

# The Blumenfeld Education Letter

"My People Are Destroyed For Lack Of Knowledge" HOSEA 4:6

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The purpose of this newsletter is to provide knowledge for parents and educators who want to save the children of America from the destructive forces that endanger them. Our children in the public schools are at grave risk in 4 ways: academically, spiritually, morally, and physically — and only a well-informed public will be able to reduce those risks.  
"Without vision, the people perish."

## Communists Praise NEA as a Militant Progressive Union

The Communist Party of the United States has praised the National Education Association as a "bona fide, progressive union," a "militant fighter for better teaching conditions, affirmative action, and peace." These were some of the words emblazoned on the front page of the U.S. Communist Party's official newspaper, People's Daily World of June 25, 1987. The article, which cited the NEA as the nation's largest union, with 1,800,000 members, was published just prior to the organization's 125th annual convention in Los Angeles in July. Here are some excerpts from that article:

"The National Education Association, established originally as a professional association to promote public education, lobby for funds and advance high standards, has become over the years a bona fide, progressive union. . . .

"Critical to the evolution of NEA was its merger with the American Teachers Association in the late 1960s. The ATA represented Black teachers; its merger with the NEA united Black and white chapters in single, integrated NEA chapters. In the ongoing struggle

for full equality, the NEA was far ahead of most unions in its support for equal rights and affirmative action. The election of Mary Hatwood Futrell, an Afro-American teacher, as president of the NEA gave further evidence of the membership's anti-racist stance.

"The growing support for affirmative action throughout the labor movement, which resulted in the historic AFL-CIO resolution calling for affirmative action even if seniority had to be modified, stands in sharp contrast to the right Social Democrat USA policies of Albert Shanker, president of the American Federation of Teachers. When his editor and associate Linda Chavez was named by President Reagan as director of the Civil Rights Commission, the NEA was among the first to denounce her role in turning the CRC away from affirmative action. . . .

"During the 1985 convention in Washington, D.C., the NEA interrupted its convention proceedings for a march of 2,000 delegates from the convention floor to scores of special buses to picket the South African Embassy. The remaining delegates watched the demonstration in the convention hall on

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television sets around the huge hall and cheered the demonstrators, including those arrested during the action.

"NEA's support for affirmative action, nuclear disarmament and ratification of SALT II; its opposition to apartheid and U.S. aid to the contras; its condemnation of ultra-rightist Lyndon LaRouche and his followers; its call for reordering budget priorities to meet the people's needs, including adequate funding for education -- all these have led to growing involvement with other AFL-CIO unions in such actions as the massive Solidarity Day demonstration in 1981. . . . It [NEA] was one of the sponsors of this year's April 25 demonstrations in Washington, D.C., and San Francisco against Reagan's policies in South Africa and Central America.

"Inevitably, NEA became a target of the ultra-right. Organizations such as the National Right to Work Committee launched campaigns to discredit and destroy the NEA. . . . Nevertheless, the NEA continued to grow at the rate of about 35,000 new members each year. . . .

"The union's progressive policies and united actions indicate that the 1987 convention will continue to provide leadership for its membership and set an example for the labor movement as a whole."

In the 7/3/87 issue of the People's Daily World, Herbert Aptheker, a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, USA, commented on the NEA's report on higher education. He wrote:

"The NEA points out that what is needed is a shift in the priorities of government. Gerie Bledsoe, coordinator of higher education for the NEA, added, 'One B-1 bomber could buy a college.'

"This NEA report makes a demand that is new for a national teachers' union: it proposes that the federal government provide free public education for all from kindergarten through graduate school. It does not -- yet -- go so far as to suggest that students

also receive a stipend from the government while attending school (as is done in the USSR). . . .

"Educational systems reflect dominant class interests. The kind of transformation the NEA envisions is one that requires, and is part of, a basic change in politics in this country. It is one that would not favor Wall Street and the Pentagon, but would favor the people. That would reflect a politics giving reality to the idea -- whose time has come -- People Before Profits."

Editor's Comment: We wonder how many members of the NEA are aware to what extent their union is admired by the Communist Party USA. Not only do the Communists find nothing to criticize about the NEA, but they now hold it up as "an example for the labor movement as a whole." In addition, this militant progressive union expects to play a leading role in the Carnegie Forum's program to professionalize the teachers of America through national certification. It should be noted that before the NEA became a union in the late 1960s, it was known as a professional organization. Today it is a union. Apparently, through some mysterious process, the Carnegie Forum's program will manage to combine militant progressivism with refined professionalism. Magicians perform similar tricks on stage, but at least the audience knows it's only a trick.

## **NEA Is Largest Donor to People for the American Way**

According to a third-quarter lobby report filed by People for the American Way in 1985, the National Education Association contributed \$125,000 from Jan. 1 to Sep. 30 (1985) to PAW's Action Fund. This was the largest single donation of any union in that time period. The Action Fund has been used in furthering PAW's legislative interests which, in the words of the report, "relate to constitutional liberties issues; the confirmation process

-- Dept. of Justice and federal judiciary nominations; school prayer (S.47, S.J. Res. 2, S.J. Res. 3); Constitutional Convention Implementation Act (S.40); amendments to the Pupil Rights Protection Act."

Other contributors to PAW from Jan. 1 to Sep. 30 (1985) were: American Federation of Government Employees (\$500); International Union of Bricklayers (\$1,000); AFL-CIO Building and Construction Trades Dept. (\$1,000); International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (\$500); National Association of Letter Carriers (\$1,000); International Union of Operating Engineers (\$1,000); Communications Workers of America (\$3,000); International Association of Machinists (\$10,000); International Ladies Garment Workers (\$1,000); American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (\$5,000); Seafarers International Union (\$1,000); International Union of Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America (\$1,500).

In 1981 the Playboy Foundation donated \$40,000 to PAW.

It should also be noted that the NEA Friend of Education Award in 1985 went to Barbara Parker, education policy director of People for the American Way. According to the NEA, "Parker led efforts that helped halt textbook censorship in Texas." The NEA considers this award to be its most prestigious.

## **NEA Reports on Black Decline in Public Education**

A serious decline in black educational achievement was reported in the NEA's latest study on minorities in education released at the NEA convention in July.

According to the report, many black students graduate from high school and find they do not qualify for most jobs because they are functionally illiterate and possess a certificate of attendance instead of an academic diploma.

The study also found that more black students attend segregated schools than six years ago, and that schools have a tendency to "dumb down" the curriculum and set lower standards for black students.

In addition, the number of black teachers is declining. State-mandated testing for new and veteran teachers has harmed the status of black teachers and eliminated some from the profession.

The NEA's remedies include: programs to recruit blacks into teaching; new teaching styles that promote black student learning; smaller class size. (Washington Times, 6/29/87)

Comment: It was expected that dramatic civil rights victories, integrated schools, forced busing, affirmative action, federal aid to education, compensatory reading programs, head start, school lunches, and other programs would help blacks improve academically, socially, and economically. Yet, the very opposite has occurred among large numbers of blacks. Every large city now has a growing black underclass plagued by illiteracy, crime, violence, drugs, teenage pregnancy, poverty, venereal disease, and unemployment.

The AIDS statistics reveal the dimensions of what is happening among black Americans. As of July 27, 1987, the total number of heterosexuals reported by the Centers for Disease Control to have AIDS was 1,497. Of those, 1,062 were black, and 299 were white. The spread of AIDS among black heterosexuals is five times greater than among whites. This is due to the higher number of intravenous (IV) drug abusers among blacks. That same CDC report numbered black IV abusers at 3,234, white IV abusers at 1,213.

## **NEA to Work on Republicans**

The National Education Association has quietly begun an outreach program among Republicans in an effort to increase the NEA's political leverage.

According to Debra DeLee, NEA's director for government relations, "We can't achieve our educational agenda without bipartisan support, without Republican support, and this is why we've begun this outreach program."

"We're trying to encourage Republican candidates to seek our support. Our program has always been to look for friends of education, Democrat or Republican," said Howard Carroll, spokesman for NEA.

DeLee estimates that about 600,000 of the NEA's 1.86 million members are Republicans. Union membership not only includes teachers but also secretaries, cafeteria workers, maintenance people and others who work within school systems.

The NEA has historically aligned itself with the Democrats. At least 270 members of the association were delegates to the Democratic convention in 1984, while only about 6 members were delegates at the Republican convention.

In the past the NEA has endorsed such Republican legislators as Senators Lowell P. Weicker Jr. of Connecticut, Robert T. Stafford of Vermont and Representatives Jim Leach of Iowa and Stewart B. McKinney of Connecticut who died of AIDS last spring. (New York Times, 7/16/87)

Comment: The NEA does its most effective work in the primaries, where the choice is between a liberal Republican and a conservative Republican. By backing the liberal, the NEA can derail the conservative effort early in the game. This strategy was used in Idaho to defeat conservative state legislator Robert Forrey. The Idaho Education Association found a Republican it could support. He ran against Forrey in the primary and won. When a liberal Republican runs against a liberal Democrat, the NEA is liable to prefer the Republican, for the Republican will be able to dilute the conservative strength of his party.

## NEA Opposes Bork and Contras

Delegates to the NEA's convention approved resolutions to oppose the nomination of Robert Bork to the U.S. Supreme Court and to end aid to the Nicaraguan contras. The delegates called for economic sanctions against South Africa and a bilateral treaty with the Soviet Union to end nuclear testing.

The delegates also called on the U.S. and other nations to adopt a verifiable freeze on testing, development, production, upgrading, and deployment of nuclear weapons and all systems designed to deliver nuclear weapons.

The delegates expressed support for bilingual education and opposed efforts to make English the official language in the United States. They called for nondiscriminatory immigration policies that guarantee human rights and protect the integrity of the family.

NEA president Mary Hatwood Futrell was re-elected to an unprecedented third term by 97 percent of the votes cast by the 8,000 delegates. (People's Daily World, 7/7/87).

## Christians Protest Michigan Law Curtailing Educational Freedom

In what is probably the single largest protest against the state's interference with Christian educational freedom to date, about 15,000 Christian demonstrators flocked to Michigan's State Capitol in Lansing in March 1987 to protest laws requiring Christian schools and home-schools to be regulated by the state. The laws require Christian schools to hire state certified teachers and submit their curricula for state approval. They also require home-schooling parents to be certified and teach an approved curriculum.

The Michigan Supreme Court has ruled that a church school may be shut down if it employs even one teacher not

licensed by the state. The Michigan law states: "No person shall teach or give instruction in any of the regular or elementary grade studies in any private, denominational or parochial school within this state who does not hold a certificate such as would qualify him or her to teach in like grades of the public schools of this state."

The law also requires that courses of study in a denominational school "shall be of the same standard as provided by the general school laws of the state."

Compliance with these laws would, in effect, require putting Christian schools and teachers under state control and supervision. One of the reasons given by the U.S. Supreme Court for keeping religion out of the public schools is that school prayer or creation science would entail state entanglement with religion, which the Court has ruled is unconstitutional.

Obviously, state certification of Christian-school teachers and regulation of the Christian-school curriculum would entail massive entanglement of the state with religion. Is not such entanglement strictly prohibited by the U.S. Supreme Court? If such entanglement is unconstitutional in public schools, why is it permitted in Christian schools?

Legislation has been introduced by Sen. Harmon Cropsey, R-Decatur, and Rep. David Honigman, R-West Bloomfield, in Lansing that would restore educational freedom to Christians in Michigan. (Detroit News, 3/23/87)

### **Son of Madalyn Murray O'Hair Is Christian Activist**

William J. Murray is the son of atheist leader Madalyn Murray O'Hair, the woman who sued to force prayer to be removed from the public schools. In 1963, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in Murray's favor.

While growing up, Murray followed the atheistic and Marxist beliefs of his mother. As he grew older, he worked for his mother in a Communist bookstore, and later became vice president of the American Atheist society.

In a recent interview, Murray described his upbringing. "I was raised in an atheist and Marxist home. I was raised in an environment where I was told there was no God, and the United States was a fascist nation," he said. "The church was a means used as an opiate to keep the people calm and working while they were usurped of their labor by capitalists."

By the mid-1960s, Murray moved away from the political environment of his family and began realizing, "The true democratic nature of this nation and what a great republic it was."

In 1980, Murray renounced his mother's beliefs altogether, and announced that he had become a Christian. He said he became a Christian because Christianity works and atheism does not.

"Atheism is a philosophy that does work for young, middle-to-upper class white males between the ages of 15 and 35, who are healthy," said Murray. "It is a philosophy of social Darwinism, in which the strong survive and the weak perish. For that reason, most atheists you find in the United States are white males."

After announcing his decision, Murray wrote a letter to a Baltimore newspaper apologizing for his and his mother's efforts to remove God from the schools. To this day, Murray and his mother no longer speak to each other.

"I send her Mother's Day cards, Christmas cards and letters," he said. "She never answers the letters, and occasionally she tears up the Christmas cards and sends them back. I continually pray for her salvation."

Today Murray is the director of Freedom's Friends in Dallas. The organization provides food, clothing and

medical supplies to refugees forced out of communist countries. Freedom's Friends provides aid to victims of communist oppression as far away as Afghanistan, Nicaragua and Angola.

"Last year we moved several million dollars worth of supplies to refugees on a budget of less than \$300,000," he said.

He also sends representatives to atheist conventions throughout the United States in an effort to bring them to Christ. His organization also publishes tracts specially designed to influence atheists and agnostics.

Murray is the author of the book, My Life Without God. (Pensacola News Journal, 7/31/87)

## **Christian Minister Wins in Nebraska**

Nebraska's Supreme Court has dismissed a \$19,000 fine levied against a Baptist pastor who refused to close his church school in 1984 and 1985.

Robert Gelsthorpe, pastor of the North Platte Baptist Church, was fined \$200 per day for each day his church's school remained open in defiance of state law. At the time, the law required state certification of teachers in both public and private schools. Gelsthorpe, known for his strategy of "nonaggressive resistance," was required to spend his days at the local sheriff's office in lieu of a jail sentence.

The Nebraska Supreme Court determined the pastor could not be considered to have been in willful contempt of the law. Prior to the 1985-86 school year, Nebraska dropped its certification requirements for teachers in private schools. (Christianity Today, 8/7/87)

## **Vital Reading**

The Ultimate Evil by Maury Terry, Doubleday, 512 pp., \$17.95.

If you have any doubt as to the growth of satanic cults in the United States, then you ought to read this book. According to the author, "There is compelling evidence of the existence of a nationwide network of satanic cults, some aligned more closely than others. Some are purveying narcotics; others have branched into child pornography and violent sadomasochistic crime, including murder. I am concerned that the toll of innocent victims will steadily mount unless law enforcement officials recognize the threat and face it."

The author began his investigation into these cults back in 1977 when David Berkowitz, the famous "Son of Sam" murderer, was captured. Dissatisfied with the police conclusion that Berkowitz was a lone, crazed killer, Terry began doing his own detective work on the case. What he uncovered, after exhaustive investigation which is still going on, is that Berkowitz was merely one member of a satanic murder cult that actually spawned the Charles Manson family back in the late sixties. Terry also discovered that other members of the cult were involved in the Son of Sam killings. One member actually flew in from California to take part in one of the murders.

What is alarming is that this cult still exists and is growing. Writes Terry: "I'd never wanted to discover that such a terrifying subculture menaced America. But it lived; and it thrived. . . . New information which made its way to me in mid-July of 1986 was specific: not only was the Chingon cult still active; it had now established strong financial ties with a private college in the Los Angeles area. The cult's wealthy leaders were said to be funding the institution, and satanic activity was in fact flourishing on the campus. At the same time, police in the Los Angeles area and two former L.A. Satanists sent word that an East Coast cult branch allied with the Chingons -- the Black Cross -- was operating an elite 'hit squad' for various U.S. satanic groups involved in

drug and pornography enterprises. . . . Murder, anywhere in the country, was now but a phone call away for the cults tied in to the Chingon network."

How do people get involved in such cults? Terry explains: "Satanic cults lurk in various guises, and their recruitment techniques also differ. Some harvest via pseudo-legitimate counseling or 'self-awareness' groups -- actually fronts -- which frequently flourish around campuses or military bases or in major cities.

"An unsuspecting youth, already possessed of a mind-set ripe for manipulation, will enroll for a series of courses, seminars or therapy sessions allegedly intended to put his or her life into focus. What follows is a period of careful screening and weeding out. In time, the chosen few find themselves drawn deeper and deeper into a web of deceit, rejection of traditional values, and conversion to the twisted beliefs of the group's leaders."

The book does not reveal to what extent "educators" have been drawn into the network of cults. But we do know that public schools celebrate the satanists' most revered holiday, Halloween, and that New Age occult practices are now going on in American classrooms. (In Colorado, parents complained about such practices and were sued by the teacher who won the case.)

Also, the growth of death education parallels the growth of the satanic cults. In fact, the public schools and satanic cults have one very important thing in common: they both totally reject the living God and His living Word.

David Berkowitz, in a letter to a confidante, wrote the following:

"You asked about Satanists. I'm not talking of thrill seekers . . . who remain on the fringe of such groups. My letter is in reference to the elite and dedicated hardcore members of Occult groups.

"You see, these people cannot be taken lightly. Please try to understand their philosophy of life and society. They have no fear of man-made laws nor the laws of God. To them, murder comes easy. Being anti-God, they love nothing better than a good kill.

"These people will stop at nothing in order to fulfill their desires. They have the complete ability to elude the police and to cover their tracks completely. . . .

"They HATE God! . . .

"They aren't ignorant peasants or semi-illiterate natives. Rather, their ranks are filled with doctors, lawyers, businessmen, and basically highly responsible citizens. They are normal on the outside, at least.

"They are not a careless group who are apt to make mistakes. But they are secretive and bonded together by a common need and a desire to mete out havoc on society. It was Aleister Crowley who said, 'I want blasphemy, murder, rape, revolution, anything bad.'"

Satan's prime target is American youth. It is not a coincidence that we've seen an alarming growth of satanic rock groups and a flood of murder-oriented death videos to satisfy the growing teenage addiction to pornographic violence.

Maury Terry's book confirms what the Bible tells us about human nature -- that sinful man, when he rejects God's commandments, is capable of descending to unlimited depths of depravity. It happened in Germany when the Nazi murder cult rose to power. The same forces are now at work here, undermining all that is good in America. What is alarming is that the process is accelerating. And all those horrible rituals that used to be associated with Asian opium eaters, Thuggee murder cults in India, cannibalism in Africa, and human sacrifice among the Aztecs are now being practiced by American university graduates!

## **Satanist in Prison Complains His Rights Are Denied**

A man charged with first-degree murder, in prison in Gretna, Louisiana, contends his constitutional rights are being denied because authorities are preventing him from conducting satanic rituals in his jail cell, his attorney said.

Charles Gervais, 24, of New Orleans filed suit on 7/29/87 in U.S. District Court, lawyer Wayne Walker said. Gervais, arrested June 14, is jailed in the Jefferson Parish Correctional Center, awaiting trial in the May 7 death of Andre Daigle, 24, of River Ridge. (Atlanta Journal, 7/31/87)

## **Father, Teacher Differ Over Diary**

Moreno Valley, Calif. A dispute is brewing over whether a father can force his daughter to reveal the contents of her diary or prohibit her from keeping one.

Creative writing teacher Marcia Muldoon thinks he cannot. She's seeking a legal opinion on behalf of a student who maintains a diary, as required by Muldoon at Moreno Valley High School.

Muldoon said that for the first time in her eight year teaching career, a parent is asking to see what his daughter has written. Teacher and student refused, calling the journal personal and confidential. The father now prohibits his daughter from writing in the book, even though it may cause his daughter to flunk the class.

The school won't release the names of either parent or child because both requested anonymity.

Under the state Education Code, parents of the children have the right to see their children's records, Principal Joseph Palomino said.

"Educationally," he said, "I'd like to advise him that the kids need a little bit of privacy. Legally, I think if he pushed to the hilt he could see them [the journals]."

Clyde Powell, coordinator of child welfare and due process for the district special education program, said "I would suggest that the class journal itself is not a student record." (Idaho Statesman, 5/30/87)

## **PURE to Hold Organizing Convention in Amarillo**

Parents for Unalienable Rights in Education (PURE) will hold its first organizing convention in Amarillo, Texas, on September 25-26, 1987, the last Friday and Saturday in that month.

For information about PURE and the convention, write to PURE, 395 Concord Ave., Belmont, Mass. 02178. Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope to help defray costs.

## **Vital Addresses**

If you are a home-schooler, or just hungry for information not generally available in the mass media, we suggest you get on the mailing list of the following organizations, all of which publish excellent, informative newsletters and magazines:

Christian Anti-Communism Crusade  
Box 890, Long Beach, CA 90801-0890  
(213) 437-0941

Foundation for Economic Education  
Irvington, NY 10533 (914) 591-7230

Security & Intelligence Foundation  
1010 Vermont Ave. N.W., Suite 516  
Wash., DC 20005 (202) 393-0883

## **Vital Quotes**

"Every law system is an enactment of and an establishment of religion. Law is inescapably moral: it sets forth ideas or concepts of what is evil and forbidden, and what is good and permitted. Law reflects thus a religious world and life view. To change the nature of a legal system means to change religions." -- R. J. Rushdoony,  
Christianity and the State