Amnesty International

Dear Sir or Madam:

Congratulations! You’ve been selected to receive a $100 contribution this year. If you abide by the following simple rule you will receive another one at this time in 2006:

Do not send me any communication or appeal other than a once a year reminder that I will send you another $100. You may send that anytime after September.

You will not send any updates, surveys, newsletters, reminders, or any other mailing. Calls are also out. I know that your organization is out there, and I know that you’re doing good work. No need to remind me. Should you remind me more than the one time I’ve allocated to you, then you will no longer receive my contribution. I’ll give you two weeks from the time of this mailing for the rule to go into effect, since you may have the next mailing already underway.

Planned Parenthood has fallen off my list: they’ve sent me five mailings since I informed them that their aggressive fund-raising has turned me off completely. Each time I return their mailing, in the self-addressed (even stamped) envelope, telling them to remove me from their lists; each further mailing is proof that their aggressive fund-raisers are oblivious, and that they are only making enemies of those who wanted to be friends.

Don’t make the same mistake, please. I want to help, but I won’t waste my money on those who fund-raise me to distraction.

Good luck,

Andrew Long