PROLIFE CONCERNS: GIRL SCOUTS OF EASTERN MISSOURI

While Missouri Right to Life’s statement on the Girl Scouts focuses on the national (GSUSA) and international (World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, or WAGGGS) levels of Girl Scouts, the concerns are applicable at the local level as well. Far from being an autonomous entity, Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri (GSEM) is inextricably intertwined with GSUSA and WAGGGS.

All girls who are affiliated with GSEM are counted in GSUSA¹ and WAGGGS² membership totals. Each individual girl’s membership is accompanied by financial contributions to GSUSA³ and WAGGGS⁴.

Financial contributions are made to GSUSA by all girls who purchase uniforms, curriculum books, and additional materials, as licensing fees are paid to GSUSA on all trademarked products⁵. Girls also contribute to GSUSA through the selling of Girl Scout cookies. Contrary to GSEM’s assurances that all cookie sale proceeds stay at the local level⁶, GSUSA collects licensing fees on every box of cookies produced⁷, which amounts to millions of dollars annually.

GSEM encourages local girls to make additional financial contributions that benefit WAGGGS. Girls regularly participate in World Thinking Day, WAGGGS’ main fundraiser⁸, which is celebrated every year on February 22. This WAGGGS event is promoted by GSEM⁹, and girls who participate are awarded a special patch¹⁰. Every year, GSEM batches monetary donations collected by troops as a part of World Thinking Day activities¹¹ and sends them to GSUSA’s Juliette Low World Friendship Fund (JLWFF)¹². GSUSA uses this fund to finance a variety of WAGGGS related activities, including an automatic $100,000 annual donation to WAGGGS’ World Thinking Day Fund¹³. Girl Scouts throughout the council have an additional opportunity to make further monetary donations to the JLWFF by earning GSEM’s Juliette Low World Friendship Fund patch; of the numerous activities to choose from, the only required activity is a monetary donation to the JLWFF¹⁴.

GSEM regularly invites local Girl Scouts to participate in a variety of WAGGGS activities. Recent examples include seminar opportunities at one of WAGGGS’ World Centers¹⁵, and disseminating an application to become a WAGGGS delegate at an upcoming UN convention¹⁶. (WAGGGS advocated for reproductive rights at this same UN convention in 2010¹⁷.)

While GSEM claims to take “no position” on the issues of abortion and contraception¹⁸, there are numerous current examples to the contrary. GSEM’s recently updated website reminds local girls that they are members of WAGGGS¹⁹, and links them directly to the WAGGGS website²⁰. GSEM encourages girls to research ways to improve maternal health²¹ by linking them to the pro-abortion World Health Organization²². Recently, GSEM reminded local Girl Scouts that the fight for girls’ and women’s rights is on-going and illustrated the point by sharing a study that highlights US “anti abortion” provisions as an example of the attack on reproductive rights²³. And of course, GSEM promotes and sells GSUSA’s curriculum, which recommends and promotes many well known abortion-rights advocates like Gloria Steinem²⁴, Betty Friedan²⁵, Geraldine Ferraro²⁶, and Dolores Huerta²⁷, and organizations such as Amnesty International²⁸, the Population Council²⁹, and the ACLU³⁰.

Clearly the concerns about the Girl Scout organization include the Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri council.

Cited References
Still Growing Strong

Today, there are 3.2 million Girl Scouts—2.3 million girl members and 890,000 adult members working primarily as volunteers.

WAGGGS, the official umbrella organization for all 145 national Girl Guide and Girl Scout organizations in the world, has a membership of 10 million and nearly a million and a half adult volunteers. Through member organizations and working directly with girls and young women, WAGGGS delivers non-formal educational programs and international opportunities that provide girls and young women training in life skills, leadership and citizenship.

Registering Girls in Girl Scouting

Every participant (girl or adult) in Girl Scouting must register and become a member of Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA). GSUSA membership dues are valid for one year. Membership dues (currently $12) are sent by the council to GSUSA; no portion of the dues stays with the council. Membership dues may not be transferred to another member and are not refundable.

Pre-registration for the upcoming membership year occurs in the spring. Girls are encouraged to register early to avoid the "Fall rush." Early registration helps ensure uninterrupted receipt of forms and materials from the council, helps girls and councils plan ahead and gets girls excited about all the great stuff they want to do as Girl Scouts next year. Girl Scout grade levels are determined by the current membership year beginning October 1.

Lifetime membership is available at a reduced rate. A lifetime member must be at least 18 years old (or a 17-year-old high-school graduate) and agree to the Girl Scout Promise and Law.
Q: Does GSUSA have a financial relationship with WAGGGS?

A: Every Girl Scout and Girl Guide organization is a member of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts—and each Member Organization, including Girl Scouts of the USA, pays dues. WAGGGS operates in much the same way as the United Nations: Each Member Organization pays dues based on the size of its membership and the per capita income of the country in which the organization resides.

GSUSA 2007, 2009 Tax Returns

GSUSA’s membership quota payment to WAGGGS is consistently between 1 and 2 million dollars annually.

GSUSA’s 2007 Tax Return indicating membership quota payment to WAGGGS of $1,817,343

| 16 | Payments to affiliates (attach schedule) | 1,817,343 |
| 17 | Total expenses Add lines 16 and 44, column (A) | 88,933,507 |

TY 2007 Payments to Affiliates Schedule

Name: Girl Scouts of the United States of America
EIN: 13-1624016

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GSUSA’s 2009 Tax Return indicating membership quota payment to WAGGGS of $1,485,734

| 21 | Payments to affiliates | 1,485,764 | 1,485,764 |
Welcome to the Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri Girl Scout Shop, your one-stop shop for all of your uniform and troop supplies. The GSEM Shop carries girls’ and adults’ uniforms, program publications, awards and insignia, camping items, CDs, assorted books, T-shirts, gifts, stationery items, scrapbooking supplies, merchandise exclusive to GSEM and so much more! Most merchandise is official GSUSA-licensed products.

Shop By Phone
St. Louis – 314.592.2373

Shop In Person
St. Louis Service Center GS Shop
2300 Ball Drive
St. Louis, MO 63146

Shop Online
- Buy Girl Scout products from the GSEM online shop

http://www.girlscoutsem.org/Shop.aspx
Dear Valued Girl Members, Volunteers and Friends,

January normally means cold weather, snow days and hot chocolate, but at Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri, it only means one great thing. It's Girl Scout Cookie time!

January 21 is GO Day, the first day girls can begin selling cookies. I know everyone will be very excited to see our girls on their front porch with the cookie order form. All of our delicious cookies are back this year, and the Shortbread box even features new packaging for our 100th Anniversary. Be sure to try one of my favorites, the Lemonades, since we are the only Council selling them in the region.

We all love Girl Scout Cookies, but the Cookie Program is about more than just the cookies. Did you know that the Girl Scout Cookie Program is the largest girl-led business in the world? Girl Scouts not only have fun selling the cookies, but they also learn about goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills and business ethics. The Cookie Program helps us develop girls of courage, confidence and character by teaching them to speak to customers, ask for the sale and follow through with the order. Cookie time is a great time of year for both the girls and everyone who gets to enjoy the great cookies, but it's really about teaching girls lessons that will help them become leaders.

By supporting the Girl Scout Cookie Program, you are helping all of the girls and adult volunteers in eastern Missouri because all of the proceeds stay in our community. For more information on the Cookie Program, visit our [website](http://www.girlscouts.org).

We can't wait for our girls to get out there and start selling. In honor of our 100th Anniversary, let's make this the best cookie sale yet.

Best wishes,

[Signature]

Donna K. Martin  
CEO, Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri
Cookie Revenue

- Where does my money go when I buy Girl Scout Cookies?
- Does any of the money from cookie sales go to Girl Scouts of the USA (the national Girl Scouts organization)?

Girl Scouts of the USA is paid a royalty for use of the licensed trademarks by its licensed bakers based on gross annual sales volume. Girl Scout councils do not provide any portion of their cookie revenue to Girl Scouts of the USA, and no other revenue from cookie sales goes to Girl Scouts of the USA. Girl Scouts of the USA provides contractual services and approves all program, marketing, and sales materials developed by the bakers. GSUSA also provides coordination and training for national media, safety standards for girls and volunteers, our world renowned girl leadership program, and full support during cookie season.

1 Fundraising Guide

Why does WAGGGS need funds?

The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts is funded through quota paid by Member Organizations and voluntary donations. It receives no government funding. Our quota income is not sufficient to allow us to undertake all the training and development work that we need to reach our strategic objectives and achieve our mission. We therefore have to rely on donations and grants from a range of sources to help us achieve our overall mission.

WAGGGS' main fundraising event is World Thinking Day. This is the joint birthday of Lord Baden-Powell, the founder of Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting and his wife Olave who was the World Chief Guide. World Thinking Day gives Girl Guides and Girl Scouts the world over the chance to reflect and show camaraderie with their sisters throughout the world.
Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri brochure promoting World Thinking Day

**WORLD THINKING DAY, February 22**

Thinking Day is the birthday of both Robert Baden-Powell and his sister Agnes. They lived in England and started the first troop of Boy Scouts and Girl Guides. This is a special day for Girl Scouts and Girl Guides everywhere to think about each other.

There are 140 countries that belong to the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGS).

Some ways to celebrate World Thinking Day might include:
- Celebrate with a World Pin Ceremony (see PEP Ceremonies In Girl Scouting, pp. 19-24)
- Present girls with the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts pin at this time, if they do not already have it. This ceremony can be done to emphasize the link between Girl Scouts and Girl Guides around the world.
- Learn about traditions of people in a WAGGS country.
- Do a Thinking Day activity.
- Or visit the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts web site (www.waggsdigital.org).
- Participate in a neighborhood or district Thinking Day event.
- Finish up requirements for the “Juliette Low World Friendship Fund Patch” and make a contribution to the fund. Contribution forms are in the current issue of Leader Program Bulletin.

**GIRL SCOUT SPECIAL DAYS**

**Founders Day, October 31**

Juliette Gordon Low’s Birthday is celebrated on this day. Some ways to celebrate might include:
- A party in her honor, doing some activities that Juliette enjoyed—“china painting” (painting designs on paper plates), putting on a skit, making paper dolls, or making taffy candy.
- Put on a play that teaches other people about Juliette. Have girls read about her life in their handbooks and make up a skit/play or rap or a “Kim’s Game” to teach others about Juliette’s life.
- Go to the Girl Scout Web site—www.girlscouts.org/who-we-are/history and find out more about Juliette.
- Start the “Count Down to Thinking Day—Juliette Low World Friendship Fund” patch program. Requirements are listed in the current issue of Leader Program Bulletin.
Each year on February 22, World Thinking Day, girls honor their sister Girl Guides and Girl Scouts by taking time to give thanks for their international friendships and remember that Girl Scouts of the USA is part of a global community—one of nearly 150 countries that are members of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS).

Juliette Low World Friendship Fund

Donations to the Juliette Low World Friendship Fund are used to support girls' international travel and participation in training and other international events. These unique opportunities for fostering international friendships connect Girl Guides and Girl Scouts from 145 nations.

Juliette Gordon Low had friends around the world and was committed to offering the benefits of Girl Scouting to girls around the globe. To honor Juliette's love of travel, of experiencing different cultures, and of making new friends, Girl Scouts of the USA created the Juliette Low World Friendship Fund (JLWFF) in 1927.

See the latest JLWFF Report

How Do I Give?

Troop or service unit donations should be sent to local Girl Scout councils rather than to Girl Scouts of the USA. Councils batch the donations and send them to the fund periodically.
Juliette Low
World Friendship Fund

Annual Report 2009–2010

CONTRIBUTORS

Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan
Girl Scouts Heart of New Jersey
Girl Scouts Heart of Pennsylvania
Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson, Inc.
Girl Scouts Hornets Nest
Girl Scouts Louisiana East
Girl Scouts Missouri Heartland
Girl Scouts Minnesota and Wisconsin Lakes and Pines
Girl Scouts of Alaska
Girl Scouts of Arizona Cactus-Pine
Girl Scouts of California's Central Coast
Girl Scouts of Central & Southern New Jersey
Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts
Girl Scouts of Central California South
Girl Scouts of Central Illinois
Girl Scouts of Central Indiana
Girl Scouts of Central Maryland, Inc.
Girl Scouts of Chesapeake Bay
Girl Scouts of Citrus Council, Inc.
Girl Scouts of Colorado
Girl Scouts of Commonwealth Council of Virginia, Inc.
Girl Scouts of Connecticut, Inc.
Girl Scouts of Dakota Horizons
Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts
Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri, Inc.
Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma
Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania
Girl Scouts of Eastern South Carolina
Girl Scouts of Gateway Council, Inc.
Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta, Inc.
### 2009 JLWFF Balance Sheet

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### 2010 JLWFF Balance Sheet

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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td><strong>$233,394</strong></td>
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Juliette Low World Friendship Fund Patch Program

The purpose of this patch program for Girl Scouts is designed to increase girls’ awareness of international issues. Girl Scouts of all levels may earn the Juliette Low World Friendship (JLWFF) Patch. The JLWFF patch is purchased by the troop and is an unofficial insignia. The patch(s) is worn on the back of the sash or vest. Girl Scouts, who have already earned the patch, but continue to contribute to the JLWFF, may purchase a segment that signifies an ongoing commitment to world friendship.

**Activities**

Girls must complete five activities, including number 9.

1. Learn to say “thank you” in four languages.
2. Find out how a person may become a U.S. citizen.
3. Celebrate a holiday with international customs.
4. Plan an international program with or for another troop/group.
5. Have a “tasting tea” of international goodies.
6. Learn about five women from other countries (artists, politicians, scientists, writers, teachers and innovators).
7. Name five major religions around the world.
8. Invite someone that has lived in another country to your troop meeting. Learn about the lives of children in that country.
9. **Find out about the JLWFF and make a contribution to the Juliette Low World Friendship Fund through Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri.**
11. Name currencies used in six countries.
From the Birth of Girl Scouting to the World Centers

The Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace in Savannah, Georgia, is a fantastic place for Girl Scout Juniors and older to visit. Reservations and council approval are required to take a group of girls to visit the birthplace, and most educational opportunities are booked at least a year in advance, so book early! Families and individuals, however, do not need to reserve a tour in advance.

In addition, four lodges are available in England, Mexico, Switzerland and India for use by Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, each with hostel- or dormitory-style accommodations. These centers are operated by WAGGGS (World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts) and offer low-cost accommodations and special programs. They are also a great way to meet Girl Guides and Girl Scouts from around the world. Visit www.wagggsworld.org for more information.

Closer to home, check with your council to see whether council-owned camps and other facilities can be rented out to the group of girls with which you’re working.

Excerpt from 2012 GSEM electronic communication

escape to london

Applications are still being accepted for an amazing travel opportunity to Pax Lodge in London. This experience will be taking place June 22nd through June 29th in 2013. Participants will discover beautiful London and the surrounding area, connect with other members of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts from other parts of the world and take action by participating in a take action project. Applications are due by May 15th and can be found here or by contacting Jessica Upchurch (see below). Girls must have some travel experience and must be 14 years old by June of 2013.

For questions or more information regarding the trip, please contact Jessica Upchurch at 314.592.2359 or jupchurch@girlscoutsem.org.

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https://twitter.com/girlscoutsem
Day 6 - 5th March

Young people advocating for sexual and reproductive rights

The coalition of young people made a statement for the support of their rights. WAGGGS delegate Neferi Thomeli was amongst the fifteen young men and women wearing T-shirts with statements such as ‘Dead healthy women’, ‘unplanned pregnancies’ and ‘misinformed’, that took a strong stand for achieving the goals that were set in Beijing fifteen years ago.

“[Quote] We demand access to comprehensive sexuality information, services and supplies for all young people. We need it today - and today needed to be yesterday.

The young people from more than 20 countries and every continent collectively demand their sexual and reproductive rights:

- All young people must have access to comprehensive sexuality education and sexual and reproductive health services, including contraception and emergency contraception, in order to avoid unintended pregnancies.
- Sexual and reproductive health services should, as a minimum, be accessible, affordable and safe.
- All young people should have access to psycho-social health services for prevention of gender-based violence and violence against women.

The cohort of young people believe that decision makers attending the 54th session of the Commission on the Status of Women need to listen to the needs and demands of young people and promote their human rights including sexual and reproductive rights to ensure the health and wellbeing of women, young people and all people worldwide.
The Truth of the Matter from our CEO

As we celebrate ToGetHerThere, a wonderful, ambitious campaign to create gender balanced leadership opportunities for girls within a generation, it is time to review what Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri stands for, believes in and supports. This is a great opportunity to affirm our organization’s positions on a number of topics with you as we continue to receive inquiries from our members and want to ensure everyone has accurate information.

Members of Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri appreciate the rich diversity of values, opinions and beliefs surrounding religious and social issues. Our membership is open to all girls and adults who accept the Girl Scout Promise and Law and who meet membership requirements. We are an inclusive organization, and we do not discriminate or recruit on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, socioeconomic status or national origin. We welcome members of all abilities. The organization does not permit advocacy or promotion of personal lifestyle or orientation.

Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri has never partnered with Planned Parenthood, nor do we have any plans to do so in the future. Our organization does not take a position on abortion or birth control. We believe these matters are best decided by girls, their families, their faith communities and their physician.
BE A SISTER TO EVERY GIRL SCOUT

- Attend a neighborhood, district or council-wide event and meet Girl Scouts from other parts of your Girl Scout community.

- As a member of the Girl Scouts of the USA you are also a member of a worldwide organization - World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS). Visit this website - www.waggs.org and find out about scouting in other countries. What are girls your age in another country called?

RESOURCES:
Six Pillars of Character series (DVD)
# 1 - Trustworthiness
# 2 - Respect
# 3 - Responsibility
# 4 - Fairness
# 5 - Caring
# 6 - Citizenship

BE A SISTER TO EVERY GIRL SCOUT

- Wherever there is Girl Scouting or Girl Guiding International Friendship is celebrated during the month of February. Check out www.waggs.org for Thinking Day projects and give special thought to things that are of importance to all people, such as good will, peace, and health.
MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE
- Find out where your local literacy center is and volunteer to support the center with your time or supplies.

- Choose a developing country and learn why the child mortality rate is high in that country and how it can be reduced. Present your findings to your group in an interesting way.

- Find out what the World Health Organization, (www.who.int) is doing to help improve maternal health and research World Health Day topics over the past few years. Choose three actions and tell your group about them.
Sample content on the GSEM recommended website, WHO.int


Recommendations related to regulatory, policy and human rights considerations

Laws and policies on abortion should protect women's health and their human rights.
Regulatory, policy and programmatic barriers that hinder access to and timely provision of safe abortion care should be removed.

An enabling regulatory and policy environment is needed to ensure that every woman who is legally eligible has ready access to safe abortion care. Policies should be geared to respecting, protecting and fulfilling the human rights of women, to achieving positive health outcomes for women, to providing good-quality contraceptive information and services, and to meeting the particular needs of poor women, adolescents, rape survivors and women living with HIV.

See Chapter 4 for further details.
A sobering reminder that our work for girls and women's rights is far from over: bit.ly/QLVS1U

INFOGRAPHIC: Where is The Safest Place In The World For Women To Live...

If you guess America, you are wrong.

Upworthy @Upworthy Follow

"Our civil rights and domestic violence laws, a growing acceptance of women in the workplace, our fundamental freedom of movement and speech and the narrowing wage gap mean the US fares pretty well on women's rights. However, many of the gains of the last 100 years are under attack and the most overt and vicious attack is on reproductive rights. Women also suffer disproportionately from the lack of affordable healthcare."

— Marsha Freeman, director, International Women's Rights Action Watch

Full coverage: G20women.trust.org

92 ANTI-ABORTION PROVISIONS ENACTED AT STATE LEVEL IN 2011

Guttmacher Institute

60% OF MASTERS DEGREES EARNED BY WOMEN IN 2008-2009

US Department of Education

22.9M WOMEN DO NOT HAVE HEALTH INSURANCE

US Census (2012)
Sisterhood: Keep Your Circle Growing

Sisterhood has the power to change you and change the world. You’ve seen how growing your sisterhood circle not only gives you more friends, it gives you more opportunities to be a leader in your own life and in the world. It makes your world wider and more diverse, and it fills it with an awareness and understanding of sisterhood needs and the many ways you can band with your sisters to fill those needs.

You can now count yourself among the many girls and women who have made a difference for sisterhood. You’ve read about some in this book, like Shannon McNamara, Dallas Jessup, Bonnie Jackson Mitchell, and Ada Miller Robinson. Many other women have moved sisterhood to where it is today, thanks to their visionary contributions and efforts toward equal rights. These women include suffragettes Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony, abolitionist Harriet Tubman, and women’s rights activists Gloria Steinem and Anna Nieto Gomez—just to name a few! They started the story of sisterhood, and now it’s up to you to keep it going and growing.


dates
24 Girl Scout Curriculum book, Mission Sisterhood, Page 65
25 Girl Scout Curriculum book, Your Voice Your World, Page 68
"We've chosen the path to equality, don't let them turn us around."

—— Geraldine Ferraro, first woman nominated to run for vice president of the United States

Dolores Huerta cofounds (with Cesar Chavez) the National Farm Workers Association, later to become the United Farm Workers (UFW). In 1966, she directs its nationwide grape boycott, which lasts until 1971. It results in a union contract for grape workers and eventually for other migrant farm workers. Huerta also organizes for women's equality, minority voting rights, and progressive judicial nominations.

IT'S YOUR WORLD—GET TO KNOW IT!

Take some time to read and watch national and international news reports. Surf the Internet for Web sites that reflect international points of view. Expand your awareness of issues that impact the world—and learn of people working on those issues. Explore organizations such as Amnesty International, the Children's Defense Fund, Doctors Without Borders, the Population Council, and Oxfam International to see where and how they are promoting change. Add these worldview issues to your sketches. How do they connect to your local issues?

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**VOICES FOR GOOD: WOMEN ADVOCATES THROUGH THE YEARS**

1907 Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, a union organizer for the Industrial Workers of the World, leads campaigns to organize Pennsylvania garment workers, New Jersey silk weavers, New York restaurant workers, Minnesota miners, and Massachusetts textile workers. In 1920, she helps establish the American Civil Liberties Union, which declares it will defend civil rights guaranteed in state and federal constitutions.


**ADVENTURES IN ADVOCACY**

Have you been bitten by the advocacy bug? Do you want changing the world to be your life's work? Check out some of the careers that can have advocacy as a key element:

- Ambassador
- Congressman
- Artist
- Event organizer
- Doctor
- Filmmaker
- Journalist
- Healthcare worker
- Fund-raiser/grant writer
- Labor-union organizer
- Lawyer
  (such as for the American Civil Liberties Union)
- Lobbyist
- Mediator