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Winter 2004-2005 ACTION Newsletter

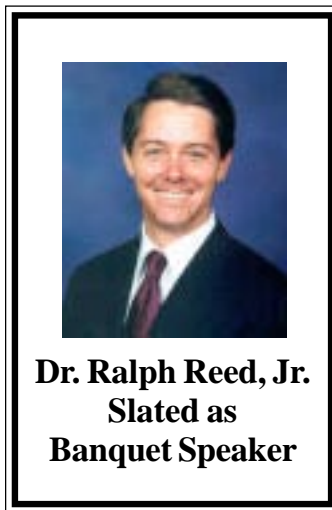
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Lancaster County ACTION's 2005 Banquet Features Dr. Ralph Reed, Jr.



Plan now to attend the 16th annual Lancaster County ACTION banquet slated for Friday, March 11, 2005 at 7:00 PM at the Eden Resort Inn located at 222 Eden Road, Lancaster, PA. Our keynote speaker will be Dr. Ralph Reed, Jr.

Ralph Reed is founder and president of Century Strategies, a public relations and public affairs firm with offices in Atlanta and Washington. He advises numerous Fortune 500 companies.

As chairman of the Georgia Republican Party in 2002, he helped elect U.S. Senator Saxby Chambliss, Sonny Perdue as the first GOP Governor in 130 years, and gained control of state Senate for first time since Reconstruction. During his tenure, the state party budget increased from \$5 million to \$10.7 million, the donor base increased from 12,000 to 34,000, and the grassroots network grew to over 3,000 volunteers.

Reed has worked on seven presidential campaigns and recently served as Chairman of the Southeast Region for Bush-Cheney '04 and campaign manager in Georgia. He has advised 88 campaigns for U.S. Senate, Governor and Congress in 24 states.

Reed has been named one of the top ten political newsmakers in the nation by Newsweek, one of the twenty most influential leaders of his generation by Life magazine, and one of the 50 future leaders of America by Time magazine. As executive director of the Christian Coalition (1989-1997), he built one of nation's most effective grassroots organizations.

He has appeared on numerous television programs and his columns have appeared in the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal. He is the author and editor of three best-selling books. He served as executive director, College Republican National Committee (1982-1984), and as youth co-chairman of the re-election campaign of President Ronald Reagan.

Reed has served on several corporate boards of directors and is active in SafeHouse, a faith-based organization helping the poor in inner city Atlanta.

Reed grew up in Toccoa, Georgia, and has a B.A. from the University of Georgia and Ph.D. in American History from Emory University. He and his wife Jo Anne have four children and reside in Duluth, Georgia.

This year, in addition to our banquet, there will also be a workshop held at the same location on Saturday, March 12, 2005, from 9:00 AM to Noon. Workshop topics will include: American's Godly Heritage; The Committee Person: Why You Should Run; Christians and Politics: Why Get Involved; How Government Works; and others.

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

Edmund Burke

Associated Press Poll on Roe v. Wade Based on Misinformation

By Mary Beliveau, Legislative/PAC Director, PA Pro-Life Federation

After almost 32 years, the media is still giving out erroneous information about the infamous 1973 Roe v. Wade decision that legalized abortion on demand throughout pregnancy.

For years the press continued to print stories that describe Roe v. Wade as legalizing abortion "in the first three months of pregnancy." This was highly misleading to the public because they thought that abortion could be restricted after the first three months.

During the debate on the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban, the public began to realize that this brutal procedure was being done legally in the second and even in the third trimester of pregnancy. People were shocked. Yet most Americans still do not know the radical nature of Roe.

Beware. The media already is attempting to influence public opinion and prepare their "spin" for the upcoming nominations of Supreme Court Justices. The Associated Press recently conducted a public opinion poll on the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision and potential judicial nominees. The poll, conducted by Ipsos-Public Affairs, qualified the question by saying that the "1973 Supreme Court ruling called Roe v. Wade made abortion in the first three months of pregnancy legal."

The statement is false. The public has a right to know the truth about this extreme decision.

In the sweeping 1973 Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision, seven Justices struck down state laws protecting human life in all 50 states and legalized abortion-on-demand at all stages of pregnancy. Most people don't realize that Roe is read along with its companion case, Doe v. Bolton, handed down the same day.

In Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court said that states may prohibit abortions after viability "except where it is

necessary, in appropriate medical judgment, for the preservation of the life or health of the patient."

In Doe v. Bolton, the Court explicitly defined "health" as follows: "the medical judgment may be exercised in the light of all factors-physical, emotional, psychological, familial, and the woman's age - relevant to the well-being of the patient. All these factors may relate to health. This allows the attending physician the room he needs to make his best medical judgment."

A June 7, 1983 report of the U. S. Senate Judiciary Committee on the Hatch Amendment states: "Thus, no significant legal barriers of any kind whatsoever exist today in the United States for a woman to obtain an abortion for any reason during any stage of her pregnancy."

How could the poll be accurate if the people don't know what Roe said? It can't. That's why the poll results conflict with recent public opinion polls on abortion. The AP survey found that 59 percent said President Bush should pick a Supreme Court nominee who would uphold the 1973 decision. Some 31 percent want Bush to pick a new justice who would overturn Roe and 10 percent were unsure.

This contrasts with recent polls that show that a majority of Americans are pro-life. And a recent CBS-New York Times poll found that 64 percent of those polled said they thought Bush would appoint pro-life judges who favor making abortion illegal.

Americans needs to know the truth about Roe v. Wade. It's time to educate the public on the radical nature of Roe and hold the media accountable when they print inaccuracies.

Increasing Support for Social Security Reform

According to a poll done by NBC News and the Wall Street Journal, 45 percent of Americans favor the idea of offering workers the choice to invest some of their social security taxes in private retirement accounts, while 39 percent oppose it. In January, the same poll pegged support for the idea at just 32 percent. A similar poll conducted by Fox News/Opinion Dynamics shows that 60 percent of workers "think people should have the choice to invest privately up to five percent of their Social Security contributions." President Bush this week made the case for Social Security reform during an economic summit in Washington. The reform is part of

what he calls the "ownership society," a group of policy proposals designed to give Americans more control over pensions, health insurance, schools, and so on. At the moment, contributions made by workers to Social Security in the form of payroll taxes do not belong to those workers. The Government controls them. Allowing workers to invest a portion of their payroll taxes would give those workers an asset that they own and can pass on to future generations. There are still many details to be addressed, but Social Security reform should be high on the agenda next year.

Lancaster County ACTION Quarterly Breakfast Meeting

Saturday, January 8, 2005

8:00 AM to 10:00 AM

Leola Family Restaurant, 2491 New Holland Pike (Route 23, Leola)

Speaker: Mychal Massie

A Call to Arms: Fighting Intelligently for Our Values and Our Future



Mychal Massie is a nationally recognized political activist, pundit and columnist. He is host of the widely popular talk show "Straight Talk." He has appeared on the Fox News Channel, CNN, MSNBC, NBC, Comcast Cable, and talk radio programming nationwide. He is a former self-employed business owner of over 30 years and a member of the conservative public policy institute National Center for Public Policy Reserach - Project 21.

Please reserve your seat at the quarterly breakfast by calling the ACTION office (717-653-6605) by Wednesday, January 5, 2005.

The cost is \$7.00 per person for those pre-registered.
Non-registered persons will be charged \$9.00 at the door.



Values Voters Re-elect President Bush

by Robert Kettering, *President*

There is little doubt that faith fueled the re-election of President Bush last November. When asked which single issue mattered the most in their choice for president, 22% of voters chose moral values above everything else. Of these voters, 80% voted for Bush and only 18% for Kerry.

Lancaster County Voters certainly did their part in this election. The Presidents 145,591 votes were the most ever cast in our county for any candidate. Many of you worked tirelessly in this election and its clear to see that everyone's efforts paid off.

The GOP's clear platform positions against abortion rights and government funding of embryonic stem cell research, along with its support for a constitutional amendment banning gay marriage helps the party to hold a strong allure for social conservatives. This position was strengthened even more through an outreach by the campaign directed to people of faith and the effort paid off.

In our last newsletter, we stated that believers held the key to this election and if we turned out in large numbers, the president would be elected. Well, the bottom line is that we did, and he was. Hopefully this was not just a passing phenomenon, but rather the sign of a growing trend that will be seen in all future elections. Let's each do our part to ensure that the trend continues.

Voters Say 'No' to Gay Marriage

Gay marriage bans were approved in all 11 states that held referendums.

Ethical Adult Stem Cell Research - Good Reports

Cord Blood Stem Cells Help Woman Walk Again

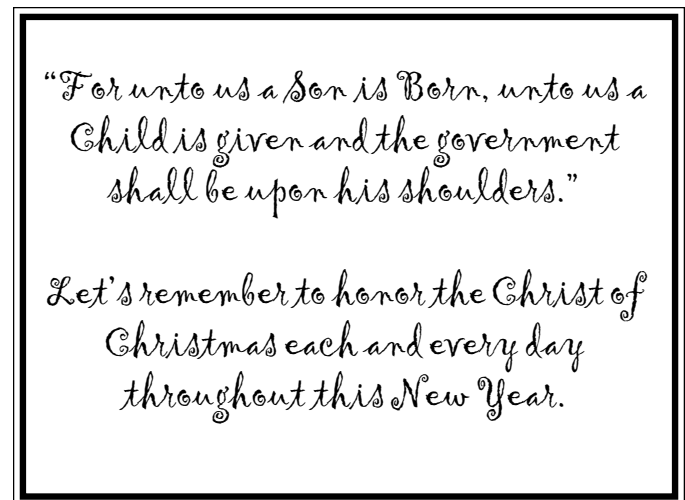
Hwang Mi-Soon, a South Korean woman who had been unable to walk since injuring her back 20 years ago, is walking again. Scientists repaired her spinal cord by injecting stem cells from the blood of an umbilical cord directly into the damaged part of her spine. Cord blood contains "multipotent stem cells" which are capable of forming specialized cell types, such as the nerve cells that cured Ms. Mi-Soon. Like other forms of adult stem cells, they are safe, ethical, and effective. On the contrary, embryonic stem cells - derived by the creation, cloning, and destruction of human embryos - present serious ethical concerns and have not been used to treat one human patient.

Fat Cells Help Recreate 7-Year-Old's Skull

Surgeons in Germany were able to successfully use stem cells derived from human fat cells to repair skull damage in a 7-year-old patient who had been injured in a fall two years ago. The accident caused substantial skull damage, requiring her to wear a helmet. Several weeks after the surgery the holes in her skull had been replaced by bone and she was able to remove the helmet. The case, reported in a prominent medical journal, is one of many treatments used without destroying human embryos. It further confirms our belief that the destruction of these embryos for their stem cells is unnecessary to meet the medical challenges of the future.

lancastercountyACTION.com

Lancaster County has a new source for political and citizen involvement information. Please check out the brand new "lancastercountyACTION.com" website. We will be using this website to inform our members about upcoming events and urgent information. You will be able to view our newsletter and download our voter's guide. We will be updating the news page often so we can give you the most up-to-date information possible. Please check out the site and let us know what you think.



clip and send

I would like to begin/renew (\$20.00 per household) my membership in Lancaster County ACTION.
(Please make check payable to Lancaster County ACTION.)

I'd like to volunteer for the following ACTION Committee(s):

- Church Contact/Prayer
- Education
- Fund Raising
- Growth/Membership
- Legislative Issues
- Library
- Newsletter
- Quarterly Breakfast
- School District Coordinator
- Voter Guides

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

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Please clip and return to Lancaster County ACTION, 849 Valley Road, Lancaster, PA 17601. Thank you!

Snake Eyes by Loman S. Henry

PA gambling industry already marred by greed and corruption

The ink has barely dried on Pennsylvania's new law legalizing slot machine gambling and already it has become mired in controversy, alleged corruption, and gaming industry grabs for tax dollars - in short, everything opponents predicted.

Pennsylvania Attorney General Jerry Pappert has secured indictments against Erie Mayor Rick Filippi and two associates in what has been described as a land-speculation scheme. The Mayor's troubles stem from the site selection process for a proposed horse racing track and slots parlor on the site of the former International Paper company on the city's east side.

One of the clear deficiencies in the slots law was a failure to provide adequate powers to the Office of Attorney General and other law enforcement officials to properly police the state's nascent gambling industry, an industry nationwide that has been noted for its high level of corruption. That indictments were issued before the new gaming commission even held its first meeting is an ominous sign of what lies ahead.

Even though those firms politically-connected enough to win a precious slots license will reap hundreds of millions of dollars in annual profits, they are already trying to put their hands into the pockets of taxpayers. Again in Erie, MTR Gaming Group, which will likely run any slots parlor in the city by the bay, is asking for a \$48 million taxpayer subsidy to build that facility.

The company justifies its outrageous request by saying the subsidy will be paid for by taxes it will pay. But wait a minute; wasn't one of the supposed benefits of legalized gambling to be a new tax stream to give relief to property owners? The only trait that exceeds corruption in the gambling industry is greed. MTR Gaming and other potential slots operators are being given a virtual license to print money, now they want taxpayer dollars in addition to their profits. Incredible!

A lawsuit filed in Harrisburg recently by Pennsylvanians Against Gambling Expansion (PAGE) may, how-

ever, cause the entire house of cards to come tumbling down. It seems our esteemed legislators, in their haste to pass the new gambling law, did so in a way that violated several provisions of the state constitution. If it adheres to the constitution, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court will be compelled to strike down the gambling law and send the issue back to the General Assembly.

According to the PAGE lawsuit, the process by which the law was passed violated the "Original Purpose" and "Single Subject" rules of Article III of the Pennsylvania Constitution. The suit also contends that certain provisions of the law infringe upon constitutionally-mandated Separation of Powers. Basically, pro-gambling legislators attached the slots law to an unrelated piece of legislation in order to secure its passage in the middle of the night on the July 4th holiday.

Michael Geer, President of the Pennsylvania Family Institute and the PAGE Fund points out that: "The impact of this law on the social fabric of Pennsylvania will be monumental. If the Constitution was so clearly violated when this law was passed, the citizens can have little confidence in future laws and regulations on this issue."

Given the indictments and tax grabs already casting a cloud over the advent of slot machine gambling in Pennsylvania, its safe to say Mr. Geer is right about the deleterious effect gaming will have on the social fabric of our state. And any law passed in the dark of the night, devoid of reasonable safeguards, and fraught with constitutional violations deserves to be stricken from the books.

Our only hope to prevent the blight of gambling from taking root in our midst is that the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania acts in accordance with the state constitution, and with a level of integrity that was clearly missing from the legislative process.

(Loman S. Henry is Chairman & CEO of the Lincoln Institute, and host of the weekly Lincoln Radio Journal.)

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 5, 2005
January 8, 2005
March 11, 2005
March 12, 2005

Last day to register for the January Quarterly Breakfast
Quarterly Breakfast at Leola Family Restaurant
Sixteenth Annual Banquet with Dr. Ralph Reed, Jr. at the Eden Resort Inn
Workshop at the Eden Resort Inn

Wanted: Prayer Intercessors for the President

If you will accept personal responsibility as a Christian citizen of this nation to intercede for the President of the United States, ask God to enable him to:

- **REALIZE** his personal sinfulness and his daily need of the cleansing power of Jesus Christ.
- **RECOGNIZE** his personal inadequacy for the task and therefore depend upon Almighty God for wisdom, knowledge, understanding, and courage to carry out his task.
- **REJECT** all counsel that violates spiritual principles and then trust God to prove him right.
- **RESIST** the pressure of those who would have him violate his conscience.
- **REVERSE** the trends of socialism and humanism in our land, both of which dethrone God and deify man.
- **READY** to forsake his political career and his personal ambitions, if to do so would be in the best interest of our nation.
- **RELY** upon prayer and the Word of God as the source of his strength and the key to his success.
- **RESTORE** dignity, honor, trustworthiness, and righteousness to the office of the Presidency.
- **REMEMBER** to be a good example in his conduct to the fathers and sons of the land.
- **REMINDED** daily that he will be accountable to Almighty God for his attitudes, actions, and motives while serving as President.



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