This article is used by permission and is taken in full from the *Christian School Comment,* a publication of the Association of Christian Schools International (25th Anniversary year) Volume 25, Number 6.

The Children's Rights Movement: Something to Pray About

by Dr. Paul E. Kienel, Exec. Director Association of Christian Schools International

If you are concerned as I am about the potential rise of a one-world government, then the resolutions passed by the United Nations convention on The Rights of the Child will drive you to your knees.

Liberal thinkers in the U.S. Congress are urging President Clinton to sign a U.N. Treaty on Children and join 136 other countries which have already signed on as supporting the proposal.

Human Events magazine refers to the U.N. Treaty on Children as an opportunity for "government to supplant parents." The magazine goes on to say:

Under the terms of the U.N. Convention on the Child, the United Nations grants power to participating governments to determine children's rights in isolation from parents, family and community. Parental rights and responsibilities in relation to their children are to be determined by the State and ultimately by the United Nations. The United Nations, as a deliberative body with multiple economic networks, international participants, and a variety of enforcement capabilities, would retain jurisdiction.

These requirements go beyond the normal purview of government and raise alarming totalitarian possibilities in which the State defines and limits the personal values to those which are 'acceptable' to the State. Parental provisions for the child are to be supplemented by the State in order to meet the required State standard.1

U.S. Congressman Thomas Bliley, Jr. warns against the U.N. Treaty on Children saying:

It would create new national and international roles for governments to secure a child's right to such fundamental necessities as nutrition, health care, housing and education.

The Convention represents a potential threat to our form of government. As written, it places government in a superior position to its citizens by granting these rights to children.

Many of these "rights" are not presently found in our Constitution, but rather, are considered to be among our inalienable rights endowed by our Creator.

Ratification of the U.N. Treaty on Children is not about children; it is about power. It is a potential threat to some of our most precious freedoms, civil liberties and our form of government.2

There are twenty-eight articles in the Children's Rights Resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations.

While the entire document is alarming, consider article 14 which guarantees to all children *under 18* freedom of thought, conscience and religion. In other words, your children could assert their right to study witchcraft or attend a Sunday school for Muslims or Moonies. Under the U.N. plan, your children would, in effect, belong to the world and your parental rights would be subservient to a new world order.

Consider article 15 which provides children the right to <u>freedom of association</u>. Under this "freedom" your children would have a legal right to ignore your parental ban on visiting Johnny down the street who plays rock and roll music at ear-drum-bursting levels. Under article 15 who could possibly object to membership in gangs?

Article 16 gives a child the <u>right to privacy</u> and could mean you, as parent, provide each of your children their private room. However, it would be inappropriate for you to be overly concerned about what goes on in a child's private room. It could also mean that daughters who become pregnant out of wedlock may have abortions without parental consent. As you can see, parents would simply be bystanders while the U.S. under the U.N. would be the "super parents" of the next generation preparing them for life under a one-world government. It's downright frightening!

Article 17 is equally disturbing. Dr. Gary Bauer, President of Family Research Council, said,

Article 17 fives children a right of "access to the media," which it envisions as the child's primary source of information for "social, spiritual and moral well-being, and physical and mental health." How about that? The media are to be our children's teacher,pastor, doctor and psychologist. What's left for parents to do? Nothing but turn on the set and step aside.3

If you think there is too much parental apathy going on in our country now, think of the rise in apathy when the United Nations takes over.

In your mind you may be asking, "How do rational people come up with ideas as those in the U.N. Treaty on Children? Why would leaders from 136 countries sign such a treaty that greatly reduces the role of parents and places the nurture and training of children in the hands of government? Why would three U.S. legislators introduce resolutions urging President Clinton to seek ratification by the U.S. Senate of the U.N. Treaty on Children? My answer will surprise you. The answer is, the theory of evolution! *What?* you say, *How can that be?* Believe it or not, the theory of evolution has been taught as scientific fact for several generations in almost every country of the world. The theory of evolution ultimately reduces the value of life. It teaches that human beings are an animal product of natural selection and not a special creation of God. When the worth of human life is reduced, then less and less care is given to protecting human life. Parents are less likely to care for their children and the practice of abortion and euthanasia rises. Simply put, evolution leads to human devaluation. Human devaluation leads to human neglect.

When parents around the world lose awareness of the great worth of their children then a vacuum of neglect sets in and government fills the vacuum with faceless, heartless social programs which often do more harm than good.

When it comes to children, a government program can never replace loving parents who love God, love each other and love their children and in that order.

The worldwide neglect of children and the growing "Children's Rights Movement" is something to pray earnestly about.

1 Human Events, Washington, D.C.

2 Thomas Billey, Jr. The Washington Post, Sept.24, 1990 3 Gary Bauer, Inside D.C., March, 1991.

5 Gary Badel, *Inside D.C.*, March, 1991.

Association of Christian Schools, International P.O. Box 4097 Whittier, CA 90607-4097 310-694-4791