#### January 2022



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# Influencer Monthly

A publication prepared exclusively for CWA leaders, members, and friends dedicated to impacting the culture for Christ through both prayer and action.

### 2022 New Hopes, New Beginnings, New Dreams

Tanya Ditty, Vice President of Field Operations



Have you noticed that no matter how long the year seems when you're living through it that it seems short as you come to the end of it? As we started last January,

December seemed like an eternity. True to form, 2021 sped by.

Now, we are poised at the beginning of another new year. What will 2022 bring?

It used to be that you could make predictions about a new year, but nothing is really predictable anymore, is it? Many used to dream that the new year would bring the dawn of a new age of enlightenment in which humanity would throw off the bonds of hatred and bigotry, hunger and disease. But with humanity as each other's throats constantly, I kind of doubt that now. Some speculate we will be visited by extra-terrestrials via all the UFO sightings. I really doubt that. Then there are those who say Jesus will come back. I can buy this one; He can come back anytime He wants.

What does the Bible teach about this new year? Simply this, that God will continue to be in control, and He will continue to work out His will and His way in the lives of humanity. In this new year, lives will be changed through the saving grace of God and the powerful name of Jesus. His blood will still make the foulest clean. God will continue to call people into service for Him. He will still call people home and bless families with newborns.

Indeed, some things will be the same. The question is will I be the same, will you? May our answer be a resounding, "NO!" May we strive to be more like Jesus. May we live with an urgency that tomorrow may end with a trumpet sound and an angelic shout ending time and any chance for people to find Jesus. May our minds be sharpened by the regular study of God's Word. May our hearts be softened by the neediness



around us, and our ears open to God's guidance for touching those in need.

### **Praise & Prayer**

#### **Praise!**

## *Praise* the Lord for a new year, for new beginnings!

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland." Isaiah 43:18-19

#### **Prayer!**

*Pray* for CWA's national staff and each CWA leader, no matter their role, that each would be successful with God's leading.

"Commit your works to the Lord, and your thoughts will be established." Proverbs 16:3

*Pray* for the 49th Annual March for Life on January 21, 2022. *Pray* for the March preparations and safe travel for the hundreds of thousands of marchers who will attend. *Pray* that the united voices of this crowd will be heard by our lawmakers.

"For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well." Psalm 139:13-16

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The New Year ... are ready with new beginnings, new hopes, and new dreams of great things that God will do through you and through me? I sure am!

"The old is gone; the new has come." 2 Corinthians 5:17

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE A 2021 Victory and the Work Ahead

Ashley Foster, Legislative Strategist



Thanks to the efforts of our faithful leaders across the country, we come to you with GOOD NEWS, a rarity as

we witness the ramifications of oneparty rule in Washington, D.C. Congress will not be advancing a proposal forcing young women to register with the Selective Service for a potential military draft. Here's a behind the scenes look at CWA's critical work:

Upon learning that the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) included a "draft our daughters" provision behind closed doors (with the help of eight Republicans) in its FY 2022 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), CWA quickly initiated a <u>coalition letter</u> to galvanize conservative leaders and organizations against the policy and created a <u>fact sheet</u> to educate Members of Congress on the detriments of drafting women. Our full court press made a difference. When the House Armed Services Committee (HASC) considered a similar proposal, a strong majority of GOP members vocally opposed. One Democrat even crossed the aisle to cast a no vote.

As the full House debated and passed its version of the NDAA in September, we pivoted back to the Senate, providing leading analysis of the newly released legislative text to congressional staff and exposing the unintended consequences of the recklessly broad language. Our outreach, including an unprecedented outpouring of messages to Congress from CWA supporters through our Action Center, propelled this issue to the forefront of public debate and resulted in multiple proposed amendments to strike the provision. Disagreement in the Senate eventually compelled leadership to skip Senate floor action and send leaders of HASC and SASC to the negotiation room to reconcile differences. We doubled-down on our efforts of persuasion, and in a surprise, last-minute deal,



negotiators removed the "draft our daughters" language from a final compromise bill, halting a longopposed, monumental reversal in military policy. Rep. Chip Roy (R-Texas) issued a letter crediting CWALAC and other key allies for energizing the grassroots and standing alongside him and his colleagues in defeating this proposal—a wonderful testament to our crucial role in these fights.

As we start the 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress, several items of unfinished business remain for

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2022. They include an expected resurrection of the Democrats' Build Back Better Act even after Sen. Joe Manchin (D-West Virginia), a critical vote for advancing the proposal, announced his firm opposition heading into the holiday season. Among the list of hostile policies, President Biden's bloated tax and spend spree blatantly disregards three decades of bipartisan support for inclusion of faith-based child care providers in social welfare programs. These entities are integral to the child care marketplace, and their absence will result in crippling shortages, leaving many families with no place to turn. View CWA's latest fact sheet on this issue <u>HERE</u>.

Please join us in the continued mission to preserve the foundational values of our nation. Never underestimate the difference YOU are making as we trudge onward with renewed energy for the new year. "And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9

## GAVEL WATCH Protecting the First Amendment in Upcoming Supreme Court Case

Mario Diaz, Esq., General Counsel



Concerned Women for America (CWA) submitted a brief before the United States Supreme Court in an

upcoming First Amendment case, *Shurtleff v. Boston.* 

Ordinarily, the city of Boston allowed private groups to display a flag of their choosing in one of their flagpoles as private groups held events for different causes. For over a decade, since 2005, it had approved hundreds of requests with no issues. But that all changed when a Christian, Mr. Harold Shurtleff, cofounder of Camp Constitution, wanted to display a flag featuring a red Latin cross to commemorate Constitution Day.

As is often the case with hostile government authorities, the city denied the application, citing the usual fallacy of the supposed "separation of church and state." If only Mr. Shurtleff wanted to display the LGBTQ flag, he would have had no problem; they had proudly approved that before. But a flag to celebrate our nation's JudeoChristian foundations was beyond the pale.

This, of course, is a grave violation of the First Amendment. Religious speech should not be the target of the government's hostility. The city made the classic mistake of thinking that because private speech is made on public property, the ideas expressed are somehow transferred as the city's own.

Our brief tells the Court that "Just because the government sometimes, or even principally, uses its property for its own speech does not





1st Amendment

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eliminate its uses as a public forum for private speech on other occasions."

It seems evident that for the city to allow the public to speak does not mean they endorse what is said. But in this case, the city's misinterpretation of the law reveals that that is perhaps what they intended. Needless to say, the Constitution requires not such hostility towards religion. If anything, religious expressions should receive more, not fewer protections under our constitution.

But, in this case, that is not even what this group is engaging in. Note they were seeking to celebrate Constitution Day, not a religious holiday. So, even if the forum was limited to civic engagement, Camp Constitution would fall under that umbrella.

**Please be in prayer** for this case. The Supreme Court has scheduled oral arguments for January 18, 2022. Pray the Court sends a strong message against Boston's Free Speech and Free Exercise violations.



## **GOLD NUGGET**

"Let's make one resolution this year: to anchor ourselves to God's grace." Chuck Swindoll, preacher, teacher, author

"We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure." Hebrews 6:19

## AROUND THE WORLD **Dobbs v. Jackson** and its Global Impact

Neydy Casillas, Esq. - Vice President of International Affairs



For almost 50 years, the right to kill babies has existed in the United States. Worldwide only seven countries

have abortion laws as liberal as those in the U.S., among those are China and North Korea. One hundred thirty-nine countries (out of 198) allow abortion in some circumstances.

It is not news that developing countries see the United States as a model country to follow in many of its policies and laws. Abortion is not the exception.

As of now, several countries are debating on the liberalization of abortion without restrictions. The U.S. is presented as the "prototype or model" where the so-called reproductive rights and women's rights are fully respected (reproductive rights meaning abortion).

In most developing countries, this demand does not come from its people but rather from a small group of radical feminists sponsored by Planned Parenthood, whose mission is to impose abortion worldwide, despite that a significant majority of people oppose it. Currently, there are 37 countries where abortion is forbidden except for the risk of the mother's life.

A positive decision from the Supreme Court on the *Dobbs vs. Jackson* case could levy a devasting blow to the abortion movement internationally. If the United States reverses course and once again respects life in the womb, it would certainly change the argument when promoting the abortion issue.

In other words, if we have a positive resolution from the Supreme Court, millions of babies would be safe worldwide because the message to the world will be, "people do not want abortion; women do not want abortion."

In the upcoming months, CWA will host several virtual events to help our allies worldwide understand the extent of these pro-life cases and how they could potentially be used to defend life in their countries.

**Pray:** Let's not forget that *Dobbs* is still an ongoing case until the Court renders its decision. It is true that



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humanly speaking there is nothing else that we can do but pray. So, please pray for each of the Justices that the Holy Spirit will grant them wisdom and bring truth to their minds and hearts. Let's pray for healing for our nation, that God will forgive us for the millions of lives that we have rejected. Let's pray for those countries debating abortion that their authorities will see and value the beauty of life.

## CWA IN THE NEWS A Voice for Truth in the Media

Jacklyn Washington, Deputy Communications Director



November 1: Newsmax – CWA on the steps of the Court for Texas Heartbeat Law.

Nance joined to discuss the oral arguments at the Supreme Court and to summarize what the next few months could mean for the pro -life movement. Watch her statement from the steps of the Court <u>here</u> and her subsequent interview <u>here</u>.

November 12: *The Atlantic* – **Nance** to American men: "Put on a real pair of pants and get a job." At a recent high-profile conservative conference, Sen. Josh Hawley (R-Missouri) gave a speech on what he referred to as the deconstruction of American men. Nance defended the Senator's remarks in a recent article. Read her full comments <u>here</u>.

November 12: Fox News Opinion – "Hey Joe Biden and Democrats, leave our kids and childcare alone." Nance's recent op-ed on the Left's push to mandate every aspect of children's lives in Fox. Read the full article <u>here</u>.

November 16: *Breitbart News* – **BBB? More like Better Before Biden**. The Center for Urban Renewal and Education (CURE) held a press conference to draw attention to the disastrous effects the Build Back Better Act would have on at-risk and minority communities in America. CWA's Deputy Communications Director, Jacklyn Washington, gave remarks to discuss concerns with the federal takeover of childcare. Watch her full remarks <u>here</u>.

November 17: *Townhall* – **Number** of Child Brides is Global Atrocity. Nance's latest op-ed draws attention to the atrocity of child brides that affects more than 650 million girls worldwide. Read her full piece <u>here</u>.

November 17: *New Podcast Episode* – Living God's Way with Rep. Vicky Hartzler (R-Missouri). Nance is joined by Rep. Hartzler to discuss how she found her way from the farmlands of Missouri to the halls of Congress by following God's plan for her life. Listen to their full conversation <u>here</u>.

November 30: *Newsmax* – **This is a Civil Rights Issue**. Nance joined *John Bachman Now* to discuss the Supreme Court hearing oral arguments in the biggest pro-life case of our lifetime. Listen to her full interview <u>here</u> to learn what the future of abortion in America could look like.

November 30: New Podcast Episode – SPECIAL: Science Proved Us Right. A special edition of Concerned Women Today dropped the day before the Supreme Court was set to hear oral arguments. In this episode, Nance is joined by a prolife OB/GYN, Dr. Christina Francis, who explains the science of fetal development and the medical

Newsweek OPINION

The Biden Administration is Sending Title IX to the Ash Heap of History | Opinion



at the University of Pennsylvania is smashing NCAA ords. Will Thomas from Austin, Texas, competed on the s now, as a senior, competing as Lia Thomas on the ases are boasting of the wins and shamefully displacing gram record holders in their <u>history books</u>. Cases like i-woman policies, jeopardize the hopes and dreams of

eously <u>speaking out</u> to expose the hypocrisy and blatant athletes on a women's college team showcasing a aking out against their athletic program. "Pretly much en to our coaches about not liking this," one shared during



U.S. RELAXES RESTRICTION ON ABORTION PILL

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advancements made since 1973. Stream here.

December 1: U.S. Supreme Court -CWA Stands for Life on Steps of Supreme Court. A day to remember. CWA was proud to help bring thousands from all over the country to Washington, D.C., to pray for life on the steps of the Court. Listen to Penny's full remarks here.

December 16: Newsweek – The **Biden Administration is Sending** Title IX to the Ash Heap of History. CWA's Senior Advisor, Doreen Denny, published an op-ed highlighting the University of Pennsylvania swimmer who has

been smashing NCAA women's swimming records. The one problem? Lia Thomas is a biological male who competed on the men's team for three years. Read Denny's full analysis here.

December 20: Newsmax – FDA **Opens Door for Unsupervised** Abortion-By-Mail. The Food and Drug Administration has decided to remove safeguards surrounding the abortion pill - such as allowing it to be sent through the mail without the supervision of a doctor. Concerned Women for America's Legislative Strategist, Ashley Foster, joined John Bachman Now on Newsmax to unpack the decision. he interview here.

## YOUNG WOMEN FOR AMERICA

YWA Goes to Phoenix

Annabelle Rutledge, National Director, Young Women for America



It was a wonderful Happy New Year from Young finish to 2021 as YWA Coordinators traveled to

Phoenix, Arizona to table at America Fest, a

Turning Point USA event. It was such a treat to have dinner with some of our YWA Ambassadors from all over the country and fellowship together. Plus, we met many new friends and potential YWA leaders.



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Women for America!

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#### What's Next for the Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health case?

The December 1 oral arguments for Dobbs v. Jackson Women's *Health* were just the beginning of our pro-life efforts for this case. If the Court keeps to its historical track record of rendering decisions on "controversial" cases in the last weeks of its term, the Dobbs decision will likely be announced by the end of June.

Until the Supreme Court renders its decision, our posture must be on our knees before the Lord. CWA is encouraging our leaders, members, and friends to set aside the fourth Monday of the next six months, beginning January 24, for focused prayer on the Dobbs case. Using the 30 Days of Prayer for Life prayer booklet and our monthly prayer points, we encourage you to gather together people to pray in person, over the phone, or via Zoom.

You can find the monthly prayer points/agenda, prayers to use from the booklet, and how to order a prayer book here.

#### Be In the Know!

Mario Diaz, Esq., CWA's General Counsel, joined NPR's Morning Edition with Noel King to discuss the future of Roe v. *Wade* following the historic Supreme Court oral arguments in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization. Listen here.

#### Concerned Women for America's

**CEO and President Penny Nance** and General Counsel Mario Diaz unpacked the oral arguments of the *Dobbs* case and discussed what lies ahead for the pro-life movement. Watch this educational and insightful webinar.