

To the Ends of the Earth

by Gary L. Bauer

We got a postcard from Air Force Captain Dave Panzera the other day. That's not so unusual, since we receive many calls and letters from active duty military. But Captain Panzera's card came to us from *Antarctica*.

That's a dramatic example of how far and wide the message of FRC is traveling these days. It's not at all unusual for us to host meetings with pastors from Southern Africa, champions of religious liberty from Russia and pro-family leaders from Canada, Australia and New Zealand. The international interest in Family Research Council is a reflection of the global nature of the threat to the family.

I always try to give encouragement to our friends from abroad. They often report feeling "overwhelmed" by a tide of pornography, drugs, abortion and sexual misconduct. I share with our allies some of the expanding array of communications tools we use to get our message out. In trying to support them, I find that I am uplifted. Let me share with you, a regular reader of *Washington Watch*, the growing array of devices we have used in the fight for faith, family and freedom.

As Americans reduce their reliance on the liberal talking heads of TV network news, radio has filled the gap. Sure, there are the Howard Sterns and Don Imuses, but well-informed pro-family callers to radio talk shows shatter the media myths about our movement. My nickname for conservative programs broadcast from our nation's capital is "Radio Free Washington." I'm proud that Focus on the Family's news and information feature, *Family News in Focus* (FNIF), is broadcast to hundreds of religious stations every day. FNIF's Washington bureau, and its veteran chief, Carl Ramsey, are good neighbors to FRC.

My daily radio commentary, which bears the same title as this newsletter, keeps many of you informed of late-

breaking stories and my perspective on the issues. You can call our FRC toll-free line at 1-800-225-4008 to obtain a listing of participating stations in your community.

FRC's *Legislative Hotline* is easily reached by dialing 1-202-783-HOME. It's available 24 hours a day and is put together each week (or more frequently as events warrant) by our top-notch government relations staff. You can also receive the text of the *Hotline* via FAX.

Just call our Government Relations department at 1-202-393-2100.

If education is your special interest, *Ed Facts* is just for you. *Ed Facts* is a

weekly fax report available to citizens for a suggested donation. It details the latest news from Washington on issues that affect your kids and their schools.

Our CAN mailing goes out once a month. Intended for community impact groups, it contains more in-depth analyses, copies of "op eds" written by FRC staff, and our latest policy papers.

FRC's staff includes some intrepid "cybernavts" who are using the latest technology to make sure we are represented on the Internet. Our site is located at: <http://www.frc.org>. I confess I'm a bit "low-tech." My word processor is located under my hat, and I carry my printer around in my shirt pocket. But for those of you who find that the world begins with a keyboard, our Internet site should please you.

When David Brinkley's producers called me recently to appear on *This Week*, I was pleased (even if I did have to lock horns with Rep. Barney Frank). And CBS-TV's *Face the Nation* gave me yet another opportunity to tout the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA). As gratifying as these major media appearances are, it's good to know that FRC isn't dependent on others to spread our message. We have our own means of getting the word out. And that word is clearly reaching the ends of the earth.

**"FRC'S STAFF INCLUDES SOME
INTREPID CYBERNAUTS."**

ON THE HORIZON

- **CAREERS bill reaching turning point.** White House has stated its interest in working with congressional sponsors of CAREERS to bring resolution to beleaguered bill, still in conference committee as of mid-June. Administration seeks more funds for CAREERS and dedicated funding for its School-to-Work initiative. Congressional sponsors must now weigh options: conceding ground to White House, moving bill in resistance to administration demands, or **abandoning efforts for this year.**

- **Daniel Moynihan (D-N.Y.),** lone Senator who did not cast a vote when Partial-Birth Abortion Ban passed Senate last December, has indicated he will **vote to override President Clinton's veto.** "I think this is just too close to infanticide. A child has been born and it has exited the uterus," Moynihan said May 5. Some pro-life Democrats who voted for bill initially may be vulnerable to pressure from White House and vote to uphold veto. FRC is working to identify House and Senate members who can be counted on to support override. **Catholic Bishops will launch a nationwide parish postcard campaign** on June 29-30 to urge override. House will vote first.

- **Religious freedom fights continue.** Florida Gov. Lawton Chiles **vetoed bill to allow voluntary, student-led prayer at school events.** Before veto, Florida's Attorney General sent Chiles a memo saying, "Instead of a Christian nation under God we are officially now mandated to be a country with no formal recognition of God [emphasis added], whether God be Christian, Moslem, Hindu, or Unitarian." In daily radio commentary on June 5, Gary Bauer said, "A nation that no longer sees itself as living 'under God' had better get used to waking each morning to the same bleak headlines of violence and despair."