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## Parental rights threatened by homeschooling

Compiled by *The Idaho Observer*

On January 5, 2010, Alex Jones broadcast the plight of Richard and Margie Cressie in Montgomery County, New York, who were arrested for their failure to register their four homeschooled children with the local school district which is also required to approve their in-home curriculum. Unfortunately, homeschooling is also a known reason for families being targeted for a CPS investigation.

According to an article in *The American Free Press* (Dec. 21, 2009), parents in Germany, Sweden and France have been harassed, fined, imprisoned and even had their children kidnapped into state custody for choosing to homeschool.

In early 2009, a German couple asked for asylum in the U.S. after the German government ruled that homeschooling their children was illegal. Uwe Romeike and his family moved to Tennessee after the state threatened to fine him and take away his children. Romeike, an evangelical Christian, objects to German school textbooks containing language and ideas that conflict with his family's values.

Over two million children are educated at home in the U.S., one of the few countries that is not a signatory to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). Since homeschooling is still technically legal in all 50 states, more and more families from countries who have signed onto the CRC are immigrating to the U.S. in an attempt to raise their children without state interference. However, the U.S. is far from being free of the CRC.

As noted by Michael Farris, chairman and general counsel of the Home School Legal Defense Association, judges around the country are responding to the CRC. "In the 2002 case of *Beharry v. Reno*, one federal court said that even though the convention was never ratified, it still has an impact on American law," Farris explained on the LifeSiteNews website. "The fact that virtually every other nation in the world has adopted it has made it part of customary international law, and it means that it should be considered part of American jurisprudence."

The CRC was adopted by the United Nations in 1989 but not ratified by Congress. If passed, it "would have a negative impact on domestic law and practice in the United States. Article VI of our Constitution makes treaties – and remember, conventions are viewed as treaties – 'the supreme law of the land.' The CRC would be treated as superior to laws in every state regarding the parent-child relationship. This would include issues regarding education, health care, family discipline, the child's role in family decision-making, and a host of other subjects," according to Michael Smith of *The Washington Times*.

Many believe under Obama the treaty will eventually be signed and legally binding for millions of parents in the United States.

Article 29 of the CRC limits the right of parents and others to educate children by requiring that all such schools support both the charter and principles of the United Nations and a list of specific values and ideals (such as the "principle" of world government, the demonstrably bogus climate change agenda, population reduction, in short the entire globalist program.)