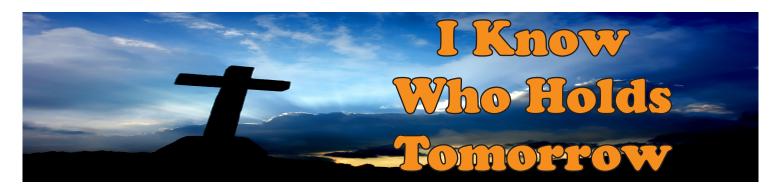
# Frontline

## American Decency Association

October 2015 Vol. XXVIV Issue X



#### By Bill Johnson

#### "I Know Who Holds Tomorrow"

I don't know about tomorrow; I just live from day to day. I don't borrow from it's sunshine For it's skies may turn to grey.

I don't worry o'er the future, For I know what Jesus said. And today I'll walk beside Him, For He knows what is ahead.

Many things about tomorrow I don't seem to understand But I know who holds tomorrow And I know who holds my hand.

I don't know about tomorrow; It may bring me poverty. But the one who feeds the sparrow, Is the one who stands by me.

And the path that is my portion May be through the flame or flood; But His presence goes before me And I'm covered with His blood.

I hadn't heard or thought of this song for many years, but it came to my mind as I have been laboring to write a word that bears the mark of God upon it.

In the coming days here at our headquarters, we are hosting a conference on persecution that we are calling "The Rising Tide." See page 3 for details. I have felt compelled to address the issue of persecution.

At the same time that I am burdened for

what lies ahead, there is also another theme that God is bringing into my heart, mind, and soul - though troubled waters are clearly upon us, "I know who holds tomorrow."

I must not - you must not - lose sight of that reality. May each of us allow God to help us with that. He is able!

I received help from my friend Curtis Bowers yesterday the creator of the powerful DVD "Agenda". Many of you have seen that movie and/or purchased that truth telling video on the realities of the growing influence of communism/socialism in our beloved America.

We called Curtis to get an update regarding the release of his second movie Agenda2. I asked Curtis "Where are we at in regard to what is happening all around us?

I respect his love for the Lord, for His family, and for his country and so I knew he would have insightful viewpoints that did, indeed, peak my attention. Here, in a nutshell, are some of his talking points from our discussion.

As he speaks around the country, he hears so many saying that "Christ is coming again soon so why not just find rest in that and settle in for what is ahead?"

Yet who are we to know God's time table? Our God is longsuffering. The Israelites waited 400 years before they were delivered from Egypt. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness,

but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. (2 Peter 3:9)

In spite of Sharia law and the oppressive regime, the ministry IranLive, beams Gospel messages into Iran everyday. Millions of Muslims in Iran detest Sharia, but are trapped in their own country with a system of government that they despise. 75-80% want change and are a field ripe for harvest.

Christianity is growing in China. There are nearly 250 million Christians in China - most in underground churches. They go to church knowing that they may get hauled off to prison. Their faith matters and it is worth the risk.

God uses persecution, oppression, hard times to draw His people unto Himself. Perhaps that is what He is doing in America today. We Americans may be in for such a time - a winnowing out, a separation of the sheep from the goats. Let's be honest with ourselves. America is deserving of God's wrath for our nation's godlessness.

God is calling us back to Himself. Repentance is always needed but seldom seen any more. This is a time for turning to Him and growing as Christians as we learn to worship Him in spirit and in truth, and have convictions to live out the Gospel right at home.

I Know Who Holds Tomorrow. It is unwise to give in or give up as defeatists. Christ calls us to make our lives count. Today.



From the desk of Bill Johnson

#### **Rest in Him AND action**

If you have read the front page, "I Know Who Holds Tomorrow," I also reference the burden that God lays upon my heart regarding what appears to be the impending persecution that is coming down the tracks as an out of control locomotive.

I mention on page one that there are believers who assert that Christ is coming back soon so they find "rest" in Him with little or no resolve to engage the enemy of our souls either near or far.

Is there a controversy regarding resting in God's sovereignty and action among believers? May there not be so.

It is in this context that we are hosting a preaching conference where pastors will be speaking on: "The Rising Tide: Persecution in America" - October 16 and 17.

First, let me say that I believe in the sovereignty of God. I believe that God is in control; that nothing surprises Him.

At the same time, I believe that God operates in the hearts and minds of men leading them and guiding them day by day. Men have free wills. We are not robots.

In the days of Hitler and Nazi Germany, there was great compliance in the German culture and the German church.

America, too, was slow to engage the enemy - initially. Without American intervention, what would the world have become?

Yet, God saw fit to raise up opposition to the death camps, the annihilation of an unsuspecting, wrongly-targeted people – the Jewish people.

And, it wasn't until we were bombed at Pearl Harbor that the "sleeping giant" woke up.

Many asked then and now "Where was the church?" You perhaps (along with me) have read the book "Bonhoeffer" by Eric Metaxes.

Deitrich Bonhoeffer tried to awaken the church. Wrongly? Rightly? Some probably think he went too far. Others hold a different view.

But, this much can be said: He is largely viewed as a hero of the faith.

"Silence in the face of evil is itself evil: God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act."

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Would we have been preaching peace, peace when just even a few miles away people were being gassed, starved, degraded, without a defender?

Would God not have us oppose those who are on the move across the world raping innocent boys and girls, beheading the infidels (Jews, Christians and other "infidels")? I speak of Islamists.

We don't face the Nazis today. But, there is an enemy not only abroad but getting closer day by day. But those who are self-absorbed, those who turn a blind eye, as many "good Christian" Germans did in the 1930s and 1940s, do not see it.

Of course, we are to put our hope and trust in God. Yes, God will take care of His children. And, yes, sometimes that care for His children can come right up to and through the point in time of having your head sliced off.

But who among us wants to go through that?

But "they" seemingly are not here yet. Or are they subtly preparing the way, and we just don't think about their agenda and/or movement.

Is there anything that we can be or should be doing in preparation?

Dr. Ben Carson is being vilified in the media because he said that he didn't believe that a Muslim should be President. His reasoning being that generally Muslims uphold Sharia and that Sharia law is more about governance than about religion — a governance that harshly runs in direct opposition to the U.S. Constitution. Islamic law which demeans and abuses women, denies the freedom of religion, the freedom of speech, etc.

Nihad Awad, one of the founders of CAIR (the Council on American Islamic Relations) stated that Ben Carson should step down for his comments. Unlike many Muslim countries, we have free speech in America. And Carson's opinion shouldn't disqualify him from anything but individual votes if that be the case.

As Christians should we just find rest in the providence of God and ignore what is taking place around us?

And lastly on another deeply concerning front - What about the battle surrounding Biblical marriage?

Should Kim Davis, Rowan County Clerk (KY), have complied with the recent Supreme Court ruling that legalized same sex marriage though it went against her Biblical convictions?

Should Kim Davis have obeyed man rather than God despite the fact that God's word calls us to obey God rather than man when man's law runs counter to God's Holy Word?

Some believers think that Kim Davis and others like her should just submit to the new law of the land recognizing it for what it is – a decision by the highest court of the land despite the fact that it is in direct conflict with God's Word. Yet why do we not then "obey" the racist Supreme Court decision of Dred Scott which has since been roundly denounced and refuted?

These questions and many others will be addressed at our October 16 and 17 preaching conference.

## Join us for "Rising Tide: Persecution in America"

by Lisa Van Houten



**Persecution.** It's not a question of if it will come, but when.

Of course our Middle-Eastern brothers and sisters know so much more of persecution that we comfortable Americans. Yet we would be naïve to think that we won't face increasing forms of persecution here in the United States. It's already coming to bakers, florists, and wedding photographers who not only are being fined huge sums of money for choosing to obey God rather than man, but are the targets of death threats and vicious verbal attacks.

And then there's the example that has been all over the news of late – Kentucky County Clerk, Kim Davis – who has been bombarded with hate-filled attacks and found herself thrown in jail for refusing to endorse homosexual "marriage." I encourage you to read Pastor John Piper's thoughtful and biblical response to the question: "Is Kim Davis Right to Refuse Marriage Licenses?" http://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/is-kim-davis-right-to-refuse-marriage-licenses

Piper closes by stating: ... She is, of course, just one prominent case of what will be hundreds in the months and years to come as Christians and others draw a line of conscience beyond which they will not go. And the upshot for us, all of us, is that we should all be pondering now what that line is in our vocation, in our schooling, in our civil life, in our finances, and in our friendships. Because if we are not fixed and strong in our resolve and we are taken off guard with the threat of loss, we will cave in. Now is the time to be clear and resolved — before they knock on your door.

This is only the tip of the spear of what will come to all Christians. We know it is com-

ing because Jesus told us in Matthew 24:9 - "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake."

As Piper tells us, "now is the time to be clear and resolved – before they knock on your door."

So what should we do when persecution comes to us? What can we expect? How should we respond?

These are questions we will strive to answer at our upcoming weekend conference – <u>The Rising Tide: Persecution in America</u> – on October 16 -17 (Friday evening and Saturday morning) at our American Decency headquarters in Fremont, MI.

This conference will offer unique perspectives from four area pastors who will bring practical teaching/preaching from God's Word on how we Christians should respond and live bold lives for Christ in the face of growing persecution in America.

Listed below are the topics and presenters:

- "The Rising Tide: Resilient Living in a Culture of Persecution"
   Pastor Greg Johnson of Fremont Weslevan Church
- "Discipleship 101 The Motivation, Cost and Blessing of Following Jesus" - Dr. Steve Witter of First Baptist Church
- "Bless Those Who Persecute You"
   Pastor Vern Picknally of Fremont OPC
- "I am Sending You Out as Sheep in the Midst of Wolves" Dr. Ron Workman of Interim Ministries Inc.

This promises to be a power-packed conference that not only will inform about the rising tide of persecution in America, but will prepare us and strengthen us to boldly stand for Christ.

In Matthew 24 Jesus goes on to tell his followers: "And then many will fall away and betray one another and hate one another.

And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end will be saved." (Matthew 24:10-13)

What camp will we fall into when persecution comes to our door? Will we fall away, betray one another, be led astray? Or will we be one who endures to the end?

By God's grace, I desire to be one who endures and perseveres – even at the risk of great loss. I believe that describes you, as well.

Mark Friday evening, October 16 and Saturday morning, October 17 on your calendar and plan to join us here at American Decency for *The Rising Tide: Persecution in America*.



# The Rising Tide: Persecution in America

Friday, October 16 7:00 – 9:00 pm Saturday, October 17 9:00 am – 11:30 am

(breakfast available 8:30 – 9:00 am)

Where: American Decency 203 E. Main Street, Fremont MI

There is no cost to attend, however a free will offering will be taken.

Register in advance or at the door, however your pre-registration will help us plan.

Call us at 231-924-4050 to register or for more information.

## Frito-Lay Chips Away at Christianity

by Lisa Van Houten



When Christians seek to use the freedom of speech to express our beliefs within the culture, we're told – sometimes not so nicely - to keep our views within the walls of the church.

As one person recently wrote us: ... Your socalled "God's Law" has no legal standing and is meaningless outside of your beliefs. You can't even show that your god exists much less has any authority over humans. If you want to bow down to some imaginary being, go ahead, but you cannot use your belief to impinge on others. ...

There are very real efforts to reduce the free exercise of religious expression to the "free exercise of worship" – two very different things. Yet while Christians are being muzzled, corporate America is taking to the bully pulpit to push their agenda.

We saw it last spring when companies such as Apple and Angie's List brought the full force of their clout to trample Indiana's Religious Freedom Restoration Act. Wal-Mart did the same in Arkansas. Scores of companies, such as Target, AT&T, and General Mills to name just a few, have long pushed for the redefinition of marriage and the homosexual agenda.

And as Breitbart reports: ... Kraft foods created a rainbow-colored Oreo for a print ad campaign, while fast-casual food chain Chipotle created the 'Homo Estas' campaign in June to capitalize on the Supreme Court decision to legalize gay marriage nationwide. Greek yogurt maker Chobani put an LGBT-themed twist on its advertising earlier this year, when the couple eating yogurt in bed in a TV ad is revealed to be lesbians.

Ice cream maker Ben and Jerry's also celebrated the Supreme Court's decision

with new ice cream flavor 'I Dough, I Dough.'

Now Frito-Lay is the latest to pile on. Recently, the company unveiled their new Gay Pride Doritos chip. The rainbow-colored chips are designed to show support for the LGBT movement and were released just before a Dallas Gay Pride event this coming Sunday of which Doritos is a corporate sponsor.

These chips, symbolic of the gay pride rainbow flag, will only be available for purchase online and sales of these specialty chips will go to the group, It Gets Better. It Gets Better is a non-profit organization to support lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, and transgender teens who are being bullied.

The ironic thing is, the non-profit, It Gets Better, is founded by one of the biggest bullies of them all, Dan Savage. Savage is a gay rights advocate who makes it his mission to malign Christians and anyone who doesn't share his agenda. I won't repeat the foul and hate-filled verbal attacks he's launched at people such as Mike Huckabee, Ben Carson, Rick Santorum, and other conservative Christians.

Savage doesn't stop at hurling his venom at politicians and other Christian leaders. For one who is supposedly concerned about young people being bullied because of their sexuality, he has had no qualms about bullying young people because of their faith.

In 2012 when speaking, supposedly about bullying, at a high school journalism convention, he instead chose to berate Christianity and the Bible. His diatribe was so offensive and vile that a number of bold young people stood up in the midst of their peers and walked out. As they left the auditorium, Savage lambasted them, calling them names such as "pansy—ssed."

So who is the bully? The Christian standing up for his beliefs, or the so-called "anti-bullying activist" who bullies anyone who disagrees with him?

Frito-Lay is not only using their product to

push the LGBT agenda, but is also choosing to align with a man such as Dan Savage who makes it his mission to excoriate Christians.

Frito-Lay chief marketing officer Ram Krishnan said in a statement. ... With Doritos rainbow chips, we're bringing an entirely new product experience to our consumers to show our commitment toward equal rights for the LGBT community and celebrate humanity without exception.

However, Frito-Lay does seem to make <u>one</u> exception to their "celebration of humanity" – those who follow Christ.

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American Decency Frontline Vol. XXVIV, Issue X Published monthly by American Decency Association

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## Afghanistan and the Final Frontier of Sexual Freedom

by Chris Johnson



On Monday, September 21, Salon.com published an article entitled, "I'm a pedophile, but not a monster." The lede read, "I'm attracted to children but unwilling to act on it. Before judging me harshly, would you be willing to listen?"

The article prompted many to ask, justifiably, if this is the beginning of our culture accepting pedophilia - the last great frontier of sexual amorality and relativism.

Not so long ago, cultural acceptance of homosexual marriage was unimaginable, it's now enshrined in a Supreme Court decision. In the last few years, two television shows have familiarized viewers with the idea of polygamy. The subjects of one of those shows is now arguing the constitutionality of these "plural marriages" using the Obergefell vs. Hodges decision that legalized homosexual marriage in a federal court. There is no conceivable legal reason why the same logic applied to gay "marriage" should not also be applied to polygamous "marriages."

There is also no reason why the logic for accepting homosexual activity should not be applied to pedophilia. Indeed, that is exactly the logic of the Salon article:

"Many gays begin to recognize their sexual preferences sometime around puberty, if not before. For me it was the same. I was about 12 when the first inklings of a sexual preference bubbled up in me, though at the time I thought little of it..."

And later in the article: "For every pedophile who was sexually abused as a child there's another who wasn't. Likewise, most abuse victims never manifest pedophilic desires. Some researchers surmise that pedophilia can be traced back to genetics…"

Add to that the sympathetic commenters on the article:

Example 1.) "... I understand where this article is going and I think if people who are homosexual have gained so much respect over the past decade than why can't a pedophile who hasn't and never intends to harm/molest a child..."

Example 2.) "There really is no difference between pedophilia and any other sexual orientation--in the way it is developed ... and discovered, and in the fact that it cannot be changed ..."

If this really is the final frontier for sexual "freedom," surely its acceptance must be decades away?

Sadly, American government agents are already overlooking this egregious abuse, calling it a difference of culture.

A publication no less prestigious (and liberal) than the New York Times broke the story, citing, for one, the father of a deceased Lance Corporal's father, who recalled his son's account, "At night we can hear them screaming, but we're not allowed to do anything about it."

"My son said that his officers told him to look the other way because it's their culture," the soldier's father said.

The Times described this expression of Afghan culture as "bacha bazi" or "boy play," seemingly a status symbol among the powerful.

A 2002 article from the New York Times cites a money changer in Kandahar recalling a time when, "boys couldn't come to the market because the commanders would come and take away any that they liked."

The Lance Corporal mentioned above was gunned down by the sex slaves of an Afghani police commander on the American military base. That police commander is not only still on the police force, but holds a higher rank.

Four years ago, in a case that is still

playing out today, a battered Afghani woman brought her son to an American base, explaining that a local Afghani police commander had forcibly taken him as a sex slave, even chaining him to the bed. When the woman begged for her son to be released, he beat her as well.

When two American Green Berets, Captain Quinn and Sergeant Martland, caught wind of the gut-wrenching story, they confronted the commander, who admitted it was true, but laughed it off.

According to Quinn, when he explained how serious it was, the Afghani just continued to laugh, and that's when Quinn and Martland did what I would hope anyone defending my freedom would do and threw him to the ground and roughed him up, unfortunately without delivering serious injury.

That beating led to Quinn being relieved of his command and kicked out of Afghanistan. He has since left the military.

Martland, on the other hand, would like to stay in the Army, but because of his involvement in beating up the child rapist will soon be involuntarily discharged.

Not only then, are people starting to publicly argue for the acceptance of pedophilia, but government agents, specifically our military, are already being instructed by their superiors to view it as a matter of "culture," not morality, and being punished when they do not comply.

President of the Family Research Council and former Marine, Tony Perkins, places the responsibility all the way at the top.

"No soldier should ever be told to turn a blind eye to child abuse. America needs a President that will put policies in place that when an American soldier or Marine protects an innocent child from those who would terrorize them in such a heinous way, they will be honored and not condemned and booted from the military."

Will we as a nation turn a blind eye? Will we stand by as pedophilia becomes normalized?

## Fresh Outrage

by Lisa Van Houten



**"Everything we provide is fresh."** No, this isn't referring to garden produce at your local farmer's market. It's not from a butcher at the supermarket meat counter.

That statement came from a different kind of butcher - Dr. Carolyn Westhoff, senior medical advisor for Planned Parenthood Federation of America. And what they provide "fresh" are the body parts of a freshly-killed baby.

Recently, the Center for Medical Progress [CMP] released their latest undercover video exposing the horror or Planned Parenthood.

Westhoff, along with Dr. Vanessa Cullins, vice president for external medical affairs for Planned Parenthood, and Deborah VanDerhei, national director for the Consortium of Abortion Providers at Planned Parenthood, are recorded discussing not only the sale of baby body parts, but also admitting to the fact that what they're doing is illegal.

In the recorded conversation, Westhoff states: "We've just been working with people who want particular tissues, like, you know, they want cardiac [hearts], or they want eyes, or they want neural [brains], people want spinal cords. So, I mean that sort of thing. Certainly, everything we provide—oh, gonads. Oh my god, gonads. Everything we provide is fresh."

And what does Planned Parenthood get in exchange for those freshly-killed babies? The undercover video shows Planned Parenthood's Deborah VanDerhei boasting.

"we have independent colleagues who generate a fair amount of income doing this."

What about Planned Parenthood's claim that they don't make money from what they call their "fetal tissue donation" activities? After all, it's a federal felony to receive economic profit of any kind in exchange for human organs.

But when you're already breaking God's law, what difference does man's law make? In another video clip Vanessa Russo, the compliance program administrator for Planned Parenthood Keystone in Pennsylvania, added: "A company like this that wants to give our organization money for the tissue—I think that that's a valid exchange, and that that's okay."

Russo went on to state that "we can't consent to be bullied by ridiculous laws."

While Planned Parenthood may have total disdain for the law of the land, what they do fear is bad public relations.

"I have been talking to the executive director of the National Abortion Federation. We're trying to figure this out as an industry, about how we're going to manage remuneration, because the headlines would be a disaster," VanDerhei stated in the undercover recording.

And Planned Parenthood's Dr. Vanessa Cullins warned: "This is important. This could destroy your organization and us, if we don't time those conversations correctly."

Westhoff also stated, "Obviously, we would have the potential for a huge P.R. issue by doing this."

Sadly, however, it seems that their fears are unwarranted. The mainstream media has almost completely ignored this exposé of the barbaric murder of tiny babies and the callous dismemberment and illegal sale of their bodies.

As MRC NewsBusters reports:

Planned Parenthood executives' fear and disgust of the media is laughable, as the media loyally serve as a PR firm for the abortion giant.

Since the release of CMP's first video, the broadcast networks have proven hesitant to publicize the story – and when they did, they refused to even utter the word "baby."

On Monday, MRC Culture found that ABC, NBC and CBS had aired a mere 0.13% of the CMP footage during their news shows – or 1 minute, 13 seconds of more than 16 hours. ...

ABC, NBC and CBS prioritized animals over aborted babies, covering the shooting of Cecil the lion more in one day than they did these videos in two weeks — as well as the birth of the National Zoo's panda cubs.

The three networks haven't mentioned the content of CMP's last five videos. In fact, the networks haven't covered a single Planned Parenthood video release in more than one month. ...

Yet while the media ignores the legitimate news story of the gruesome killing and illegal trafficking of baby body parts by Planned Parenthood, many of our spineless representatives just hope the story will go away. Republican leaders, who proudly run as "pro-life" candidates when they're up for re-election, can't find enough moral outrage to push for the defunding of Planned Parenthood no matter what the cost.

Recently Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) called the strategy to defund Planned Parenthood "an exercise in futility." Is this what we can expect from our so-called "pro-life" leaders?

Where is the outrage against this slaughter of the most defenseless of human beings? Where is my own outrage? Have I, have you become complacent to this holocaust of sickening proportions? As Matt Walsh writes:

[Continued on Page 8]

## The Best Part of a Bad Debate

by Chris Johnson



The second GOP debate has come and gone. The first half of the debate, hosted by Jake Tapper with half time shows by Hugh Hewitt and Dana Bash, can mostly be summarized by this question from Tapper to New Jersey Governor Chris Christie: 'Gov. Christie, I want to ask you about something that Dr. Carson said the other day.'

Candidate A, Candidate B said something negative about you, why is he an idiot? Candidate W, please tell us why Candidate H is wrong about everything. Candidate H, how would you respond to that in less than 30 seconds?

The most positive thing, in my opinion, to come out of CNN's September debate was that the Center for Medical Progress' videos were given much need publicity by Carly Fiorina and the weight of the issue important enough to use a government shut down as leverage - was communicated by Senator Ted Cruz.

For a political party which claims to believe that abortion is murder and that millions of babies have been legally slaughtered with the consent of the American government, Republican candidates devote a sickeningly small amount of time to saving those innocent lives - maybe five minutes worth during this debate.

But, that five minutes turned more eyes towards the video exposés which are the currently biggest threat to legal abortion.

The subject was introduced when Dana Bash asked Ohio Governor John Kasich whether Ted Cruz's insistence on shutting down the government, if necessary, in order to defund Planned Parenthood was justified. Kasich answered, basically, "no, because it won't work."

"There are ways to do it without having to shut the government down, but I'm sympathetic to the fact that we don't want this organization to get funding, and the money ought to be reprogrammed for family planning in other organizations that don't support this tactic. But I would not be for shutting the government down because I don't think it's going to work out."

To which Ted Cruz was given the opportunity to respond much more strongly,

"These are horrifying. On these videos, Planned Parenthood also essentially confesses to multiple felonies. It is a felony with ten years' jail term to sell the body parts of unborn children for profit. That's what these videos show Planned Parenthood doing.

Absolutely we shouldn't be sending \$500 million of taxpayer money to funding an ongoing criminal enterprise, and I'll tell you, the fact that Republican leadership in both houses has begun this discussion by preemptively surrendering to Barack Obama and saying, "we'll give in because Obama threatens a veto."

You know, Obama's committed to his principles. His liberal principles, he will fight for them. He says" I will veto any budget that doesn't fund Planned Parenthood," and Republicans surrender. We need to stop surrendering and start standing for our principles."

New Jersey Governor Chris Christie then jumped in, with a bit of help from Kasich, to point to the real extremist,

"But here's the problem, we're -- we're fighting with each other up here. We agree! Let's ask Hillary Clinton. She believes in the systematic murder of children in the womb to preserve their body parts...

KASICH: ...Dana, in a way that maximizes their value for sale for profit. It is disgusting, and the American people need to hear it."

Kasich went on to reiterate that he would not shut down the government to defund Planned Parenthood, but that he would do so for tax reform and other issues, and Christie said he would "put it in the list" of things worth threatening a government shutdown over.

And finally, former HP candidate Carly Fiorina came out guns blazing, daring President Obama and Hillary Clinton to watch the videos (both of which have said they have not seen them):

"Watch a fully formed fetus on the table, its heart beating, its legs kicking while someone says we have to keep it alive to harvest its brain.

This is about the character of our nation, and if we will not stand up in and force President Obama to veto this bill, shame on us."

Jeb Bush also stated that he believed Planned Parenthood should not "get a penny from the federal government," but as it was in response to a separate question he did not say whether he believed it was worth shutting down the government over.

These debates are important, not just because it allows politicians to practice spinning facts in their favor, but because it gives us a chance to see which subjects the candidates are most passionate about.

As the candidates drop out, the debate stage gets smaller, and the candidates get more time to talk, the candidates will start to lay out real plans to deal with the issues. Those plans will still have to be run through the legislative branch of government before they are enacted, and will, in the end, probably look nothing like what was touted on the campaign trail.

It is, therefore, just as important to note what it is the candidates are passionate about as it is to hear what their specific plan is.

[Continued on Page 8]

#### Fresh Outrage

by Lisa Van Houten



#### [Continued from Page 6]

... I feel a deep rage and sadness, and it grows every day, especially when I see these videos and I think about all of the children who are murdered by "doctors" and forsaken by their families and their nation. I have never in my life been more disgusted with the country that I love. I feel like flags should be flown at half mast or taken down altogether, in mourning not only of the lost lives, but of America's lost soul. How can I take "pride" in a culture and a country that fails in its most basic and fundamental task — to protect and love its children? How can I call this the "home of the brave" when we aren't even brave enough to come together and stop the abortion industry from exterminating a million babies in the next year? How can I say "God bless America" when inside I am really begging Him to finally rain His perfect justice upon us, whatever the cost?

I will still fight. I will still do whatever I can in my own insignificant way to pull us out of this abyss of self-centeredness and moral depravity. I will still desperately pray that God will cure me of my own cowardice, weakness, selfishness, and sin, so that I can be a more effective and dedicated advocate for life and truth. I will still search for the hope and purpose in all of this, but it's a struggle.

Maybe I've despaired too quickly. Maybe there are pro-life victories ahead, even if it doesn't look like it now. Maybe we will finally snap out of our apathetic haze and see that the ground we're walking on is covered in the bloody bodies of our own children. Maybe we'll wake up and be a good, decent, Christian people again.

Maybe. I have to believe it's possible. These days, belief is all I have.

### **Would God Approve?**

by Kimberly Cargill



As I look at the fall lineup for the new television shows, I am deeply disturbed by the filth and trash that is being shoved down our throats as mainstream "entertainment." Just watching the trailer of some of these shows is enough to see that network television is once again flooding the airwaves with sex and eroticism; anti-Christian and demonic themes; extremely vulgar and violent content; and so much more.

I start to wonder how many teens and adults will sit down and watch these shows and begin to think that there's nothing wrong with casual sex, that it's okay to watch a show that sexualizes women. That graphic sex talk is just a normal part of conversation or, as is depicted on one show, having a babysitter that is also porn star is no big deal. Then there are the shows that depict horrific violence and others that seem poised to mock Christianity such as, CBS' "Angel from Hell."

As Christians we are to put nothing wicked before our eyes. We need to take a stand first in our household. Talk to your kids and lead by example. Second, is to tell the advertisers that you don't want them to use their advertising dollars to sponsor this type of trash.

We as Christian parents, grandparents, and just people who care need to take a stand in our homes and protect the people that we love. Please be careful of what you put before your eyes and heart. We are children of God and should ask ourselves, would our Heavenly Father approve of what we are watching?

# The Best Part of a Bad Debate

by Chris Johnson

#### [Continued from Page 7]

When I vote for a nominee for the President of the United States, it will be for one who is passionate about saving the lives of the unborn. By God's grace, there are many choices that fit that description, but there are also a few who clearly do not.

The CNN debate served the dual purpose of showing which candidates are and are not passionate about life (although some did not get a chance to comment on the issue) and getting the word out about the videos which have cracked the walls around Planned Parenthood's federal funding, and hopefully even legal abortion. While I hope the next debate fosters less infighting and more talk on important issues, I also hope it keeps the systematic slaughter of innocent babies center stage, right where it should be.

## All We Like Sheep by Lisa Van Houten



Recently, a sheep from Australia made headlines when it was discovered after years lost in the wild. The ram's fleece was so overgrown that the wool covered his eyes and he could barely walk. The sheep was weighed down with 89 pounds of wool and was near death.

What an image for those in the world who have never experienced a Shepherd's care. Weighed down, struggling - blinded by their own burdens. Oh, that they would submit to the Shepherd! Yet, we live in a culture where people don't want to be limited by the boundaries of the fold. As it says in Isaiah, "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way;"

The consequences are all around of people going their own way. Brokenness, strife, conflict. We who have been rescued from *our* lost condition need to point others to their only hope – the Lamb of God.