

People & Events of The World and Nation

Gov. Carey Vetoes 'Anti-Cult' Bill As Unconstitutional

Albany (RNS) — Gov. Hugh Carey vetoed a bill that would have permitted courts to remove people from religious sects for the purpose of "deprogramming" them.

Aimed primarily at such groups as the Rev. Sung Myung Moon's Unification Church, the so-called "anti-cult" bill would have allowed a parent, spouse or adult child of a cult member to apply for a court order to remove the person by force.

The party seeking the order would have had to prove that the cult member had lost "substantial capacity to understand or control his conduct" and that the religious group had committed "fraudulent and deceitful acts" and used "coercive persuasion."

Carey, who vetoed a similar bill last year, said the state attorney general had advised him to veto this one as well because it was "unconstitutionally vague," the temporary guardianships violated the adult's right to privacy, it could inhibit all religious conversions and because "the bill tends to infringe on areas protected by the free exercise of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution."

The bill won narrow approval by both legislative houses earlier this year despite outspoken opposition from several religious organizations, including the New York State Catholic Conference, American Jewish Congress and the State Council of Churches.

Cardinal Criticizes U.S. Support for Philippines Regime

Manila (RNS) — Cardinal Jaime L. Sin has sharply criticized the United States for openly supporting the government of President Ferdinand E. Marcos.

"The Americans have been making mistakes in power politics," said the leader of Philippine Catholics. "Look at what happened in Vietnam, in Iran and other countries."

The prelate's remarks came after Vice President George Bush publicly praised Marcos, saying, "We love your adherence to democratic principles and democratic processes."

Bush represented the United States at Marcos' recent inauguration for a second presidential term. On the eve of the presidential election, Cardinal Sin accused the regime of stifling religious freedom.

The government-controlled press had accused him of "political agitation" for disputing Marcos' contention that all citizens had a moral obligation to vote in the June 16 election.

Most opposition figures and parties boycotted the election, charging that Marcos' absolute control over media and the election commission made an honest vote impossible.

President Reagan sent a warmly congratulatory letter to Marcos on his re-election.

Cardinal Sin, in his criticism of the U.S., also said that high level corruption was strengthening Filipino communists.

Panel Asks Judge Be Reprimanded as Death Penalty Foe

Tallahassee, Fla. (RNS) — A judicial panel here has asked the Florida Supreme Court to reprimand a trial judge who involved himself personally in a murder case and is outspoken in his religious views against the death penalty.

The Judicial Qualifications Commission urged the court to reprimand publicly Circuit Court Judge William Gridley for illegally reducing a first degree murder conviction to second degree murder.

The panel, in addition, asked that the 39-year-old judge be privately reprimanded for writings in which he identified himself as a Christian whose faith led him to oppose capital punishment. The panel said letters the judge wrote to the Orlando Sentinel-Star and an article for publication of the Episcopal Church's Diocese of Central Florida cast "grave doubts upon his ability to administer the law impartially."

In 1974, Darrell Farmer, an Orlando school teacher, was found guilty of first degree murder for shooting his older brother to death. Judge Gridley sentenced him to life in prison with no chance of parole for 25 years.

After the State Supreme Court upheld the sentence in 1976, Judge Gridley protested in a memo saying that the convicted man was denied an opportunity to be sentenced for second degree murder because he missed a deadline to file for a routine request for a new trial.

Although he had jurisdiction over the case, Judge Gridley stayed in touch with

Farmer and his family, indicated that he believed the convicted man should be pardoned and recommended a new defense lawyer in executive clemency proceedings.

In March 1980, "with full knowledge that he had no jurisdiction to do so," the judicial commission said, Judge Gridley ordered Farmer's conviction reduced to second degree murder.

The district court overturned the order.

The commission also objected to his letters to the editor of the Sentinel-Star and his article for the church publication.

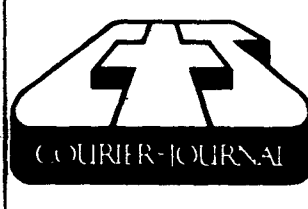
In one of the letters, he wrote, "It is by grace that we have been forgiven and made right in our relation to God, not by the law. Therefore, why would we now try and use the law again to accomplish on others what it could not accomplish on ourselves."

Census Figures Show Most Hispanics Live in 3 States

Washington (RNS) — The 1980 U.S. Census shows more than three fifths of the nation's 14.6 million Hispanics live in California, Texas and New York.

California leads with a Hispanic count of 4.5 million, followed by Texas with 2.98 million and New York with 1.6 million. Florida had the fourth largest concentration with 857,898.

Among cities, New York City topped the list with 1.4 million Hispanics. Next were Los Angeles, 816,000; Chicago 422,000; and San Antonio 421,774.



Southern Tier Auburn-Geneva

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Pontiff's Column

As Pope John Paul II convalesces this summer, and refrains from pursuing his ordinarily rigorous schedule of addresses, the Courier-Journal will temporarily suspend its practice of publishing excerpts from his talks.

Program Receives Grant

Elmira — The Koppers Company Foundation of Pittsburgh, Pa., has announced a grant of \$5,000 to St. Joseph's Hospital for further development of its cardiac rehabilitation program.

Koppers Company is represented locally by its subsidiary, Lycoming Silica Sand of Horseheads, a major supplier of road construction materials.

Herbert Bailey, Lycoming Silica Sand manager, presented the funds to Sister Martha Gersbach, hospital administrator, at a demonstration of the equipment used in rehabilitating cardiac patients to a normal level of physical activity.

The grant will purchase equipment used in the program housed at the Twin Tiers Rehabilitation Center of St. Joseph's. The equipment will allow continuation of rehabilitation following a cardiac patient's discharge. Even high-risk patients will be able to continue vitally needed physical activity.

The cardiac rehabilitation program is directed by a cardiologist, and patients are closely monitored as they progress through the rehabilitation effort.

In addition to improving the quality of life for patients suffering from heart disease, open heart surgery or chronic, angina, the recurrent risk of heart problems also may be reduced through the program.

Sister Martha thanked Koppers Foundation for the grant, saying, "this gift will serve to further the continuing attack on the community's number one health problem, heart disease."

The Twin Tiers Rehabilitation Center of St. Joseph's serves a population of more than 300,000 persons in a five-county area of New York and Pennsylvania.

Parent Series Offered

Corning — Corning Hospital's Brown Bag Series of lunchtime programs for healthier living continues this Friday, Aug. 7, in the hospital's Education Room.

"Parent Effectiveness Training," an approach to making your children more responsible and your life less stressful, is being taught by Ann Aiken and Dr. Sonia Werner of the Corning Children's Center.

Friday's session, the third of the series, "Active Listening," will begin at 12:15 p.m. and conclude at 1 p.m.

The six-session series is offered as a community education service by Corning Hospital. Participants are invited to bring their own lunches; beverages are available. Reservations, which are requested, should be made through the hospital's Education Department, 962-5051, ext. 268.

The Aug. 14 session will be "Confronting Your Child in a Positive Way;" on Aug. 21, "Cooperative Problem Solving;" and on Aug. 28, "Coping with Value Conflicts" will end the series.



Ronald McDonald To Visit Children

Elmira — St. Joseph's and Arnot Ogden Hospitals have initiated a Ronald McDonald get well card program for their pediatric patients.

Ronald McDonald presented the first get well cards to the children in both pediatric units July 24.

The get well card, along with a cheerful message from Ronald McDonald, features a free hamburger and regular-sized soft drink offer. According to Ed Falcone, owner-operator of the Elmira-area McDonald's, cards will be distributed to patients a couple days before discharge.

Both Stanley Douglas, St. Joseph's Community Relations Director, and Susan Dana, Arnot Ogden Community Relations Director, are hopeful the program will bring some joy to those children unfortunate enough to be hospitalized.

SSJ Educators

Sisters Mary Wehner and Kathleen Carroll, staffers for a special Educational Renewal Program, relax between sessions of the two-week event sponsored by diocesan Sisters of St. Joseph for 20 elementary school teachers in their congregation July 5-18. More than one third of the active members of the congregation teach in elementary schools.

Lifeline, RAID Join Hands

Rochester Against Intoxicated Driving and Lifeline, a 24-hour crisis intervention center of the Health Association of Rochester, have established a cooperative program.

Victims of intoxicated driving and their families are now able to dial Lifeline, 275-5151, to get a referral for counseling to RAID's support group of three trained members.

Louise McDougal, a registered nurse, started and trained the RAID support group.

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