



Letter from the Founder

Jerry Kirk

I will never forget the day God called me out of the pastorate to found the National Coalition 25 years ago. I was wrestling with Him as I saw the ways pornography was attacking marriages, families and the health and safety of children and young people. I was left no choice but to follow God's lead and take action!

Through conversations with Clyde Miller, Hugh Rosenberg and other members of the Cincinnati Billy Graham Executive Committee, we concluded pornography was a threat to the moral and spiritual strength of men especially, but also of women. This has become true beyond our wildest fears and concerns.

These convictions led me to launch the National Coalition, establish a national board and serve as its first executive with one full-time and one part-time administrative assistant.

I'm thankful we began when we did...I'm thankful for all the battles we have won...and I'm thankful for friends like you who joined the team!

This is a battle for the very souls of our children—a battle I believe everyone must engage in because the stakes are too high, the battle is too large, and God calls us to protect His “little ones.”

The future of America is inseparably linked to the future of our children, families and the Church...and all are in danger!

The sexualizing of America will get *much worse* before it gets better unless God intervenes. He usually intervenes through His people. It is time for us to come out of the stands, off the bench and onto the field of battle where dedication, determination and commitment win the day.

IF NOT US, WHO?

IF NOT NOW, WHEN?

The passion that led me 25 years ago is the same passion that leads me and the National Coalition staff today!

Thank you for standing with us throughout the years...and thank you for your continued support as we enter our silver anniversary! We need you and your support as never before.

For our children and families,

Jerry Kirk
Founder

NATIONAL COALITION
FOR THE PROTECTION OF
CHILDREN & FAMILIES

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Action

January 2008

National Coalition... Celebrating 25 Years of Ministry

By Rick Schatz, *President and CEO*



2008 marks the National Coalition's 25th anniversary! In celebrating this special milestone, we look back on the ministry's history with great fondness...and we look forward with great anticipation for what will be accomplished in the years to come.

As many of you know, Jerry Kirk came to understand the harm of pornography to marriages, families and children through his counseling and pastoral work as senior pastor of College Hill Presbyterian Church. Through his new insight, God gave him the courage and vision to found what was then called the National Coalition Against Pornography.

In 1995, the ministry chose its current name—National Coalition for the Protection of Children & Families. This represented much more than simply a name change; it expressed our desire to protect all individuals, the Church and even the culture at large from harmful sexualized messages which debase and degrade biblical sexuality. It also expressed our goal to celebrate God's gift of sexuality within the covenant of marriage between one man and one woman.

Over the years, we have built relationships with a wide variety of faith groups, denominations and pro-family organizations. And the National Coalition's work now extends beyond Cincinnati to regional offices in Atlanta, Charlotte, Kansas City, New England, and Seattle.

While we have worked diligently for the past 25 years, research indicates there is still more to be done:

- 62% of Promise Keeper men acknowledge sexual purity is the number one struggle they face in their walk with Christ
- Research by Leadership Magazine, Christianity Today and Focus on the Family concludes 15% to 25% of pastors and priests are struggling with sexual purity
- American teenagers are the most sexually active in the industrialized world

25th ANNIVERSARY

We indeed are facing a crisis! The abuse of God's gift of sexuality is not just a problem, but it is a core issue for our culture...the issue that has played a vitally important role in the fall of great civilizations of history.

As we consider the past quarter century, we see God's hand of blessing on the National Coalition's work despite the challenges of an increasingly sexualized culture. Incredible victories...lives changed... marriages restored...children protected...and churches and communities transformed.

As wonderful as God's blessing on our past has been, we look forward, not backward, for our time of greatest opportunity and impact. This is our time. It is the time for hope and not despair. And perhaps most of all, it is the time to persevere in the face of great challenges.

We have a talented staff, committed board of directors and thousands of generous supporters across the country who allow our work to move forward in powerful ways.

I have been part of the National Coalition work for 17 years and I stand on tiptoe to see what God will do in the next 25 years!

The National Coalition would like to send a special "thank you" to friends like you who have supported the organization through prayers and resources. Without your consistent generosity, we would not be able to move our mission forward throughout the nation. So, thank you. We pray you will be blessed beyond measure for how you have blessed this ministry.

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Save the Date: Men of Valor Discipleship Conference



In 2008, the National Coalition will present four Men of Valor conferences in cities across the country. This one-day equipping conference is for men of all ages (high school age and older) from churches of all denominations. Men of Valor is designed to disciple and equip men to be all that God desires them to be.

In addition to two keynote speakers, Men of Valor will offer three breakout sessions led by local and national speakers on topics relevant to men including sexual purity, fathering, becoming a godly husband, stewardship, life after divorce, building a men's ministry, developing a powerful prayer life, and much more!

Please join us in 2008 at one of the following Men of Valor conferences:

- Cincinnati: February 9, 2008**
- Columbus: April 12, 2008**
- Seattle: September 27, 2008**
- Charlotte: October 4, 2008**

New iCare National Director Named



Kari Glemaker has been named National Director of the *iCare*...about protecting children prayer movement, assuming the reins from interim director Angela Stutz.

"Kari's enthusiasm for life, family, and children is contagious," said Jerry Kirk, founder of the National Coalition who initiated *iCare*. "She knows and understands the needs of families and strongly desires to encourage and mobilize women."

Kari is a teacher by nature and she shares honestly what God has taught her through her children, her peers and her past.

"Training and equipping women to be leaders is one of my passions," noted Glemaker, who held various leadership positions with MOPS International, Inc. including Regional Coordinator. In addition, she served as Director of Kids Ministries at Hope Church in Mason, Ohio for seven years.

"Kari's experience working with women across the country will help the National Coalition greatly as we expand the *iCare* movement," added Kirk.

Kari and her husband, Dave, live with their three children in a suburb of Cincinnati.



National Coalition to Launch New Website



Thanks to the financial support of many friends like you, the National Coalition is pleased to announce the launch of our new and improved website! While the address, www.nationalcoalition.org, remains the same, the look of the site—and its content—is dramatically different.

As a visitor to the site, you will find information about our ongoing initiatives to protect children and families from the harms of our sexualized culture, as well as educational materials on a variety of relevant issues.

In addition, the website will offer:

- Audio and visual downloads
- Breaking news articles
- Event calendar
- Online registration for conferences
- eCounseling services
- Mini sites for regional offices

Please let us know what you think of the new website! Send your comments to Francesca Jensen, the National Coalition's director of communications, at francesca@nationalcoalition.org.

Atlanta Office Battling Sex Trafficking



Claire Hertzler (right), regional director of the National Coalition's Atlanta office, mingles with Dr. Steve Hayner (left), chairman of International Justice Mission, and Gary Haugen (center), president and CEO of IJM at their headquarters in Washington, D.C.

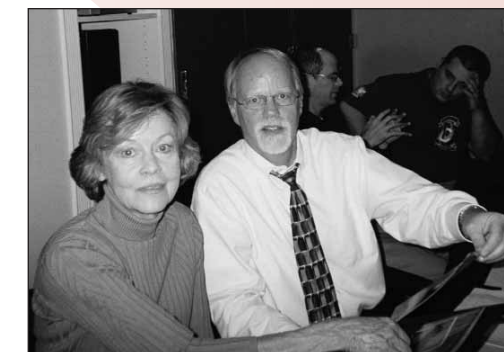
"International Justice Mission has been rescuing victims of sex slavery overseas for years and has been successful in prosecuting the perpetrators," said Hertzler. "With their expertise, IJM helped us develop a strategy to reach the sexually exploited children in Atlanta."

Dr. Gary Haugen, president and CEO of IJM, challenged the Atlanta group to outline a clear purpose and maintain a strong commitment to the cause.

"This is a marathon, not a sprint," added Hertzler. "It will take a long-term commitment and a lot of energy to stop the exploitation of children, but we are up for the task!"

Claire Hertzler, regional director of the National Coalition's Atlanta office, was one of fifteen people selected from Atlanta's faith community to attend a one-day training session with International Justice Mission (IJM) in November.

The purpose of the event, organized by Community Outreach Director Johnny Myers of Peachtree Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, was to gain knowledge from IJM and brainstorm ways to reduce sex trafficking in Atlanta, one of 14 U.S. cities labeled as a major hub for this criminal activity.



Claire Hertzler (left) and David Erickson, chief operating officer of World Hope International, discuss strategies to stop child sexual exploitation.

The Atlanta delegation also met with World Hope International, an organization that addresses human trafficking with prevention, education and training programs, awareness, and aftercare services for girls rescued from brothels overseas.

"World Hope challenged us to address the needs of every victim as we help them restore and rebuild their lives. Of particular interest was their new curriculum that trains churches to stop human trafficking."

Finally, Hertzler attended the Preventing Abuse conference in Los Angeles sponsored by Cedars Educational and Cultural Foundation. Speakers included Shelley Lubben, a former porn actress who now heads a ministry to those still in the pornography business, and Norma Hoatling, a former prostitute who founded the John's School.

"It was a privilege to attend the LA conference and be a part of the delegation to Washington. I learned a great deal from experts in this field and look forward to implementing strategies to end the exploitation of children," concluded Hertzler.

Follow up meetings will be held to further strategize on how the faith community can help stop the commercial sexual exploitation of children in Atlanta. If you are interested in helping your community combat this problem, please contact **Claire Hertzler** at **(404) 817-0499**.