

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

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Parental discernment is key to choosing quality organizations for young girls

*'It's so important for parents to remain vigilant when it comes to the organizations and ministries their children interact with,' says **Patti Garibay***

CINCINNATI, Ohio — Today's teens are exposed to a wider variety of media than ever before, and not all of it is positive. For concerned parents, it may be difficult to screen the organizations their girls are interacting with. Parents play a pivotal role in establishing a bedrock faith for their daughters, and part of that responsibility involves discerning the integrity and commitment of the ministries their children participate in.

American Heritage Girls (AHG, www.americanheritagegirls.org) Founder and Executive Director Patti Garibay has been working with girls and their families for nearly three decades and understands the importance of choosing organizations and ministries that maintain strong ethical standards. *AHG* is the premier faith-based, scout-type leadership development program for girls ages five to 18, with tens of thousands of girls finding faith, fellowship and fun through *AHG's* unique programming. *Garibay* recently spoke to Warren Cole Smith, President of Ministry Watch, about the importance of parental discernment on a recent episode of *AHG's* new [Raising Godly Girls \(RGG\) podcast](#).

"According to the National Center on Charitable Statistics, data reveals that approximately 30% of nonprofits fail to exist after 10 years," said Garibay. "According to Forbes, over half of all nonprofits that receive this de-designation are destined to fail or stall within just a few years due to leadership issues or a lack of strategic plan. These are organizations that have rich, honorable histories, but they departed from those honorable paths at some point along the way. Sometimes it's due to a lack of accountability, sometimes it's a change in mission statement, but unfortunately, some organizations lose their focus and stray away from their God-ordained calling. That's why it's so important for parents to remain vigilant when it comes to the organizations and ministries their children interact with."

Through thought-provoking discussion points, *Garibay* and Smith explore the factors that contribute to the success or downfall of organizations from their founding missions. They highlight common attributes of effective ministries and provide practical advice for parents on how to apply similar principles when assessing ministries for their daughters' involvement.

"Girls take note of the decisions their parents make and what they are allowed to interact with. Teaching your daughter ethics, the decision-making process for determining right and wrong, means first establishing a firm moral foundation," noted Garibay.

Tune in to this week's [Raising Godly Girls \(RGG\) podcast](#) and "[Raising Godly Girls](#)" one-minute [radio feature](#) to equip, affirm, and strengthen those on the journey to establishing a firm moral foundation in their girls, teaching them the decision-making process for determining right and wrong.

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 [Troops](#) 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 [Trailblazer](#) and enjoy the *AHG* program alongside their parent. A variety of Christian denominations are also represented as [Charter Organizations](#) 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 "[Raising Godly Girls,](#)" 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, "[Raising Godly Girls,](#)" features fresh episodes every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Subscribe and follow on any major podcast platform or visit [raisinggodlygirls.com](#). 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 Jeff Tolson, ext. 108.

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