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**COMMON GOOD PRAISES THE MOVIE *THE INCREDIBLES*
FOR ITS PARODY OF UNRELIABLE JUSTICE IN AMERICA**

NEW YORK, NY – November 9, 2004 – Common Good, the bipartisan legal reform coalition, today praised the animated feature film, *The Incredibles*, for its parody of unreliable justice in America.

The Incredibles opened this weekend to rave reviews and immediately became the #1 box office hit in the nation. It tells the story of a family of super-heroes, forced by fear of being sued, into disguising themselves as an average American family. The father had been sued so many times by people injured when he saved their lives that the federal government could no longer afford to pay the legal claims. Ultimately, the appearance of a new super-villain forces the family out of retirement and back into action.

“*The Incredibles* is great entertainment, but it also performs an important public service,” said Philip K. Howard, Chair of Common Good. “It highlights the impact on American life of a steady undercurrent of legal fear – now a subject of parody as well as our daily frustration.”

Fear of litigation is dramatically changing life in America:

- Nearly 8 in 10 teachers (78%) say students are quick to remind them that their parents can sue (Public Agenda survey).
- 79 percent of physicians admit to ordering unnecessary tests (Harris Poll).
- Most employers no longer provide employee references.
- High school coaches are advised to carry \$3 million in liability insurance.
- Stupid warning labels blanket the landscape: Caution coffee is hot.

Common Good (www.cgood.org) is building a broad coalition of American leaders behind an overhaul of our legal system to restore reliability to justice, including the creation of specialized health courts.

Common Good is a bi-partisan legal reform coalition dedicated to restoring common sense to American law. Its board is composed of leaders in a wide range of fields: former government officials, including Griffin Bell, Newt Gingrich, Eric Holder, George McGovern, Diane Ravitch, Alan Simpson, and Richard Thornburgh; current and former university presidents, including Tom Kean, George Rupp, and John Silber, and numerous other leaders in education, healthcare, law, business and public policy. The Chair of Common Good is Philip K. Howard, a lawyer and author of The Death of Common Sense and The Collapse of the Common Good.