



## BIOGRAPHY FOR

*Marlene  
Elwell*

**M**arlene Elwell has a strong history of bringing leadership and organizational skills to start-up companies, political organizations and campaigns. Featured in Newsweek, The Wall Street Journal and other leading publications as one of the nation's most able strategists in the political arena, she has a well-deserved reputation for leading successful projects.

Mrs. Elwell played a major role in the Presidential campaigns of Reagan, Bush, Robertson, Buchanan and Dole, and served with distinction on President Reagan's National Advisory Council. She was a key player in the founding of the Christian Coalition and was responsible for the writing and adoption of the pro-life plank in the Republican Party platform, earning the Gabriel Richard Institute's "The Power of One Person Award."

An avowed doer, Elwell marched with Martin Luther King and Caesar Chavez in protests against the exploitation of blacks and migrant workers. She has championed philanthropic and humanitarian initiatives on both national and international levels. While raising five children, her Michigan home became a caring sanctuary for young people from troubled families. The plight of needy families led Mrs. Elwell to form JMJ Enterprises, a firm that supervises the purchase and renovation of HUD and VA houses, restoring self-worth and opening doors to a more productive life for many. She is still the owner and President of JMJ Enterprises.

Mrs. Elwell was the Director in the developing stages of Legatus, an international organization of Catholic business leaders, which seeks to foster creative, moral, and spiritual entrepreneurship in the private sector, headed by Tom Monaghan, founder of Domino's Pizza.

During the period of 1993 to 2000, Mrs. Elwell rose to the top position of Regional Vice President of American Communications Network, an international communications marketing company, where she was introduced to the Internet world. Even though she was struck by the power of the Internet to bring people together and its utility as an instrument for advancing education and research, Marlene was affronted by the proliferation of pornographic sites on the Web and the threat to the moral integrity of our young people. As the Founder of FreedomISP, Mrs. Elwell spent several years, and her own resources researching and identifying filtering software alternatives that will ensure Simple, Safe Internet service. As a moral imperative, she is taking a leadership role in the organization of a national, grassroots "Children Internet Safety Month" campaign under FreedomISP Foundation sponsorship, working with both the Michigan House, Senate and the Attorney General's office.

In 2002 Mrs. Elwell founded Catholics in the Public Square, CPS, which the springboard for the marriage amendment ballot initiative in 2004. Against all odds, she chaired Citizens for the Protection of Marriage. CPM gained state recognition in getting more signatures, in less time, than any other ballot initiative in the history of the state. Michigan now has an amendment to the State Constitution saying, "Marriage is only between one man and one woman."