



Media Spotlight

A BIBLICAL ANALYSIS OF RELIGIOUS AND SECULAR MEDIA

SPECIAL REPORT

THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD THE NEW WORLD ORDER VS. PARENTAL RIGHTS

by Albert James Dager

In 1979, the United Nations Organization celebrated the "International Year of the Child" (IYC). The United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) was the agency chosen through which the U.N. would implement their programs for IYC. The platform upon which the IYC program was based was the "Declaration of the Rights of the Child," unanimously passed by the U.N. General Assembly on November 20, 1959.

Since the adoption of the Declaration, member states of the U.N. have worked through their respective government agencies to implement the principles and programs formulated through the Declaration. Until now, implementation has been on a voluntary basis; there has been no formal U.N. mandate to require accountability to an international governing body. This could change within a very short time should the present Convention on the Rights of the Child be ratified by a sufficient number of member states (at least 42).

The Convention on the Rights of the Child is a formal attempt by the U.N. to enact into law international sanctions that would enforce the goals of the original Declaration as well as several other United Nations documents.

As important and far-reaching as this pending international legislation may be, it is curious that the general news media have had little to say about it. It's as if there were a cloud of secrecy over the fact that, even today, every US senator and congressman has the Convention before him or her; all

that is necessary for it to go into effect in the United States is for one person to sponsor it in either house of Congress, and have it pass by the required majorities of each house.

Should the Convention on the Rights of the Child be ratified by the US Congress it will become the law of the land; every provision of the Convention must then be complied with under penalty of international law. What this may mean in terms of individual freedom and the sanctity of family relationships is something all true believers in the Lord Jesus Christ must ponder.

To help our readers understand the full implications of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, we will examine the text of the Convention resolution as it currently stands, considering how passage of the Convention will affect those whose faith is in the Lord Jesus Christ.

At the very root of the Convention lies a moral and philosophical world view that runs counter to that of God's Word. That world view is humanistic which, in itself is religious in principle and practice. This will be amply demonstrated as we consider the text of the Convention.

For purposes of brevity we will be looking at those portions of the Convention which we believe will affect the practice of biblical Christianity.

While the Convention will be the legal means by which the U.N. will enforce its goals on human rights for children, it is by no means the only instrument that will affect the implementation of those goals. The Preamble to the Convention names

several other international covenants and declarations which the Convention will enforce. For clarity those covenants and declarations are highlighted in bold type.

PREAMBLE

The States Parties to the present Convention,

Considering that, in accordance with the principles proclaimed in the **Charter of the United Nations**, recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world,

Recognizing that the United Nations has, in the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the International Covenants on Human Rights**, proclaimed and agreed that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth therein, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status,

Recalling that, in the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**, the United Nations has proclaimed that childhood is entitled to special care and assistance,

Convinced that the family, as the fundamental group of society and the natural environment for the growth and well-being of all its members and particularly children, should be afforded the necessary protection and assistance so that it can fully assume its responsibilities within the community.

Recognizing that the child, for the full and harmonious development of his or her personality, should grow up in a family environment, in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding,

Considering that the child should be fully prepared to live an individual life in society, and brought up in the spirit of the ideals proclaimed in the **Charter of the United Nations**, and in particular in the spirit of peace, dignity, tolerance, freedom, equality and solidarity,

Bearing in mind that the need to extend particular care to the child has been stated in the **Geneva Declaration of the Rights of the Child of 1924** and in the **Declaration of the Rights of the Child** adopted by the General Assembly on 20 November 1959 and recognized in the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**, in the **International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights** (in particular in articles 23 and 24 in the **International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights** (in particular article 10)

