

the criticism of Ashcroft as a racist and an opponent of desegregation. However, in Thompson, Bush and Ashcroft have found that rarity, a black lawyer who fits into the Scalia-Scaife mold.

Thompson is a native of Missouri, and is a good friend of Scalia-protégé Thomas; in fact, Thompson was both an adviser to, and a witness for, Thomas during his contentious 1991 confirmation hearings.

Thompson chaired Georgia Lawyers for George Bush a decade ago, in the campaign of George W. Bush's father. He is a partner in King & Spaulding, the law firm of Jimmy Carter's Attorney General, and quasi-Republican, Griffin Bell. Thompson was, until two years ago, a member of the board of the Southeastern Legal Foundation, a Scaife-funded right-wing legal group which filed a complaint seeking the disbarment of President Clinton while Thompson was still on its board.

### More Scalia Kindergarten

Meanwhile, the White House Counsel's office is also being filled with lawyers who are mostly members of Scalia's Federalist Society, and many of whom participated in the assault on the Clinton Presidency stage-managed by Olson and Starr. Among the eight staff lawyers appointed are former law clerks for Supreme Court Justices Scalia, Thomas, and Anthony Kennedy, and for Chief Justices Rehnquist and Warren Burger. They include:

**Brett Kavanaugh**, a veteran of the first Bush Justice Department, who worked for Starr's law firm of Kirkland and Ellis, and then in Starr's Office of Independent Counsel, where he wrote parts of the infamous Starr Report.

**Timothy Flanigan**, who headed the Office of Legal Counsel under President Sir George H.W. Bush, was part of the Bush team in the Florida recount, and who praised Starr in testimony before a House Judiciary subcommittee in 1999.

**Bradford Berenson**, a criminal defense lawyer who became a pro-Starr media pundit during the Lewinsky affair.

**Christopher Bartolomucci**, from John Keeney, Jr.'s law firm Hogan and Hartson, who worked in the Senate Whitewater investigation.

**Helgi Walker**, a former clerk to Thomas who worked in Olson's law firm of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher.

**Noel Francisco** and **Rachel Brand**, the first a former clerk to Scalia, and both of whom come from the law firm of Cooper, Carvin and Rosenthal. The senior name of that firm, Charles Cooper, headed the Office of Legal Counsel in the Reagan-Bush Administration, and was implicated in the Iran-Contra cover-up. Cooper is a mainstay of the Federalist Society and Conservative Revolution legal circles.

The White House Counsel's office plays a key role in setting Administration legal policy and in selection of nominees for Federal judgeships. Another Scalia protégé and a founder of the Federalist Society, Lee Liberman Otis, is heading up the judicial selection process for the Bush Administration.

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## Book Reviews

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### Garbarino Offers Little To Combat 'New Violence'

by Donald Phau

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#### **Lost Boys: Why Our Sons Turn Violent and How We Can Save Them**

by James Garbarino, Ph.D.  
New York: Anchor Books, 2000  
274 pages, paperbound, \$13

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James Garbarino's book is a testimony to the impotence of mental health professionals' attempts to explain the reasons for the growing violence and crime among children under 18 years of age. Garbarino writes about boys such as Kip Kinkel and Michael Carneal, who in 1997-98, committed mass shootings of high school students and teachers. However, after reading his book, the reader is no better informed about what to do about such boys than before he began reading. The book is a mélange of "sociological" recipes mixed with "feelings" about the "lost" youth, with only glimmers of real solutions thrown in.

*Lost Boys* was written before the slayings at Columbine High School in April 1999. Its publication last August made it popular, as parents attempted to understand how such tragedies can occur — with many, no doubt, fearing that their own children may be the next victims.

Garbarino is a psychologist and the founder of a center which deals with violent, troubled youth, located at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. What he and other professionals will not admit, is that they must become active in preventing civilization's descent into a New Dark Age. The ongoing financial collapse which, for example, has led to electricity blackouts in California, is a portent of things to come. The same collapse is part of what Democratic Presidential pre-candidate for 2004, Lyndon LaRouche, has entitled the "New Violence" (see "Commission To Be Formed Against the 'New Violence,'" *EIR*, May 5, 2000). LaRouche has cited the work of Lt. Col. David Grossman (ret.), who revealed that the teens who carried out the mass shootings were avid players of the point-and-shoot video games *Doom* and *Quake*. The shooters, Grossman explains, carried out their attacks with accurate head shots to victims, despite having no previous training in firearms, because of their experience with

such video games.

In Garbarino's smorgasbord of the "whys" such shootings occur, he mentions Grossman's work, but it's only one of many studies mentioned. He weakly condemns the media, Hollywood, and the video-game producers, but, his ultimate explanation is, "We are all to blame."

## Youth in Trouble

From the beginning of the book, Garbarino presents the reader with a statistical analysis which shows that our youth are, indeed, in trouble. The number of children considered subject to child abuse has nearly doubled, from 22 per 100,000 in 1986 to 42 per 100,000 in 1993. Arrests of children under 18 increased more than 50% from 1980 to 1994. Even though the overall youth homicide rate has dropped (at least in these now out-dated figures), the rate of small-town and rural homicides has increased 38%. He writes, "Today almost every teenager in America goes to school with a kid who is troubled enough to become the next killer."

The rate of serious depression among American youth is even more startling. Serious depression has increased from 2% in the 1960s to 25% in the 1990s. Eric Harris, one of the shooters at Columbine High School, was being treated for depression and was taking the psychiatric drug Lovox. Mitchell Johnson, the 13-year-old who opened fire and killed four of his classmates and a teacher in Jonesboro, Arkansas, suffered from depression. Kip Kinkel, who shot 24 classmates in Springfield, Oregon, and Michael Carneal, who shot eight (killing three) at a high school prayer meeting in Paducah, Kentucky, were also being treated for depression.

The author goes through some figures on the rates of recidivism of youth, i.e., the number who are re-arrested and returned to prison. The figures show that methods and programs to reduce youth violence are obviously not working. In Florida, 55% are re-arrested within 18 months; in Utah, 79% within 12 months. In California, a study showed a recidivism rate of nearly 100% over 15 years. Garbarino writes: "When all is said and done, it is clear that the problem of recidivism is a big one, even with the current state-of-art programming for kids. In fact, it is not uncommon to hear an estimated 85% recidivism rate offered . . . off the record, for the most troubled and aggressive boys by the people inside the system, people who know that some of the published research reports overestimate program success because they only include boys who were positive enough to participate in and complete the program."

What does Garbarino propose as solutions? He serves up a soupbowl of watered-down answers. He cites, for example, a "cognitive-behavioral" program called Anger Replacement Therapy, developed by a Syracuse University psychologist, which teaches kids to deal with anger by, on cue, practicing heavy breathing exercises and imagining "peaceful imagery." Garbarino spends a number of pages on meditation, and gives as an example, "Tibetan monks who came to a juvenile correc-

tion facility to demonstrate the art of sand mandala, an elaborate art made out of various colored sands and including symbols of positive cultural significance."

Garbarino, in an editorial in the January 2001 issue of the *Archives of Pediatrics and Child Medicine*, reported on a comprehensive study by a team of medical researchers at Stanford University in California, showing that reducing the numbers of hours that children view TV lowers their aggressiveness. The study showed that reduced TV watching led to as much as a 50% drop in incidents of fighting and teasing among third and fourth graders. Garbarino's editorial belittled the study, espousing his firm belief that "we all are to blame."

The author writes: "At a recent public forum the moderator turned to me and asked, 'When it comes to making children violent, who is to blame?' I responded, 'Blaming is not the issue. Blaming makes the blamer feel righteous and the blamed feel ashamed. Neither is productive in solving social problems.' But if the goal is to point a finger at those 'responsible' for violent children, then we must start with the understanding that it will take a whole handful of fingers and then some, and that all of us should always save one finger for ourselves."

If it's left up to the author's efforts his "Lost Boys" will remain lost, and we can expect more Columbines and Paducahs.



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