

# Lifespan *news*

Volume 25 Number 2

Serving Southeastern Michigan Since 1970

February, March 1996

## Mother's Day Dinner

**Tuesday, May 7, 6:30 p.m.  
Vladimir's, Farmington Hills**

**with**

**Pamela Smith, M.D.**  
**Featured Speaker**

Dr. Smith is president-elect of the American Association of Pro-Life Obstetricians and Gynecologists. She grew up in the ghetto on the west side of Chicago, graduated from Cornell University and the Yale University School of Medicine. She completed her residency at Mt. Sinai Hospital in Chicago where she is now on staff. She also works at the Lawndale Christian Health Center in the community of her birth. The Lawndale community has a 50% unemployment rate, a perinatal mortality rate of 29/1000, skyrocketing teenage pregnancy, and 40% of the people in the community live below the poverty line. She is currently pursuing her doctorate in public health at the University of Illinois. Dr. Smith testified in favor of the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act (HB 1833) before Congress.



## *Seeking 1996 Mother of the Year*

In conjunction with our Mother's Day Dinner on May 7, 1996, we will be honoring a "Mother of the Year." We are looking for nominations from among our members or others for this sixth annual award. The nominee must be a resident of the metro Detroit area and able to attend the award dinner on May 7. 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 1. 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 7. 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 1995 "Mother of the Year" was Margaret Williams.

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 Monday, April 1.

# ACTION NOTES

## Be a hero

Fewer than 2,000 national delegates will determine the fate of the Republican Party's pro-life platform at the GOP national convention in San Diego this summer. The Planned Parenthood group—Republicans for Choice—will pull out all the stops in its effort to weaken or remove the pro-life plank. Whether the platform survives that assault depends in part on you.

There are a number of ways you can ensure that the GOP's platform, which supports a Human Life Amendment, remains intact. You can help elect delegates who will vote to re-adopt the pro-life platform. You can run for delegate yourself. Also, you can introduce and vote for a resolution supporting the language in the pro-life plank by participating in your local, county and state Republican conventions or caucuses.

The Republican National Coalition for Life (RNC for Life) can provide you with information about the rules in your state and put you in contact with veterans of the platform process. RNC for Life has created a "Pledge of Support" for the pro-life platform that you can circulate among pro-life voters at political and pro-life events and in churches and Bible study groups. The coalition's goal is to have hundreds of thousands of pledges submitted to the Platform Committee at the San Diego convention as a tangible sign of pro-life strength in the Republican Party.

For more information, write to RNC for Life, P.O. Box 618, Alton, IL 62002. Phone (214) 387-4160.

—*Focus on the Family Citizen*  
January 15, 1996

## Abortion training

The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) has revised its rules governing accreditation of medical training facilities to state: "No program or resident with a religious or moral objection will be required to provide training in, or to perform, induced abortions. Otherwise, access to experience with induced abortion must be part of residency education. This education can be provided outside the institution."

Programs "must not impede residents in their program who do not have a religious or moral objection" and "must publicize such policy to all applicants." All residents must be provided "experience with management of complications of abortion."

The ACGME quoted the Catholic Health Association as saying it was pleased that "the revised language removes the burden of direct cooperation with abortion."

Write the Catholic Health Association and point out that indirect cooperation with the teaching of abortion techniques to ob/gyn residents is of equal concern. Why have they not flatly opposed the ACGME revision? Contact: Catholic Health Association, 4455 Woodson Rd., St. Louis, MO 63134.

—*American Life League communiqué*  
December 15, 1995

## Life checks

Many living babies are cheering because someone did the simple task of writing out a check that had a pro-life message in the background. A woman in Chicago used one of those checks to buy a toaster at a major discount store. The unmarried clerk, whose parents were pressuring her to abort her baby, saw the check and asked for help. The clerk later chose to let her baby live.

The unique checks feature brief pro-life messages and positive, full-color scenes of babies, mothers and families, or thought-provoking cartoons by syndicated cartoonist Wayne Stayskal. For sample checks and information, contact Identity Check Printers, Box 818, Park Ridge, IL 60068, or call (847) 708-2229.

## On the Internet

There is a wealth of pro-life material on the internet, including Lifespan news highlights, care of Ring!OnLine at <http://www.ring.com>

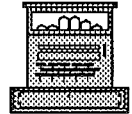
Look for National Right to Life at <http://www.nrlc.org/nrlc>

Prolife Resources can be found at <http://jupiter.ee.pitt.edu/~frezza/PLresources.html>

For information, call (313) 533-9090.

## Shoppers, beware

When shopping for our Baby Shower, you may want to avoid items either produced by or purchased from a corporation that supports Planned Parenthood.



This includes products made by Johnson & Johnson (various baby products), Nu-Line Industries (wood gates, portable cribs, etc.), Gerry Baby Products (baby car seats, infant carriers, strollers, safety gates, toilet trainers and electronic baby care safety products) and Snuggli products (backpacks, diaper bags and infant carriers).

Dayton-Hudson continues to contribute to Planned Parenthood. Its stores include Hudson's, Target and Mervyn's.

For a complete list of corporate supporters of Planned Parenthood, send \$4 to Life Decisions International, P.O. Box 419, Amherst, NY 14226-0419.

## Calendar of Events

- Baby Shower .....Mar. 10
- Oakland Chapter Educational Series:  
"Women's Lives, Abortion's Lies"  
With Olivia Gans .....Mar. 14
- Mother of the Year  
Nomination Deadline: .....April 1
- Resource Book  
Ad Deadline: .....April 8
- Mother's Day Dinner Early/Discount  
Reservation Deadline .....April 8
- Mother's Day Dinner  
Reservation Deadline .....May 1
- Mother's Day Dinner .....May 7
- Mother's Day Flower Sale ....May 11, 12

## Lifespan News

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President & Editor - Ann R. Sands  
Desktop Publisher - Marge Bradley  
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MAIN OFFICE  
28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127  
Livonia, MI 48152-3736  
(313) 533-9090





# Right to Life - Lifespan

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

invites you to its seventh annual

## BABY SHOWER

To Benefit Local Pregnancy Help Centers  
(listed on reverse side)

Sunday, March 10, 1996

### 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

Baby showers will be held at the following locations. Bring new or used (but usable) baby or maternity items.

### From 2:00-3:30 p.m.

**St. Hugo of the Hills Grade School**  
Fr. Esper Room  
(corner of Hickory Grove & Opdyke)  
Bloomfield Hills

**Assumption Grotto Church**  
Shrine Lounge  
13770 Gratiot, Detroit

**St. Clare School**  
Faculty Lounge  
1401 Whittier, Grosse Pointe Park

**St. Maurice Church Hall**  
32765 Lyndon, Livonia

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

**St. Rene Goupil Church**  
35955 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights

**St. Josaphat Parish Center**  
26440 Ryan Rd., Warren  
(one block south of I-696)

### After Church Services (Gift Drop-off)

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

**Berkley Christian Church**  
2260 Greenfield, Berkley

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

**Resurrection Church**  
46001 Warren Rd., Canton

**Church of the Divine Child**  
1055 N. Silvery Lane, Dearborn

**Word of Faith Fellowship**  
3871 Heritage Parkway, Dearborn

**St. Anselm Church**  
Meeting Room  
17650 W. Outer Drive, Dearborn Heights

**Christ the King Church**  
Koelzer Hall  
16805 Pierson, Detroit

**St. John Romanian Byzantine Church**  
Eight Mile and Woodward, Detroit

**St. Scholastica Church**  
17320 Rosemont, Detroit

**St. Suzanne Church**  
9357 Westwood, 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 Building  
5775 Merriman, Garden City

**St. Joseph Church**  
(Diapers & wipes only)  
715 N. Lapeer Rd., Lake Orion

**St. Genevieve Church**  
29015 Jamison, Livonia

**Northville Christian Assembly**  
41355 Six Mile Rd., Northville

**Our Lady of Victory Church**  
770 Thayer, Northville

**Our Lady of Refuge Church**  
3663 Eric Drive, Orchard Lake

**St. Kenneth Church**  
14951 Haggerty Rd., Plymouth

**Ball Road Tabernacle**  
7007 Ball Road, Romulus

**Shrine of the Little Flower**  
Coughlin Building  
12 Mile and Woodward Ave.  
Royal Oak

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

**Troy Church of Christ**  
800 Trombley, Troy

**Our Lady of the Lakes Church**  
(Diapers and wipes only)  
5481 Dixie Highway, Waterford



To volunteer to help or for additional information, call Right to Life - Lifespan at (313) 533-9090



# Chapter

## Office hours

MW 10-2; TThF Closed  
Carol Smith, Chairman  
Mary Cascos, Ofc. Mgr.

## Christmas cards

To those who worked so hard to sell our Christmas cards and gave so generously of their time and to all of you who purchased our cards, we wish to extend our most sincere and heartfelt thanks.

May the new year bring to you and your family the best of health and happiness!

## Church reps needed

There are many churches in Detroit who are pro-life, but we have no active church representative there to help us educate them on current LIFE

issues. Please pray and ask yourself if YOU might be the one God is calling to be a special church rep for Right to Life - Lifespan. Will you be the one to say, "Here I am, Lord!" Call the office at (313) 874-0432 for more information and to volunteer today!



## Rally success

A special thanks to all who braved the cold and helped to make the 23rd Rally for Life a success. Thanks to

Bernie Skibinski for our sound system, Madeline Satwicz and George Cascos for hanging the banners, to the Cascos family for shoveling the snow from the square and to Anne Fracassa for her beautiful artwork on our signs.

A BIG thanks to Rick Parker who so graciously took over as emcee when

Carol and Ed Smith were called away due to a death in the family. Rick, you were fantastic!

Thanks Diane Fagelman, Pat Holscher and Ann Sands for fielding the press and keeping the Rally moving smoothly.

Thanks to our speakers who gave us great insight to our mission to help both the unborn and the mother. We heard from Andrea Baier (adoptive mom), Mike O'Dea (Mother & Unborn Baby Care), Suzanne Bante (Project Rachel), and Judge Susan Bieke Neilson.

Music was provided by the heavenly voices of Janice Scarlett, Richard and James Hovey and Sherry Fox. God bless you all for your witness to LIFE.

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

## Office hours

M, T, Th, F 9-2:30; W 9-6  
Diane Fagelman, Chairman  
Mary Small, Secy./Ofc. Mgr.  
Diane Trombley, Volunteer Coordinator

## Changes in Oakland

Our office hours have changed (see above). If you need to speak to someone outside of office hours, please call Diane Trombley (810) 528-2122.

We not only have some changes in our office hours, we also have some changes in the folks filling those hours—Mary Small is our new Secretary/Office Manager. She has volunteered at the Berkley crisis pregnancy center and has been a Lifespan representative at her church, Lighthouse Christian Fellowship in Birmingham. It

is clear to see that she is more than up to the task and is settling right in. When asked why she chose to work at our office, she said, "It gives me the opportunity to become more closely involved with the pro-life movement and put my heartfelt beliefs into action."

Another addition to the office staff really needs no introduction. Diane Trombley has been a representative for Lifespan as Public Relations Director since forever (or so she says), and we now have her working as our Volunteer Coordinator. She will be working closely with all volunteers in the weeks and months to come. You will be receiving a letter from her very soon (you may already have it) as she attempts to update our volunteer records.

A special thank you to Theresa Koehler, our former office manager, who has left the office to await the birth of her second child. Theresa will continue to work on membership one day a week.

## Crosses for Life

Thanks to the generous donations of Lifespan members and friends, we will be purchasing the lawn crosses in the very near future.

## Educational series

The March program will feature Olivia Gans (see feature article, p. 10) and will be held at Oakland University in Rochester. This is a real "don't miss" opportunity, so be sure to come and bring a friend or two!

## Resource Book ads

Please consider taking out an ad in the Mother's Day Dinner Resource Book. Ask your local business to consider an ad. If you need forms, or more information, please call the office.

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**Oakland County Chapter**  
Coventry Place  
1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite G  
Troy, MI 48084-3540  
(810) 816-1546



# News

## Office hours

M-Th 10-4

Patricia Holscher, Chairman  
Linda Kournoian, Ofc. Mgr.

## Celebration of Life 1996 Calendar

We have just twelve 13-month calendars left; these are valued at \$9.99 and are on sale for only \$5.00.

This beautiful spiral-bound calendar measures 11" x 11" and is printed on heavy paper with large squares for notetaking. A scripture verse accompanies each month's page along with an inspiring message from Dr. Dobson. Call to reserve yours now.

## Madonna University

Madonna University had an exhibit featuring our lifesize fetal models and educational pamphlets during January.

The display was received favorably, and afterwards, a student nurse visited our office and selected various materials to share with her sorority sisters. Eight students went to the March for Life in Washington, D.C. and several attended the Rally in Kennedy Square.

We are thankful to the Madonna faculty, especially Sr. Nancy Jamroz and Margaret Spas for their continuing efforts in defense of human life.

## Speakers/Booths

The question of when human life begins is a scientific question. Therefore, we should look to

scientific facts rather than philosophic theories, or religious beliefs, for the answer. We must deduce then that each individual human life begins at the beginning, at fertilization, and that human life is a continuum from that time until death. Thus, the only logical conclusion is that, "Abortion kills unborn children."

Education is the main objective of Lifespan; we are happy to accept invitations for pro-life speakers to share scientific, medical and legal information. On request, we will set up educational booths at schools, youth groups, church festivals, fairs or any other gathering. There is no charge.

## Tribute to mothers

Is there someone special in your life whom you admire and would like to see named, "Mother of the Year"? What a wonderful tribute for both of you if she is selected. See front page.

Our annual Mother's Day Dinner is Tuesday, May 7. We are fortunate to have Pamela E. Smith, M.D., president-elect of the American Association of Pro-Life Obstetricians and Gynecologists as our guest speaker.

These functions are always outstanding, both in fellowship and education. Won't you consider inviting a friend or pastor to accompany you and introducing them to Lifespan and our activities?

Don't forget to get your tickets before Monday, April 8, so you won't miss out on the "early bird" special. See p. 7.

Everyone has the opportunity to be listed as a gold patron or as an advertiser in our 1996 Resource Book which is distributed to dinner guests and business and church advertisers. See p. 7.

Looking forward to seeing you at the dinner!

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

## From the President's Desk

Finally, the secular news media is slowly beginning to pay attention to what is happening in China. If you have to ask what has been happening, you haven't been reading this or any other pro-life newsletter lately. China's strict enforcement of its one-child per family policy has resulted in forced abortions, mandatory sterilizations, female infanticide, illegal immigrants and abandoned baby girls.

It is the abandoned babies, over a million of them according to reports, that are beginning to garner the world's attention for two reasons. First, if you want to adopt a baby girl and have about \$12,000, the process is relatively easy. Thousands of Chinese daughters are now arriving in the United States and Canada. Secondly, the ones not so fortunate are living in intolerable conditions in substandard orphanages.

The world is looking askance at the treatment of these children. I even heard a commentary on national TV calling for trade sanctions against the Chinese. The closing line was "there isn't anyone who wouldn't break down a door to save a child." A comment some might find ironic coming from a pro-abortion journalist.

How can these same media types look at the pictures of a partial-birth abortion and give it their misguided blessings, yet in the same breath condemn child abuse in China? When will they understand that ABORTION is the ultimate child abuse?



P.S. Help us spread this message in our current billboard campaign. See page 10.

# Hope for Spina Bifida Patient

By Dale Griffith

**I**t all began on July 20, 1971, after giving birth to our second son. My husband, Wes, and I had never heard of "spina bifida" or any of the other names for the defect that we would soon hear over and over again. (Other names for spina bifida include "cleft spine," "open spine," "neural tube defect" and the one most commonly used, "myelomeningocele.") Then there was "hydrocephalus" and "hipdysplasia" which were related medical conditions.



Dale Griffith

The pediatrician assigned to our son's case, shared his opinion of Rob's future prognosis. "Your baby will NEVER have any control of his lower extremities and will have probable brain damage," he stated. I will never forget his words. I can still hear them as if they were spoken yesterday. This doctor did not give us any hope. He went on to say that we could choose surgery to close the baby's back or we could leave him alone and he would probably die within six months.

While this mortal physician gave us absolutely no hope, Wes and I knew there was hope through our Great Physician, Jesus Christ.

I often wonder how many infants are allowed to die because their parents were not given an ounce of hope by their doctors. Now, two decades later, I wonder how many babies are killed

through abortion because modern technology can detect spina bifida during pregnancy? Those of us in the pro-life movement must educate others to the fact that ALL people have value and ALL people have a right to life.

Remember the prognosis we were given by our pediatrician when Rob was born? Well, let me share the outcome...twenty-four years later.

Rob went through his childhood with many challenges and many operations, some of which he still faces. He was mainstreamed into St. John Lutheran School in Rochester, Michigan. For his high school training, he attended Lutheran High School North in Mount Clemens, Michigan. He joined the Boy Scouts at the age of eight and remained with that organization through high school, achieving the highest award possible—Eagle Scout. Rob holds a full-time job and attends a local community college parttime. He has been much like our other three children to raise. (Sometimes he drove us nuts, but usually he was a joy.)

In conclusion, I have met other children and adults who have spina bifida as well as other birth defects. Some are confined to wheelchairs and some depend on leg braces and crutches. They are all "normal" people who have learned to live life with extra challenges. They all have love and smiles to share. They all have purpose. They all have value. They are all loved by our Lord and Redeemer, Jesus Christ.

(Author's note: We do not intend to offend physicians by writing this article. We have had many wonderful doctors caring for Rob over the years. This is strictly about our experience following Rob's birth and how that physician handled the situation. It was a matter of life or death.)

—Dale Griffith has been a church representative for Lifespan for many years and also serves as the Life Ministry Coordinator at St. John Lutheran Church, Rochester, MI. This article previously appeared in *Lifelines of Michigan*, *Lutherans for Life* newsletter, Winter 95-96, and is reprinted with permission.



## Educational Center for Life

A warm thank you to Tony DeSantis for the Xerox computer equipment that he recently donated to the Center. It will certainly be put to good use.

### Mark your calendars

Molly Kelly is coming to the metro area February 27-29. She will be at Huron HS, New Boston; Divine Child HS, Dearborn and Crestwood HS, Dearborn Heights on Tues., Feb. 27 and at St. Margaret of Scotland Parish, St. Clair Shores, Tues. evening. On Wed., Feb. 28, she will be at Powers HS, Flint and Holy Family Catholic School, Grand Blanc. On Wed. evening, she will be at St. Thomas More Parish, Troy. Thurs., Feb. 29, Molly will be visiting several schools in Monroe. Plan now to attend one of her talks.

ECL is sponsoring an exhibit table at CYO Rainbow XIV, February 17-18, at the Westin Hotel, in downtown Detroit. We will be handing out brochures on chastity as well as packets of Molly Kelly's materials for teachers and youth leaders.

**An Abstinence Education Conference** for schools, youth workers, health professionals and peer educators, is scheduled for Thursday, March 21 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., at the Lansing Center, Lansing.

The conference is cosponsored by Michigan Family Forum, Michigan Department of Education and the Department of Public Health. Presenters include Elayne Bennett, Pat Ware, Joe McIlhaney, M.D., Coleen Mast and Molly Kelly. Workshops will provide individuals with classroom techniques, research, medical data and strategies for implementing abstinence education in school districts. Fliers are available at our office.

ECL notecards are available again in packages of 9 for \$5.00. Use them as a gift or to send a message to a friend.

**Educational Center for Life**  
Coventry Place  
1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite G  
Troy, MI 48084-3540  
(810) 816-8489



Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit  
INVITES YOU TO ITS



*Mother's Day Dinner*

Tuesday, May 7, 1996

6:30 p.m.

Dr. Pamela E. Smith, Featured Speaker

Vladimir's

28125 Grand River, Farmington Hills

**Dinner Reservations:** \$30 per person/\$250 per table of 10 by April 8  
\$35 per person/\$300 per table of 10 after April 8

Number of dinner reservations \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_. Advance reservations required by May 1.  
(Please list names of all those for whom reservations are made on a separate sheet of paper.)

## 1996 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:** A complimentary dinner ticket will be given to any individual for every \$200 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 8, 1996.**

**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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

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 8, 1996. 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 (313) 533-9090 (Donations are not tax-deductible)

# Sword of Imagination

By Paula Ervin

*The Sword of Imagination—Memoirs of 11/2 Century of Literary Conflict, by Russell Kirk (1918-1994), William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1995.*

He was born in Plymouth, Michigan, two doors from the railroad tracks that intersect Starkweather Rd. in what is frequently called "Lower Town." His railroad engineer father did not finish 6th grade, and his gentle, poetry-loving mother, he was certain, endowed him with his imagination. He is believed by some to have possessed the best conservative mind of this century.

***...when Lifespan...was struggling to become recognized in southeastern Michigan as a pro-life entity, Dr. Kirk came as guest speaker in the pro-life cause to...Detroit.***

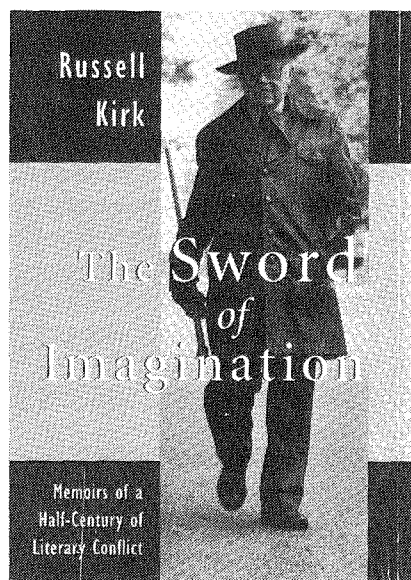
Told in the third person, this is the autobiography of Russell Kirk. It was published the year following his death.

On Palm Sunday, 1971, when Lifespan was called People Taking Action Against Abortion (PTAAA) and was struggling to become recognized in southeastern Michigan as a pro-life entity, Dr. Kirk came as guest speaker in the pro-life cause to the Veteran's Memorial Building in Detroit. He drew 750 interested souls. At that time his fee was \$1000, but he charged PTAAA (Lifespan) nothing. He recalls that occasion toward the end of his book, including a portion of the remarks he made that day.

The occasion will not be forgotten by founding members of Lifespan because a world-renowned figure had stepped forth to give credence to a scorned, despised grassroots movement of little people who continue that struggle 25 years later.

Piety Hill—his ancestral home in Mecosta, Michigan—became certified

through his wife Annette's efforts, as a temporary refuge for unwed mothers. All classes of pregnant waifs enjoyed her hospitality there including her presence at delivery and help for adoption. One of the girls came accompanied by her unpregnant sister—a member of the oldest profession—but the sister was lonely for the street scene and departed suddenly, complaining the place was "too richy" for her.



New waves of the "flotsam and jetsam" of 20th century disorders landed helter-skelter in the U.S. from Vietnam, Ethiopia, India, Poland and all points east and west and they too found their way to Piety Hill. Here they were fed and housed for short or long stays. Children on long stays were entered in the Mecosta school system. Displaced scholars, poets, musicians, painters—folk of several colors—joined the international guests, as well as elderly family members and took part in the annual gargantuan Halloween party. One self-styled hobo and prison alumnus served the Kirks intermittently as butler, child tender and raconteur for six years after which he died and was buried respectfully at Piety Hill. Some of the colorful assembly became principals in Kirk's short stories and essays.

His three-year chaste, but determined, courtship of Annette Courtemanche

came to fruition in marriage when he was 44 and she 22. This romance breathes a poignant aura throughout the book. For although he wears no false humility about his own literary feats or philosophical wars with liberalism, he displays abject worship of the young beauty who encouraged and held sway over the awesome community at Piety Hill. This in addition to giving him four daughters who are pictures of herself and obviously inherited the intellectual genes of both parents. His entry into Catholicism came about through his own studies but was formalized just before his marriage to Catholic Annette.

In 1952 he had been awarded the D. Litt. degree from St. Andrews of Scotland which was then held by only one other living person. His dissertation had been published under the title "The Conservative Mind" and became a worldwide best-seller. In this *Sword of Imagination*, he examines America's politicians of this century and concludes that too many lack imagination, for though many try to solve the problems facing them, they set in motion an array of trouble to haunt the future.

And speaking of haunts, Kirk stubbornly insists that he believes in ghosts and introduces a few who lurked in the musty corridors of old Piety Hill which burned completely on Ash Wednesday, 1975. Kirk was at Olivet College at the time. A few witnesses claimed to have seen ghostly figures at the windows on the fiery scene...

The year before his death, he had come to realize he had sought three objects in his life: The first was to defend the Permanent Things (order, justice, freedom, a moral code, inheritance of culture); the second had been to live a life of decent independence that would leave him free to spread the truth; the third had been to marry for love and to rear children to know that the service of God is perfect freedom.

He had lived with his "one and only wife" for 30 years. It must have seemed to Annette that they were a swift 30 years.

—Paula Ervin is a board member of  
Right to Life - Lifespan  
Church Representative Coordinator and  
Committee of Correspondence Chairman





# 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 (Spencer Abraham, Carl Levin)  
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):

## Partial-Birth Abortion

The Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act, HR 1833, passed the House November 1 and the Senate December 7. It is anticipated that the House will accept small changes that the Senate made in the bill. Congress is expected to take up this matter late February. HR 1833 will then be sent to the President.

Presidential spokesman Michael McCurry has said President Clinton will veto the bill because he believes "it would represent an erosion of a woman's right to choose."

### What Can Be Done?

- Write letters to the President and call the White House Comment Line urging Clinton to sign HR 1833.
- Write letters to the editor citing specific facts on partial-birth abortions and the President's veto.
- Call local "talk radio" shows. Give host and listeners a few specific facts about the abortion procedure and the anticipated veto.
- Distribute factual information through your church and community.

For more information, contact your Lifespan office.

## Clinton Care Alert

Congress and President Clinton are negotiating the Balanced Budget Act, which includes a restructuring of Medicare. The plan the White House is

now proposing has many features of the failed Clinton Health Care Rationing Plan. It would make it illegal for Americans over 65 to supplement government Medicare payments with their own money in order to get unrationed, unmanaged health insurance.

**It is urgent that you contact your representative and two U.S. senators to voice your opposition to Clinton's plan. Don't let the President turn Medicare into rationed Clinton Care.**

## Pro-Life Policies

Of the seven regular appropriations bills that have become law, two restore important pro-life policies:

**1. Treasury/Postal Appropriations, HR 2020.** This bill prohibits federal employees health insurance programs from paying for abortions except to save the mother's life or in cases of rape or incest. Pro-life policy in effect from 1984-1993 is reinstated (with addition of exceptions for rape or incest). President Clinton signed HR 2020 into law November 19, 1995.

**2. Defense Appropriations, HR 2126.** This bill prohibits the performance of privately funded abortions in military hospitals overseas, except to save the mother's life or in cases of rape or incest. This bill restores a policy previously overturned by one of President Clinton's five January 22, 1993 executive orders. The former policy had an exception only for life of the mother; HR 2126 adds exceptions for rape or incest. This bill became law December 1, 1995 without the President's signature.

# Women's Lives, Abortion's Lies

The Oakland County Chapter of Lifespan is sponsoring an educational program in recognition of Women's History Month, entitled Women's Lives, Abortion's Lies. It will be held on Thursday, March 14, from noon to 2:00 p.m. and from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., at Oakland University's Oakland Center in Rochester, Michigan.



*Oliva Gans*

The featured speaker will be Oliva L. Gans. Ms. Gans is the director of Ameri-

can Victims of Abortion (AVA), an outreach project of the National Right to Life Committee. The purpose of AVA is to educate the public, legislators and the media about abortion's effects on women and their families.

In 1981, Ms. Gans was an unwed, unemployed 22-year-old part-time student when she submitted to the pressure of abortion advocates and her boyfriend to have an abortion. She underwent a suction aspiration abortion at approximately 12 weeks of her pregnancy.

After almost two years of struggling with an acute emotional reaction to her abortion experience, which included anxiety attacks, depression and other serious dysfunctional behavior, Ms. Gans helped to organize one of the nation's first peer-to-peer post-abortion support groups in the New York City area. She became AVA director in 1985, and since that time has spoken on post-abortion syndrome and other abortion related issues throughout the world.

The public is welcome; there is no admission charge. For further information, call (810) 816-1546.



**Overwhelmed!**  
Overwhelmed by

your outpouring of love for our babies at Christmas time, and overwhelmed by mothers' requests for help—that pretty much sums up Wee Care this past month!

I want to share one special story with you. It concerns a very young mother who not only found out that she was pregnant, but also, that she had cancer. She was counseled to have an abortion. Instead, she gave birth to a precious daughter and then proceeded to have aggressive treatment for her cancer. We were able to give her a beautiful box of clothing and diapers; and the story has a happy ending—or perhaps I should say, happy beginning—the young mother just found out that her cancer is gone.

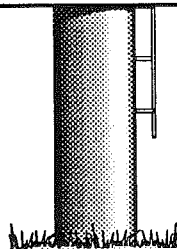
May God continue to surround her and her very special baby, as well as all of you, with His love.

—Karen Patrosso, Director  
Wee Care (313) 533-2727

*A Program of Right to Life - Lifespan*

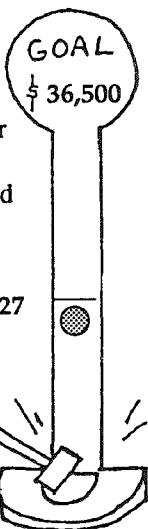
## ABORTION... the ultimate child abuse

**RIGHT TO LIFE - LIFESPAN (313) 533-9090**



## Help our baby ring this bell!

Help us meet our goal for our Billboard Campaign. Fill out the form below, and mail it to us with your donation. Thank you!



Right to Life - Lifespan's billboard this year will be positioned on six different metro Detroit main highways. It will move to a new location every sixty days. The total cost of this year's project is \$36,500. Will you, your family, church or organization "Adopt the Billboard" for a day for only \$100, or a week for \$700? But you can help by making a donation in any amount. For information, call (313) 533-9090. Please send your contribution to Right to Life - Lifespan, 28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127, Livonia 48152.

Enclosed is my/our donation to Lifespan's Billboard Campaign

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

"Adopt for a day" \_\_\_\_\_  
"Adopt for a week" \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_  
(Donations are not tax-deductible)

## Bill Knapp's coupons

We have accumulated 30,000 points to be redeemed for a fax machine for the Wayne West/Downriver Chapter. We need approximately 24,000 more points.

The following are donors of coupons in the past few months—thanks for eating at Knapp's!—O'Connell, Ryan, Burke, Dreslinski, Ward, Cousino, Konopka, Sanscrainte, Dell'Eva, Cylkowski, Yanik, Dadabbo, Gerhardt, Kubik, Ziemba, Kwiatkowski, Radzialowski, Lucas, Fabian, Schemanske, Poma, Scherrer, Rizzo, Satwicz, Cascos, Doyle, St. Perpetua Parish, Wilhelm, Rybak, Prussing, Phillips, MacShane, Babik, Freda, Renaud, Behaeghe, Martinuzzi, Schmidt, Higgins, Ervin, Purcell, Rosevear, Kokorzycki, Lesiak, Hurt, Wynsberge, Malicke, Roy, Dionne, Tschirhart, Grougan, Van Houten, Bergmooser, Kleinbrook, Griffith, Gibbons, Kacher, Basner, Nye, Pipoly, Rolak, Condon-Duncanson, Sudeck, Angelio, McDermott, McLaughlin, St. Linus Church, Queen, St. Raphael Parish, Lenze, Schorn, Radwick, Reuter, Lohrengel, Bowker, Bosco, Dow, Valliere, Sterbenz, Barylski, Pender, Bettega, Gauvin, Mosquera, Martin, Brukwinski, Church.

Please continue saving Bill Knapp coupons for us. When you present your check to the cashier at any Bill Knapp's Restaurant, ask for a Community Support Coupon. Send the coupons to Right to Life - Lifespan, 28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127, Livonia 48152. Thank you, everyone!

## Requiem for Innocents

An original work in memory of unborn children who have died from abortions, this concert, with full orchestra and choir, will perform at St. Genevieve Church, corner of Jamison and Middlebelt, Livonia, on Sunday, February 25, 3:00 p.m. Tickets are \$7.00 in advance, \$9.00 at the door, available at St. Genevieve Church, (313) 427-5220.

## 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 Margaret Hogan, requested by Betty Queen.

## Abortion-breast cancer link

A study being published in the Journal of the American Medical Association finds that there is a link between abortion and breast cancer. The study states:

*After adjustment for parity, age at first birth, and other risk factors, pregnancy termination (induced or spontaneous) was associated with a relative risk of breast cancer...compared with the risk among women who had never had a termination.*

In 1994, a study published by the Journal of the National Cancer Institute indicated that women under age 45 who have induced abortion are on average 50 percent more likely to develop breast cancer than other women their age.

In the past few decades, more than 20 studies have been published showing evidence of a potential link between abortion and breast cancer. Unfortunately, most of the studies linking abortion and breast cancer have received little or no attention in the media and have been virtually ignored by advocates of abortion.

A list of abortion-breast cancer studies is available; to request a copy, call the Lifespan Main Office (313) 533-9090.

## Celebrating motherhood

A Celebration of Motherhood Mass and luncheon will be held on Saturday, February 24 at St. Sebastian Church, Merrick at Dartmouth, in Dearborn. Mass is at 10:30 a.m.; luncheon is at 12:30 p.m. Cost is \$6.00 for lunch. Babysitting is available. This event is sponsored by Moms for M.O.M. (Mary, Our Mother) group at St. Sebastian. For more information, call Socorro (313) 277-0634 or Cynthia (313) 563-8957.

## P.A.C.E.

A Post-Abortion Counseling and Education Bible Study and support group will begin meeting Feb. 27. Call Dawn at (313) 722-2839 for information.

## Spring Banquet

AAA Crisis Pregnancy Center of Livonia is having their 6th Annual Spring Banquet on Tuesday, March 26, at 6:30 p.m. The banquet will be held at St. Mary's Cultural Center, 18100 Merriman Rd., Livonia, between 6 Mile and 7 Mile. The guest speaker will be Rev. Robert A. Sirico, C.S.P. Reservations are required, no later than March 19. Tickets are \$25 per person or \$200 per table of 8. Call (313) 425-8060 for more information.

## Bridges for Life

Human Life International's Fifteenth World Conference, "Building Bridges for Life," will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio, April 10-14, at the Omni Netherland Plaza Hotel. Formed in 1981 by Fr. Paul Marx, O.S.B., PhD., Human Life International has grown into the world's largest pro-life/pro-family organization.

Pro-lifers from all over the country will gather to meet world-renowned experts such as Francis Cardinal Arinze, Dr. Bernard Nathanson, Dr. Alice von Hildebrand, Rabbi Yehuda Levin and many more. For more information, call (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

\_\_\_\_\_ Monthly pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Century Club (\$100 & above) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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.



# Early feminists' view on abortion

By Carol A. Smith

**A**s the 75th anniversary year of women's suffrage comes to an end, I remain perplexed by how the modern 20th century women's movement has come to be synonymous with abortion on demand.

An historical examination of the connection between abortion and women's rights reveals that our early feminist foremothers were in outspoken opposition to it. What happened to change this direction? Were the early feminists just so oppressed by the patriarchal society that abortion was incomprehensible to their unliberated minds? Were they opposed because of health concerns about women, so the advancement of medicine helps to explain the change in feminists' position? Were they religiously motivated? Perhaps if we review our early sisters' ideas in their own words, we will appreciate their reasons:

■ Elizabeth Cady Stanton opined that "When we consider that women are treated as property, it is degrading to women that we should treat our children as property to be disposed of as we see fit." (From a letter to Julia Ward Howe, Oct. 16, 1878)

■ Susan B. Anthony declared "I deplore the horrible crime of child murder...No matter what the motive, love of ease, or a desire to save from suffering the unborn innocent, the woman is awfully guilty who commits the deed...but oh! thrice guilty is he who drove her to the

desperation which impelled her to the crime." (The Revolution, July 8, 1869)

■ Mattie Brinkerhoff said "When a man steals to satisfy hunger, we may safely conclude that there is something wrong in society—so when a woman destroys the life of her unborn child, it is an evidence that...she has been greatly wronged." (The Revolution, Sept. 2, 1869)

■ Victoria Woodhull observed that "Every woman knows that if she were free, she would never...think of murdering (a child) before its birth." (Wheeling, W. Va. Evening Standard, Nov. 17, 1875)

■ Alice Paul, author of the original Equal Rights Amendment in 1932, said "Abortion is the ultimate exploitation of women."

It seems obvious that the unacceptance of abortion as a solution to unwanted pregnancy rose not from narrow religious tenets, nor women's health concerns. And far from male oppression impeding the ability to choose abortion, these revolutionary women concluded that abortion was the result of the tyranny of sexual inequality.

There is no doubt that their opposition was grounded from a deeply held moral belief that abortion was inconsistent with the feminist values of justice, non-violence and non-discrimination.

The central idea of their movement was the denunciation of the exploitation of the weak by the powerful, and they clearly saw the hypocrisy of demanding equality for themselves while denying life itself to their unborn children.

How sadly ironic that modern feminist thought has strayed so far from its roots. Might our struggle for equal rights for all be further advanced had we not sacrificed the most vulnerable of all on the altar of women's rights?

***"Abortion is the ultimate exploitation of women."***

Can we hold firm to our lofty principles and struggle with the hardships of unintended pregnancies? Aren't there choices to be made that affirm both the mother and her child? Isn't rejection of the child ultimately rejection of the mother? Is it conforming to a male standard to have to be "unpregnant" to be "OK"? Doesn't a feminist, by very definition, have to reject abortion?

The answers to these questions may not be obvious, but one thing is: Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Mattie Brinkerhoff, Victoria Woodhull and Alice Paul would not be comfortable at our 1995 celebration of the 75th anniversary of women's suffrage.

—Carol Smith is Chairman of the Detroit Chapter of Right to Life - Lifespan and a member of Feminists for Life of America.

This article first appeared in the Detroit News, December 29, 1995. It is reprinted with permission.

Feminists for Life of America may be contacted by writing to: 733 15th St., NW, Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20005 or calling (202) 737-3352 or ACTION LINE: (202) 393-FFLA.

**Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit**  
Wayne County, West/Downriver Chapter  
27578 Schoolcraft Road  
Livonia, MI 48150-2203



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