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June 13, 2006

Reverend Jerry Falwell
Senior Pastor
Thomas Road Baptist Church
701 Thomas Road
Lynchburg, Virginia 24502

Re: Tim LaHaye

Dear Reverend Falwell:

I appreciate more than you know your willingness to read my Tyndale House book, *Out of Harm's Way*, and then provide an endorsement of it which graces the cover. Thank you.

As you know, a great deal of the book deals with the dangers of the marketing of violent video games to children and the real world violence that they spawn. In August 2005, the American Psychological Association came out with its blockbuster report that proves the causal nexus between these games and teen violence. The debate on that is over, buttressed by brain scan studies out of Harvard, Indiana University, and Michigan State that prove that kids process these virtual reality violence simulation games in the amygdala, which midbrain processing leads to copycatting.

As you may recall, you and I appeared together on Nancy Grace's CNN program almost a year ago to the day about these cop-killing games, and your comments were spot-on.

I write today, however, to alert you to the fact that Reverend Tim LaHaye, with whom you founded the Moral Majority, seems to have lost his mind, only figuratively I hope.

Reverend LaHaye and Tyndale House have given the Left Behind brand to a video game company that has come up with a violent shooter game called *Left Behind: Eternal Forces*.

The game company, Left Behind Games, headed by a former Tyndale House employee, is marketing this violent game directly to children in "megachurches," according to its CEO. *Newsweek* says the game has violence levels approaching that of the *Grand Theft Auto* games. There was a useful expose of this Left Behind game in the *LA Times* recently entitled "Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition." Lovely.

In this game, you can take on the role of Christian soldier and kill unbelievers, or you can take on the role of the Antichrist and kill the Christians. The killing setting is in Manhattan, of all

places. I'm not sure that this is faithful presentation of the Gospel message. In fact, I know it isn't. It makes a mockery of the witness of all of us.

This is dangerous stuff, not only because it legitimizes the use of violence to Christian kids, but also because the last time I checked we were in a War on Terror, in which the other side claims we are engaged in a latter day "Crusade" against Islam. Now we have a Tyndale House-blessed killing game that glamorizes just that. What a rhetorical gift to radical Islamists. I can hear Al-Qaeda now: "America is producing a video game that trains Christian children to kill Muslims and to enjoy doing so." What did Lenin say about the capitalists selling the Communists the rope with which to hang them?

What this company is doing is using the rubric "Christian video game" to come in under the radar and sell a violent game to Christian adolescents and teens (the game is due out this fall) that thinking parents would not allow their kids to have but for the disarming "Christian" label. This is stealth. A lawyer would call it fraud.

This is undoubtedly, in my twenty years of experience as a foot soldier in the "culture war," the worst example to date of how the corrosive pop culture has conformed the Church to its image, rather than believers confronting and transforming the culture.

Francis Schaeffer would understand. He knew the slippery slope we were on, and so do you. But I think even he would be surprised by this one.

Tim LaHaye at one time seemed to understand the danger of what he is now doing. You and he helped create the Moral Majority to do a number of things, not the least of which was to counteract pop culture's assault upon morality and faith. Tim LaHaye, with his killing simulator marketed to Christian children, enabled by stealth and fueled by avarice, has now become part of the problem rather than part of the solution. He, with Jerry Jenkins, was on the *O'Reilly Factor* the other night hawking his next Tyndale House Left Behind book. I am sending this letter on to Fox News to make sure that they know that LaHaye is now doing this dangerous nonsense as well.

If you have any influence with this man, please use it. This is outrageous. The game must be stopped before it is released, and that is precisely what I am working to do.

In Christ, Jack Thompson

Copy: Dr. James Dobson

[ATTACHED PHOTO] LaHaye and Jenkins (In Their Pre-Murder Simulation Days)