



# NEWS OF THE HOWARD CENTER FOR JULY 2006

An Update From Allan Carlson, President

*“We strive to be the leading source of fresh ideas and new strategies for affirmation and defense of the natural family, both nationally and globally.”*



## Dear Friends of the Howard Center:

Greetings from Rockford! Our mission is to articulate and promote a natural family worldview that can serve as a guide to culture, law, and public policy. We encourage primary research, interpret scientific findings for an audience of families and opinion leaders, and mobilize this energy through national and international congresses. Allow me to review recent developments.

### PLANNING FOR THE WORLD CONGRESS OF FAMILIES IV IN WARSAW, POLAND MAY 11-13, 2007 is well underway.

During a January visit to Warsaw, I found a high level of enthusiasm in the country, among pro-family and pro-life groups, religious leaders, and political leaders alike. In preparation for the Congress we recently assembled a joint meeting of our International Planning Committee and the Warsaw Planning Group. Held May 5-7, 25 international participants joined 30 Poles in Warsaw to design the big event. We actually held our opening session in the office of the Prime Minister of Poland, where his Chief of Staff, Mariusz Blaszczyk, pledged the government’s full support. Several leaders of Poland’s Senate and *Sejm* (Parliament) were also present, and gave us their blessing, as well.



*Allan Carlson, Mariusz Baszczyk, and  
Senator Antoni Szymanski*

Other organizations are stepping up to pledge their support for the World Congress of Families IV. The following groups and families have signed on as co-sponsors: American Values, Catholic Family and Human Rights Institute, Concerned Women for America, Gil and Janice Crouse, Grass Tops USA, Family Research Council, Heritage Foundation, National Association for Marriage Enrichment, Population Research

Institute, Religious Freedom Coalition, and United Families International. The Institute for Family Sciences in Poland has pledged 200 youth volunteers for the Congress and OZON, a Polish weekly news magazine, plans to give extensive coverage of the Congress.

The Congress theme will be “The Natural Family: Springtime for Europe and the World.” Anxiety over falling birthrates and depopulation has recently become the most important political and cultural issue in Europe, a subject to which our Congress will naturally appeal. Our sub-themes will include:

- “We Will Renew Cultures of Marriage”
- “We Will Celebrate More Babies and Larger Families”
- “We Will Nurture Free, Vital, and Productive Homes”



*The Palace of  
Culture and  
Science in  
Warsaw: Site  
for WCF IV*

Center·News

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**WCF IV “PREP CON,”** will be held November 3-4, 2006 in Paris, France. This preparatory conference will draw 100 leaders of European pro-family organizations together to develop a common agenda and to promote the May 2007 Warsaw meeting. With The Howard Center as a co-sponsor, this event is being directly organized by The Catholic Family and Human Rights Institute.



**CONJUGAL AMERICA: ON THE PUBLIC PURPOSE OF MARRIAGE,** a new book by yours truly, will be published this autumn by Transaction Publishers, the social science press at Rutgers University. The volume examines five important “public” rationales for marriage: the procreation of children; the necessary bonding of the sexual to the economic; the vital interests of five distinct “communities” in the conjugal bond; its political importance; and its special relation to American history. The book concludes with a chapter on “The Necessity of Marriage Policy.” It can be ordered on the web at: [www.transactionpub.com](http://www.transactionpub.com).

### **WCF IV LOS ANGELES BRIEFING HELD AT AZUSA STREET**

**CENTENNIAL.** This successful two-day briefing in April occurred at the LA Convention Center. It was part of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the historic Azusa Street Revival, and 40,000 Pentecostal and Charismatic Christians gathered for five days of celebration. At the invitation of John Vining, Director of Family Ministries for the Church of God, we provided an introduction to the pro-family movement and stressed threats to the family and faith around the globe.



Heading the list of distinguished speakers was Wade Horn, Assistant Secretary for Children and Families at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Other speakers included Don Feder, Pastor Larry Christensen, Don Schmierer of Fieldstead & Company, Janice Crouse of Concerned Women for America, Pat Fagan of the Heritage Foundation, Gwen Landolt of REAL Women of Canada, Ted Baehr of Movieguide® (Christian Film and Television Commission), and Larry Jacobs of The Howard Center. Thanks to the help of Center friend Caryl Crahan, we hosted a reception for Dr. Horn and other speakers at the Jonathon Club.



*Larry (2nd from left) tours Bern, Switzerland with Dr. Chris Kobach (left), Dr. Michael Williams (2nd from right) & a Swiss tour guide (right)*

### **LARRY JACOBS SELECTED AS A 2006 “YOUNG LEADER” BY AMERICAN SWISS FOUNDATION.**

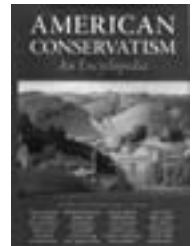
Our Center’s Vice President traveled to Switzerland to participate in the Young Leaders Conference with 24 others from the USA and 25 from Switzerland. Attendees included successful business entrepreneurs, bankers, politicians, scholars, writers, and government officials. The Conference was held May 13-20 at Credit Suisse Group’s beautiful Horgen Executive Management Training Center near Zurich. Travel sponsorship came from Swiss International Airlines. Larry met with business leaders and CEOs from Credit Suisse, UBS, Nestle, Novartis, PricewaterhouseCoopers, and others. He also met with government leaders from the Swiss Parliament, US Embassy, and the

Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as with religious and academic leaders from the University of Zurich, the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, and the Catholic Church. Larry gave a presentation to a conference seminar on “The Role of Religion and Family in Contemporary Life.”

**DEBATING SAME-SEX MARRIAGE AT UCLA.** I took part in a multi-scholar debate at the University of California—Los Angeles School of Law in late April which focused on the issues of extending marriage and adoption to same-sex couples. I squared off on “Marriage and the Family in Scandinavia and Western Europe” with Lee Badgett, visiting professor at UCLA’s Williams Institute. I remarked, “Marriage and family law exists to encourage, sustain, and protect this unique institution. Marriage is for the propagation of children and their conservation through nurture, education, and protection...The introduction of registered partnerships and/or same sex marriage further confuses and diminishes a vital human institution.” My paper is slated to appear in the *UCLA Women’s Law Journal*.

### **IN BRIEF**

- The new book *American Conservatism: An Encyclopedia*, published by the Inter-collegiate Studies Institute, contains articles on John Howard and yours truly. In addition, I contributed essays to the 997-page volume on “Centralization,” “Homeschooling,” and “Localism.” It can be ordered on the web at [www.isibooks.org](http://www.isibooks.org).
- My article, “Indentured Families: Social Conservatives and the GOP: Can This Marriage Be Saved?” appeared in the March 27 issue of *The Weekly Standard*. It generated considerable controversy. For example, Harvard University Law Professor Elizabeth Warren concluded: “Dr. Carlson records the history of shifting support of Democrats and Republicans for family issues, making it clear no one owns the votes of hard-working families. Politicians in both parties might want to listen to the warning in his words.”
- In late May, I served as a panelist for the Bradley Foundation Symposium on “‘What’s the Big Idea?’ True Blue vs. Deep Red: The Ideas that Move American Politics,” in Washington D.C. Other panelists included David Brooks of *The New York Times*, William Kristol of *The Weekly Standard*, Francis Fukufama of Johns Hopkins University, and Robert George of Princeton University.
- In February, I journeyed to Seoul, South Korea, to give a talk on “The Family of the Future” for a conference of national political and business leaders and a nationwide SBS-TV audience. The speech emphasized the bond between the natural family and happiness. I also gave an interview on the same network.



### **RECENT TESTIMONIES**

- “When looking for ways to understand and reign in economic structures which are profoundly hostile to the permanent things, we ought not ignore the treasure trove of resources provided by...The Howard Center. The archives of their *Family in America* and their *News Research* newsletters are invaluable. Allan Carlson and his colleagues have gathered piles of evidence demonstrating the hostility of the [government’s] economic policies pursued since the Second World War to the family and have thought long and hard about realistic policy reforms to reverse that trend.”

—Caleb Stegall and Dan Knauss, Editors of *The New Pantagruel*

- *"The Natural Family: A Manifesto* [released by the Center in 2005] may be the most important document outlining productive marriage and family policy positions ever."

-Dr. Leo Godzich, *National Association of Marriage Enhancement*



**JOHN HOWARD COMPLETES HIS NEW BOOK.** Our Senior Fellow comments:

“The three years I have spent studying for my book *Christianity: Lifeblood of America’s Free Society (1620-1945)* have made it clear to me that the rapid erosion of the standards of civilized living in America is the result of the failure of education, religion, the family, and the literature to acculturate new generations. For decades, young Americans have not been taught how thoroughly the principles of Christianity had pervaded and regulated life in America for 300 years. Since the young were not taught to understand, value, celebrate, and protect the behavioral

standards of American Christendom, it is not surprising that many were persuaded by the radical left to abandon the religious structure which thwarted their desires and appetites.” We anticipate that the book will be published in 2007.

**NEW SPECIAL FUND SEEKS DONATIONS IN HONOR OF JOHN HOWARD.** An endowment fund named in honor of our Senior Fellow has been started with an initial gift of \$100,000. Our next goal is \$2 million, with the funds to support a research fellowship in educational philosophy to carry on Dr. Howard’s work and ideals. Contact Larry Jacobs at The Howard Center for more information or to request a prospectus.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

I hope that this letter gives you a feel for the vital work being advanced by The Howard Center. However, for this to continue and grow, we do need your support. Lean and frugal, operating out of a small Midwestern city, refusing to accept government funds, we rely on the generosity of people such as you. As our fiscal year closes, please consider making a special gift. As foes and friends alike testify, The Howard Center is specially positioned to protect those things—traditional marriage, children, grandchildren, the home, vital faith—that you hold dear. Your collaboration and your help at this time would be deeply appreciated.

Godspeed,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Allan C. Carlson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Allan C. Carlson  
President

P.S. In anticipation, thank you for your help and encouragement in making a positive difference for the natural family. For every new gift to The Howard Center of \$200 or more, I will be pleased to send you a specially signed copy of my book, *The “American Way” Family and Community in the Shaping of the American Identity*.