

TELEVANGELIST SUMMARIES
April 1985

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CNN'S TAKE TWO WITH JERRY FALWELL 4-24-85

Hillsboro, Missouri

A short piece on the Hillsboro, Missouri controversy, in which a group of parents protested "psychological testing, values clarification and other activities challenging parental authority in the public school system," was shown. The segment documented the school board election in which the "NEA candidate," Steven Huss won over Kenneth Els, the parent instigating controversy.

Education

WILLIAM BENNETT, Secretary of Education

"There are several problem points...Three Cs which need to be added to the 3 Rs, reading, 'riting, and 'rithmetic. The 3 Cs I think in some ways talk about the problem of education today. They are content, that is what's taught in school; character, that is the character of children, what are the values we are going to be teaching our children; and the third is choice, that is the question of providing more opportunity for parents to choose the kind of educational environment they want for their children."

ROBERTSON

"It seems like there's a very powerful union backing teachers to sort of go against parents as if instead of being a cooperative venture it seems like it's a competitive venture."

BENNETT

"The education of the young has to be a cooperative venture...My sense of these situations, Pat, is that parents will give teachers a lot of room. They will not be looking over the teacher's shoulders on every curriculum assignment or reading assignment or writing assignment if they can have the basic trust that what the teachers are doing in the classroom supports the values that the parents are trying to inculcate at home. Unfortunately, that situation has broken down in many places."

"I read it [Hatch Amendment] as a sign of frustration on the part of the parents. That is, they're saying, 'we, in many communities, cannot get the kind of satisfactory response we want from the school board or from teachers. Therefore, we're going to make it a matter of federal law.' Now the response of many education groups has been, 'This will force the federal hand in education; and I happen to think that's a little odd because we've been seeing the federal hand forced, for years and years on other issues. But I would say that to date we've had half a dozen complaints for the federal government to look into local situations."

"This situation, Pat, has to be resolved locally. Parents have to speak up when they object to things being taught...Unfortunately, although the Hatch Amendment gives the federal government the power to get involved, the right to get involved, it'll be a very sad day if the federal government is refereeing every one of these decisions."

"Parents are the key teachers, they are the indispensable teachers. Teachers in school are the parents' surrogates...Scores and achievement levels are still not where they are. I don't see why we can't take some of this inappropriate material out of the classroom (and there is a fair amount of inappropriate material in the classrooms today) and get back to teaching what we should be teaching."

700 CLUB 4-23-85

ROBERTSON

Nicaragua Aid Vote

"It is appalling to me that members of the U.S. Congress are so concerned with propping up Communist governments in the Western hemisphere which threatens the security of the United States of America and its neighbors. It is appalling that we would debate over 14 million dollars. I don't know if you happen to know this, but we're sending 37 million dollars of humanitarian aid to the Communist government of Mozambique and we're also sending between one and two million dollars in military aid to the Communist government of Mozambique and you do not hear one whisper in the press against that...we are propping up with Western banks, Western credit, Western trade, these governments [Poland, Hungary] and yet one attempt to dislodge a Communist dictatorship in Central America causes Congress to go into a tizzy over 14 million dollars in aid. There's something sickly wrong with some parts of our government in my humble opinion."

"I want us to pray now about the voting Congress because this is a very important vote and the craven submission of our leaders and Congress to the demands of Communism makes you sick to you stomach...We want to pray about that, that somehow God will speak to these people."

"Why don't we pray that the Lord will give aid to those people who are struggling against Communist rule?"

700 CLUB 2-26-85

This show featured a report on political action committees in which a "Christian Unity" PAC was one of those mentioned.

JOHN JIMENEZ of Rock Church in Virginia, founder of the PAC

"We are convinced that when there is a real born again person in authority over people then the people rejoice. But when you have evil men who seek their own all the time and will use people for their own ends, you will have people who will mourn."

JIMMY SWAGGART MINISTRIES 4-7-85

SWAGGART

Anti-Catholic

"The early church was governed by the Holy Ghost. Little by little, men setting themselves in the place of the mediator, place of Jesus Christ, have placed themselves in a position over the laity. I'm not talking about Pentecostals, now. Hundreds of millions the world over today no longer confess their sins to God. They no longer go to Jesus Christ as the mediator between God and man. They go to a man and they confess their sins to a frail, human being that cannot even forgive his own sins much less the sins of someone else. Doctrines of devils. Doctrines of devils. Jesus Christ said, 'I hate it.' You may hate me also those of you who, some that watch me and say, 'you're talking about my religion again.' I love you enough to tell you the truth. I love you enough to preach the Word of God to you. I love you enough to tell you that your life is burdened with sin and that the powers of darkness are wrapping themselves around you...and you can go to a frail, poor mortal man all you want to and can confess those sins to him and you will drag that chain back with you."

Seducing Spirits

"Why do these poor, pitiful pseudo-rock singers mouth their pseudo-'so-called' Christian words to heavy metal beat, with purple hair and marked figures and countenances. Why? Seducing Spirits...Why does the poor dancer think she can continue scantily clad dancing in the smoke-filled casinos...? , And still retain her experience with Jesus Christ? Why? Seducing Spirits...Why does the country-western singer think that he can give his heart to Jesus and keep playing in the honky tonks and the hell-holes and the dives and retain his testimony..."

Homosexuality

[Quoting Scripture] "He said 'men will be lovers of their own selves'...I was thrilled the day when a federal court I believe stated to the homosexual community that the United States Navy and the Armed Forces had the right to tell the homosexuals that if they were going to practice their lifestyle that the military could kick them out. Some good's being done...I don't like the beautiful word 'gay' attached to perversion."

Supreme Court/Abortion

"The sin of the United States of America that has left a stain upon this nation that comes under the heading of blasphemy is the terrible, horrible, blood-letting of abortion...I want to show

you how degradating it is, how dastardly it is, how dark that it is."

"I pray that conditions will be such that the Supreme Court justices that allowed this terrible law to be passed, that states that a baby in a mother's womb even up to nine months is not considered a human being. I pray God will remove those men, remove 'em! and give us men with righteousness that will abide by the laws of God and get on their knees and ask God's counsel and guidance when they make the laws of this nation. The next generation I believe belongs to Jesus Christ. You judges! And you senators! And you congressmen! And you bureaucrats that are blaspheming the word of Almighty God -- your day is about over!"

"Before the Republican platform committee, three of us preachers told the committee, 'Gentlemen, we do not ask or request that federal judges be appointed that will be pro-life. We demand it! We don't just ask it. We demand it?' And one little wimp stood up and said, 'Well, just who do you think you are?' We stood up and said, 'We represent 46 million born again Christians that believe in the Word of Almighty God and the sanctity of human life and the Word of God that said thou shalt not kill. And this is our day!'"

Anti-Catholic

"One bishop pointed a finger at me and said, 'The Vatican knows I'm here and what do you have to say? I said, 'You tell the bishops of the United States they'd better forget about what the Church says and get on with the Word of Almighty God.'"

OLD TIME GOSPEL HOUR 4-7-85

FALWELL

Trip to Israel

"We just recently returned from our fifteenth tour of the land of Israel...We're going back to Israel next year. I want to give you one year's notice. This will be my sixteenth trip to Israel. We love the land of Israel. We love the Jewish people."

"While there this year I met with Prime Minister Shimon Peres. We talked about these crucial times for Israel. They're going through deep waters and we need to be praying for the peace of Jerusalem. Because of their need to be strongly defended in order to survive, 25% of their GNP goes into defense. That's more than any nation on earth. That makes their economy to be in shambles. And America needs to stand by Israel and I wish you'd pray for them."

"We talked about those same subjects with Alternate Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. We had the former Defense Minister Moshe Arens come and speak to our group one evening."

OLD TIME GOSPEL HOUR 4-14-85

FALWELL

Homosexuality

"Everybody wants their rights. Women want their rights. Now the men are starting a men's movement. I'm trying to get a men's ERA group...Singles rights, and the Hispanics want rights and the whites want rights and the blacks want their rights. Now the homosexuals -- they want to be a minority. They want gay rights referenda going on all the time. So why are you against that? Listen, if you want to live like an animal, go ahead. That's your business. If you want to live an immoral life...go ahead, but don't expect to be rewarded for it. Don't try to be a minority -- you've chosen to be a pervert, live like one. You've chosen to live a dirty life -- an unclean life, running around on your wife, unkind to your husband, immoral, broken your marriage vows, or homosexually, to live something that's abnormal. Go ahead, but don't expect the public to reward you and make you a bona fide minority."

OLD TIME GOSPEL HOUR 4-28-85

FALWELL

Planned Parenthood/Abortion

"He is the God not just of the first and the second chance, but of the 10,000 chance. And I never preach on abortion without saying that because when you preach on abortion and you don't come back to the mercy of God, you leave a lot of girls who had abortions under a terrific load of guilt. Most of the women who've had abortions in this country didn't know what abortion was. They'd been counseled by Planned Parenthood or NOW or somebody. And nobody had sat down and told them, 'you are destroying a human life.' They thought they were just discharging a piece of tissue...nobody told them there's another body, living person in you that you're destroying."

Homosexuality

"It wasn't Adam and Steve -- it was Adam and Eve. It wasn't Madam and Eve -- it was Adam and Eve. God did not create a homosexual relationship but the heterosexual relationship."

JAMES ROBISON 4-2-85

ROBISON

Robison's Friends

"It's been my joy over the years to support other evangelist's ministries. What a joy to give, as I have, to the ministry of Jerry Falwell. I've given to his ministry over a long period of

time. I thank God for him. Also to the ministry of Jimmy Swaggart."

MEMO

TO: INTERESTED STAFF

FROM: CINDY

DATE: APRIL 9, 1985

RE: FALWELL'S APOLOGY TO THE JEWISH COMMUNITY AT THE 85TH ANNUAL
CONVENTION OF THE RABBINICAL ASSEMBLY

"We do have our Christian Republic preachers, but you have your Jewish Defense League. And once in awhile we have those who stand up and say things that don't represent us. We are, I repeat, not monolithic. But I want to tell you that, while, 25 years ago there were many of us, Marc, who were saying 'Christian republic,' 'Christian nation,' I think you'll find the rhetoric is now Judeo-Christian. I think you will have found an osmosis in the movement of conservative Christians in this country that I think has developed a spirit of pluralism that did not exist back when you and I first began meeting years ago. All we can say is that wherein we have had our excesses, and, I suspect they've been on both sides, but I can only speak for our side of it, we can only say we're sorry and we will try to do better and we most certainly do feel with all our hearts that this is a pluralistic nation and a nation under God, but it is not a Christian nation nor has it been nor do we want it to be a Christian state with a state church. As a matter of fact that is a distinctiveness of Baptists -- has been as you pointed out -- opposed to that from the very beginning.

I left something out when I was talking about our trip to Israel. Perhaps it doesn't fit except to throw it in for those of you who have a particular interest. While in Jerusalem, we visited the Ethiopian Jews and I don't know anything that has moved me more to sense the gentleness and the dignity of those people. There's no way to explain these people if you haven't met them except for the word 'miracle.' They are really a miracle and we went on to Sudan and saw some of the background behind what was happening. Just one more statement. I don't favor and I don't think most of our people favor the use of government funds to put out speeches on either side or to use the public schools for either teaching a religious dogma or the teaching of an anti-religious dogma. We feel the public schools should be neutral and should take no position on the issue. And, finally, many of the Congressmen with tongue in cheek that I know who say they were beat over the head with the grace of God, just got outthustled."

BARRY LYNN AND JERRY FALWELL ON CNN'S TAKE TWO

On April 24th, 1985, Jerry Falwell and Barry Lynn appeared on Cable News Network's Take Two. The issue discussed was post-Vietnam -- 10 years later.

Some of the highlights included:

Falwell: "Does the U.S., as the leader of the free world have the right anywhere to challenge the spreading and cancerous growth of Marxist-Leninism around the world?"

Falwell said that he thought the "Barry Lynn's and the protestors and the news media just might have been a little anti-government in their proposals and all that they did."

Lynn replied: "Our participation [the United States] is in part to blame for some of the great tragedies in Vietnam and Cambodia today. I think Dr. Falwell learned something out of this whole experience although he kind of sat out the great moral issues of the '60's. He's more than made up for it in the '70's and '80's -- unfortunately on the wrong side of all them. (Falwell then interjected, "Yes, I'm for unborn babies and you're not.")...the liberal clergy had a right to get involved."

Lynn said that this spawned the Moral Majority and the right today for conservative preachers to get involved in politics.

Falwell, in answer to a question about Tom Hayden's wish to build a protestor's monument next the Vietnam memorial said:

"Tom Hayden is wearing a three piece suit today and his wife, Jane Fonda is benefiting from the free enterprise system by her exercise classes. Tom Hayden and Jane Fonda are running their own city now, 'The People's Republic of Santa Monica.'" (I have to admit, I screamed with laughter at that.)

Falwell said that "the protestors were a detriment to the country" and "The idea that America is always wrong and the Soviets always right is just so ridiculous and, in my opinion, very anti-American."

Responding to a question about the President's trip to Bitburg, Falwell said:

"I think the President and/or his staff made an honest mistake...and I think that when one makes a mistake, the honorable thing to do is say, 'I was wrong' and I don't think it's an indication of weakness to change a decision and I would recommend to the President that he not go."

The most outrageous thing Falwell said: "I think the Barry Lynn's and all the other draft dodgers are a disgrace to this country."