

EDUCATION REPORTER

Number 100

The Newspaper of Education Rights

May 1994

Utah Requires Parental Consent for Nosy Questions

SALT LAKE CITY, UT - Governor Michael Leavitt of Utah signed into law on March 2 a bill many consider to be "the most important piece of legislation of the '94 session." The Utah Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, H.B. 403, prevents schools from conducting any psychological or psychiatric examination, test or treatment without the prior written consent of the student's parents. This legislation prohibits nosy questions about such topics as income, religion, politics,

psychological problems, illegal behavior, and sexual behavior. (See text on page 2.)

"It will do more to derail Outcome-Based Education than anything else we are doing," claims Gayle Ruzicka, who worked around the clock along with many other concerned parents to get the bill passed.

She says the passage of H.B. 403 was important "to protect families from having the government snoop into the most private parts of our lives and use our children as guinea pigs in social programs."

The legislation was sponsored by Speaker of the House, Rob Bishop, who was able to get it through committee and on to the floor of the House in the last two days of the session. It passed with only four opposing votes.

Matt Hilton, a constitutional attorney and the author of this legislation, spent hundreds of hours in research and negotiations to write it. In spite of some opposition, H.B. 403 passed just one hour before midnight, which was the end of the



Gayle Ruzicka

1994 session. Rob Bishop called it a "miracle" that it passed out of the Senate at such a late hour.

Mrs. Ruzicka says the new law will protect students from nosy questions like those taken

from assignments given to Utah students during the 1993-94 school year:

"Do you sleep well at night?" was one of the questions asked of second graders. Sixth graders were asked, "How important do you feel you are, or do you ever wish you were another person?" In a junior high autobiography assignment, a teacher asked students to write "if they were wanted or if their parents wanted a child of another sex" or "do you wish you were a member of the other sex?"

Mrs. Ruzicka is now encouraging Utah citizens to do their part. She recommends going to schools and asking to serve on committees that will be setting up the guidelines to implement this law. She also encourages parents to ask to see all tests given to their children that have any non-academic questions. □

RWJ Foundation Funds School-Based Clinics

PRINCETON, NJ - The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has awarded 12 states \$23.2 million to develop school-based comprehensive health services for the nation's school-age children.

"Children comprise a substantial proportion of the uninsured population in America," said Steven A. Schroeder, M.D., The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation president. "Comprehensive school-based health care is a practical solution for getting these kids the care they need and that we want them to have."

The program called "Making the Grade: State and Local Partnerships to Establish School-Based Health Centers" will give participating states \$100,000 grants to develop plans to establish new clinics and expand existing ones and to find ways to eliminate barriers that make their development difficult. Each state will examine state laws and regulations, develop a specific plan to reduce or eliminate barriers to integrating school-based services, develop criteria for selecting local school districts to participate and then select two or three districts, and develop innovative ways to encourage the training of mid-level practitioners.

After a 15-month planning phase, 10 of the 12 states will be selected to receive a four-year \$2.2 million grant to carry out their plans.

The director of the program is Julia Graham Lear, Ph.D., associate research professor in the Department of Health Services, Management and Policy at the George Washington University. She claims there is an almost "desperate need" for comprehensive health care in schools.

"Adolescents have always been the most neglected, least insured group in our population with the fewest number of visits to the doctor and these average about 10 minutes," Dr. Lear said. "This is despite the fact that we hear about all these problems that they have, like medical, emotional, social-medical like pregnancy and substance abuse. Adolescents really fall between the cracks."

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, based in Princeton, N.J., is the nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to health and health care. The states the foundation chose for the five-year pro-

gram are Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Louisiana, Maryland, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, Tennessee, and Vermont.

Project director of the Denver School-Based Clinics, Bruce P. Guernsey, said the grant will help set up six new clinics. The

Denver program is one of the more established in the country and has been running three high school clinics since 1988. Last spring it expanded its services to a school district that includes five elementary schools and one middle school.

According to the Center for Population Options, school-based clinics receive 45 percent of their funding from state and local governments, 16 percent from the federal government, and 39 percent from foundations and other sources.

Dr. David W. Kaplan, chief of adolescent medicine at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, says some barriers to health care facing teens may be harder to overcome.

"There are issues of confidentiality," he

said. "Teens are embarrassed to go to the pediatrician or family doctor with a sexually transmitted disease. Secondly, a large sector of teens don't have insurance. Also, the problems that providers are presented with are often complicated, psychosocial problems that take too much time and

offer little reimbursement. Young kids also have a problem with transportation, getting around to go to appointments."

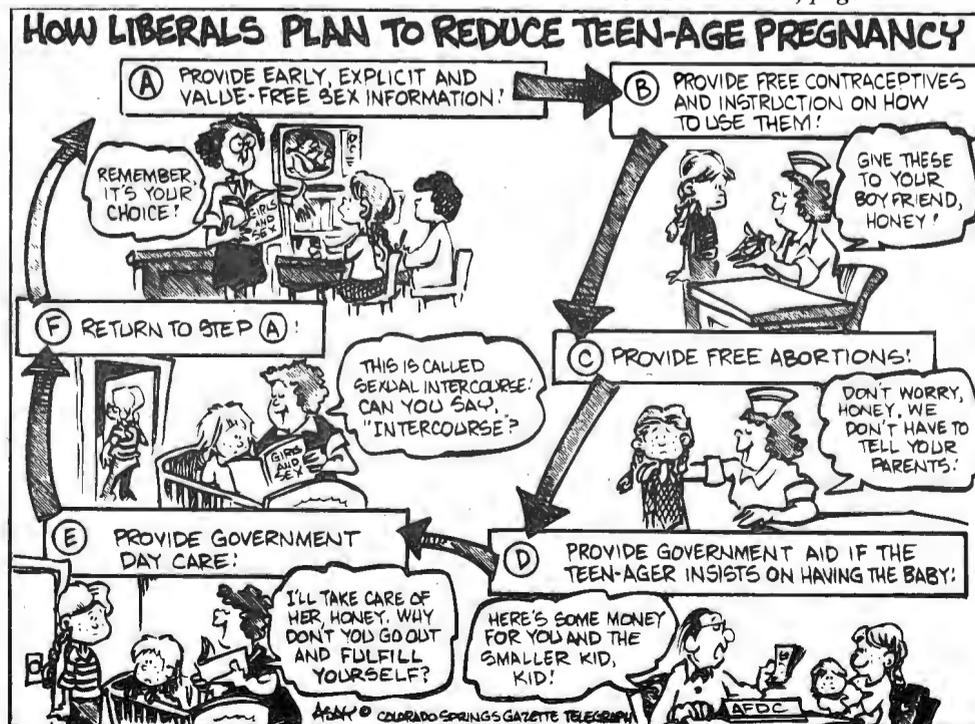
Treating them at school where they are every day "just made a lot of sense in terms of simplifying access," Dr. Kaplan

added. "It was also a natural setting to introduce preventative health education programs."

School-based clinics are a prominent part of President Clinton's reform package, which calls for up to \$500 million a year to increase their numbers. Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders is a major backer of the plan to make these clinics providers of primary care to school-aged children. As director of the Arkansas state health

Project director of the Denver School-Based Clinics, Bruce P. Guernsey, said the grant will help set up six new clinics.

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Holt Refuses to Clean Up Health Texts

Holt, Rinehart and Winston has withdrawn its high school health book from the Texas textbook adoption process because the Texas State Board of Education ordered changes to modify the book's explicit sex. Holt said it believes that the changes requested would make the textbook "instructionally unsound" and "have a negative impact on the quality of instruction." According to news sources, Holt stated, "We simply cannot produce a product that does not provide children with adequate instruction on life-threatening issues."

The *San Antonio Express-News* published two of the disputed passages from the health book along with the State School Board's suggested revisions. Here is one controversial passage:

"Ask for five volunteers, each of whom will sketch one structure of the female reproductive system (ovaries, Fallopian tubes, uterus, cervix, vagina). Designate a triangular area of the classroom as the female reproductive system and have students place their sketches within the triangle to show the proper position of each structure. Then name a phase of the menstrual cycle . . . and have each volun-

See Holt, page 2

EDUCATION BRIEFS

Fort Wayne, IN radio talk show host Paul Phillips gets better ratings for education issues than for typical news stories like crime, corruption and Congress. Over the radio, he revealed Freedom of Information Act findings that a local school superintendent, William Coats, and some school board members were rubber stamping \$60 million of questionable expenditures. Parents have become more active in school board meetings and Phillips' hard-hitting reports have prompted listeners and sponsors to take notice of talk-radio programs that deal with education issues.

In honor of Women's History Month, the Women's Studies Program at St. Louis University has encased a poster of "Christa," a four-foot-tall bronze sculpture by artist Edwina Sandys which depicts Christ as a woman. Judith Gibbons, director of Women's Studies states that she sees the poster as a symbol of women in religion. "The Christian image of Jesus on the cross is always male," she stated, "although the male form is 'historically correct,' Christian women feel less identified with the image of God." Students' views of the presentation conflict. One anonymously written note stated, "For God so loved the world he sent his only Son, need I say more?"

Federal law has effectively banned smoking in the nation's schools. Goals 2000: Educate America Act, which President Clinton signed into law in March, includes a provision barring smoking in any indoor facility that receives federal funds and that provides educational or health services to children. The ban is not limited to recipients of Goals 2000 funds. Violators will be fined \$1,000 per day.

Many orthodox Jews including Rabbi Hersh Ginsberg, leader of the oldest rabbinical organization in the Western Hemisphere, have condemned the movie *Schindler's List* for its gratuitous frontal nudity and disgraceful language. They are also disturbed that the movie is being shown to large numbers of high school pupils.

Education Reporter (ISSN 0887-0608) is published monthly by Eagle Forum Education & Legal Defense Fund with editorial offices at 7800 Bonhomme Ave., St. Louis, MO 63105, (314) 721-1213. The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the persons quoted and should not be attributed to Eagle Forum Education & Legal Defense Fund. Annual subscription \$25. Back issues available @ \$2. Second Class postage paid at Alton Illinois.

UTAH FAMILY EDUCATION RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT 1994

AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC EDUCATION; REQUIRING SCHOOL PERSONNEL TO COMPLY WITH PROTECTIONS PROVIDED FOR FAMILY AND STUDENT PRIVACY; REQUIRING SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO ENACT POLICIES TO RECEIVE WRITTEN PARENTAL PERMISSION PRIOR TO OBTAINING CERTAIN INFORMATION FROM A STUDENT RELATING TO THE STUDENT'S FAMILY; AND REQUIRING ADVANCED DISCLOSURE TO PARENTS.

Section 1. Section 53A-13-301, Utah Code Annotated 1953, is enacted to read:

Utah Family Education Rights and Privacy Act 53A-13-301. Application of federal law to administration and operation of public schools.

(1) Employees and agents of the state's public education system shall comply with the protections provided for family and student privacy under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, as enacted by United States Congress, in the administration and operation of all public school programs, regardless of the source of funding.

(2) Each public school district shall enact policies governing the protection of family and student privacy as required by this section.

Section 2. Section 53A-13-302, Utah Code Annotated 1953, is enacted to read:

53A-13-302. Prohibition of testing without prior written consent -- Validity of consent -- Qualifications.

Policies adopted by a school district under Section 53A-13-301 shall include prohibitions on:

(1) the administration of any psychological or psychiatric examination, test, or treatment, without the prior written consent of the student's parent or legal guardian, in which the purpose or effect is to reveal information concerning the student's or any family member's:

- (a) political affiliations or philosophies;
- (b) mental or psychological problems;
- (c) sexual behavior, orientation, or attitudes;
- (d) illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
- (e) critical appraisals of individuals with whom the student or family member has close family relationships;
- (f) religious affiliations or beliefs;
- (g) legally recognized privileged and analogous relationships, such as those with lawyers, medical personnel, or ministers; and
- (h) income, except as required by law.

(2) The prohibitions regarding the inquiry or disclosing of information under Subsection (1) shall also apply to the curriculum or other school activities unless prior written consent of the student's parent or legal guardian has been obtained.

(3) Written parental consent is valid only if a parent or legal guardian has been first given written notice and a reasonable opportunity to obtain written information concerning:

- (a) records or information, including information about relationships, that may be examined or requested;
- (b) the means by which the records or information shall be examined or reviewed;
- (c) the means by which the information is to be obtained;
- (d) the purposes for which the records or information are needed;
- (e) the entities or persons, regardless of affiliation, who will have access to the personally identifiable information; and
- (f) a method by which a parent of a student can grant permission to access or examine the personally identifiable information.

(4) (a) Except in the case of exigent circumstances, disclosure to a parent or legal guardian must be given at least two weeks, but not more than five months before information protected under this section is sought.

(b) A general consent, including a general consent used to approve admission to or involvement in a special education or remedial program or regular school activity, does not constitute written consent under this section.

Holt

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describe any changes that his or her structure is undergoing at this time."

Here is the revision suggested by the State Board: "Delete this activity. [It] disregards the student's obvious embarrassment at being asked to draw a vagina, for example, in a coed classroom."

Here is a second controversial passage: "Bring a package of latex condoms to class. Have students read the package label to verify that the condoms are made of latex. Unwrap a condom to show students what it looks like and how it is used. Demonstrate how the condom is put on by pulling

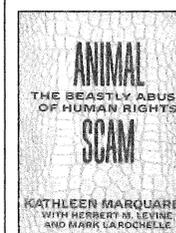
one over two fingers or an object such as a banana."

The State Board's response was: "Delete this activity. [It] will undoubtedly embarrass many students."

The reporter for the *San Antonio Express-News* commented: "Any educator, writer, publisher or 12-year-old who can't come up with a better teaching/learning exercise than this brainstorm is in need of serious help."

For an analysis of all health textbooks submitted for adoption in Texas this year, see *Education Reporter*, March 1994. □

Animal Scam:



The Beastly Abuse Of Human Rights

By Kathleen Marquardt with Herbert M. Levine and Mark LaRochelle, c. 1993, Regnery Gateway, Inc., Washington, D.C., 182 pps, \$24.00.

Schoolchildren, who have a natural love for animals, are being bombarded and exploited by the animal rights extremists. In classrooms across America, books and teachers are filling children's heads with falsehoods.

Ridiculous propaganda is being taught as fact - such as, "Medical workers torture the animals they work with" or "Whales are so much smarter than humans that when we learn to speak their language they will tell us things about our history that we never knew."

Kathleen Marquardt attacks the lies of the animal rights movement in her book *Animal Scam: The Beastly Abuse of Human Rights*. She is the founder and chairman of Putting People First, an organization committed to promoting animal welfare while fighting the animal rights movement.

Mrs. Marquardt states that few people understand how powerful the animal rights movement has become and how much damage it has already caused - not only in the schools, but in all areas of life. She exposes the fraudulent tactics of the animal rights activists and proves that what they claim is far from what they actually practice.

Contributors to animal rights groups usually believe that their money will help abused or abandoned animals. Actually, very little goes to the benefit of animals. The book points out that, of all the money animal rights groups receive, 90% of it is spent sending out more requests for money. Very few supporters know that a basic tenet of the animal rights agenda is its **opposition to having pets**. *Animal Scam* shows the methods animal rights activists use to persuade the world that there is no difference between animals and people, and that owning a pet is the equivalent to owning a slave.

Mrs. Marquardt explains how harmful their tactics are to animals as well as to people. For example, animal rights activists demand an end to all animal testing used in science and medication derived from animals. This includes insulin for diabetics, tetanus-diphtheria booster shots for children, and polio and measles vaccines. The most extreme activists claim that the only way to solve the Earth's social and environmental problems is to phase out the human race completely.

Animal Scam not only exposes how illogical the animal rights agenda is, but it also reveals the consequences its radical ideas will have on so many aspects of life that we take for granted. It is an excellent resource for the reader who wants answers to some of today's most controversial animal rights questions.

FOCUS: People for the American Way Leads Fight Against 'Religious Right'

By F.R. Duplantier

Imagine this scenario: textbook and curriculum publishers, school board associations, and teacher unions holding seminars and distributing guidelines on how to prevent conservatives and members of the so-called "Religious Right" from interfering with plans to implement controversial educational programs. It's the kind of conspiratorial effort that concerned parents have long suspected but dared not suggest, for fear of being labeled paranoid. And yet, it's a scenario that's having an impact on school systems across the country.

In May 1993, the Institute for Development of Educational Activities (IDEA), headquartered in Dayton, Ohio, staged a national conference in Denver to discuss methods of "fighting the right." Entitled "Responding Democratically to Religious Agendas, Right-Wing Pressure Groups and School Reform," the conference drew more than 200 public school administrators and teachers from 30 states (See *Education Reporter*, September 1993). Participants signed pledges promising to implement the tactics discussed. Fifty-five Colorado school officials also attended the conference, at taxpayers' expense, prompting a Denver attorney to threaten a lawsuit unless state superintendents promised to refrain from participating in such conferences in the future.

"The thrust of this conference was one of overt discrimination against a specific class of individuals, namely those who hold traditional Judeo-Christian beliefs," said attorney Mike Norton. "It's not the role of public officials to fence out of the political process those citizens [they consider] overly involved in religion."

But the erection of "fences" continues. The September 1993 issue of *Phi Delta Kappan* warned its readers that "challenges from conservative citizen groups objecting to particular instructional strategies and materials" are hampering efforts "to make fundamental changes in public schooling for the 21st century." The article, by a professor of education at Indiana University, relied heavily on materials prepared by People for the American Way (PAW).

The October 1993 issue of *The School Administrator*, published by the American Association of School Administrators (AASA), contained several articles on the impact of the "Religious Right" on public school policy, and how to offset it. A contents-page blurb for the lead story, entitled "The Religious Right's March into Public School Governance," warned that "members of fundamentalist religious groups are seeking election to local boards of education to push an ultra-conservative platform." A sidebar to the article, profiling seven of the most prominent "Far-Right Citizens' Groups" was compiled by the People for the American Way.

A report on state sex-education programs issued by the Sex Information and Education Council of the United States (SIECUS) last October recommended, among other things, that state govern-

ments "provide assistance to communities in responding to opposition to sexuality education programs." PAW is one of the ten resources cited for the report.

Also in October, state school superintendents throughout Illinois were alerted to the dangers of the "Religious Right" when they each received a packet of materials consisting primarily of PAW publications. And at the annual joint conference in November of the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB), the Illinois Association of School Administrators (IASA), and the Illinois Association of School Business Officers (IASBO) – devoted to the subject of "Censorship of Curriculum Materials" – attendees received handouts featuring lists of "Far-Right Citizens' Groups" and of "Organizations that Fight Censorship." The latter included People for the American Way, the compiler of both lists.

These are just a few of the recent manifestations of a nationally orchestrated effort to keep the pro-family movement from further loosening the liberal stranglehold on public education. According to PAW, the number of challenges to public school curricula increased 50% during the 1991-92 school year, and so education officials are running scared. Although they were able to manipulate its institutions to their own advantage, they are crying foul now that the opposition is beginning to beat them at their own game.

PAW Accuses the Right of Meddling in Curricula

What alarms educators most is the nature of the current challenges. "Until the late 1970s the targets were usually individual books," says Martha McCarthy, author of the *Phi Delta Kappan* article.

The thrust of this conference was one of overt discrimination against those who hold traditional Judeo-Christian beliefs.

"While the list of individual books under attack continues to grow, recent protests – often orchestrated by national conservative groups – are more likely to focus on entire textbook series and components of the instructional program."

That means that pet theories and vested interests are at stake. Take, for instance, the Whole Language approach to reading. McCarthy notes that "the most widely chal-

lenged textbook series at the moment is Harcourt Brace Jovanovich's 15-volume anthology *Impressions*, which uses the Whole Language method. "Most of the challenges focus on the series' subject matter rather than on its pedagogical approach," she concedes,

"but the controversy associated with *Impressions* may have implications for the future of Whole-Language instruction."

McCarthy reports that conservatives have also attacked the *Quest* curriculum for teaching relativism and disrespect for parental authority, the *Tactics for Thinking* program for teaching New Age beliefs, and Outcome-Based Education for teaching hardly anything. She notes that "instruction pertaining to values clarification, self-esteem, multicultural education, evolution, AIDS education, and global education are being contested as anti-Christian, anti-American, or otherwise inappropriate." But the meddling doesn't stop there, McCarthy continues. "Several instructional strategies currently touted in the education literature, such as collaborative learning and thematic instruction, are being challenged because they shift to students some of the responsibility that was formerly lodged with the teacher."

Such challenges, McCarthy warns her peers, "call into question some of the basic assumptions of school restructuring initiatives," thereby posing "far more serious threats to efforts to improve the public

school program than do challenges to individual novels." What's more, she adds, "the success rate of those initiating challenges has been rising."

Even unsuccessful challenges sometimes delay construction of educational utopias, "for the controversy itself can disrupt school operations and interfere with implementation of the program. Then there's the dreaded ripple effect. When materials or programs are attacked in one school district, the controversy often affects other districts," laments McCarthy.

PAW Believes Parents Are "Confused"

To combat this unfortunate trend, McCarthy recommends that educators "become more assertive in involving parents in efforts to restructure the instructional program," explaining to them "the pedagogical justification for programs and materials." After all, most of the problems result from the fact that "parents are simply confused and do not understand the educational rationale for the questioned programs. Many have not personally reviewed the materials they are challenging; instead, they rely on information distrib-

See PAW, page 4

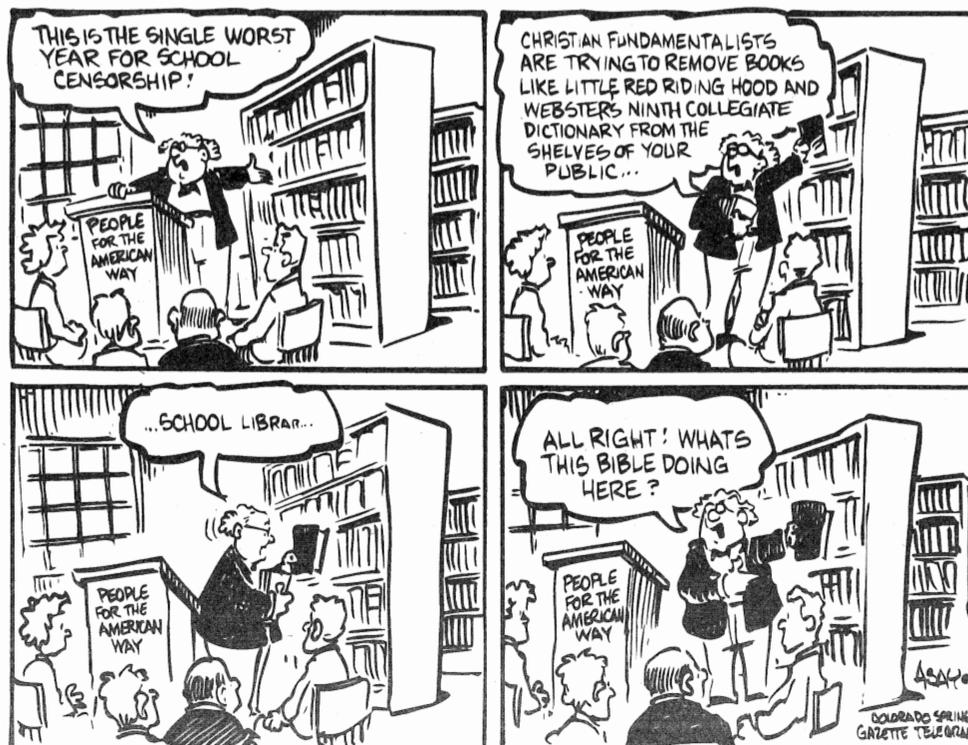
Conference Arms Attendees With Knowledge

ST. LOUIS, MO -- "Education or indoctrination?" was one of the main topics at the 5th annual Education Policy Conference. The goal was to show OBE opponents how to win the war against indoctrination in our schools.

Donna Shedd, vice president of Eagle Forum in Kentucky, spoke about Kentucky's education reform plan. This plan is the model for several other states whose legislators are attempting to implement OBE. Doug Bandow, Senior Fellow at CATO Institute, discussed how environmental lobby groups have found a niche in geography classes. Dr. Karen Effren gave a speech titled "Sex Education, AIDS, and Condoms." She stated that not only is sex education ineffective, but it is harmful to give false information to children about "safe sex" because of the numerous sexually transmitted diseases that affect teenage girls.

David Barton, president of Specialty Research Associates, explained how the Founding Fathers never intended for the Bible to be removed from classrooms. In fact, Thomas Jefferson said that the Bible should be the only required text in schools.

Individual speeches are available on audio cassette for \$7.00 each or video cassette for \$19.95 each. The complete set of 16 conference audio cassettes is \$100.00, and the complete set of video cassettes is \$215.00. Order from ACTS, Inc., 14153 Clayton Road, Ballwin, MO 63011, phone: (800)642-2287. □



PAW

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uted by the national [conservative] organizations."

McCarthy insists that "decisions regarding the fate of the challenged materials or programs should be based on educational considerations rather than on emotion, religious zeal, or political expediency." The considerations of educators are, of course, "educational considerations," so the considerations of everyone else must fall into the other categories. For those educational considerations to triumph, however, a review process must be established "before a controversy arises," stresses McCarthy. "Challenges are twice as likely to be turned back in school districts with explicit procedures for handling curriculum complaints," she observes.

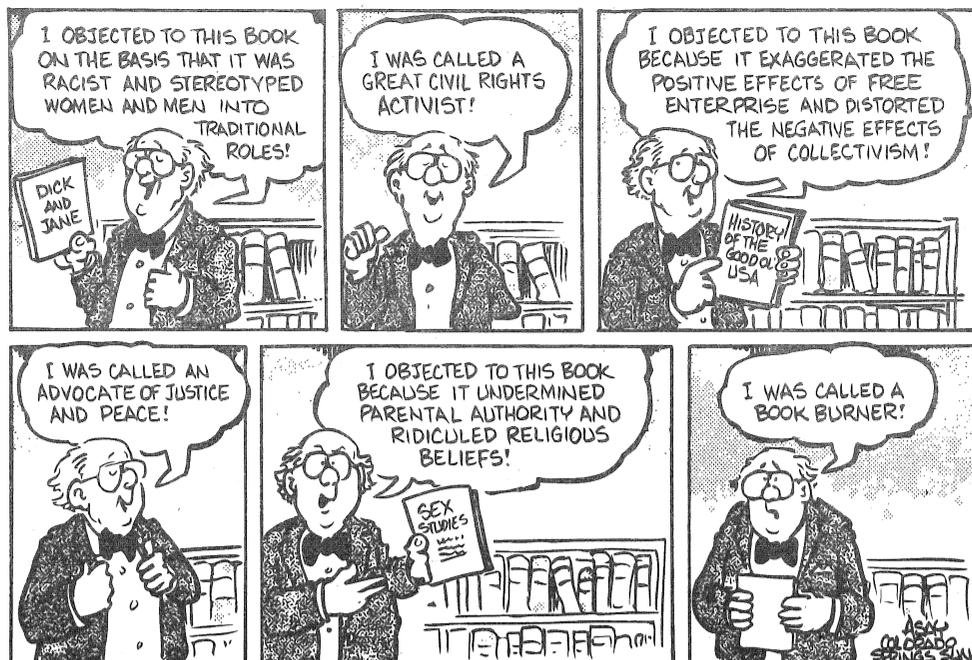
McCarthy advises her colleagues to drop the pretense that public schools are value-free and to give up trying to appease the opposition. "Instead of arguing that the challenged instructional programs are value-neutral or trying to sanitize the curriculum so that no groups are offended, policymakers and educators need to take a stand," argues McCarthy. If they don't, she adds, "many school restructuring efforts may be doomed before they get off the ground."

PAW Fearful of Religious Right on School Boards

The lead article in *The School Administrator* confirms the bleak prospects for radical reconstructionists and lays the blame on religious conservatives. "They are winning seats in local and state school boards and they are using hard-won power to reshape educational policy," the article reports. "They" are also influencing state legislators, who last year introduced several hundred bills "to challenge the governing structure of state school boards."

The handwriting is on the wall for education innovators. "As conservatives win seats and, in a few cases, form majorities on school boards, some school administrators' education initiatives - and sometimes their jobs - are on the line," the article warns. How to protect those initiatives, and hang on to those jobs, was the focus of several other articles in the issue, among them: "Combating the Religious Right in San Diego County," "Taking the Steam Off Pressure Groups," and "The Legal Cost of Challenging the Far Right."

The SIECUS report also offers advice for combatting the Right. Entitled *Unfinished Business*, the study notes that "community controversies around implementing sexuality education" were reported by 16 of the 48 states responding to a SIECUS survey. Since such controversies militate against the group's dream of establishing comprehensive sex education in every state, SIECUS recommends state-funded programs to drown out the obstructionists.



PAW Counters Conservative Organizations

The leader in the fight against the Right is the tax-exempt organization formed by television producer Norman Lear in 1980, People for the American Way. Included in the October mailing to Illinois school superintendents was a profile of PAW, prepared by the Capital Research Center (CRC), identifying the organization as "the largest and most influential group seeking to counter the Religious Right in America." PAW's donors include big names in the entertainment industry, the National Education Association and several other unions, and numerous tax-exempt foundations.

The group's avowed objectives, according to the CRC profile, are to uphold church and state separation, maintain prohibitions against school prayer, and provide "technical and legal assistance" to combat "censorship" of school books. "During the 1992-93 school year, PAW says it documented 347 cases in which a parent, school official, or church group demanded that library or textbooks be removed or restricted - up from 229 cases the year before." According to PAW, "religious conservatives or members of organizations described as 'Far Right,' such as the American Family Association, Citizens for Excellence in Education, and Eagle Forum, were involved in 20% of the cases and were believed to have inspired

another 18%."

Also included in the mailing to superintendents was a PAW report on the conservative impact on school boards during the 1992-93 school year, documenting "the emergence of a grassroots revolution that threatens to undermine an already challenged American public education system." PAW alleges that the Right "is now in the initial stages of a community-by-community battle to gain control over school boards through the ballot box."

This exercise of a democratic prerogative is truly sinister, according to PAW, because candidates are "disguising their affiliations with local, state, or national Religious Right organizations or refusing to enunciate their full agenda for the

schools." Ignoring the fact that such "stealth tactics" were instrumental in establishing the current liberal hegemony, PAW argues that it is unfair for candidates of the Religious Right to win elections even though their agenda "would not receive voter support."

PAW warns that this insidious movement is no longer confined to the "Bible belt," noting that last year alone "Religious Right candidates won school board elections in at least 12 states: California, Florida, Idaho, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Wisconsin." According to PAW's count, roughly a third of the 243 candidates it has identified as belonging to the Religious Right "won primaries or general election campaigns this past school year."

The mailing also included a SIECUS fact sheet entitled "The Far Right and Fear-Based Abstinence-Only Programs," listing more than a dozen organizations that are interfering with the group's goal of universal sex education. This list was compiled with the assistance of People for the American Way.

A similar listing was also provided to attendees at the IASB/IASA/IASBO annual meeting in November, along with a handout entitled "Guidelines for Dealing with Challenges" asserting that all challenged materials should be considered "innocent until proven guilty." The Arlington Heights Public Schools provided samples of their recently adopted school board regulations regarding complaints, which emphasize that the right to object to instructional materials and practices "shall be limited to residents of the district" and that no complainant "shall have the right to determine the instructional materials or activities for students other than his/her/their own children."

Parents with traditional values may be alarmed by the increasing shrillness of the education establishment's attacks. The shriller they get, the more cause there is for optimism. That shrillness is a reflection of the insecurity felt by members of a public school monopoly facing exposure. They know that the secret victories they have achieved over the past several decades will not withstand an open battle.

F.R. Duplantier is a regular contributor to the Education Reporter. ■

Foundation

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department, she oversaw the establishment of 26 nurse-staffed clinics in 24 public schools.

"Schools provide a unique opportunity because they not only offer a 'natural' setting where youth assemble on a regular basis, but also because education and health promotion can be integrated into the learning environment with school-affiliated activities," Elders told a subcommittee of the House Education and Labor Committee.

Dr. Lear claims that public attitudes toward these clinics have changed dramatically since the first clinics opened. She says people are more receptive to them now because of such factors as the AIDS epidemic, soaring pregnancy rates, violence, alcohol and drug abuse, and the many emotional problems that plague teens today.

She sees it as a major political change - a change that has brought about a \$3.25 million federal grant program called "Healthy Schools, Healthy Communities" to establish school-based clinics.

This funding is expected to support approximately 12 grants that will be awarded to public health clinics of hospitals with strong ties to schools and experience in dealing with homeless and low-income children.

The number of school-based clinics has increased from about 50 in 1983 to nearly 500 today and still counting, Dr. Lear said. But she added, "You can't even begin to make a dent without a serious federal initiative. If you want to go piecemeal, these clinics will definitely continue somehow, with Robert Wood Johnson and local sources, but without the feds getting involved it's saying you aren't really serious about universal access for adolescents."

More recently, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation came under criticism in a *Wall Street Journal* article headlined "Foundation Is Accused of Playing Politics With Grants." The Foundation sponsored four public forums last year for Hillary Rodham Clinton to discuss health care issues. Six Johnson "fellows," whom the Foundation placed on Congressional staffs in Washington, were part of Mrs. Clinton's 500-member Health Care Task Force, a fact that became known only after a lawsuit filed by the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons (AAPS) forced the Task Force to release the names of the members.

AAPS executive director, Dr. Jane Orient, charged that the Johnson Foundation wants to "remake American medicine along its own model." According to other observers quoted in the *Journal*, the Foundation is "using this enormous, tax-free amount of money to advance managed care." "Managed Care," the system in which all health care would be "managed" by "gatekeepers" and bureaucrats, is the primary goal of the Clinton health care plan. ■

Can you believe this is the 100th monthly issue of the Education Reporter!