NEWS RELEASE

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AHG champions single-sex scouting as Boy and Girl Scouts abandon troops for progressive ideologies

Boy and Girl Scouts 'have lost sight of the original vision that made them great in the first place, and the children are unfortunately paying the price'

CINCINNATI, Ohio — The Boy Scouts of America, the once time-honored tradition for boys looking for positive character growth and development, celebrates Scouting Anniversary Day the first week of February each year. While the Boy Scouts, as well as the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, were originally founded to provide outlets for boys and girls individually, the tragic reality is that as the organizations become more progressive and blur the lines between genders, boys and girls lose a sense of what makes them unique. In 2018, the Boy Scouts (currently known as Scouts BSA) announced that it would allow girls to join the ranks, negating the very foundation of the Boy Scouts, while the Girl Scouts recently shocked parents by allowing transgender girls (biological boys) to share cabins with girls at summer camps.

"In an attempt to placate the progressive agenda permeating American culture, the Boy and Girl Scouts have abandoned the traditional values they were built upon," declared Patti Garibay, founder and executive director of American Heritage Girls (AHG, www.americanheritagegirls.org), one of the largest Christian, scout-type organizations in the world. In contrast to the wavering moral stances of the Boy and Girl Scouts, AHG has been unwavering in its dedication to raising godly girls through traditional scouting techniques since its inception nearly 30 years ago. AHG's mission is to build young women of integrity through service to God, family, community and country. It offers comprehensive badge and patch programs, as well as level awards for participants who show dedication to learning and participation.

"The Boy and Girl Scouts were created to celebrate what makes boys and girls unique and provide opportunities for both genders to build character, develop leadership skills, make friendships, and celebrate the great outdoors — separately," said Garibay. "Today, both organizations are choosing to dismiss these time-honored traditions and adhere to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) policies instead. They have lost sight of the original vision that made them great in the first place, and the children are unfortunately paying the price.

"AHG was founded on unwavering biblical principles and will never abandon single-sex scouting. While both boys and girls are equal in value, they are different — which should be celebrated! At AHG, we allow girls to explore who they are and how God specifically designed them to be unique in their femininity. Rather than focusing on 'inclusion' and other age-inappropriate ideologies, young girls should be developing friendships, learning valuable life skills, and enjoying outdoor adventure. At American Heritage Girls, Troops are guided by skilled leaders and mentors through our carefully cultivated program. Our program is designed to adapt and change with a girl as she grows up, ensuring that she never is exposed to material that is unsuitable for her stage of development."

Parents across the country are finding **AHG** to be a helpful, beneficial, and appropriate program for their daughters. One **AHG** mom commented, "My daughter just became a Patriot (Level). She has been with **AHG** since she was five. In all of those years, she has grown into an amazing, confident young woman. She has developed life-long friendships, even across the country thanks to Convention, camps, and the Pen Pal Program. Her faith is stronger because it extends past home and church! Her heart to serve amazes me every day and I believe that was developed through so many acts of service with **AHG**. She is truly a godly, young woman of integrity."

Tune in to this week's <u>Raising Godly Girls</u> (<u>RGG</u>) <u>podcast</u> and "<u>Raising Godly Girls</u>" one-minute <u>radio</u> <u>feature</u> to learn more about <u>AHG</u>'s timely Scripture-based advice on topics such as "<u>what is a godly girl</u>," and "how <u>gender is an expression</u> of the inmost, true, and God-given self."

American Heritage Girls was founded in 1995 by a group of parents who wanted this faith-based, scout-type character development program for their daughters. 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. If none exists in a given area, families can bring the AHG Program to their own area. An American Heritage Girls Troop Development Coach is available to provide resources to potential Charter Organizations and other families to form a new Troop. To hear more about the purpose, mission, and vision of AHG from Founder and Executive Director Patti Garibay, click here.

Today, there are <u>Troops</u> in all 50 states and girls being served in 15 countries around the globe. Girls can join a Troop at any time; if a Troop is not available nearby, they can become a <u>Trailblazer</u> and enjoy the *AHG* program alongside their parent. A variety of Christian denominations are also represented as <u>Charter</u> <u>Organizations</u> for Troops. 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.

AHG offers various resources under <u>"Raising Godly Girls,"</u> including a weekly podcast, one-minute radio features, a blog, and guides for parents. All "Raising Godly Girls" platforms and materials offer guidance and biblically-based advice on various topics affecting girls today, such as bullying, identity, anxiety, and body image issues. "Raising Godly Girls" provides parents, educators, and faith community leaders with tools, resources, and Scripture-based advice to help raise girls after God's own heart.

AHG's new podcast, <u>"Raising Godly Girls,"</u> features fresh episodes every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday and can be accessed through all major podcast platforms and is available at <u>raisinggodlygirls.com</u>. Additionally, 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 *Patti Garibay, founder and executive director of American Heritage Girls*, contact Media@HamiltonStrategies.com, Beth Bogucki, 610.584.1096 ext. 105, or Robin Sprague, ext. 103.

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