

BIOS OF SPEAKERS AT THE CONFERENCE ON: “CHILD ABUSE, FAMILY RIGHTS, AND THE CHILD PROTECTIVE SYSTEM (CPS): LAW AND PUBLIC POLICY IN CRISIS”

Main Presenters:

Richard Wexler is Executive Director, National Coalition for Child Protection Reform. His interest in the child welfare system grew out of 19 years of work as a reporter for newspapers, public radio and public television. During that time, he won more than two dozen awards, many of them for stories about child abuse and foster care. He is the author of *Wounded Innocents: The Real Victims of the War Against Child Abuse* (Prometheus Books: 1990, 1995). Wexler has testified before Congress and State Legislatures and advised the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Children and Families in its 1995 rewrite of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act. Wexler’s writing about the child welfare system has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Chicago Tribune* and other major newspapers, and he has been interviewed by *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, the *Los Angeles Times*, *Time*, the Associated Press, *USA Today*, *60 Minutes*, National Public Radio, CNN, *Good Morning America*, *Today*, *CBS This Morning*, *ABC World News Tonight*, the *CBS Evening News*, and other media. Wexler is a graduate of Richmond College of the City University of New York and the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, where he was awarded the school’s highest honor, a Pulitzer Traveling Fellowship. He was formerly Assistant Professor of Communications at The Pennsylvania State University-Beaver Campus.

Michael E. Rosman is the General Counsel of the Center for Individual Rights. He graduated *summa cum laude* from the University of Rochester in 1981, majoring in economics and political science. He received his J.D. in 1984 from Yale Law School. Mr. Rosman worked as an associate at Rosenman & Colin in New York City from 1984-93. Mr. Rosman joined CIR in March 1994. Mr. Rosman is the author of several articles, including: "Ambiguity and the First Amendment: Some Thoughts On All-White Advertising," 61 *Tenn. L. Rev.* 289 (1993); and "Standing Alone: Standing Under The Fair Housing Act," 60 *Mo. L. Rev.* 547 (1995), "Thoughts on *Bakke* and Its Effect on Race-Conscious Decision-Making," 2002 *U. Chi. Legal F.* 45; book Review of Kent Greenawalt's *Fighting Words*, 13 *Constitutional Commentary* 317 (1996). Mr. Rosman has litigated throughout the federal court system, and has argued many times in the federal courts of appeals. He also successfully argued on behalf of CIR client Tony Morrison in the United States Supreme Court in the landmark case of *United States v. Morrison*, 529 U.S. 598 (2000).

Michael P. Farris is Chairman of the Home School Legal Defense Association and Chancellor and former President of Patrick Henry College. He was also professor of Government from 2000 to 2006. Since founding HSLDA in 1983, Farris has used his extensive experience in both politics and appellate litigation to defend parental rights and help grow the organization to over 80,000 member families. Farris has written over a dozen books, including three novels, a constitutional law textbook, and works on marriage, parenting, homeschooling, political advocacy, and religious liberty. His daily radio program, *Home School Heartbeat*, airs on several hundred stations nationwide. In recognition of his work in home education, *Education Week* has

named Farris one of the “Top 100 Faces in Education of the 20th Century.” Heritage Foundation awarded him its Salvatori Award for American Citizenship in 2002. Michael and Vickie Farris live in Purcellville, Virginia, and have 10 children and 12 grandchildren. Farris graduated magna cum laude with a degree in political science from Western Washington University (formerly Western Washington State College). He received a law degree and graduated with honors from Gonzaga University School of Law in Spokane, Washington. Farris received an LLM in public international law (with merit) from the University of London in 2011. As a lawyer, Farris's cases include over 40 reported decisions as lead counsel. These decisions were given by the United States Supreme Court, five U.S. circuit courts of Appeal, seven state Supreme Courts, and five state Courts of Appeal. Farris successfully argued for the petitioner in a religious freedom case, the Supreme Court case *Witters v. Washington Department of Services For the Blind* in 1985-1986. In 1993, Farris ran unsuccessfully for lieutenant governor of Virginia. He has been appointed by the Governor of Virginia to serve on the Board of Visitors for Mount Vernon. Farris was the founder and chairman of the Madison Project, a political action committee. In 2007, he founded ParentalRights.org, a parental rights advocacy group.

Patrick F. Fagan is Senior Fellow and Director of the Marriage and Religion Research Institute (MARRI), which examines the relationships among family, marriage, religion, community, and America's social problems, as illustrated in the social science data. The Institute has a particular emphasis on the relationship between marital stability coupled with the practice of religion and their joint impacts on our social infrastructure (issues such as happiness, health, mental health and general well being, income and savings, educational attainment and family stability as well as such negative outcomes as poverty, crime, abuse, and drug addiction). A native of Ireland, Fagan earned his Bachelor of Social Science degree with a double major in sociology and social administration, and a professional graduate degree in psychology (Dip. Psych.) as well as a Ph.D. from University College Dublin. Fagan started his career as a grade school teacher in Cork, Ireland, then returned to college to become a psychologist, going to Canada to practice then to Washington, D.C. to pursue a doctorate in clinical psychology. In 1984, Fagan moved from the clinical world into the public policy arena, to work on family issues at the Free Congress Foundation. After that he worked for Senator Dan Coats of Indiana, then was appointed Deputy Assistant Secretary for Family and Community Policy at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services by President George H.W. Bush, before spending the next thirteen years at the Heritage Foundation where he was a senior fellow.

William Saunders is Senior Vice President of Legal Affairs at Americans United for Life (AUL). He oversees all of AUL's legal work and is directly responsible for its international project. For the past decade, he served as Senior Fellow in Bioethics and Human Rights Counsel at the Family Research Council. Mr. Saunders attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill on a Morehead scholarship. He obtained his degree in law from the Harvard Law School. Mr. Saunders practiced law with the D.C. firm of Covington and Burling, and taught law at the Catholic University of America. He was featured in Harvard's first *Guide to Conservative Public Interest Law* in 2003, and again in the 2008 edition. He served on Harvard's Advisory Committee for its 2008 celebration of public interest law. A member of the Supreme Court bar, he has authored numerous legal briefs in state, federal, foreign, and international courts. In addition to speaking and writing frequently on bioethics topics, Mr. Saunders has submitted testimony to the President's Council on Bioethics, as well as to UNESCO's Committee on

Bioethics, and has briefed Congressional staff, and testified in state legislatures. He is a regular columnist for the *National Catholic Bioethics Quarterly*. Mr. Saunders has appeared often in the media, including BBC World News, CNN, Fox News, Vatican Radio, and National Public Radio. His articles on issues such as bioethics, human rights, international law, the family, and Christian social responsibility have appeared in a variety of journals, such as *First Things*, *Human Events*, *Human Life Review*, *The Legal Times*, *Communio*, *The Family in America: A Journal of Public Policy*, *Ethics & Medics*, and *Touchstone*. Mr. Saunders is a contributing editor for *Touchstone*. Mr. Saunders' articles and book chapters have been published by the university presses of Harvard, Villanova, BYU, Fordham, Georgetown, Houston, Scranton, and the Catholic University of America, as well as by the Intercollegiate Studies Institute, Freedom House, Greenhaven Press, Rowan & Littlefield, Praeger, St. Augustine's, and Intervarsity press. He has given lectures and participated in debates at many colleges, universities, and law schools, including Princeton, Harvard, Georgetown, Colorado, South Carolina, Wake Forest, Pittsburgh, Notre Dame, Cleveland Marshall, Cincinnati, Temple, Denver, Richmond, Indiana, San Diego, Catholic University, Malone, Texas Lutheran, Northwood, Central Florida, and Belmont Abbey. He delivered the annual J. Michael Miller Lecture at the University of St. Thomas (on international law) in February 2007, the annual R. Wayne Kraft Memorial Lecture (on bioethics) at DeSales University in February 2004 and the annual James Moore Lecture (on Sudan) at Millikin University in 1999. He has also lectured, and/or has been published, in many foreign countries, including Italy, Germany, Poland, Slovakia, Mexico, Qatar, Malaysia, Romania, the Philippines, Hong Kong, and the United Kingdom. Mr. Saunders served on the United States delegation to the UN Special Session on Children in 2001/02. In 2004, he served on the NGO Working Committee in connection with the Doha Intergovernmental Conference for the Family. He served on the organizing committee for the conferences of the World Congress of Families in Mexico City (2004), in Poland (2007), in Amsterdam (2009), and is a member of that organization's Management Committee. Mr. Saunders is Chairman of the Religious Liberties Group for the Federalist Society. He is Vice President of the Fellowship of Catholic Scholars and a member of the boards of the International Right to Life Federation, the International Association of Catholic Bioethicists, the Christian Institute on Disability, and the Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity. Mr. Saunders is a founding member of Do No Harm: the Coalition of Americans for Research Ethics. He is a Fellow of the Wilberforce Forum. He is a member of the Board of Advisors of the Center for Law, Philosophy and Culture at the Catholic University of America. In 1999, Mr. Saunders founded Sudan Relief and Rescue, Inc., to aid the persecuted church in Sudan. He has worked for and written on behalf of the persecuted church for many years.

Stephen M. Krason is Professor of Political Science and Legal Studies and Director of the Political Science Program at Franciscan University of Steubenville. He is also the co-founder and President (since 1992) of the Society of Catholic Social Scientists, Publisher (since 1996) of the Society's scholarly journal *The Catholic Social Science Review* (he also edits the "Public and Church Affairs" section of the *Review*), and Director of its M.Th. Program in Catholic Social Thought. He earned his B.A. at LaSalle College (now LaSalle University) (1976), M.A. (in political science), J.D. (1980), and Ph.D. (in political science, 1983) at the State University of New York at Buffalo. He also earned an M.A. in theology-religious education from Gannon University (1986). He joined the Franciscan University faculty in 1986 after serving for three years as Eastern Director of the Intercollegiate Studies Institute. Krason is admitted to the bars of

Massachusetts, Nebraska, the District of Columbia, and certain federal courts including the U.S. Supreme Court. In 1999, he co-authored an *amicus curiae* brief in *Troxel v. Granville* and in 2011 authored an *amicus curiae* brief in *Camreta v. Greene/Alford v. Greene*, all major parental rights cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. He also is a member of the Boards of Directors of ParentalRights.org and the International Solidarity and Human Rights Institute. Krason has authored these books: *Abortion: Politics, Morality, and the Constitution* (1984), which was an alternate selection of the Conservative Book Club; *Liberalism, Conservatism, and Catholicism: An Evaluation of Contemporary American Political Ideologies in Light of Catholic Social Teaching* (1991; rev. edn. 1994); *Preserving a Good Political Order and a Democratic Republic: Reflections from Philosophy, Great Thinkers, Popes, and America's Founding Era* (1998); and *The Public Order and the Sacred Order: Contemporary Problems, Catholic Social Teaching, and the Western and American Traditions* (2 vols., 2009, revised from the 2003 1-vol. edn.), which *Library Journal* called "an important contribution to Catholic social thought." His latest book, forthcoming from Transaction Publishers, is *The Transformation of the American Democratic Republic*, which traces how the American political order has been transformed from the democratic republic established by the Founding Fathers. He has also edited or co-edited the following books: *Parental Rights: The Contemporary Assault on Traditional Liberties* (1988); *The Recovery of American Education: Reclaiming a Vision* (1993); *Catholic Makers of America: Biographical Sketches of Catholic Statesmen and Political Thinkers in America's First Century, 1776-1876* (1993, reprint 2006); *We Hold These Truths and More: Further Catholic Reflections on the American Proposition* (1993); and *Defending the Family: A Sourcebook* (1998). He is also one of four co-editors of the two-volume *Encyclopedia of Catholic Social Thought, Social Science, and Social Policy* (2007). In 2006, he also published a monograph in the Catholic Family and Human Rights Institute's "White Paper Series" entitled, *The International Pro-Abortion Litigation Strategy*. He is also a contributor to both *American Conservatism: An Encyclopedia* (2006) and the online version of *The New Catholic Encyclopedia* (2nd edn.) He has authored numerous articles, book chapters, and book reviews. His articles and reviews have appeared in such journals as *The Catholic Social Science Review*, *Social Justice Review*, *Ethics and Medics*, *Faith and Reason*, *Journal of Catholic Legal Studies*, *Interpretation: A Journal of Political Philosophy*, and *The Washington Times*. He writes a monthly online column entitled "Neither Left nor Right but Catholic," which examines current public issues in light of Catholic social teaching/thought. Krason has been listed in *Who's Who in the Midwest*. For several years, he served as a consultant to the Pope John XXIII Medical-Moral Research and Education Center (now the National Catholic Bioethics Center) and has served as Coordinator of the Franciscan University's Human Life Studies Academic Minor Program. He helped draw up both the University's Human Life Studies and Humanities and Catholic Culture Programs. He previously served on the Board of Directors of the Fellowship of Catholic Scholars and on the Editorial Board of *Markets and Morality*. He also serves on the Board of Advisors of the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights and the Catholic Education Resource Center. In 1997, he received Franciscan University's "Campus Leadership and Teaching Award." He has received research grants from the Wilbur Foundation, the Earhart Foundation, the Russell Kirk Center for Cultural Renewal/*Educational Reviewer*, Franciscan University of Steubenville, and the Witherspoon Institute. He was a visiting fellow in residence at the Witherspoon Institute in Princeton, N.J. during the 2008-09 academic year. He is also a member of the James Madison Society, an organization of distinguished scholars affiliated with the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions at Princeton University. In its entry on Franciscan University of

Steubenville, *Choosing the Right College* (the well-regarded college guide put out by the Intercollegiate Studies Institute) says he is “renowned as a conservative scholar of the Founding Fathers and the Constitution.” Krason teaches courses in a number of fields in political science. His specialty areas are political philosophy, Catholic social teaching, American national government, American political thought, and American constitutional law. In the legal studies area, he also teaches jurisprudence. His publications have been in the above areas and on such topics as abortion and human life issues, education, the child protective system and false child abuse allegations, free speech and censorship, liberalism and conservatism, church-state questions, the thinking of the Founding Fathers, and American Catholic political history. He and his wife Therese live in the Steubenville, Ohio area. They have four adult children.

Commentary Panel Members:

Ronald J. Rychlak is Mississippi Defense Lawyers Association Professor of Law and associate dean for academic affairs at the University of Mississippi School of Law. He is a graduate of Wabash College (BA, 1980, cum laude) and Vanderbilt University (JD, 1983, Order of the Coif). He teaches, among other things, environmental law and evidence. He also serves as the university’s Faculty Athletic Representative to the NCAA & SEC. Prior to joining the faculty at Ole Miss, Rychlak practiced law with Jenner & Block in Chicago, and he served as a law clerk to Hon. Harry W. Wellford of the United States Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. He is on the editorial board of *The Gaming Law Review* and a member of the National Association of Scholars, Society of Catholic Social Scientists, Fellowship of Catholic Scholars, International Masters of Gaming Law, and Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. He serves on the committee appointed by the Mississippi Supreme Court to revise the state’s criminal code and on the Mississippi Advisory Committee to the US Civil Rights Commission. He is an advisor to the Holy See’s delegation to the United Nations, and he serves as a delegate at the meetings of the Assembly of States Parties to the International Criminal Court. Rychlak is the author or co-author of six books, numerous articles, and he writes a monthly column for InsideCatholic.com. His most recent book, co-authored with his colleague David Case, is *Environmental Law*, part of the *Oceana Law for the Layperson* series put out by Oxford University Press. His books *Righteous Gentiles: How Pius XII and the Catholic Church Saved Half a Million Jews from the Nazis* (Spence Publishing, 2005) and *Hitler, the War, and the Pope* (Genesis Press, 2000), address the claim that Pope Pius XII failed to stand up for the victims of Nazi aggression in World War II. He is also the author of Heartland Policy Study No. 115, “Understanding Visual Exhibits in the Global Warming Debate.”

Fr. D. Paul Sullins is Associate Professor, Dept. of Sociology at The Catholic University of America; Fellow, Institute for Policy Research and Catholic Studies; 2010 Ignatius Loyola Fellow, Center for the Advancement of Catholic Higher Education; Priest Associate, St. Mark the Evangelist Parish, Hyattsville, Maryland. In the past, he served as Research Assistant, Life Cycle Institute, Washington, D.C., and elementary and secondary school teacher in Anne Arundel County, Md.; Principal of St. Timothy's School, Catonsville, Md.; and Executive Director, Paul's Place soup kitchen and homeless shelter, Baltimore, Md. He was an Episcopalian clergyman before his conversion to Catholicism. He became a Catholic priest under the special pastoral provision for former Episcopal clergymen. He has published *Catholic Social Thought: American Reflections on the Compendium* (edited with Anthony Blasi; Lexington

Press: October 2008) and *Now and Forever: The Catholic University Student Prayer Book* (edited; Catholic University of America: 2007). His articles include: "American Catholics and Same Sex Marriage." *Catholic Social Science Review* 15 (2010); "The Meaning and Means of a Catholic Intellectual Culture." *Studies in Catholic Higher Education* (Spring 2010); "Gender and Religion: Deconstructing Universality, Constructing Complexity." *American Journal of Sociology* 112 (November 2006); "Sociology: A Catholic Critique," in *The Encyclopedia of Catholic Social Thought, Social Science and Social Policy* (2007); "Abortion and Family Formation: Circumstance or Culture?" *Life and Learning* XII (Summer 2003); "Catholic Social Teaching: What Do Catholics Know, and What Do They Believe?" *Catholic Social Science Review* 8 (2003); "Abortion and Family Formation: Circumstance or Culture?" *Life and Learning* XII, Summer 2003.

D. Brian Scarnecchia is Associate Professor of Legal Studies and Human Life Studies at Franciscan University of Steubenville, former Chairman of the University's Department of Humanities and Catholic Social Thought, visiting professor (on leave) at Ave Maria School of Law, and a lawyer admitted to practice law in Ohio. He was formerly in full-time law practice, and now maintains a limited practice in light of his full-time faculty responsibilities. His law degree is from the University of Akron, he holds an M.Div. from the Dominican School of Theology, and worked toward an S.T.D. degree at the University of Dayton. He has held the Human Life International Chair in honor of Father Paul Marx at Franciscan University and is also Director of the Human Life Studies Academic Minor Program there. He has served as a member of the Board of Directors of Catholics United for the Faith. He has lectured nationally and internationally on human life and human rights issues. He has served as Society of Catholic Social Scientists Treasurer since 1998. He previously served as SCSS Membership Chairman and President of the SCSS Tri-State Chapter (Steubenville-Pittsburgh-Wheeling). He also acts as legal co-counsel for the SCSS and directs its Non-Governmental Organization activities at the United Nations. He is the founding president of the International Solidarity and Human Rights Institute, a Catholic human rights organization, and has authored three books on moral theology and bioethics: *With Faith and Reason* (2002), *The Right to Choose* (2003), and *Family Matters: Bioethics, Law and Catholic Social Teaching* (2009), and a monograph with Terrence McKeegan, *The Millennium Development Goals in Light of Catholic Social Teaching*. International Organizations Research Group White Paper Number 10. New York: Catholic Family and Human Rights Institute (2009).

Robert A. Destro is professor of law at The Columbus School of Law at The Catholic University of America and director and founder of the Interdisciplinary Program in Law & Religion. He joined the faculty in 1982, and served as Interim Dean from 1999-2001. From 1983 to 1989, he served as a commissioner on the United States Commission on Civil Rights, and led the commission's discussions in the areas of discrimination on the basis of disability, national origin and religion. He served as general counsel to the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights from 1977 to 1982, and as an adjunct associate professor of law at Marquette University from 1978-1982. From 1975 to 1977, he was engaged in the private practice of law with the law firm of Squire, Sanders & Dempsey in Cleveland, Ohio. Dean Destro was born and raised in Akron, Ohio. He received his bachelor of arts degree in 1972 from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio and his law degree (J.D.) in 1975 from the University of California at Berkeley. His areas of specialization, scholarship and litigation include: freedom of speech and religion;

discrimination on the basis of race, disability, national origin and religion; comparative constitutional law; private international law (conflict of laws); legal ethics; and bioethics. He is the director of the Law and Religion Program, and is co-author, with Michael S. Ariens, of *Religious Liberty in a Pluralistic Society* (Carolina Academic Press, 2d edition 2002), the leading law school textbook in the United States on the subject of religious liberty. He has also contributed numerous articles to journals and anthologies on such topics as church-state relations, religious liberty, rights of disabled persons and the elderly, and parental choice in education. Professor Destro lives in Arlington, Virginia with his wife Brenda and their two children, Gina and Mark.