of home school parents, Schaefer said "it exhibited a show of strength from the religious conservatives." It "sent a message that we may have awakened to find the America we once knew was gone, but we are growing in power and in number" and will not tolerate actions which violate parental rights, she said.

Schaefer urged involvement of Christians in the political process and through election to office. "It is in the halls where public policy is made and laws are written that we must put a stop to the totalitarian takeover of our faith and our future."

If Christians do not return to active duty, the battle will be lost, she insisted. "No longer is there a place for the comfortable Christian. Our faith and our families are at stake."

--30--

Huckabee offers commentary
on nation's cultural crisis

By Tammi Ledbetter

Baptist Press
3/3/94

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP)--Arkansas Lt. Gov. Mike Huckabee identified three reasons for the cultural crisis in America: the rejection of absolute values, reckless lifestyles permeating society and the impotence of religion.

"Right and wrong are not determined by the mere consent of government. Law is based on something higher than majority opinion," Huckabee said at the 27th annual seminar of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission on "The Family in Crisis."

No other law would be needed if Americans lived by the Ten Commandments because "every other law is simply an amplification of those basic laws," he said.

Calling homosexuality a perversion of marriage, abortion a perversion of motherhood and sexual perversity a perversion of morality, Huckabee warned of the consequences of reckless lifestyles and what he termed the hopeless solutions being offered out of Washington.

"The idea that giving kids condoms is going to save them from teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases is utter nonsense. Three days out of five my own kids don't even remember their lunch money," Huckabee observed. "And she expects in the heat of passion teen-agers are going to remember a condom? Give me a break!"

As a Baptist minister now serving in political office, Huckabee said he recognizes not all Christians are excited by those who follow the course he chose. After entering the political fray in 1992, first in an unsuccessful bid for a U.S. senate seat against an 18-year incumbent, Huckabee later garnered enough support to be elected Arkansas' lieutenant governor in 1993.

--more--

He drew laughter from the crowd when he told of being toasted by his host on a trip to Taiwan and the resulting awkwardness. Not wanting to "create an international incident" by declining the gesture, Huckabee tried to plan his next move. But he also anticipated the reaction he would draw from his Baptist friends if he took a drink and those with "have-you-ever? questions."

While not referring to President Clinton by name, Huckabee said he found the solution to his dilemma by drawing on the role model of a fellow Arkansan -- "someone who understands how to answer questions and be able to slide right past. As the host lifted a glass and offered a toast, Huckabee said, "I smiled, picked up my glass, held it, put it to my lips -- but I didn't swallow."

As the only Republican elected to statewide political office in Arkansas since 1980 and one of only four in 150 years, Huckabee faced rejection by his peers. His first day on the job, Huckabee found the door to what was to be his office had been nailed shut. He was assigned a dilapidated government vehicle and finally entered his office after 59 days, finding it had been stripped of all equipment.

The reception many Christians gave him was not much better, he said, noting his experience had taught Christians who get involved in political activity "will take more bullets in the back" than they receive to the face.

Instead of gratitude from Christians, "far more will tell you how politics is dirty and how Christians ought to stay away from it."

"While all of us want to eat from a clean plate, somebody has to do the dishes," Huckabee said.

After signing a proclamation for Christian Heritage Week, Huckabee was threatened with a lawsuit by the Arkansas Civil Liberties Union, a reaction he termed "Christophobic."

Huckabee encouraged pastors to recover their sense of calling to an important task. He spoke of ministers becoming disillusioned, not because theirs is an overwhelming task, but because the job has become too small. "Rather than believing the world of ministry is leading an army into battle as the captain of a fleet of warships," Huckabee said the typical pastor finds his success or failure in serving as "a captain of a loveboat making sure everybody is having a good time."

"When the average pastor is confronted with whether to buy red or blue softball jerseys, the menu for the Wednesday night supper, whether the water fountain is still trickling, if the chalk dust was cleaned out of the tray in the men's class, there is beating in the hearts of many pastors a desire to be leaders of God's people."

He appealed to Christians to avoid growing comfortable in the pew when Christ called his followers to be salt and light. "We must not continue asking government to do what God ordained Christians to do."

--30--

Evangelicals still can win
policy battles: CLC staffer

By Tom Strode

Baptist Press
3/3/94

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP)--Evangelical Christians can win federal public policy battles even though President Clinton and often the Congress and Supreme Court are aligned against them, a Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission staff member said at the agency's annual seminar.

"There is too much despair, in my view," said James A. Smith, the CLC's director of government relations. "There is too much doom and gloom" among evangelicals.

Smith and other CLC staff members spoke at a public policy luncheon March 1 at the CLC's family seminar at First Southern Baptist Church in Del City, Okla.

He cited the following as examples of surprise victories influenced by Christians in the last year:

-- failure of The Freedom of Choice Act, which would eliminate nearly all state restrictions on abortion, to advance;

--more--

-- readoption of the Hyde Amendment, which prohibits Medicaid funds from paying for most abortions and which was opposed by the Clinton administration;
 -- congressional defeat, in effect, of the president's attempt to lift the ban on homosexuals in the military; and
 -- recent elimination of language in an education reauthorization bill (H.R. 6) which may have required state certification of home, Christian and other private school teachers.

In each case, calls and letters to members of Congress affected the outcome, Smith said. Such successes can occur when Christians and other concerned citizens become educated and motivated, work together and act, he said.

"We can make a difference if we let our voices be heard . . .," he said. "Our views are just as legitimate as those of the secular humanist crowd."

On health care reform, Smith said, "There is no question that Clinton's bill is dead."

It is uncertain what "grand compromise" may be worked out among Clinton; Rep. Jim Cooper, D.-Tenn.; Sen. Bob Dole, R.-Kan., the minority leader; and others before Congress adjourns this year, he said. Smith said he is concerned some issues of concern to Southern Baptists may be pushed aside in the rush to act before the congressional election.

The CLC and other pro-life organizations told Cooper, whose proposal has gained favor recently, they would oppose his plan unless it explicitly excluded abortion from basic benefits, he said.

Richard Land, the CLC's executive director, said the commission decided at a recent consultation health care reform was needed. The agency's primary concerns about proposals include abortion, the denial and rationing of health care and interference in the physician-patient relationship, Land said. Two documents issued by the CLC after the consultation will be used to evaluate all plans, he said.

Proposed federal guidelines on religious harassment would affect the church, CLC General Counsel Michael Whitehead told the luncheon audience. The guidelines, which would cause religion to be judged by the same criteria as sexual harassment in an attempt to establish a non-hostile environment, would apply to church employees who are not involved in proclaiming the gospel, he said.

The guidelines, proposed by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, would create a "religion-free zone" in businesses and make the federal government the "policeman of religious speech in the work place," Whitehead said.

Because the deadline for comment on the guidelines has passed, Southern Baptists should ask their senators and representatives to remove religion from the harassment guidelines, he said.

--30--

Defining family crucial
to saving it, Mohler says

By Tom Strode

Baptist Press
3/3/94

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP)--Properly defining the family is critical to saving it, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary President R. Albert Mohler said at the Christian Life Commission's annual seminar.

"What we will not define, we cannot defend," Mohler said March 1 at First Southern Baptist Church in Del City, Okla.

Societal developments in recent decades have resulted in what Christian author C.S. Lewis called verbicide, "the murder of a word," Mohler said. The family has been defined so expansively as to include communes and cohabitation, he said.

Some in the mainline Protestant and evangelical communities have compromised on the family, Mohler said, noting Joan Browning Campbell, top administrator of the National Council of Churches, for example, has recommended a wide-open definition of family, while a speaker at a 1979 CLC seminar suggested a single person is a family.

--more--

The nuclear family is as "old as Adam and Eve, not Ozzie and Harriet," Mohler said.

Not only must the church properly define the biblical model of the family, Mohler said, it must hold fast to the two-parent home; assist Christian families in defending themselves; and speak the truth to and provide support for people in non-nuclear family situations.

The battles involving families in the United States should be seen not as "isolated skirmishes" but as part of a "larger pattern," Mohler said.

"The closer the battle in the culture war gets to the family, the hotter the issues become," he said. "It is because the family is the most basic unit of society. God intended it that way."

Mohler identified six roots of the war on the family: 1) social engineering, which he said has subordinated the family; 2) contemporary feminism, which he said perceives the nuclear family as a tomb for women; 3) the therapeutic culture, where "there is no longer sin, just a lack of self-esteem;" 4) the consumer culture; 5) contemporary media, and 6) the sexuality revolution.

Mohler cited a comment of Harvard sociologist Harvey Cox at a 1973 CLC seminar to illustrate feminism's threat to the family.

"Without going into it much more deeply, I just want to state my conviction that I do not believe we can have achieved the full Christian ideal of the quality of men and women so long as we insist on the nuclear family as the form of Christian family life," Cox said.

Events since World War II reveal the culture "which has abandoned itself to absolute materialism ... is one that will automatically sacrifice the integrity of the family," Mohler said.

In the post-industrial age, the society somehow saw it as an advance when the mother, like the father, left the home to work, he said. Governmental reports show the likelihood of a woman in a nuclear family working outside the home increases as the husband's salary increases, Mohler said.

--30--

Strack cites tragic reality
of gang-based affirmation

By Tammi Ledbetter

Baptist Press
3/3/94

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP)--Of acceptance and protection teen-agers find in gangs, evangelist Jay Strack said it is tragic the only time tens of thousands of young people hear such support "would be in a group dedicated to destroying other people."

Strack, the closing speaking at the 1994 Christian Life Commission annual seminar, noted as the family decreases, the role of friends, crowd -- and gang -- is going to increase.

In trying to rescue teens from the influence of drugs and rock music, Strack advised pastors, educators and parents to avoid citing outdated sources that appear in Christian books that have not been revised over the years.

"Nothing will disqualify you more than to quote some group" like Black Oak Arkansas "that hasn't been around for 15 years" or refer to a drug such as LSD that is losing popularity, Strack said.

"We've got to do our homework to help our sons and daughters and those we care about to make intelligent decisions."

Having forgotten that love is spelled t-i-m-e, Christian parents must develop in their children a sweet taste for the things of God, Strack said.

He urged the CLC to address a generation of children who don't even know how to cry, referring to crack babies that do not anticipate their cries being met by the response of a concerned individual.

The situation is so desperate that treatment often involves inflicting slight pain to motivate a more natural, crying response from those babies, Strack said.

"We have a generation so neglected and so abandoned, they don't even know when you cry somebody cares."

--30--

**Pastor says church authority
should be rightly exercised**

By Ken Camp

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)--Baptists are confused about power and governance in the church because they don't understand legitimate authority, according to George Mason, pastor of Wilshire Baptist Church in Dallas.

Mason was a featured speaker and "Ethics at Church" was the theme during the annual statewide conference of the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission, Feb. 28-March 1 at Broadway Baptist Church in Fort Worth.

Hierarchies that are fixed, permanent and absolute have no place in Baptist church life, but hierarchies that offer temporary and functional authority are essential to developing mature Christians, Mason said.

"We must not be afraid of asserting legitimate power in order to make Christians fit for the kingdom," he said.

The Baptist notion of the church as a resurrection community in which "koinonia sharing" is the leadership pattern rightly points to the kingdom ideal, Mason said.

But the kingdom of God has not yet come in its fullness, and that governing principle of equality under the Lordship of Christ continually is challenged by the reality of sin, he noted.

"Power will be perverted and governance will be chaotic. And that means we must be more intentional about forming people into Christ," he said.

"I don't think that means we give up our formal commitment to being a church of the resurrection, deeming each member equal before God, granting leadership on the basis of gifts and graces rather than official placement or worldly prestige. But we have to account for sin more honestly."

In addition to seeing the church as a resurrection community governed by sharing, Baptists also should view it as an incarnational community in which there is a stewardship of legitimate authority and a crucified community where authority is exercised in self-emptying servanthood, Mason said.

Too many pastors and church leaders are willing to substitute cheap faith and superficial success for genuine integrity and true character, according to Daniel Vestal, pastor of Tallowood Baptist Church in Houston.

Addressing the subject of ministerial ethics, Vestal said meaningful lives of Christian service are "forged on the anvil of experience" and tested in the wilderness of suffering.

"Integrity is not the same thing as innocence," he said. "Integrity is not the same thing as naivete or ignorance. Isolation may bring tranquility, but it will not build character."

Saying Christian character is "more easily identified than defined," Vestal paid tribute to several people whose lives shaped his own -- including his father, ethics professor T.B. Maston of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and former Sunday School Board President Lloyd Elder -- and then asked conference participants to stand and bear witness of men and women who "embodied and incarnated integrity" to them.

A distinctively Baptist model for ethics at church is woven of three strands: organic, social and resurrection, according to James McClendon, distinguished scholar in residence at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, Calif.

The organic is that which is natural -- the drives and instincts that go into shaping human morality. The social includes those things done together in a sphere shaped by rules, goals and skills.

The resurrection strand -- God "breaking in" -- is the central strand of the Reformation and the Baptist movement in history, McClendon said.

"What we need to do is to regain from the resurrection strand -- strand three -- our sense of adventure, from strand two our sense of discrimination about that which is suitable to the children of God in this particular time and place, and from strand one recognition that we stand with feet of clay on an earth of clay," he said.

--more--

"Snapshots" of the early church seen in the New Testament Book of Acts provide a basis for judging the ethics of church strategies and ministries, according to James Flammig, pastor of First Baptist Church in Richmond, Va.

Church strategies generally grow out of traditional calendar agendas, and church ministries often develop out of pragmatism -- whatever works and meets the needs of people, Flammig acknowledged.

But a better, more biblically grounded method builds strategies on an experience with the risen Christ through the Holy Spirit and judges ministries on their inclusive and incarnational basis, he said.

As seen both in the New Testament and in the 20th century experience of the Chinese church that experienced phenomenal growth during persecution, the essential elements of church are not buildings, budgets and institutions, Flammig said, but Scripture, fellowship, breaking of bread and prayer.

Ecclesiology rooted in the biblical view of the church as Christ's continuing incarnation, polity anchored in shared power affirming the equality and dignity of all believers, and emotional maturity marked by patience, caring and humor are vital to developing ethical relationships in churches, according to Molly Marshall, professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

"Reconciling friendship" and "merciful initiatives" should characterize the mission and ministry of the local church, Marshall said.

--30--

Church views on budgets, women
examined in Texas CLC workshops

By Ken Camp

Baptist Press
3/3/94

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)--Ethical considerations of church budgeting, women in ministry and church growth were among the workshop topics at the statewide conference of the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission, Feb. 28-March 1 at Broadway Baptist Church in Fort Worth.

"The budget is the most ethical document your church has. It is the clearest statement of what you value," said workshop leader John Stanley, pastor of Highland Park Baptist Church in Austin.

Citing the teaching of Jesus in Matt. 6:21, Stanley observed, "The budget of the church is a clear statement of where the congregation's heart is."

In spite of the pain they have endured, women want to be included in the church's ministry to bear witness of their full humanity and to fulfill God's plan for their lives, according to Beverly Crowe Tipton, associate pastor of Seventh and James Baptist Church in Waco, Texas.

"This should not be a women's issue, but a people issue. Every person should be recognized as fully human," she told participants in a "Women in Church Life" workshop.

"Women possess gifts from which all humanity can benefit -- as do we all. Anytime our gifts and talents are not recognized, or are stifled, our humanity is denied.

"Gifts are not dispensed on the basis of gender. Thus, a woman who is not allowed to use her full gifts is unable to fulfill God's intentions, and an institution that does not allow someone to fulfill their potential has to deal with the possibility of obstructing God's full intentions."

Church growth practices are compatible with Christian ethics when they result in kingdom growth, not just congregational increase, said Ebbie Smith, professor of Christian ethics, missions and church growth at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth.

Christian ethics, evangelism and church growth are complementary, not contradictory, Smith said. But their practice sometime does not measure up to their principle.

--more--

"Advocates of Christian ethics sometimes neglect their evangelistic and church growth responsibilities. Evangelists and church growth advocates at times allow unethical and un-Christian factors to sneak into their praxis," he said.

"The cause in all cases lies not with the disciplines ... but with a faulty understanding of the disciplines, or more seriously still, the refusal to practice the precepts of the fields."

If ministers want to be ethical in their preaching, they should follow Jesus in identifying with the powerless, said Bill Lawson, pastor of Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church in Houston.

"Jesus was deliberately downwardly mobile," Lawson said in an "Ethics of Preaching" workshop. "The church is not supposed to be like corporate America in its upward mobility, but rather attempt deliberately to identify with the underclass."

American Christians driven by a desire to control have difficulty understanding the motives and ethics of the world's majority who are driven simply by survival instincts, but authentic disciples of Jesus must emulate him, Lawson said.

"The ethics of preaching has to deal not so much with bringing people into the institution. That's the corporate model," he said. "Rather, it has to deal with developing ministry that radiates out from the institution to make some difference in society."

Leading a workshop on the ethics of leadership and administration, Jim Denison, pastor of First Baptist Church in Midland, Texas, said a pastor should have a "servant heart," should work to build a team -- whether of staff or lay leaders -- and should work to earn the respect of the congregation.

Quoting Winfred Moore, longtime pastor of First Baptist Church in Amarillo, Texas, he said a church thinks it calls a pastor, "but what it really calls is a preacher. Then several years down the road, it decides if it has called a pastor."

Failure in the pulpit, failure in moral behavior and failure in interpersonal relations are just a few of the factors involved in forced terminations, according to workshop leader Grayson Glass, director of missions for Galveston Baptist Association.

"It is a serious and widespread problem," he said, noting there are 116 forced terminations of pastors or staff persons each month across the Southern Baptist Convention.

Other factors include allowing numbers to become the "crown jewels," turf consciousness, resistance to change, the pastor developing a "CEO complex," patience or lack thereof and "politicking for a new church even while the moving van is unloading."

Churches are not immune from sexual harassment, and they have a responsibility to see it not only as a legal issue, but as an ethical challenge, according to workshop leader Jeni Cook Furr, chief of chaplains at Veterans Hospital in Dallas.

"Jesus always treated men, women and children with a great deal of respect. He never treated them as objects to be used," she said. "We need to be like Jesus."

Persons in caring professions such as pastors and counselors must take exceptional caution not to abuse their positions for personal, sexual fulfillment, she noted.

"Use touch only to bless and heal, not to fulfill any kind of personal fantasy," she said.

Marshall: 'Patriarchal' church
hinders women's peace with God By Ken Camp

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)--Patriarchal structures and Christianity's ambivalence toward women, according to Molly Marshall, have made finding peace with God a struggle for many women.

Marshall, associate professor of theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., was keynote speaker at the "Making Peace" women's conference, held in conjunction with the annual statewide conference of the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission at Broadway Baptist Church in Fort Worth.

"The call to us in our day is to be as radical as Jesus in transcending social convention," Marshall said.

Jesus' life and ministry was ruled by a "politics of compassion," not by the prevailing "politics of holiness" practiced by first century Judaism, she said.

Before women can make peace with others, they must make peace with themselves. And making peace with self comes as a "response to grace," according to Marshall.

To live in peace, women must come to terms with their own personal backgrounds and be honest about the context in which they live, Marshall said.

"We live in a patriarchal society. Some of us don't want to acknowledge that," she said. "If we deny the systemic oppression in which we live, we cannot possibly gain peace."

Women in the church need to overcome "the sin of hiding" and learn to reclaim -- or claim -- their calling, Marshall said.

"We must reclaim our calling and giftedness lest we sell ourselves short and refuse to become what God calls us to be," she said.

It is impossible to talk biblically about making peace in the community without also talking about issues of justice, said Glenda Fontenot, a member of Broadway Baptist in Fort Worth and board member for the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America.

Recognizing the local church as a patriarchal institution, Fontenot said women may need to do what they can within their local congregation, but also look to the larger church -- across denominational lines -- for nurture, support and service opportunities.

"Acting out your calling may mean giving up the institutional blessing," she said. "It may mean paying serious consequences, but it also offers the opportunity to experience incredible freedom."

Coalition-building and public witness are important ingredients in the struggle for justice, according to Angela Ferguson, associate pastor of Greater St. Stephen Baptist Church in Fort Worth.

Ferguson described the involvement of her church in public protests last year following the probated sentence given a white supremacist "skinhead" convicted of murdering a black man.

Their efforts not only resulted in a new trial but also in a building of bridges between Tarrant County churches of various races and denominations.

Yolanda Taylor, also a member of Greater St. Stephen Baptist Church, told of the bond forged between her church and Broadway Baptist Church -- a predominantly Anglo congregation -- through joint worship services, youth activities, retreats and cultural awareness exercises.

"We have to promote racial understanding and respect for cultural distinctions," she said.

EDITORS' NOTE: In addition to the (BP) story "Annuity Board offers states \$35 million over 5 years," dated 3/2/94, the following stories from the board are offered as added coverage of the trustee meeting.

**Annuity Board trustees
mark another record year**

By Thomas E. Miller Jr.

DALLAS (BP)--The Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention passed \$4.4 billion in assets Dec. 31, 1993, and paid retirement benefits of \$139.5 million during the year.

Trustees, meeting in Dallas Feb. 28-March 1, elected officers for the coming year, heard reports on relations with the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention and were briefed on proposed amendments to the Church Annuity Plan.

The board proposes to amend the Church Annuity Plan in ways to give members more access to funds and to fund, from margin in the fund, the state convention Protection Section for five years. The latter measure would result in billing credits of as much as \$35 million, added to approximately \$17 million credited to the states last year.

Annuity Board President Paul W. Powell hailed the record of retirement benefits paid, which rose an average of almost \$2 million per month in 1993. He said 1994 will be even higher in benefits since a 5 percent increase went into effect on Jan. 1 for most annuitants.

Treasurer Harold D. Richardson noted asset growth through January 1994 was more than 13 percent in the trailing 12 months, and total assets reached \$4.488 billion on Jan. 31. "When all the cash flow is combined -- earnings, contributions, insurance and relief -- we are approaching three-quarters of a billion dollars in annual revenue," Richardson said.

Richardson said trends of growth continue in both benefits and in contributions, as well as new accounts. The retirement administration department recorded 9,493 enrollments of which 58 percent were agency and 42 percent church.

The larger growth in agency and institutional enrollments also is evidenced in contributions, where 51 percent now come from agency employees.

Six trustees who will retire from the board in June were honored, including William A. Willis of Arkansas, who has served two years as chairman.

Elected to succeed Willis as chairman was Richard C. Scott, dean of the Hankamer School of Business at Baylor University in Waco, Texas. Serving as vice chairman for the next year will be Sonny A. Adkins, pastor of Forest Baptist Church, Forest, Miss., who succeeds Daniel R. Taylor, pastor of Shelbourne Baptist Church in Baltimore.

The trustee relief committee approved an increase in the maximum income for relief eligibility, effective March 1, 1994, which will make more people eligible for assistance. Total spent for relief in 1993 was \$694,876.

The relief committee considered 45 requests, approving 24 for two-year monthly grants, five two-year expense grants, seven one-time grants and one five-month grant. Ten were declined for being outside the new guidelines.

The number of recipients of Adopt An Annuitant benefits of \$50 per month continued to rise as the relief committee approved 70 annuitants who were added during the fourth quarter. The total was 1,347 adopted annuitants on Dec. 31, 1993, which will result in payments of more than \$808,000 in 1994. The Annuity Board's endowment department raises all funding for Adopt An Annuitant.

C. Joe McIntosh, vice president of endowment, reported receipts or pledges to the "A Time To Remember" campaign reached \$6.06 million of the \$8.25 million goal, with another year to go in fund-raising activity.

Despite slowly decreasing Cooperative Program receipts, Annuity Board trustees continued to shift funds, previously reallocated to state conventions for educational and promotion work, to the relief program.

--more--

Trustees previously voted to begin using all Cooperative Program receipts for relief on Jan. 1, 1995. As a result of conversations with the Executive Committee, the effective date of the change will be Oct. 1, 1994, to coincide with the beginning of the Southern Baptist Convention budget year that runs from October through September.

The trustee insurance committee reported the receipts/claims ratio of the Personal Security Program Comprehensive Medical Plan continues satisfactory, but stopped short of a decision on rates effective July 1. An announcement will be made by June 1. There has been no increase in rates for two years, and benefits have increased.

The next scheduled meeting of Annuity Board trustees will be Aug. 1-2 in Richmond, Va.

--30--

Annuity Board leaders recount
SBC Exec. Committee discussions By Thomas E. Miller Jr.

Baptist Press
3/3/94

DALLAS (BP)--In an effort to "... help agencies, institutions and foundations earn more money for the Lord's work," the Annuity Board will seek an amendment to its program statement to broaden the board's scope of services. The board will petition the Executive Committee to consider the amendment in the interest of good stewardship, President Paul Powell told trustees at their meeting Feb. 28-March 1.

Annuity Board trustees heard reports from both their chairman and president about sometimes confrontational conversations with the convention's Executive Committee in Nashville Feb. 21-22.

At the Executive Committee meeting, the Annuity Board agreed to an Executive Committee request not to expand investment services for agencies and institutions. Also, the board agreed not to expand retirement and insurance services for entities the Executive Committee believes are "beyond the denomination," pending further study and reports by a special Executive Committee study committee. Powell said that the agreement not to expand has no effect on services in place or in process.

After the trustee meeting, Powell said, "I believe we can convince the foundations and the Executive Committee they have nothing to fear from us. We want to be helpers as they do their good work."

Powell noted the Annuity Board had enhanced the earnings of the institutions it now serves, which helped make up some of the shortfall in Cooperative Program receipts.

Specifically named in Executive Committee discussion of the current Annuity Board program statement were the retirement and insurance plans maintained for Mid-America Seminary in Memphis, Tenn., Criswell College in Dallas and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship based in Atlanta.

Powell said it is the commitment of the Annuity Board to serve all Southern Baptists regardless of their individual place on the political spectrum that characterizes the denomination.

"All of these institutions are made up of Southern Baptists, supported by funds from Southern Baptist churches and individuals and are, in our judgment, within the bounds of the Southern Baptist Convention," he said.

Nevertheless, Powell agreed not to expand the retirement and insurance services beyond such agencies and institutions now being served until the Executive Committee's Program and Structure Study Committee has made its report.

The study committee, authorized by the Executive Committee in September 1993, is studying all agency and institutional program statements and will report to the Southern Baptist Convention in 1994 and make recommendations to the Executive Committee which may pass them on to the convention in 1995. Program statements are the formal method used by the Southern Baptist Convention to set parameters on work of its several agencies and institutions.

--more--

In another matter, the Annuity Board and Executive Committee avoided a confrontation over investment policy and the practice of abortion.

In February 1993 the Executive Committee asked the Annuity Board to divest stock in any company making contributions to Planned Parenthood.

On Aug. 5, 1993, Powell sent a letter to Morris Chapman, president and chief executive officer of the Executive Committee, in which he set forth the fiduciary responsibilities of the Annuity Board, the investment policy and included:

"Complying with the Executive Committee's request would, in all reasonable probability, increase the investment risk or reduce the investment return of the Annuity Board's pension plan funds because the portfolio could not be properly diversified with the limited number of stocks that would be available. That could potentially cause the Annuity Board to be in violation of its common law fiduciary duties as a pension plan trustee. That, in turn, would cause the Annuity Board to operate in a manner contrary to the SBC Constitution and Bylaws."

The matter arose again at what Powell expected to be a routine request for relief funds when he went before the budget workgroup Feb. 21 in Nashville.

Again, before the workgroup and later, in a session of the program and budget subcommittee, Powell told committee members of his personal opposition to abortion and the stand taken by Annuity Board trustees that board medical plans will not pay claims for abortion.

"But," reiterated Powell, "screening the charitable contributions of corporations is virtually impossible and not appropriate as a part of investment decisions."

After Powell left the workgroup meeting on Monday, Feb. 21, the members adopted a restrictive statement and formal criticism. None of the Annuity Board representatives in Nashville were informed of the measure until they came to the subcommittee meeting in the afternoon when the workgroup's recommendation was adopted by the subcommittee without an opportunity for questions or discussion.

Powell immediately asked to speak and vigorously protested the wording of the action that implied the Annuity Board and its trustees are not opposed to abortion. Annuity Board trustee chairman Willis also spoke in protest of both the conduct and statement of the workgroup.

After the committee dispersed, some continued in conversation with Powell, which resulted in them seeking a common ground, with Powell submitting a strong statement of opposition to abortion and a promise to avoid or divest, in ordinary fashion, stocks in any company that is found to have a service or product that is publicly perceived as uniquely aiding, supporting or promoting abortion.

When the chairman of the subcommittee read Powell's statement Tuesday night, Feb. 22, the Executive Committee enthusiastically embraced the statement, which specifically omitted any reference to corporate gifts to organizations that support or promote abortions. By unanimous vote, the Executive Committee struck from the budget document the critical and punitive wording.

Powell told his trustees at their meeting, "To my knowledge, the Annuity Board's standing is OK with the Executive Committee. In areas where we are perceived to be wrong, if we are wrong, we'll correct it."

--30--

Boomer, buster qualities
listed by singles minister

Baptist Press
3/3/94

GULF SHORES, Ala. (BP)--Distinctive characteristics of baby boomers and busters have been listed by Ron Proctor, minister to single adults at First Baptist Church of Euless, Texas.

Proctor has copyrighted his lists, which are used by permission.

Boomers:

-- They seek authenticity in their leaders.

--more--

-- They are more committed to function than to form. They don't care how it works as long as it works.

-- They seek heroes to worship.

-- They are relationally dysfunctional, and yet they seek relationships as their fulfillment.

-- They are activity conscious.

-- They have incredible struggles with self-esteem and self-confidence.

-- They have idealistic tendencies.

-- They have a secular mind-set.

-- They are somewhat institutional.

-- They have tendencies not to be as traditional.

-- They are impatient.

-- They are narcissistic.

-- They are the consumer generation.

Busters:

-- They have incredible struggles with self-esteem and self-confidence.

-- They have been characterized as the hopeless generation without a purpose.

-- They have grown up with TV as their surrogate parent.

-- They view the world as busted -- economically, relationally, spiritually and sexually.

-- They feel the world is out of control and therefore have little hope for the future.

-- They have high desires for personal fulfillment but low expectations for achieving it.

-- They are a purposeless, pain-filled generation with no hope for it getting better.

-- Their experiences determine their value system.

-- They are the most aborted generation, which makes them feel unwanted.

-- They are the generation most neglected by their parents.

-- They are very pessimistic about life.

-- They see the financial picture as almost hopeless.

-- They do not have the boomers or builders (boomers' parents) work ethic.

-- They have grown up in the microwave generation; therefore they want everything yesterday. "The world owes me."

-- Their greatest reward is time off.

-- On the average, they are apt to change careers every three years.

-- They have unresolved conflict with their parents.

-- They can be preoccupied with self-fulfillment such as recreation and time.

-- They sometimes see the American dream as an impossibility to experience.

-- When they think about religion and God, they usually ask, Is it true or does it work?

--30--

Boomer, buster differences
could empty classrooms

By Terri Lackey

Baptist Press
3/3/94

GULF SHORES, Ala. (BP)--Single adult leaders who fail to realize the cultural differences of the boomer and buster generations will soon be staring at empty classrooms, a church leader said.

Baby boomers (born 1946-64) and baby busters (born 1964-83) have distinct philosophies of life, and churches planning to reach them had better account for the differences, according to Ron Proctor, minister to single adults at First Baptist Church of Euless, Texas.

Proctor led classes at two separate events for leaders and ministers of single adults Feb. 18-23 in Gulf Shores, Ala. Conferences for the National Single Adult Leadership Convention and the Southern Baptist Association of Ministers to Single Adults was sponsored by the Baptist Sunday School Board and co-planned with a network of Southern Baptist single adult ministers.

--more--

Baby boomers and busters "are two groups of people who are creating incredible havoc in our churches today," Proctor said.

For starters, boomers are materially oriented and busters are after meaning in life, Proctor said.

"For busters, meaning is more important than materialism," Proctor said. "That's an incredible opportunity for the gospel in terms of the way we package it.

"Busters want to make a difference. But it's hard to get them committed to just anything. They will commit or volunteer for some things if the experience has meaning," Proctor said.

Boomers, on the other hand, are activity conscious, Proctor said. They always have to be doing something, but it doesn't necessarily have to be chocked full of meaning.

"Boomers are narcissistic. They do what benefits them," he said. As an example, Proctor gave an account of a recent benevolent visit his singles group made to a nursing home. Eighty-five percent of the nearly 60 people who went were busters, he said.

Boomers are not as interested in that type of activity, he said.

Proctor said baby boomers hold a "situational ethics value system."

"Circumstances demand their behavior as opposed to truth. The situation controls their actions," he said, explaining how they might drive the speed limit until they were in a hurry or they might not tithe at church on a certain week because they needed to make a house payment instead.

Busters believe everything is relative, Proctor said. "They don't believe in absolute truths. Anything goes. They live in a society where everybody does what's right in their own minds."

For example, Proctor said busters have expanded the sexual revolution to include bisexual and ethnic relationships.

"The hot word for busters today is bi-curious. Because of their relativism, they are very experimental. And if you don't see things like they do, they call you biased or prejudiced."

Proctor, a baby boomer, said he "believes society is in serious trouble" but added he thinks the buster generation can offer hope for the future.

"If any generation has a chance, it could be (busters) because they are looking for the real stuff. But we have to tap it properly because they are growing up with so much garbage."

Proctor said never let baby busters know you are counting their numbers on Sunday mornings.

"If they think they are there to grow numbers, they are history. But if they think you are concerned about them as a person, they are intrigued. Why? Because no one has ever done that for them.

"Personal testimony is the most significant way to communicate to busters," he said. What Proctor said he sees as the key biblical solution for keeping boomers and busters in church is "making them disciples."

"I really believe the key is the discipleship ministry and making them disciples as well as helping them develop a value system," he said, adding one way to do that is to teach doctrine.

"Don't tell them that's what you're teaching them. Slide it in under the title of 'Is God big enough to handle your stuff?' while you're really teaching them the attributes of God."

He also relies on small group Bible study with busters leading busters and boomers leading boomers. Their differences are too significant to expect success if they are together, he said.

"Besides, if there is one thing all busters have in common, it's that they don't like boomers," Proctor said.

**Author says B.H. Carroll book
proves 'God can use all of us' By Susan Simko**

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)--A new biography about Southern Baptist notable B.H. Carroll to be released March 11 during Founders Day celebrations at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary paints a realistic picture of the seminary's first president, according to the book's author.

The book, "Fighting the Good Fight: The Life and Work of B.H. Carroll," was written by Alan Lefever, archivist at the seminary's A. Webb Roberts Library.

The book details Carroll's teen-age alcohol problems, his teen-age divorce, his adult conversion and his work as one of the most influential leaders in Southern Baptist history. Carroll was the founder and first president of Southwestern Seminary.

"There would be a lot of people today who would not be allowed to even be a minister with that kind of track record. But Carroll overcame all of that," Lefever said.

"When you show somebody warts and all, I mean show the whole person, and then show how effectively God used him -- even though he was human, even though he got angry, even though he had hidden agendas -- I think it's a word that God can use all of us, no matter what our faults, if we'll let him," he said.

Lefever began to learn from Carroll's life during his master of divinity studies. While working as a research assistant in the Texas Baptist Historical Collection located in the seminary's archives, he was often asked to pull Carroll's papers. Lefever couldn't resist reading them. When he began working on his doctorate in 1988, he chose Carroll's biography for his dissertation topic.

For more than a year during his doctoral studies, Lefever rummaged through file cabinets full of Carroll's personal letters and notes. He scattered the papers across tables in the archives and read Carroll's neat, penciled script. He decorated Carroll's sermons with yellow Post-it Notes, stacking them in piles by category.

"It was kind of like piecing a puzzle together -- finding where everything fit to make it coherent," Lefever said. "You can do all the research in the world, but if you don't piece it together well, no one is going to enjoy reading it when you're done."

After Lefever finished his doctorate, he decided Carroll's story was enjoyable enough to be a book. He hopes Baptists will read the biography, and preach from it, too.

"When you study the lives of men like B.H. Carroll, you realize they have a lot of the same experiences that we have today. They have a lot of the same struggles," Lefever said. "The controversies that B.H. Carroll was involved in during his life as a Texas Baptist leader and a Southern Baptist leader have shaped who we are as Southern Baptists today."

Proceeds from the sale of the book will go to a scholarship fund sponsored by Southwestern's Seminary Woman's Club.

--30--

(BP) photo mailed to state Baptist newspapers by Southwestern Seminary.

**Mississippi College narrows
candidates for president**

**Baptist Press
3/3/94**

CLINTON, Miss. (BP)--Mississippi College trustees expect to name a permanent president for the Clinton-based school by the end of March, according to a report published in the Feb. 24 edition of The Clinton News newspaper.

The article, written by Maybelle G. Cagle, quoted interim president Rory Lee as saying trustees have reduced the list of applicants to 12-15 people with the help of a Washington consulting firm, Hedrick and Struggles.

--more--

Lee, who has held a number of positions during his 22 years at the Baptist-affiliated college and is a candidate for the president's job, was named interim president in August 1993 after then-president Lewis Nobles resigned under pressure amid allegations of about \$3 million in missing money. Nobles' case is pending in federal court in Jackson.

--30--

Ice storm is first call
for new WMU disaster unit

By William H. Perkins Jr.

Baptist Press
3/3/94

JACKSON, Miss. (BP)--The newly formed disaster relief team of the Mississippi Baptist Woman's Missionary Union -- with its new Itasca motor home, fully self-contained and equipped to support a sizable contingent of women volunteers -- was called into service for the first time after a February ice storm ravaged the northwest portion of the state.

According to state WMU Director Marjean Patterson, the unit joined the Enterprise Baptist Church disaster relief feeding unit in Greenville and then moved to Cleveland, Miss., a few days later when Mississippi Baptists' 18-wheel mobile kitchen arrived there after three weeks of feeding Californians left homeless by the Jan. 17 earthquake in Los Angeles, she added.

"The women were mostly helping get Red Cross Emergency Response Vehicles organized and loaded with meals for delivery to people affected by the ice storm. They were all working without electricity," Patterson said.

Some of the women also accompanied the ERV units into the field to help distribute the meals, she said.

The women volunteers were very pleased with the working relationship that quickly developed with the male volunteers who have staffed the huge mobile kitchen for years, Patterson said.

"We were gratified by the welcome we received from the men. We want this unit to be a part of the total Mississippi Baptist disaster relief program, and we were pleased that the men and women meshed so well," she said.

Jan Cossitt, consultant in the Mississippi WMU department and staff coordinator for women's disaster relief, said the motor home proved functional on its first real-life response.

"We found it very useful. If there's nothing available (electricity and other utilities), we can still function," she said.

Patterson said WMU plans to get more women trained in time for the next disaster relief response, especially in the crucial areas of child care, nursing and clothing distribution.

Patterson also appealed to the state's Baptists for help in paying off the final portion of the debt incurred to purchase the women's motor home. The balance on the motor home is about \$26,500.

--30--

HOUSE MAIL

(BP)

BAPTIST PRESS
901 Commerce #750
Nashville, TN 37203

Southern Baptist Library and
Archives