



Jessica Rock when she was in the 4th grade.

Old Surveys Never Die, They Keep Coming Back

MILTON, VT — Six years after Jessica Rock took part in a smoking survey in her 4th grade class at Milton Elementary School in Vermont, she was contacted by the University of Minnesota for a follow-up survey. She was located, identified, and telephoned despite the fact that her parents had strongly opposed the first survey, had been assured by school officials that she would be exempted from any future involvement in the program, and had even moved out of the school district.

The original survey was given to Jessica in 1986 when she was in the 4th grade. The 9-year-old described to her mother, Grace Rock, how two strangers had come to the 4th grade classroom and conducted a survey on cigarette smoking and self esteem that required the children to place wads of cotton in their mouths. The wads of cotton were later analyzed for traces of nicotine, to test the veracity of student responses to questions about cigarette usage. (See sidebar for actual questions from the survey.)

The children were told that the results of the survey would be kept strictly confidential. They were not told that their participation was optional.

"When Jessica came home and told me about the experiment, I cautioned her not to partake in anything like that again, and I registered my outrage by calling the school," Mrs. Rock recalls. "The school told me that this was part of a University of Vermont program and was an educational experience. I told them I did not care what they called it. I perceived this as an experiment, and I did not want my children ever participating in something like this again — or ever having anything else in their mouths by strangers or anyone else."

"The following year," Mrs. Rock relates, "the school sent home a permission slip requesting my permission to have Jessica take part in the University of Vermont study." She returned the slip, denying permission. Later that year, she moved out of the Milton school district and began homeschooling her daughter.

She thought that was the end of such things until this year — six years later — when she received a phone call from a researcher at the University of Minnesota asking to speak to Jessica. The researcher explained that the University was doing a follow-up survey of the

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Grand Jury May Look Into Abuses of 'Michigan Model'

WHITE PIGEON, MI — A grand jury probing the possible misuse of federal funds by Michigan state education officials may expand its investigation to cover abuses associated with the Michigan Model for Comprehensive Health Education (See *Education Reporter*, Nov. 1991).

According to attorney David Melton of the Rutherford Institute, the grand jury was called to look into allegations that education officials financed foreign travels with federal funds. He predicts, however, that the grand jury will also look into the alleged misuse of federal Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act money to finance programs introduced under the Michigan Model that, in reality, have nothing to do with drug prevention.

Melton is representing parents in both state and federal court in a suit alleging that the White Pigeon Board of Education and other education officials, in their implementation of the Michigan Model, are guilty of the unlicensed practice of psychology and psychiatry, violation of the Open Meetings Act, illegal administration of personality test, illegal expenditure of funds, invasion of privacy, illegal operation of an unlicensed program, and violation of the rights of parents to remove children from sex education classes. *Gingrich v. White Pigeon Community Schools*, filed in Nov. 1989, is scheduled for a hearing April 30.

"This state-written curriculum was never validated," says Melton, adding that the Michigan Model has been proven ineffective by the state's own studies. Although education officials "buried" the studies to hide the negative results, Melton has unearthed them and introduced them as evidence. The suit seeks "full disclosure to parents of exactly what's going on" in the classroom, thus permitting "prior informed consent" for their children's participation. The schools currently operate "book-of-the-month-club style," he observes, with parental consent being taken for granted.

Another objective of the suit is "to recoup Drug-Free Schools money back into the state and federal treasuries." Whatever federal funds the school system is forced to return will have to come from its regular operating budget, of course, so the taxpayer will foot the bill either way. But, says Melton, a judgment in favor of parents may "scare everyone into compliance." School officials all across the country will get the message that, if they accept federal funds, they had better spend them properly.

Education officials are also using taxpayers' money to defend themselves against a suit filed by taxpayers. Melton, whose Rutherford Institute is financed by individual contributions, points out that the state will pick up the tab for the high-priced attorneys hired to represent education officials in the case. The plaintiffs may not be able to spend as freely as the defendants, notes Melton, "but we're in it for the long haul."

Michigan's Department of Education also has paid lobbyists to intercede with state legislators for them. With the Michigan State Senate currently considering whether or not to amend the Michigan Model, this taxpayer-financed interference is yet another irony. "It's hard to organize parents on a volunteer basis to be competitive" with such hired guns, says Melton. Nevertheless, hundreds of parents showed up for state Senate hearings on the Michigan Model, and Melton expects the Senate decision to favor parents.

Melton believes that the Senate will pass legislation providing for greater accountability on the part of education officials. To be effective, he stresses, such legislation must contain a "self-enforcing measure" that includes personal liability for violators. Education officials currently enjoy governmental immunity, says Melton, and are thus not subject to any economic penalty for their abuses.

Melton has asked for certification for class



David R. Melton

action, thus broadening the scope of his suit beyond White Pigeon to include, potentially, all the parents of the one million students in Michigan public schools. He continues to hold out hope that the scope of the grand jury investigation that has just begun will also be expanded to consider the complaints covered in *Gingrich*.

"Drug-Free Schools money is one of the biggest scandals ever," says Melton, noting that over a billion dollars of such funds have "disappeared into school systems with no known effect." (See *Education Reporter*, March 1991, on the General Accounting Office report on the impact of federal drug education funds.)

Several state legislators and state education officials have been subpoenaed to appear. Melton believes that the handwriting is on the wall for those who have arrogantly ignored the complaints of parents. By the time the Senate and grand jury investigations, and his own court case, are concluded, he says, "people are going to be looking for someone to hang." ■

Fraud Admitted in St. Louis School Election

Fraud in the St. Louis School Board election of April 2, 1991 has finally been admitted and made the front page of local newspapers. The cases of two election judges who have admitted casting illegal ballots will be presented to a grand jury in April.

For the past year, many observers have been charging that it was the most dishonest election in the history of St. Louis, Missouri. In that election, four conservative (anti-busing) candidates for the St. Louis Board of Education were defeated by four (pro-busing) opponents aligned with the liberal coalition which has controlled the Board for many years. The St. Louis business community financed the election of the pro-busing slate. Also included on the ballot was a \$131 million bond issue and two smaller tax issues, all three of which passed.

Allegations of fraud were first voiced by the losing candidates when, in an impromptu investigation immediately following the election, they found 13 instances of votes cast in the names of persons who were registered from abandoned buildings and vacant lots. This evidence was later supplemented by the statistical analysis of

two St. Louis University political science professors, Kenneth Warren and George Wendel, who concluded that vote totals in certain black wards were "very unusual, bordering on the impossible."

This conclusion by Drs. Warren and Wendel was based on the doubling of black voter turnout from previous school board elections, and because the winning candidates received above 96 percent of all votes cast in certain black wards, something that is highly improbable. Moreover, roughly 30 percent of the votes cast in the black wards were by voters who had not participated in the two previous elections, although one had been a racially-charged contest for President of the St. Louis Board of Aldermen.

The Election Board hired a handwriting expert in September 1991, whose task was to compare voter signature cards signed at polling places with voter signatures ("affidavits") on record at the Election Board. Although many questions and concerns remain, this investigation did uncover the doubling evidence:

- In one precinct, 23 percent of all votes cast were fraudulent.
- Two election judges admitted under oath that they illegally cast ballots in the School Board election for others who did not vote, and had been doing this for years. After these two judges were removed, vote totals in their precinct dropped 70 percent in the next election.
- St. Louis voter registration rolls were found to include 492 felons on probation and 147 individuals in prison, none of whom is entitled to vote under Missouri law.
- Voter registration rolls were found to include 181 people registered to vote in Illinois, as well as 804 dead people.
- In a door-to-door canvass of one ward, election officials concluded that 16 percent of those voters should be stricken from the rolls.
- 23 cases in which the handwriting expert could identify the actual perpetrator of fraud by name have been referred to the St. Louis Circuit Attorney's office.

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EDUCATION
BRIEFS

The Wisconsin Supreme Court has declared that the nation's first school-choice program, which includes private schools, is constitutional. This decision ends a two-year struggle that pitted Milwaukee state legislator Polly Williams, who sponsored the choice plan, against the state's entire education establishment. Many parents and children who are pleased with the plan took Mrs. Williams' side, while the opposition was led by teachers' unions. The court decision allows 554 low-income students to continue attending nonsectarian private schools using a state scholarship worth \$2,500 a year — less than half of what it costs to educate a child in Milwaukee public schools.

Friction is mounting between pro-choice and anti-choice camps in California. Supporters of a proposed voucher plan charged that the California Teachers Association has harassed people canvassing for signatures to put the initiative on the November ballot. David Harmer, president of the campaign trying to get the measure on the ballot, said: "The CTA is conducting a campaign of harassment, threats and intimidation worthy only of common thugs." He said that union tactics to dissuade voters from signing the voucher petition have included forming human chains and starting arguments with prospective signers. Ralph Flynn, CTA executive director denied the charge and said, "Let him go to court and sue us."

People for the American Way (PAW), Norman Lear's organization, has just mailed a letter and survey to all teachers in Indiana soliciting information for PAW's next publication on "censorship." PAW thinks that parents' attempt to assert their authority to protect their children's faith and morals should be labeled "censorship." PAW claims this is a big problem because there were 229 "censorship incidents" last year out of 110,000 schools. The survey specifically asks teachers to report to PAW whether the parents who challenged any materials are affiliated with any national organizations, "i.e., Citizens for Excellence in Education, Eagle Forum, American Family Association, etc."

After a two-year fight, 15-year-old sophomore Margaret LeGates is a part of the wrestling team at Libertyville High School in suburban Chicago. Miss LeGates, who is 5 feet tall and weighs 103 pounds, is the only female high school wrestler in Illinois. She won her fight with the help of Tricia McNaughton, president of the Women's International Wrestling Federation, who offered Margaret the services of the federation's attorney. When McNaughton called the school superintendent, Dr. Donald Gossett, to say that the federation was backing Margaret's fight, Dr. Gossett agreed to allow Margaret to go out for the team. Many of the male wrestlers do not wish to compete against Margaret, even though refusing to wrestle her means forfeiting the weight class. They say, "It just doesn't seem right." Margaret has wrestled 14 times, winning just once.

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Education Conference Presents Solutions

"Reclaiming our Common Culture" was the purpose of Educational Policy Conference III held in St. Louis, MO on January 31 and February 1. This informative two-day seminar covered over 30 topics and attracted parents, educators, businessmen, and community leaders from all over the country. The speakers, many of whom are the best in their fields, focused not only on what is happening in education, but also presented solutions.

"From Conflict, Crime and Chaos in the Classroom" was the theme of the first day. Dr. William Coulson spoke on the dangers of value-free education. He explained that, although it may be necessary to be non-judgmental in therapy or in a counseling situation with adults, "therapy and education go in opposite directions" and "it doesn't work to bring therapy into the classroom." Non-directive education and the handling of problems in an amateur, group setting, he said, harms good children the most because "good kids want to meet standards, and if the standard is pain, fear, and loneliness, then they'll produce it."

Dr. Judith Reisman, author of *Kinsey, Sex and Fraud*, revealed the shocking truth about the Kinsey data which is the basis of most sex education curricula in our schools today. She explained that Kinsey's data were grounded in the "sexual torture of children," most of whom were under the age of 10 years.

Dr. Paul Vitz spoke about censorship in textbooks. After completing a study on our nation's social studies textbooks, he found that Christianity and religion are basically omitted. He said, "That's how in America censorship takes place — it's what's *not* there that we should worry about."

Dr. Brad Hayton described the problems with America 2000. He said that it is a program for nationalizing curriculum, tests, and teacher certification. Education problems would become more widespread instead of being remedied.

Dr. Frances Shands spoke on the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. The Michigan Model and parents' objections to it were presented by Dr. R. Kraft Bell. Robert Sweet of the U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice &

Delinquency Prevention ended the evening by showing the connection between crime and what happens in the classroom.

The theme of the second day was "Compassion, Choice and Convictions," and many solutions to education problems were offered. Samuel Blumenfeld spoke on how to persuade your local school board to adopt phonics.

Dr. David Menton gave a talk on man's origins and problems associated with teaching evolution in the schools. He suggested an approach to teaching man's origins where the teacher "introduces scientific criticisms of evolution — even criticisms made by evolutionists themselves."

Other topics included restructuring, self-esteem, condoms, school choice, how to teach kids right and wrong in school, how parents can impact state educational policy, how to elect good people to a school board, and how public school teachers can re-introduce Christian ethics and values to the classroom.

The final two speakers, Eric Buehrer and Paul Jehle, urged us to go back to the Judeo-Christian model for education. Eric Buehrer explained *why* the Judeo-Christian model should be taught in our schools and how today's trendy philosophies, such as Humanism and New Age, have failed society.

Paul Jehle spoke on our Judeo-Christian roots in education and how our Founding Fathers' strong convictions came from the Bible. He examined the characteristics of the Hebrew (or biblical) education model, which included phonics. Another characteristic was that "kids learned to be more loyal to parents than to peers, and a child would be trained at home until that loyalty was developed." Jehle mentioned the importance of long-term vision which we, too, should have in our battle for better education. "Minimal vision for education should be 'your children's children.' God never expected any great thing to be done in less than three generations."

Individual speeches are available on cassette at \$7.00 each. The complete set of 14 conference cassettes is \$93.00. Order from ACTS, Inc., 14153 Clayton Rd., Ballwin, MO 63011, phone (314)394-0611.

Learning Disabled Numbers Up

The number of people diagnosed as "learning disabled" in our nation is skyrocketing. "You're looking at a real spiral, relative to the number of students," said Ray Healey, Assistant Superintendent of the Special School District in St. Louis County, Missouri. "We're looking at it with some concern."

His concern is due to the fact that the number of people diagnosed as "learning disabled" in his district rose 559% between 1976 and 1991. The Special School District provides special and vocational education for 23 public school districts in the 510 square miles of St. Louis County. Of the students they serve, 95% of them remain in their local schools.

The Special School District diagnosed 2,009 of its 11,188 students in 1976 as having learning disabilities. Today that number has risen to 11,241 of the 18,640 students in the district.

According to Healey, learning disabilities is a common term that includes a variety of problems, but it almost always involves a problem with psychological processes that involve the use and understanding of language. Alcohol or drug

abusing parents along with the pressures children face in modern society are included in the reasons officials at the Special School District give for the radically increasing numbers. The main reason they give, however, is that more people are being tested for learning disabilities.

"There's a premium for finding learning disabled these days," a resident of St. Louis county explains. "The incentive is money and to make a perfect society."

The goal of becoming a perfect society is reflected in "check lists" that are included in many early education programs such as "Parents as Teachers" program. This program includes 12 "at risk" conditions which "any normal family might fall into on a bad day," the St. Louis county resident said.

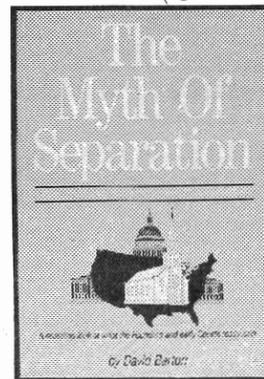
Some parents think that often children labeled as "learning disabled" are really quite normal, but once they have that label attached to them, it becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy. In other words, children live up to the expectations set for them. If they are told they are "learning disabled," they'll perform that way.



Book of the Month

The Myth of Separation by David Barton, Wallbuilder Press, Aledo, TX (817)441-6044, 1991, 294 pps., \$7.95 (plus \$2.95 shipping).

"Separation of church and state" is a slogan used by many people to keep religious influences out of public places — especially the public schools. What 2/3rds of the nation do not realize is that the phrase "separation of church and state" does not appear anywhere in our Constitution or Bill of Rights.



The Supreme Court did not mention separation of church and state until 1947 in *Everson v. Board of Education*. That decision made widespread and drastic changes in our culture. It led to later decisions which prohibited many activities that had been a part of American life for generations — such as prayer in school and the hanging of the Ten Commandments on a classroom wall.

What is the correct relationship between church and state? That is the question David Barton examines in his new book, *The Myth of Separation*, in which he gives a revealing look at what the Founding Fathers and early courts really said. "It is important," Barton says, "that we know the truth about the roots and foundation of this nation — we need to know what our Founders taught and what earlier courts ruled."

Barton states in his book that what many Americans believe about separation of church and state is really just a myth. He proves this by using actual decisions of the Supreme Court from 1795 to 1952.

In arguing that the modern concept of separation of church and state is a myth, Barton uses the writings of George Washington, Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson and other Founding Fathers. For example, John Quincy Adams said, "The highest glory of the American Revolution was this: it connected, in one indissoluble bond the principles of civil government with the principles of Christianity." Benjamin Franklin claimed: "He who shall introduce into public affairs the principles of Christianity will change the face of the world."

Barton explains how Christianity originally played a very important role in the American government. In many states at the time our Constitution was adopted, one had to make a profession of faith before holding a public office.

Barton's book contains a complete list of the cases referenced so that lawyers and others can refer to these cases for their own use.

Barton encourages the reader to get involved and protect the ideas of the Founding Fathers. He believes there is hope of national reform if the majority will "rise up and take its proper place." "Remember," he says, "ultimately in every issue, the enemy is not 'them'; the enemy is 'inactivity.' While complacency rules, wrong principles and policies will abound. Only when the majority changes its thinking and actions and begins to act like a majority will this nation return to its former greatness, both internally and externally."

Ted Turner-Jane Fonda TV Programs Sell 'Green' Agenda to Children

"Save the Earth" is a campaign of Turner Broadcasting System (TBS) to promote the policy goals of the environmentalists, known colloquially as the "green" agenda. TBS's short-term goal is to inform the world about "Earth Summit," also known as the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED).

The Earth Summit will take place June 1-12 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and is expected to attract a very large meeting of world leaders. The purpose of the Summit is to negotiate and sign international environmental treaties that will affect the entire world into the 21st century.

"Save the Earth's" principal tool to promote the Summit is a TV video program entitled "One Child — One Voice," produced by Peter Wagg (co-creator of Max Headroom) and Marc Ian Barasch (author and journalist). It aired on February 23 and will air again in June, and will be distributed free of charge to 120 countries.

Brent Bozell III, chairman of the Media Research Center, calls the video "slick propaganda aimed at indoctrinating viewers with scare-tactic environmentalism."

Bozell summarizes the message of this video as "(1) The world will end if we don't change our ways, (2) viewers must be taught that this is so, and (3) developed nations are responsible for environmental problems threatening not only ourselves but the Third World." This message is presented through the mouths of children who, according to Bozell, make statements that are, at best, highly controversial and, at worst, false propaganda. The children are portrayed as much more intelligent about these issues than their parents.

Charles S. Cushman, executive director of the National Inholders Association and the Multiple Use Land Alliance, has announced a nationwide boycott of "all advertisers and underwriters" of Turner Broadcasting Systems' "Save the Earth" series. Cushman contends that it uses child actors "to parrot Ted Turner and Jane Fonda's Mother Earth cult worship which is based on half-truths and distortions of environmental reality. What is more, it uses children to help brainwash other children watching the show and turn them against their parents."

As an example of what Cushman calls

"insidious emotional appeal," he describes a scene that is so graphic and terrifying that we advise all parents [to] prevent their children from seeing it. The scene involves an axe being swung towards a young girl's legs. Just as the axe makes contact, the child's legs turn into tree saplings, which are cut down.



Cushman continues, "We believe this scene constitutes child abuse. A subtler form of abuse is the message drummed into kids that adults are polluters and that the world is over populated. The conclusions are easy to draw: their parents are bad and kids are not wanted."

Another program in TBS's "Save the Earth" campaign is the weekly environmental cartoon called "Captain Planet and the Planetheers." The characters in this program are real scoundrels. Hoggish Greedly is a human of pig-like proportions who lives to devour the Earth's resources. Looten Plunder is driven purely by profit, and he will clear-cut rainforests, destroy cultures and even extinguish whole species to achieve his goal. Sly Sludge is the ultimate con man, polluting the Earth by dumping garbage and toxic waste into oceans, national parks and peoples' backyards. Duke Nukem is a hideously deformed, "glow-in-the-dark" villain who spreads radioactivity with the glee of a mad scientist.

The "white hats" after these hoodlums are the Planetheers, a group of five children from North and South America, the Soviet Union, Asia and Africa. The children are called by Gaia, the spirit of the Earth, when she awakes from a 100-year nap to discover the devastating effects 20th century people have had on the environment. Giving the children magical rings that enable each of them to control one of the natural elements — earth, fire, water, wind, and hearts — she explains to them that, when the five join their rings, Captain Planet, the "superhero" will appear, and together they will declare war on the villains who are destroying the Earth.

The voices on the "Captain Planet and the Planetheers" cartoon program are Sting as Zarm, Ed Asner as Hoggish Greedly, Martin Sheen as Sly Sludge, Dean Stockwell as Duke Nukem, James Coburn as Looten Plunder, Hector Elizondo as President Fuerte (the secretary general of the Earth Summit who is determined to make it a success), and Whoopi Goldberg as Gaia, the spirit of Earth.

TBS carries several other environmental series, including The Cousteau Society Specials, World of Audubon Specials, National Geographic "EXPLORER," and "Network Earth," all of which are dove-tailing with the "Save the Earth" program. One of the World of Audubon Specials, called "The Great Plains: Myth and Reality," is hosted by Jane Fonda. She profiles farmers and ranchers and their impact on the Great Plains, illustrating the message that we must continue to look for creative ways to live in harmony with the land and the environment, as the Native Americans featured on the program have done.

"Network Earth" profiles two families in order to show how the Earth Summit's environmental-treaty issues — such as biodiversity and toxic waste — are affecting the lives of average people. This special also gives details on how the Earth Summit works and how viewers can become involved.

TBS's "Save the Earth" campaign includes the Save the Earth book; the Save the Earth television specials; "action packs," brochures that include a selection of environmental pledges and direct-action "leaf" postcards; and an interactive computer network via the "Network Earth" Forum on CompuServe.



The action pack includes Save the Earth "leaf" postcards addressed to President Bush and to the Save the Earth project in Brazil. These leaf postcards will be used on the "Tree of Life" in Brazil as a visible demonstration of support. Artist Peter Max has created the Save the Earth "Tree of Life" and "Leaves," which are used in the action pack, a poster and the on-air packaging of the television event.

In an effort to influence the greatest number of people with TBS's "Save the Earth" campaign, Turner Publishing's "Save the Earth" book and an action pack will be available through a multi-level distribution system. Through a unique collaboration between TBS and cable operators, along with environmental and civic groups, the action pack will be distributed to millions of Americans through cable television, by mail and even door-to-door.

Some critics charge that the June Earth Summit in Rio is a \$30 million extravaganza that may cost American taxpayers more than our annual United Nations subsidy. Critics also raise questions about the structure of the meeting, its radical agenda, and the fact that the United Nations has invited thousands of members of environmental special-interest groups to attend.

More Scandals in Federal Drug Funds

By a voice vote on Feb. 20, the Senate passed amendment S. 1653 to the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1986 offered by Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC) to "prohibit the use of Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act funds to provide homosexual support services to school students."

The purpose of this amendment is to prohibit schools from using federal funds for purposes not authorized in the law. This is the latest controversy to flourish about schools using Drug-Free Schools money for purposes that have little or nothing to do with curtailing the use of illegal drugs.

The Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1986 was passed to educate students about the dangers of using illegal drugs. The focus of the Act was on "high-risk" youth — students at a greater risk of becoming drug users — including school dropouts, under-privileged

kids, violence-prone delinquents, children of drug abusers, etc.

However, the term "high risk" has been independently redefined by some school districts to encompass homosexual and lesbian students. According to the Ohio Governor's office, "they are victims of psychological abuse as a result of living in a 'straight' society and having to deal with one's own sexuality." This new definition of "at risk" students is supposed to legitimize the use of taxpayers' funds for purposes other than what the law intended.

Records from the San Francisco Unified School District show that one of the drug education programs there focused on the needs of "youths confused about their sexuality" instead of on student problems related to drug abuse. In that district, \$12,000 from the federal Drug-Free Schools Act funds, plus \$8,000 from other federal programs, was spent to hire a

director of Support Services for Gay and Lesbian youth. This person's job description was to "demystify sexuality and homosexuality and recognize the contribution of gay and lesbian persons to our culture and our history," as well as to link these students and their families with culturally appropriate community resources.

The most blatant misuse of funds occurred in the New York City schools, where \$500,000 was given to the Gay and Lesbian Community Center to run Youth Enrichment Services (YES), the purpose of which is to reach homosexual youth as young as age 13. The majority of funding for YES came from the Drug-Free Schools program. The motto of YES is: "Lets you say yes to being young and gay." YES has sponsored such events as "Bridge the Gap Intergenerational Play Day," "Coming

Out Then and Now," and "Lesbian and Gay Pride Celebration."

One YES staff member was quoted as saying that "the events were meant to provide positive role models from the homosexual community for homosexual youth." An example of these positive role models, as noted in the *Washington Times*, was a "drag queen named 'Razor Sharp,' who serves as the 'empress' of a group of female impersonators known as the Imperial Court of New York."

When YES staffers were questioned about sexual indiscretions involving students from these federally funded seminars, a *Guardian* reporter was told there were no written rules concerning sexual conduct. Another YES staffer clarified the position, stating that "YES does not condone sex without consent." (The age of the person did not appear to be a factor.)

Vote Fraud

Continued from page 1

Professors Warren and Wendel say they are downright angry about the final report issued in mid-March by the Election Board. They say that the board tried to cover up the extent of the vote fraud by, among other things, examining only 20% of the suspicious areas. "We feel they found little, because they looked at little," Warren said.

Several months were lost between the April 1991 election and September 1991 when election officials finally began their investigation. These delays prompted Missouri Secretary of State Roy Blunt to comment that the pace of the investigation was "totally unacceptable... by any standard I'm comfortable with." Last month, Blunt strode into the Election Board offices and accused board members of condoning "third world" election tactics.

There is concern that such delays may well have afforded those responsible for the vote fraud an opportunity to cover their tracks. As an example, 31 affidavits were discovered missing when the handwriting expert began his task. Their disappearance and subsequent re-discovery arouse suspicions that unknown individuals inside the Election Board may have substituted new affidavit signatures.

Despite initial reassurances that the handwriting expert would scrutinize the 100 precincts where Professors Warren and Wendel suspected the greatest fraud, the Board of Election Commissioners abruptly discontinued their investigation after only 25 of these precincts had been examined, and then released the handwriting expert.

Equally disturbing was the abrupt and unexpected manner in which official estimates of the percent of fraud were reduced. For months, news accounts had consistently quoted Election Board Chairman Gary Stoff as indicating findings of a 10% fraud figure. After three months, however, that figure was suddenly reduced without explanation to "one or two percent." Many believe the handwriting expert's standards were modified under pressure from political and civic leaders who had financed and endorsed the victorious slate of candidates, and later worked behind the scenes to sidetrack the investigation.

An election deputy named Carl Hester had earlier filed a report indicating that he had personally witnessed vote fraud in the November 1990 election, which was condoned by precinct officials. Election Board Chairman Gary Stoff claimed not to have heard of Hester's report.

Public reaction to the entire fiasco is best summed up by the comment of Carol A. Wilson, one of the unsuccessful anti-busing candidates, who remarked in an editorial letter, "Any Board member who is too indecisive, ineffectual or politically-motivated to pursue vigorously alleged assaults on the electoral process, should resign."

The same day that the vote fraud admissions made page 1 of the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, the two Democratic candidates running for Governor of Missouri said that, if elected, they would do everything possible to do away with the desegregation programs in St. Louis and Kansas City.

One of these candidates, St. Louis Mayor Vincent Schoemehl Jr., was an aggressive backer of the pro-busing slate in last year's School Board election. Now, however, he is accusing Governor John Ashcroft (R) of failing to take constructive court action to fight the desegregation programs in St. Louis and Kansas City. "No one in this state," Schoemehl said, "has a better understanding than I of the disaster these programs have caused for urban, as well as rural, schools. These are the two most expensive desegregation orders in America." ■

Excerpts from Smoking Survey

Please write the correct number in the box.

5. Last week I smoked _____ cigarettes.
6. Yesterday I smoked _____ cigarettes.
11. I used chewing tobacco or snuff _____ times in the past seven days.

These are statements mostly about cigarette smoking. Please check the box showing whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with each statement.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
26. If I want to smoke, that's my business.	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
27. Smoking is fun.	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
28. Cigarettes can relieve tension.	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
29. Cigarette smoking makes girls look more attractive.	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
31. If it is all right for parents to smoke, it is all right for kids to smoke.	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
32. Kids who smoke have more friends.	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
33. Cigarette smoking is pleasant.	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
34. A person can relax by smoking.	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
39. Smoking helps people deal with life's problems.	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
41. If I smoked I would feel more relaxed.	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
42. Kids who smoke are more grown up.	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
45. Kids should be allowed to smoke if they want to.	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
46. Kids who smoke have more fun.	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>

Smoking Survey

Continued from page 1

students originally polled by University of Vermont. The caller asked when Jessica would be home, so that she could call back and "see if she is willing to answer a few questions."

According to Mrs. Rock, the caller "never asked my permission to question Jessica." When Mrs. Rock expressed surprise that her daughter had been located despite the fact that the family had moved out of the Milton school district, the caller volunteered that the school had provided Jessica's "last known address."

The Minnesota woman called back for Jessica the following day and, when Mrs. Rock said she wanted to see a copy of the questions Jessica had responded to 6 years ago, she was told that "the supervisor was too busy right then to speak on the issue," so they would have to call her back. They would have to contact the "Doctor" who was the originator of the survey to see if the "Doctor" would allow her to receive a copy of the questions. Mrs. Rock has not received any information or any subsequent phone call regarding the original survey or being allowed to see it.

The School Board of Milton was questioned about the fact that children were being called at home. The current superintendent of schools, Keith Ober, stated that the *parents* were being called for permission to speak to the children.

That proved to be incorrect in Grace Rock's case, as well as in the case of one young man who was called when his parents were not home. His parents had refused to give the school permission to have him be a part of the survey, and yet the caller from the University of

Minnesota asked him 12 questions without ever seeking permission from his parents. He was even asked where he would be living next year so that he could be contacted and asked for the name of a relative who could be contacted in case the student was not at that address.

Mr. Ober was asked at a recent school board meeting where all this information was going — what agency or center was receiving these kids' responses. Mr. Ober said he did not know.

This federally funded study was part of a \$1 million research grant given to the University of Vermont to study children from different areas. Mrs. Rock considers the original survey "in-

trusive and objectionable on many fronts, and a complete outrage coupled with the placing of cotton in children's mouths." She insists that the problem is only one of several which "our young people are being subjected to in this state." She believes that such programs "undermine the American family."

Norma Lafayette had a daughter in the 6th grade at the Milton Elementary School when the smoking survey was administered in 1986. She, too, reacted promptly to remove Deanna from the program. Mrs. Lafayette has no recollection of any permission slip that was supposedly sent home with her daughter in April 1985.

In response to her request to review the questionnaire to which her daughter had been subjected, Mrs. Lafayette received a letter from Assistant Principal Thelma Dodson informing her that the University of Vermont had asked the school "not to send copies home, since prior discussion of the topics, by parents or teachers with students, could alter the research results." Mrs. Dodson told Mrs. Lafayette that she would be "most welcome to come in and review the questionnaire here at school."

Mrs. Lafayette contacted Brian Flynn, the associate director of the Office of Health Promotion Research at the University of Vermont, who informed her by letter in June 1986 that extra copies of the questionnaire could be obtained from the local school district. "We try to contact parents by mail before children first take the survey," he assured her, "and I apologize to you and your child because you did not receive a permission letter."

In a subsequent letter, Flynn informed Mrs. Lafayette that "funding for the cigarette smoking prevention program in Milton comes from the National Cancer Institute, a part of the Public Health Service headed by C. Everett Koop, M.D., the Surgeon General of the United States." The program, he observed, was also being conducted in "15 other communities in Vermont, New York, and Montana."

Mrs. Lafayette wrote to Superintendent of Schools Keith Ober early in 1987 to express her disapproval of the program. Conceding that "children should be made aware of the hazards of smoking," she objected that "what we have taught our children at home about smoking is not being reinforced in the University of Vermont program. We tell our children, 'don't smoke,' " she explained. "The program being used here never says 'don't smoke.' Information is given to the children and then they are left to make the choice."

The four-year program ended in 1989. "Because of the initial success of this study," notes Flynn, "the National Cancer Institute agreed to fund an additional follow-up survey to see if the program's effect lasted for more than a year after it was completed. The follow-up plan was to contact the original 5,459 participating students." ■

The Chinese Government Has a File on Everyone

"Personal File and Worker Yoked for Life" was the headline of a *New York Times* news article on March 16. It described how, "as part of [Communist] China's complex system of social control and surveillance, the authorities keep a dangan, or file, on virtually everyone except peasants."

The *Times* showed a picture of a room where thousands of file folders are kept behind locked metal doors. Each dangan starts with school records and grade transcripts and is filled with "performance evaluations." Students and workers are never permitted to see their files, but "they live all their lives with their file looming over them."

"A file is opened on each urban citizen when he or she enters elementary school, and it shadows the person throughout life, moving on to high school, college and employer. Particularly for officials, students, professors and Communist Party members, the dangan contains political evaluations that affect career prospects and permission to leave the country."

"The dangan affects promotions and job opportunities, and it is difficult to escape from because any prospective employer is supposed to examine an applicant's dangan before making a hiring decision. The dangan is part of a web of social controls that insure order in China." ■