

World Congress of Families News



November 2015

Vol. 8 No. 6



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World Congress of Families IX – A Success By Any Measure



World Congress of Families IX (October 27-30) was held in the Grand America Hotel, in Salt Lake City. Our first Congress in the United States was a success by every conceivable measure. Previous Congresses were held in Prague (1997), Geneva (1999), Mexico City (2004), Warsaw (2007), Amsterdam (2009), Madrid (2012) and Sydney (2013).

More than 3,300 delegates from over 60 countries attended WCF IX.

A broad range of issues was addressed by more than 200 speakers, among them Utah Governor Gary Herbert, First Lady Jeanette Herbert, Kansas Governor Sam Brownback, Lila Rose (Live Action), Dr. Alveda King (niece of Dr. Martin Luther King), Elder M. Russell Ballard (Member of the Quorum of Twelve Apostles of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints), Ignacio Arsuaga (President, CitizenGo Foundation and organizer of WCF VI, Madrid, 2011), Rev. Samuel Rodriguez (President, National Hispanic Leadership Conference), Dr. Paige Patterson (President of the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and past President of the Southern Baptist Convention), Dr. Ted Baehr (Founder and Publisher of MovieGuide: The Family Guide to Movies and Entertainment), The Very Rev. Dr. Chad Hatfield (Chancellor and CEO of St. Vladimir's Orthodox Seminary in New York), Dr. W. Bradford Wilcox,



Janice Crouse

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World Congress of Families IX – A Success By Any Measure

(Director of the National Marriage Project at the University of Virginia), Dr. Patrick Fagan (Marriage and Religion Research Institute, Family Research Council), Patrick Trueman (National Center on Sexual Exploitation), Nick Vujicic (Christian motivational speaker born without arms and legs), Christine de Vollmer (Latin American Alliance for the Family and Pontifical Council on the Family), Dr. Everett Piper (President of Oklahoma Wesleyan University), Bishop Emmanuel Badejo (Secretary of the Catholic Bishops Conference of Nigeria), John-Henry Westen (editor and publisher, LifeSite News), Alexey Komov (WCF Representative in Russia and the CIS, organizer of the 2011 Moscow Demographic Summit), Dom Duarte (Duke of Braganza and titular King of Portugal), Austin Ruse (President, Center for Family and Human Rights), Anne Mbugu (Kenya Christian Professional Forum) and Rabbi Avremi Zippel (Chabad Lubavitch of Utah)

There were 17 plenary sessions and over 50 concurrent sessions, covering such topics as: Counter-Cultural Parenting — International Pro-Life Initiatives — Economic and Social Costs of Family Breakdown — Importance of Civil Engagement on Cultural Issues — The Distinctive Roles of Mothers and Fathers — The Family in Europe: Past, Present and Future — The Porn Pandemic — The Role of Moral and Ethical Values In Education — Millennials: Hearing From Some Who Know Them Best — Faith and Family — Understanding the Sexual and Cultural Revolution — Family and Society — Hollywood Secrets to Telling Your Story and Reaching Millions — How the Culture Undermines Life and Family — Demography: The Impact of



Rapidly Falling Fertility — The Power of Mothers — Sexual Exploitation — The Social Costs of Pornography — Promoting Family Policies at the UN: Impact and Issues — The Homeschooling Movement – Divorce — An African Perspective on Family Breakdown and Religious Freedom — What the Culture is Not Telling You About Casual Sex — The Future After the SCOTUS Decision — Marriage and Family — The Natural Family — Marriage, Economics and Poverty — What Laws and Policies Best Protect Life and Family — and Problems Facing Today's Families Around The World.

There was 50 hours of live broadcasting from Radio Row and over 330 news stories during the Congress alone. The "#wcf9" hashtag was the number two most-used hashtag worldwide during the event, right behind "#WorldSeries."

Stan Swim (Interim President of the Sutherland Institute, WCF IX Chairman), Janice Crouse (WCF IX Executive Director) and more than 300 local volunteers deserve our humble thanks for overcoming every obstacle to make the Salt Lake City Congress truly memorable and for setting a new benchmark for future Congresses. Special thanks to Dave Buer (WCF Director of Communications), Director of Social Media Joseph Kerry, Cherstyn Stockwell WCF IX Events Planner, Emily Bleazard and Amanda Meyer of the Sutherland staff, Amelia Hopkins (Coordinator of Volunteers), Bill Nixon and Bill May of Policy Impact and everyone involved with the entertainment.

Videos from WCF IX are being uploaded. [Click here](#) to see which speeches are online now.



Leaders Praise World Congress of Families IX



"WCF IX was a marvellous antidote to the insanity we are witnessing created by the media, governments and the courts. With the Grace of God assisting us, our journey ahead is to correct the policies that have destabilized our society."

Gwen Landolt, First Vice President, REAL Women of Canada

"Our favorite souvenir from WCF IX was the smiles, handshakes, and hugs from many people who are strengthening families in their corner of the world. It was inspiring to learn from one another, and energizing to see that we are not alone! As we talked to attendees, their comments included: 'This was phenomenal.' 'This was life-transforming.' 'This makes me want to go home and change the world.' We couldn't agree more." **Laura Bunker, President, United Families International**

"The WCF International Congress held in Salt Lake City, Utah with the theme; 'Family - The Promise Begins With Me' was a phenomenal event which included 12 participants from the Caribbean region....It was such an exhilarating blend of nationalities, organizations and perspectives in support of the natural family that it ushers in an era of hope. This Congress put us on the edge of cataclysmic shifts across the globe for life, marriage, family and faith, based on love, truth and reason. Courage, goodwill and unity were promoted and facilitated as we were encouraged and inspired to return to our nations and assertively advance healthy and functional societies." **Rebekah Ali-Gouveia, Elpis Centre, Trinidad — WCF Caribbean Coordinator**



"As a WCF Partner, I was excited by the inclusion of a specific track focused on emerging leaders at this year's WCF. So many of the students told me how they were encouraged and felt like they were not alone. I believe this will be the beginning of a whole new era for WCF." **Justin Murff, CBN and Millennials for Marriage**

"The World Congress of Families IX brought together a powerhouse group of speakers and attendees — people whose wisdom, compassion, and real-world experience humbled and encouraged me. The halls of the Grand America were filled with people committed to healing nations through strengthening families; people who have

sacrificed dearly to defend life, family, and faith; people whose daily perseverance and tireless efforts are changing the course of history. I am honored I had the opportunity to attend this event, to meet these wonderful people, and to learn new ways to serve."

Stephanie Luck, Salt and Life Global



"It was such an insightful conference, I learned a lot, made new contacts and carried enough materials to Kenya to enable us to better fight for the family in Africa. I am now working with Culture of Life Africa, an organization that defends the sanctity of Life, Marriage and the Family institution across Africa. Previously I was working at the secretariat of Kenya Christian Professionals Forum, where I now serve as a member of the family committee.

I thank God for opening doors for me after the conference in Utah, as I am now more armed with knowledge to wage battles across the 54 countries on the African Continent.

May God bless you immensely, for without attending this conference and witnessing over 3,000 family soldiers, I wouldn't have the courage to take up my new position. I look forward to attending the Georgia Congress as a more resourceful person." **Ann Mutave Kioko, Culture of Life Africa**

"WCF IX was an amazing experience for our Big Ocean delegation! For most all of us, this was our first experience attending, and we are truly grateful for the high-caliber speakers and the uplifting and inspiring messages shared. Attending World Congress of Families has been a powerful galvanizing tool in expressing our vision for the future based on social science experts and experienced leaders in the movement. We hope to move forward in freely



expressing our beliefs in an articulate and compassionate way. Special thanks to Janice Crouse and all those involved in putting together such an outstanding event!" **Carolina Allen, President, Big Ocean**

"Every World Congress gets better and better, as we stand on the shoulders of the one before us. This was the best ever. My biggest take-away: the pro-family movement is maturing and growing in its capacity to serve the needs of our time. The organizations which attended demonstrated a growth in capacity that is significantly higher, greater and with more expertise than

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

January 22, 2016 –

National March for Life,
Washington, D.C.
marchforlife.org/mfl-2016/

February 5 – 24th Annual

MovieGuide Awards,
Hollywood, CA.
movieguideawards.com/

March 2-5 – Conservative
Political Action Conference,
Washington, DC
cpac.conservative.org/

March 2016 – International
Organization for Marriage
and Family Meeting in
Cape Town, South Africa.

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May 8, 2016 – 2016 March
for Life, Rome

May 12, 2016 – Canadian
March for Life, Ottawa
www.campaignlifecoalition.com/index.php?p=March_For_Life

May 15-18, 2016 – Tbilisi,
Republic of Georgia WCF
X, Levan Vasadze
lvasadze@yahoo.com or
Tinatin Khorbaladze
tinatin@ymail.com

September – 2016 Values
Voter Summit
<http://www.frc.org/>

November 2016 – World
Congress of families
Regional Conference, Cape
Town, South Africa
enaidoo@familypolicyinstitute.com

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Leaders Praise World Congress of Families IX

what we were capable of in the years of the Sydney and in Madrid World Congresses. We are growing more capable. The future is by no means won or ours yet by a long shot, but our ranks are deepening and more committed than ever. It was a blessing to be with so many wonderful folk. And the Congress was run so smoothly. It is a model for all to come." **Pat Fagan, Family Research Council**



"Bravo to Dr. Crouse, Mr. Swim and the whole WCF IX team! The entire experience of the Congress was positive, and even little glitches were met with a positive can-do attitude that permeated the entire event. The facilities were so nice – there was a running joke that some of us Americans had with our sisters and brothers from other countries that all US hotels were just like this and we lived in that luxury all the time! Overall the whole conference was a joy, and edifying to those who are on the front lines in the fight for life and family." **Stephen Phelan, Director of Mission Communications, Human Life International**

"The World Congress of Families in Salt Lake City was marked by brilliant social analysis, inspiring stories, unmatched networking, and



world-class entertainment." **Peter Strigg, Senior Fellow for Policy Studies, Family Research Council**

"As an attendee and presenter at WCF IX, I was humbled by each highlight which was special in its own right and yet part of a magnificent whole where individuals, families and groups were refreshed and empowered to continue the journey of building better families for a better world." **Alveda King, Priests for Life**



"When so many pro-family advocates from around the globe come together to be encouraged, enthused, equipped and inspired to speak up on strengthening families and marriage, you can guarantee that it will be a



roaring success. And it was. Nobody left disappointed!" **Bob McCoskrie, National Director - Family First New Zealand**

"In my estimation, the Congress was an unqualified success. In the months leading up to the event, I was concerned over whether we could produce the numbers of people and a program that would set World Congress of Families IX on a par with past Congresses. Once I saw the enthusiasm of the 3,300-plus attendees, I set those worries aside and I felt pride over what World Congress of Families was able to accomplish." **Chris Carmouche, President, GrassTopsUSA**

"WCF IX was my first World Congress, and it did not disappoint. The consistent high quality content and the broad swath of pressing familial subject—one more important than the next— all wrapped in a professional venue of exalted caliber resulted in a very edifying four days. May God reward all who labored for it,



and spread its culture-ennobling message far and wide." **Fr Josiah Trenham, St. Andrew Orthodox Church and Patristic Nectar Publications**

"Someone asked me what I personally thought the highlight was for World Congress of Families IX in Salt Lake City. My answer is simple – meeting people who are passionate for building the best future

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Leaders Praise World Congress of Families IX

for our children.” **Warwick Marsh, Dads4Kids, Australia**

“Dear Janice and Stan, Your organization and your enormous courtesy and generosity had given us an impressive result during the last week WCF IX. I would like to sincerely thank you. It signaled a turning point, and pushed us to a new unimaginable future.

Everything was superb and all of the speakers and organizational details were perfect. Thank you for giving us so many sessions, so well prepared, and so many opportunities to meet different people.”

Luca Volonte, CEO, Novae Terrae Foundation, former Italian MP and MP of the European Council



“World Congress of Families IX in Salt Lake City, Utah fielded some of the world’s leading pro-life and pro-family advocates during four days of strategic networking and



inspirational presentations that re-energized the global pro-family movement. WCFIX was the best Congress so far and signals a resurgence in the global battle for the defense of the natural family.” **Errol Naidoo, Founder & CEO Family Policy Institute, South Africa**

“I consider the World Congress of Families a great socio-cultural and religious event. WCF IX was my first and anyone who came to that would not want to miss any such opportunity in future. The array of speakers, presenters, parents, politicians, experts and religious leaders made the event a very rare one. The diversity of cultures, perspectives and approaches which the participating organizations and individuals pursuing the same goals of affirming and strengthening the natural family is very enriching. WCF IX was a great forum for emboldening and confirming many isolated but important efforts going on in the nooks and crannies of the world in favour of the sanctity of life and of the family and for emphasizing the importance of both to authentic civilization. This is a great point of convergence for African peoples. Perhaps most important for the future, the presence of the 300 or so youth sponsored to participate in the Congress helps to lay a solid foundation for the preservation of the natural family for posterity.

There is no reason why Christians, working with like-minded organizations, should not make a stronger impact in favor of marriage and the family than we are making at the moment. All the world's most powerful organizations change their goals and objectives over decades modifying them according to the turns of the times.



The Church by and large has a clear advantage over them. Her goals have remained largely the same since inception, namely the enhancement of life and the salvation of souls and that should give us a headway. We were here first and more importantly we are carrying out God's holy will.” **Bishop Emmanuel Badejo, Nigeria**

“World Congress of Families IX, Salt Lake City 2015, was an historic event in favor of the natural family that will continue to energize and impact the international pro-family and pro-life movements for years to come.

Leading the first Congress in the United States, WCF IX Chairman Stan Swim and WCF IX Executive Director, Janice Crouse, faced the most daunting of challenges and media opposition from those opposed to the truth regarding families, marriage and the importance of the natural family to a prosperous and healthy nation.

In the end, Stan’s and Janice’s hard work and perseverance were rewarded. Even the 14,000 signatures against WCF IX collected for months by the sexual radicals and published in the Salt Lake City Tribune just before the Congress opened were surpassed in less than 2 weeks by the 18,000+ supporters who signed the World Congress of Families Pledge on CitizenGo to “defend basic human rights for all persons from conception to natural death.” Truth prevailed and the power of Faith and Reason cleared aside the opposition to bring more than 3,300 leaders, scholars, clergy, and human rights activists (including over 400 youth and young adults) from 65 nations together to once again



stand for and proclaim the natural family as the fundamental and only sustainable unit of society.” **Larry Jacobs, Managing Director, World Congress of Families**

Overheard at World Congress of Families IX



"We must recast James Carville's 1992 trope, 'The Economy Stupid.' Whether at the global, national, state or local community levels, even on the economy, 'It's Marriage, Stupid.'" **John D. Mueller, Director, Economics and Ethics Program, Ethics and Public Policy Center**

"Culture and public opinion are shaped by unfounded pronouncements by the media, not by the reams of social science research that confirms: Marriage is best for individuals (men, women and children) and society.

Throughout history, across civilizations and cultures, Marriage and family have been the foundations of nations. It is very significant that all civilized societies have treated marriage as a special institution and favored contract. Marriage is – by its very origin and nature – a contract and covenant rooted in natural law.

Social science research is very clear and

unequivocal: a mom-and-dad natural family conveys educational and cultural advantages, as well as superior outcomes on every measurable variable, over all other household arrangements – by wide margins." **Janice Shaw Crouse, Ph.D. Executive Director, World Congress of Families IX.**



"We must not only defend, protect or preserve marriage, the family and family values, we must proactively declare, re-launch and affirm it as an indispensable good for society and for the fulfillment and happiness of the individual. To be merely defensive of the family is to attract attacks and demeaning activities against it. History is behind that kind of position for all through history, marriage and the family have done nothing but good. We must continually optimize our strategies for rolling back the great harm which liberalism and relativism have done so far to these two great human phenomena." **Bishop Emmanuel Badejo**

"In our sexualized world, children are

inundated from the earliest ages with sexual imagery, in magazines, television, and on the Internet. They then enter the world of pornography between 9-12 years of age. Through this imagery we are training boys to be predators and girls to be victims."

Patrick Trueman, President and CEO, National Center on Sexual Exploitation.



"Most millennials want a successful marriage and family, but many do not know how to find it, because society is twisting the plot. Let's help young people achieve their aspirations, by modeling a healthy marriage, practicing your religion, and re-telling your family stories. Doing these simple things can help young people navigate a world of fractured families and fractured dreams." **Laura Bunker, United Families International**

"Homeschooling is a unique tool to bring mother and kids home and to restore the full functional family. Only homeschooling can guarantee the transference of our values." **Irina Shamolina, Advisor on Home Education Development to the Head of the Russian Orthodox Church's Commission on Family, Maternity and Childhood Protection**

"As the Mother goes, so goes the nation, in misery, disgrace, or nobility and greatness for the whole wide world to see. God honors those who honor Motherhood." **Shelly Locke, Founder, The Power of Mothers**

"In a family where true religious life is well understood and lived, each individual is stimulated to develop their own personality, and to distill their originality and to express it with strength and total sharpness or clarity. As a consequence, true religious formation develops people with strong personalities." **Preston Noell, Tradition, Family and Property**

"Society, law and popular opinion may change, but we know that society's version of the family cannot and will not substitute for God's purpose and plan for His children.

Marriage between a man and a woman is ordained of God and...the family is central to the Creator's plan for the eternal destiny of His children." **Elder M. Russell Ballard, Apostle of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons)**

"Has God left His throne? He has not. Is He not still sovereign? He is. When the Obergefell

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Overheard at World Congress of Families IX

decision came down from the Supreme Court, did God say, 'Wow. I sure didn't see that coming?' He did not. So, friends, while I am going to talk about some problems we are facing today, I want to make sure you first hear this: Things look dark, but it is the darkness before the dawn.



The story God is writing, the arc of history, is not over. But I have read the last chapter of the book, and — guess what — God wins!" **Warren Cole Smith, Director of Mission Advancement, the Colson Center.**

"The World Congress of Families grand event in Salt Lake City was a perfect opportunity to build a bridge to the Hollywood entertainment industry. The forums MovieGuide organized helped participants learn how to communicate their message in a dramatic powerful way to millions of people; and, also learn how to teach their children to be culture- and media- wise so children keep their parents faith and values.

The screenings of *GOD'S NOT DEAD 2* and *YOUNG MESSIAH* illustrated that Hollywood wants to reach the faith and values audience with big motion pictures and demonstrated the effectiveness of transforming the culture by redeeming the media through the work of MOVIEGUIDE® and the Christian Film and Television Commission. The responses to the screenings were incredible and the people who came to the World Congress were very supportive" **Dr. Ted Baehr, Publisher, MovieGuide.org and Chairman, Christian Film and Television Commission**



"Planned Parenthood does not just violate the laws of the United States by engaging in fetal trafficking and other crimes, it also violates the laws of other countries. In Latin America, its front groups lobby to legalize abortion, attempting by various questionable means to overturn laws protecting life that are supported by the vast majority of the population. This is an organization that deserves not only to be de-funded, but to be abolished." **Steve Mosher, President, Population Research Institute**

"Regardless of complications, the Free World, including the USA, must continue to insist that the hearts of men constitute a sanctuary for the living God and should never be



deseccated by the impositions of government or ecclesiastical bodies." **Paige Patterson, President, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary**

"Being a mother is both demanding and rewarding—and it is equivalent to a professional pursuit. No one—teacher,



psychologist, or spiritual leader—has the opportunity to mold minds, heal spirits, nurture bodies, and develop potential as does a mother." **Dorothy Kelley Patterson, Professor of Theology in Women's Studies, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.**

"In defending the natural family, we must use hard science. Hard science affirms the vast differences between male and female, and the singularity of their union. It teaches us that the bond between mother and child is powerful, and starts well before birth. It says that every child has a mother and father, and underscores the importance of genetic material. Finally, hard science insists: a man cannot become a woman; or a woman a man. Hard science is pro-family, it is ammunition for our battle. We must begin to use it." **Miriam Grossman MD, physician specializing in child, adolescent and adult psychiatry and author of "Unprotected," and "You're teaching My child WHAT?"**

"With more than 50 years of data now available on the effects of family breakdown, it is a sad irony that many still see our primary collective moral responsibility to 'help' 'the poor' as being a function of the state. Such an ideological commitment to government-first solutions is sometimes expressed by some of my fellow Catholics as a 'preferential option for the poor,' but could just as easily be understood at this point as a preference that the poor have no option but poverty and dependency." **Stephen Phelan, Director of Mission Communications, Human Life International**

"The worldview of people of faith is this: Every child has identity rights and relational rights with respect to their parents. These rights impose legitimate obligations on adults to provide these things to children.

The worldview of our Cultural Elites is this: Every adult has a right to the sexual activity they want, with a minimum of inconvenience, and children have to accept whatever the adults choose to give them." **Dr. Jennifer Roback Morse, President, the Ruth Institute**

“‘Family values’ are not a disjointed set of maxims stitched together. They represent a seamless garment of family formation that advances the health and well-being of us all.”

Peter Sprigg, Senior Fellow for Policy Studies, Family Research Council

“It is our duty and responsibility to give children and adolescents the tools to build the criteria for understanding what is right, in each situation of their lives...they were created for what is right and they desire to do what is right...to reach these God-given goals.” **Christine de Marcellus Vollmer, Presidente, ALAFA – Latin American Alliance for the Family**

“As a former abortion patient, I want you to know that whether legal or illegal, abortion hurts women and killed my children. There are now over 70 worldwide studies linking breast cancer to induced abortion. There are over 100 studies linking premature births in subsequent pregnancies and 81% of women will suffer mental health issues in the aftermath of abortion proving it is not a ‘safe’ procedure.” **Denise Mountenay, Endeavour Forum, Canadian Director**

“Through our own idiocy, through the promotion of insidious ideas and pernicious policies that lead to family breakdown, we are inflicting a sort of genocide upon ourselves; and stopping the genocide starts with each and every one of us summoning the courage to speak out for what is right and what is healthy for our society. It’s not easy. As George Orwell once said: ‘In a time of universal deceit — telling the truth is a revolutionary act.’ The solution to this genocide starts with each and everyone one of us, starts with each and everyone doing what Orwell describes as a ‘revolutionary act,’ because to be silent is to be complicit.”

Chris Carmouche, GrassTopsUSA

“Abortion has done much more than kill babies. Causing a deadly downward spiral, it deeply harms women (and men, and all involved in the decision and the procedure); it creates distrust and division between men and women, and lack of normal security and bonding in key family relationships – between husband and wife, and between parents who chose abortion and their living children – those who suspect or even know that their own parent(s) could have aborted them. As such, abortion, it can be argued, is

the major cause of the breakdown of marriage and the family that should be protecting ‘life and opportunity’ for children.” **Peggy Hartshorn, President, Heartbeat International**

“The greatest crisis humanity will confront in the 21st century won’t be global warming, or a super-virus that ravages the planet, or regional conflicts that go nuclear.

We won’t run out of oil or other natural resources anytime soon.

However, if things proceed on course, sometime in this century, we will start running out of people. The problem is declining fertility, sometimes called Demographic Winter. Its impact on the world will be comparable to global warming – if global warming was real.”

“Out of the Youth Rebellion came the Sexual Revolution. This sea change in attitudes and behaviors included first separating sex from procreation, then from marriage, and finally from love or any sense of commitment.



Pornography, premarital sex, promiscuity and homosexuality were all normalized. Abortion was legalized and is now enshrined as a fundamental right in developed nations. We’ve gone from criminalizing sodomy to criminalizing refusals to celebrate sodomy.” **Don Feder, WCF**

Coalitions Director and Coordinator of Regional Conferences

“Education is a natural function of the family and the right of parents to choose how their children are educated, including educating them at home, is a fundamental human right.”

Mike Donnelly, Director of Global Outreach, Home School Legal Defense Association

“In a homily for the Mass of the Election of the Pope before the conclave where he was elected, Benedict XVI said, ‘We are building a dictatorship of relativism that does not recognize anything as definitive and whose ultimate goal consists of one’s own ego and desires.’ The egos of contemporary feminists and their desire for abortion on demand have indirectly led to over 40 million missing women in China alone. The second line of Helen Reddy’s song ‘I am woman, hear me roar’ was ‘in numbers too big to ignore’. Gloria Steinem in an interview last Friday on CBS said that for the first time in the world there are fewer women than men. That is a sad epitaph and betrayal of the ideals of the feminists of the 19th and early 20th centuries.”

Babette Francis, Overseas Coordinator, Endeavour Forum

WCF – PROFILES IN LEADERSHIP

This continues our regular feature celebrating the women and men who have contributed to the growing success of the international pro-family movement.

Dr. Paul G. Kengor

Dr. Paul Kengor is a New York Times best-selling author and professor of political science at Grove City College, a four-year, private Christian liberal arts college in Grove City, Pennsylvania. He is executive director of The Center for Vision & Values, a Grove City College think-tank/policy center. He is also a visiting fellow at the Hoover Institution on War, Revolution, and Peace at Stanford University.



His articles have appeared in numerous publications across the ideological spectrum, among them: The New York Times, New York Post, National Review, San Francisco Chronicle, Washington Times, USA Today, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Roll Call, Weekly Standard, Wall Street Journal, Philadelphia Inquirer, Christianity Today, World magazine, National Catholic Reporter, National Catholic Register, Our Sunday Visitor, Jewish Press, Jewish World Review, International Herald Tribune, Manchester Union Leader, and others. He has published major articles in top referred, scholarly-academic journals, such as Political Science Quarterly and Presidential Studies Quarterly.

One of his recent books, “Dupes: How America’s Adversaries Have Manipulated Progressives for a Century” (ISI Books, 2010), examines the exploitation of American liberals by communists beginning in the early 20th century. It also explores the relevance of that gullibility, naiveté, and manipulation in today’s politics and current events, including the War on Terror and November 2008 presidential election.

Among his other books is a major work on Ronald Reagan’s role in undermining the Soviet Union, titled “The Crusader: Ronald Reagan & the Fall of Communism.” Also in September 2007, he released “God and Hillary Clinton” (HarperCollins), the first and only examination of the

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Carolina Allen

Carolina Allen is the founder and president of Big Ocean (formerly Big Ocean Women), an interfaith and international grassroots organization which empowers women to actively represent religious perspectives, family values and traditions, as well as the power of motherhood and the sanctity of life.

She calls the movement “maternal feminism.”

In March 2015, Carolina took a delegation of 25 women to the Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations where they actively advocated for the family to be included in the UN agenda. Since then, the idea of maternal feminism has gained unprecedented momentum, spreading by word of mouth, through social networks, and in mainstream media outlets. The movement is taking root in towns and cities across the U.S. and the world, gathering women from places as far as Nigeria, Chile, and the Philippines. The appetite for conciliatory, uplifting, and balanced dialogue around women’s issues has been overwhelming.

Carolina invites women everywhere to expand their sphere of influence from their own homes, to their communities, to their nations, to the world. Working from a framework of abundance and empowerment, maternal feminism is a philosophical platform that serves to unite women of various religious perspectives, cultural and ethnic backgrounds, ages, and life experiences and create a sisterhood so that when any one individual woman stands up for what matters to her, she never stands alone.

Big Ocean’s unique name is symbolic of the vast majority of the world’s women – women of faith, women who



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Premiere of "God is Not Dead 2" and Entertainment at WCF IX

God's Not Dead 2" premiered the evening of Oct. 28 to a packed house at World Congress of Families IX.

Sponsored by Dr. Ted Baehr, publisher of MovieGuide: The Family Guide to Movies and Entertainment, the movie was screened to more than 1,000 family advocates of different faiths at the Grand American Hotel in Salt Lake City.

Following the screening, church heads and ministry leaders dominated the Q&A with Producer Michael Scott and Actor David White of Pure Flix Entertainment, hosted by Dr. Baehr, who has long been an advocate in Hollywood, the United States and around the world for Christian and family-friendly movies.

One of the leaders in the audience noted:

"You could feel the anticipation as over a thousand fans crowded the ballroom, and the film did not disappoint. By the end of the night a hush had fallen over the crowd and many of us found tears running down our cheeks. I could feel the presence of God and His Holy Spirit at work. Church heads and ministry leaders raved about the timely and oftentimes hilarious way the movie highlighted the very real struggle Christians are facing as they try to remain true



Scott (left) White (right)

to their faith in the public square."

The movie is a sequel to "God's Not Dead," the 2014 film about a college freshman who's forced by his philosophy professor to write a paper titled "God is Dead." When he refuses, the professor challenges him to present well-reasoned arguments and evidence confirming the existence of God. The film cost \$2 million to make and earned over \$61 million.

"God is Not Dead 2," in theaters on April 1, 2016, also involves a classroom setting. When a teacher talks to her students about Jesus, an academic drama ensues, with the teacher's career on the line. At WCF IX, MovieGuide also screened the upcoming film, "The Young Messiah," and Baehr did sessions on faith-based filmmaking and how parents can choose entertainment wisely.

Other entertainment at WCF IX included the world famous Mormon Tabernacle Choir., the country band StickShift, Playlist, the American Heritage Lyceum Philharmonic, Jenny Oaks Baker and her multi-talented children, the Piano Guys and the Salt Lake City Mass Choir.

[Click here](#) to see trailers of "God Is Not Dead 2"



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Dr. Paul G. Kengor

faith and spiritual life of the former first lady and current presidential candidate.

Kengor's latest book is "The Communist, Frank Marshall Davis: The Untold Story of Barack Obama's Mentor" (Simon & Schuster, Threshold Editions/Mercury Ink, 2012).

Kengor is also the author of "God and Ronald Reagan" (ReganBooks, HarperCollins, 2004), "God and George W. Bush" (ReganBooks, HarperCollins, 2004), and co-editor with Peter Schweizer of "Assessing the Reagan Presidency" (Rowman-Littlefield, 2005).

Kengor is a frequent contributor to MSNBC, C-SPAN, NPR, PCN-TV, EWTN, and FoxNewsChannel, and is regular columnist for Townhall and the American Spectator. He has appeared on many TV shows, including "Hannity & Colmes," "The O'Reilly Factor," "Tony Snow Live," "Fox & Friends," the "700 Club," and "Scarborough Country." He has done hundreds of radio-talk shows, including those of Sean Hannity, Diane Rehm (NPR), Michael Reagan, Warren Olney (NPR), Glenn Beck, Janet Parshall's America, Truths that Transform with the late D. James Kennedy, Dennis Praeger, Michael Medved, G. Gordon Liddy, Linda Chavez, Kresta in the Afternoon, Jim Quinn, and Stand to Reason with Greg Koukl, and Laura Ingraham. Hosts like Rush Limbaugh have discussed his work on air. He does a regular commentary for three nationally syndicated radio programs: American Radio Journal, Moody Broadcasting, and Ave Maria Radio Network / CatholicExchange.com.

Kengor is a frequent public speaker. His past venues include the National Presbyterian Church, the Reagan Library, the National Press Club, the U.S. Capitol Building, the Commonwealth (Pennsylvania) Prayer Breakfast, the Heritage Foundation, the Gerald R. Ford Library, and the Witherspoon Fellowship Program, among many others. He has also spoken at many colleges, including the University of Virginia's Miller Center, the College of William & Mary, Eureka College, the Ave Maria College School of Law, Calvin College, Franciscan University, Regent University, Claremont McKenna College, Saint Vincent College, Patrick Henry College, the University of Pittsburgh, Drexel University, DePaul University, and Wabash College.

Kengor received his doctorate from the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs and his master's degree from American University's School of International Service. He holds an honorary doctorate from Franciscan University (Steubenville, Ohio), where he was the commencement speaker in May 2009.

Paul Kengor is a native of Western Pennsylvania, and lives with his wife in Grove City, Pa., along with their seven children.

[Click here](#) for the Grove City College Center for Vision and Values.



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Carolina Allen

cherish family, and women who support and recognize the value of motherhood. They are not just another wave of feminist thought, but the Big Ocean in all its immensity. Each one of us may seem like a small drop, but as we raise our voices and act in faith, together we can change the landscape in powerful, healing, and nonviolent ways.

Carolina holds a B.A. in Philosophy from the University of Utah, with an emphasis in cultural religions and philosophy of science. A native of Brazil, Carolina is fluent in Portuguese, English and Spanish. She is happily married to Dr. G.E. Kawika Allen, professor of psychology at Brigham Young University, and they are the grateful parents of 5 young children whom they both enjoy homeschooling.

[Click here](#) for Big Ocean.



Tbilisi Chosen As The Site for World Congress of Families X – May 15-18, 2016

World Congress of Families Managing Director Larry Jacobs officially confirmed that the Republic of Georgia was selected as the site of WCF X in the Georgian capital of Tbilisi from May 15-18, 2016. The location was first announced by WCF IX Chairman Stan Swim and Levan Vasadze, Chairman of the WCF X Organizing Committee, in front of more than 3,300 delegates in Salt Lake City, Utah (www.wcf9.org) – watch the acceptance speech from Mr. Vasadze via YouTube online at: <https://youtu.be/tQzftojCzm0>.

WCF X will coincide with the May 17th, “A Day to Strengthen Families and Honor Parents” so designated by His Holiness and Beatitude Orthodox Patriarch, Ilia II of Georgia.

Jacobs commented, “Georgia is strategically located at the crossroads of Europe and Asia, between the Black and Caspian Seas, and is therefore the ideal place to discuss the historic opportunities for prosperity, rooted in the family, and the existential threats to family, faith, and freedom from modernism and the sexual revolution.

As one of the oldest Christian nations and traditional cultures in the world, Georgia is at the heart of the Caucasus Mountains. It is well-suited to bring together Eastern and Western cultures to discuss and affirm the universal values of life and family that are threatened by the sexual revolution, radical elites, and godless, neo-liberal ideologies.”

Georgia was selected as the host for World Congress of Families X by the WCF International Selection Committee after a year-long, Olympic-type competitive bidding process which included proposals from South Africa, Portugal, and Mexico.

As one of the only nations where Europeans, Russians, and Americans can travel without visas, Georgia also represents a unique opportunity to gather leaders of goodwill to promote a pro-life and pro-family agenda that builds prosperous, sustainable and free societies. Despite the lies and attacks from the sexual radicals and neo-liberal elites, WCF leaders and Georgians together will show that true equality, fairness, diversity, justice and authentic freedom can only arise from God-centered and family-centered civilizations.”

The theme of World Congress of Families X is “Civilization at a Crossroads: The Natural Family as The Bulwark of Humane Values.”

Levan Vasadze, Chairman of the Georgian Committee for WCF X said: “We Georgians are honored and humbled by this great opportunity and privilege to host World Congress of Families X. As one of the oldest Christian nations on earth, we think this will be a refreshing opportunity for me and my fellow Georgians to meet Westerners (unlike those sent to Tbilisi by George Soros) who affirm human rights for all persons from conception to natural death but also defend the Truth, Beauty, and Goodness found in the Natural Family as the fundamental and only sustainable unit of society.”

The Organizing Committee for WCF X (Georgia 2016) includes Levan (Georgian businessman, former rugby player, education leader, and philanthropist), Tinatin Khorbaladze, and other leaders from the Georgian Demographic Foundation.

Jacobs concluded, “Tbilisi is an exciting and an historic city and we're delighted to join with the Georgian Local Organizing Committee to bring pro-family leaders, scholars and activists from around the world to WCF X. We expect thousands of delegates from more than 60 countries to come to Georgia in 2016.”

For more information, contact Levan Vasadze lvasadze@yahoo.com or Tinatin Khorbaladze tinatin@ymail.com



A Tribute to Dr. Allan C. Carlson on Retiring as World Congress of Families International Secretary

On August 1 of this year, Dr. Allan C. Carlson, Ph.D retired as both the International Secretary of the World Congress of Families and President of The Howard Center for Family, Religion & Society, WCF's parent organization.

For more than 35 years, Allan has been a recognized leader in the global community working to sustain, explain and ultimately defend the place of family, religion, and respect for life in all human societies. A noted scholar and historian of the family, Allan is the author more than a dozen books, including: "The 'American Way': Family and Community in the Shaping of the American Identity"; "Fractured Generations: Crafting a Family Policy for 21st Century America"; and "The Natural Family: A Manifesto," co-authored by Paul Mero, former president of the Sutherland Institute.

In 1995, Allan was invited to Moscow by a group of Russian sociologists who wanted his advice on ways to promote the natural family in the wake of the fall of Soviet Communism. Out of that meeting, which Allan says took place in a "chilly Moscow apartment, on a frigid night in January," came the vision for World Congress of Families, which Dr. Carlson created under the banner of the Howard Center and led for the past two decades. World Congress of Families I took place just two years later (1997) in Prague.

Allan also popularized the expression "the natural family," based on Article 16 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights (adopted in 1948), which states "The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State."

Allan's other work for the family included serving on President Reagan's National Commission on Children founded in 1988. During 2001-2003, he was a History Team Member of The Pew Foundation/ Woodrow Wilson Center project on "the nature of the human person." In 2002-2005, Carlson held the additional post of Distinguished Fellow for Family Policy Studies at the Family Research Council. In 2003 he served on the Intercollegiate Studies Institute's Honors Faculty at Oriel College, Oxford University. He has taught and lectured at dozens of universities on several continents, including extended stints as Distinguished Visiting Professor of Political Science and History at Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, Michigan and as Visiting Professor at The John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family at Catholic University of America, in Washington, DC. He continues to edit The Family In America, a quarterly Journal of the Howard Center for Family, Religion & Society.

In the past 20 years, Allan has seen his vision grow from a meeting with a handful of Russian academics to an organization that's held nine international Congresses, roughly 6 to 8 regional conferences each year and put together a global network of more than 40 Partners in 14 countries on six continents. His words, deeds and vision will continue to inspire us as we march deeper into the 21st. century.

Note: A film tribute to the late Dr. Richard G. Wilkins, former Managing Director of the World Policy Center at Brigham Young University and, along with Allan Carlson, co-convenor of World Congress of Families II (Geneva 1999) will be covered in the next World Congress of Families News as will the WCF IX Declaration.



I Spoke to a Hate Group Last Week – a commentary by Everett Piper

Dr. Everett Piper, the President of Oklahoma Wesleyan University, served as the closing keynote speaker for WCF IX. Here are excerpts from his trenchant critique of our detractors – “I Spoke to a Hate Group Last Week,” published at the Oklahoma Wesleyan University News site.

“The World Congress for Families believes in the family. It believes our sons and daughters do best when they have confidence that their mother and father are committed to each other and committed to them. It believes people are healthier, countries are freer, and children are happier when a dad and a mom raise their own kids.

And for this controversial idea, the World Congress for Families has been branded a hate group.

The Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) leads the great thinkers of the Left who say they can’t tolerate any conservative’s intolerance, as they rush to excoriate the World Congress for Families for its terrible views. Showing its penchant for self-refuting fallacies, the SPLC bemoans the World Congress for Families for its belief in—shocking as it sounds—the ‘natural family.’”

“The progressive/liberal Human Rights Campaign (HRC) follows suit by condemning the World Congress of Families for ‘exporting hate.’ Demonstrating its propensity for stifling any robust intellectual exchange, the HRC engages in name-calling rather than making any attempt to challenge their opponents’ ideas. Apparently it is ‘loving’ to label those with whom you disagree as ‘radical,’ ‘virulent,’ ‘extremist,’ ‘deeply divisive,’ ‘destructive,’ and full of ‘animus.’”

“The pro-LGBTQ periodical, The Advocate, chimes in by condemning the World Congress for Families for its pro-family agenda. It is completely unacceptable, according to The Advocate, to even suggest that it is best for children to have a married mom and dad raising them. This terrible idea of promoting the virtues of the nuclear family is deemed as ‘phobic,’ ‘extreme,’ and ‘draconian’ and, therefore, anyone even attempting to propagate such thoughtlessness is guilty of spewing hate-filled ‘propaganda.’”

“The bold-faced duplicity of those condemning those who love the family is indeed hateful. Intolerance in the name of tolerance. Bullying while decrying bullying. Exclusion in the name of inclusion. Dumbing down the human being while arguing for human rights. Pretending to be pro-woman while using women as pawns and products. Hate under the banner

of anti-hate... These ideas do not come from love, but rather from disdain: Disdain for children, disdain for family, and disdain for truth. Such ideas come from a hateful people who hate anyone who dares stand in their way of hating God.”

[Click here](#) for Dr. Piper’s full article
[Click here](#) for his closing plenary speech at WCF IX – “You Shall Be Set Free.”



Awards and Honors Presented at WCF IX

In Salt Lake City, the 2015 Natural Family Woman of the Year Award was presented to Dr. Theresa Okafor (President of the Nigeria-based Foundation for African Cultural Heritage and World Congress of Families Representative in Africa) “For unselfish service and outstanding contributions in affirming the Natural Family as the fundamental and only sustainable unit of society and defending the sanctity and dignity of all human life from conception to natural death” and “for her efforts in promoting a greater understanding of the Natural Family as the vital source of a prosperous, stable, and free society.”

Father Maxim Obukhov, widely considered that father of the Russian pro-life movement and founder of the Zhizn pregnancy centers, was the recipient of the first WCF International Pro-Life Award “For faithful witness, courageous actions, and unselfish, Godly service in defense of women, children and families through the promotion of a greater understanding of the sanctity and intrinsic worth of all human life from conception to natural death and the value of The Natural Family as the fundamental and only sustainable unit of society.”

Luca Volonte of the Novae Terrae Foundation and Andrea Minichiello Williams, founder and CEO of the U.K. Christian Concern, received Familia et Veritas Awards “For unselfish service and outstanding contributions in affirming the Natural Family as the fundamental and only sustainable unit of society and defending the sanctity and dignity of all human life from conception to natural death” and their “efforts to build new organizations and networks that promote a greater understanding of the Natural Family as the vital source of a prosperous, stable, and free society.”



starting top left: Swim with Volonte, Okafor, Fr. Maxim and Williams

Regional Meetings

At WCF IX, there were five regional meetings, the first such meetings at a Congress, coordinated by WCF Coalitions Director Don Feder.

Meetings were organized for Latin America co-chaired by Christine Vollmer of the Latin American Alliance for the Family and Katharina Rothweiller of Red Familia, Mexico (including participants from Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala, Venezuela, Peru, Chile and El Salvador), the Caribbean, chaired by Rebekah Ali-Gouveia of the Elpis Centre, Trinidad (including Jamaica, Anguilla, Belize, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, St. Vincent and St. Lucia), Europe, co-chaired by Luca Volonte and Andrea Williams (including Poland, Hungary, Italy, Belgium, Sweden, Serbia, Britain and Portugal), Africa, chaired Errol Naidoo of Family Policy Institute, South Africa (including participants from Morocco, Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa), and Australia/Asia, chaired by Babette Francis of Endeavour Forum in Australia and Francisco Tatad, former Majority Leader of the Philippine Senate – with an able assist from Tio Faulkner of the Australian Marriage Alliance — (including Australia, New Zealand and the Philippines).

The meetings were attended by anywhere from a dozen to upwards of 50 participants. Discussion included the upcoming Australian referendum on the definition of marriage, the possibility of regional conferences in 2016 in Belize, Cape Town and Serbia, and the need for better regional communication and cooperation among pro-life/pro-family groups.

Thank you to all World Congress of Families Partners for your support.

Alliance Defending Freedom
Latin American Alliance for the Family
Americans United for Life
Associazione per la Difesa Dei Valori
Cristiani – Luci sull'Est, Italy
Bruderhof Communities
Center for Vision & Values
Christian Broadcasting Network
Christian Film and Television Commission
Christian Concern (UK)

CitizenGO (Spain)
Dads4Kids (Australian)
Dveri (Serbia)
Endeavour Forum (Australian)
Euthanasia Prevention Coalition
Ethics and Public Policy Center
Family First Foundation
Family First New Zealand
Sanctity of Motherhood Program (Russian)
Family Policy Institute (South Africa)

Family Watch International
Fellowship of St. James
Grasstops USA
Heartbeat International
Home School Legal Defense Association
Human Life International
Institute for Family Policies
National Center on Sexual Exploitation
National Organization for Marriage
Novae Tarrae Foundation

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