

A Pro-Family Voice at the U.N.

CWA challenges decades-long leftist influence at U.N.

In late 2006, a left-wing group issued a report fretting about the growing influence of pro-family groups like Concerned Women for America (CWA) at the United Nations (U.N.). The report worried that “the United Nations provides an international forum for the ramblings of U.S.-based religious conservatives.” If we conservatives continue to express our opinions, the liberal author fussed, we could undermine the “advances made by human rights activists over the past two decades.” Those “advances” are open to very serious debate — one that our presence at the U.N. allows to take place despite obstacles.

The U.N.’s Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) held its annual meeting in March 2007 to discuss discrimination and violence against the “girl child.” As Dr. Janice Crouse, senior fellow of CWA’s Beverly LaHaye Institute and a frequent participant in many U.N. meetings, points out, “Ultimately, of course, these ... issues coalesce into demands for universal abortion rights and an insistence of the rights of the child at the expense of parental responsibilities and the importance of the family unit in protecting and nurturing children.”

Imagine what would happen if no one raised an objection!



The U.N. has traditionally been a bastion of liberal ideology. CWA and other conservatives are bringing a family-friendly voice to the U.N. and working to stem the tide of liberal activism.

Pro-family presence at U.N. crucial to protect religious rights

I am so glad top-notch professionals like Dr. Crouse are willing and able to be at U.N. meetings. I can tell you from my own personal experience at the U.N., it’s no easy job. It takes a gutsy professional to stand up and make even the most obvious statements in favor of the family. Here’s how Dr. Crouse put it in one of her recent first-person reports from the CSW:

As an official U.S. delegate to the United Nations twice, I have personal experience with the ... responses when conservatives invade that playground. It begins with ridiculous roadblocks in getting badges to enter the building and goes all the way through to final negotiating sessions that turn vicious and vindictive when things aren’t working out as the radical left planned.

The conservatives then get blamed for not being willing to compromise, thus endangering consensus.

(I'm taking the quotes and facts in this article from Dr. Crouse's insightful series of daily reports from the CSW. You can access them at www.cwfa.org.)

Liberals use the U.N. to mandate their radical agenda, but pro-family groups are fighting back

I am glad to say that pro-family conservatives aren't relying on defense. We are also taking a pro-family message to the world. This helps increase our influence at the U.N. and encourages pro-family activists internationally. After all, the U.N. doesn't mind intimidating nations into bending to its agenda; this is something the left is especially fond of doing.

Take just one example: the infamous CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women) treaty — which the U.S. Senate may soon bring up for ratification. I'll never forget how the U.N. committee that oversees CEDAW told one nation it had to get rid of Mother's Day because it's discriminatory and told countries to revise school books to remove portrayals of women as mothers. This is why we must stay involved and blunt the grim liberal vision that holds such overwhelming influence at the U.N.

In May, the World Congress of Families IV will meet in Warsaw. There, influential

pro-family leaders from around the world will gather "to affirm that the natural human family is established by the Creator and essential to good society." Dr. Crouse will address the Congress once again, and CWA is proud to be a cosponsor.

CWA's leadership encourages others around the world

To give you an idea of the kind of impact these efforts can have, consider the responses Dr. Crouse's efforts have inspired,

I will never forget an African delegate coming up to me after I gave a speech ... at the U.N. two years ago. She was very emotional ... she couldn't believe that there were Americans who held conservative views, and she was deeply moved to find a kindred spirit like me at the United Nations.

(Continued on page 13)

PRAY

Pray that the Lord will allow greater influence for pro-family voices at the U.N.

PRAISE

Thank God for victories that He's given us thus far and for the encouragement we've received from — and been able to give to — our international co-laborers.

ACT

Learn what liberals at the U.N. really mean by "protecting women" by visiting our Web site at www.cwfa.org.

CWA *at* WORK

A special report to friends and supporters of Concerned Women for America

★★★★★ Important News from Across the Country ★★★★★

Pursuing a Proven Science

CWA of Texas State Director Ann Hettinger has taken a lead role in the fight for adult stem cell research in the state of Texas. Since progress and treatments have come from adult stem cells and not embryonic stem cells, Ann and CWA of Texas are focusing on legislation to fund and promote proven science. Ann is working with State Rep. Jodie Laubenberg (R-89th district) to gain appropriations in the Texas budget for this life-saving research. ■

CWA of Maine Educates Legislators

CWA of Maine hosted an event at the Capitol in Augusta for state legislators on the issue of stem cell research. Legislators were presented

with medical evidence and CWA information regarding the destructive nature of embryonic stem cell research. The event afforded Charla Bansley, CWA of Maine State Director, an opportunity to reach radio listeners with CWA's position on the issue during an interview on "Capitol Concerns," a show that airs in several cities across the state. ■

Training for the Long Haul

Anne Downey, CWA of New York State Director, traveled to the Capitol in Albany to present a proposal for a pilot program based around healthy marriage initiatives in the state of New York. CWA of New York is part of a coalition dedicated to fortifying marriage and the definition of marriage, and this proposal promotes education and training seminars for couples to emphasize the value and strategies of a healthy marriage. ■

A Pro-Family Voice at the U.N.

(Continued from page 12)

At an international event in Mexico, a man came up to me after my speech to over 4,000 ... to express deep appreciation ... He said that as a former U.N. delegate, he had never in his wildest dreams thought that he would ever hear an American express the values and hold the views that I expressed in my speech.

That is the kind of encouragement that inspires us to "keep on keeping on!" Please be sure to join the battle both in prayer and in action. This is the kind of progress that can come from hard-fought battles as we continue to fight for Biblical family values.

By Beverly LaHaye, Founder and Chairman of Concerned Women for America ■

You can read a version of this article in the May 2007 edition of *The Church Report*.