

Mr. James Craddock

Dear Mr. Craddock:

Greetings from Focus on the Family, and thank you for sending us a copy of Bob Enyart's letter and DVD titled, Focus on the Strategy. We apologize for the delay in our response; mail volumes have been such that we have been unable to reply in as timely a manner as we would like. I'm pleased to have the opportunity to get back to you on behalf of our staff.

Though it would be difficult to address every point that Mr. Enyart makes, we would like to comment on a couple of key issues. As Mr. Enyart stated, it is true that Dr. Dobson has said on previous occasions that he would never cast a vote for any politician who supports abortion. Recently, however, there have been times that he felt he was faced with the necessity of making a difficult but inescapable choice between two or more major candidates. Using the 2004 election as an example, on the one hand, President Bush has a solid, albeit not perfect, pro-life record; on the other, Senator Kerry, judging by his stance on abortion, seems to have little regard for the welfare of the preborn. Some might say that it's a matter of selecting the "lesser of two evils." Dr. Dobson prefers to ask, "What is the greater good?" He fears that the damage done by a Kerry presidency would have been significant. This is true not only with regard to the sanctity of human life, but also the preservation of the family, the prosecution of obscenity, the sovereignty of our nation in the world community, and quite a few other issues.

Please know that Dr. Dobson didn't arrive at this decision without giving it much thought and consideration. Rightly or wrongly, he chose to compromise his own standard, which he rarely does, in order to protect everything that matters most. Although Dr. Dobson realizes this decision carries with it the potential for criticism and disagreement, he believes God has led him in this direction.

On a related note, Dr. Dobson realizes there are many Christians and non-Christians alike who have taken issue with him as he has devoted more of his time to speaking out on certain subjects that cross over into the political sphere. However, he believes that his involvement in this area is entirely consistent with the overall thrust and purpose of Focus on the Family. Dr. Dobson and our Board of Directors feel strongly that Christians should be heard on issues affecting the home. Furthermore, since many of the external pressures families face today can be effectively dealt with only on a political level, our organization has taken advantage of many opportunities to defend Christian values and attitudes within government circles. As a result, Dr. Dobson and other staff members have been able to exert national influence on behalf of the family. Similarly, Dr. Dobson believes that those Christians who have access to the media (as he does) must not sit by and quietly watch the disintegration of everything we value. In Dr. Dobson's opinion, it is our responsibility to speak out while we still have the freedom to do so.

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Having said that, Dr. Dobson realizes (as Mr. Enyart states) that the salvation of our nation will never be accomplished through political means. As we know, a *spiritual* revival is needed in our land, and for this to come about, we can look only to our Lord. Our goal, therefore, is to work alongside other believers at both ushering in the winds of cultural change *and* introducing our nation to the radical, life-changing power of Jesus Christ.

Thanks again for sharing this information with us, Mr. Craddock. We hope these few thoughts prove helpful. May the Lord bless you in the days and weeks ahead.

Sincerely,

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Ross Marshall Focus on the Family

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