

Salt Shakers

Helping Christians make a difference

Celebrating 14 years of ministry

(See page 22)

My Orders

MY orders are to fight;
Then if I bleed, or fail,
Or strongly win,
what matters it?
God only doth prevail.

The servant craveth naught
Except to serve with might.
I was not told to win or lose
My orders are to fight.

Ethelwyn Wetherald 1857-1940

November 2008 AD

IN THIS ISSUE: Vol. 14 No. 10

	Page
Editorial...	2
Amazing Perseverance...	3
Nitschke: Euthanasia Workshops...	4
Politics 2.0 - GetUp! and Avaaz...	5
News & Action...	7
Marriage in Australia...	8
Readers letters' in the newspapers...	10
AHRC: Freedom of Religion & Belief...	11
Abortion - where to from here?...	12
The Pill - life and health risks...	14

E-Journal subscription. \$25

Binge drinking - band-aids or solutions?...	15
Californication...	15
Prayer Update...	16
Football, Barbie, Sex and Firefighting ...	16
Mardi gras gets YOUR tax dollars...	17
Church of England apologises to Darwin...	18
USA - Presidential election...	18
World News...	19
Ministry News...	20
Resources and Subscription details	21

Editorial

October was not a good month for many people. In the state of Victoria we saw abortion on demand legalised in the most cavalier way by MPs who showed scant regard for women and no regard at all for the unborn. The Legislative Assembly then voted to give selfish single women, lesbians and homosexuals the right to bring children into the world unnaturally by IVF. Our prayer is that this Bill will be defeated in the Legislative Council.

Sadly, perhaps, many people were more overwhelmed by the so-called financial meltdown that not only brought down large financial corporations but sent governments into hypertension.

We think these issues could sum up the biggest problems of today's 'western' nations and even the church - apathy, selfishness and greed. These are also the reasons the church has been so bad at its' role of being the moral compass of society.

The lack of voices publicly denouncing the Victorian government's intention to legalise abortion was astounding. Instead of every Christian leader, church pastor and Christian voicing outrage, there was but a whisper and it came mostly from para-church groups and the Catholic Church. Towards the end there was a whimper from one or two mainstream evangelicals, but where was the outrage at the injustice of this Bill?

The mainstream church talks a lot about 'justice' towards the poor and the marginalised but hardly says a word about killing the unborn.

Yes, the Catholics threatened to withdraw from maternity services and yes, a good crowd gathered outside parliament for the Prayer & Protest gathering where they heard

Pastor Dale Stephenson tell the crowd that it would soon become illegal to dock the tail of a puppy, but legal to kill the unborn.

But sadly it was all too little, too late.

As for the financial 'crisis', which could be disastrous for many retirees and small businesses who need to access their money now, the same issues of apathy, greed and selfishness were certainly at play. But there was also another ingredient that probably started it all: 'false compassion' driven by Christians who see social justice as the most important role of the church. Social justice and compassion are good servants but bad masters; when social justice and compassion drive an issue, rather than common sense and truth, trouble is afoot.

The US 'sub prime' mortgage debacle appears to have started with calls for low-cost loans to people who could not afford them. This was a badly thought out social justice initiative of Democrat President Jimmy Carter and it was then vigorously pursued by another Democrat President, Bill Clinton, despite signs it was already creating major problems. The *New York Times* carried an article back in 1999 stating that major problems were ahead if this program continued. But good deeds were more important than common sense, so G W Bush inherited a disaster waiting to happen but did nothing about it because the greed of the big money lenders had taken over, thus compounding the problem.

Solving these problems will now be very difficult. Stopping them before they began would have been easy - just a few basic 'rules', "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you", "Love your neighbour" and "Do not Murder". Oh, and yes, the church acting out Jesus words in Matthew 5, "YOU are the Salt of the earth".

ARE WE?

Yours, in the service of Jesus Christ
Peter & Jenny Stokes

Amazing Perseverance

by Bruce Stewart

The circumstances of life get pretty tough at times - drought, financial stress, broken relationships, sickness, war. Sometimes it causes us to ask ... 'What's life all about?' In this context **Abraham Lincoln**'s story is quite remarkable.

When Abraham Lincoln was a young man a wealthy farmer hired him to take vegetables and fruit down the Mississippi river. After the produce had been sold or traded Abe went sightseeing in New Orleans.

What he saw changed his life. He was horrified to see black men, women and children being sold the same way horses and

What an example of perseverance!

cattle were sold. Buyers felt the muscles of the slaves, looked at their teeth and watched how fast they could run. From that moment on Abe hated slavery. He told friends if he ever got the chance he would hit it and hit it hard.

At the time he said this it did not seem likely he would ever have any influence to stop slavery. His family was poor and he was a grade school dropout. His mother died when he was 9 years old. At the age of 21 he worked in a grocery store doing odd jobs. A year later he opened his own store and promptly went broke. When he was 23 he stood for a seat in Parliament and was defeated. At 26 his fiancée died. He studied for 6 years part time to become a lawyer.

At 29 he again ran for parliament and was defeated. He tried again at 34, and 37 and was defeated both times. He married and had 4 sons; 3 of them died. At the ages of 39 and 49 he tried again for parliament and was defeated both times.

Perhaps he should have listened to what everyone was telling him.. "Enough's enough!"

But he didn't listen and kept trying.

Finally, at the age of 52 Abraham Lincoln



became President of the United States. What an example of perseverance!

Immediately he was faced with crisis. It was a time of great division and hate as the country split over the slavery question. Abe spent many sleepless nights and lost about 18 kgs of weight from the heavy stress. Every mail delivery brought death threats and warnings. Close friends begged him to resign for his safety.

President Lincoln did everything in his power to prevent the Civil war but fighting broke out. It was a long and bitter war and hundreds of thousands of fellow countrymen were killed. The deaths on both sides broke the President's heart. Sometimes brothers fought against brothers. It would be like NSW warring against Victoria.

Abraham Lincoln became a deeply committed follower of Jesus Christ and

during the darkest hour of the war he called for a national day of prayer, which is still observed annually in the United States.

Although he did his best to follow the Bible's teachings during much of his earlier life he felt tremendous guilt for not being good enough. That changed when his son Willie died. Willie's nurse told the President about her personal relationship with Jesus Christ and encouraged him to come to know Jesus the same way. He later told a friend that he had given himself to Christ and found the peace he had always longed for.

More than 10,000 books have been written about the man many consider to have been the greatest President of the United States.

No matter how tough the situation is, keep hanging in there... while there is life there is hope. We need the support of people around us (and we need to support others) and the Bible says that Jesus Christ is to be the foundation of our lives and it was He who said "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, no-one goes to the Father but by Me". (John 14:6).

Bruce Stewart is a pastor at Ballarat North Baptist Church.

Nitschke: Euthanasia Workshops

Euthanasia advocate Philip Nitschke has "sparked outrage" in the United Kingdom by announcing plans to hold one of his **Exit International** euthanasia or 'suicide' workshops. He plans to have the meeting in Bournemouth because it has a large number of retired elderly people!

The *Daily Mail* dubbed him "Dr Death" and said he planned to pass around his "special suicide kit" as well as showing his 'Exit bag' and discussing various drugs.

He booked the town hall, but when officials found out the reason for the meeting they cancelled the booking. [Daily Mail, 8/10/2008]

Nitschke has also launched an 'e' book on the web describes as a compilation of the "most reliable and peaceful methods" used to end life.

Meanwhile, Nitschke is continuing to hold his workshops around Australia in **Senior**

Citizens' Centres. He advertised one such meeting in the *Courier Mail* in July.

One workshop was held at Toowong Senior Citizens Centre. 'Topics' for the workshop: "Practical end-of-life choices: Lethal drugs, Mexico, Advance Directives, Helium, Dementia etc". He is still following his established pattern of holding a free public meeting, followed by a \$50 workshop.

Last year, he was warned by the ACT Department of Fair Trading not to play an unclassified video called 'The Single Shot' which showed some of the steps in making a suicide pill. [The Age, 18/12/2008]

In October 2007 the federal Attorney-General's department warned **Exit International** not to show an unclassified film in a public place and reminded him the penalties for selling his book on euthanasia were a \$26,000 fine and a 2-year jail term!

Join us for Prayer and Breakfast

Never has our nation been in a greater need of prayer

Pray for our nation, its leaders and Salt Shakers

6.30 am every Thursday morning at SALT SHAKERS Office

Politics 2.0 - GetUp! and Avaaz

By Peter Stokes

A ‘virtual’ political revolution, which could be as dramatic as the French revolution, is under way. It is being dubbed ‘Politics 2.0’ - like version 2.0 of a computer program after they removed the glitches from version 1.0. Unfortunately, it is being spearheaded by people who appear to be equally as deceptive and clever as those leading the French revolution.

Have you heard of **GetUp!** or **Avaaz**?

If you have, your first contact was probably by someone sending you an email saying “please support this worthy cause”.

Both groups were started by the same people: GetUp! operates in Australia and Avaaz internationally. GetUp! claims to have nearly 290,000 members and Avaaz over 3.2 million.

I discovered GetUp! in 2006 and have been monitoring them ever since. Avaaz I discovered earlier this year, when my sister in the UK sent me a “Give Mugabe a red card” email. Well, of course I wanted to do that - as did most of the world. But having done so, we all now receive Avaaz emails.

So what are these groups? I will let them tell you what they say they are first:

“GetUp.org.au is a new independent political movement to build a progressive Australia.”

“GetUp! is an independent, not-for-profit community campaigning group. We use new technology to empower Australians to have their say on important national issues.”

“GetUp! brings together like-minded people who want to bring participation back into our democracy.”

REALLY? Well, maybe not! To see what

they really do you simply need to dig around on their own website and follow the trail of a few names. It is all there if you know how to put the jigsaw together.

GetUp! and **Avaaz** were founded by Jeremy Heimans and David Madden, two young Australian graduates of Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government. They are smart IT people and involved in politics.

Nothing wrong with that, you say, and that’s true. We’re involved in ‘politics’ too.



Yet despite GetUp! and Avaaz claims of ‘independence’ their politics is heavily weighted towards the left. On their original Board were two Labor men, Evan Thornley, now a Victorian MP, and Bill Shorten, the Union organiser turned Federal Labor MP. But, to be fair, there are some Liberal Party names there

too. Yet even they are people we would describe as socially liberal/left. People who did not like John Howard’s conservative and pro-monarchist views. John Hewson would be the most well known of them.

GetUp! is now led by Brett Solomon, a ‘social justice’ campaigner for more than ten years who once worked as the Campaign Coordinator at Amnesty International in Australia. Amnesty is a very left-leaning, socially liberal group these days.

What do they do?

GetUp! and Avaaz promote email ‘action’ on a large scale. They initially tapped into some very popular issues to gain a large, but mostly left-wing/social justice group of people who did not think either major Party was listening to them. Issues like mandatory detention of illegal immigrants and freeing

David Hicks from Guantanamo.

They are convinced global warming - oops, as Penny Wong said "sorry I mean climate change" - is destroying the world. They supported Senator Stott-Despoja's attempt to force Christian pregnancy counselling centres to refer for abortion or close down, joining with pro-abortion group *Reproductive Choice Australia* for that campaign.

They also campaigned to get rid of John Howard by supporting Labor candidate Maxine McKew, the ABC political reporter whose "partner", whatever that means, is a prominent Labor Party identity.

They protested against the Olympics, claiming that 71% of Australians wanted Mr Rudd to use his standing with the Chinese to help Tibet! Strangely, perhaps, they said absolutely nothing about forced abortions, or the lack of freedom and free speech in Communist China. I wonder why?

They are very pro the ABC, anti the Iraqi war, and their latest campaign is for homosexual equality. They claim "Over 70% of Australians support the call to give same sex couples the same legal rights as heterosexual *de facto* couples, as does every State and Territory and most of the developed world."

So they have surveyed most of the developed world? Funny how the figure is always around 70% too - maybe they are only asking GetUp! subscribers?

On the issue of homosexual equality, they've partnered with just about every pro-homosexual lobby group in the country!

One of their regular bloggers stated recently, "Conservatism is always a subversion of democracy - that is its "raison d'etre".

I responded to that by suggesting he take a

good look in the mirror for the subversion of democracy, because it is being done through GetUp! and Avaaz, and very effectively if you believe their own rhetoric.

What about Avaaz?

They are also totally obsessed with Global Warming and are currently campaigning for governments to buy back the banks.

Avaaz claim to be making a real impact on global politics but are they really as successful as they say? Good question, but one that is very hard to answer. One indication may say, yes, Mugabe has been talking with Morgan Tsvangirai about power-sharing. But they also campaigned against Canada's conservative government by promoting Green, Liberal and Democrat candidates who are ALL very left/liberal. However, the conservatives won the election.

If nothing else, both groups are bringing together a lot of people of one political persuasion. If you can believe their statistics, GetUp! have more members than all Australian political parties put together. If they were to decide to form a new political party they could do a lot of damage to our nation and to our Christian heritage.

On the other hand MPs are being flooded with emails and have started deleting those that appear to be blanket campaigns or not from their constituents.

What is the point of this article? To remind you that we always need to look behind the headlines. No matter whose headlines they are or how good the 'cause' may be. We need to be very, very careful what material we believe and what we send on to others.

Above all, Col 2: 8 says, "see to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ."

The buck stops with YOU!



News & Action

Victoria: Body Piercing Bill

Good news: The government has passed the law restricting body piercing. The law will ban piercing of ears, noses, eyebrows and belly buttons for those under 16 unless they have parental permission. The law also bans intimate body piercing for those under 18. Operators will be fined \$2,200 to \$6,600 if they ignore the bans. [HS, 10/9/2008]

Ironically under the new abortion law, teens under 16 will be able to get an abortion without parental permission!

Garnaut Report

Professor Ross Garnaut has presented his final 688 page Report to Prime Minister Kevin Rudd. The Report “provides advice to the government about proposed action on climate change and the financial impact of an emissions trading scheme”.

He is proposing a 25% cut in emissions if a global agreement can be formed but a 10% cut if Australia acts on its own. Electricity costs could soar by 37% if the Garnaut recommendations are adopted.

Report: www.garnautreview.org.au

With the financial crisis escalating worldwide on the day the Report was presented (30 September), financial commentator Terry McCrann said the report was “dead, dead, dead” before it was even presented.

The report was launched on 16 October - Prof Garnaut emphasised that the financial crisis was short term but the global warming issue was long term and the government needed to act! Time will tell if the government decides to proceed down the track of an emissions trading scheme - even though the science

about whether or not man-caused carbon dioxide is a major problem is not settled!

Stem Cell Centre problems

The Australian Stem Cell Centre, which was promised \$100 million in funding by the previous federal government for research into stem cells, including embryo stem cells, is in disarray and further funding is in question. The CEO was sacked in July and the Board resigned over a dispute with ‘stakeholders’ over whether the Centre should focus on ‘basic research’ or the development of ‘commercial therapies’.

God has an interesting way of answering our prayers over the use of embryos!

Homosexuality - Federal laws

The federal government has been debating changes to more than 50 Commonwealth laws to give equal rights to homosexual *de facto* couples. Superannuation changes were in one Bill, and changes to more than 50 laws in another Bill. The House passed them but the Senate sent the matters to Inquiries. The Bills passed their Senate second reading in mid-October - amendments and a final vote are scheduled for 10 November 2008.

ACTION: PLEASE contact your 12 State Senators NOW - ask them to oppose these changes to the law for same-sex couples. Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600.

IVF - Victoria

The Victorian Legislative Assembly passed the **Assisted Reproductive Treatment Bill** by a vote of 48 to 36 on 7 October.

This was disappointing – but there was a good side! ALL the Liberal Party and National Party MPs voted AGAINST the Bill, which would have given lesbian couples and single women access to IVF and allowed lesbian partners to be named as ‘parents’ on birth certificates.

FOUR Labor MPs voted against the Bill. The Bill was debated by the Legislative Council on 28-30 October.



Marriage in Australia

by Jenny Stokes

Marriage provides the most stable environment for raising children. As Christians, we need to promote this as the ideal. From the beginning of the Bible, when God created Adam and Eve and told them to be fruitful and multiply (Gen 1), right through to Jesus endorsing and commending the model of a man and wife leaving their families to be married (Matt 19), the Bible commends marriage.

Yes, there are numerous examples of other relationships described in the Bible, but the Biblical model given is that of marriage between a man and a woman.

Not surprisingly, social science research has overwhelmingly endorsed this; children (as well as women and men) do BEST in a family where they live with their biological mum and dad who are married to each other!

Marriage and Divorce

The number of marriages in Australia rose in 2007 by 1.8% to 116,322.

Whilst this is good news, we need to remember that the population has increased so statistics need to be carefully analysed.

The real news is actually bad: when you compare the number of marriages per 1000 population, the **proportion** of marriages in a year has **decreased** - from 7.1 marriages per 1,000 in 1988 to 5.5 marriages per 1,000 in 2007.

Yet the number of divorces is down, which is good news. There were 47,963 divorces granted in 2007 in comparison to 51,375 in 2006, showing a decrease of 6.6% over this period despite the increasing population. The divorce rate reached a peak in 2001 and has been declining since then.

A positive way at looking at the marriage

and divorce statistics is that there were 3,950,342 married couples in Australia at the 2006 census. With 51,375 divorces in 2006, that means that only 1.3% of marriages broke up in that year.

Now that's a positive statistic we ought to be shouting about, especially to our young people who are often getting a negative message about marriage!

Misleading statistics

There appears to be a campaign of negativity about marriage which is promoting negative, and sometimes very misleading, statistics.

How often have you heard that 'half of all marriages end in divorce'?

That figure simply isn't true - it is a flawed use of statistics!

The figure is obtained by comparing the number of marriages in one year to the number of divorces in the same year - but it takes no account of all the marriages still existing from all previous years.

The true figure in Australia is that there is about a **33% chance of divorce**.

Dr Shail Jain, of the ANU, says "The probability that a marriage will end in divorce has been increasing over time. Based on the nuptiality tables, around 28% of marriages entered into in 1985-1987 could be expected to end in divorce. This proportion increased to 33% for all marriages entered into in 2000-2002."

Even with these statistics, let's look at the positive side. **That means that 67% of ALL marriages will LAST!**

Duration of marriage

Dr Jain found that first marriages are lasting longer than 20 years ago:



“The expected duration of first marriages that end in divorce has increased between 1985–1987 and 2000–2002. Men who first married in 1985–1987 and who would later divorce, could expect their marriage to last an average of 11 years, increasing to 14 years for those men marrying in 2000–2002. The average duration of women’s first marriages ending in divorce increased from 14 to 16 years over the same period.”

Celebrants - civil v religious

One concerning trend regarding marriages in Australia is the number of couples opting for a ceremony by a civil celebrant. Last year 62.9% had a civil celebrant. In 2007, “couples who lived together before marrying were more likely to marry in a civil ceremony than those who lived apart, with 70.0% of couples living together married in a civil ceremony, compared with 39.4% of those who lived apart.”

This may be reflective of the lack of church attendance and the growing perception by non-Christians of the role of the church in society. This is something that churches need to consider carefully.

Number of couples

The vast majority of people living in ‘couple relationships’ in Australia are married. In the 2006 census there were 7,158,699 married people - this is 85.2% of all people living in ‘couple’ relationships (total 4.31 million couple families).

de facto couples

At the 2006 census, there were 1,242,792 people living in *de facto* couple relationships (14.8% of all couples).

Of these, 1,193,426 were in heterosexual relationships (14.2% of all couples).

The remaining 49,366 people were living in homosexual relationships (26,027 male,

23,339 female).

Thus 0.59% of all people living in ‘couple’ relationships are in a homosexual relationship.

The proportion of *de facto* relationships has risen in recent years from 8.5% in 1992 to 14.8% in 2006.

With the recent establishment of ‘Relationship Registers’, that allow heterosexual and homosexual couples to register their relationship and get most if not all the benefits of marriage, this figure might well continue to grow in the future, as it has in Sweden over the past decade.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics collects data on marriages and records the number of “registered marriages”.



However they also use the term “social marital status”. The census asks people whether they are “Married in a registered marriage”, “Married in a *de facto* marriage” or “Not married”.

Thus even our national collector of statistics says that a *de facto* couple is ‘married’ when assessing their ‘social marital status’ - which includes both “registered marriage” and “*de facto* marriage”! Along with the formal registration of relationships apart from marriage, this leads to an undermining of marriage and creates ‘marriage-lite’.

Despite the increasing acceptance of other relationships in our society, marriage is a vital foundation of our nation - let’s promote it!

ABS sources:

3306.0.55.001 - *Marriages, Australia, 2007*
4102.0 - *Australian Social Trends, 2007. Lifetime Marriage and Divorce Trends, Dr Shail Jain.*
4442.0 - *Family Characteristics and Transitions, 2006-2007.*
2914.0.55.002 - 2006 - *Media Fact sheet: Census shows marriage still the norm for couples, June 2007.*

Abortion is murder

Family Planning Victoria considers “that women in general are very good at making decisions about their health” and that decriminalising abortion would “support women to continue to make very good decisions.”

How can the deliberate murder of 20,000 babies by abortion each year in Victoria be good decision-making?

If the babies had a choice, would one of those 20,000 choose to be suctioned, dismembered, burnt alive, poisoned or have its brains vacuumed out (as occurs in partial birth abortion)?

Imagine the pain. And all because women command a non-existent ‘right’ to choose. To choose what? To kill their babies. That’s murder. That’s criminal.

And that’s why abortion needs to remain a crime under the Crimes Act and for the Act to be thoroughly enforced.

Frances Greenough, Mitcham
Leader News 3/9/2008

Top champions

How heart warming and inspiring to see the Paralympians compete. Well done, athletes for your get up and go. How can anyone complain after watching their determination?

Judith Bond, Glen Alpine
Campbelltown Macarthur Adv. 17/9/2008

Pollies get pigeon-holed

How pathetic we have become. Although kicking a pigeon is not nice, I find it appalling that an obviously troubled man gets taken to court for kicking a pigeon (“Bond over pigeon kick” Oct 10) yet in the Victorian Parliament, MPs are saying it is OK to kill unborn children.

If this does not show how upside down and sick our society has become I don’t know what it will take to bring us to our senses.

Peter Stokes, Forest Hill
Herald Sun 11/10/2008

Unborn so precious

I was always taught to value life, how we each are precious, unique and special.

PLEASE, Please, to the Members of Parliament. I ask you think twice, to re think, think again about the unborn child. They also are precious, unique and special, Yes, Life IS worth living.

Judith Bond, Glen Alpine
Illawarra Mercury 5/9/2008

Thanks for the ‘no’

I was amazed to see how fast community attitudes change judging by Bob Thomas of Blackburn (*Compassion needed*, Opinion Sept 10) Just a few months ago I’m sure I read that 70% supported Euthanasia, then it jumped to 80% and then last week 90%. Wow, Bob must have been working hard to promote this cause.

Of course, as ‘Yes Minister’ showed us, if you ask the right question you get the answer you want - note I did not say the right answer! Thankfully, a large majority of our State Upper House MPs did give us the right answer when they said a resounding NO to the Assisted suicide (euthanasia) Bill last Wednesday.

Thank you to all those MPs who voted that awful Bill down.

Peter Stokes, Forest Hill
Whitehorse Leader, 18/09/2008

Star Chamber lacks appeal

May the recent letters asking for a review of VCAT please be heard.

I regard VCAT as a dangerous, non-elected quasi-legal body with far too much power.

It is the Star Chamber of our times. It contradicts our whole legal system by assuming a person is guilty unless proved innocent on issues such as racial and religious tolerance and human rights.

It can act as both prosecutor and judge, and the right to appeal is virtually non-existent. VCAT undermines our elected local governments and other constituted authorities, and makes decisions in cases that should be left to our courts of law.

Anne Neil, Clayton
Herald Sun 18/9/2008

Hirsh Discredited

Why does the Maroondah Journal give someone like Carolyn Hirsh front page influence when she has been defamed and discredited by her own actions? Do you think she is a role model for our teenagers to follow? She was stood down as MP because she is not. Her views on abortion could possibly have unfortunate influences on teenagers because of the awful psychological, emotional and physical affect of first-degree murder of babies in the womb. There are better ways to deal with the guilt of murder than by denying that there is guilt.

Rebecca Field, Ringwood
Maroondah Journal, 23/09/2008

AHRC: Freedom of Religion and Belief

Freedom of religion is under threat again in Australia!

Ten years ago, in 1998, the federal Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission (HREOC) ran an Inquiry into religious freedom and published a report called **Article 18: Freedom of religion and belief**. It investigated Australia's 'obligations' under the UN's *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights*.

HREOC's report proposed the establishment of a 'Religious Freedom Act' and suggested that all religious beliefs were **equal**. The Report went to the Parliament - thankfully the Howard government opposed the idea and no new law eventuated.

But HREOC, now called the **Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC)** has launched a new Project to evaluate the implementation of the Article 18 Report, the impact of Section 116 of the Constitution and consider the "Roles, rights and responsibilities of religious organisations" and more!

Discussion Paper/Submissions

On 17 September AHRC launched a Discussion Paper for their new Inquiry called '**Freedom of religion and belief in the 21st century**'. Prior to that they had already held consultations with various religious leaders around Australia.

Now they are asking for submissions from the PUBLIC - yes, that means YOU!

Submissions close on 31 January 2009. Please read the Discussion Paper.

Next month we'll give a detailed analysis and some suggestions for your submission.

A special section of the AHRC website has been set up for this Inquiry - it has the Discussion Paper and more reports.

See www.hreoc.gov.au/frb/index.html

The Inquiry

The Inquiry is being run in "partnership" with Monash University, RMIT and the Australian Multicultural Foundation (AMF). What that really means is that the key people are **Gary Bouma** from Monash (who acted as an expert witness for the Islamic Council in the Catch the Fire vilification case), **Des Cahill** (RMIT) and **Hass Dellal** (a Muslim who runs the AMF).

These men also wrote the book called **Religion, Cultural Diversity and Safeguarding Australia** for an Immigration Department project in 2004. It proposed a rotating roster of prayers in federal Parliament, a national interfaith 'sacred space' and a Multifaith Council made

up of representatives of all religions. That project also included a book to encourage local Councils to establish Interfaith Networks, and a sanitised guide to Islam. AHRC notes that the current Inquiry builds on these documents as well as 'Article 18'.

Race and religion

In 2003, HREOC did a report called *ISMA*, which interviewed Muslims. They asked to be covered by the federal racial vilification law - because Jewish people are considered a 'race'. But Islam is not a race, it is a religion. This new Inquiry highlights issues relating to Islam post 9/11 and promotes interfaith and multi-faith issues.

Although state governments have implemented religious discrimination and in some cases religious vilification laws (Vic, ACT, Qld, Tas), the federal government has never enacted any religious discrimination or vilification laws.

This Inquiry presents a major threat to our religious freedom - we must respond!



Abortion - where to from here?

by Jenny Stokes

With the **Abortion Law Reform Bill** being passed in Victoria, some might feel the fight is over. Others might feel discouraged. We had hoped and prayed that the Legislative Council would vote against the Bill, but on Friday 10 October they voted in favour of the Bill by 23 votes to 17.

The temptation might be for us to “give up” and go on to fight another battle - and yes, there are many important battles to fight!

But we cannot give up just because a government passes a law. Abortions will increase because this law tells women that it is OK to have an abortion.

Some MPs said they voted for the Bill because they didn't want to see women criminalised for having an abortion. That overlooked the fact that since the Menhennitt ruling in 1969 no women or doctors had been charged under the Crimes Act.

The law gives society a guide as to what is right and wrong. The argument goes that if something is legal then it must be ‘morally right’. The abortion law thus attempts to remove the guilt, but we know that doesn't work. Deep down, women always know what they have done. Sooner or later they will have to deal with that.

Huge numbers of Christians acted

During this campaign we have seen thousands of people get active - some for the first time. Some MPs said they had received thousands of letters and emails - one MP said the letters were 200-1 against the Abortion Law Reform Bill.

Despite all this action, the law has been changed and it is now legal to have an abortion in Victoria for ANY reason up to

24 weeks and after that to have an abortion so long as it is approved by two doctors on the grounds of life, health or social circumstances.

Abortion has been taken out of the Crimes Act and is now treated as a ‘health issue’.

Other states

Following the passage of Victoria's law, other states such as NSW and Queensland may decide to pursue the legalisation of abortion. The issue came up in Queensland recently but was shelved - the Victorian decision might provide the impetus for the government to bring the matter up again. We must be vigilant and watch what is happening in all states.

We can't give up!

The law in Britain allowed the slave trade and the ownership of slaves for many years. It was only when William Wilberforce and the Clapham group stood up against the injustice, and kept fighting for decades,

that firstly trading in slaves and later the ownership of slaves in Britain were abolished.

Maybe future generations will look back and say ‘How could we have legalised such a terrible thing as abortion?’

Whilst much of the debate during the discussion of Victoria's Abortion Law focused on late term abortion, the reality is that only a tiny percentage of babies are aborted after 20 weeks.

In Victoria, all babies that die after 20 weeks gestation are recorded as a birth and a death - whether from an abortion, miscarriage or stillbirth.¹ The 2006 perinatal statistics show there were 298 abortions after 20 weeks.



Of these, 148 were done for ‘congenital abnormality’ reasons but the other 150 were for ‘psychosocial’ reasons.

The total number of post-20 week abortions was 1.5% of the estimated 20,000 abortions done in Victoria every year.

The question is: “What now?”

Most people, even those who support abortion, will say there are too many abortions. As Christians, who know that abortion is always morally wrong, we cannot accept that abortion just ‘happens’ and go back to sleep.

Changing hearts and minds

We have a responsibility to do something: not just to campaign against a bad law, but to help those affected by abortion and to prevent abortion by helping women who become pregnant. We need to work to change hearts and minds.

Life begins at conception and God values life. The Psalmist writes “My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skilfully wrought in the depths of the earth; Your eyes have seen my unformed substance; And in Your book were all written The days that were ordained for me, When as yet there was not one of them.” (Ps 139: 15-16)

Abortion breaks the commandment “Do not murder” and it creates great heartache for those involved. These are messages we need to communicate to the broader society - as well as to the church.

Charles Swindoll, in a book called *Sanctity of Life*, highlighted the need for Christians to be active in three areas: we need to oppose the evil of abortion, care for women who are pregnant and also highlight the importance of sexual purity.

Several organisations have recently started

showing pro-life ads on TV. In our August journal, we mentioned ‘Emily’s Voice’ in Toowoomba - www.emilysvoice.com A new group ‘Hope for Women’ is screening ads on Hobart TV offering help to women who have lost unborn children through miscarriage and abortion. See www.hopeforwomen.com.au - read their material and view the ads. A Christian university student we know saw the ads and was able to use them to talk about abortion with a group of high school students she works with.

There are videos online - such as ‘Baby Steps’ (posted on our website) which we need to circulate to all our friends!

A few churches run pregnancy support centres to help pregnant women and encourage them not to have abortions. Pregnancy counsellors have told us that showing a pregnant woman a model of the unborn child or an ultrasound of her unborn child. One church is starting a ‘Teen mums support group’ and working with the local high school. There are some homes for pregnant girls to live in whilst expecting their child. We need more of these practical solutions!

Education is also an important factor: we need to teach young people at primary and secondary schools, and church youth groups, about the unborn child and the negative consequences of abortion.

Bruce Coleman’s program ‘The Choices of Life’ and Jane Power’s ‘Choices, Decisions and Outcomes’ are two important programs addressing these areas.

Protecting life needs to become a higher priority for Christians in our nation.

1. Vic perinatal <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/perinatal/pubs/annualreps.htm>



The Pill - life and health risks by Jenny Stokes

Over the years we have occasionally addressed the question of artificial contraception, or birth control; in particular highlighting the dangerous side effects from taking hormonal drugs.

On 11 August 2008, Tanya Hayes, a 24 year old woman, collapsed in a car park and was taken to the Angliss Hospital in Melbourne. She died five hours later from a pulmonary embolism - blood clotting - in her lungs. The hospital's director of emergency medicine, Associate Prof Graeme Thomson, said Ms Hayes's death had been "caused by blood clotting caused by factors related to taking the oral contraceptive pill".¹

Tanya had been taking an acne medication, **Roaccutane** for 4 months PLUS a prescribed oral contraceptive pill - **Yasmin**.

Why? The secretary of the Australasian College of Dermatologists, Dr Stephen Shumack, said women taking Roaccutane were advised to take oral contraceptives, because contraceptives boost the acne drugs's effectiveness AND that women taking **Roaccutane** have "an extremely high risk of having a baby that is severely deformed if they fall pregnant".

Tanya's parents want the warning precautions for the Pill written **on the packet**. Her father Robert said "We want youngsters to know how important it is to read the awareness notices." Tanya had breathlessness and a nasty cough in the time leading up to her death. Breathlessness is listed as a "very rare . . . very serious side effect" in the fine print leaflet included in the **Yasmin** packet. But who reads the 'fine print' leaflet?

The **Therapeutic Goods Administration** says that oral contraceptives have been linked to three deaths in Australia since 1973. There have been 56 TGA reports of

"suspected adverse events" linked to **Yasmin** since 2003, but no fatalities. The TGA has listed numerous adverse events for a variety of oral contraceptive pills.

Previously we have reported about the increased risk of stroke, breast cancer and blood clotting from taking oral contraceptives. In 2005, we reported that the International Agency for Research on Cancer, part of the World Health Organisation, upgraded the contraceptive pill to a Group 1 carcinogen (highest level).

Some Christians might think we are being negative about something that has become an accepted part of medicine. But is it a 'good' thing just because it is 'accepted'?

The health risks alone should be enough to make people stop and consider whether they should take the oral contraceptive pill.

Then there are issues relating to birth control and the planning of families from a Christian ethical perspective.

There are natural 'family planning' alternatives available, such as the Billings method, developed by two doctors in Melbourne, who have even trained people in China and India to use this method with a 98 to 99% success rate!² Another method, the Sympto-thermal Method consists of observing three indicators of the fertility of the woman.³

We have a new page on our website - with links and information on this subject - located in the Issues section - Sex and STDs - The Pill. At <http://www.saltshakers.org.au/html/P/330/B/501/>

1. Tanya Hayes 'killed by the contraceptive pill', *Sunday Herald Sun*, 17/8/2008.
2. Billings Method - <http://www.woomb.org/>
3. Sympto-thermal method: Institute for Reproductive Health, Georgetown University: <http://www.irh.org/resources-SymptoThermalMethod.htm>



Binge drinking - bandaids or solutions?

Recent proposals by the Federal government to impose a tax on 'alcopops' to try and curb binge drinking by teenagers faltered when the Coalition didn't support the legislation. During the recent financial crisis Family First Senator Steve Fielding said he would support government budget measures and drop his opposition to the tax.

Some might think this tax could solve the problem. However, increasing the price will not necessarily stop people drinking these mixed drinks. If they cost \$5 instead of \$4, will people stop buying them? If only some alcoholic drinks are taxed at the higher rate young people may switch drinks - they won't stop drinking altogether.

Such strategies are a bandaid approach. What is needed are real strategies that address the underlying causes of youth drinking. Just like with the abortion issue, the

only way to change behaviour is to change hearts and minds.

Recent statistics show that alcohol was the "major drug of concern" in 42% of all people seeking treatment for drugs or alcohol problems in Australia last year. This was followed by cannabis (23%) and heroin (11%). [See: www.aihw.gov.au/mediacentre/2008/mr20081017.cfm]

Binge drinking

A new study by John Hopkins Hospital in the US has found that women who 'binge drink' are more likely to catch sexually transmitted diseases.



One wonders why we needed a 'study' to find that out. Women who drink a lot are more likely to be in situations where they lose their sexual inhibitions and engage in risky sexual activity.

Californication

Last year more than 64 companies told Channel Ten they did NOT want their ads shown on the program *Californication*.

The official censorship body, the **Australian Communications and Media Authority** also found that Channel 10 breached the Code of Practice in one episode.

Despite that, Channel 10 decided to screen the second series of *Californication*, starting on 5 October - it is shown at a later time - 10.10 pm on Sunday nights. The show is full of explicit sexual activity, very coarse language and drug use. The lead actor, David Duchovny, was recently admitted to rehab for 'sex addiction'! That's not surprising given the content of the program.

Along with FamilyVoice Australia, we're running a campaign approaching the advertisers and asking them

not to support the program with their advertising dollars. Channel 10 seems to have selectively chosen companies, such as beer and car ads this time. However, by mid-October, **EIGHT companies, including the major sponsor**, had told Channel 10 that they didn't want their ads on the show! Most of the previous 64 companies haven't advertised in the new series!

ACTION: Join our campaign - details are sent out each week on our E-News, so sign up if you don't already receive them! Details on how to do this are on Page 20.

Write to Channel 10. Ask them NOT to screen this sleazy program because of the negative effects it has on the viewer. Write to: Mr Grant Buckley, CEO, Network Ten, GPO Box 10, Sydney, NSW 2001.



Prayer Update

PM Kevin Rudd

Pray that Kevin Rudd might have wisdom as he makes decisions affecting all Australians in these challenging times.

Pray that he will seek wisdom from God and not just from men.

Pray for Cabinet deliberations at this time.

Malcolm Turnbull

With the election of Malcolm Turnbull as the federal Liberal Party leader, the policies of the Liberals on social issues such as homosexual rights are moving to the left or small-l liberal end of the spectrum. Mr Turnbull's electorate has the highest number of homosexuals of any electorate in Australia.

Pray that he doesn't continue to promote homosexual rights. Pray that he stands up for marriage and the natural family.

State Premiers and MPs

Pray for the Premiers of each state - we have a list of them and their contact details on our website so you can pray for them by name: see <http://www.saltshakers.org.au/html/P/13/B/241/>

Pray for MPs as they consider controversial issues. Pray that, on matters of conscience, they will vote to protect life, marriage and the natural family.

USA election

The USA Presidential election is on 4 November.

Pray that Christians will be elected - Pray that people who will support Biblical moral values and true justice will be elected to the US Congress and Presidency.

Canadian election

Praise God that more conservatives have gained seats in the Canadian election - going from 127 seats to 143. The Conservatives, Stephen Harper, formed a minority government. The Greens received 6% of the vote but do not have any seats in the Canadian Parliament.

Harry Potter film & game

The latest episode in the Harry Potter film series has been delayed from November 2008 until July 2009. Harry Potter Games have been produced for Playstation, Wii and Xbox.

Please pray for the protection of children



If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land. 2 Chr. 7:14

National Prayer Breakfast

The National Prayer Breakfast will be held in Canberra at Parliament House on Monday 10 November.

A church service will be held on Sunday evening, 9 November in the Great Hall of the Parliament. Seminars and a lunch are held after the Breakfast.

The National Alliance of Christian Leaders dinner will be held on the Saturday evening, 8 November.

Please pray for these events and for those attending. Pray that Jesus Christ will be honoured as Lord and Saviour at the National Prayer Breakfast.

Football, Barbie, Sex and Firefighting

A FORMER Mansfield volunteer fireman and football coach, Ken Campagnolo, who was 'outed' as bisexual by his work colleagues, has been having his day, in fact a few days, in 'court' - actually not a real Court but the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT).

He took cases against the Victorian Country Football League (VCFL), the AFL and the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) to the Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission (EOHRC) - formerly the EOC.

He claims he was denied a paid job with DSE because he is bisexual and that fellow workers had sexually harassed him by giving him a Barbie doll as a Christmas gift. The EOHRC, who are always on the lookout to justify their existence, accepted the cases. The VCFL case was settled there, but Mr Campagnolo took his other cases on to VCAT.

Last month his discrimination claim against the AFL was thrown out, as was the suggestion of sexual harassment because "no unwelcome sexual advance" had taken place. Good logic for a change!

But, ever wanting to push the anti-homophobia cause, he has now said he plans to reactivate the other claims.

A brief attempt to mediate Ken's

discrimination case against the DSE failed mainly because he could provide no witnesses. You would think that would be enough to dismiss the case altogether but no, VCAT, who also want to justify their existence, have rescheduled the case for next year!!

An amusing development along the way was Jeff Kennett saying that the Bonnie Doon Football Club was right to dismiss the bisexual coach because of his sexuality. "The club felt that once this had been pointed out and you had this gentleman there who was obviously close to young men - massaging young men - it ran an unnecessary risk... It's the same if you have a paedophile there as a masseur, right?"

Common sense you might think, but now infamous NSW homosexual activist and lawyer, Gary Burns, is to 'sue' Jeff Kennett over the comments. Burns said he would use NSW anti-discrimination laws to take action against Mr Kennett because the comments "are inciting hate against gay men".

How? If Jeff had said, "It's the same if you have a woman there as a masseur", would that have been inciting hate against women? Of course not.

And where is the logic of taking a case in NSW for something that happened in Victoria? Clearly this saga will continue.

Mardi gras gets YOUR tax dollars

The NSW government has promised funding to the Sydney homosexual mardi gras, through 'Events NSW'.

This could amount to "hundreds of thousands of dollars". The money is apparently to help them develop a business plan to improve the event and make it financially viable - yet mardi gras actually made a PROFIT in 2008 of \$500,000!

ACTION: Ask the NSW government NOT to fund mardi gras. Write to Mr Geoff Parmenter, CEO Events NSW, GPO Box 5341, Sydney NSW Australia 2001.

Write to the NSW Premier Nathan Rees.

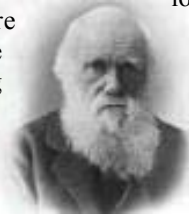
If you live in NSW write to your Legislative Assembly Member and all Legislative Council Members. Parliament House, Macquarie St, Sydney, NSW 2000.

Church of England apologises to Darwin

The Church of England (UK) has apologised to Charles Darwin, the founder of the theory of evolution. The Church has established a new section on its website (www.cofe.anglican.org/darwin) to mark the bicentenary of Charles Darwin's birth in 1809, and the 150th anniversary of the publication of *On the Origin of Species* in 1859.

The website analyses Darwin's faith and relationship to the Church of England. It says "Darwin was surrounded by the influence of the Church his entire life. Having attended one of the best Church of England boarding schools in the country in Shrewsbury, he trained to be a clergyman in Cambridge; was inspired to follow his calling into science by another clergyman who lived and breathed botany; and married into a staunch Anglican family."

They note that Darwin slowly lost "his personal Christian faith, the erosion made complete by a need for evidence and no doubt the sad death of a beloved daughter".



They assert that Darwin could not match science to faith and thus gave up on faith.

The solution proposed by the Church of England? The church should not be so definitive about science - and 'evolution' should not preclude faith in God.

When some groups of Christians, and some sections of the church, support the theory of evolution itself, and many others endorse a view that God 'used evolution' to create in long ages, it is no wonder the Church of England is apologising to Darwin.

Commenting on this, Creation Ministries International wrote "Yet another example of church leaders appeasing secularists, but it is just as futile as Chamberlain appeasing Hitler. Like Hitler, the secularists give nothing in return, and encroach on more and more territory held by the church. And as usual, the official statement ignores the main problems of marrying the Church with Darwin (and long ages in general): denial of biblical authority, and disconnecting death and suffering from sin."

USA - Presidential election

The election for the US President will be held on Tuesday 4 November.

A fierce contest has been underway in the USA - first to obtain the nomination of their respective party and following that a campaign for the election of the President.

Republican Senator John McCain invigorated his campaign for President when he selected Sarah Palin, a pro-life Christian who is currently the Governor of Alaska, as his vice-presidential running mate. The pregnancy of her unmarried 17 year old daughter and her young son who has Down Syndrome

were widely reported by the media - but her resilience in dealing with such personal crises assisted her campaign.

Meanwhile the Democrats, the more 'left' of the parties akin to our Labor Party, selected Barack Hussein Obama. Controversies have proliferated about his Muslim background, (he is now a Christian), his support for abortion in the Congress and connections with people involved in terrorist activities.

Time will tell who wins. Please pray for the outcome of the election.



World News

Eugenics in New Orleans

A New Orleans Republican politician Mr LaBruzzo, recently proposed that poor women should be paid \$1000 to be sterilised and poor men be paid an incentive to have a vasectomy. [Lifesite, 2/10/2008]

Why? To help fix the welfare problem.

He also suggested that richer, better-educated citizens be given a tax incentive to have more children!

New Orleans Catholic Archbishop Alfred Hughes condemned the proposal as “blatantly anti-life” and eugenic in nature.

Russia: abortion

More than 64 % of pregnancies in Russia end in abortion. Marina Tarasova, deputy head of the St. Petersburg Research Institute For Gynecology and Obstetrics of the Russian Academy of Sciences recently said that this high abortion rate is leaving an increasing number of women infertile.

More than 250,000 women each year become infertile because of permanent effects from having an abortion. She said “Over the past five years, female infertility in Russia has increased by 14 percent, and over 1.5 million Russians need advanced medical technology to become pregnant and maintain a healthy pregnancy.” By the end of 2007 there were 5.5 million infertile couples in the country. [Lifesite, 2/10/2008]

UK - Destructive Embryology Bill

The final stages of the UK Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill (HFE Bill) took place on 22nd October.

Andrea Williams of the UK’s Christian Concern For Our Nation (formerly the action division of Lawyers Christian

Fellowship) said “This Bill is one of the most destructive pieces of legislation that we will see in our lifetime. It is anti-life, anti-family and anti-God. It will liberalise abortion law, create animal-human hybrids and create fatherless families unless we pray and act to stop it. Will you do so? Each person’s contribution counts.”

Many nations around the world are debating similar legislation. Australia is not alone on this!

UK: Young Muslim Advisory Group

The UK government has provided £1.3 million for “community cohesion” initiatives, aimed at helping Muslims fight “extremist influences”. One of the groups to receive a grant is the **Young Muslim Advisory Group**, giving them direct access to Cabinet members!

A row broke out when it emerged that one member of the group, Sabiha Iqbal, 17, is a member of the Socialist Worker Party, a “tiny Trotskyite sect that has ‘expressed solidarity’ with Hezbollah terrorists, while trying to forge links with hardline British Muslims.” [Daily Express, 8/10/2008]

The government has had to admit that there is no similar ‘Advisory Group’ for Christians, Jews, Hindus - or anyone else!

The proposal was criticised by Tory cohesion spokeswoman Baroness Sayeeda Warsi, who is a Muslim. She said the group was another example of Labour’s “state multiculturalism” which she said fostered a “divided Britain”.

Canadian election

The Conservatives, led by Stephen Harper, have won the election held on 14 October. They increased their number of seats from 127 seats to 143 and have formed a minority government. They needed 155 seats to govern in their own right. They still have a minority in the Upper House which has been obstructing their reform agenda.

Ministry News

If anyone had told us when we started Salt Shakers that we would still be doing this in 14 years time we probably would have run a country mile! But here we are and how much things have changed both for the better and the worse since then.

We thank God for the opportunity to help Christians make a difference and it's probably true to say we wish we had started earlier. Much of the damage to our Christian heritage and to marriage and the natural family was started long before we became involved. Now, of course, it is all out in the

open and supported by so many people who, 14 years ago would never have supported it. How attitudes have been changed because the Christians haven't been sprinkling enough salt where it is needed!

Now we have to work much harder to take back the lost ground.

As we launch an appeal for your financial help to do that for perhaps another 14 years we ask you to reflect on just how much needs to be done. Abortion could soon be freely available across the nation, homosexual relationships will be normalised, and much more if we do not stand up NOW.

We pray that you will help us financially so that we can be equipped to help you make a difference.

Salt Shakers - celebrating 14 years of faith ministry

Please see the inside of the mailing wrapper that your Journal arrived in for more details of how you can assist us to continue helping you make a difference

ACTION Checklist: Tick the box as you complete the task

Page	Topic	Action / People to write to	Done
7	Homosexual rights	12 State Senators	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Freedom of Religion	Prepare submission to AHRC	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Californication - TV show	Join our campaign to contact advertisers	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Mardi gras	Premier, Opp. Leader, MPs, Events NSW	<input type="checkbox"/>

SALT SHAKERS On the Web - www.saltshakers.org.au

FREE E-News sign up: Send a blank email to news-subscribe@saltshakers.org.au - then confirm your request by clicking 'reply' & 'send' when asked to do so by a return email

For further information about SALT SHAKERS or issues in this Journal contact;

All administration and financial matters

P O Box 6049

WANTIRNA Vic. 3152

Phone (03) 9800 2855

Fax (03) 9800 2655

Email: admin@saltshakers.org.au

Our office is located at: Suite 4, 675 Boronia Rd, Wantirna, Vic. 3152

Issues & after hours contact

Mobile: Peter 0413 084 145

Jenny 0413 084 146

Email: peter@saltshakers.org.au

jenny@saltshakers.org.au

Bank details for direct debit donations: Westpac, 033 112 Ac. No. 117992

Please ensure your name is clearly noted on the 'pay to' and 'Description' sections.



'The living victims of abortion, Women' & 'Australia's most endangered species'

Two helpful 'give-aways' to spread the word about abortion and its consequences.

20 for \$2.50 inc. postage.



ALSO available: 100% safe

Do you remember the little '100% safe' pamphlet - folded up and enclosed in plastic to resemble a 'condom'? Ideal for youth groups Christian schools etc.

We now have supplies of these in stock - 25 in a packet for \$7 (inc. postage).

Larger quantities of all three are available.



You're Considering an Abortion: what can happen to You? \$1.25

This very useful pamphlet is ideal to keep handy for that time when you hear that someone is considering an abortion.

It discusses in an easy to read way the dangers of abortion that women are rarely told by abortionists. All women deserve to know the risks of any medical procedure and we need to be prepared to stand in the gap at such a time.

This is a great companion to *'The Beginning of the Journey of Life'*



SPECIAL OFFER Buy 5 of each pamphlet and pay just \$10



BABY MODELS -

\$5 each **or 4 for \$15.00**

10 - 12 week old baby (soft and well detailed.)

Carry one in your pocket or handbag to show people what they looked like at just 10-12 weeks after conception. People will be amazed.

These little models have saved children's lives. With your help they can save even more.



CD 1. How Multiculturalism & the spread of Islam is Affecting the West

CD 2. Are Christianity & Islam Compatible by Patrick Sookhdeo

These excellent CD recordings of Patrick, an ex Muslim, speaking in Australia give a very clear and well presented insight into how Islam is penetrating the West and why Christians should not fall for the lie that Islam and Christianity are compatible. **Highly recommended**

\$7 each - CD 1 **CD 2** **or SPECIAL OFFER - Both CDs \$12**



Praying for the GOVERNMENT by Derek Prince

\$5

Derek's main gifting is in explaining the Bible and its teaching in a clear and simple way.

In this booklet he helps us know HOW to, and WHY, we should pray for our government.

His non-denominational approach has made his teaching relevant and helpful to people from all denominations and none.



All prices include GST - Prices as at October, 2008 Prices may change without notification - ****ALL prices include postage****

The Salt Shakers ministry exists largely because of your donations.

If you have been helped by Salt Shakers, please consider making a one off donation or become a regular monthly ministry supporter. Use Bank Direct Debit, the form below or phone (03 9800 2855) to pay using your credit card.

Annual Journal Subscription - **Hard copy \$35** **email E-Journal \$25**

I wish to further assist with a regular, or one off, **Ministry Support donation:**

Rev, Mr, Mrs, Miss,

Monthly One off

Address.....

By credit card By cheque (payable to 'Salt Shakers')

Postcode Email

\$20 \$50 \$100 Other \$

Phone: (....) Church

Total amount - donation/goods \$

Signature Exp. date

Card Number

Bank details for direct debit donations: Salt Shakers Inc. Westpac 033 112 Acc. No 117992

Please ensure your name is clearly attached to your deposit and email us to confirm your payment - admin@saltshakers.org.au

Post order to SALT SHAKERS, PO Box 6049 WANTIRNA 3152 Phone your order: (03) 9800 2855 or Fax: (03) 9800 2655

Salt Shakers Inc.

Helping Christians make a difference

Celebrating 14 years of Ministry Will you help us to continue?

The challenge to Christians to be Salt & Light continues.

We have won some battles and lost others, but we have not lost the war.

Satan will push his agenda further and further - every win spurs him on to try for more ground. Rather than be daunted by this we need to be better equipped, and be prepared to fight even harder for the lives of those who do not know the Lord and for the future of our nation.

Too many young Australians are being led astray by an ever more liberal church, an ever more liberal world and through bad legislation.

We need your help to ensure we go on celebrating through 2009!

Please prayerfully consider becoming a regular financial partner so that we can continue Helping YOU make a difference.

YES - I want to be a financial partner with Salt Shakers

Name Ph:.....

Email Monthly Quarterly

Name on Card..... Yearly One off donation

Card Number

Signature..... Exp. / Amount \$

Pay by Credit Card: fill in and post this form, or phone 03 9800 2855 or fax: 03 9800 2655

Pay by Direct Debit: Salt Shakers Inc. Westpac, 033 112 Ac. No. 117992

Please ensure your name is noted in the deposit 'Description' & EMAIL details to: admin@saltshakers.org.au

Pay by Cheque: Send form with your cheque to Salt Shakers, P O Box 6049, WANTIRNA 3152