

# Living to Win

December 15, 2003  
Volume 8, Number 12  
Christian Educational Ministries

Personal from. . .

*Ronald L. Dart*

## No Longer Useful

Why do they send mothers to jail for killing newborn babies? It happens all the time. Babies are left in toilets, thrown into dumpsters, or otherwise disposed of. And if they can prove who the mother was, she is prosecuted for infanticide. Now why do we do this? And what right does society have telling parents how to treat their kids? Don't the kids belong to the parents? Can't the parents do as they please with their own children.

Well, no, of course not. Children are persons under the law, and are entitled to all the protection of the law. Children don't belong to parents. They are in the care and custody of parents, but they are persons, not property, and the law rightly protects children.

Then comes the next question. At what point does a newborn become a person who is entitled to all the protection of the law? At what point

does it become murder to kill a child? You would think this was a simple question, but it turns out not to be. Not long ago, the Michigan state legislature drew a bright line to answer this in law. The moment any part of the baby's anatomy emerged outside its mother's body, the law concluded, the baby is considered a person under the law. Then, to deliberately kill this child in some medical procedures would be deemed murder. That is to say it would have been murder if the Governor of Michigan, Jennifer Granholm, had not vetoed the bill.

Now the whole question might have been rendered moot because the President has at long last signed a federal bill prohibiting partial birth abortion. But before the ink was dry on the President's signature, two federal judges had put a stay on the

bill. We can't be sure of the outcome, because the Supreme Court may well invalidate the law.

World magazine wrote up the story, and the Governor's complex reasons for vetoing the bill were explored, but I can't help feeling there is something going on here that defies rational explanation. Jennifer Granholm is Roman Catholic and says that she is personally opposed to abortion. She objected to the bill because of some vague fault in the wording and said she wanted to work with the legislature to find other ways to reduce abortions. The Governor's problem is easy to understand. She accepted hundreds of thousands of dollars from the abortion lobby for her campaign and now she has to deliver. She has to use an overused metaphor, sold her soul to the devil—not an unfamiliar thing where politics is concerned.

I don't know if the Governor is a

*continued on page 2. . .*

## Inside This Issue

<i>Do Real Men Teach?</i>	3
<i>Broadcast Schedule</i>	4
<i>Calendar of Events</i>	4

## You've Asked. . .

### *How are CEM and the Born to Win Broadcast sponsored?*

*They are sponsored by friends like you who give their tithes and offerings so that others may hear the clear message Christ taught. Many Born to Win programs are sponsored by individuals or by a group of people who want to anchor others to Christ. If you are interested in helping or sponsoring a program in your local area, contact Larry Watkins at 1-888-BIBLE 44*

*continued from page 1. . .*

serious Catholic or not. But I should think a serious Catholic would be sweating bullets over this. The reason I say this is that a serious Catholic in office can say he is bound to follow the law. But in this case, Governor Granholm is vetoing the law. She then *becomes* the law. And so it is not at Governor Granholm we must look. We have to consider those shadowy forces that bought her veto.

And while we are looking, there is another parallel case we have to consider as well. Why are these same forces hell bent on killing Terri Schiavo? Terri is brain damaged. Doctors say she is in a vegetative state, but her family and other doctors say she is not. I can easily believe that Terri is brain damaged to such a degree that she can never recover. But here is my problem. She is plainly still alive.

World magazine quoted Carla Sauer, a nurse that used to care for Terri, who said that they could feed her with a spoon and she could swallow. The nurse, who now demonstrates outside the clinic said, "She is not a vegetable. She knows voices, she responds, she can follow commands, and she tries to communicate by blinking her eyes yes and no." She used to receive regular therapy but that ended some time ago because of money.

Now there is a battle between forces that wants to maintain her life and those who want to end it. No, this is not a matter of simply letting a dying person die. What some are proposing is that she be starved to death. And here is my question. If you really believe her life should be terminated, why not give enough morphine or other drug to kill her painlessly? Why starve her to death?

There is a fundamental flaw here

that needs to be explored. Our society does not allow euthanasia. But we do allow the removal of feeding systems and the starving to death of helpless people. In both cases we are terminating a life that could go on with minimal help. A feeding tube is not a heroic method of maintaining life. Terri is not in any pain. Her parents are willing to assume all the responsibility for her care. Why put the parents through the agony of seeing their daughter starved to death? Do they not matter at all?

So what's going on here? What's the real conflict taking place in the partial birth abortion debate, and the battle over Terri Schiavo's life? Exactly what are the real issues and who are the real opponents?

The battle going on in both of the cases I mentioned is a battle between two faiths. One is a faith in God. The other is a faith in man. The one says we should look to God for moral standards. The other says we should look to man. For a very long time now, our kids have been taught in school that there is no Creator. And even though many people still believe in God—they may even attend a church they no longer, in their heart of hearts, believe in a *Creator*.

The founding document of this country, the Declaration of Independence, claims that our rights come to us from a *Creator*. There is a strong element in our society that no longer believes that. And when that foundation is gone, it must be replaced by another. And so instead of any kind of belief in God to direct us in matters of right and wrong, we are left with *Utilitarianism*.

Utilitarianism is a kind of secular religion, because, like religion, it tries to define right and wrong, but by human standards, not divine. It defines right and wrong in terms of what produces happiness and good, i.e. what works and what doesn't. And it looks exclusively to man to decide what that means. Keeping Terri Schiavo alive is not useful. It does not produce happiness. So kill her. Keeping a handicapped baby alive is not useful. Kill it. Even keeping a healthy baby alive might make the mother unhappy. Kill it.

Old people had better watch their step and maintain their usefulness. For the time may come when utilitarianism sees you as a useless old woman who can be disposed of. No, we aren't there yet, because society as a whole still maintains too much faith in God. But that is changing as fast as the schools can change it. And the courts may ultimately decide that you are no longer useful and can be terminated.

Medical science is making so much progress that they are going to present us with ethical dilemmas we never imagined were possible. And we are headed into this brave new world with no road map except what works. What is useful.

This is not to say that there is not a better way. There is. But there is a growing element in society that no longer wants to hear it. The better way is the revelation to man of the Creator and His law. But even the Christian churches have, by and large, abandoned the Law of God as their guide and are looking to society. This is nowhere more clearly presented than in the ordination of a gay bishop in the Episcopal church.

*continued on page 3. . .*

continued from page 2. . .

the Bible prohibits sex between certain persons. It prohibits sex with persons near of kin, with animals, and between persons of the same gender. I have simply read these scriptures on the air in previous programs and have made some radio station managers uneasy. If I were in Canada, I could have my program banned and receive a fine for that.

Here is the dilemma. If said candidate for bishop had left his wife and children and shacked up with a woman, would he still have been a candidate for bishop? Certainly not. Then why is it okay for him to leave his wife and children and shack up with a man? Mind you, we are not asking whether or not we could accept him as a Christian brother. We are asking whether he should serve in holy orders—as a high ranking minister in the church.

Why am I bringing the rogue bishop into this discussion? As an illustration of my point that *even Christians no longer educate their consciences by means of the Law of God*. To be sure, there are laws in the Bible that we cannot obey. There are laws that are not relevant in our age. But every one of those laws was given to man by a righteous God and they are there for our instruction. People are not discussing how these laws might or might not be applicable. They are dismissing them out of hand. They are not even bothering to learn from them. And they are leaving themselves with no guide to morality. No guide of right and wrong.

In the end, I fear that God is going to say to us as a people, “Since you have decided that utilitarianism is your guide, you are no longer useful. You should be terminated.”

Recently, I developed this theme

with extensive references from Scripture to back up what I say. I would very much like to send you a *free* cassette tape of that presentation titled, “No Longer Useful.” While we may not be able to reverse the trend in society, we may be able to save ourselves and our loved ones. To get a free cassette tape of the presentation, just check the box on the enclosed card and return it to us.

*Ronald L. Dart*

### *Do Real Men Teach?*

Have you noticed who mostly teaches the youngest children in schools or even YEA classes? Why is it mostly women? Don’t real men relate to children? Are children getting a balanced education if men are absent from the educational process? Experts are telling us that one of the biggest problems in society today is the *absence of the father from the home* with high divorce rates, single mom homes, and out of wedlock children.

So why am I writing this article? Stick with me – I want to relate to you my first time ever involvement with YEA at the Feast this past year. I am a grandfather. My parenting days are over – aren’t they? I have a granddaughter nearing completion of four years of college. I have other grandchildren in high school. Had I forgotten how to relate to little children? Had I forgotten what a joy a little child with an open mind can be?

After receiving a sequence of e-mails requesting our help with

YEA classes at the CEM Feast in Destin, my wife Jane, finally accepted the challenge. She asked me to help, too. I agreed, but said that I preferred to work with the teens. You know – kids with whom I could “really communicate.” But help was most needed with the Beginners’ classes – the three to five year-old kids. When I expressed disappointment, Jane said, “but they are so cute” – she just loves the little ones. “And besides, little children might be easier to deal with than some of the older children,” she said. Okay, I agreed to try it this one time.

The first thing that I learned when we arrived for classes was that YEA is making a concerted effort to bring men into all aspects of the YEA programs – to give that more balanced approach in the lives of these moldable children. Can any of us men say no to such a worthy effort?

Some of you readers are grandfathers, too. Others may still be fathers of both younger and older children. They all need your help in receiving a Christian education. Think about how the disciples reacted when they brought children to Jesus to bless them. Didn’t they try to keep them away? Yet, this “real man,” this Jesus, who came to suffer and die for us, took time to take up the little children in His arms. He blessed them, saying to His disciples, “don’t keep the children from me, because of such is the Kingdom of God.”

So, how did I contribute to the YEA Beginners’ classes? One teacher cannot control 15 Beginners all by herself. It takes lots of helpers and I was one of those helpers. Children have to be watched so

*continued on page 4. . .*

closely these days. They have to be protected from predators everywhere, even at our feast sites. I took on security responsibilities, repeatedly counting the children to make sure that none were missing from the room. One boy did turn up missing for awhile. Searchers were dispatched throughout the hallways and bathrooms. He was found hiding under a table in the very room where he was supposed to be.

The theme for the Beginners' Feast lessons was "Tales From The Kingdom." Each day we had certain objectives to meet. All objectives related to the King, Jesus, and to God's Kingdom. One of the things we had to do was to build a castle out of Lego blocks. As an engineer, this was right up my alley. There I was on the floor helping to build the castle. About six boys and girls were around me, each trying to add their own creative part to the castle. One boy insisted on including a garage – no three garages – now that's thinking big! Others wanted windows.

All of their ideas had to be blended together while making certain that the whole castle was structurally sound – that each Lego section linked solidly with another. The entire castle was to be moved at the start of class in front of the teacher, where the whole class could see it. The goal was achieved and the castle moved. We had hoped to have the castle there for the next day, too. But wham, bang – a few blows at the end of class by one rambunctious boy did it – no more castle.

Castles, kings, and kingdoms brought focus on God's Kingdom, and our King, Jesus. Early on, as the teacher began talking about God, one girl raised her hand and said, "I know all about God." Nothing left to teach, I

guess? How do we learn about God? Didn't God start out at the beginning with family relationships – Adam and Eve – man and woman? Shouldn't we continue that approach? Shouldn't men and women both be present in our educational processes?

Men, consider this as your personal challenge – get involved in YEA classes – not only at the Feast, but in your local church. You will soon experience the same deep satisfaction as this grandfather did, and learn how enjoyable and valuable time spent helping children learn God's Word can be.

- Richard Kisel



**Tune in for the latest weekly broadcast.**

**December 13 - December 19**

*The Tree # 2*

**December 20 - December 26**

*Too Late For Christmas*

**December 27 - January 2**

*Disappointed With God*

**January 3- January 9**

*A Treaty With The Devil*

**January 10 - January 16**

*The Bitterness of Peace*

## Calendar Of Events

### Join Ronald L. Dart in

#### Destin, FL 2004

April 3 - Sabbath Services Seminar  
 April 4 - Seminar  
 April 4 - Passover Service  
 April 5 - Seminar  
 Night to be Much Observed  
 April 6 - First Day of Unleavened Bread Service

#### Birmingham, AL 2004

April 10 - Sabbath Service

Watch CEM's website and Living to Win for further details for time and place to be announced.

## Christian Educational Ministries



Post Office Box 560  
 Whitehouse, Texas 75791

**phone:** 903.509.2999

**fax:** 903.509.1139

**e-mail:** adm@cemnetwork.com

**website:** www.cemnetwork.com

*That the man of God may be proficient and equipped for every good work.*