

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact:

Michelle Tompkins
Girl Scouts of the USA
212-852-5074

EWTV SERIES ON GIRL SCOUTS MISSES THE MARK

New York, N.Y. — Today Girl Scouts of the USA issues a statement regarding a program broadcast Monday on the EWTV network entitled Women of Grace. The organization corrected several references made during the program that were stated inaccurately.

FACT: The Girl Scouts of the USA **DOES NOT** have a relationship or partnership with Planned Parenthood and does not plan to create one.

FACT: The Girl Scouts of the USA **DID NOT** participate in the development or distribution of a Planned Parenthood brochure mysteriously found at a 2010 United Nations event.

FACT: Individual girls in Girl Scouting **ARE NOT** members of WAGGGS. **No Money** from girls' dues goes to WAGGGS.

FACT: Girl Scouts of the USA **DOES NOT** use any program materials produced by WAGGGS.

FACT: Parents and volunteer troop leaders in Catholic churches **HAVE TOTAL CONTROL** of the Girl Scout programming their girls receive.

FACT: Many of the concerns our members and critics have pointed to in our new materials **HAVE BEEN ADDRESSED** or are in the process of being updated.

Girl Scouts spokesperson Michelle Tompkins released the following statement regarding today's program.

At no time did Women of Grace creator and host Johnnette Benkovic contact Girl Scouts of the USA regarding the misleading allegations made in her program. Even her guests repeatedly stated that their individual experiences in Girl Scouts did not match the image they are currently trying to portray. As we have stated many times in the past, Girl Scouts is a grassroots volunteer organization that is run mostly by parents in each community. The local volunteers, many in Catholic churches across the country, control what programming the girls receive. Parents, many of whom serve as troop volunteers, are actively engaged in those activities and well aware of what their girls are doing. The notion that a small band of individuals from a faraway place "control" everything the girls see and do is simply fantasy.

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