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POLITICAL ADVOCACY TRACKER

Should We Always Back Israel?

The killing of activists on a ship to Gaza reignites debate over support for Israel and its policies.

Tobin Grant | posted 6/04/2010 10:42AM

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"It's happened again. In an attempt to defend itself, the nation of Israel is in the crosshairs-facing criticism and condemnation over efforts to protect its homeland and its people," said Sekulow. "Israel is our friend. Israel is our strongest ally."

Odds and Ends

• The National Association of Evangelicals (NAE), the Cato Institute, and the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty filed an amicus brief to the U.S. Supreme Court to take up a case involving a Plano, Texas, school district that denied the right of students to hand out written religious messages. In 2004, the district prohibited a student from giving out pencils and candy canes with religious messages such as "Jesus is the Reason for the Season." After a 2004 lawsuit, the district changed its policy to allow students to hand out materials before and after school, at recess, and during school dances; students could not distribute materials in their

classrooms. The Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals recently ruled that these restrictions were constitutional. "If the Supreme Court fails to overturn the case, schools will be free to ban students from distributing any written materials even when not disruptive, including religious messages of any kind," said the NAE.

 Penny Nance, CEO of Concerned Women for America, said Sarah Palin was right to publicly criticize Joe McGinniss, an investigative journalist and author who is renting the house next door to Palin's home in Wasilla, Alaska. "It is



unconscionable that Random House is essentially paying a peeping tom to stalk Sarah Palin and her family," said Nance. "Y'know, I'd lash out if it was my family under constant surveillance as well. I hope that the Palins construct an impenetrable fence around their home so they can have the privacy they need as a family and that the Random House author gets bored constantly looking at lumber all day."

• Liberty Counsel has its own "Don't Tread On Me!" petition opposing the "unconstitutional actions," "attacks on our liberties," and "overtly socialist agenda"



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of the Obama administration. The Liberty Counsel is offering "the official 'Don't Tread on Me!' campaign sticker" featuring a variation on the classic rattle snake symbol as a thank you gift.

- What is our biggest environmental threat? According to Rusty Pritchard of Evangelicals for Social Action, our biggest environmental threat is lack of conservation. "The conservation crisis that threatens the world is not a single malady. It is a syndrome of mutually reinforcing factors—deforestation, wetland destruction, overgrazing, lack of markets and property rights, poverty, and ignorance," said Pritchard. "We don't need to fight overpopulation; we do need to fight climate change. But at the same time we can't afford to ignore the conservation crisis that is altering the face of the planet and threatening the livelihoods of the world's poorest people."
- The FRC announced that the Duggar family will receive FRC's first-ever profamily entertainment award at this September's Values Voter Summit. The Duggars are featured on the TLC reality show 19 Kids and Counting (formerly 18 Kids and Counting and 17 Kids and Counting).

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Shannon Mitchell

Posted: June 04, 2010 1:39 PM

Posted: June 04, 2010 1:36 PM

Personally, I don't get these people who whine about the soldiers being attacked with pipes and such. Heellllooo? The activists were in international waters on a peaceful mission. The Israelis attacked THEM. If an armed intruder broke into my house, most people would have no qualms against fighting them with whatever was at hand. This was an act of piracy, pure and simple. Israel's supporters have no right to complain if they met resistance. Hopefully, this will mean the beginning of the end for this \$4 billion dollar a year drain on the US economy.

Shannon Mitchell

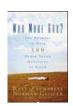
News flash, George. "Redeemed" ones don't always make the right decisions either.

Posted: June 04, 2010 1:35 PM Shannon Mitchell

Hey, the Israeli lackey. Ever occur to you that two wrongs don't make a right?



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