

Was Secretive Fascist Fundy Party Created To Throw Australian Election?

by Allen Douglas

The federal election on Oct. 9 is still too close to call. Whether the Liberal/National party alliance (the “Coalition”) under Prime Minister John Howard will be re-elected over the Australian Labor Party (ALP), will likely be decided by a handful of votes in some 15 seats for the 150-seat House of Representatives. (See *EIR*, Sept. 24.) Lyndon LaRouche’s associates in the Citizens Electoral Council (CEC) are running strong campaigns in some of those seats, and thus may well determine the overall outcome. To diminish that influence, a Moral Majority-style party, Family First, has just been conjured up almost out of the blue. The secretive new party is a front for the fundamentalist, pentecostal Assembly of God (AOG) churches in Australia, and represents an attempt to rig Australia’s election, by a multi-billion dollar synarchist “religious” empire. This empire is run by an ultra-powerful cult in Washington, D.C., the “Fellowship,” and its London associate, the Anglican Church’s pentecostal cult center at Trinity Brompton church.

The electoral stakes are high, for Australia, and internationally. Howard is a second-generation fascist, allied to U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney and his war-and-police-state policies, and the Australian election foreshadows that of the United States on Nov. 2. The ALP has decided flaws, but is preferable to the ever-lying Howard, who pushed Australia to war in Iraq, and has since rammed through 30 Hitler-modelled police-state laws.

Until just a couple of weeks ago, the principals in this election were the Coalition, the ALP, the Greens, and the CEC. Although blacked out or libelled by the Murdoch-dominated press, the CEC, with its 106 candidates for the House of Representatives and its national membership of 3,500, had replaced the fading Australian Democrats as the decisive swing force in Australian politics. The senior partner in Howard’s Coalition, the Liberals, have perhaps some 10,000 members nationwide, as does the ALP (contrary to both parties’ wildly inflated membership claims), with the establishment-promoted Greens at about 6-7,000 (but polling only about 6-9%), and the Democrats at perhaps 2,000 (polling only 1%).

With the two major parties fairly evenly balanced, the election comes down to “preferences,” the uniquely Australian procedure where each voter casts a “primary” vote, but then numbers his “preferences” for other candidates from two on down. Typically, if no candidate of the two “major parties”

gets 50% of primary votes, then smaller parties’ preferences are distributed, beginning with those candidates receiving the least votes, until one candidate gets over 50%. Although the Greens will decisively preference the ALP, most polls still have the Coalition slightly ahead in the “two party-preferred” vote (i.e., after the distribution of preferences). However, such polls have ignored the CEC’s candidates, who have scored as high as 7-9% in state elections, and many of whom have run very high-profile campaigns for this election, with purchased TV and radio ads.

Thus, CEC ballots (which will overwhelmingly preference the ALP) could well tilt the balance to dump Howard. However, that possibility is being challenged by the Family First party, which almost no one had ever heard of until the last couple of weeks, but which the media now lionizes as the likely arbiter of the election. Puzzled, many in Australia are asking, “Who is this party?”. As *EIR*’s investigation demonstrates, it is clear that Family First has only just now surfaced at the last minute, *precisely to avoid scrutiny*. And suddenly, its parent Assembly of God’s Australian website is “under construction” and unavailable, and Family First has gagged its House candidates—who are mostly members of AOG churches who speak in tongues and believe in the millennialist “end times” and a fundamentalist interpretation of the Bible, among other peculiarities. Howard has personally negotiated a deal with Family First to preference the Coalition in almost all the 109 House races in which Family First is running.

Some Family Secrets

Family First originally surfaced when it elected AOG pastor Andrew Evans to South Australia’s upper house in 2002. Evans led the AOG in Australia for 20 years, but was also the World Secretary of the 40-million-strong AOG global membership, and a member of the world executive of the 500 million-member pentecostal movement. Six of the Family First’s seven federal executives are top AOG figures, while the party’s “pro-family” public platform includes opposition to euthanasia, same-sex marriages, stem cell research, and abortion. Behind this pro-family facade, the AOG’s “religious” beliefs have been kept carefully hidden, and Family First candidates have been instructed not even to reveal their religious affiliation. Family First officials, meanwhile, have proclaimed that they don’t want to reshape society along the

lines of the AOG. They are lying.

Family First is part of the same international synarchist, theocratic apparatus as fascist U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft, another “pro-family” AOG leader who speaks in tongues, and of his fellow fascist, powerful House Republican leader Tom DeLay. Ashcroft’s father was the longtime international Director of Outreach for the AOG, and set up operations in many countries, in conjunction with the notorious, pro-Nazi Dulles brothers of Wall St., the State Department, and the CIA. DeLay is known as “The Hammer” for his attacks on anyone who does not endorse the policies flowing from his integrist brand of “Christianity.” Several of his closest associates have just been indicted for laundering tens of millions of dollars in campaign funds for rigging elections.

DeLay’s career has been sponsored by the Washington, D.C.-based Fellowship, which was set up in 1935 out of Frank Buchman’s fascist Moral Rearmament Movement, and Lord Bertrand Russell and H.G. Wells’s Fabian plans for one-world government. The Fellowship in turn set up the international Prayer Breakfasts; sponsored the careers of such leading fundamentalist preachers as Billy Graham, Pat Robertson, and similar televangelists; and established deep-cover operations in the U.S. military and intelligence communities, which interface terrorist operations such as the “militia” bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City in 1995, as *EIR* has documented. The founder of the first Prayer Breakfast in 1941, H. Alexander Smith, was a Fellowship member who called for an alliance between Hitler and the Anglo-American financier establishment, to rule the world.

A scandal exploded about the super-secretive Fellowship (aka “The Family”) in 2003, after a reporter for *Harpers* magazine spent several weeks at its D.C. headquarters. (See *Harpers*, March 2003.) Among other bizarre beliefs, the Family stresses the idea of a “covenant”, reported author Jeffrey Sharlet. He quoted David Coe, son and heir-apparent of Family leader Doug Coe, asking new recruits, “Can you think of anyone who made a covenant with his friends?” Sharlet continued, “We all knew the answer to this, having heard his name invoked numerous times in this context. Andrew from Australia . . . cleared his throat: ‘Hitler.’ ‘Yes,’ Doug said, approvingly. ‘If you’re a person known to be around Jesus, you can go and do anything. And that’s who you guys are. When you leave here, you’re not only going to know the value of Jesus, you’re going to know the people who rule the world.’ ” Indeed, many members of Congress and other world influentials belong, and President Bush himself “found the Lord” through a Family brainwashing program in Texas.

Family Sleaze

The AOG’s flagship in Australia is the 25,000-member Hillsong Church in Sydney, which provides a glimpse of Family First’s “family values.” Hillsong has a \$25 million sanctuary; a staff of 200 (including 70 pastors); a Bible college of 1,700 students; a weekly TV program seen in 120 nations; numerous “outreach” organizations; its own best-

selling rock band; and a sister church in London, also named Hillsong. Its senior pastors are Brian Houston, the president of the AOG in Australia, and his wife Bobbie. The Harley-riding Brian is the author of several books, including *You Need More Money: Discovering God’s Amazing Financial Plan for Your Life*, while Bobbie has released *Kingdom Women Love Sex*, and preaches the benefits of pelvic exercises, because “orgasm is not as strong if you are really sloppy in that area.” Brian’s father, Frank Houston, an admitted pedophile, founded a pentecostalist church now merged with Hillsong.

Prime Minister Howard opened Hillsong’s new 3,500-seat auditorium in 2002, while his Treasurer and heir-apparent Peter Costello, addressed Hillsong in July. Costello professed his “faith”, and bragged how he once listened to a Hillsong CD for 12 hours straight.

The claims of Family First not to want a theocratic Australia, should be compared to the activities of its federal chairman, Peter Harris. A few years ago, Harris helped draw up a “strategic vision” to bring the Paradise AOG church into a “position of influence” over the politics, business, and media in South Australia, as part of which he set up the Business Generation Ministry International (BGMI). “Our vision is to facilitate and participate in the generation of billions of dollars through businesses to extend God’s Kingdom. We call it ‘billions of dollars for billions of souls,’ ” BGMI is modelled on the Fellowship-run Full Gospel Businessmen’s Fellowship, one of whose leaders has been Iran/Contra’s gun-and-drug-running Lt. Col. Oliver North.

Key to winning the “billions of dollars and billions of souls” is a multi-week brainwashing program called Alpha, first established in 1977 at London’s Trinity Church Brompton, the British end of the Fellowship. Alpha courses are running in 171 countries, and have processed millions of people. The world head of the Alpha program, Trinity Brompton’s Rev. Nicky Gumbel, is a partner with Family First chairman Peter Harris and his BGMI in running “Business Alpha” for businessmen in Australia. A scandal erupted over Alpha brainwashing in 1996, as reported in a London *Times* headline, “Woman leads church boycott in row over evangelical pig snorting.” Fifty-year old Angie Golding reported that she had been expected to “snort like a pig and bark like a dog” during her Alpha course.

The Alpha program is a strategic asset of the British elite. In addition to Gumbel, said by insiders to be “more influential than the Archbishop of Canterbury,” it is run by Trinity’s Michael Alison, a member of Her Majesty’s Privy Council and the former Permanent Parliamentary Private Secretary for Margaret Thatcher, and Max Aitken, the nephew to the infamous Hitler supporter and press baron, Lord Beaverbrook. One noted Alpha graduate is pollster George Gallup, Jr., who says his life has been “transformed” by it. Given that polls are psychological warfare, Gallup and Family First are examples of how the Anglo-American synarchists use Alpha and related “religious” brainwashing to reshape society.