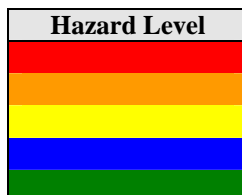


**Consolidated weekly report**

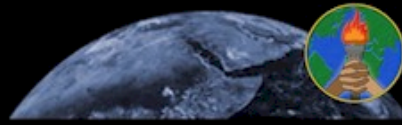
**POLICY: Family**

Focus article coming soon

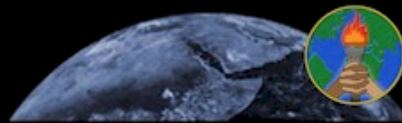


Change Codes	
↓	Deteriorated
•	Steady
↑	Improved
↗	Alert

week-ended	See daily <a href="#">list of news items</a>
2007 Jul 01	↓ By <i>papal</i> decree, for unclear reasons, the <i>Good Friday Roman mass</i> will again say " <i>perfidious Jews</i> " and refer to their " <i>blindness</i> " and " <i>darkness</i> ".
2007 Jun 24	↓ A checklist of the <i>Christian-Zionist</i> psychoses that have been driving US policy; "Mike <b>Evans</b> is a shock jock for <i>Armageddon</i> , a cheerleader for the <i>apocalypse</i> " -- <a href="#">A New General for God's Army?</a>
2007 Jun 17	• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]
2007 Jun 10	• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]
2007 Jun 03	• The Pope is considering a return to the <i>Latin mass</i> -- continuing the <i>fundamentalism</i> of the last two popes, the enlightenment of <i>Vatican II</i> may be overturned in a return to the 16th century form of the mass.
2007 May 27	• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]
2007 May 20	• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]
2007 May 13	• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]
2007 May 06	• The <b>Vatican</b> has called a verbal attack on the <b>Pope terrorism</b> ; " <i>this, too, is terrorism. It's terrorism to launch attacks on the Church.</i> " [Showing perhaps that invoking 'terrorism', like <i>patriotism</i> , is the last refuge of the scoundrel.]
2007 Apr 29	• <b>Mexico City</b> has decriminalized <i>abortion</i> -- " <i>This is an act of revenge against the Catholic church</i> ", part of a wider trend throughout <i>Latin America</i> ; " <i>It's inevitable. The churches cannot escape the general process of democratization here.</i> "-- <a href="#">Abortion rights gain ground in Latin America.</a>
2007 Apr 22	• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]
2007 Apr 15	• <b>God</b> moves (money) in mysterious ways – the <i>Roman Catholic Diocese of San Diego</i> is facing <i>contempt of court</i> in attempting to shield <i>assets</i> from settlements with victims of <i>clergy sexual abuse</i> .
2007 Apr 08	• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]
2007 Apr 01	• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]
2007 Mar 26	• The <b>Pope</b> has said that <i>society</i> will fail without " <i>Christian conscience</i> ". [Better still ... why not a sense of the virtuous that is devoid of bigoted exclusiveism?]
2007 Mar 19	• General <b>Pace</b> felt pressured to resile from his <i>Abrahamic</i> commentary on <i>homosexuality</i> ; when asked for his own view, Secretary <b>Gates</b> said his own view is "irrelevant".
2007 Mar 12	• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]
2007 Mar 05	• Before trial begins of 140 suits relating to <i>sexual abuse</i> , the <b>Diocese of San Diego</b> declares <i>bankruptcy</i> , the <u>fifth diocese</u> in the nation to file for bankruptcy protection under similar circumstances.



2007 Feb 26	• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]
2007 Feb 19	• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]
2007 Feb 12	• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]
2007 Feb 05	• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]
2007 Jan 29	• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]
2007 Jan 22	• According to <b>Amnesty</b> , the <b>Catholic Church</b> is involved in forced <b>evictions</b> in <b>Angola</b> -- " <i>Disturbingly, many forced evictions in the last two years have been carried out apparently at the request of the Catholic Church.</i> "
2007 Jan 15	• The scandal surrounding Polish Bishop Stanislaw <b>Wielgus</b> and cooperation with the communist era <b>secret police</b> had an echo of the <b>pedophile</b> scandals in the US – the Church puts its own interests above common decency and openness -- " <i>Pope Benedict refused to withdraw his support of Wielgus until the very last hours when he realized he was in a public relations fiasco.</i> "
2007 Jan 08	• <b>W3C</b> , the web standards organisation, is still considering whether <b>pornography</b> should get its own domain [such as (dot)xxx], making it easy to filter – criminals and other opponents are appealing to rights of " <b>free speech</b> ", a purely US concept.
2007 Jan 01	• A poll reveals that 25% of the <b>US</b> population expects the <b>second coming of Christ</b> during 2007; even more expect a <b>terrorist attack</b> in the US. A Roman Catholic <b>archbishop</b> in the populous south <b>Philippines</b> has endorsed, as much as he dares, government " <b>family planning</b> " programs.
2006 Dec 25	↓ A writer in the <i>Jerusalem Post</i> observes that ("like it or not") <b>Christian Zionists</b> may be <b>Israel's</b> greatest asset in the <b>US</b> – "the future of the relationship between Israel and the US might very well hinge far less on America's Jews than on its Christians."
2006 Dec 18	• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]
2006 Dec 11	• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]
2006 Dec 04	↓ President <b>Bush's</b> contribution to <b>World AIDS Day</b> is to use the "A"-word [ <b>abstinence</b> ]. US research by <b>Columbia University</b> and others reveals that success of <b>abstinence</b> in cutting teen pregnancies is a "myth". The <i>Los Angeles</i> Roman Catholic archdiocese settles 45 <b>sex abuse</b> cases for \$60M and still faces more than 500 lawsuits . A commentator observes large fertile families of fundamentalist <b>Hasidic Jews</b> with little loyalty to the US may affect US politics.
2006 Nov 27	• A wide-ranging statistical report reveals almost 4 in 10 <b>US</b> children were born <b>outside of marriage</b> in 2005; but the <b>teen birth rate</b> dropped to the lowest level on record; unwed births rose most dramatically among women in their 20s [seeming to indicate <u>planned</u> unwed births].
2006 Nov 20	• "Stone Age babies buried with love" said a report -- the graves of three infants who died 27,000 years ago reveal " <b>family values</b> " are not restricted to place, time, or religion.
2006 Nov 13	• At last <b>Jews</b> and <b>Muslims</b> in <b>Israel</b> firmly agree on something – a <b>gay pride</b> march must not go ahead.
2006 Nov 06	• Polling shows <b>US evangelical Christians</b> still prefer the <b>Republican Party</b> .
2006 Oct 30	• The <b>NJ Supreme Court</b> ruling in support of equal rights in <b>gay marriage</b> ensures God, Gays and Guns will be again be on the agenda for the mid-term elections. On the question of scarves and veils worn by some Islamic women, the <b>Archbishop of Canterbury</b> [UK] has said that promoting a society where no <b>religious symbols</b> are visible in public is "politically dangerous".
2006 Oct 23	• [nothing significant to report]
2006 Oct 16	• [nothing significant to report]



2006 Oct 09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Pew Poll in 10 countries of <i>Pentecostal and charismatic Christians</i> shows they are deeply influencing traditional churches and are poised to make a big impact on global affairs.</li> </ul>
2006 Oct 02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [nothing significant to report]</li> </ul>
2006 Sep 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [nothing significant to report]</li> </ul>
2006 Sep 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [nothing significant to report]</li> </ul>
2006 Sep 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [nothing significant to report]</li> </ul>
2006 Sep 04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>Vatican</b> is likely to revise its stand on evolution/creation, Darwin is "more than a hypothesis" but it's not blind chance -- a stand close to "<i>Intelligent Design</i>".</li> </ul>
2006 Aug 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>FDA</b> has approved over-the-counter sales of the "Plan B" contraceptive.</li> </ul>
2006 Aug 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [nothing significant to report]</li> </ul>
2006 Aug 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [nothing significant to report]</li> </ul>
2006 Aug 07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>↓ The FDA move towards approving "Plan B" morning-after pill promised another religion-based debate — several stories covered an intimate link between the US and Israel through the <b>Christian-Zionist</b> groups.</li> </ul>
2006 Jul 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prime Minister Blair has a position on <i>stem-cell research</i> theologically different to that of President Bush.</li> </ul>
2006 Jul 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The House failed to vote the two-thirds required for a constitutional amendment defining <i>marriage</i>.</li> </ul>
2006 Jul 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The administration said it will veto any <b>stem-cell</b> bill.</li> </ul>
2006 Jul 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UK scientists have responded vociferously to a <b>Vatican</b> cardinal on <b>stem cell</b> research; and a fertility expert has said late assisted childbirth among the affluent is a selfish indulgence.</li> </ul>
2006 Jul 03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As in all developed nations, US demography is becoming increasingly polarized between urban liberal non-traditional living units and the traditional family of the heartland.</li> </ul>

Commencement of Service