

FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

MOVES AGAINST “TRANSGENDER” MEN COMPETING IN WOMEN’S SPORTS

Two more moves have been made against the exceedingly weird business of men calling themselves women and competing in women’s sports. On May 30, Alabama Gov. Kay Ivey signed legislation that prohibits transgender “women” from participating on female sports teams in college. “The state had previously banned transgender athletes from participating in female youth sports from grades K-12. Under the law, students are prohibited from playing under a different gender identity even after undergoing hormone treatment” (“Alabama bans,” *Fox News*, May 30, 2023). On May 26, British Cycling banned transgender “women” from competing in the female category of competitive events to “safeguard the fairness” of the sport.

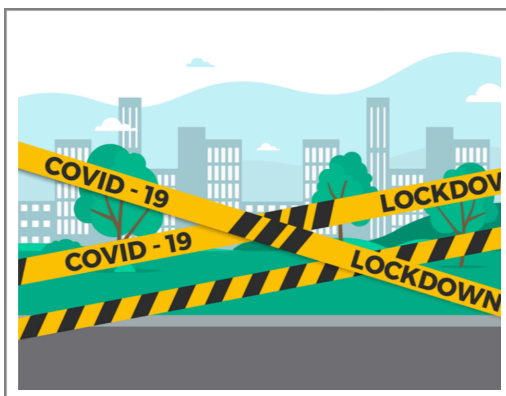
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STUDIES PROVE THAT COVID LOCKDOWN POLICIES WERE A DISASTER

The following is excerpted from “How Did the Covid Pandemic Response Harm Society?” by Kevin Bardosh, University of Washington, University of Edinburgh Medical School, *Social Science Research Network*, May 14, 2023: “Early in the Covid pandemic concerns were raised that lockdown and other non-pharmaceutical interventions would cause significant multidimensional harm to society. This paper comprehensively evaluates the global state of knowledge on these adverse social impacts, with an emphasis on their type and magnitude during 2020 and 2021. A harm framework was developed spanning 10 categories: health, economy, income, food security, education, lifestyle, intimate relationships, community, environment and governance. The analysis

synthesizes 600 publications with a focus on meta-analyses, systematic reviews, global reports and multi-country studies. **This cumulative academic research shows that the collateral damage of the pandemic response was substantial, wide-ranging and will leave behind a legacy of harm for hundreds of millions of people in the years ahead. Many original predictions are broadly supported by the research data including: a rise in non-Covid excess mortality, mental health deterioration, child abuse and domestic violence, widening global inequality, food insecurity, lost educational opportunities, unhealthy lifestyle behaviours, social polarization, soaring debt, democratic backsliding and declining human rights.”**



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Female races will be "for those whose sex was assigned female at birth" ("British Cycling," *BBC Sport*, May 26, 2023). "Transgender" cyclist Emily Bridges accused British Cycling of "furthering genocide" against trans people. Joan Smith of *Unherd* comments, "The comparison is nauseating, and could only have been made by someone so self-obsessed that they've lost all sense of perspective. ... **But claiming victim status is a core tactic of the gender cult, which depends on hyperbole to disguise the fact that its aim is to allow a group of entitled men to do whatever they like, including destroying women's sport.** ... Bridges's meltdown is what happens when people who've endlessly been told how brave and stunning they are suddenly discover that they have to obey rules, like everyone else. **Behaving like an angry toddler exposes the childish narcissism at the heart of trans activism, which has always sought to conflate even the mildest opposition with hate speech and genocide**" ("British Cycling's Trans Ruling," *UnHerd*, May 26, 2023).

MORE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESES FILE FOR BANKRUPTCY OVER CHILD ABUSE LIABILITIES

In the last three months, two Roman Catholic dioceses in California have declared bankruptcy in the face of millions of dollars in liabilities over alleged child sex abuse by priests. The diocese of Santa Rosa was hit with more than 200 lawsuits from alleged victims and has already paid \$35 million in settlements ("California dioceses go bankrupt," *Premier Christian News*, May 31, 2023). The diocese of San Diego was hit with 330 lawsuits. Many other California dioceses are contemplating bankruptcy after more than 3,000 lawsuits were filed when the statute of limitations was temporarily raised by the 2019 state legislature. Lawsuits have bankrupted dioceses in many parts of the country. In 2018, a grand jury concluded that more than 1,000 children were abused by Roman Catholic priests in six Pennsylvania dioceses alone over the last several decades. The report, the product of a two-year investigation, identified 300 abusing priests and lay "brothers" and found evidence of a systematic cover-up by senior church leaders in Pennsylvania and at the Vatican in Rome ("Report Identifies More Than 1,000," Associated Press, Aug. 14, 2018). At a news conference, Pennsylvania Attorney General Josh Shapiro said, "The cover-up was sophisticated. And all the while, shockingly, church leadership kept records of the abuse and the cover-up. These documents, from the dioceses' own 'Secret Archives,' formed the backbone of this investigation." The Roman Catholic Church in America has paid over \$2 billion to settle lawsuits against immoral priests. The Bishop Accountability organization said that more than 4,000 priests have been accused of abusing children ("US Church to Pay 12.6 Million," AFP, Aug. 11, 2008). A conservative Catholic organization documented this wretched business in the fall/winter 2002 issue of the magazine *Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam*, observing: "... the overwhelming majority of sexual abuse cases in the Catholic Church--about 90%--involve homosexual priests preying on teenage boys. The major media and the U.S. culture at large want to deny or spin the homosexual factor out of the scandal."

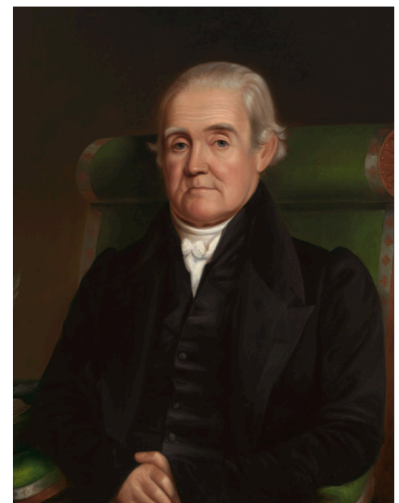
KIRK CAMERON HAVING LARGE SUCCESS IN HIS LIBRARY READINGS

By citing this report, we are not recommending Kirk Cameron and his books doctrinally. Rather, we are glad for his boldness to stand against “the Left” and for his ongoing success. The following is excerpted from “Kirk Cameron’s Book Reading,” *PJMedia*, May 30, 2023: “On Saturday, the Seattle Public Library hosted actor Kirk Cameron for his reading of his latest children’s book, titled *Pride Comes Before the Fall*. The book, centered around Christian teachings, is part of Cameron’s nationwide book tour to provide an alternative to Drag Queen Story Hour events. The event was the latest success of Cameron’s nationwide story-time tour, which includes various cities, including Indianapolis, New York, Savannah, Ga., Los Angeles, Nashville, Tenn., and Charlotte, N.C. In an interview with *PJ Media* last week, **Kirk told me how library leadership in these liberal strongholds claimed their communities would not be interested**

in his book or his message, yet thousands of people from diverse backgrounds have attended his events. The event in Seattle is the latest event to defy the naysayers and show that there is a strong demand for content based on pro-American and biblical values. ‘We’ve had thousands of people come to libraries whose leadership said their communities would not be interested in our values. That’s just not true. That’s just straight-up deception. And coming from Hollywood--the land of make-believe --its true perception is often not reality,’ Cameron told me. ‘And when I go to places like Indianapolis and Washington, D.C. and New York and San Francisco and Seattle and Chicago, you find that the leadership that is hijacked public schools and public libraries and the media does not represent the values of the people. And that’s why they show up saying, ‘You are giving voice to our values and to our concerns.’”

NOAH WEBSTER’S VIEW OF THE BIBLE

Noah Webster (1758-1843) is one of the myriad of men and women of excellent moral character and practical wisdom that America has produced as the result of the Bible’s great influence. For more than 100 years, Webster’s Bible-packed books taught Americans to read, spell, pronounce, and define words. His 1828 *American Dictionary of the English Language* was packed with about 6,000 quotations from the Bible. This was one of the many ways that the American people of that time were steeped in Scripture. Webster wrote, “The Bible is the Chief moral cause of all that is good, and the best corrector of all that is evil, in human society; the best book for regulating the temporal concerns of men, and the only book that can serve as an infallible guide to future felicity. ... **It is extremely important to our nation, in a political as well as religious view, that all possible authority and influence should be given to the Scriptures, for these furnish the best principles of civil liberty, and the most effectual support of republican government. The principles of genuine liberty and of wise laws and administrations, are to be drawn from the Bible and sustained by its authority**” (Preface, *Common Version of the Holy Bible*, 1833).



Noah Webster (1758-1843)

THE NEVER FAIL BAT ALARM

The following is from CreationMoments.com, May 12, 2023: "The swiftly moving bat cuts almost invisibly through the darkness, silent to all but those who can hear its ultrasonic radar. What chance does a poor night-flying cricket--prized as a tasty bat snack--have? Let's treat this problem as if *you* were the Creator, faced with the problem of giving your night-flying cricket a chance against its predator. Of course, you could design the cricket so that it would stay in its hiding place at night, but then you wouldn't have a night-flying cricket. You could give the cricket the ability to hear the bat's radar, but that alone won't help the cricket if he can't get to safety. The solution our true Creator has invented to help the cricket preserve its life is another example of His engineering excellence. He has built the cricket with a single-celled bat detector that is wired into the cricket's nervous system. The detector is triggered by the frequency that bats use for navigation. When triggered, the cell fires off up to 500 impulses per second. These impulses automatically cause the cricket to steer away from the source of the ultrasound. The most impressive engineering fact about this bat detector is that it only works if the cricket is in flight and therefore vulnerable to bats. When crickets are safe from bats--resting, hiding, eating or preening--the bat detector cell doesn't fire any warning at all! The precise elegance that the

Creator has designed into the cricket for its protection is a witness to His wisdom in caring for all He that has created. Learn more about that wisdom in the Bible. REF. Shreeve, James, 'The great cricket escape,' *Science* 85, May 1985, p. 83."

INFORMATION

The Friday Church News Notes is designed for use in churches and is published by Way of Life Literature's Fundamental Baptist Information Service. Unless otherwise stated, the Notes are written by David Cloud. Of necessity we quote from a wide variety of sources, but this obviously does not imply an endorsement. We trust that our readers will not be discouraged. It is God's will that we know the times (1 Ch. 12:32; Mat. 16:3) and that we be as wise as serpents and harmless as doves. The News Notes remind us that the hour is very late, and we need to be ready for the Lord's coming. Are you sure that you are born again? Are you living for Christ? "And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof" (Rom. 13:11-14). This material is sent only to those who personally subscribe to the Fundamental Baptist Information Service mailing list. To SUBSCRIBE, go to <http://www.wayoflife.org/wayoflife/subscribe.html>. TO UNSUBSCRIBE OR CHANGE ADDRESSES, go to the very bottom of any email received from us and click "Manage My Subscription." Way of Life Literature, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, fbns@wayoflife.org.
