## **Prison Riot Only** 'Tip of the Iceberg'

By Chaplain Charles Wyatt

What was seen in a national news documentary in reference to the trouble and prison riot in New Mexico was only the tip of the iceberg. At the time of the riot the prison was built to house around 400 inmates; however, there were over 700 inmates in the prison.

Fore warnings had been given repeatedly and there were many tell-tale signs, but no one seemed to listen.

The love of Jesus Christ is the only thing that's going to be our salvation, whether we are in prison or out of prison.

In an exclusive interview, Executive Director Charles Colson of Prison Fellowship shares startling facts about and God the Father, He wrote a book BORN take some of this AGAIN, describing his Christian love with us conversion to Jesus wherever we go, we are Christ (CHRISTIAN LIFE, going to end up in the June, 1976), because same old ruts. much of his spiritual growth occurred during his months in prison.

To all of you who share a Christian fellowship with Jesus Christ the Son



**REV. WYATT** 

rehabilitating prisoners. remember that, unless we

Read THE SENTINEL

## Neglected, Abused Child **Problem Grows In Vegas**

by Quin Leggett

Social problems are abounding in all communities. The problem of the abused and neglected child is continuously increasing in the Las Vegas area as well as in other communities.

Approximately million American children are victims of child abuse and neglect. It is the main cause of death among children under the age of 15. According to the National Society of Child Abuse and Neglect more than 200,000 deaths are reported every year.

The Child Abuse **Prevention and Treatment** Act was passed by Congress in January, 1974. Every state requires that suspected child abuse be reported, but each state defines child abuse differently.

A generally accepted definition is: "Physical abuse of children is the intentional, non accidental use of physical force, or intentional non accidental acts of omission on the part of a

parent or guardian interacting with a child in his care, aimed at hurting, injuring or destroying the child."

This, however, is an unsatisfactory definition, because it is impossible at times to differentiate between intentional and accidental behavior of parents, and to determine if abuse has actually occured in a particular case. Although physicians are capable of identifying the battered child syndrome, the problem of differentiation remains. In most case of establishing abuse the parents will testify that the child's injury was accidental and this is very hard to disprove.

We should take into consideration that parents have certain rights as well obligations and responsibilities in the raising and training of their children. Rights and obligations of parents are inseparable.

Parents are responsible for giving their children the love, care and protection that they need. Parents are also responsible for providing

adequate food, shelter, clothing, medical care, education, supervison, protection and moral and social guidance. If these appropriate needs of children are not provided by their parents or guardian, abuse and neglect are very strong possiblity. Parents may think of their children as their private possessions.

The evolution of child abuse laws has made the treatment of children a concern of the public. When conflicts between the rights of parents and those of children affect the well being of the child, the rights of the child have precedence.

However, the rights of parents and the family unit is a primary concern. Therefore, an alternative solution of treating the parents instead punishing them is a very desireable goal to attain. This is an effort to eliminate the causes of abuse and neglect and to keep the family unit together.

This great problem of child abuse and neglect should be a concern of all the public.

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