

FREE COPY

Baby Showers
p. 3

Lifespan *news*

Volume 23 Number 2

Serving Southeastern Michigan Since 1970

February, March 1994

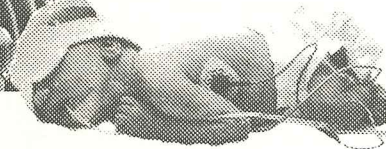
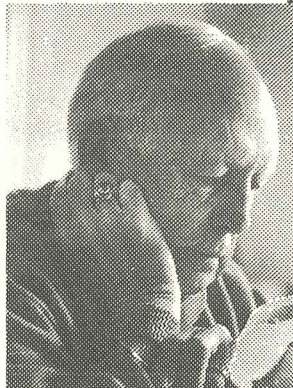
The Clinton Plan Means Abortion on Demand— And You Pay the Bill.

The proposed Clinton health care plan will make abortion a “guaranteed basic benefit.” This means each of us would be forced to pay for virtually every abortion performed in America—even late in pregnancy.

The Clinton Plan Would Be Hazardous to Your Family’s Health.

By placing strict price controls on insurance premiums, the Clinton plan would impose a clever method of “hidden rationing.”

To cover costs, insurers would have to ration care, denying lifesaving treatment to those who need it most: the very old and young, people with disabilities, and others whose quality of life is deemed “inadequate.”



You Can Stop the Clinton Plan.

See page 4.

NEWS NOTES

Inferior babies

The New China News Agency reports that China will use abortions, sterilization and marriage bans to "avoid new births of inferior quality and heighten the standards of the whole population."

—*Los Angeles Times*
December 22, 1993

Oregon

In December, the "Oregon Right to Die" coalition released its new proposal to legalize physician-assisted suicide in Oregon. The coalition filed its proposal and must obtain 66,771 valid signatures from voters by July 8 to place it on the November 1994 ballot. Its press release urged voters to make Oregon "the first state in the nation to allow dying patients to voluntarily request and obtain a prescription for medication to end their lives in a humane and dignified manner."

—*Life at Risk, December 1993*

Planned Parenthood

The 1992 Annual Report of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America shows it now has 167 affiliates, which operate 922 clinics in the U.S. It has continued its increase in the number of abortions done at its own facilities, the 1992 figure being 132,000 babies killed in 112 of their clinics.

Its total income for the year was \$446 million, divided as follows: clinic income \$150,900,000; government dollars \$145 million; private donations

\$121,200,000 and "other" income \$28,900,000. Since Medicaid payments are usually included in clinic income instead of under government dollars, the total amount received from the government is probably closer to \$170 million, or 38% of their total income. Clinic income was obtained from: abortions, \$33 million; from sale of contraceptives, \$85 million; from "other" \$33 million. Private dollars included donations from corporations, foundations, United Way, "charitable" campaigns and from individuals. Planned Parenthood's total profit for the year was \$23 million. It finished the year with \$192,900,000 in the bank plus \$108,200,000 in buildings and equipment.

—*Right to Life of Greater Cincinnati*
January 1994

A Child, Not a Choice

We plan to have 90 king-size posters along the exterior sides on the D-DOT and SMART transit system. These buses travel throughout Detroit and the metro area and will spread the truth to hundreds of thousands of people each day. The total cost of the bus project is approximately \$16,400.

In addition to the moving billboards, we have decided to expand our educational project to include radio ads. For every 30-60 second spot, it could cost as high as \$500 or as low as \$45, depending on the station, time of day and day of the week. We hope to raise \$15,000 for these ads.

BABY SHOWER GIFT SUGGESTIONS

Sleepers, T-shirts, Socks
Receiving blankets, Crib sheets
Cloth diapers/disposable diapers (newborn & medium)
Plastic pants, Baby wipes
Wash cloths/towels
Teething rings/rattles, Bottles, Bibs
Personal hygiene items for baby
Cribs, Porta-cribs
Bassinets, Strollers, Swings
Car Seats, High Chairs
Maternity items for Moms
Cash donations

Special Wee Care Needs

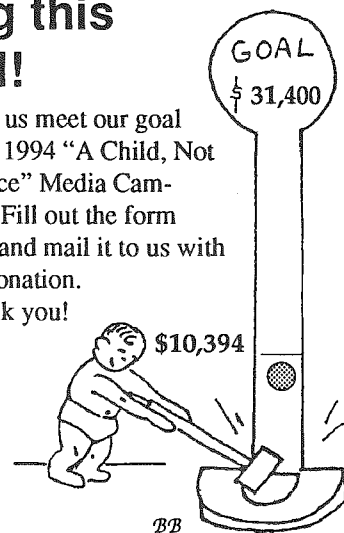
- Sleepers, gowns, T-shirts, diapers, receiving blankets (all newborn size)
- Volunteers

Lifespan's Wee Care program is located at 28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127, Livonia, 48152; phone: (313) 533-2727.

Help our baby ring this bell!

Help us meet our goal for the 1994 "A Child, Not a Choice" Media Campaign! Fill out the form below and mail it to us with your donation.

Thank you!



Please make your Media Campaign contribution payable to:

Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit, 28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127, Livonia, MI 48152

I (We) believe the TRUTH is worth this gift of LIFE.

My (Our) gift is: ☐ Adopt a Bus (\$182.22) ☐ Adopt a Spot (\$272.50)

☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25 ☐ _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Group _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

We are sorry, but your donation is not tax-deductible.





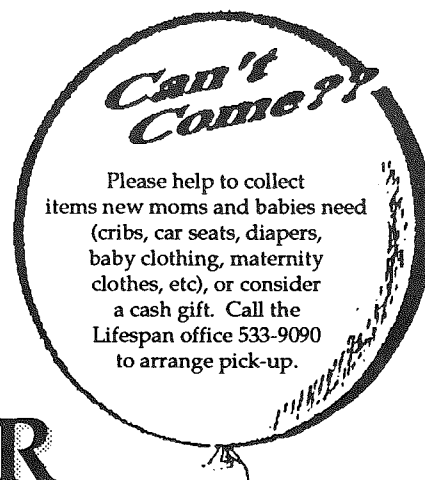
Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit

continuing the tradition of caring for mothers
and their babies (born and yet to be born)

invites you to its fifth annual

BABY SHOWER

Sunday, March 13, 1994
2:00 - 3:30 pm



To Benefit Local
Pregnancy Help Centers

Join others for an afternoon of fun and refreshments. Bring new or used (but usable) baby or maternity items. Baby showers will be held simultaneously at the following locations:

Five Points Community Church
3411 E. Walton Blvd.
Auburn Hills

St. Regis Church, Fr. Shields Room
3695 Lincoln Dr.
Birmingham

St. Hugo of the Hills Church
Fr. Esper Room (Grade School)
2215 Opdyke
Bloomfield Hills

St. Mel Church, Church Hall
7506 Inkster Rd.
Dearborn Heights

Assumption Grotto Church
Shrine Lounge
13770 Gratiot
Detroit

St. Matthew Church
6021 Whittier
Detroit

Our Lady of Sorrows Church
Church Basement
23615 Power Rd.
Farmington

St. Dunstan Church
Activity Building
1646 Belton
Garden City

St. Raphael Church Activities Bldg.
5775 Merriman
Garden City

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
14175 Farmington Rd.
Livonia

St. Genevieve Church
Fr. Wolber Activity Center
29015 Jamison
(off Middlebelt, s. of Five Mile Rd.)
Livonia

St. Michael Church
Convent Basement (entrance in rear)
11400 Fairfield
Livonia

Ward Presbyterian Church, Calvin Room
17000 Farmington Rd.
Livonia

St. Isidore Church Social Hall
18201 Twenty-Three Mile Rd.
(enter at Romeo Plank Rd.)
Macomb Township

Full Gospel Church
291 E. Spring St.
Plymouth

St. Valentine Church
Rectory Meeting Room
25881 Dow
(off Beech Daly, s. of Five Mile Rd.)
Redford

St. Cyprian Church Social Hall
13249 Pennsylvania
Riverview

Shrine of the Little Flower
Coughlin Building
(e. of Church on s. side of 12 Mile)
at 12 Mile and Woodward Ave.
Royal Oak

Highland Park Baptist Church
28600 Lahser Rd. (s. of 12 Mile Rd.)
Southfield

St. Rene Goupil Church
35955 Ryan Road
Sterling Heights

St. Cletus Church Community Hall
26244 Ryan Rd.
Warren

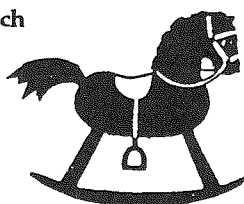
St. Elizabeth Church
138 Goodell
Wyandotte

For Drop-off Only

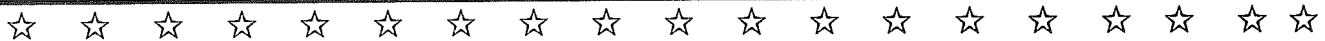
St. Joseph Church
715 N. Lapeer Rd.
Lake Orion

Northville Christian Assembly
41355 Six Mile Rd.
Northville

Ball Road Tabernacle
7007 Ball Road
Romulus



To volunteer to help or for additional information, call Right to Life - Lifespan at 533-9090



Legislative Update



Addresses

President

President Bill Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500
Opinion Line (202) 456-1111, before 5 PM
(202) 456-1414, after 5 PM
Fax Number: (202) 456-2461

Dear Mr. President:

U.S. Senators

The Honorable (Carl Levin, Donald Riegle)
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-3121

Dear Senator (last name):

U.S. Representatives

The Honorable (first and last name)
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 224-3121

Dear Congressman or Congresswoman
(last name):

Governor

The Honorable John Engler
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, MI 48909
(517) 373-3400

Dear Governor Engler:

Michigan State Senator or Representative

The Honorable (full name)
State Capitol
Lansing, MI 48913
(517) 373-1837

Dear Senator (last name):
or
Dear Representative (last name):

NATIONAL NEWS

Clinton Plan

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What You Can Do

NOW is the time to communicate strong opposition to the Clinton Plan. Contact your senators and representative by letter, mailgram, postcard and/or phone calls. Visit them at their district offices or at public events. Write letters to the editor. Telephone radio talk shows.

Contact your local Lifespan office for bumper stickers and petitions and for further information on the Clinton Plan.

FACE

In a matter of weeks, a House-Senate conference committee will meet to hammer out a final version of the "clinic access" legislation. The final version will then go before the full House and Senate for roll call votes.

Slightly different versions of the so-called "Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances" (FACE) bill, passed both the House and Senate last November by lopsided margins. Under both bills, it would be a federal crime to "interfere" with access to abortion, but there is a difference in the criminal penalties.

Also, under the Hatch Amendment, found only in the Senate version, it would be a federal crime to "interfere" with the right to religious freedom at a place of worship or to "intentionally damage or destroy the property of a place of worship."

Right to Life - Lifespan is opposed to the FACE legislation, but supports the Hatch Amendment. Please contact your U.S. Senator and Representative.

MICHIGAN NEWS

Sex Selection

Abortions performed because of the baby's gender would be illegal in Michigan under legislation introduced by State Rep. Alvin H. Kukuk.

Called gender-based or sex-selection abortion, this practice has been reported across the nation, Kukuk said. It is an ugly reality which challenges the moral and ethical foundations of society.

"We are setting a very dangerous precedent if we sanction gender-based abortion in Michigan by remaining silent," said Kukuk, R-Macomb Township. "Our medical technology is rapidly reaching the point where we will completely control human genetics. At that point, will the fetus be nothing more than something to manipulate or throw away if found unacceptable for any reason? Allowing someone to abort a baby simply because of the child's sex is a step down this slippery slope."

Physicians can determine a fetus' gender with chorionic villus sampling, a procedure similar to amniocentesis, but one that can be done earlier and with quicker results.

Detroit's Hutzel Hospital alone does about 700 genetic tests each year. Some couples seek the test because they already have several children of the same sex and want to abort the unwanted gender—often females.

Similar legislation has been passed in Illinois and Pennsylvania. The bill, H.B. 5301, has been assigned to the House Human Services and Children's Committee.

Please contact your state senator and representative in support of this legislation.

Student Essay Contest

Four metro Detroit teens won savings bonds in Lifespan's Student Essay Contest on Abortion, Infanticide or Euthanasia. The first place prize of a \$500 savings bond was awarded to Sarah Shervish, 14, a freshman, who is homeschooled by her parents, Robert and Kathleen Shervish of Warren. There was a tie for second place, so the following two winners were each awarded \$200 bonds: Brian Lesniewski, 17, a senior at Lake Shore High School in St. Clair Shores and Amanda Lupu, 16, from Dearborn, a junior at Gabriel Richard High School in Riverview. Third place winner, Julie Guith, 17, a senior at Troy High School, won a \$100 bond.

Printed below are the entries of Amanda Lupu, one of the second place winners, and Julie Guith, the third place winner. The first place essay and the other second place essay were printed in the January *Lifespan News*.

To Live or Die

By Amanda Lupu

Anencephaly is a condition in which a baby is born with only the brain stem portion of the brain.

Contrary to what people may think, anencephaly in itself does not cause death. Without the entire brain, cortical functions will eventually cease to work, and this will shut down cardiac and respiratory functions. Medical science today recommends that babies suffering from this condition should be used in organ transplantations for infants. However, a problem arises in that this proposal attempts to transplant vital organs while an anencephalic baby is still alive because the organs may become irreparably damaged after death. Because anencephalic babies are living human beings, are not brain dead, and cannot survive through organ removal, their organs should not be used in organ transplantation while these babies are still alive.

Anencephalic babies are real, breathing human persons and so should not be dissected. Proponents of transplantation argue that death of these babies is inevitable, so removing organs necessary for their survival is justified. There is truth in the statement that these babies will die; however, every person will eventually die. What has not been openly revealed is the fact that, although some babies may live for only a few hours or a few days, some may live for weeks, months, even years. Anencephalic babies are known to cry and even laugh, and therefore cannot be considered "nonliving." Why rob a child of life for the simple reason that we feel his life is not worthwhile?

Because anencephalic babies do have brain stems, they cannot be considered brain dead, and therefore cannot be considered possible organ donors. Those who justify anencephalic babies as organ donors rebut with the argument that the legal definition of death can be revised to include anencephaly as a condition of death. The problem in revising the definition of

lives. As illustrated above, this response is not necessarily true. Conditions such as qualifying organs, possible recipients, and compatible blood types, must be present for transplantation. These conditions are rarely present. What is also being forgotten that each human life, no matter how long or how short, has intrinsic value, and no law or decree gives any person the right

*Amanda Lupu, 16,
of Dearborn, is a junior at
Gabriel Richard High School
in Riverview, and the daughter
of Mark and Marilyn Lupu*



death is the dangerous result known as the "slippery slope." Dr. Joyce Peabody, a specialist in neonatology who participated in a research program to transplant the organs of anencephalic babies, reported that only two of twelve babies offered for the program turned out to be possible donors, that organs were too deteriorated to use, and that there were no possible recipients for the organs. In addition, blood types were incompatible, and babies with less severe "defects" than anencephaly were offered for transplantation. Dr. Peabody sums up the dangers of revising the legal definition of death in her declaration, "The slippery slope is real."

The most important fact, the fact probably taken the most for granted, is that transplanting the organs of anencephalic babies will kill them. Most commonly, the response to this statement is that the death of one baby could save many more

to take a human life for any reason pertaining to anencephaly.

Somehow, in this day and age, society has formed the opinion that perfection is a quality necessary for life, and all suffering must be alleviated. If any aspect of human life deviates from this unfounded belief, society rejects it. People have come to play God and decide who lives and who does not, who is important and who is not. From this perspective, a person can easily see why others would propose to take the organs of an anencephalic baby. The children afflicted with such an unfortunate condition are not considered full human beings and therefore are manipulated for society's and science's purposes. Proposing to save lives is a noble and compassionate cause; however, at the expense of taking the life of an innocent baby, it is

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Assisting Suicide

continued from page 12

the unfinished business. [But assisting a suicide is] cheating them of these lessons, like taking a student out of school before final exams. That's not love, it's projecting your own unfinished business.

This "unfinished business" of considering the ultimate meaning of one's life, of resolving old disputes and mending relationships, of coming to a final recognition and appreciation of all the good things that have been a part of one's life, are all short-circuited by those who, overcome by the natural depression which is part of the dying process, give up too soon in the process and kill themselves. And despite their compassionate motives, those healthy bystanders who encourage or even assist in these suicides are in fact helping to steal the last precious moments of these patients' lives.

Many consider suicide primarily because they are pressured into seeing themselves as burdens on their families or society.

The principal reason people in a 1991 *Boston Globe* survey said they would consider some option to end their lives if they had "an incurable illness with a great deal of physical pain" was not the pain, not the "restricted lifestyle," and not the fear of being "dependent on machines," but rather that they "don't want to be a burden" to their families. Family members who support the suicide of a terminally ill patient often unwittingly reinforce the notion that the ill family member's life has lost all meaning and value and is nothing but a "burden."

In an era of concern over escalating medical costs, "unproductive" consumers of medical services are increasingly made to see themselves as drains on society and the economy. When suicide is promoted as a socially acceptable "option," the pressure to avail oneself of it is immense.

Thus, if assisting suicide for those with terminal illness is legalized, the so-called "right to die" is very likely in practice to become a "duty to die."

*—First appeared in the National Right to Life News, November 5, 1993
Reprinted with permission*

Facts at a glance

- 31 million abortions have been performed in the U.S. since 1973.
- By the time you spend 10 minutes reading *Lifespan News*, 30 babies will have been aborted. An abortion is performed every 20 seconds—4,300 per day.
- Nearly 200,000 second and third trimester abortions are performed annually—17,000 of those occur after five months of pregnancy.
- According to Planned Parenthood statistics, just 7% of all abortions were chiefly motivated by the "hard cases"—mother's health (3%), baby's health (3%), rape or incest (1%).
- Nearly half of all women obtaining abortions admit to not using any method of birth control the month they became pregnant.
- The abortion industry, based on a conservative estimate of \$250 per procedure, is at least a \$400 million-a-year business—\$7 billion since 1973.
- 62% of Americans believe abortion should not be used as birth control, yet 9 out of 10 abortions occur for birth control reasons.
- 85% of Americans support a law to provide women considering abortions with information about the baby within, and the risks and alternatives to abortion.
- Only 11% support legal abortion for any and all reasons.

—The Basics, Communications Department, National Right to Life

Each Baby

*In each infant, there is promise,
With each baby, there is hope
Handed down, by our Father,
Every one, meant, to grow,
With each infant, there is
promise
Promise, and a right
Handed down, by God the
Father,
Each baby, has a right, to life.*

—Joan M. Vincent

1994

"Mother of the Year"

In conjunction with our Mother's Day Dinner on May 5, 1994, we will be honoring a "Mother of the Year."

We are looking for nominations from among our members or others for this fourth annual award. The nominee must be a resident of the Metro Detroit area and able to attend the award dinner on May 5.

Nominations must be submitted in writing explaining why you feel this person qualifies for "Mother of the Year." Nominations must be received no later than **Monday, April 4**. No nominations by or for Right to Life - Lifespan board members will be considered.

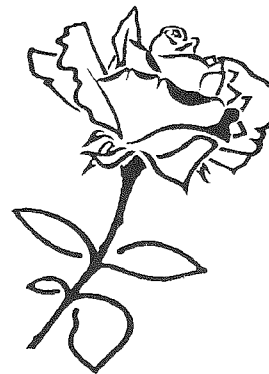
Our "Mother of the Year" will be an honored guest at the dinner on May 5. She will be awarded a plaque, a dozen long-stemmed roses and a \$100 gift certificate to J.C. Penney's.

If your nominee is chosen, you will also receive a free ticket to the dinner. If the "Mother of the Year" is nominated by two or more individuals, the first one received will be eligible for the free ticket.

Our 1993 "Mother of the Year" was Mary Ann Clos of Westland. She was nominated by her husband, Lawrence, her daughter Amy Watts and her friends, Nancy Stanford, Dorothy Cullen and Val Lents.

Please include your name, address and phone number and also the address and phone number of your nominee.

Mail or deliver your nomination for "Mother of the Year" to Right to Life - Lifespan, 28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127, Livonia 48152 for receipt no later than 3:00 p.m. on April 4. For more information, please call 533-9090.





Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit

INVITES YOU TO ITS

Mother's Day Dinner

Thursday, May 5, 1994

6:30 p.m.

Mary Ellen Bork, Featured Speaker

Vladimir's

28125 Grand River

Farmington Hills

Dinner Reservations: \$30.00 per person/\$250 per table of ten.

Number of dinner reservations _____ Amount enclosed _____. Advance reservations required by April 27.
(Please list names of all those for whom reservations are made on a separate sheet of paper.)

1994 RESOURCE BOOK

This book will contain informational material that will be used throughout the year. Your ad represents support for Lifespan's educational efforts. Names of Gold Patrons will be listed.

IMPORTANT: Starting with the Dinner of '94, a complimentary dinner ticket will be given to any individual for every \$300 worth of new ads obtained for the Resource Book. The ad seller's signature must appear on the contract below when the ad and remittance is received by Right to Life - Lifespan.

Just fill out the form below and send it to us with your remittance included. **Deadline for submission is April 4, 1994.**

Gold Patron(s): \$10 for each individual name.

(Please print. Use a separate sheet of paper to list additional names.)

First Name _____ Last Name _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Advertising Contract: I wish to publish _____ page ad for the sum of \$ _____

<p>Full page (7.5 x 10) \$175</p> <p>Back cover (inside) \$250</p> <p>Back cover (outside) \$350</p>	1/4 page (3.75 x 5) \$60	1/8 page (3.75 x 2.5) \$35
	Half page (7.5 x 5) \$100	

Please attach copy-ready advertising slick, business card, business letterhead, or typed copy of ad. Black and white is preferred. All advertisers will receive a copy of book. Lifespan reserves the right to refuse any advertisement it deems unsuitable. **Deadline for submission is April 4, 1994. Remittance must accompany contract.**

Signature _____ Date _____

Business Name (if applicable) _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Ad Seller's Signature _____ Phone _____

☐ Yes, I want to help, but cannot attend. Please accept my donation of \$ _____.

Make checks payable, and mail to: Right to Life - Lifespan, 28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127, Livonia MI 48152

For further information, call 533-9090 (Donations are not tax-deductible)



Chapter

Office hours

MWF 10-2; TTh Closed
Carol Smith, Chairman
Mary Cascos, Ofc. Mgr.

Our thanks

A special thank you to all our volunteers who braved the bitter cold and helped during our Rally for Life at Kennedy Square. Thanks to Bernie Skibinski, who for years has taken care of the sound system; Ann Fracassa and Madeline Satwicz for their artistic poster-making abilities; The Cascos Family for hanging the banners and shoveling snow; and a special thanks to our famous master of ceremonies, Ed Smith, who came downtown the night before to shovel snow so our guests wouldn't get cold feet. God bless you all!

Churches wanted

If you belong to a prolife church but do not read about prolife activities in your church paper, please give us a call at 874-0432.

We know there are many churches out there who would love to be updated on prolife activities by our bulletin notes. Also needed are church reps who are willing to "heed the call" and help us educate your fellow churchgoers.

Financial support needed

If you feel that education is an important part of the prolife movement, help us to expand our outreach by supporting us financially to defray the rising cost of postage and printing.

Please send your donation to: Detroit Chapter, Right to Life - Lifespan, 5930 Woodward, Detroit, MI 48202. Even \$1.00 will help. As always, your membership dues are our financial backbone; please renew promptly, and thank you.

Tribute

We wish to pay special tribute to Sweetest Heart of Mary Church in Detroit. The parishioners wanted to do something positive for the people in Detroit, and they were aware that the Detroit Chapter has been giving layettes to needy mothers with new babies.

They had a Baby Giving Tree at Christmas and gave the gifts to the Detroit Chapter. These baby items are so beautiful; so many of them handmade. Such an abundance of gifts—the generosity of the parishioners is overwhelming.

We wish to express our sincere thanks to all the beautiful people of Sweetest Heart of Mary. Because of their dedication to their church, it will remain one of the jewels in the City of Detroit.

Detroit Chapter
5930 Woodward Ave.
Detroit, MI 48202-3516
(313) 874-0432

Office hours

M, T, Th, F 12-3; W 10-4
Diane Fagelman, Chairman
Clare Schneider, Secretary
Mary Murphy, Adm. Asst.

Resource book ads

Don't forget to sell ads—the Ad Committee for the Mother's Day Dinner has come up with a unique way to be able to pay for your dinner.

I know many cannot come because of a tight budget—this vision for success will enable all of us to be winners! Just \$300 of new ads—and a seat will be saved for you!

Mary Ellen Bork is someone we should all like to hear! Come to our Mother's Day Dinner—see flier on page 7.

Keep up the good work.

Rock concert

Former hard-rock singer, Sal Solo, and his band from England, who found money and glamour on the rock concert scene non-fulfilling, will perform at Our Lady of the Lakes. As Sal stated, "I gave God a chance."

He wrote a prolife ballad in 1987 and continues to sing and write rock music for God. He is dedicating his life to the young.

Come hear his music of peace and love on March 2, at 7:00 p.m., in Our Lady of the Lakes school gymnasium, 5495 Dixie Highway, Waterford. Admission: love offering. Call 623-0274 for more information.

Oakland baby showers

There are six churches in Oakland County participating in Lifespan's Baby Shower on Sunday, March 13, 2:00-3:30 p.m. Please support the location nearest you; see page 3.

Member support

To all the members of the Oakland County Chapter who have supported us through the year, I say, thank you! To all our new members, I say, welcome! To all of you who have not yet renewed your membership, I ask you to do it now—only through the efforts of us all can we stop the violence. (See Diane Fagelman's Guest Column on the next page.)

Oakland County Chapter
800 S. Adams, #102
Birmingham, MI 48009-7005
(810) 258-9760

**Don't Forget—
Renew Your
Membership!**

detroit

oakland

News

Office hours

M-F 10-4

Patricia Holscher, Chairman
Linda Kournoian, Ofc. Mgr.

We haven't moved!

Our office is still located at the address below. Only the Wee Care Program, still operated by Lifespan, has relocated; Wee Care's new number is (313) 533-2727.

General meeting

Our Chapter's General Meetings are very interesting and informative. Please bring someone with you to our next meeting whether or not he/she agrees with our position on "assisted suicide." This meeting is to convert pro-death advocates as well as to become more informed ourselves.

Margaret Kobernik, who has multiple sclerosis, is a quadriplegic and confined to a wheel chair. She is a leading critic of Jack Kevorkian and has been interviewed on most major news channels regarding the "quality of life." Recently, she appeared opposite Derek Humphrey of the Hemlock Society on CNN.

SPEAKER:

Margaret Kobernik
TOPIC: Media Lies
Erode Moral Conditions
WHEN: Thursday,
February 24, 1994
PLACE: Livonia Civic Center
Library Auditorium
Five Mile Rd., east of
Farmington Rd.
TIME: 7:30 p.m.
No admission charge—
Refreshments—Fellowship

Bake sale for Life

Our thanks to Nancy Stanford, Mary Ann Clos, Dorothy Cullen, Val Lents and Mary Kiesling, the ProLife Committee from St. Mary's Church in Wayne, and all the other bakers and customers who made the Valentine Bake Sale a wonderful success. Special thanks go to Fr. Ray Bucon for his continued support of Lifespan's educational efforts and for his love of the unborn.

If you can host a bake sale or another type of fundraiser for Lifespan, it would be greatly appreciated.

Kudos!

To everyone who participated in our '94 candle luminary project, thank you. You were witnessing to the fact that 31,500,000 babies have died from abortion since *Roe v. Wade*. Your testimony is priceless.

Telechain/letterwriters

If you are not already on Lifespan's telechain or receiving letter-writing alerts, please call the office and sign up today. We provide the necessary information for you to write or converse with your elected officials so you feel comfortable contacting them. Lobbying can make the difference between having good prolife legislation or disastrous pro-abortion legislation. Don't be shy. We can help you. Remember, the unborn, the handicapped and the elderly need YOU.

Madonna University

Lifespan exhibited its fetology display for two weeks in the showcase at Madonna University.

Thank you, Professor Margaret Spas, and all those responsible for this privilege.

Wayne County, West and
Downriver Chapter
27578 Schoolcraft
Livonia, MI 48150-2203
(313) 422-6230

Guest Column

The Face of Violence

Every day in our news media sources, are articles, programs and video tapes of violence in our society: man's inhumanity to man—killing for shoes, drive-by shootings, abuse of children, violent acts between spouses, sexual crimes against all ages from babies in the cradles to the helpless old. Just yesterday, a teenager slit the throat of an 18-month-old baby, and then tried to drown him.

How many times have you or a family member asked, "what is happening to this country?" How many times has the question been asked, "How do we stop the violence?" The violence will never stop as long as the message from our Supreme Court and legislative body and the President state that some members of the human family are expendable.

The 1973 Supreme Court ruling which has been legitimized by Congress and this President, stated just that—the choice and will of the mother preclude the right of the unborn child. Thus, the message was clear—it's OK to sacrifice the lives of others if they interfere with your choice and convenience.

It is time to stop the violence, and we must do that by stopping the hideous attack of the unborn—the so-called abortion procedure is one of the most violent acts perpetrated against the human race today—over 30 million have died, and there is so much silence. When we stop abortion, we say to our children, all life is precious! No matter how poor, no matter how feeble, no matter what status life brings to you—there is always hope—and each one of us matters—each one of us is important! Maybe then, just maybe then, the rest of society will start to heal!

—Diane Fagelman

Twenty Seconds

By Julie Guith

For the average person, it takes about twenty seconds to brush his teeth. It takes twenty seconds to look up a word in the dictionary. It takes twenty seconds to put on shoes. Every twenty seconds, abortion takes another life. The pro-life view argues that human life begins at conception,

kills helpless babies. Innocent babies that deserve no punishment.

Abortion is not a method of contraception. It does not prevent the sperm and egg from meeting. Abortion is a method of birth control by taking the fertilized egg, embryo, or fetus out of the woman's body. Birth control. It prevents the life from being born, from leaving the mother's body. It does not prevent the life from

all abortions were performed because of rape. 99.9% of all pregnancies that ended in abortion were from consenting relations.

Unmarried couples and children as young as thirteen are having sex. It is obvious that many people who are not ready to take care of a baby have sex anyway. Their babies are unplanned and unwanted. Pro-choice activists say that they will grow up unloved and a burden to society. However, thousands of childless couples would sacrifice everything to take in and love one of these children. The abortion option takes these children from their arms and kills them.

The Constitution of the United States is the basis upon which this country was built. It ensures every American several basic rights. One is entitled to his freedoms as long as he does not invade the rights of others. For example, one is granted freedom of speech, but one may not scream "Fire," in a crowded theater when there is not a fire. It is quite true that a woman has every right to control her body, but abortion ignores an essential element, the rights of the fetus. Just because it cannot protest, does not mean that it does not deserve the basic right of life. It also ignores the rights of the father. Although it will not be carried in his body, the baby is just as much his as it is hers.

No matter what the circumstances of the mother, abortion is always murder. A life cannot be tossed away, whether because of inconvenience or because of rape. Abortion kills. During the writing of this paper, abortion killed 45 babies. Think about that the next time you brush your teeth. *

To Live or Die

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not. I am confident that when a baby is born, whether he is a son, brother, nephew, or grandchild, healthy or not, he will be loved by someone no matter how long he may live. His life may be taken early as easily by conditions like cystic fibrosis as by anencephaly. Yet, a baby's vital organs would not be removed because he will die from cystic fibrosis. Why sacrifice those with handicaps? Why not sacrifice for those with handicaps? *

Julie Guith, 17, is a senior at Troy High School, and the daughter of Tim and Donna Guith



that abortion is murder, and that the rights of the fetus should override the wishes of the mother.

As pro-choice activists will say, the time at which an embryo actually becomes a person is debatable. Every individual's opinion depends on his cultural and spiritual beliefs, more than it does on scientific fact. When life begins, however, is an inarguable fact. Life begins at conception. The embryo is a living thing—a living thing destined to become a human being.

In this nation as well as the world, there is a declining morality in all affairs and a growing disregard for life itself. This is obviously reflected in our media. As children continue to see violence and sex on T.V. and in movies, they learn that sex is for fun and that human life is worthless. They become immune to death. No one is upset when fifteen to twenty background people are blown away, as long as they are not main characters they've gotten to know. The same is true with the fetus. If the mother hasn't held the baby in her arms and heard it cry, it must not be a baby. It's just an object to her. The concept of a person inside her is difficult to visualize. But once an embryo becomes a fetus, it is fully recognizable as a small human being with basic human features. Abortion is murder of the worst kind. It

being created, as contraceptives do. Unfortunately, people mistake these two things. Many women use abortion in place of contraceptives.

Pro-choice activists argue that women have the right to control their own bodies. This creates an image that the woman is a victim. Ignored here is the fact that a woman has rights over and responsibility toward her own body before a pregnancy occurs as well as after. The function of sexual intercourse is to create offspring. Society has lost sight of that fact as sex has become recreational. There are consequences for all actions. There is always a price to pay. With abortion, the child pays for its mother's carelessness. Unless one is ready to take care of a baby, one is not ready to have sex. Women, as well as men, must take responsibility and be held accountable for their actions.

There are exceptions. Pro-choice activists argue that rape is not irresponsible. Also, responsible women who are using contraceptives may still get pregnant. But to cite these exceptions as justifiable reasons for abortion is to kill the child for the criminal behavior or bad luck of another. There must be sympathy for the rape victim, but also for the innocent, unborn child.

Pro-choicers place much emphasis on pregnancy as the result of rape, yet various medical studies show that pregnancy as a result of rape is very rare. Only .1% of

Remembrances

You can live on after death by helping those whose lives are threatened by abortion, euthanasia or infanticide.

A bequest in your will to Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit will be used to save the lives of many through our efforts.

Donations may be made in memory of loved ones who have died. A memorial card will be sent by Lifespan in your name to the family of the deceased.

Donations may also be made to honor someone special, and near and dear to you, for a particular occasion, or just because...

- In memory of **Mr. Gibbs**, father of Gloria Klein, requested by Bev Bettega.
- In memory of **Henry Tomilo**, requested by family and friends.
- In memory of **Lester Armstrong**, requested by Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Baker.
- In memory of **Jack Glaab**, requested by Gloria Glaab and Joanne Cafarelli.
- In memory of **Duncan Spence**, requested by Linda and Art Kourmoian.
- In memory of **Baby Michael Modic**, requested by the Thomas Grabowski Family.
- In memory of **John (Herb) Deutschman**, requested by Pat and Bob Holscher.
- In honor of **Robert and Pearl Bock**, requested by the Don Rivard family.

Spartans

The Spartan Stores Cash for Labels Program has been extended through 1994. They will pay us \$.02 for every Spartan brand UPC symbol (except canned pop and refrigerated biscuits).

Spartan products are carried by many grocers in the metro area.

Please send Spartan products UPC symbols only, not the whole label, to Right to Life - Lifespan, 28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127, Livonia 48152.

Many thanks to those who have been sending in Spartan UPC symbols since this project started.

Eat for Life!

Many thanks to the following coupon donors of the past two months: Barna, Garrison, St. Sabina Queenship of Mary Guild, St. Perpetua Parish, Doyle, Mosquera, McGinn, Wagener, Wilhelm, Tschirhart, Barylski, Shoup, O'Connell, Ring, Kwiatkowski, Grasso, Schmid, McLaughlin, Allen, Moreno, Ober, Nizyboriski, Pawlowski, Jenuwine, Yambrach, Lesiak, Cunningham, Trudeau, Schaefer, Bettega, Schultz, Right to Life-Southeast Macomb, Nye, Dell Eva, Wynsberge, Malicke, Lucas, Oblates of St. Benedict, Gibbons, Roy, Konti, Kleinbrook, Mowery, Itnyre, Lenz, Dean, Bleecker, Fogoros, Ervin, Wanat, Lohrengel, Rybak, Fleck, Casey, Ptaszenski, Sudeck, Sterbenz, Poma, LaPorte, Hoffman, Van Easley, Fessler, Trombley, Masterson, Purcell, Poeppe, Dadabbo, Ziemba, Gerhardt, Pipoly, Bosley, Lemming, MacShane, Albert, DeSousa, Davignon, MacDonald.

Because of your continued support, we have approximately 9,000 points toward our new project, a display board for the Oakland County Chapter.

When you present your check to the cashier at any Bill Knapp's Restaurant, ask for a Community Support Coupon.

Please send the coupons to Right to Life - Lifespan, 28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127, Livonia 48152. Thanks!



Educational Center for Life

A few 1994 Pro-Life Calendars are still available at the Educational Center for Life. Don't miss out on this colorful calendar.

Call (810) 338-1910 for details.

Announcing a New ProLife Video for Young People—

"THE RIGHT CHOICE"

A brand new 15-minute video designed to educate and motivate young people between the ages of 14-18 years is available at ECL. The premier showing was at World Youth Day in Denver last August. It is the story of one teen's journey from the despair of the abortion clinic to the hope of new life.

Those who have seen *The Right Choice* call it "the best prolife video ever"...Find out why for yourself. Available for loan or rental. Call (810) 338-1910.

Women in Ramah

Metro Life Choices will be offering a "Women in Ramah" post-abortion Bible Study in April. They are seeking an assistant leader for the bible study. Call Lynette if you are interested, 271-1223.

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MAIN OFFICE
28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127
Livonia, MI 48152-3736
(313) 533-9090



Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit Membership Form

Right to Life - Lifespan believes that human life has value in all stages of development from conception until natural death, and is committed to speaking on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves — the unborn, the aged, the incapacitated. Won't you please help in our struggle to preserve respect for human life? A contribution brings you the monthly newsletter as well as educational materials and special mailings.

_____ Annual Membership \$ 15.00
_____ Student/Senior Member \$ 7.00

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_____ Century Club (\$100 & above) \$ _____
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Please detach at the dotted line and return to: Right to Life - Lifespan, 28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127, Livonia, MI 48152-3736.
Donations are not tax-deductible.

Why We Shouldn't Legalize Assisting Suicide, Part III:

**By Burke J. Balch and
Randall K. O'Bannon**

Editor's note: This is the third in a multi-part series providing arguments against legalizing physician assistance of suicide.

WHAT ABOUT THE TERMINALLY ILL?

Proponents of physician-assisted suicide frequently begin by advocating its legalization for those who are terminally ill, although they have moved far beyond that category. But, as this article will demonstrate, 1) treatable depression, rather than the terminal illness itself, usually accounts for such a patient's expression of a wish to die; 2) after a diagnosis of terminal illness, a person normally goes through a series of stages of coming to terms with impending death and resolving unfinished business in his or her life, a valuable process that is cut short by acceding to a depression-induced request for assistance in suicide; and 3) given growing pressures to contain medical costs and prevailing social attitudes, if assisting suicide is legalized, many terminally ill patients will be led to feel they are burdens and have a duty to die.

Most terminal patients seek suicide not because they are ill, but because they are depressed.

A study of terminally ill patients published in the *American Journal of Psychiatry* in 1986 concluded:

The striking feature of [our] results is that all of the patients who had either desired premature death or contemplated suicide were judged to be suffering from clinical depressive illness; that is, none of those patients who did not have clinical depression had thoughts of suicide or wished that death would come early.

USA Today has reported that among older people suffering from terminal illnesses who attempt suicide, the number suffering from depression reaches almost 90%.

This fact is not really in dispute. Even Jack Kevorkian, the notorious "suicide doctor," said at a court appearance that he considers anyone with a disabling disease who is not depressed "abnormal." But what Kevorkian and others who argue in favor of physician-assisted suicide ignore is that even though the disease itself may be untreatable, the depression is treatable, *and it is the depression, not the disease, which makes such persons suicidal.*

Suicidologist Dr. David C. Clark notes that depressive episodes in the seriously ill "are not less responsive to

medication" than depression in others. And psychologist Joseph Richman, former president of the American Association of Suicidology, says, "[E]ffective psychotherapeutic treatment is possible with the terminally ill, and only irrational prejudices prevent the greater resort to such measures."

Indeed, the suicide rate in persons with terminal illness is only between 2% and 4%. Competent and compassionate counseling, together with appropriate medical and psychological care, are the caring and appropriate responses to people with terminal illness who express a wish to die.

Especially for those who are terminally ill, it is not good to circumvent the dying process.

In 1969, psychiatrist Elisabeth Kubler-Ross outlined the five stages of the dying process—denial, anger, bargaining, depression and acceptance. Since that time, Dr. Kubler-Ross has worked with thousands of dying patients and their families to help them deal with the dying process. In a recent interview, she indicated that her experience over the past 20 years tells her that suicide is wrong for patients with terminal illness:

Lots of my dying patients say they grow in bounds and leaps, and finish all
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