

*****NEWS RELEASE*****

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MARCH IS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

In light of modern mental health crisis for today's girls, *AHG* equips parents with powerful e-book

Patti Garibay: 'Fear, worry, and anxiety are part of the human condition, but as part of the Body of Christ we are called to faith over fear'

CINCINNATI, Ohio — Young girls are in trouble. A recent [Center for Disease Control \(CDC\) report](#) revealed that 57 percent of high school females reported feeling sadness or hopelessness in 2021, a 58 percent increase from 36 percent in 2011. Additionally, 30 percent of girls seriously considered attempting suicide in 2021, an almost 60 percent increase from 19 percent in 2011.

"We live in a troubling world, and despite parents' best efforts, children can often feel the pressures of modern society," said American Heritage Girls (AHG, www.americanheritagegirls.org) Founder and Executive Director Patti Garibay. "As our culture continually moves away from Christ — the author and provider of peace and prosperity — it makes perfect sense that our girls feel the effects of a life without the Lord."

In order to equip adults with biblical truths to deal with girls' stress, *American Heritage Girls* offers "[A Raising Godly Girls Guide to Tackling 8 Stressors that Girls Face Today](#)." The comprehensive and useful guide dives deep into topics such as diagnosed anxiety, worst-case scenario thinking, fear of illness, panic attacks, worrying, scarcity mindset, isolation and even transitioning back to "normal life" after the devastating COVID-19 pandemic. The guide provides biblical support as an additional foundation for parents and even has an activity in the back for girls to help cope with their stress.

Garibay explained, "Today's teens are experiencing the effects of worry and fear in unprecedented numbers. Diagnostic interview data from the National Comorbidity Survey Adolescent Supplement shows that [31% of all youth have diagnosed anxiety disorders](#). Note the word 'diagnosed.' Imagine the percentage when we include those who have not sought medical or psychiatric help."

In the face of a national mental health crisis affecting girls, *AHG* shines a bright light on the power of faith and fellowship in the midst of such a bleak outlook for America's girls. *AHG*, one of the largest Christian, scout-type organizations in the world, has been providing powerful, Christ-focused programming to help girls develop leadership skills, build relationships, and get outdoors for almost 30 years.

"Yes, fear, worry, and anxiety are part of the human condition, but as part of the Body of Christ we are called to faith over fear," Garibay said. "We are called to know beyond a shadow of a doubt that God will never leave us or forsake us. My prayer at this time of anxiety and distress is for each of us to dismiss fear"

and shine as a beacon of certainty that we serve a sovereign God who is the creator of the earth, the Prince of Peace, the Alpha and the Omega, and the Lord that provides.”

Click here to learn more about “[A Raising Godly Girls Guide to Tackling 8 Stressors that Girls Face Today.](#)”

American Heritage Girls was founded in 1995 when *Founder and Executive Director Patti Garibay* became concerned with the direction the Girl Scouts of America was headed. *Garibay*, along with a group of concerned parents, wanted a faith-based, scout-type character development program for their daughters, and *American Heritage Girls* was born. Today, there are [Troops](#) in all 50 states and girls being served in 15 countries around the globe. Thousands of volunteer members across the country are helping girls grow in their faith, cultivate a heart for service, enjoy the great outdoors, and have more fun than they can imagine.

At *AHG*, girls ages five to 18 meet together as [a single Troop](#) at the same time and then break out into Units by Levels. This gives *AHG* girls the important social experience of interacting with friends and godly mentors of various ages; members also learn leadership skills within a group setting. *AHG* Troops are located in [local communities](#) across the nation. To hear more about the purpose, mission, and vision of *AHG* from *Founder and Executive Director Patti Garibay*, [click here](#).

AHG’s “Raising Godly Girls” radio feature and [Raising Godly Girls blog](#) shares guidance and biblically based advice on many key topics affecting girls today — from bullying and identity to anxiety and body image issues. It gives parents, educators, and faith community leaders a set of tools, resources, and Scripture-based advice to assist in raising girls after God’s own heart. The [“Raising Godly Girls Minute” with Patti Garibay](#) airs on 1000+ Christian radio stations across the country.

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To schedule interviews with spokespersons from *American Heritage Girls*, contact Media@HamiltonStrategies.com, Beth Harrison, 610.584.1096 ext. 105, or Deborah Hamilton, ext. 102.

To inquire about airing the [“Raising Godly Girls Minute” with Patti Garibay](#), contact [Michael Hamilton, 610.584.1096, ext. 101.](#)