

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."

Storm Warnings

While Americans enjoy the summer of 1988, there are ominous signs that the public education system will intensify its campaign to destroy the minds, souls, and morals of American children to prepare them for the satanic post-Christian civilization the humanists are creating in America.

The New Age mindset is being promoted through textbooks, values clarification, sensitivity training, situational ethics, globalism, multiculturalism, death education, evolution, eastern religion, occultism, group dynamics, group decision-making, socialism, sex education, peer socialization -- anything and everything that undermines America's Judeo-Christian foundation.

Millions of American children are being lobotomized by the teaching methods used in the primary grades devised by the world's leading behavioral psychologists, and when children resist having their minds destroyed by refusing to sit still in their seats, they are diagnosed as hyperactive and drugged with Ritalin.

Most American adults are oblivious to what is actually going on in the schools. They are content to leave "education" to the professionals. Even the threat of group suicide at graduation by students at a high school in Pennsylvania has evoked hardly a response from the public which has been completely desensitized by the educator-psychologists. In the last ten years about 50,000 teenagers have committed suicide and there has been no investigation to determine why so many young Americans are killing themselves, why so many more attempt suicide, and why millions more think about it. The educators are committing massive emotional and spiritual child molestation and parents haven't the faintest idea why their children are acting so strangely. They do not realize that one traumatic death education "lesson" can lead a child into the dark dungeon of depression and eventual self-destruction.

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The Death Cult

I am convinced that public education has been taken over by a satanic death cult. All one has to do is see to what extent death education and related subject matter are now being taught in virtually every facet of the curriculum to understand what has happened. Death education has even found its way into some private and parochial schools. It is a sure sign of the widespread influence that New Age occultism is having on American education.

Recently, after I'd completed a lecture, a young man in his late twenties came up to me and said that when he was in high school his algebra teacher took the class to a cemetery. He said that the experience left a "black spot" in his heart which he could not get rid of, and that years later, the experience still troubled him.

An editor friend of mine put his child in a public school despite my warning of the dangers his child would face. One day, in the second grade, the child came home with an arithmetic problem based on the reading of an obituary. My friend promptly removed his child from the school and is now home-schooling him. But the damage may have already been done.

Massive Failure

Meanwhile, our educational "leaders" have warned us of massive academic failure in the years ahead. The warning was given after a conference held on June 1, 1987 by the Forum of Educational Organization Leaders in Washington, D.C. The warning stated: "If we are to meet this challenge successfully, the reform of the last five years may pale against the requirements of the next 10."

But as we all know the reforms of the last five years have been a flop, nowhere producing the excellence the public was told the reforms would produce. In fact, academic achievement has continued to decline. What have improved are teachers salaries, now at their highest level.

Meanwhile, attempts to avert this academic catastrophe by getting intensive phonics into first-grade reading programs are being met by rabid, hostile opposition from the teaching establishment. After all, failure will get the educators much more money from the taxpayer than success. According to Mary Futrell, president of the N.E.A., "The American people have not accepted this [failure] as a major concern. Until it becomes a national priority, we'll plod along as we are today."

She lies. Americans have accepted academic failure as a major concern, or else 50 states would not have enacted expensive education reform bills to produce educational excellence. What the last five years have proven is that giving the educators more money does not get us the improvement we want. And that's because the educators have no intention of changing the basic progressive education philosophy that governs the system today and is the cause of our academic decline.

Drift Toward Surrender

On the political front the signs are just as ominous. A supposedly conservative President has occupied the White House for eight years, but the drift toward American surrender to communism continues. The Contras must still beg Congress for the wherewithal to continue their struggle against Soviet-style communism in Central America. Col. Oliver North and his colleagues must stand trial for aiding the Contras without Congressional approval.

Donald McAlvany writes: "Bill Casey is dead, Ollie North is out, so are Kirkpatrick, Buchanan and virtually all other conservatives. The National Security Council has been purged of anti-Communists by the pro-Soviet Frank Carlucci who has now replaced the patriotic, anti-Communist Caspar Weinberger as Secretary of Defense. A new pro-Soviet Secretary of Commerce has been installed, and a process of unilateral disarmament and surrender to the Soviets has begun."

In the wake of Carlucci's defense cuts, Navy Secretary James Webb resigned abruptly in February, accusing Carlucci of abandoning the administration's stated goal of a 600-ship Navy. Webb is a highly decorated Marine veteran of the Vietnam war.

An unmistakable sign of surrender was Reagan's appointment of C. William Verity as Secretary of Commerce. This has signaled the administration's approval of massive high-tech transfers to the Soviet Union. Verity, president of Armco Steel, is a long-time leader of the US-USSR Trade and Economic Council (USTEC). The Council was founded in 1973 by the Commerce Department to facilitate US-Soviet trade. It is headed by US and Soviet co-chairmen and 60 directors, evenly split between US and Soviet members. According to a State Department report, one third of the Soviet directors have been identified as known or suspected KGB agents.

Collaborating with Communism

Earlier this year USTEC sponsored a trip by 500 US businessmen to Moscow to accelerate US aid to the Soviet economy. Names of the corporations engaged in this treasonous trade are kept secret by the Commerce Department. As Senator Helms observed in the Verity confirmation debate:

"We have the absurd situation where hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of goods and technology have been exported to Communist countries . . . (yet) all the information has been kept secret . . . As I stand on the Senate floor, I cannot reveal the name of an exporter, a United States corporation, let alone a financial institution that is dealing in the most sensitive ways with the Soviet Union."

The Congress spent months and millions of dollars investigating every detail of Oliver North's activities, yet our Congressmen will not spend a day investigating the massive treason going on among the members of USTEC! Richard Landkamer, a Houston researcher, has tried to penetrate the curtain of secrecy that protects USTEC by filing a Freedom of Information suit, only to find no information forthcoming. What USTEC doesn't want Americans to know is the extent to which the Soviet Empire is being funded by American banks and corporations, funds which have enabled the Soviet Union to pursue its policy of aiding and abetting communist revolutions and guerrilla wars around the globe.

Where is it all leading to? According to Donald McAlvany: "David Rockefeller, Armand Hammer, George Schulz, the Liberal Eastern Establishment, and the political left are today in 100% control of Ronald Reagan and his Administration. Their immediate goals are U.S. unilateral disarmament and the election or ascension to power of George Bush. Their intermediate goals over the next three to five years are a merger of the common interests of, and an alliance between America and the Soviet Union. Their longer term goals over the next five to ten years are global government -- a New World Order dominated by these individuals."

A very sobering analysis! In education, the same pattern of surrender is quite clear. In Geneva in Nov. 1985, President Reagan and Soviet leader Gorbachev formally signed the "General Agreement" between the US and USSR calling for "Contacts, Exchanges and Cooperation in Scientific, Technical, Educational,

Cultural and other Fields." This agreement was engineered by the Carnegie Corporation, a private foundation that has been promoting one-world progressive education for decades. Already, teams of American and Soviet textbook specialists have determined that all anti-Soviet, anti-communist statements in American textbooks must be removed in order to promote greater understanding of the communist way of life by American children.

Are We Being Checkmated?

The Russians are great players of chess and in their game with the U.S. they are determined to checkmate us. In 1984 Robert Conquest, an expert in Soviet strategy, authored an intriguing book entitled What to Do When the Russians Come. Conquest wrote:

Initially American surrender might not be given such a harsh name. America would be allowed to save a certain amount of face -- whether it had to back down because of Soviet superiority of weapons or because it had lost an actual war -- by disguising the unpleasantness of formal surrender under some such rubric as a "disarmament agreement." America would agree to the dispatch of Soviet "inspection teams" to monitor the "agreement." The teams would be military and would set up bases in key areas. Their consistent and rapid reinforcement, which the United States would be powerless to halt, would naturally lead, without undue loss of time, to full-scale Soviet control.

This hypothetical scenario is already becoming a reality. Under the INF disarmament treaty signed by the U.S. and the Soviet Union in December 1987 Secretary of State George Schulz has clearly indicated that the Soviets will be given a military base in Denver, Colorado, near the U.S. Military Air Defense headquarters. Already, Soviet military personnel have visited and inspected the site.

According to U.S. News & World Report of 6/27/88: "Starting July 1, a team of highly trained Soviet Agents, under the aegis of their Pentagon hosts, will be swarming all over U.S. bases."

Checkmate may come sooner than we think. American resistance to communism has virtually ended. Not only have we ceased to resist communism, but we will cease aiding those who do. In addition, we are engaged in a massive effort to build up and strengthen the Soviet economy. American traitors in Congress are making it all appear as "cooperation for peace."

Consequences of Defeat

Will Americans wake up? Yes, when the U.S. defeat in Central America turns the present flood of refugees from communism into a tidal wave. It is impossible for America to permit the Contras to go down to defeat without suffering enormous consequences. The present turmoil in Central America will seem like a picnic compared to the revolutionary terror that will grip the entire region if the Sandinistas are permitted to consolidate their power permanently.

Can this chain of events be averted? Only if the American people elect a Congress that refuses to surrender to Soviet domination. But this will not be easy. The mass media is controlled by the same interlocking corporate ownership and influence that is making it possible for USTEC to betray America with impunity. This is the same mass media that has deliberately elevated Gorbachev to the status of world statesman. The influence of the media over the elective process is such that few conservatives will be able to become candidates without strong grass-roots support.

Soviet Sabotage

And while the Soviet economy is a basket case, with severe shortages of consumer goods, the communist regime is moving ahead in the space race. The Soviets are about to take the lead. And this is no accident. According to the American Freedom Journal (May 1988), Washington intelligence experts believe the Challenger Space Shuttle disaster may have been caused by Soviet sabotage. The Washington Inquirer reports speculation that a Soviet sniper could have brought on the disaster by firing one or two rifle shots at the weak spot in the shuttle's rocket booster seals.

Supporting the theory are the following facts: 1. A NASA safety expert who knew details of shuttle vulnerabilities defected to the Soviet Union several months before the challenger launch. 2. Soviet surveillance vessels, possibly aware of danger, abruptly left their usual monitoring positions off Cape Canaveral shortly before the launch. 3. There is virtually no security around the launch site. 4. The body of a man never identified was found on the beach near the launch site just after the explosion.

All of the above have been ignored by the investigative reporters of our mass media who spent months investigating every possible facet of Contra aid. There has been a whole series of accidents that have brought our space program to a standstill. Yet, not a scintilla of suspicion is voiced in the mass media that these accidents may have been the result of sabotage. No investigations. No exposés. Yet millions of dollars and thousands of man-hours are spent investigating Ollie North!

Is There a Way Out?

The American people are being betrayed by their political leadership in league with powerful economic interests. It is obvious that the conspirators control the highest levels of our government's policy making apparatus and that they are now willing to risk exposure in order to save the Soviet empire from its internal disintegration. Apparently the economic situation in the Soviet Union has become so desperate that the Soviets need the same kind of massive aid today that we gave them during World War II. The irony is that we are surrendering to a totalitarian power that cannot carry out its plan of conquest without our help! In other words, we have the means to defeat our enemy, but instead prefer to help him defeat us.

How can one explain such perversion of purpose? Only by understanding how Satan works in the depraved hearts of corrupt men. What other motive can there be? Communists, like the Nazis, represent moral and spiritual depravity in its most brutal, anti-human form. Those men who collaborate with communism, who aid and abet it, are as morally and spiritually depraved as communists themselves. They are willing accomplices to the crimes communists commit, and they are just as guilty. They do Satan's work and spit in God's face. They are beneath contempt.

How to defeat them? Only a grass-roots movement of resistance to surrender will be able to restore America to its true God-fearing self. Such a movement is already growing among Christian home-schoolers who have removed their children from the satanic public schools and are asserting their unalienable parental rights to raise their children as Christians. If enough Christians wake up soon enough, we may be able to avert America's complete takeover by Satan.

Group Suicide Threat Cancels Graduation

Students in Fairview, PA, an affluent suburb of Erie, say they just wanted to honor classmate T. J. Hetz. School officials, on the advice of psychiatrists, feared such an honor would glorify the Fairview High School senior's suicide.

The dispute boiled for months until rumors of a mass public suicide caused the school board to cancel the high school's graduation.

Hetz killed himself during Christmas break with a .44-caliber magnum at home in front of two friends -- the school's second suicide in two years.

The students' response was "more than the typical end-of-the-year dissatisfaction with authority," said school district lawyer Frank Kroto. "It was more than just pranks."

First there were veiled death threats against administrators. Then a second handgun was stolen from the Hetz home. Someone tried to place an ad in the student paper: "If (vice principal) Mrs. Goldsmith is your target, use good aim." Last week, officials heard of a suicide pact to be carried out during graduation.

A Fairview High senior, Neal Loenslein, said the board "built this out of nothing."

Students playing volleyball at an American Legion Post disagreed about the threats. One said the public suicide idea is far-fetched. Brian Grimm, 17, answered: "(State Treasurer) Bud Dwyer was in front of everybody, and he still blew himself away."

The marquee at the legion hall asked: "What happened to Graduation? And Why?"

Students wanted to devote a page in the yearbook to Hetz. Officials said no. The school baseball team wanted to wear the third baseman's number, 9, on their sleeves. Officials said no. Seniors wanted some kind of memorial during graduation ceremonies. Officials said no.

Kroto said school board members refused to take any chances. "The attitude was: 'Here's your diploma. . . . Good luck, goodbye, don't hang around.' It's sad, but they'll remember this graduation at their 20th reunion." (USA Today, 6/9/88)

High School Students Lack Math Skills

Half of high school students don't know enough math to hold a job as a carpet layer or paperhanger, according to a new report released 6/7/88. Only 51 percent of high school juniors can figure the area of a rectangle or the distance it takes a car going 55 mph to stop, the report shows. Just 6.4 percent can do multistep problems or algebra.

"These are people about to take on life's responsibilities" who can't handle math problems in junior high textbooks, says Archie Lapointe, head of the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

Lapointe's organization, which calls itself "the nation's report card," regularly tests a sample of U.S. students in reading, math, science and other subjects under a contract with the federal government.

It's "a depressing occasion," said Chester Finn, assistant U.S. education secretary. "We're spending tons of money (on schools) and not getting our money's worth."

According to Albert Shanker, president of the American Federation of Teachers, math classes are dominated by lectures, chalkboard presentations and workbooks -- and "the vast majority of our students do not learn that way."

John Dossey of Illinois State University, past president of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, agrees: "The school curriculum must pry itself free of its heavy reliance on paper-and-pencil drill." He urges tougher state certification requirements to produce more "mathematically qualified teachers." (USA Today, 6/8/88)

Comment: Somebody ought to tell Messrs. Shanker and Dossey about John Saxon's remarkably effective math books now being used by many home-schoolers. But then they might react to Saxon as they do to intensive phonics! Back in January, when Mr. Lapointe released the reading scores which showed sharp drops in reading performance, he characterized the results as "unbelievable." Mr. Finn was also shocked. "I'm pretty disgusted by this," he said. Then in March came revelations about how poorly America's top science students did compared with students in 17 countries. U.S. 5th graders ranked 8th and our 9th graders ranked 15th! U.S. 12th graders studying biology scored below students from 16 other countries. Commented William Bennett, Secretary of Education, "American elementary and high-school students are not just in a 'dead stall,' they're doing even worse. They're in reverse and going downhill." (BEL, Apr. 88)

U.S. Students Being Brainwashed By "Peace" Education

A meeting by representatives of eight conservative foundations and organizations in Chicago in April has thrown the spotlight on the phenomenon of "peace" education presently being pushed in the public schools by the radical left.

The "peace" program teaches children from kindergarten through high school that wars are caused by the weapons democracies construct for their defense, that there was no reason for the U.S. to use the atomic bomb against Japan in 1945, that economic "competition" (instead of "sharing") is what divides the world into hostile camps, and that the Cold War was essentially the fault of the U.S.

These and similar beliefs are quietly becoming part of the standard school curriculum under the rubric of peace and global education. Also called nuclear education, the peace curriculum emerged in 1982 when nuclear-freeze activists turned their energies toward schoolchildren. Groups such as Educators for Social Responsibility and the Union of Concerned Scientists created teaching guides that treated the Soviet Union as a benign entity, while blaming American weapons, policies and values as the principal threat to world peace.

Older than peace education is global education. While aimed at fostering global understanding, in many respects it carries a like message and uses the same exercises to encourage a "new world order," as the Center for Teaching International Relations puts it. Based at the University of Denver, the center distributes global-education materials nationwide. The doctrine of "moral equivalence" between the Soviet

Union and the U.S. is encouraged, and one curriculum guide tells students, "Think of the U.S. and U.S.S.R. as rival street gangs."

Death and destruction caused by war are luridly emphasized, with "death education" added to concentrate the emotional attention of the young. The loss of liberty that would follow from a pacifist foreign policy, however, is never weighed. The use of force, even in self-defense, is treated as an uncivilized option.

Free-enterprise economies are viewed unfavorably by global educators. One of the center's guides tells the teacher to "simulate economics by having students scramble for coins tossed on floor." Students are then asked to "redistribute" the coins "more equitably." Private property is treated as a source of social conflict, not one of the foundations of prosperous economies and political liberty. America is described as the world's worst polluter, for whom "all the world's a toilet."

The peace and global curricular guides end their indoctrination with calls for students' "commitment to action," urging students to "dare think the unthinkable." Activities suggested include circulating petitions, joining anti-war groups, writing press releases, staging news conferences. (Andre Ryerson, Wall St. Journal, 5/31/88)

Comment: So far, no conservative think-tank has come up with an alternative "Peace Through Strength" curriculum for the public schools comparable to what the left is now supplying. And if such a curriculum were developed, does anyone seriously believe that it would pass muster with the NEA and the other liberal watchdogs of "academic freedom"? For an excellent critique of "peace" brainstorming write to us for a copy of "Blowing the Whistle on 'Global Education,'" by Glenn Cunningham. 34 pages. \$3.40 plus 85¢ postage, total \$4.25.

Vital Reading

The Movie Guide for Christian Families by Ted Baehr, with Bruce W. Grimes & Lisa Ann Rice. Thomas Nelson Publishers, pp. 234, \$8.95.

Ted Baehr has produced a much-needed guide through the thicket of home video and TV movies that permits Christian families to select the best quality, least offensive films available on the market.

The book contains reviews and evaluations of hundreds of movies from a Christian perspective. Not only is the book an excellent guide to what is available, but it lists many excellent movies that one may not even be aware exist. A fascinating description of how Baehr and his team evaluate the films is given in the first three chapters. Part Two of the book, comprising pages 59-218, contains reviews of over 300 movies. A subject index is also provided.

Ted Baehr writes: "As many Christian leaders have noted, movies and television have more influence on our society than all the preachers and ministries combined. . . . The motion picture medium is not bad per se. Movies are tools of communication. Like any tool, they can be used for good or evil. . . . The overwhelming majority of the Christians in the United States have the same media habits as the non-Christian population! If Christians would redirect their entertainment dollars away from immoral entertainment toward moral movies, producers would take notice and produce movies and programs for us."

For more current film reviews, the reader can subscribe to Movieguide, A Biblical Guide to Movies and Entertainment, a monthly publication edited by Ted Baehr. It is available by writing to Good News Communications, Inc., P.O. Box 9952, Atlanta, Georgia 30319. A minimum donation of \$30 per year to cover printing and mailing costs is requested. It is well worth the cost, saving you and your family much time and effort.