

FROM THE DIRECTOR

On more than one occasion a client has revealed that she has been sexually abused by someone. If the case is reportable according to state law, then our role as mandated reporter is to let the authorities know. But we do much more than that. These clients are hurting in ways that others are not. They are most likely carrying around questions they can't find answers to. And they need the answer because, as someone has said, people who are damaged use disastrous tools to insulate themselves from the world; and there is no help or hope in the inner person unless Christ dwells there.

Two common questions are, "Where was God when all this was going on? Why didn't He keep it from happening?"

The goal is to comfort this client and give her hope, so we want to address her questions.

Since our aim is to counsel God's Way, there are many wonderful verses to apply to the hurts of young women like this: If she wonders where God was when this happened, Luke 4:18 is a powerful verse to share: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised."

The world is full of broken-hearted people, full of captives, full of the spiritually blind, and full of those who are bruised—meaning *thrown* or *crushed*. We don't have to look further than the local headlines to see these truths.

In the May *Berean Call*, I read that "To apprehend these promises [Luke 4:18], however, means to forsake the past, which cannot be changed, and look to the Lord who can bless and guide one's life ahead. The Scriptures are filled with examples of how the Lord will comfort those who come to Him. We also have available the testimonies of those who underwent horrendous experiences (Corrie Ten Boom, Richard Wurmbbrand, and others), who testified of the healing and restoring power of the Lord."

Each day we must allow the Lord to comfort us in our afflictions. Then we are able to reach out and minister "by the comfort where-with we ourselves are comforted of God."

Maranatha,

Diane

**BLESSED BE THE GOD
AND FATHER OF OUR
LORD JESUS CHRIST,
THE FATHER OF
MERCIES AND GOD OF
ALL COMFORT, WHO
COMFORTS US IN ALL
OUR TRIBULATION,
THAT WE MAY BE ABLE
TO COMFORT THOSE
WHO ARE IN ANY
TROUBLE, WITH THE
COMFORT WITH
WHICH WE
OURSELVES ARE
COMFORTED BY GOD.**

II COR. 1:3-4



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Happy Father's Day!

"RESPONSIBLE SCIENCE" & ESCR

by Greg Koukl
Part 2

MISCONCEPTION 2

For all the pomp and circumstance surrounding the president's ESCR Executive Order (EO), it actually changed nothing at all, at least for the moment. It made for dramatic political theater, but it did nothing to alter the federal status of funding for ESCR (Embryonic Stem Cell Research).

The real obstacle to unrestricted funding was not Executive Order 13435, but rather an act of Congress—an appropriations bill for the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) containing the Dickey-Wicker Amendment. The amendment says, in part, "none of the funds made available in this Act may be used for – (1) the creation of a human embryo or embryos for research purposes; or (2) research in which a human embryo or embryos are destroyed, discarded, or knowingly subject to risk of injury or death."

The claim of Obama's EO that "human embryonic stem cell research has been limited by Presidential actions" was a pure fiction, one that has been circulating for a long time. Bush's own EO—rescinded by President Obama in March—had introduced no new restrictions. It merely supplied a morally nuanced articulation of current law and directed that federal funds be spent on stem cell research that did not sacrifice human lives in its effort.

The Dickey-Wicker Amendment has been a part of the DHHS omnibus bill since 1996. It passed both houses of Congress and was signed first by Bill Clinton, then by George Bush. Ironically, Barack Obama himself signed it just two days after he inked his controversial EO on ESCR.

So why did President Obama issue an EO that his own signature immediately nullified two days later? Whatever might be inferred from this action, one thing is clear: The bottleneck on ESCR was not caused by the prior administration. It was in place long before with bipartisan consent of both houses of Congress and signed by presidents of both parties.

Perhaps the president wasn't aware of the amendment. This strikes me as surprising since it had been a fixed—and controversial—feature of the bill for 13 years. The very next day the New York Times weighed in on Dickey-Wicker calling for its repeal, and there is a movement in his own party—headed by Rep. Diana DeGette (D-CO)—to do just that. Was the president completely in the dark about something lesser figures were fully apprised of and that was central to the viability of his own EO?

Perhaps the president knew, but thought the amendment only a temporary obstacle that would expire in September along with the current fiscal year. Why, then, no reference to it? Why not rally the faithful against the one remaining obstacle to the advance of science? Why give the impression that the only relevant obstacle—Bush's EO 13435—had been eliminated?

There might have been other—more political—reasons. One can only speculate.

To be continued next month





NEWS & NOTES...

Abortinist Killed

After hearing the news that Dr. Tiller was murdered in Wichita, it was like getting kicked in the stomach. First of all, because many pro-lifers are Christian and follow Jesus Christ, we don't see anything in the New Testament that indicates His followers were encouraged to hunt down evil individuals and kill them. Rather, we are encouraged to pray for them and put our trust in God.

Second, memories of past (though infrequent) attacks on abortion clinics and staff came flooding back, and I knew what was coming. The premier abortion rights groups would waste little time using the media to imply that all pro-lifers are cut from the same vengeful cloth as Tiller's gunman.

That's exactly what happened. The National Abortion Federation had this to say: "It's abhorrent that once again individuals who oppose the right to choose have used violence to try to advance their extreme anti-choice agenda."

I would say that those who are extreme are those who believe that abortion is a "needed health service." Additionally, it's not the right to choose that pro-lifers oppose, rather it's the right to choose to kill an innocent unborn baby.

Dr. Tiller's murder was a tragic and immoral act, not to be condoned, but condemned. Still, it must be said that he was responsible for the immoral act of committing sixty-thousand late-term abortions. That is a terrible legacy to leave behind, more so because these were helpless little human beings who suffered before they died.

After a discussion on what it means to behave like a Christian (Romans 12:9f), there is some timely instruction in v.19: "Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, *Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,*" says the Lord...and concludes with v. 21: "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

And this we will do in the strength which God supplies.

"Created for His Purpose"

8th Grade Class Motto

On May 29th I was invited to attend Hanford Christian School's 8th Grade Graduation. It was a blessing to witness these young people graduate, so full of promise!

The program glorified God in the music and the speeches given. The joy of the graduates, their families and friends was evident.

The Center was honored to receive the Class Gift of \$1000. It was humbling and amazing! Thank you, 8th Grade, for blessing Crossroads in this wonderful way.

I left with a heart encouraged because of the value this class places on the life that God creates in the womb and their awareness that they are valued by God and *Created for His Purpose*. -D.C.



**WATCH THIS
SPACE!**

Something exciting
to occur in 2010!

Clue: It has to do
with the number
25.

**More next
month!**

