

Home Base



Wait No More: Raising foster care awareness.

by Jim Daly

I'd like to tell you about a wonderful weekend that involved my wife, Jean, our boys, Trent and Troy, along with hundreds of children from foster care, adopted from foster care, and the great game of baseball.

The story begins here in Colorado at the ballpark of the Colorado Springs Sky Sox. They're the Triple-A affiliate of the Colorado Rockies.

Focus on the Family hosted scores of adoptive and foster families—about 200 kids and parents in all—at the Sky Sox game.

Most of the children we hosted had never been to a ballgame, let alone invited *onto* the freshly manicured field. They were ecstatic! I overheard one boy saying, "Dad, we should come here every year!"

Our *Wait No More* program—which raises awareness of kids in foster care awaiting adoption—has been especially successful here in Colorado. It is cited by the Department of Human Services as one of the contributing factors to a drop in the number of foster children waiting to be adopted from about 800 in 2008 to 365 in 2010.

To read more from my blog, *Finding Home*:

FocusOnTheFamily.org/FindingHome



Colorado Springs, CO 80995
FocusOnTheFamily.com

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Looking ahead

What to expect from Focus on the Family® in the coming months

■ The Celebrate Family Tour

Each unique event on the Celebrate Family Tour will give you the chance to experience a LIVE radio show, as well as enjoy a performance by a popular Christian entertainer! Upcoming dates include:

Date: September 20
Where: Washington, D.C.

Date: October 27
Where: Atlanta

Date: September 21
Where: New York City

Date: October 28
Where: New Orleans

■ Upcoming broadcast schedule

To see the most recent broadcast schedule for our daily radio program go to: www.listen.family.org or download our new mobile app to hear the broadcast anytime.

What you can do

Help Focus on the Family overcome a summer slump

A budget shortfall is threatening our ability to help families thrive.

Will you please use the enclosed insert to send a special gift to help us overcome our current budget shortfall? Your generosity will strengthen marriages, protect Biblical values, defend human life and reach even more people with the life-changing news of the Gospel!

Thank you for everything you do for families.



Biblical truth for today's family

August 2010

FAMILY FOCUS™

SOCIAL ISSUES

Signs of the times

Bringing biblical values back to the national discourse

By JIM DALY

Tolerance is a buzzword that carries significant weight in our national conversation right now.

And while Jesus calls us to love our neighbors, too often today tolerance is used to stifle free speech, while pushing a secular agenda.

A recent for instance: anti-bullying campaigns are popping up on school campuses across the country.

While bullying is problem that needs to be addressed, many current anti-bullying campaigns today are veiled attempts to drive same-sex education into the classroom by including sexual orientation as a group in need of special protection.

(continued inside)



EVERYDAY Family CAMPAIGN

The family that laughs together, lasts together

"Laughter is the shortest distance between two people."

The healthy benefits of laughter have been widely reported throughout the years. Laughter:

- Boosts the immune system
- Relieves pain
- Protects your heart
- Improves your breathing

... and on and on!

Jesus Himself had a sense of humor.

He loved to rejoice. He loved a celebration, even famously turning water to wine at a wedding.

Jesus also loved being around children.

And recent studies have shown that children laugh up to 400 times every day. The same study found that adults laugh an average of 17 times each day! What a difference!

Laughter draws us together and unites us in spirit.



Spend time laughing every day!

Laugh with your children. Laugh with your grandchildren. Laugh with your spouse.

To find out more go to FocusOnTheFamily.com/laughter.

Watch for more on the **EVERYDAY FAMILY CAMPAIGN** in the coming months!

A time for tolerance? (continued)

A mother in Illinois was shocked to discover recently that a program to make her child's school "safe" and "welcoming" included adding homosexual themed materials for kids as young as kindergarten!

This discussion causes me to think about several things as Jean and I raise our two boys in a culture that is often opposed to the biblical values we cherish.

First, as Christian parents we need to be proactive about the people and materials that are influencing our children's minds. Find out what's being taught in your child's (or grandchild's) schools and talk to your kids to help them discern truth from lies.

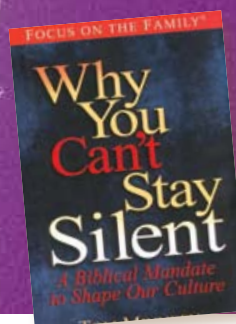
Second, promote solutions. Speak directly to your child's heart. They hold your opinion most dearly. Then, get involved in your child's school to ensure that issues like bullying are addressed but addressed in a way that doesn't promote non-Christian values.

Finally, be a voice for truth in your community. Jesus didn't stay silent when he saw lies affecting the hearts of His followers. Neither should we stay silent in our communities, our schools and our churches.

As always, Focus on the Family stands committed to bringing biblical truths into the national conversation.

Thank you for joining the dialogue. For more information and resources about anti-bullying campaigns, visit truetolerance.org.

LEARN MORE: Find your voice in the national conversation and speak truth into your children's lives.



Why You Can't Stay Silent: A Biblical Mandate to Shape Our Culture

By Tom Minnery
Senior Vice President of Government and Public Policy for Focus on the Family
SKU 99254



Celebrating 20 years of helping families find healthy ways to be entertained

For 20 years, Plugged In has been helping moms and dads understand and navigate the world of popular entertainment.

What an exciting milestone!

Today, Plugged In Online is visited ONE MILLION times each month. Kids, parents and grandparents alike are seeking a biblical perspective on the latest hits from Hollywood.

Visitors find detailed information about movies, television shows, songs and video games. Through Plugged In reviews, articles and discussions, parents are empowered to make wise entertainment choices, choices that follow the biblical principle outlined in Colossians.

Every movie has a message. Every song is trying to tell you something. Even video games try to tell kids what is important.

Plugged In is there to help families decide which messages they want to let in.



Visit pluggedin.com today to read reviews of the latest entertainment offerings!

“ See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of the world rather than on Christ. ”

COLOSSIANS 2:8