



Pastor sentenced for ministering at abortion clinic

Walter Hoye, a pastor at Progressive Missionary Baptist Church in Berkeley, Calif., was fined \$1,000 and sentenced to three years probation on February 19 for approaching women entering an abortion clinic and appealing to them to consider alternatives. He became the first person convicted under a new Oakland ordinance barring people from coming within eight feet of anyone entering an abortion clinic.

Hoye stood outside the Family Planning Specialists Medical Group in Oakland with a sign that read, "Jesus loves you and your baby. Let us help you." As women were entering the clinic, he asked them, "May I talk to you about alternatives to the clinic?"

Although staff at the clinic testified that Hoye was threatening toward the women, video evidence introduced at the trial clearly showed that Hoye was in no way threatening. Rather, he was approached by staff at the clinic and verbally accosted. There was no evidence that he did anything but ask his question.

Judge Stuart Hing stated that Hoye seemed to be a "decent man," and he appeared unwilling to send Hoye to jail as requested by the prosecution and clinic personnel. Instead, Hing offered Hoye probation if he would agree to abide by a court order not to approach within 100 feet of the clinic in question. Asked if he would abide by the order, Hoye replied no.

This appeared to put the judge in the position of sentencing Hoye to jail. But instead he imposed the probation anyway, based on the condition that Hoye obey the distance limit.

Katrina Cantrell, associate executive director of Women's Health Specialists, said, "When anyone restricts access to reproductive health services, every woman affected is a living example of a colonized body."

COMMENTARY

Cantrell's statement demonstrates the unreasonable passion these people have for killing babies in the womb. If a person merely asks someone to consider an alternative to abortion, not hindering them in any way from entering the killing center, he is considered to be "restricting access" and "colonizing" the women's bodies. A bit dramatic to say the least.

Yet the argument evidently works in this ungodly environment.

I suppose time will tell if Walter Hoye is again arrested then sent to jail for not abiding by the 100-foot rule. Some prayer for him is in order. ❖

Film on Islamic terrorism called 'hate speech'

A Dutch court ruled on January 21 that Geert Wilders, a member of the Dutch Parliament, should be prosecuted for "hate speech" because of statements he has made about Islam to newspapers and in his film, *Fitna*.

Wilders, leader of the Freedom Party in Holland, has compared the Koran to Adolf Hitler's book, *Mein Kampf*. His movie, *Fitna* (Arabic for "Strife") presents footage of Islamic terrorism interspersed with passages from the Koran. It has become popular among YouTube viewers.

Wilders called the ruling "an attack on freedom of expression," and has said that if he is tried, then all citizens opposed to the Islamization of the Netherlands will be on trial.

In February Wilders was banned by Britain's office of the Home Secretary from entering the country to present his film to the House of Lords, by whom he had been invited. Home Secretary Jacqui Smith stated that what Wilders said "about Muslims and their beliefs...would threaten community harmony and therefore public security in the UK."

COMMENTARY

Islam is on the verge of conquering western Europe by four methods: immigration, procreation, civil strife, and the implementation of sharia law.

The interesting thing about Wilder's alleged "hate speech" is that in the film he says nothing negative about Islam. He merely presents passages from the Koran that call for violence against Islam's enemies (read non-Muslims—"infidels") interspersed with scenes of terrorist attacks against innocent people.

Wilders was raised as a Roman Catholic but professes no religion. His assertion is that "Islam is not another leaf on the tree of religion," but a totalitarian political ideology. He lives under the constant specter of death threats.

Wilders' treatment by the Dutch court and by the British government demonstrates the power of Islam in the EU. And what we witness in the EU will be reality in the United States before too long. ❖

DNC chair credits Warren, Osteen for Democrat victories

Democratic National Committee chair Howard Dean, who has called the GOP a "white Christian party" told an audience at a Democratic Committee fundraiser in May, 2007, that young evangelical Christians are changing their politics and embracing the Democrats' agendas. He stated that nearly 30 percent of people who identify themselves as "evangelical Christians" also identify as Democratic voters. This is up 10 percentage points from the previous election.

Dean credited this surge to two factors: 1) aggressive outreach to Christians via advertising on Christian broadcast networks; 2) endorsement and/or exposure by evangelical Christian leaders.

Said Dean:

We went out and advertised on Christian broadcast networks...because in the evangelical movement, young people are changing America—and they're changing the evangelical movement.

People don't want to go to church anymore...and come out feeling bad

because they happen to know somebody who's gay. People want to go to church because they know what they can do about poverty, about Darfur, about the environment.

Dean specifically cited the positive impacts of Christian leaders such as Rick Warren, author of the best-selling *The Purpose-Driven Life*, and pastor of Saddleback Church in Orange County, Calif., and of Joel Osteen, televangelist and pastor of Lakewood Church in Houston, Texas.

Those people don't beat up on other people to make their point and raise a lot of money. And we need to reach out to those folks, and work with them, and not be afraid. There is common cause with folks that we never thought we had common cause with.

That's how you grow [the Democrat Party] to be inclusive and to control America again...by representing everybody.

Warren's appeal for social awareness among Christians has resonated with many in the evangelical camp.

COMMENTARY

Is it wrong for Christians to be Democrats? Of course not. Is it virtuous for Christians to be Republicans? No. It isn't a matter of which political party one belongs to; it is a matter of one's faithfulness to the Gospel that is important to our God.

Yet the worldly institutions with which we identify and/or support can reveal much of where our priorities lie, and with whom we identify most strongly.

There are ungodly elements within both parties. But the ideology of each does suggest an overall difference in moral judgment. So, too, do the various worldly elements that identify with each party.

Although the Republican Party has shifted to the left, there are distinctions that remain, at least among the rank and file. Those distinctions demonstrate the divide that exists in the United States. Two distinctions that fall within the realm of morality are abortion and homosexuality. The Democrat Party largely supports abortion and panders to the homosexual agenda of inclusion and acceptance of normalcy. Other distinctions don't necessarily fall within the category

of morality but are more matters of patriotism vs. globalism.

As believers in Jesus we understand that man's sin nature is driving him to the brink of judgment by God. That judgment will affect not only individuals but nations. And the United States is not immune. We see the moral slide of America as evidence that "morality" means nothing if separated from faith in Jesus Christ.

The divide that concerns us is that which exists between older evangelicals and young neo-evangelicals. (Yes, some young are true evangelicals, and some older are neo-evangelicals, but we're generalizing here.)

Just as the nation is irrevocably divided, so is the Body of Christ (or at least those who claim to represent Christ by calling themselves "Christians.")

It is not for us to judge our brother's politics, or lack of political involvement. In today's anti-Christ climate we can certainly see the god of this world increasingly taking control of society. It won't be long before the entire world is in a frenzy to destroy God's people and burn as many Bibles as they can. I'm speaking of the West, not merely the Islamic states.

America has been betrayed from within. Worse, Christianity has been betrayed from within. But Christianity as a religion is not the be-all or end-all of the faith. The true Body of Christ knows where it must stand in the dark days ahead. ❖

Obama executive order to bring Palestinians to US?

On January 27, President Barack Obama, issued one of his first executive orders (#2009-15) authorizing "an amount not to exceed \$20.3 million from the United States Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund for the purpose of meeting unexpected and urgent refugee and migration needs, including by contributions to international, governmental, and nongovernmental organizations and payment of administrative expenses of Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration of the Department of State, related to humanitarian needs of Palestinian refugees and conflict victims in Gaza."

It is not known at this time exactly how these funds will be utilized, but they may be used to import masses of Palestinians into the United States.

COMMENTARY

Who are these Palestinians, besides hapless people left desolate not by Israel but by the Arab and other Middle East governments? When Israel became a legitimate state it appealed to non-Jews living in that country to remain and be part of the new nation. The Islamic states that surround Israel spread fear in the people's hearts that the Jews would kill them, causing many to flee into the deserts. There they have been exploited by those Islamic states and used as propaganda fodder against Israel. The continual cries for Israel's destruction, the incessant rocket attacks, and Israel's retaliation itself, have all contributed to these people's misery. Israel is not entirely without blame, but militant Islam's intention to annihilate all Jews is the basis for all the conflict in that area.

We must have compassion for the suffering on both sides, but there is a common-sense problem with this presidential executive order. Mingled among the Palestinian refugees are Hamas militants. Even among the most benign elements among them, we cannot forget that the Palestinians elected the terrorist organization Hamas to lead them. The hatred that has been fomented against not only Israel but the United States will not be abated by throwing \$20.3 million to help them relocate to the United States. The militant Islamic ideology will use our compassion (what it views as our weakness) against us if given the opportunity. What we could be facing is a tremendous influx of terrorists masquerading as refugees fleeing their "urgent" situation. A situation created and exacerbated by their own leaders.

The anti-Christ Muslims are gaining strength in the U.S. and will soon be at the same peak as in the EU. Our newly-elected "Christian" president seems to regard his Muslim ties as more important than the nation he is sworn to protect and defend.

And the religion to which he claims to adhere is in even greater danger.

But, God's will be done. ❖