

People For The American Way

TO: Staff
FROM: Piper
DATE: 12/14/81

RE: Radical religious broadcasts Week of 12/7-12/13

700 Club

12/8- Robertson was discussing with a guest about the humanists coming into the courts, education, etc. blaspheming the Lord and Christians and that God is going to come and get back at these folks through natural disasters (his examples), and only those that believe in God and give to God will prevent this from happening. He referred to the Washington for Jesus rally saying that there was a terrible drought that year, but after the rally rain was plentiful.

The response to the Supreme Court decision concerning the Univ. of Mo. was exclaimed over. They all prayed that more decisions of such nature would come about. Had the court ruled in favor of the Univ. Robertson said then Christians would have been a persecuted minority.

12/9- Concerning the on-going case in Arkansas, evolutionism vs. creationism, the 700 Club gave a balanced segment, interviewing those pro and con. However, in his commentary, Robertson said that "we should take the courts out of education," and referred to busing as an example of where they have interfered in what he implied ^{to be} as a negative ^{decision} manner. As we have all heard, Robertson got rather upset that Attorney General Steve Clark auctioned off meals with him for an ACLU fundraiser 2 weeks prior to the case. He called Clark crooked, and said that the auction was for funds needed for the case rather than as a benefit for the foundation, thus implying that Clark can hardly be defending the state when his allegiance is obviously with the ACLU side. This is an example of how "deals" are made which effect our laws. He suggested that people in Arkansas who felt they were not being represented by Clark, as he clearly did not have the states interest in mind, barrage the Governor with phone calls, letters and telegrams. Robertson suggested that it might be appropriate for Clark to disqualify himself prior to his suggestion that citizens write and call, in effect, suggesting that they ask for Clark's removal (how I perceived it).

12/10- Robertson retracted his statement that Clark was crooked; he instead said that for Clark to collude with the adversary on the case (ACLU) was crooked, not he personally. Robertson said that the schools should balance their presentation between evolution and creationism. CBN's freedom reporter, Michael Parker, was on discussing the case with Robertson. He said that Clark agrees with the overall aims of the ACLU and Robertson added to that statement that one of the goals of the ACLU is to take religion out of the country. It was also reported that the coverage of attorneys is unbalanced, with 2 on the side of the state and 13 plus from the ACLU. It was

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implied that Clark might be behind this. Basically, the audience is being told that the state is set up for defeat.

Back to their victory, the Supreme Court's decision regarding the U. of Mo., Robertson said that it was a major step for getting prayers back in the schools. Cases seem to be won according to the preparation done by attorneys and often they (Christians) are up against well funded groups, such as in the case in 1962 with Madely Murray O'Hare. Just one more reason for the urgency they have in setting up the Freedom Council.

James Robison- A Man With a Message-

12/13- Robison was preaching from the Thomas Road Baptist Church again. Today's message was about how it is imperative that Christianity take over one's life. In referring to abortions, Robison said they were bloodbaths and that while people were asking him who he was to make the determination when life begins, he wasn't, God was: "I'm not to say nothing, God said it." *Erased*

During his sermon on taking Christianity into one's life, Robison said that the following statement should be put on the front page of the Washington Post (meaning it would get there because he is being watched) that "...anyone who does not come to Jesus Christ and through Jesus Christ will go to hell."

Old Time Gospel Hour

12/13- Falwell also jumped into the controversy concerning evolution vs. creationism. He said that scientific evidence is clearly for creationism, and that the mind is too complex for evolutionist theory which is "happstance." He cites from the Bible and tells his audience that God made us from dust.

Regarding one of his pet peeves, abortion, Falwell said that God is with the fertilized egg and therefore it is recognized as a human being at fertilization and destroying that egg is attacking God.

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TO: Staff
FROM: Piper
DATE: 12/22/81

RE: Radical religious broadcasts Week of 12/14-20

700 Club

12/14- A regular feature on the 700 Club is testimonials from individuals who led "bad" lives before taking Christ into their life. Today's was on a man who had a rock group. He was referred to as being involved in "...rock 'n roll music....and other various 'violent interests.'"

12/16- A segment on abortion was shown today which gave a balanced presentation, interviewing those in favor and opposed to the Hyde Amendment. However, Ben Kinchlow (who was hosting) followed up the segment by saying that the decision is yours whether you want to murder when you feel like it or not. This was an example of their current trend towards dealing with controversial issues. They are being careful to give a balanced program but their commentary after the segment clearly indicates their position. Unfortunately, this style doesn't warrant a response.

12/18- Up-date on the end of the creationism trial in Arkansas. Robertson said that it "...should have never been in front of a judge anyhow." He alleged that the judge had a closed mind prior to the trial and quoted from the Washington Post about how there was an imbalance in the attorneys on each side.

In the last 30 minutes of the program Robertson continued on the topic of evolution vs. creationism saying, "evolution is totally flawed," that there is "no scientific evidence to corroborate the theory of evolution." Robertson drew a parallel between evolution and mules; which are from the donkey and a horse and are sterile, therefore how could evolution have taken place.

12/20- Both Robison and Falwell had Christmas specials and did not get into any controversial issues.

People For The American Way

TO: Staff
FROM: Piper
DATE: 12/28/81

RE: Radical religious broadcasts Week of 12/21-12/27

700 Club

Monday, Dec. 21- Featured Christmas in the 1920's; Old Testament Prophecy in Jerusalem, the defection of Simas Kudirka; Og Mandino-author.

A recent Newsweek had an article on the social diseases being contracted by homosexuals which was discussed by Robertson. Certain diseases are plaguing gays and "...such a fulfillment of Bible prophecy" is apparent according to Robertson. He told his audience "You don't play games with God and when you begin to do it the Bible says this is what will happen.... they're committing indecent acts and receiving in their own bodies the just penalty of their error."

Wednesday, Dec. 23- Featured Phil Bailey of Earth, Wind and Fire; a report on Christmas depression; segments from Tom Sine and Tom Waite, and guest Celeste Bilhartz, an employment counselor.

Robertson was discussing the state of Idaho which recently upheld the right to withdraw ERA ratification. Discussing the 3 year extension, Robertson said it "is unconstitutional!" He said that from a constitutional standpoint that the judge was right to uphold it; however this discussion has been occurring for decades between constitutional scholars and has not been resolved.

Thursday, Dec. 24- Featured Lin Mink singing Christmas carols; a family with 9 adopted children; Pat Boone; a feature on cross-country skiing and Victor Affonso, a priest from India.

After the segment on the family with 9 children was aired, Ben Kinchlow (Robertson's co-host) said "...here's a family taking 9 into their home and that there are other people sitting around looking for ways to legalize abortion so they don't have to bring any life into the world." Kinchlow frequently assists Robertson in making comments after various features, and this is an example of one in which they incorporate their views into fairly nebulous stories presented on the program.

Friday, Dec. 25- Featured Leslie Lemke, an idiot savant who plays the piano; Terry Meusen, the host for USam, CBN's new news program; Kathy Tribodeaux from the Jackson Ballet.

During the last 30 minutes (of a 90 minute broadcast) Robertson reflected on an earlier feature on Leslie Lemke who was born severely retarded, with no eyes and virtually no muscle control. Lemke is an idiot savant, meaning a retarded individual who shows unusual capacity in a particular area, his being playing the piano. Robertson said that if an individual with the odds against him such as Lemke's were is able to at some point achieve what Lemke has, than certainly retardation or deformed fetuses should not be aborted.

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Old Time Gospel Hour

Sunday, Dec. 27- Tape # 480.

Today's program was devoted to encouraging viewers to send in checks before Dec. 31 in order for the Old Time Gospel Hour to receive 2.5 million in matching funds. Falwell's theme around his appeal was whether he should be silent from here on in on the many issues facing this nation today; abortion, gays, pornography, TV, etc. or whether his viewers would continue to see the importance of his message and support it by Dec. 31. Some of his examples were the decline of TV programs suitable for family viewing and thank God for the CBTV as it is beginning to improve and although they are referred to as book burners and censors what about the ERA supporters which are boycotting the states which haven't ratified the ERA. Falwell drew an analogy between the Dred Scott case which said that Blacks weren't humans and the 1973 Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion.