Traditional Values Coalition continuing to use studies it acknowledged as wrong

Lou Sheldon proves that 'preachers do lie'

by Charles Kenghis

NORCROSS, Ga. — Traditional Values Coalition head Lou Sheldon recently gave a speech at Kingdom Builders Christian Center, a predominantly African-American

church in Norcross, Ga. During this speech, he remarked to the crowd that "preachers don't lie." He also accused the gay community of exploiting the civil rights movement for its own purposes, claiming that they have "hijacked the freedom train to Selma."

Lastly, Sheldon encouraged members of the congregation to buy his book, "The Agenda," which speaks of a supposed gay conspiracy.

However, there are questions, not only about some of sources in "The Agenda"
but also about whether or not the Traditional Values Coalition has been citing work it had previously acknowledged as incorrect.

In various parts of "The Agenda," Sheldon cites work from Paul Cameron. Cameron is a researcher who was dismissed from the American Psychological Association in 1984 after it was discovered that he was misrepresenting the work of his colleagues to demonize the gay community.

Last year, when confronted by its usage of Cameron's work by the *Boston Globe*, the Traditional Values Coalition removed his work from its webpage. According to the *Boston Globe*, Traditional Values Coalition spokesper-

son Daniella Lopez said Cameron's work was mistakenly placed on the organization's webpage.

However, Sheldon has made no effort to remove Cameron's work from "The Agenda." In one chapter, Sheldon cites Cameron's discredited studies on four occasions, even mentioning Cameron by name. Copies of "The Agenda," complete with Cameron's citations are continuing to be sold even now.

Also, a quick look on the Traditional Values Coalition webpage brings up even more questions. Comparisons between passages in the TVC report "Exposed: Homosexual Child Molesters" and Cameron's piece, "Child Molestation

and Homosexuality," show that they are oddly similar:



"Exposed: Homosexual Child Molesters"

"In 1987, Dr. Stephen Rubin of Whitman College conducted a 10-state study of sex abuse cases involving school teachers. He studied 199 cases. Of those, 122 male teachers had molested girls, while 14 female teachers had molested boys. He also discovered that 59 homosexual male teachers had molested boys and female homosexual teachers had molested girls. In other words, 32 percent of those child molestation cases involved homosexuals. Nearly a third of these cases come from one to two percent of the population."

From "Child Molestation and Homosexuality"

"In 1987, Dr. Stephen Rubin, associate professor of psychology at Whitman College, conducted a 10-state survey and found 199 sexual abuse cases involving teachers. 122 male teachers had abused female pupils and 14 female teachers had abused male students. In 59 cases, however, male teachers had abused male pupils and in four cases, female teachers had abused female students (overall 32 percent were homosexual)."

"I wouldn't be surprised if Sheldon and his organization do continue to use Cameron's work," said researcher Alvin McEwen. "It would be par for the course for them."

For over a year, McEwen has analyzed studies and reports published by religious conservative organizations. He said that these organizations, such as Focus on the Family, the Family Research Council and the Traditional Values Coalition, often engage in patterns of distortions designed to exploit the beliefs of people of faith.

"To knowingly repeat distortions isn't

very Christian," said McEwen. "But what can you expect from groups that think 'gay bowel syndrome' is an actual medical condition?"

GGF gala raises funds

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\$5,000. This was announced in front of 280 attendees at the Black Tie Gala — where more than \$30,000 was given by community supporters.

Mayor Keith Holliday gave the keynote address telling the audience Greensboro needed organizations such as Guilford Green to ensure that everyone, regardless of sexual orientation, has a voice in the community.

"Greensboro has a long history of social justice and the Guilford Green Foundation's huge success is proof positive our community is one where diversity is valued," said Holliday.

Other elected officials in attendance were Mayor Pro-Tem Sandra Anderson Groat and County Commissioners Paul Gibson, Kirk Perkins, and Mike Winstead Jr. All money raised by GGF is granted back to the community and helps other gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender organizations and causes.



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lecture tours Traditional Values

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