

Gregg L. Cunningham, Executive Director

February 2009

Dear Friend of Pre-Born Babies,

On November 13, 2008, we received an e-mail message from a fifteen-year-old girl from Troy, OH. She had just seen the abortion video and photos on our website, www.abortionNO.org, and in response to the question "Has this website influenced your thinking about abortion" she said: "I was thinking about going into the nursing field but I heard about your website on some of the blogs. I think God might be calling me to help with women/girls who have gotten abortions and regret it. I think that your website is amazing."

Pastor Rick Warren, of Saddleback Church, has a congregation which, like the young girl mentioned above, knows that abortion is evil but they have little idea how evil. His willingness to at least address the issue is commendable, however, because most pastors say little or nothing at all. Pastor Warren is also willing to express his opposition to abortion in secular forums. On August 21, 2008, he was interviewed on BeliefNet.com regarding what he intends to do about his differences with Barack Obama regarding abortion. He said he will "talk privately" with the President because he "doesn't protest out on the street." He added that he prefers "to work one-on-one as rational people." But Pastor Warren obviously doesn't have to protest in front of the White House to get Mr. Obama's attention. He can merely pick up the phone and Mr. Obama will take his call.

Protesters protest because they lack both power and access to people with power. They are "out on the street" because those with power (like Pastor Warren and his "friend" Mr. Obama) typically won't "work with them one-on-one as rational people." We intend to discuss with Pastor Warren the adequacy of the church's response to abortion. He intends to discuss with President Obama the adequacy of the President's response to abortion. Is it okay for Pastor Warren to try to change Mr. Obama's mind about WHETHER we should stop abortion but not okay for us to try to change Pastor Warren's mind about HOW we should stop abortion? I reject any double standard here. We are praying for a private discussion with Pastor Warren but if we are denied one, we will initiate a public discussion which we can't be denied. It won't be a "protest" but it will no doubt be misconstrued as one.

Not only is Pastor Warren's rejection of "protesting out on the streets" an implied judgment that demonstrations are "irrational" and "uncivil" but he is also expressing disapproval of exactly the same activity which was the foundation of Martin Luther King's fight for racial equality. The real irony here is that Pastor Warren's criticism of protests is essentially the same criticism offered by the white clergy to whom MLK was responding in his epic "Letter From The Birmingham Jail." Seven white church leaders (and one rabbi) said "... a cause should be pressed in ... negotiations ... and not in the streets." The problem was that the authorities would not negotiate with Dr. King.

The May 2006 issue of *Smithsonian* magazine ("Fearing the Worst") reports that the protests which landed Dr. King in the Birmingham Jail involved "... demonstrators [who] faced down fire hoses and police dogs and inspired President Kennedy to introduce federal legislation outlawing segregation." This change in the President's willingness to offend Southern members of Congress was a direct result of the very kinds of protests Pastor Warren deprecates, and the kind we hope to avoid if Pastor Warren will work with us.

Pastor Warren may be confused concerning the utility of “protesting” but he is dead right when he rejects President Obama’s dishonest “abortion reduction” strategy. He tells Beliefnet.com that it is “window dressing” and a “charade.” He also insightfully asks why Mr. Obama supports elective abortion at all if he thinks it should be “rare.” Mr. Obama says we can find common ground by reducing the “need” for abortion. Blog.Beliefnet.com/SteveWaldman, August 20, 2008, explains that Mr. Obama’s fanatical pro-abortion supporters demanded that he pursue the goal of reducing the “need” for abortion rather than reducing the “number” of abortions because they refused to allow even an implied suggestion that abortion is not a “moral” choice. Their fear of moral criticism is precisely why our abortion photos have always terrified them. Mr. Obama proposes making “birth control” more available to reduce the unintended pregnancy rate, but it has long been known that women who use Planned Parenthood’s “birth control” program are more likely to become pregnant than women who don’t. And many of the birth control measures he wants to use our tax money to fund have an abortifacient component.

Mr. Obama also says we can reduce the “need” for abortion if we offer pregnant women free medical care. Medical care should, of course, be made available to any American who is genuinely unable to afford it but the idea that women abort largely because they can’t afford health insurance is absurd. Women abort primarily because they don’t want to be pregnant. Health insurance is not their primary concern as they rush to their local abortion clinic. I defy Mr. Obama to test his theory by sending his new health care “reform” czar into the waiting rooms of abortion clinics, offering free medical insurance and child care and job training in exchange for agreements to carry pregnancies to full term. His offers will generally be met with downcast eyes and stony silence.

Who would fall for Mr. Obama’s crude abortion flim-flam? How about Joel C. Hunter, the supposedly “pro-life” pastor of the evangelical Northland Church in suburban Orlando, FL. On February 6, 2009, he told the *Washington Post* concerning abortion that “...this administration is trying to be sensitive. They are trying to approach things in the least inflammatory, least contentious way so we can work together and have a more nuanced approach.” Of course Mr. Obama wants to avoid an “inflammatory” reaction from the pro-life community. He wants us to roll over and play dead, and Rev. Hunter says, “Let’s roll!” When Mr. Obama delayed, by one day, the announcement of his decision to send tax dollars to foreign abortion clinics, Rev. Hunter expressed gratitude that this lethal policy was not made public on the anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*. On Jan. 23, 2009, Rev. Hunter told the *Wall Street Journal*, “That’s a respectful move.” He added, “I really do appreciate their sensitivity to this day and this issue.” As a wise priest once warned, we do well to study the difference between Paul’s “fools for Christ” (1 Cor. 3:18-19) and Lenin’s “useful idiots.”

Mr. Waldman also reports that two more self-styled “pro-life” pastors, Tony Campolo and Jim Wallis, joined Rev. Hunter in helping the Obama forces craft this deeply dishonest “abortion reduction” sham. They betrayed the pro-life movement in much the same manner as three quisling Republican U.S. Senators, Olympia Snowe, Susan Collins and Arlen Specter, sold out the country on the economic “stimulus bill” which Rush Limbaugh calls the “porkulus package.” This treacherous trio made possible the Senate version of the bill which House Speaker Nancy Pelosi tried to cram full of cash for the abortion industry, on the eugenically-based theory that abortion (which she disingenuously refers to as “contraception”) “stimulates” the economy (usnews.com, Jan. 26, 2009). Now on February 9, 2009, Bloomberg.com reports a story titled “Ruin Your Health with the Obama Stimulus Plan.” It reports that Mr. Obama has slipped Tom Daschle’s medical rationing plan into the bill to limit health care for the elderly. This is arguably a precursor to a European-style euthanasia scheme which would never survive the regular legislative process, so they hid it away in the massive “stimulus” package. And now Mr. Obama insults anyone who dares question the bill’s provisions. He has told lawmakers to “break out of their ideology rigidity,” stop playing “the usual political games,” abandon “phony arguments and petty politics” and that the “time for talk is over.” In other words, “Do it my way and do it now.”

What if Mr. Obama's supposed hero, Abraham Lincoln, had insisted on protecting the right to own slaves but finessed the issue of slavery by offering support for those few plantation owners who could be persuaded to pay salaries to their farm hands? Would abolitionists have accepted a "slavery reduction" strategy as a morally acceptable alternative to outlawing slavery? Would Frederick Douglass have been content with programs which reduced the "need" for slaves by developing new crops whose cultivation was less labor intensive? Would Quakers have suspended their anti-slavery campaign in exchange for the development of labor-saving farm machinery which would diminish the "need" for slave labor by mechanizing farming? How about merely offering job training programs for plantation owners who got out of farming?

Yet with the help of an embarrassingly obsequious press, Mr. Obama has appropriated the imagery of the great emancipator. Mr. Obama announced his presidential candidacy from the steps on which Lincoln delivered his "House Divided" speech. He took a train over the route Abraham Lincoln traveled from Springfield, IL, to Washington, D.C. to be inaugurated. Mr. Obama's first major Washington photo-op was staged at the Lincoln Memorial. He was sworn in using President Lincoln's Bible. His inaugural luncheon even featured President Lincoln's favorite foods. I actually expected him to show up wearing Lincoln's stovepipe hat, flanked by Mrs. Obama in a Mary Todd Lincoln bonnet.

President Lincoln freed slaves but Mr. Obama kills children. Today's press rhapsodized over the former and ignored the latter. Ironically, the highest per capita percentage of the children Mr. Obama kills are the black descendants of the slaves President Lincoln freed. Mr. Obama flatters himself with implausible comparisons to Lincoln, but Thomas Jefferson may be a more apt parallel. Eager to rationalize his ownership of slaves, Thomas Jefferson questioned their humanity as Mr. Obama questions the humanity of unborn (and newly born) children. Concerning black intelligence, Virginius Dabney quotes in *The Jefferson Scandals, A Rebuttal*, Mead & Company, 1981, from Thomas Jefferson's *Notes on Virginia*: "...[I]t appears to me that ... in reason [blacks are] much inferior [to whites] ... and that in imagination they are dull, tasteless and anomalous" Merrill D. Peterson adds in *Thomas Jefferson and the New Nation*, New York Oxford University Press, 1970, that Jefferson also compared blacks to orangutans (page 262).

Mr. Obama is also like Mr. Jefferson in other ignoble ways. He is deeply pro-abortion but clever enough to downplay his bias against the unborn. Peter Beinart wrote a piece titled "The End of the Culture Wars" on January 29, 2009, for thedailybeast.com, in which he said of abortion: "Here Obama goes mute. When was the last time you heard him speak unprompted about abortion ...? He has positions on these issues, to be sure. But he's determined to not be too publicly associated with them." He adds, "... he's not offering to split the difference with cultural conservatives, only to make his cultural liberalism less conspicuous."

John Chester Miller, in his book *The Wolf by the Ears* (The Free Press, 1977), makes the same point concerning Jefferson: "Jefferson ... even when he was president, bought and sold slaves. To conceal his part in these transactions, he used a third person." Merrill D. Peterson notes similarly in *Thomas Jefferson and the New Nation*, supra, that "He sold lands occasionally and was finally pushed to the awful extremity of selling several families of slaves. (Not wishing to have his name linked publicly with a transaction of this kind, he arranged to have the slaves sold at some distance from their Bedford plantation.)"

Mr. Obama has asserted that "What is required is a new declaration of independence ... from ideology and small thinking, prejudice and bigotry – an appeal not to our easy instincts but to our better angels." Content.usatoday.com, January 17, 2009. This is ironic language from a man whose "small thinking, prejudice and bigotry" against the unborn seems boundless.

Jefferson was, of course, the principal author of the real Declaration of Independence. Its preamble asserts that our Creator has endowed us all with "unalienable rights" which he said began with the "right to life." But it was Abraham Lincoln who established this preamble as the lens through which the courts should view

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the Constitution itself. It was he who applied its rights to African Americans, as Mr. Obama denies those rights to the unborn.

The *Los Angeles Times*, January 20, 2009, featured a “Column One” story headlined “The long shadows of an old avenue” with a subhead which read “Once, the historic stretch [Pennsylvania Avenue] bookended by the White House and Capitol would have been closed to Obama.” The article reports that the White House in which Mr. Obama will live was built with slave labor. Slaves also built the steps on which Mr. Obama will take the oath of office, on the West Front of the Capitol. The story makes reference to the slave market which once thrived on E. 7th Street and to the fact that “...twelve of the early presidents were slave holders, eight while in the White House.”

As lamentable as this shameful history is, I count thirteen equally shameful abortion clinics in the Washington, D.C. Area Yellow Pages, several within blocks of the White House and Capitol. Five of the eight presidents who have served since abortion was legalized by *Roe v. Wade* have supported baby-killing. The *LA Times* “Long shadows ...” article also reported that “Woodrow Wilson segregated the federal workforce to appease his offended wife” but the wives of Presidents Nixon, Ford, Carter, Clinton and Obama were at least as pro-abortion as their pro-abortion husbands (Gerald R. Ford thought *Roe* “went too far” but believed abortion should be legal in any state which wanted it).

On top of that, Barbara Bush, wife of George H.W. Bush, our 41st President, told *The Seattle Times*, August 14, 1992, that abortion is “a personal choice” and argued that “personal things should be left out of ... platforms and conventions.” Her position was echoed by her daughter-in-law, Laura Bush, the wife of George W. Bush, our 43rd President, when she told CNN on January 19, 2001 that she did not think *Roe v. Wade* should be overturned. Nancy Reagan says abortion is murder but supports the killing of unborn children for embryonic research. Of course, all anti-life presidents and first ladies would prefer to be thought of as merely “pro-choice.” Many of the non-slave-owning Presidents (and their wives) who accepted the existence of slavery would have rejected the label “pro-slavery.” The dishonesty of that bogus “neutrality” would have been cold comfort to “owned” black people and it’s cold comfort to dead babies.

CNN.com, Jan. 12, 2009, reported a story called “Grandson of slaves: Obama is our Moses.” It quotes a Mississippi sharecropper whose grandfather was a slave on the land he now farms. “He points to a bluff and says that when he was just a boy, a black man was lynched from a tree.” He adds “With Obama coming in, it’s going to be another Martin Luther King helping us.” Moses and MLK saved children. Mr. Obama kills them, and in greater numbers than were killed by Pharaoh or the Klan. Please help us fight this evil man.

Lord bless,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregg Cunningham', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Gregg Cunningham
Executive Director

P.S. Mr. Obama is only the symptom of a much larger problem: He could only have been elected by a society which is trivializing and ignoring abortion. Thanks to you and the Grace of God, CBR has projects which are unparalleled in their ability to force the public to take this tragedy seriously. Please help us ramp up these projects to a level commensurate with the peril our nation faces in this very dangerous era.