

MEMO

Attachment I


girl scouts
building girls of courage
confidence and character

Date: November 4, 2010
To: Board of Directors
From: Barbara J. Bonifas, CEO
Subject: Relationship with the Catholic Church

Attached are copies of an article and letter that have been received in the past few weeks, which have implications for our relationship with the Catholic Church. We have seen similar claims in the past, but these are much more direct and being more widely distributed.

In response to the documents, we have met with Archdiocese officials and drafted a statement and Q&A. Both are attached for your review. At the November meeting, I will share what has taken place and our plans going forward.



[Home](#) | [Issues](#) | [Resources](#) | [Programming](#) | [About Us](#) | [Search](#) | [Donate](#)

OUR MISSION: Assuring, through education, equal protection under the law for all living humans from the beginning of their biological life at fertilization until natural death.

Life Issues Connector
October 2010

Email this article to a friend.

The Girl Scouts Promoting a pro-abortion agenda

By J.C. Willke, M.D.

Recently the Boy Scouts of America distanced itself from the Girl Scouts and entered into an agreement with American Heritage Girls to provide mutual support to one another.

The mission of Boy Scouts has always been to prepare young men to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Okay, but where are the Girl Scouts in this picture and who are American Heritage Girls?

American Heritage Girls was founded to offer faith-based leadership and character development programs to girls age five to eighteen. Its mission is to "build women of integrity through service to God, family, community and country." The small all-girl unit within the American Heritage Girls troop structure provides a nurturing environment for learning and building positive relationships, character development and spiritual enrichment.

At this point you may be thinking this is what Girl Scouts have been doing. Well, the Girl Scout's Executive Director, Marty Evans, has boasted, "We're not your mother's Girl Scout troop." How true! Let's take a closer look at why this is the case.

It is quite obvious that Boy Scouts are now considered a controversial group because they won't allow homosexual troop leaders. You may also be thinking that the Girl Scouts aren't controversial. These cute little girls who sell you cookies are all sugar and spice and everything nice? Well, not if the current generation of Girl Scout leaders has anything to say about it. For they hope to make these little girls the "shock troops" of an ongoing feminist revolution.

Let's look back on the history of Girl Scouts, for change has been slowing coming on for years. In 1972, they dropped loyalty to their country from their oath in favor of "I will do my best to be honest and fair." In 1975 the first Catholic Archdiocese cut off all support for the Girl Scouts because of their sex-ed program.

During 1993, the Girl Scouts made "God" optional in the Girl Scout promise. "On my honor, I will try to serve God and my country, to help all people at all times, and to live by the Girl Scout law." But the Scout manual notes that the word "God" can be interpreted in a number of ways depending on one's spiritual beliefs. "When reciting the Girl Scout Promise, it is okay to replace the word God with whatever word your spiritual beliefs dictate."¹ Note that Boy Scouts have been sued over keeping God's name obligatory in their oath.

Central to these changes has been achieving affirmative action for girls vis a vis boys. This mandates gender equality in sports and endorsement of affirmative action in "recruitment, hiring, training and promoting..." They are taught to support a decision to pull a life support system from a dying relative and (here it comes) given information and justification for "ending a pregnancy."²

They still sell cookies, but here are some new badges to earn: "domestic violence awareness, stress management, girl power and decisions for your life"³ (teen pregnancy, etc.). Let's note a few examples of these changes:

- In Pennsylvania, Junior Girl Scouts (age-12) can attend a workshop on puberty designed by Planned Parenthood to earn their "becoming a teen" badge.⁴
- In Connecticut, Girl Scouts honored a Planned Parenthood official for promoting "healthy practices" in local troops.⁴
- In Amarillo, TX, Girl Scouts have sponsored Planned Parenthood sex-ed seminars for 4th through 8th graders.⁴

The following quotes indicate the Girl Scouts are abandoning their original foundation on biblical principles consisting of definite moral rights and wrongs:

- "You can rarely state that something is definitely right or wrong." (See Exploring Spirituality—WAGGGS 2000)⁵
- "There is no right way to live, look, talk, dress, eat, or act." (See Brownie/Girl Scout Handbook—1993)⁶
- In Amarillo, TX, Girl Scouts have sponsored Planned Parenthood sex-ed seminars for 4th through 8th graders. "Our movement is secular and founded on American democratic principles, one of which is freedom of religion." (See What We Stand For—2003)⁷

Jim Sedlak of the organization Stop Planned Parenthood has stated that the Girl Scouts have said they would not take a position on abortion or birth control. That is the "official" position. However, many troops affiliate and work with Planned Parenthood, which is the largest provider of abortions in the United States. Further, their sex education programs are obviously aimed at young people and getting kids into sexual situations, which of course means more abortions for Planned Parenthood.

One of the initial controversies was quite revealing. A Girl Scout Council in Waco, Texas gave a "Woman of Distinction" award to the local chief of Planned Parenthood who runs an abortion chamber in Waco.⁸ The Waco, Texas area council then called for a boycott of the annual Girl Scout cookie sales and voted to end their partnership with Planned Parenthood of Central Texas. The Girl Scout officials denied that they supported Planned Parenthood. However, the Girl Scouts Blue Bonnet Council had sponsored Planned Parenthood's "Nobody's Fool" teen and pre-teen educational events in the past. In 2003, Planned Parenthood announced in a "Nobody's Fool" flyer that every child in 7th through 9th grade would go home with a free copy of the book, "It's Perfectly Normal," and 5th and 6th graders would be given a copy of "It's So Amazing."⁹ These books offered sympathetic treatment of abortion, masturbation and homosexuality. Pressure to stop this resulted in a firestorm of protests about the local Girl Scout and Planned Parenthood entanglement. As a result, a number of troops in the Waco and Houston areas disbanded or severed ties with National Girl Scouts. However, this remained relatively local and did not spread nationally at the time.

While the Girl Scouts claim neutrality on abortion, their website is clear. The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts promoted their participation in a march advocating "sexual and reproductive [abortion] rights." The participants demanded the following rights:¹⁰

- All young people must have access to comprehensive sexuality education and sexual and reproductive [abortion] health services, including contraception and emergency contraception, in order to avoid unintended pregnancies.¹⁰

- Accessible, affordable and safe abortions should be made part of the minimum packages of sexual and reproductive health services.¹⁰

The World Association of Girl Scouts hosted a panel at the United Nations annual commission on the status of women. According to the Catholic Family and Human Rights Institute, the Girl Scouts allowed Planned Parenthood to distribute a booklet entitled, "Healthy, Happy and Hot."¹¹ Much of it was too sexually explicit to print in this article. It purports to be a sex guide, advocating every imaginable kind of sexual activity stating, "There is no right or wrong way to have sex. Just have fun, explore and be yourself."¹¹ Clearly, nothing is off limits, even for children below the age of consent.

Regis Nicoll, in an article on Charles Colson's Breakpoint website, states, "Planned Parenthood is a welcomed guest in 20% of the Girl Scout Councils nationwide."¹² During such events, the attendees are given the "It's Perfectly Normal" book. Planned Parenthood believes that sexual activity of any kind is a human right at any age. It is never too early to start.

The Boy Scouts went to the US Supreme Court to fight attempts by homosexuals to assume leadership positions in Boy Scout organizations. Sadly, the Girl Scouts did not welcome a similar guideline. In one of the scouting books, there are coming-of-age stories such as an essay entitled, "All I really needed to know about being a lesbian I learned at Girl Scout Camp."

And then there is the Covenant of the Goddess. This is a Wiccan "witch" website that describes their awards program. There is an Over the Moon Award, age 8 to 11, and a Heart and Crescent Award, age 12 to 18. These are offered to "any young person who is a member of any nature-oriented religion (Wicca, Druid, Asatru, etc.) These award patches are to be worn on the Girl Scout uniform.

In the last two years, the Girl Scouts have launched a new leadership program. It purports to take the Girl Scouts on a series of "age specific" journeys, culminating with senior scouts becoming ambassadors to "change the world for the global good."

Has Girl Scouting been captured and brain-washed by New Age theorist? No, it has not been captured; its leadership has voluntarily surrendered. This venture in moral relevance began 40 years ago when the Girl Scout laws went from a standard of clear cut absolutes to a series of suggestions which began with "I will do my best to..." and then made the word "God" an option in the pledge. Now it may well be that a continuing flow of the membership will do the same.

So if you think that your 12-year-old daughter, who joined the Scouts to go hiking, collect leaves, make candles and to do bird-watching is in safe hands, it may be time to for you to investigate what your Girl Scout troop and council are doing. We certainly should emphasize that there are hundreds of troops that still observe the traditional family-centered, God-centered practices of the original Girl Scouts. But they are now fewer and fewer, for the philosophy coming down from national is spreading. In the meantime, please understand there are almost four million Girl Scouts, each of whom pay a yearly membership fee directly to the national office. In 2009 alone, this brought in over \$32,518,000 to its national treasury.¹³ Several years ago, the National Catholic Registrar noted that there are still some Christian people in its leadership but, "we are outnumbered. The feminists have been infiltrating for too long. We should have started fighting back years ago."

American Heritage Girls

An alternative does exist. In a response to the radical left capture of the leadership of the Girl Scouts of America, Patti Garibay, a former Girl Scout leader, founded the national American Heritage Girls in 1995 in Cincinnati. It has 300 troops in 38 states, with over 12,000 members and a presence in 3 countries. Its program includes the Judeo-Christian values that our countries were founded on. It strives to enhance the girl's life experiences with fun-filled activities supervised by trained adults, supported by family members and to do all the things that Girl Scouting was originally founded to do. As noted above: In the National Girl Scout Promise it reads, "I will try to serve God," God now has an asterisk indicating that you can interpret this word any way you wish and substitute it with any other word. Patti Garibay says, "God in our lives is not optional. We believe that

character-building programs for youth, such as scouting, demand a moral compass. Our scouting programs are based on a philosophical basis of biblical truths and a continued commitment to assist girls as they grow in their relationship with Christ." American Heritage Girls takes this oath: I promise to love God. Cherish my family. Honor my country. And serve in my community.

For more information on this alternative to Girl Scouts, contact: American Heritage Girls, 175 Tri-County Parkway, Suite 100, Cincinnati, OH 45246. www.ahgonline.org or 513.771.2025

A Word from Dr. James Dobson

I would like to offer an alternative to Girl Scouts of the USA which I can no longer recommend to parents. That organization has changed radically since 1993 when it began making references to God "optional" and marking the word with an asterisk. Then came mandates against Christmas caroling, praying at meetings and singing hymns. Now we see a surge toward the left that is deeply disturbing to many Christian parents.

For example as part of Girl Scouts United States of America, A Maze Program for middle school scouts, the girls read a quote from Buddha and are encouraged to explore mazes and stone or dirt labyrinths—symbols rooted in pagan mythology and the New Age movement. They are used as meditation tools along with "transformation circles." Eastern mysticism through Zen Gardens and Buddhist writings are part of the curriculum. Moral relativism is evident throughout, which teaches that ethical issues are up to the individual. GSUSA's definition of right and wrong includes the statement "whatever is consistent with your character." The curriculum has a strong, anti-boy tone. Boys are mentioned only in negative situations. There is minimal emphasis on mother, father or family. Girls are not taught pride of country. The United States is depicted as antiquated and incompatible with globalism. One program involves girls in the United Nations Population Fund. Translated that amounts to a massive effort to limit human procreation by means of abortion.

Many of the female role models lauded by GSUSA are radical feminists, lesbians, existentialists or Communists, including the former chairwoman of the American Communist Party. There is much more to disturb parents including a consistent infusion of lesbian and homosexual propaganda. In short the organization has been "captured" by advocates of an extreme leftist ideology that is now being force-fed to millions of vulnerable girls. Its board of directors and many troop leaders are intent on converting every girl from the youngest Daisy to a mature Ambassador into an "agent of change" who is programmed to implement an extreme international agenda. The media has kept this transformation a secret for more than a decade but it is information that all parents should know.

Dr. Dobson goes on to enthusiastically recommend American Heritage Girls as an alternative organization.

1. Girl Scout Promise & Law
Accessed at: <http://www.gscoc.org/about-us.aspx?id=12>
Permanent Link: www.lifeissues.org/connector/2010/oct_10/1_girl_scouts_promise_law.pdf
2. *N.H. Girl Scouts Squelch Leader for Blowing Whistle On Radical Fem Agenda*
Accessed at: <http://www.nhcommentary.com/girlscouts.html>
Permanent Link:
www.lifeissues.org/connector/2010/oct_10/2_girl_scouts_radical_fem_agenda.pdf
3. *The Cookie Crumbles*
Accessed at: <http://old.nationalreview.com/23oct00/lopez102300.shtml>
Permanent Link:
www.lifeissues.org/connector/2010/oct_10/3_girl_scouts_cookie_crumbles.pdf
4. *A Cookie Boycott and a Bishop's Ban - Fighting for the Soul of the Girl Scouts*
Accessed at: http://www.ncregister.com/site/article/a_cookie_boycott_and_a_bishops_ban/
Permanent Link:
www.lifeissues.org/connector/2010/oct_10/4_girl_scouts_cookie_boycott_and_a_bishops_ban.pdf
5. *Exploring Spirituality - Introduction, page 4*
Accessed at: <http://www.wagggsworld.org/en/grab/16/1/1ExpSpirIntroduction.pdf>
Accessed at: <http://www.wagggsworld.org/en/resources/document/view/16>
Permanent Link:
[lifeissues.org/connector/2010/oct_10/5_girl_scouts_waggg_exploring_spirituality_introduction.pdf](http://www.lifeissues.org/connector/2010/oct_10/5_girl_scouts_waggg_exploring_spirituality_introduction.pdf)
6. *Brownie/Girl Scout Handbook*, Girl Scouts of the USA, New York, NY 1993
Permanent Link:
[lifeissues.org/connector/2010/oct_10/6_girl_scouts_brownie_handbook_1993.pdf](http://www.lifeissues.org/connector/2010/oct_10/6_girl_scouts_brownie_handbook_1993.pdf)

7. *What We Stand For, page7*
Accessed at: <http://www.gsiec.org/pdf/whatwestandfor.pdf>
Permanent Link:
www.lifeissues.org/connector/2010/oct_10/7_girl_scouts_what_we_stand_for.pdf
8. *Cookie crumbles: Girl Scout sex furor splits Texas town*
Accessed at: http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2004-03-03-cookie-boycott_x.htm
Permanent Link:
www.lifeissues.org/connector/2010/oct_10/8_girl_scouts_cookie_crumbles.pdf
9. *Planned Parenthood gives kids 'porn' book, Conference that excludes parents distributes explicit material*
Accessed at: <http://www.wnd.com/?pagelid=25621>
Permanent Link:
www.lifeissues.org/connector/2010/oct_10/9_girl_scouts_explicit_material.pdf
New Baylor exec backs Planned Parenthood youth program
Accessed at: <http://www.bpnews.net/bpnews.asp?id=20717>
Permanent Link:
www.lifeissues.org/connector/2010/oct_10/9_girl_scouts_planned_parenthood.pdf
10. *World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts*
Accessed at: <http://www.wagggsworld.org/en/CSW54/Day6>
Permanent Link:
www.lifeissues.org/connector/2010/oct_10/10_girl_scouts_waggggs_abortion.pdf
11. *Girl Scouts Distribute Planned Parenthood Sex Guide at UN Meeting*
Accessed at: http://www.c-fam.org/publications/id.1589/pub_detail.asp
Permanent Link:
www.lifeissues.org/connector/2010/oct_10/11_girl_scouts_planned_parenthood_sex_un.pdf
Healthy, Happy and Hot, page 7
Accessed at: <http://www.ippf.org/NR/rdonlyres/B4462DDE-487D-4194-B0E0-193A04095819/0/HappyHealthyHot.pdf>
Permanent Link:
[lifeissues.org/connector/2010/oct_10/11_girl_scouts_planned_parenthood_happy_healthy_hot.pdf](http://www.lifeissues.org/connector/2010/oct_10/11_girl_scouts_planned_parenthood_happy_healthy_hot.pdf)
12. *No Choice This Season, Life Is Worth Celebrating*
Accessed at: <http://www.breakpoint.org/features-columns/breakpoint-columns/entry/2/1708>
Permanent Link:
[lifeissues.org/connector/2010/oct_10/12_girl_scouts_no_choice_this_season.pdf](http://www.lifeissues.org/connector/2010/oct_10/12_girl_scouts_no_choice_this_season.pdf)
Unhealthy and Unhappy, Planned Parenthood's Advice to Girl Scouts
Accessed at: <http://www.breakpoint.org/commentaries/14856-unhealthy-and-unhappy>
Permanent Link:
[lifeissues.org/connector/2010/oct_10/12_girl_scouts_planned_parenthood_unhealthy_and_unhappy.pdf](http://www.lifeissues.org/connector/2010/oct_10/12_girl_scouts_planned_parenthood_unhealthy_and_unhappy.pdf)
13. *Consolidated Financial Statements Together With Report of Independent Certified Public Accountants, Girl Scouts of The United States of America, September 30, 2009, page 3*
Accessed at: http://www.girlscouts.org/who_we_are/facts/pdf/ar_sept2009_girlscouts.pdf
Permanent Link:
[lifeissues.org/connector/2010/oct_10/13_girl_scouts_consolidated_financial_statements_gsusa.pdf](http://www.lifeissues.org/connector/2010/oct_10/13_girl_scouts_consolidated_financial_statements_gsusa.pdf)

Email this article to a friend.

Next Article: [The Baby Boom is Over](#)

[Connector October 2010](#)

[Connector Index Page](#)



1821 W. Galbraith Rd. Cincinnati, OH 45239 513.729.3600

© 2010

From: Family Watch International [mailto:fwi@familywatchinternational.org]

Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 2:28 AM

To:

Subject: Open Letter To All Girl Scout Councils



Family Watch International

Promoting Family Based Solutions to World Problems

To: All GSUSA Local Councils, Girl Scout Leaders, Parents of Girl Scouts, and Organizations Affiliated with the Girl Scouts

From: Sharon Slater, President of Family Watch International

You may already be aware of the great confusion surrounding incidents relating to a "Girls Only" workshop held by Girl Scouts of the USA and their partners in conjunction with the 2010 Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations. I would like to set the record straight and provide facts and information so that individuals involved with local Girl Scout councils and troops can make their own determination as to whether the Girl Scout organization is being led at the corporate level to stray from its original purposes. Evidence contained herein shows that some leaders at Girl Scouts of the USA are attempting to advance an agenda replete with feminist and sexual ideology to young girls, which includes advocating for abortion and unrestrained sex. There are many honorable Girl Scout council and troop leaders who sacrifice much to help girls develop into women of integrity but who remain unaware of the current direction of GSUSA.

The purpose of this letter is not to malign the Girl Scout organization, but rather (1) to inform leaders and parents of what seems to be a seismic shift in the focus of an otherwise worthy organization that has done much to develop the character of young women; (2) to raise awareness of serious problems that are developing at the national and international level; and (3) to invite those within the Girl Scouts to join together to root out the problems before they spread throughout the entire organization.

On Monday, March 1, 2010, I entered the "Girls Only" workshop hoping to observe the meeting. I was approached by a female adult who politely but firmly asked me to leave, as the meeting was intended only for girls. She informed me that the workshop participants would be working on a "Girls' Statement" and that my presence would compromise their ability to work unimpeded.

I left the room, but as soon as the meeting adjourned, I immediately entered the room again specifically to see what, if any, literature was made available to the girls. (It is customary for organizations to place their handouts for a session on the tables in the rooms where these UN parallel events are held.)

On the table in the room where the "Girls Only" event was held was a stack of colorful booklets. I picked one up. The title was "Healthy, Happy, and Hot" published by the International Planned Parenthood Federation. The booklet contains graphic information on sex and sexuality. It encourages masturbation and talking "dirty," and depicts both same-sex and opposite-sex couples. It also states that HIV-infected teens do not have to inform their sexual partners they are infected.

That evening, we reported in "The Family Watch" e-newsletter that is emailed to our list of subscribers in over 170 countries that the vulgar "Healthy, Happy, and Hot" booklet was "available" to the girls in the "Girls Only" meeting sponsored by the Girl Scouts.

Because some news outlets picked up our story and reported that the booklet was "distributed" to the girls (even though I had not witnessed the booklets actually put into

the girls' hands), unfortunately, some have tried to discredit my report by focusing on the word "distributed" rather than the fact that the brochure on the back table was available to the girls at the meeting, which is the common way of "distributing" handouts at these types of UN meetings. And more importantly, those who have focused on the word "distributed" and what the word means or does not mean, rather than the fact that the Girl Scouts were at the UN promoting a number of radical sexual rights that are outlined in the Planned Parenthood booklet, have entirely overlooked the facts, which are that the Girl Scouts were promoting abortion and other controversial sexual rights at the UN.

It has been suggested, but seems unlikely, that the vulgar "Healthy, Happy, and Hot" booklets were left in the room by a group from a previous meeting. However, it was the first day of the conference, and there were only three other meetings scheduled in the room prior to the "Girls Only" event. The meeting at 10:00 a.m. was "Overcoming Copenhagen: Black Women Organizing Climate Justice" convened by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The meeting at 11:00 a.m. was "Orientation for NGO Representatives" convened by the NGO CSW Committee, and at 2:00 p.m. CORDAID held a meeting on the "Impact of counter terrorism measures on women activists." It is clear that the Planned Parenthood booklets would not have pertained to the topics covered by these organizations.

After a number of media outlets picked up our story, GSUSA subsequently issued an official statement in which they denied that the booklets were distributed. They did not state that they believe the booklet is inappropriate, just that they did not actively pass it out. The GSUSA response also denied any official association with Planned Parenthood.

While it may be true that that the national GSUSA *office* has no formal association with Planned Parenthood, their policy allows *local councils* (the entities that deal directly with the girls) to partner with them. This policy was confirmed by Kathy Cloninger, CEO of GSUSA, who admitted on NBC's Today Show in 2004 that Girl Scouts partners with "Planned Parenthood organizations across the country to bring information-based sex education programs to girls."

One example of this type of partnership with Planned Parenthood is the local Girl Scout council in Waco, Texas. According to USA Today, during one such conference a sexually graphic book, *It's Perfectly Normal*, was distributed to 700 girls. The book condones masturbation and contains explicit cartoon drawings of couples having sex and of a boy putting on a condom.

The Girls' Statement produced at the "Girls Only" workshop co-sponsored by GSUSA in which 10 Girl Scouts from Connecticut and Vermont participated, advocates for sexual rights and demands that governments "*ensure that girls have access to information and services regarding reproductive and sexual health.*" The term "reproductive health" is often used to pressure governments to legalize abortion. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton recently confirmed that she considers "reproductive health" to include abortion. "Information . . . regarding sexual health" is often used to ensure that explicit sex education is provided to children.

Ironically, the Girl Scouts' Girls' Statement to the UN is in violation of the Girl Scouts' own policy. Kathy Cloninger, stated in a 2005 letter to the National Federation for Catholic Youth that "GSUSA policy is not to take a stand on or advocate for or against any issue regarding a girl's health and sexuality, especially outside the confines of Girl Scouts." (See the GSUSA letter at the end of this National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry Position Statement written several years ago in response to concerns that U.S. Girl Scout councils had been partnering with Planned Parenthood.) Cloninger later contradicted herself when she stated in a 2007 interview with the Harvard Business School: "I feel like we cannot be the nation's expert on girl issues without dealing with how issues of sexuality affect the girls of this nation. We believe parents are part of the discussion, but girl scouting needs to be part of education and discussion as well."

Even more revealing is the statement prepared at the same UN conference by the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS), to which GSUSA belongs. The 10 Girl Scouts from the U.S. mentioned earlier were part of the WAGGGS delegation of girls

at the UN, and they demanded "sexual and reproductive rights," which they defined to include "access to comprehensive sexuality education and sexual and reproductive health services, including . . . accessible, affordable and safe abortions."

In an additional written statement submitted to the UN by WAGGGS, the girls called on governments to ensure (among other things) that (1) non-formal education programs be instituted for the "sexual development of girls and young women"; (2) young women be provided with "opportunities to be involved in the planning, delivering and evaluation of sexual education"; and 3) that support be given to organizations that "provide safe spaces for girls and young women to discuss sex and sexuality free from discrimination."

The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts has a very clear position on sexuality education, endorsing it wholeheartedly.

The GSUSA Web site states that "Girl Scouts of the USA supports international friendships through contributions to WAGGGS, including a donation every year from its Juliette Low World Friendship Fund and Thinking Day Fund." Local Girl Scout councils donate thousands of dollars annually to the Juliette Low World Friendship Fund.

There were three other organizations that co-sponsored the "Girls Only" workshop with GSUSA; UNICEF, Girls Learn International, and The Grail.

While UNICEF helps needy children throughout the world, in recent years they have also focused on children's rights, including sexual rights. In 2002 at the World Summit for Children, we exposed a UNICEF manual published in Mexico that included a section on how to obtain sexual pleasure, including with a person of the same sex, with an animal, with inanimate objects or with a non-consenting person. The Washington Times carried a front page story on this at the time.

Girls Learn International has two of the most prominent radical feminists in the world on its board—Gloria Steinem and Charlotte Bunch. Charlotte Bunch authored a radical document on political lesbianism in the 1970s that to my knowledge she has never disavowed. Ms. Bunch also participated on a UNICEF panel concerning girls' rights at CSW.

The Grail was originally founded as a conservative Catholic entity, but in the 60s and 70s it began to develop "a feminist liberation theology that emphasized the interconnections between racism, sexism, classism, heterosexism, and environmental degradation."

A few days after the "Girls Only" workshop, Family Watch representatives attended another UN Girl Scout meeting, organized by WAGGGS. One of the panelists from the European Youth Forum boasted at this meeting that they partner with International Planned Parenthood to reach children through non-formal education programs (such as the Girl Scouts) to teach acceptance of gays, lesbians and transgenders at an early age (WAGGGS is an official member of the European Youth Forum.)

In addition to the events of this UN conference, other Girl Scout materials pose concerns.

The Girl Scouts' "Journeys" leadership program trains girls to become feminist activists and provides examples held up for young girls to emulate that include feminists, lesbians, existentialists, communists and Marxists. A comprehensive review of the "Journeys" program detailing many inappropriate elements was done by Chelsea Schilling of WorldNet Daily.

The Our Rights, Our Responsibilities Patch For Junior Girl Scouts requires young Girl Scouts to peruse third party Web sites that would have them make Condom Cupcakes to "bring sexual protection to the masses," play an interactive game where a girl can role play having sex with or without a condom, and teach kindergartners how to identify the attitudes they have about gender, sexual orientation, and athletics.

In order for the Girl Scouts to restore their reputation as an organization we are asking

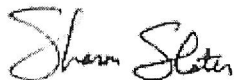
them to:

1. Acknowledge they are aware that some of their councils have partnered and may still be partnering with Planned Parenthood to bring sex education to girls instead of denying any association;
2. Instruct *all* of GSUSA's councils to cut *all* ties with Planned Parenthood;
3. Denounce the "Girl's Statement" that GSUSA cosponsored at the UN; and
4. Withdraw membership from the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts and denounce their statement to the UN.
5. Eliminate all elements of their program dealing with sexuality.

Please contact your local Girl Scout Council and ask them to work with other Girl Scout Councils to call upon the GSUSA national leadership to comply with the above requests so that Girl Scouts of the USA can regain the trust of the faithful parents, leaders and girls who are the heart of the organization.

You can send a strong message of concern to the national leadership of GSUSA (Kathy Cloninger, Chief Executive Officer, Connie L. Lindsey, President, Davia B. Temin, First Vice President, Linda P. Foreman, Second Vice President, and media relations staffers Joshua Ackley and Michelle Tompkins) and ask them to take these actions by going to this [Web site](#).

Sincerely,



Sharon Slater
President, Family Watch International
sslater@familywatchinternational.org
www.familywatchinternational.org
www.standforthefamily.org

Please forward this on to others!

If this was forwarded on to you, you can subscribe yourself by [clicking here](#). To unsubscribe, [click here](#).

www.FamilyWatchInternational.org

Girl Scouts of Western Ohio
Statement to Archdiocese of Cincinnati
10/25/10

Girl Scouts in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati
A Valuable Partner in Developing Girls Strong in the Catholic Faith

We the members of Girl Scouts of the United States of America (are) united by a belief in God...
— *Preamble, Constitution of Girl Scouts of the United States of America*

Throughout the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, hundreds of parents and adult leaders are working together through Girl Scouting to promote girls' personal growth and leadership development. Girl Scouting builds on Catholic faith development in Catholic schools and parishes by encouraging each girl to develop her own strong values within the context of her faith, family and the Girl Scout Promise and Laws.

For nearly 100 years, Girl Scouts has partnered with the Catholic Church and its parishioners to serve girls and inspire their growth and development. Both the Church and Girl Scouts recognize that religious instruction is the responsibility of parents and religious leaders.

Girl Scouts provides many opportunities for girls to grow in their Catholic faith, including these religious recognitions that are facilitated at an individual or troop level through the parish:

- **Family of God** for Girl Scout Brownies in grades 2-3
- **I Live My Faith** for Girl Scout Juniors and Cadettes in grades 4-6
- **Mary, the First Disciple (Marian Medal)** for Girl Scout Cadettes and Seniors in grades 7-10
- **The Spirit Alive** for Girl Scout Seniors and Ambassadors in grades 9-12

Recently Girl Scouts has been attacked with a campaign of misinformation. We'd like to set the record straight on these essential truths about the Girl Scouts:

- The word "God" has always been — and remains — central to the Girl Scout Promise:
On my honor, I will try:
 To serve God and my country,
 To help people at all times,
 And to live by the Girl Scout Law.
- There is no relationship — past, present or planned — between Planned Parenthood and Girl Scouts of Western Ohio (the regional council that covers the Archdiocese) or Girl Scouts of the USA.

- Girl Scouts does not take a stand on abortion or birth control. At the same time, Girl Scouts respects the moral teachings and theology of the Catholic Church. We support the right of pastors to verify that troops in their parishes are in compliance with Church teaching.
- Girl Scouts does not advocate for or against any issue regarding a girl's health and sexuality. If programs address these issues, girls who choose to participate must have the fully informed consent of their parents or guardians. We support the right of pastors to verify that troops in their parishes are in compliance with Church teaching.
- The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) is the international organization for Girl Scouts. Much as the United States is only one of 192 members of the United Nations, Girl Scouts of the USA is only one of 145 members of WAGGGS. Girl Scouts of the USA sets its own policies and programs without influence from WAGGGS.

You can find additional information on the attached document, *Questions and Answers Concerning Girl Scouts*.

Girl Scouts of Western Ohio is proud to share responsibility with parents and the Archdiocese of Cincinnati for developing the women of tomorrow. By living our mission, we're committed to building girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place.

We the members of Girl Scouts of the United States of America (are) united by a belief in God...
 — *Preamble, Constitution of Girl Scouts of the United States of America*

The Girl Scout Promise

On my honor, I will try:
 To serve God and my country,
 To help people at all times,
 And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

The Girl Scout Law

I will do my best to be	And to
honest and fair,	respect myself and others,
friendly and helpful,	respect authority,
considerate and caring,	use resources wisely,
courageous and strong, and	make the world a better place, and
responsible for what I say and do,	be a sister to every Girl Scout.

Questions and Answers Concerning Girl Scouts

Recently Girl Scouts has been attacked with a campaign of misinformation. This Q&A answers criticisms and claims that have come to Girl Scouts from various sources.

What is the mission of the Girl Scouts?

The mission of the Girl Scouts is to build girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. Grounded in the Girl Scout Promise and Law, Girl Scouting is a non-formal, experiential, and cooperative education program that promotes girls' personal growth and leadership development.

Girl Scouts of the USA Constitution, Article III

Has Girl Scouts removed the word "God" from the Girl Scout Promise?

No. The Girl Scout Promise contains the word "God" and is as follows:

On my honor, I will try:

To serve God and my country,

To help people at all times,

And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

Is it true that the Girl Scouts place minimal emphasis on the family?

No. Families have always been encouraged to be a part of their daughter's experience in Girl Scouting. Girl Scouts of Western Ohio publishes a *Parents' Guide to Girl Scouting* that encourages families to get involved with their daughter's troop. Parents also must sign the membership form and provide permission for all Girl Scout activities.

I have heard that Girl Scouting does not teach girls pride in their country. Is this true?

No. The Girl Scout Promise states that girls will "serve God and my country". Girl Scouts participate in flag ceremonies, donate cookies to troops overseas, and wear an American flag on their sash. Patriotism, citizenship, and community service is a basic tenet of the Girl Scout Program and is embedded in the Preamble to our Constitution.

Is there a mandate against Christmas caroling or praying at meetings?

There is no mandate against Christmas caroling or praying at meetings. Although Girl Scouts has policies supporting religious diversity, no policy by Girl Scouts of the USA prohibits or requires the saying or singing of a grace, blessing, or invocation before meals or at a meeting, conference or other large group. The decision to say grace, blessing, or invocation is made locally at the troop or group level and should be sensitive to the spiritual beliefs of the participants.

Is Girl Scouting "anti-boy" in its curriculum?

No. Girl Scouts is not "anti-boy". The Girl Scout program does not portray boys negatively. Research shows that girls benefit from a program designed specifically for them and delivered in an all-girl setting. Boys have unique needs and interests as well, which are best addressed by an organization structured to meet their specific needs.

Page 2: Questions and Answers Concerning Girl Scouts

Does Girl Scouting teach girls “to support a decision to pull a life support system from a dying relative” and “give information and justification for ending a pregnancy,” as alleged by critics?

No. These statements are false.

Is there an article in a Girl Scout book entitled “All I really needed to know about being a lesbian I learned at Girl Scout Camp”?

No. There is no book published by Girl Scouts of the USA that contains an article with that title or subject matter.

Are Girl Scouts able to earn Wiccan badges?

Girl Scouts have no relationship – and never have – with Wicca. Just because an organization states that its patches may be worn on a Girl Scout uniform does not mean that it is sanctioned by Girl Scouts.

Does Girl Scouting support Planned Parenthood?

No. There is no relationship — past, present or planned — between Planned Parenthood and Girl Scouts of Western Ohio (the regional council that covers the Archdiocese) or Girl Scouts of the USA.

What is the Girl Scout position on abortion and birth control?

Girl Scouts does not take a position on abortion or birth control. At the same time, Girl Scouts respects the moral teachings and theology of the Catholic Church. We support the right of pastors to verify that troops in their parishes are in compliance with Church teaching.

Does Girl Scouts provide sex education to girls?

Girl Scouts does not advocate for or against any issue regarding a girl’s health and sexuality. If programs address these issues, girls who choose to participate must have the fully informed consent of their parents or guardians. We support the right of pastors to verify that troops in their parishes are in compliance with Church teaching.

Is it true that there is a Girl Scout badge, called “Our Rights, Our Responsibilities”, which requires girls to role play sexual activity and learn about birth control?

No. “Our Rights, Our Responsibilities” is not sold in the Girl Scouts of Western Ohio store. It was available 2005-2008 by Girl Scouts of the USA, but did not include these requirements, nor was it a requirement for any girl. The focus of the patch and activities was to teach girls about age-appropriate human rights issues around the globe. There were no links to the issues identified above.

Does Girl Scouts support Susan G. Komen for the Cure?

No. Girl Scouts, in their capacity as Girl Scouts, may not raise or solicit money for other organizations.

Was Girl Scouts’ participation in the recent 54th Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations intended to “promote a number of radical sexual rights, including abortion and other controversial sexual rights,” as alleged by critics?

No. Girls who participated from several countries were there to promote action on global issues concerning women and girls. The statement prepared by the girls who participated does not reflect Girl Scouts of the USA’s position or influence any policy or action of the national organization or local councils.

Page 3: Questions and Answers Concerning Girl Scouts

Catholic Family & Human Rights Institute (C-FAM) reported that Girl Scouts allowed Planned Parenthood to distribute material to girls who participated in the UN meeting. Is this true?

No. **This factually did not happen.** Girl Scouts of the USA did not provide girls with any materials from a third party at the workshop conducted in March 2010 at the United Nations. Girl Scouts of the USA was not contacted by C-FAM to discuss the facts of this event for its initial story. Had C-FAM applied these basic journalistic standards, perhaps the true details of this event would have been reported.

What is Girl Scouts' relationship to the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts?

The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts is comprised of 145 Girl Scout and Girl Guide member organizations, including Girl Scouts of the USA. As a member of the World Association, Girl Scouts of the USA works in collaboration with the World Bureau and sister Member Organizations throughout the world to encourage girls and young women to develop their full potential as responsible citizens. Each Member Organization creates its own programs and pursues efforts based on the needs and issues affecting girls in their individual countries.

Does Girl Scouts of Western Ohio donate money to the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts?

No. Girl Scouts of Western Ohio donates no money to WAGGGS. Individual Girl Scout troops may donate to the Juliette Low World Friendship Fund, a Girl Scouts of the USA fund that supports service projects, training and international opportunity events, as well as exchange visiting programs. A portion of the funds is used to provide scholarships for girls to travel to the four World Centers. Each Girl Scout troop is encouraged to make its own decision as to whether or not to donate.