

Fox News asks, Vander Plaats to back Ben Carson?

“He’s a mover and a shaker. He’s not a braggart about it, but he does affect votes.”

That’s what Fox News Channel host Neil Cavuto said of The FAMiLY LEADER President Bob Vander Plaats after this live interview on the state of the 2016 presidential race yesterday.

Vander Plaats endorsed Mike Huckabee in 2008 and Rick Santorum in 2012, both of whom went on to win the Iowa GOP caucuses and push for the Republican nomination nationwide. This led FoxNews.com to title the interview with Vander Plaats, “Republican kingmaker ready to back Dr. Ben Carson?”

Watch the latest video at video.foxnews.com

To answer the FoxNews.com question, neither Vander Plaats nor The FAMiLY LEADER have yet made any endorsement, but are evaluating all the candidates, looking for a person of character whom we can trust to lead with courage and conviction and put pro-family principles over politics, should he or she be elected to the presidency.

If you want to keep up to date on the work of The FAMiLY LEADER and learn how you can be a part of seeking a redeemed America that honors God and blesses people, [sign up today to receive our latest news and updates, conveniently in your email.](#)

Red Cross emergency manager remembers 9/11

The following is the transcript of a speech given by American Red Cross emergency manager Peter Teahen – an Iowa native who was summoned to New York City the day the World Trade Center was attacked – on the 2014 anniversary of 9/11 in Goodlettsville, Tennessee.

In the Lewis Carroll novel, “Alice in Wonderland,” the character Alice was asked by the Caterpillar, “Who are you?”

Alice replied rather shyly, “I ... I hardly know, sir, just at present. At least I know who I was when I got up this morning, but I think I must have changed several times since then.”

Thirteen years ago today, a day that will always be known simply as 9/11, Americans re-discovered the cost of freedom as more than 3000 individuals became part of history – not by choice, but by fate.

From the farm fields near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, where Flight 93 was wrestled to the ground by passengers ... Washington, D.C., where American Flight 77 symbolically pierced the heart of our government ... and to New York City, where American Flight 11 and United Flight 175 assaulted the core of our economy and financial markets, the commencement of war by foreign terrorist on American soil was etched forever in hearts and minds.

Perhaps you, like me, wake up each 9/11 and wonder if they will strike again on this day. Historians suggest that the events of 9/11 will be noted as one of the top four events in the history our country.

What will not be captured in the annals of history are the intense personal stories that provide insight to the depth of that morning of horror and the change it brought about in us.

The names of Operation Desert Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Benghazi, Gitmo, Sharia Law, Al Qaeda, Al Shabaab, and now ISIS are part of our common language. On the news we hear of the beheading of American reporters, the crucifixion of men, and the live burial and brutal atrocities waged against innocent children and women who refuse to surrender their religious beliefs.

Yes, 9/11 was only the beginning of the ever increasing threats and attacks by terrorist groups who show us the poisonous venom of hatred, anger, and madness done in the name of a religion or belief and their promise to kill us in the very cities that we live.

We are disgusted as we watch young radicalized Americans join terrorist groups, and we are in fear of their return to America. We live in a time when at least three terrorist groups are competing to inflict the next catastrophic hit on the United States.

Let us not forget that terrorism is not just a foreign threat; it is also a domestic based threat. We need to only reflect on the bombing of the Murrah building in Oklahoma City, the killings at Fort Hood, the slaughter of school children in Sandy Hook, and the bombing during the Boston Marathon.

Following the events of September 11, I responded to New York City on behalf of the American Red Cross and was attached in a leadership role to the emergency management staff of Mayor Giuliani. With all aircraft grounded across America, a military aircraft was dispatched to fly me to New York. As we flew, I recall the eerie feeling of listening to the aircraft radio and only hearing complete silence from radio frequencies normally full of chatter from aircraft winging their way through the skies; looking out the window at armed fighter jets frequently intercepting our aircraft to ensure we were friend, not foe; flying over Ground Zero and watching as the smoke belled from the scarred earth; and landing at JFK

Airport in the middle of the day only to find a total absence of people and aircraft moving about. It was as though the most frightening horror movie had come true. For me, that was only the beginning of what I can honestly say was the most frightening five weeks of my entire life.

Almost every day I stood in the World Trade Center complex and was awed by the destruction. I watched as responders and dogs sorted through the collapsed buildings and served as a witness to the evilness, hatred, and ugliness of terrorism. I vividly remember the overwhelming sense of loss and my inability to comprehend the fact that I was standing in the midst of what we believed at the time to be more than 5,000 dead.

My personal story of the World Trade Center began for me nearly 25 years ago. Since 1989, I have responded to 47 major disasters throughout the United States, Guam, and Puerto Rico, as well as the horrific genocide in Darfur, the tsunami-hit country of Sri Lanka, and the catastrophic earthquake in Haiti. Many of those disasters required me to face the threat of terrorism as well as the fury of Mother Nature. I have been held at gunpoint by terrorists and have listened to gunfire wondering how many innocents were dying in the surrounding fields. Over these 25 years I have borne witness to almost every known type of disaster, from the ruins of the Oklahoma City bombing to being in the direct path of more than a dozen hurricanes, including in New Orleans the day Katrina made landfall. I have stood among the wreckage of major airplane crashes and have provided medical care to the injured and dying.

Nothing prepared me for the magnitude of the horror, destruction, and the devastation I witnessed at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. And nothing prepared me for the personal transformation from responder to victim upon learning of my exposure to Anthrax in Washington, D.C., prior to my return home.

What I could hold on to during those days was a personal philosophy developed from my experiences – a philosophy that helps me make sense of the complexities of a disaster response by identifying three important parts to every disaster.

The three parts of a disaster include the physical, emotional, and the spiritual.

The physical part of a disaster is witnessed with all of our senses. When you are in the midst of the destruction you see, hear, taste, smell, and feel the devastation. At Ground Zero, I recall the acrid smell of the fires raging in the debris; I inhaled into my lungs the air that was thick with the particles of asbestos, burning plastic, concrete dust, chemicals, and human remains. I remember standing in the debris for five weeks and always being amazed that I never saw a computer, a desk, a chair, or a file cabinet, knowing that thousands had existed prior to the collapse.

The emotional part of a disaster includes the tears, anger, and horror we see etched on the faces of victims and responders.

Here is what stays in my mind's eye and is etched in my memory: As each remains was recovered from the site, I was always moved by the sign of dignity, respect, and compassion that was displayed as the workers would stop working, line up to create a corridor of honor, and stand at attention as the flag-draped remains was carried past the workers to the ambulance.

I remember watching as families came to the Family Assistance Center with pictures of loved ones around their necks, seeking answers, and giving the medical examiner information in hopes of identifying their loved ones.

I remember looking at the thousands of photos and descriptions of loved ones pasted on walls and fences all over New York City, as families held out desperate hope that their missing

loved one would be seen and returned home alive.

I remember standing at Ground Zero in the days prior to the one-year anniversary and being approached by a woman who was crying. On that day, she was at Ground Zero looking for her answers. As she spoke, I heard her story and felt her pain as she recalled how she overslept that morning and missed her train to lower Manhattan.

When she called her office to say she was running late, her coworker said, "Don't come in. Something has happened. We will let you know."

As she stood there with eyes full of tears, she struggled accepting that she was the sole survivor of her office. She repeatedly asked, "Why me?"

Finally, the spiritual part of my philosophy is the part that defines the reason why I continually stay involved with disaster work. The spiritual side of disaster work is not a reflection of a religious belief, but the extremely intense personal experiences one has when working with other individuals during a crisis. The spiritual part of a disaster is that interaction with another human being that is so intense that it reaches down and touches the most inner part of your existence and changes you forever.

Over the years, I have always tried to define disasters NOT by the breadth of destruction but rather by the intense spiritual experiences. These experiences help me as I deploy to disasters as well as help me define who I am as an individual.

As I reflect back 13 years ago I remember the man who stopped me at 4 a.m. and asked that I meet with him and his wife. It had been several days after the attack and neither had slept because every time they closed their eyes they once again became eyewitnesses to bodies falling like raindrops from the sky. As they shared their story with me, I was deeply moved by their anguish and sorrow.

I recall a young firefighter who spoke of standing at the base of the towers with two of his teammates. As a team they were strategically planning a medical triage response when the buildings began to collapse. He spoke of his fear as the debris fell and how the three of them looked at each other before running for their lives. He told me how he became separated from his teammates and how all he could hear was his wife telling him which direction to run to escape death. He recalled that his wife kept telling him not to leave their children orphans and how he ran listening to her as she guided him through the blinding debris. Then he quietly stated that his wife had died nine months prior to September 11.

He is convinced that it was her spiritual presence that guided him to safety that fateful day and eventually back to their children. Six months later I was at his side when he was informed that the remains of his teammates had been identified. Although he still struggles today with why he did not die with his teammates, he finds comfort in the belief that even in her death he knows his wife is always at his side.

I remember the day I called two of my friends in Washington, D.C., who were planning to visit me because they heard the stress in my voice. I told them not to come because a terrorist alert had been posted for the next day and I felt that I was going to die. I told them not to come to New York because I did not want them to die with me.

I remember one friend saying, "That's OK. I am coming anyway."

For me, it served as a reminder that God always ensures we will never be alone as we face personal trials.

I often reflect on the tremendous humanity, dedication, generosity, and patriotism that I witnessed in those following weeks. I saw Americans reach out in so many ways to help others who were suffering. There were ribbons, flowers, Teddy

bears, poems, candles, and groups of people standing on the curb cheering and waving signs as we drove to and from Ground Zero, saying we were their heroes. Little did they realize that they – and our families and friends back home – were the heroes of everyone who worked at Ground Zero. We knew we could not survive the responsibilities we faced during those dark days without their love, support, and prayers.

Let me tell you about my friend Margaret. She was a kind grandmother, a “real lady,” full of energy, wit, compassion, and an incredible desire to serve those touched by disaster. She died this past summer from her exposure at Ground Zero. Thirteen years after the terrorists flew planes into the World Trade Center killing innocent people going about their work, the death toll from that attack continues to grow as thousands of emergency workers are becoming ill and dying.

Fires at the site burned for three months, releasing carcinogens and other deadly chemicals into the air, while thousands of tons of pulverized toxic debris lay strewn at the site of the Towers. Doctors say those who spent time at Ground Zero were exposed to “wildly toxic” dust that would be the equivalent of inhaling Drano. Responders are now facing an increased risk of a number of different cancers, including prostate, thyroid, lung, leukemia, multiple myeloma, as well as respiratory problems.

Latest figures show more than 2,500 New York City police officers, firefighters, ambulance staff, and sanitation workers report having a cancer certified as relating to their work following the attack. That figure is twice as many cases of cancer as reported just 12 months prior.

The figures from the U.S. government’s monitoring and treatment program for 9/11 emergency workers, responders, volunteers, and local residents report more than 18,000 people are suffering from illnesses linked to the dust from the attacks on the World Trade Center.

Although it is unclear how many responders have already died after contracting cancer as a result of their work at Ground Zero, U.S. health officials managing the health legacy of the attacks warn of early deaths. Personally, I continue to be closely monitored each year for the physical and emotional toll on my body.

As we all struggled for answers during those frightening days, I soon realized why I was there. I was fortunate to be part of some of the worst hours of America's history. I was fortunate to witness America rise to its finest hour. I witnessed the tremendous effort, humanity, dignity, and courage of Americans as they came together in a manner we had not witnessed in decades.

One of the reasons for being here today is to recall our past, to appreciate the present, and to contemplate our tomorrows.

People have asked me, "What have you learned from the September 11 attack?" This is what I have learned:

- You do NOT have the luxury of saying I don't want to be involved. You are involved.
- You do NOT have the luxury of saying it does not affect me. It does affect you.
- You do NOT have the luxury of saying it won't happen here again. It will happen here, and the horrors of 9/11 will pale in contrast.
- We must learn that a terrorist cannot be defined by their nationality or religion or glamorized in the media. They can only be defined by their evilness, hatred, and lack of regard for life.
- We must learn and remember the past and to stand united against those who threaten our existence.

Our challenge is not to run and hide. We must come together as a community and as a nation to stand strong, to stand prepared, and [to] be ready to defend what we hold so dear.

For most Americans, September 11 did change us physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

As President Bush noted on 9/11, "These acts of mass murder were intended to frighten our nation into chaos and retreat. But they have failed. Our country is strong. A great people have been moved to defend a great nation."

Like Alice in Wonderland who replied, "At least I know who I was when I got up this morning, but I think I must have changed several times since then," we may never completely understand the depth of the change that occurred to us since that horrific morning, but we have come to realize that life will never be the same. The security and future of this country, the protection of our families, and the safeguard of our beliefs that we hold so dear rest with each and every one of us.

Today I pray that God will guide, bless, and protect each and every one of us.

I remember the 3,000 who died 13 years ago, the 7,000 soldiers who have paid the ultimate price as they fought the war on terror, and the 1 million soldiers and their families who cope with their combat injuries each day.

As we once again prepare to continue the war against terror, I pray that God will guard our men and women serving in the armed forces, in our embassies and consulates around the world, as well as those who respond to disasters.

And I beseech God to always watch over and bless these United States of America.

'Truth Exposed' rallies Iowans to defund Planned Parenthood

On Saturday, Aug. 15, 2015, several hundred Iowans gathered on the steps of the Iowa State Capitol to demand the men in women inside the golden domed building take action to defund, investigate, and prosecute Planned Parenthood after [a string of investigative videos](#) revealed the abortion giant's practice of deceiving patients, taking dead babies from their mothers without signed consent, and butchering the babies to sell their organs and other body parts.

Twenty different speakers, from presidential candidates, senators, and congressmen to local activists and Iowa elected representatives, spoke to the crowd of the #TruthExposed Rally.

Among the themes: It's not enough to simply ensure no tax dollars fund abortions. It's time to stop ALL government funding of Planned Parenthood.

[Click here to tell Gov. Terry Branstad Iowa needs to defund Planned Parenthood NOW!](#)

** Time Codes Below** (jump to each speaker)

#TruthExposed Rally – Iowa State Capitol, 8-15-15 , with Simon Conway of WHO Radio

-National Anthem: sung by Shannon Seals*

-Welcome: Emcee, Simon Conway

[2:40](#) Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad

-Iowa Lt. Gov. Kim Reynolds

[15:46](#) Sen. Joni Ernst

[23:29](#) Former U.S. Sen. Rick Santorum

- Jan Mickelson, WHO Radio
- Congressman Steve King
- Wisconsin Lt. Gov. Rebecca Kleefisch
- Congressman David Young
- Secretary of State Paul Pate
- [1:07:05](#) Iowa House Majority Leader Linda Upmeyer
- Matt Schultz for U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz
- Sen. Jack Whitver for U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio
- State Sen. Ken Rozenboom
- [1:31:22](#) Bob Vander Plaats, president of The FAMiLY LEADER
- Rev. Cary Gordon, Cornerstone World Outreach
- Sam Clovis
- [2:02:00](#) Jenifer Bowen, executive director of Iowa Right to Life
- [2:13:12](#) Simon Conway, closing remarks

Known notables in attendance: Tamara Scott – Republican National Committeewoman, Steve Scheffler – Republican National Committeeman, Rep. Walt Rogers, Rep. Dawn Pettingill, Rep. Dean Fisher, Rep. Ted Gassman.

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- Simon Conway: <http://bit.ly/loQFKdR> , <https://www.facebook.com/simon.conway...>
- <http://www.TheFamilyLeader.com> ~ Strengthening Families...
- Iowa Right to Life : <http://www.iowartl.org/>

*Shannon Seals is a senior at Simpson College with a Vocal Performance Major

Call to prayer for the sanctity of human life – Aug. 16

It's common for people to wonder, "What can I do about the atrocities of abortion and our culture's casual disregard for life?"

But let's also consider another question: "What can *God* do?"

The answer, of course, is anything. And *that* is encouraging.

No matter how shocking the Planned Parenthood videos, no matter how resistant our leaders to take action, no matter how dark, or sad, or painful the realization of what's happening to babies in America – God is bigger yet. He does not slumber, nor does He sleep, and He hears their cry.

Let us, then, cry out to Him who holds each precious child in His hand.

Please join with us and churches across Iowa in a Call to Prayer for the Sanctity of Human Life on Sunday, Aug. 16, 2015.

Individually, in a group, or during your church service, let us cry out to our Father for the smallest of our brothers and sisters.

Op-ed: Gov. Branstad, defund Planned Parenthood now!

On Sunday, Aug. 9, the Des Moines Register published an op-ed from Bob Vander Plaats demand Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad investigate, prosecute as warranted, and defund Planned Parenthood for lying to its patients, butchering unborn babies, and harvesting their body parts for financial gain.

[Join the hundreds of Iowans who have similarly called upon Branstad to defund Planned Parenthood by clicking here!](#)

The text of that op-ed can be read below. The original, Des Moines Register piece can be read [by clicking here](#).

It's over. The jig is up. We all now know Planned Parenthood kills babies and sells their body parts. We've seen the videos. The questions is: What are our leaders going to do about it?

Arguing that Planned Parenthood provides other services, besides abortion and selling baby parts, is irrelevant. They kill babies, dismember them, market them and sell them. Any organization that embraces this kind of darkness should not get a dime of funding from anyone: not taxpayers, not donors, not anyone.

Sen. Harry Reid said those working to end funding for Planned Parenthood have "lost their moral compass." I urge all readers to view these videos and then determine who has lost their moral compass. Casually negotiating, over lunch and a glass of wine, the best method of killing babies in order to maximize the sales opportunity for intact body parts is extraordinarily dark. And it speaks volumes about the people who perpetrate and fund such evil.

We must be better than this!

Gov. Bobby Jindal of Louisiana did what moral leaders should do. Upon witnessing this atrocity, he immediately protected his citizens from having to fund this ghoulish organization called Planned Parenthood any longer. He ended their contract and promised to vigorously investigate and prosecute them to the full extent of the law. Every jurisdiction in America should expect its leaders to do the same.

Thus, we encourage Gov. Terry Branstad to do the same and make Iowa a leader in protecting the innocent. He should follow Governor Jindal's lead and defund, investigate, and when necessary, prosecute. And he should make clear to other organizations, "If you want money for women's health, you shouldn't slaughter little girls (or boys)."

It's absurd to believe that the state of Iowa has entered into contracts that don't allow it to end funding for the killing and selling, piece by piece, of innocent babies. What does it take in America to lose government funding? If being caught on video selling murdered children isn't enough, then what is? This needs to end now. There is no excuse for Planned Parenthood of Iowa to receive another dime from taxpayers. The governor said five years ago that he would defund Planned Parenthood. If not now, when?

On a federal level, Planned Parenthood receives \$528 million a year in taxpayer dollars. We applaud Iowa Sens. Ernst and Grassley for working to defund Planned Parenthood, but that effort should not end with a single failed procedural vote. The time for games and votes for "show" is over. This is the time for deeds. There are other avenues to defund, such as attaching an amendment to must-pass legislation. Many legislators believe funding for a bloated government is "must pass" legislation, but defunding baby killers is not. They should be ashamed. And we should make sure that if they continue to support murderers with our tax dollars, they will lose re-election.

All Iowans and all Americans should take note of who is leading on this issue. If your senator, governor, representative, or favorite 2016 candidate is not raising their voice and taking action to protect these voiceless infants, then they should feel your anger at the voting booth. There are no excuses. The time for action is now. The voices of the innocent cry out. We have a message for Planned Parenthood, and we call on all leaders to join us in proclaiming it: No rhetoric, no lies, no fancy terms, no backrooms and no freezers will drown out the cries of the murdered children. We have heard their cry, and we are their voice. Hear us loud and clear – it's over!

[Join the hundreds of Iowans who have similarly called upon Branstad to defund Planned Parenthood by clicking here!](#)

Vander Plaats to speak at Simon Conway's pro-life rally



There has never been a better moment for the defenders of life to unite together for the sake of the unborn.

[A series of investigative videos from the Center for Medical Progress](#) has exposed Planned Parenthood, the nation's largest abortion provider, and its woman-deceiving, horrific practice of butchering and selling baby body parts. Even their own officials admit there's "gold" for Planned Parenthood in the practice, and it's a "huge" part of Planned Parenthood's "bottom line."

Is this organization really something the taxpayers should be funding?

[**Click here to tell Gov. Terry Branstad Iowa needs to defund Planned Parenthood NOW!**](#)

On **Saturday, Aug. 15, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon** on the Iowa State Capitol grounds, Bob Vander Plaats of The FAMiLY LEADER will be joining several other prominent leaders at a unified rally for life, giving voice to the babies brutally ripped apart by Planned Parenthood.

Organized by Iowa Right to Life partnering with Simon Conway of WHO Radio 1040AM, the rally is drawing together supporters from several groups across the state and swelling into an event of monumental proportions. Invited speakers include not only Vander Plaats, but *all* presidential candidates from both parties, as well as Iowa's leading elected representatives.

Gov. Branstad, Vander Plaats, and former U.S. Sen. Rick Santorum are among those who have already confirmed to speak.

But this isn't about the names, politicians, or leaders. It's about you. And it's about the babies.

"Now is the time for people all across Iowa to unite in the defense of life and come to this rally," Vander Plaats said. "Let's encourage one another to be faithful, encourage Gov. Branstad to follow Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal's example in defunding Planned Parenthood, and encourage America to take a stand for the defenseless and just plain human decency.

“This is a moment in history,” he continued. “You want to be able to tell your children and grandchildren you were there, you took a stand, and you refused to be silent!”

When: Aug. 15, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Where: Iowa Capitol grounds, Grand Ave. and E. 12th Street, Des Moines, Iowa

How much: No cost

Why: Because human decency demands it.

Demand Terry Branstad keep his promise to defund Planned Parenthood

In 2010, when he was running for governor, Terry Branstad told Iowans that if elected, he would stop taxpayer funding for Planned Parenthood.

During the gubernatorial debate, when Kathie Obradovich of the Des Moines Register asked Branstad to name a state-funded program he would cut, Branstad told Iowa voters, “Certainly funding for groups like Planned Parenthood that are using tax monies and they are involved in promoting abortion – although the money they get from the state may not be used for abortions – I don’t think the state should be funding that.”

Five years later, Iowa voters are still waiting for Branstad to do what he said.

Contact Gov. Branstad now and tell him we’re done waiting. **The time for him to act is now.**

[Click here to demand Branstad immediately act to defund Planned Parenthood.](#)

Take action NOW on Planned Parenthood

Now is YOUR time to stop the slaughter of babies. We need to act now.

What America is missing in the Planned Parenthood videos

Planned Parenthood is feeling the sting of now [two undercover sting videos](#) released by the [Center for Medical Progress](#), suggesting the abortion provider may be profiting from the sale of baby body parts.

But while America is revulsed and Planned Parenthood is scrambling to defend its practice of harvesting body parts for compensation, another major revelation from the videos is **stunningly being overlooked**.

For years, Planned Parenthood has maintained its positive reputation among women, activists, and politicians – despite its blatantly racist past (and arguably present), despite its gruesome and morally repugnant practice of killing babies – because in the end, Planned Parenthood has successfully conveyed the idea that it is a leading advocate for women's

health and any criticism of the organization amounts to a “war on women.” In short, our culture has capitulated to the idea that we can *trust* Planned Parenthood to care for women.

The ancient Greek philosopher Aristotle referred to this as an “ethos,” argument – a persuasive technique that doesn’t rely on logic or even emotion, but that appeals to our trust. Ethos, Aristotle taught, is the most powerful, persuasive argument you can make.

And Planned Parenthood had been winning the ethos argument ... **until now.**

In both of the released sting videos, while the world is focused on the sale of body parts, the Planned Parenthood officials have openly admitted they’re willing to *change the procedure* of an abortion to harvest the parts they want.

In other words, a woman comes in to the clinic trusting Planned Parenthood to care for her health above all else, and instead, the clinic is using medical procedures it knows are less preferable in order to harvest the baby’s body parts. ***Whether for profit or not, the doctor is making harvest a higher priority than the woman’s health.***

[Get informed, get involved in the issues that impact your family – visit The FAMiLY LEADER action center today!](#)

“Let me explain to you a little bit of a problem,” Planned Parenthood Federation of America’s Medical Directors’ Council President Dr. Mary Gatter explains in [the second sting video](#), “If our usual technique is suction, at 10 to 12 weeks, and we switch to using an IPAS [manual vacuum aspirator] or something with less suction, in order to increase the odds that it will come out as an intact specimen, then we’re kind of violating the protocol that says to the patient, ‘We’re not doing anything different in our care of you.’”

In fact, federal law ([42 U.S.C. 289g-1](#)) requires the attending

abortion physician to give the woman “a statement, made in writing and signed by the physician, declaring ... no alteration of the timing, method, or procedures used to terminate the pregnancy was made solely for the purposes of obtaining the tissue.”

“Now, to me that’s kind of a specious little argument,” Planned Parenthood’s Dr. Gatter continues, “and I wouldn’t object to asking Ian, who’s our surgeon who does the cases, to use an IPAS at that gestational age in order to increase the odds that he’s going to get an intact specimen, but I do need to throw it out there as a concern, because the patient is signing something and we’re signing something that’s saying, ‘We’re not changing anything with the way we’re managing you, just because we agree to give the tissue.’”

In other words, this Planned Parenthood official has no problem lying to a woman about the care she’s receiving.

And even though Dr. Gatter, in the same interview, tries to make the argument the two techniques are perfectly interchangeable, the earlier sting video featuring Planned Parenthood Federation of America Senior Director of Medical Services Dr. Deobrah Nucatola suggests something else altogether.

“The kind of rate-limiting step of the procedure is the calvarium, the head is basically the biggest part,” Nucatola explains in regards to the body part that fetches the biggest price. “And with the calvarium, in general, some people will actually try to change the presentation so that it’s not vertex, because when it’s vertex presentation, you never have enough dilation at the beginning of the case.”

In layman’s terms, Nucatola is explaining that the doctor will try to push the baby around instead of coming out head first to come out feet first (what most folks call “breech”), because the woman’s cervix isn’t open enough at the start of

the abortion to deliver a head without crushing it.

“So if you do it starting from the breech presentation, there’s dilation that happens as the case goes on,” Nucatola explains, “and often, at last, you can evacuate an intact calvarium at the end. ... We’ve been pretty successful with that.”

Again, in other words, in order to preserve the most valuable baby part, the doctor changes the procedure (thus lying on the form given to a woman) to make the baby breech, delay the delivery, and harvest the head.

The whole controversy about selling body parts aside, **both Planned Parenthood officials openly admitted to lying to their patients and changing the procedure in order to harvest the most valuable human tissue.**

Are these altered procedures inherently more dangerous to women? I lack the medical expertise to say. If indeed the breech delivery process is more dangerous than a standard abortion procedure, it would only doubly condemn Planned Parenthood.

But regardless, now that America knows Planned Parenthood is lying to women in order to harvest their babies’ most profitable parts ... do we still trust Planned Parenthood to put women’s health first?

[Get informed, get involved in the issues that impact your family – visit The FAMiLY LEADER action center today!](#)

Author of this commentary, Drew Zahn, is the communications director for [The Family Leader](#), an organization dedicated to strengthening families, by inspiring Christ-like leadership in the home, the church, and the government.

National media stunned by message of truth in love

As the nation wrestles with the hot-button issues of sexuality and marriage, deluged by name-calling and insult, Bob Vander Plaats and The FAMiLY LEADER are leading the way in forging a *civil* dialogue instead.

And national newspapers are starting to take notice.

For Christians, standing firm for what we believe while caring for those who don't believe the same is our God-given duty, the convergence of Philippians 2:3 – “in humility value others above yourselves” – and Ephesians 4:15 – “speaking the truth in love.”

For the press, however, it's nothing short of shocking.

In [an article written by the Washington Post](#) and subsequently picked up by the Houston Chronicle and other outlets nationwide, reporter Robert Samuels observed Vander Plaats and homosexual activist Donna Red Wing of One Iowa not only publicly debate their stances on the issue of marriage, but also publicly profess a genuine friendship:

Vander Plaats's organization, The Family Leader, has derided same-sex marriages such as Red Wing's as "unnatural." Red Wing, leader of the LGBT rights group One Iowa, has [formerly] called Vander Plaats "bigoted" and "cruel."

But when they ran into each other on the day the Supreme Court declared that same-sex couples could marry anywhere in the country, crossing paths between dueling interviews at a local TV station studio, they locked eyes.

And then they hugged.

The news reporter marveled: "I just saw something I never thought I'd see."

Bob and Donna's unusual friendship has garnered attention before, in [a Des Moines Register piece](#), [on WHO-TV](#), and when the two discussed the importance of creating a civil dialogue before students [at Drake University](#).

[Click here now to watch video clips from Bob and Donna's meeting at Drake.](#)

But it was a lunch forum organized by The Wallace Centers of Iowa last month that caught nationwide attention. Samuels was on hand to witness Bob and Donna explain how they've managed to form a friendship – and a civil dialogue – despite being leading opponents on one of the nation's most contentious issues:

Vander Plaats saw the event, taking place before a heavily liberal audience, as an opportunity. He believed he could win over the group with his humor and humanity and convince attendees that he was neither scary nor villainous. ...

Both Vander Plaats and Red Wing appreciated the oddity of the moment, bantering like talk show hosts.

"I actually like Bob Vander Plaats," Red Wing said.

"I love Donna," Vander Plaats said.

"If any Christian says, 'I can hate Donna,' run from them," he added. "So when Donna opened up this thing about would you like to have coffee, the only thing I felt bad about is I hadn't extended the invitation first."

In a culture where protest signs and sneering labels scream across the front page, The FAMiLY LEADER is working to model a different approach: A discussion of ideas that is both free and open, precisely because it is civil and others-honoring.

Samuels commented:

In Iowa, where the courts legalized same-sex marriage in 2009, Red Wing and Vander Plaats were early to adjust to this new dynamic. The two say they have formed a genuine friendship over coffee dates and phone calls that has fundamentally changed how their organizations interact.

No more calling Vander Plaats a “hater” or a “bigot,” Red Wing insisted at her group. Treat them with love, Vander Plaats said he constantly reminded his staff.

“There are times when I ask myself, before I put an idea out there, ‘How would Donna receive this?’ Because I love her,” Vander Plaats said.

Then he added: “Not that I’m changing my beliefs.”

At The FAMiLY LEADER, we believe in firmly standing on the truth of God’s Word. That’s why we also believe in speaking that truth in love. The two *must* work together (1 Cor. 13:1) if we’re to see a revived America that once again honors God and blesses people.

[Support the work of The FAMiLY LEADER today. Click here to encourage The FAMiLY LEADER to continue proclaiming God’s design for the family and marriage in the spirit of truth and love.](#)

Good news! Iowa governor signs human trafficking bill

Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad signed into law today as part of Senate File 510 a measure funding efforts to help stop human trafficking in Iowa.

As The FAMiLY LEADER announced earlier ([read all about it by](#)

[clicking here](#)), the combined effort of organizations, legislators, The FAMiLY LEADER's Capitol team, and most importantly, everyday Iowans like you helped get this measure passed.

"It was people's voices that made the difference," commented Chuck Hurley, vice president of The FAMiLY LEADER and one of the measure's most ardent supporters at the Iowa Capitol. "You were relentless in calling and emailing lawmakers, not letting this issue slip from the forefront of their minds. In the end, they couldn't 'go to bed' until this task was done. And that's because of you."

Hurley called the bill a "huge and unprecedented" blow against an evil industry that has stolen, drugged, and enslaved Iowa girls and boys.

"We now have one fist to smash human traffickers," Hurley said. "That's a huge deal. A second 'fist' is still needed next year in the form of additional investigators and other operational costs, which was not quite possible in this budget year. Nonetheless, this is a huge victory."

[**Support more efforts like this by donating to the work of The FAMiLY LEADER. Click here now!**](#)

According to the governor's website ...

Iowa legislators vow to protect Natural Law in light

of Supreme Court opinion

The following press release was sent out July 1 and signed by nine Iowa state legislators, including: [Sen. Jason Schultz](#), Senate District 9; [State Rep. Tedd Gassman](#), House District 7; [State Rep. Sandy Salmon](#), House District 63; [State Rep. Steven Holt](#), House District 18; [State Rep. Greg Heartsill](#), House District 28; [State Rep. Larry Sheets](#), House District 80; [Sen. Dennis Guth](#), Senate District 4; [Sen. Randy Feenstra](#), Senate District 2; and [State Rep. Stan Gustafson](#), House District 25.

We, the undersigned legislators of the State of Iowa, announce our reaffirmation of the principles of the Declaration of Independence.

We declare

1. The Declaration of Independence, an organic document of the United States of America, proclaims that all the rights of mankind are anchored in Natural Law. Specifically, all human beings are created equal and have unalienable rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.
2. It is increasingly clear and self evident that all human life begins at conception and therefore, according to Natural Law must be protected and nurtured. Any other decision violates Natural Law as expressed in our Declaration of Independence.
3. It is self evident that only a sexual union of a male and female naturally creates a human life. Once created, the natural father and mother have a genetic bond to nourish and insure that the child's unalienable rights are supported and protected. These obligations are carried out in a relationship between one man and one woman which balances the strengths and weaknesses of each sex in childrearing.

This is the time-tested, societal definition of marriage. Therefore, any marriage relationship other than between one man and one woman violates Natural Law.

4. Natural law is unchangeable. Therefore, violating Natural Law will, by necessity, lead to the eventual elimination of unalienable rights and to increasing tyranny.

5. We cannot and will not abide by any man-made law or edict that encourages, condones or forces any American to violate Natural Law as expressed in the United States Declaration of Independence.

We as legislators agree with the meaning of President Thomas Jefferson's letter to the Danbury Baptists which said we need a "separation of Church and State." In context it meant that we must always keep the State away from any of the affairs of the Church. At the same time, in order for the United States to function at its best, the people who represent the citizens in government must reflect a strong Judeo-Christian ethic in all we do, including having a solid, unmovable moral basis in our laws.

Therefore, we the undersigned will use every Constitutional tactic possible to ensure the principles enshrined in the Declaration of Independence are protected. Those principles are what have made America truly exceptional for 239 years.