

Child Care

WHEREAS the home is the first and most sacred of all institutions; and

WHEREAS a godly and Biblically-oriented Christian home is the most sanctifying of all influences in a child's life; and

WHEREAS certain contemporary evil influences such as immoral and violent television programming, permissive child-raising philosophies, condoned rebellion and anti-authoritarianism, and mad materialistic and hedonistic pursuit militate against the spiritual health and well-being of Christian homes; and

WHEREAS in so many homes both parents are working at separate careers outside the home, whether of necessity or not; and

WHEREAS the child-care issue is of major proportions in our country with the government seeking ways to assist in providing child-care centers, thereby further encouraging both parents to work outside the home;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that we, the messengers of the churches in fellowship with the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches, meeting for our 58th Annual Conference in Columbus, Ohio, on June 26-30, 1989, state emphatically our conviction that the Christian home be prioritized in the minds of God's people, guarded against the evil influences mentioned afore, spared the agonies of easy divorce, and, if at all possible, encouraged to keep mother in the home on a daily basis nurturing and admonishing her children in Christian love and truth (Titus 2:5), especially when the children are young and so very impressionable; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that when child care outside the home becomes a necessity, it should be chosen with extreme sensitivity and with a view to Christian compatibility; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we oppose government intervention, such as the Act for Better Child Care Services (ABC Bill), which would allow child-care centers sponsored by religious organizations to receive federal funds only if they avoid religious instruction, worship and other sectarian activity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we view any such legislation as discriminatory against parents with religious convictions who entrust their children to church-based childcare; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we affirm our belief that a simple tax credit approach to child care is preferable because it does not deny benefits to parents who out of conviction choose religious day care, it does not restrict parental choice of child care, and it does not provide benefits for two-income families while denying them to parents who sacrifice to care for their children at home.

*Columbus, Ohio
June 26-30, 1989*