Meet Jesus, your mentally deranged Savior

By Donald E. Wildmon,
AFA Executive Director

After **The Last Temptation of Christ** was released and I had talked with several persons who had seen the movie, I decided that I would not see it. The reasoning behind this was that I was asking others to boycott the film and felt that I knew all I needed to know to make an intelligent decision concerning the film without seeing it. (Incidentally, I have never been swimming in the sewer but I can still make an intelligent decision about what it would be like.)

However, several people whose opinion I trust called and asked me to please go see the film. They said that in my position of leadership I simply had to see the film. And they felt I should see the film to take away the most powerful tool my opponents had—that is, the opponents could charge me with ignorance **because** I had not seen the film.

I saw the film. It is far worse than I thought it would be. Probably I fought the film as hard as, or harder than, any other individual in the country. Yet, as I walked out of the theater, I had one major regret: I wish I had done more.

The only thing the Jesus in the film and the Jesus in the New Testament have in common is their name. The Jesus in the film is a somewhat mentally deranged individual, not knowing who he is or where he is going. He can't tell the difference between the voice of the devil and the voice of God. He doesn't know if he is the Messiah or not. He finally manages to get himself crucified. Following his "dream sequence", he is surprised to find that he dies on the cross.

How anyone who believes in the New Testament Jesus can defend this movie is beyond me. As I look back at the praise given the movie by National Council of Churches and People for the American Way officials, my heart sinks. The Jesus of the movie is the virtual antithesis of the Jesus of the New Testament.

I would never, ever give my life to follow an incompetent, mentally unbalanced half-lunatic—which Jesus is depicted as being in the movie.

That MCA/Universal released this movie evidences the anti-Christian bias and bigotry evident in Hollywood more clearly than any other film produced. Chrm. Lew Wasserman would never have allowed the release of a movie half as offensive to Jews, Moslems, blacks, Hispanics, American indians, Orientals, homosexuals—i.e., to **any** affinity group. But Christian bashing is in vogue in Hollywood.

History says that unless the abuse of a group ends, it progresses into physical abuse. We still have time to keep our children and grandchildren from physical suffering because of their Christian faith. It depends on whether we care enough to act now to stop the Christian bashing. I pray we will.

Don

Should we or not?

By Randy Proctor
AFA Associate Director

...Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God...
—I John 4:2

And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.
—I John 5:11-12

Some question the wisdom of protesting **The Last Temptation of Christ** now that it is released. Some pulpits are encouraging their people not to protest publicly, only to join in boycotting MCA. They believe publicity given to the movie may actually hurt more than help. Others believe there is no need for such a fuss, after all it is only a movie—one man's concept. Others cite first amendment concerns and related legal positions. So, should we or shouldn't we ?

First, let me say this is not the time to trumpet an uncertain sound! What a tremendous opportunity! What a powerful and wonderful God we serve! The Lord's ways are truly above our ways! With the release of this movie, God has cut through the denominational labels, religious trappings, and ministerial "rabbit chasing" to give us an opportunity to take a firm stand.

Believe what you will concerning church doctrines and other theological disciplines, but here is a singular issue of the person of Jesus Christ, the Cornerstone of Christianity!

People are talking about Jesus in the work place, in the marketplace, in the streets, and almost anywhere! So, be ready to give an answer for the hope that is within you! The Jesus in the movie and the Jesus in the New Testament bear no resemblance whatsoever! It is the Christian's privilege, it is his calling, it is his responsibility to speak out and stand up for who Jesus is!

So should we protest... I SAY YES! WE SHOULD! WE OUGHT! WE MUST! And by God's grace, WE WILL!

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AFA is a Christian organization promoting the Biblical ethic of decency in American society with primary emphasis on TV and other media.

Porn Awareness Week October 30-November 6

The seventh annual Pornography Awareness Week will be observed in thousands of churches across American October 30-November 6. The week has become a time when a growing number of churches and communities speak to the growing issue of pornography in their communities. Scores of cities and states last year issued proclamations declaring the week PAW.

Pastors are encouraged to preach on the subject, Sunday school classes are urged to discuss the subject, and community groups are urged to publicly oppose pornography during the week.

AFA has prepared special materials to help in observing PAW. *A Guide To What One Person Can Do About Pornography,* a step-by-step guide on how to oppose pornography in your community, is available from AFA. So is *Executive Summary: Images of Children, Crime and Violence in Playboy, Penthouse and Hustler.* This 24-page summary of a study which shows the connection between child sexual abuse and the porn magazines should be given to every business that sells porn magazines in your community. Both of these publications can be ordered from AFA. The cost is $2 per copy for a single copy, $1.50 per copy for 2-9 copies, $1 per copy for 10-49 copies, and .50— per copy for 50 or more copies.

Monday, October 31, has been set as National Pornography Picket Day. Churches, groups, and individuals are encouraged to organize pickets of businesses in their community selling pornography on that day.

AFA is asking that groups picket Holiday Inns, Circle K, Majik Market, Cumberland Farms, Dairy Mart, Stop & Go convenience stores, adult movie houses, video stores renting pornographic films and other stores selling pornographic movies and magazines.

AFA has prepared a special "picket packet" for the week showing step by step instructions on how to organize and carry out a successful picket of stores selling pornography. See page 4 and 5 for picket packet. AFA's 450 local chapters will be joining with other groups in picketing stores as part of Pornography Awareness Week activities.

More than 20,000 convenience and drug stores have pulled porn magazines in the past few years, and prosecutions of peddlers of obscenity have increased dramatically in that time. AFA feels that a successful National Pornography Picket Day will bring attention to the problem and further help eliminate pornography from our society.

Despite the release of the study showing the connection between pornography and child sexual abuse, Circle K, Stop & Go, Dairy Mart, Cumberland Farms, and Majik Market convenience stores continue to sell the publications for profit.

The leading retailers of porn magazines include:

Chrm. Karl Eller, The Circle K Corporation, P.O. Box 52084, Phoenix, AZ, 85072, Phone 1-800-437-5674.

Chrm. V.H. Van Horn, National Convenience Stores, Inc. (Stop & Go stores), 100 Waugh Drive, Houston, TX, 77007, Phone 713/863-2000.

Chrm. Charles Nirenberg, Dairy Mart Corporation, 240 South Road, Enfield, CT, 06082, Phone 203/741-3611.

Chrm. D.B. Haseopes, Cumberland Farms Stores, 777 Dedham Street, Canton, MA, 02021, Phone 617/828-4900.

Chrm. Dillard Munford, Munford, Incorporated (Majik Market stores), P.O. Box 7701, Sta. C, Atlanta, GA, 30309, Phone 404/352-6641.

Chrm. David M. Roderick, U.S.X. Corporation, 600 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, PA, 15230, Phone 412/433-1121.

AFA has learned that the following motel chains have made a corporate decision to carry in-room porn movies in their motels.

Chrm. Michael Rose, Holiday Corporation, 1023 Cherry Road, Memphis, TN 38117. Holiday Inns is the largest distributor of in-room pornographic movies in the world. Holiday Corporation also owns Embassy Suites motels and Hampton Inns. Phone 1-800-HOLIDAY.

Pres. Leona M. Helmsley, Helmsley Hotels, 455 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10022, phone 212-888-7000.

Chrm. Jay A. Pritzker, Hyatt Corporation, Two First National Plaza, Chicago, IL 60603, phone 312-621-4200.

Chrm. J.W. Marriott, Jr., Marriott Corporation, Marriott Drive, Washington, DC 20058, phone 301-897-9000.

Chrm. Barron Hilton, Hilton Hotels Corporation, Post Office Box 5567, Beverly Hills, CA 90210, phone 213-278-4321.

MIM has 'White Ribbon' campaign

For Pornography Awareness Week, Morality in Media is advocating an anti-porn campaign called White Ribbon Against Pornography (WRAP).

White ribbons displayed all over your area—in the windows of homes, in churches, in store windows, around trees, on car antennae or mirrors—will let your law enforcement officers know you want obscenity laws vigorously enforced; will send a message to video stores that you don't want obscene video cassettes trafficked in your city; will tell telephone companies that you don't want dial-a-porn. In short, a White Ribbon Campaign during Pornography Awareness Week (Oct. 30-Nov. 6) will be a great expression of your community standards.

The White Ribbon initiative was conceived in Butler County, Pennsylvania by Norma Norris and succeeded beyond her wildest expectations. The citizens were ready to take the offensive rather than the defensive in the battle against porn, and last March, 12,000 autos sported white ribbons on antennae with 250 of those autos forming an unprecedented motorcade. After that, there could be no doubt as to what the community standards were in Butler. Norris serves as national chairperson of WRAP.

Morality in Media is recommending that on Monday, October 31, all groups should mail a big white bow to both George Bush and Michael Dukakis. The bow should be sent by United Parcel Service so that its arrival can be guaranteed that week.

For individuals, MIM is asking each one to put a strip of white ribbon into an envelope on Sunday, October 30, the first day of PAW and mail to each presidential candidate. The message to impart is that you are participating in the White Ribbon Against Pornography Campaign during PAW. Send to: George Bush for President; 753 15th St. NW, Ste. 800; Washington, DC 20005 (202-842-1988); and Dukakis for President, 105 Chauncey St., Boston, MA 02111 (617-4512480.

MIM suggests a 2 ¾ inch wide ribbon. Cut in 18 inch strips for car antennas, make armbands, etc. Make bows for doors of homes, stores, and churches.

Start a new chapter during PAW week

One of the most effective projects you could do for your community is determine to begin a local AFA chapter! What better time and opportunity to begin a chapter than National Pornography Awareness Week?

AFA has assisted in the development of over 460 local chapters across our nation. Many of these were conceived in the heart of **one** concerned individual who wanted to make a difference in his community.

We have detailed instructions and other materials that has helped many individuals with no previous community leadership experience to successfully launch an effective local chapter. With AFA information and assistance, you can have an effective local chapter in your community!

It's not too late! For details call us at 601-844-5036 and ask for Randy Proctor or write Mr. Proctor at: AFA, P.O. Drawer 2440, Tupelo, MS 38803.