

THE O'REILLY FACTOR

April 16, 2004 Friday

Section: Culture War

GUEST: Jim Sedlak, Executive Director of STOPP International

O'REILLY: In the "culture war" segment tonight, we have been telling you about the increasing battle between secular forces and traditional forces in America. There is no more secular group than **Planned Parenthood**. And it used to be that the **Girl Scouts** of America were a very traditional group.

But at least 17 **Girl Scout** councils in America have partnered up with **Planned Parenthood**. And the number could be much higher as many of the **Girl Scout** councils would not answer questions about this alliance.

Joining us now from Washington is Jim Sedlak, the executive director of the group STOPP International, a group trying to counter the influence of **Planned Parenthood**. All right. Did you find out what the **Girl Scouts** are doing with **Planned Parenthood**? Why would they have anything in common at all?

JIM SEDLAK, STOPP INTERNATIONAL: Well, it ranges, Bill. We found three councils in Pennsylvania that sent their girls to **Planned Parenthood** for lessons to get **Planned Parenthood** sex education material, and then gave them a special badge called "Becoming a Teen" badge. We had other councils that were partnering with **Planned Parenthood** in presenting sex education conferences where the young people would go there and they would be handed out very offensive material from **Planned Parenthood**, what we would call pornographic information to fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth grade students. It went all the way from there to just some councils that have **Planned Parenthood** speakers at their annual conferences or giving awards to the leaders of **Planned Parenthood**. So it was really across the board, various kinds of relationships.

O'REILLY: All right. Well, let's define what you think is pornographic. What kind of literature were they giving the little girls?

SEDLAK: Well, there is a book called "It's Perfectly Normal ." That is a sex education book that is put out by a woman named Robie Harris. She is the author. And **Planned Parenthood** has been promoting that book. It has line drawings of men and women in bed together. It shows with line drawings of how to put on a condom. It gives descriptions on how boys can masturbate or how girls can masturbate. We're talking very specific stuff.

O'REILLY: And they were given this book, the **Planned Parenthood**, to girl scouts?

SEDLAK: Yes, at a **Girl Scout** -- well, actually, it was a **Planned Parenthood** conference in Texas. The **Girl Scouts** co-sponsored the conference and every attendee at the conference in the sixth through the ninth grade got a copy of this book.

O'REILLY: And where was this again?

SEDLAK: This is in Waco, Texas. But we've seen similar kinds of programs in other cities across the United States.

O'REILLY: I'm stunned. I mean -- I don't understand this. Why would the **Girl Scouts** be involved with sex education anyway?

SEDLAK: Well, that was a surprise to us also when we first found this out. And what kicked it off was the CEO of the **Girl Scouts** saying that **Girl Scouts** across the United States saw as their responsibility to give information-based sexuality education programs to their girls. Now, information-based means they dump a whole lot of information on the girls without ever telling them what's right and what's wrong. There are no values associated with it.

O'REILLY: Yes. They don't put a moral spin on it. But look, they are putting a spin on it just by letting **Planned Parenthood** come in because they are a pro-abortion group. They are going to get into that, I assume.

SEDLAK: Well, absolutely.

O'REILLY: Yes, that's one of their mainly -- but let me -- I have a couple more questions about this. Not every **Girl Scout** council does this, correct? This is just...

SEDLAK: That is absolutely correct. Of the ones that have answered so far, there are 61 councils who do not have any kind of relationship with **Planned Parenthood**, and 17 councils who do have a relationship. So right now of those that have answered, it's only about 25 percent of the councils, but that's a significant number.

O'REILLY: We're trying to get the **Girl Scouts** to come on next week. Maybe we will, maybe we won't, but are they being secretive about it when you try to investigate what's going on?

SEDLAK: Well, what happened yesterday is we got a message from a CEO who has been contacted by a lot of local parents, and she told us that they don't have a relationship with **Planned Parenthood**. And she said the reason they hadn't responded earlier is because they had received instructions from the national office not to respond to any of our questions.

O'REILLY: All right. Well, we're going to try to get them on. And we'll get to the bottom of it, Mr. Sedlak. We appreciate you bringing it to our attention.