NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release April 24, 2023

CONTACT:

Hamilton Strategies, Media@HamiltonStrategies.com, Beth Harrison, 610.584.1096 ext. 105, or Deborah Hamilton, ext. 102

Girlhood is being erased on the altar of secular humanism, says *AHG Founder Patti Garibay*

'God-given femininity is a gift that, when freely accepted, will bless a woman throughout her life,' says AHG Founder Patti Garibay

CINCINNATI, Ohio — America's girls are in trouble. A recent report revealed that gender dysphoria, or severe discomfort with one's gender, is more likely to occur within teenage girls. A survey of American children and their parents revealed that 75% of the children who experience gender dysphoria were female while just 25% were male. The study also noted that girls who questioned their gender identities were often supported and encouraged in this endeavor by their friends. A majority of parents said that their children who suffered from gender dysphoria had also been diagnosed with a mental illness.

The solution to this concerning trend is clear, according to *American Heritage Girls (AHG,* <u>www.americanheritagegirls.org</u>) *Founder and Executive Director Patti Garibay*. Girls not only must be taught to appreciate and love true femininity, but also what the Bible says about their identity in Christ.

"Biblical femininity is the core essence of every woman, purposefully designed by God," said Garibay. "He has created men and women differently on purpose. For centuries, the beauty of God-given femininity has been under attack, its definition debated, its behavior contested. Secular humanism has attempted to destroy the beautiful model of femininity and transform it into masculinity. Today, it has gone one step further to claim an embrace of non-binary sexual identity. With all this confusion in our society, it is no wonder that this debate has filtered down to our youngest members: our children. This is no coincidence. Satan is in for the long haul.

"As Christians, we must engage in this debate," Garibay continues. "Scripture is clear: There is a difference between male and female, and it is worth celebrating! Scripture defines the true nature of a woman: relational, nurturing, vulnerable, with a love for beauty and a desire to respond. God-given femininity is a gift that, when freely accepted, will bless a woman throughout her life. Every girl can become a Christ-following servant leader who is honoring, anchored in Christ, and competent — a woman of integrity."

It's why, she adds, "AHG provides a space that celebrates the biblical femininity inside every girl."

In order to give parents, teachers and leaders a guide through the maze of gender and identity, **AHG** proudly offers "A Raising Godly Girls Guide to Gender and Identity." The groundbreaking guide provides tools parents can use to understand society's attitude toward gender and applies biblical truth highlighting the beauty in the differences between men and women. From preparing hearts for conversation to reviewing a glossary of key gender terms and how they are used, parents will come away with a set of tools and exercises to begin this important conversation. This resource meets parents right where they are, combining Scriptural wisdom and **AHG's** tried-and-true methodologies to raising godly girls.

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 <u>a single Troop</u> 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 <u>local</u> communities across the nation. To hear more about the purpose, mission, and vision of *AHG* from *Founder and Executive Director Patti Garibay*, <u>click here.</u>

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.

###

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

To inquire about airing the "<u>Raising Godly Girls Minute</u>" with *Patti Garibay*, contact Michael Hamilton, 610.584.1096, ext. 101.