

# Lifespan *news*

Volume 23 Number 8

Serving Southeastern Michigan Since 1970

December 1994

## Physician Assisted Suicide and the Slippery Slope: The Netherlands Experience

By Laurene Hillebrand

**A**s our nation continues to move toward greater acceptance of physician assisted suicide, we would do well to consider the progression of assisted suicide in the Netherlands.

Physician assisted suicide was officially legalized in the Netherlands in 1973. At that time, its proponents assured the Dutch people that assisted suicide would be available only to terminally ill patients in "considerable pain," when mentally "competent" and after "repeatedly expressing the wish to die."<sup>1</sup>

Sound familiar? These are precisely the safeguards being proposed by promoters of physician assisted suicide in America today, and specifically included in the Oregon Death with Dignity Act on November's ballot.

Unfortunately, the tightly regulated physician assisted suicide that was proposed in 1973 is a far cry from the reality of widespread killing that occurs in the Netherlands today.

### Widespread Acceptance of Euthanasia

After the legalization of physician assisted suicide, Dutch society rapidly came to embrace the widespread use of euthanasia or mercy killing, as well, although euthanasia remained officially illegal until the spring of 1993.

In 1991, the first Dutch government statistics regarding euthanasia in the Netherlands were released in what is popularly referred to as the Rummelink Report (after Professor J. Rummelink, MJ, who headed the study.)

According to these statistics, nearly 12,000 patients were directly killed by their physicians in 1990. This comprises nearly 10% of the country's total deaths. Of these, the majority were done **without** the patient's consent.<sup>2</sup>

Significantly, these figures do not include cases where life-sustaining treatment was withdrawn or withheld without the

patient's consent, with the full intention of causing the patient's death. The figures also exclude cases of involuntary euthanasia performed on disabled newborns, children with life-threatening conditions or psychiatric patients.<sup>3</sup>

Among those who were "counted" among these 12,000 deaths were patients with diabetes, rheumatism, multiple sclerosis, AIDS, bronchitis and accident victims.<sup>4</sup> And in 45% of the cases where hospitalized patients were involuntarily killed, the patients' families had no knowledge that their loved ones' lives were deliberately terminated by doctors.<sup>5</sup>

In fact, one need not even be hospitalized in order to be killed by one's doctors. Dutch general practitioners intending to admit elderly patients to hospitals have, at times, been advised to instead kill their patients by lethal injections.<sup>6</sup>

### Children Targeted as Well

These physician-administered deaths include not only adults but also children at times, either with or without parental knowledge or consent.

One leading pediatric oncologist, Professor P. Voute, admits to providing lethal medication to some of the children under his care, sometimes with, and at other times without parent consent. The medication is intended for the children to administer to themselves to commit suicide when they feel so inclined.<sup>7</sup>

Other Dutch doctors are establishing "self-help programs" to help adolescents commit suicide.<sup>8</sup>

It is also significant to note, in terms of attempting to regulate these practices, that in the vast majority of Dutch euthanasia cases, doctors deliberately falsify patients' death certificates, stating that the deaths occurred from natural causes.<sup>9</sup>

The Netherlands has also now extended the "right" to die to physically healthy individuals experiencing severe depression. In an April 1994 case, a Dutch court ruled that psychological

*continued on page 4*

# NEWS NOTES

## China Policy

According to Human Rights Watch-Asia, China executes between 2,000 and 3,000 prisoners each year, primarily as involuntary sources of organ donation. Communist party officials are the priority recipients of these involuntarily donated body parts. Other organs are sold to foreigners for as much as \$30,000 apiece.

Even worse, the rights group says China routinely tortures prisoners to obtain coerced confessions; the possibility of executing innocent people to "harvest" their organs is real.

—*Detroit Free Press*, August 30, 1994

## Abortionist

A Los Angeles abortionist, Leo Kenneally, whose negligence caused the deaths of two young women and injuries to five others, was given a lenient one-year license suspension because, as the abortionist's lawyer put it, the judge believed him to be "an extremely valuable asset to this community."

—*American Life League Communique*  
September 16, 1994

## Sex ed classes

Classes in "comprehensive sex education" are mandated in 17 states, the idea being that they will help reduce unwanted pregnancies and prevent the spread of sexually transmitted diseases. But there's no evidence to suggest they do, says Barbara Dafoe Whitehead in the October *Atlantic Monthly*.

In 1980 New Jersey adopted one of the first mandates for comprehensive sex education. Eleven years later 84 percent of teenage births were to unwed mothers—the fourth-highest rate in the nation, and substantially higher than New Jersey's 68 percent figure in 1980.

—*Detroit Free Press*, October 5, 1994

## Gender secrecy

Hoping to stop the widespread abortion of females, the Indian Parliament has passed a law to prevent a doctor from telling would-be parents the sex of their fetuses.

The lower-house measure will become law after passing through the upper house.

"This will eliminate sex-determination shops, and put an end to this practice," said Deputy Health Minister Pawan Singh Ghatowar.

The measure prevents a doctor from telling pregnant women or their families the fetus' gender or conducting ultrasonography for the purpose of determining it. The bill also bans advertisement of sex-determination tests.

—*Detroit Free Press*, July 28, 1994

## Fired for prolife button

Christine Wilson wore a prolife button to work and got fired for it—after 20 years on the job. US West Communications, one of the nation's largest telecommunications companies, fired Wilson in 1991 after she refused to stop wearing a button depicting a fetus and the slogan, "Stop Abortion—They're Forgetting Someone."

U.S. District Judge Thomas Shanahan of Omaha, Nebraska, upheld the firing, saying it would have caused "undue hardship" on US West for the company to "reasonably accommodate Wilson's religious observance or practice." Wilson says she will appeal the ruling.

US West has long been a corporate sponsor of Planned Parenthood, the nation's largest provider of abortions.

The US West address: Chrm. Richard McCormick, US West, Inc., 7800 E. Orchard Road, Suite 300, Englewood, CO 80111; Telephone: (800) 879-4357.

To encourage Christine Wilson for the stand she has taken, write to her at 3237 4th Ave., Council Bluffs, Iowa 51501.

—*Our Sunday Visitor*, July 31, 1994

## Woman dies

A patient recently bled to death after an abortion performed at the Florida abortuary where abortionist David Gunn was shot to death in 1993. A medical examiner said the woman, age 30, bled to death from a severed artery after her abortion at Pensacola Women's Medical Services clinic.

—*American Family Association Journal*  
September, 1994

## Friends of the Handicapped

*Blessed are you who take the time  
To listen to difficult speech,  
For you help me to know that  
If I persevere, I can be understood.  
Blessed are you who never bid me  
to "hurry up" or take my tasks from me  
And do them for me,  
For I often need time rather than help.  
Blessed are you who stands beside me  
As I enter new and untried ventures,  
For my failures will be outweighed by  
the times I surprise myself and you.  
Blessed are you who asked for my help,  
For my greatest need is to be needed.  
Blessed are you who understand that  
It is difficult for me  
To put my thoughts into words.  
Blessed are you who with a smile,  
Encourage me to try once more.  
Blessed are you who never remind me  
That today I asked  
the same question twice.  
Blessed are you who respect me  
And love me just as I am.*

—*Author Unknown*

## Baby showers

On Sunday, March 12, 1995, from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m., Lifespan will sponsor approximately 20 baby showers simultaneously at different locations throughout the metro area for crisis pregnancy centers.

If you or your church are interested in hosting a baby shower, please call our Main Office at (313) 533-9090.

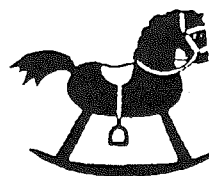
## New address for ECL

The Educational Center for Life (ECL) has moved. Their new address is Coventry Place, 1637 W. Big Beaver, Suite G, Troy 48084-3540. The new phone number is (810) 816-8489.

## Calendar of Events

Oakland County Chapter

Open House ..... January 18  
Sanctity of Life Sunday ..... January 22  
Kennedy Square Rally ..... January 22  
March for Life - Convention  
Washington, DC ..... January 21-23  
Baby Shower ..... March 12  
Mother's Day Dinner ..... May 9



# January 22 Activities

## March for Life

Unborn babies and our country need us to rally by the multitudes in Washington, D. C. at the 22nd annual March for Life. The March will be held on Monday, January 23, beginning at noon, with a Rally in the Ellipse, just south of the White House. A Rose Dinner is also planned for Monday evening.

A March for Life Convention will be held on Saturday and Sunday, January 21-22, at the Hyatt-Regency Capitol Hill Hotel. Rates at the Hotel are \$89 for up to 4 persons per room. For more information

about the March, Dinner or Convention, please call (313) 533-9090.

## Memorial candles

Prolife homes across the metro area will remember the millions of aborted babies by burning candles on the eve of January 22.

Right to Life - Lifespan chapter offices have candles for your use; contact your local office for information and/or to obtain the luminaries for yourself or members of your church.

## Say it with roses!

In conjunction with March for Life activities, live red roses will be delivered to each Member of Congress, the Supreme Court and the President and Vice President on January 23rd.

If you, too, would like to "say it with roses," send your name, address, city, state, zip and phone number, along with a tax-deductible contribution, to MARCH FOR LIFE, Box 90300, Washington, DC 20090. Roses will be sent in your name to your legislators.

# Rally for Life!



**Memorial Rally**  
**Sunday, January 22, 1995**  
**2:00 - 3:00 p.m.**  
**Kennedy Square, Detroit**

*22nd Anniversary of  
Roe v. Wade*



**Sponsored by Right to Life - Lifespan**

**For more information, call (313) 874-0432 or (313) 533-9090**

Please complete this form and return it as soon as possible to Lifespan, 28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127, Livonia, 48152.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, we are interested in attending the Rally for Life!

Church Bus \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, please list my church/organization as a co-sponsor of the Rally!

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor's/Director's Signature (only if co-sponsoring)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Church/Organization Name

## Netherlands Experience

*continued from page 1*

suffering is sufficient to meet the legal criteria for assisted suicide.

In this particular case, 50-year-old Hilly Bosscher was physically healthy, but suffering severe depression after the death of her two children and the breakup of her marriage. The court ruled that her psychiatrist was medically justified in helping her commit suicide.<sup>10</sup>

### The Irony of History

It is particularly ironic that the Netherlands should be the world's leader in allowing ever-expanding killing within its borders, considering their courageous decision to protect life during World War II. The following commentary excerpted from a publication of the International Anti-Euthanasia Task Force provides an excellent historical perspective.

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**...nearly 12,000 patients were directly killed by their physicians in 1990. This comprises nearly 10% of the country's total deaths. Of these, the majority were done without the patient's consent.**

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"During World War II, Holland was the only occupied country whose doctors refused to participate in the German euthanasia program. Dutch physicians openly defied an order to treat only those patients who had a good chance of full recovery. They recognized that to comply with the order would have been the first step away from their duty to care for all patients.

The German officer who gave the order was later executed for war crimes. Remarkably, during the entire German occupation of Holland, Dutch doctors never recommended nor participated in one euthanasia death.<sup>11</sup> Commenting on this fact in his essay, "The Human Holocaust," the highly respected British journalist, Malcolm Muggeridge, wrote that it took only a few decades "to transform a war crime into an act of compassion."<sup>12</sup>

When one steps back to consider the incredible speed with which the Netherlands' acceptance of physician assisted suicide was transformed from a limited right for competent terminally ill adults to an expansive right available to virtually everyone, including healthy but depressed individuals and even to children, one can only ask: Is this what we want for America? And if we do start down the same road as the Netherlands, how can we ever stop?

<sup>1</sup>*Pulse Line, National Association of Pro-Life Nurses, Summer, 1994, p. 4.*

<sup>2</sup>*Medical Decision about the End of Life: Report of the Committee to Study the Medical Practice Concerning Euthanasia, Volumes I and II, The Hague, 1991, ISBN 90 39 90124 4 (hereafter referred to as Report I and Report II, respectively).*

<sup>3</sup>*Ibid, pp. 17-18.*

<sup>4</sup>*"Suicide on Prescription," Sunday Observer, (London, England), April 30, 1989, p. 22.*

<sup>5</sup>*Report II, table 6.8.*

<sup>6</sup>*"Involuntary Euthanasia in Holland," Wall Street Journal, September 29, 1987, p. 3.*

<sup>7</sup>*"Doctor Supplies Boys with Deadly Pills," Brabants Dagblad, October 10, 1987.*

<sup>8</sup>*"It's Almost Over—More Letters on Debbie," letter to the editor by G. B. Humphrey, M.D., PhD., University Hospital, Groninger, The Netherlands, Journal of the American Medical Association, Volume 260, No. 6, August 12, 1988, p. 788.*

<sup>9</sup>*I. J. Keown, "The Law and Practice of Euthanasia in the Netherlands," The Law Quarterly Review, January, 1992, pp. 67-68.*

<sup>10</sup>*New York Times, April 5, 1993, p. A3 and Washington Times, April 22, 1993, p. A2.*

<sup>11</sup>*Leo Alexander, "Medical Science Under Dictatorships," New England Journal of Medicine, Volume 241, July 14, 1949, p. 45.*

<sup>12</sup>*Nancy Gibbs, "Love and Let Die," Time Magazine, March 19, 1990, p. 67.*

*Mrs. Hillebrand, wife, and mother of two children, is a physical therapist and founder of Therapists for Life, an organization for health care professionals concerned with society's increasing disregard for the value of each human life and the contributing role with which modern medicine is assisting in this decline.*

*For more information on Therapists for Life or to receive their quarterly newsletter, free of charge, contact Therapists for Life, PO Box 327, Oxford, MI 48371.*



## Shoppers, beware

In doing your holiday shopping, remember that the following corporations support Planned Parenthood.

**Dayton-Hudson:** Operations include Dayton's, Hudson's, Target, Mervyn's and Marshall Field's. Write to: Mr. Robert Ulrich, Chairman of the Board & CEO, Dayton Hudson Company, 777 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55402; phone: (612) 370-6948.

**Esprit:** Operations include clothing stores and apparel. Write to: Mr. Isaac Stein, Chairman of the Board, ESPRIT, 900 Minnesota St., San Francisco, CA 94107; phone: (800) 777-8765.

**Tandy** (electronic retailer and manufacturer): Products and subsidiaries include Radio Shack, VideoConcepts, McDuff, The Edge in Electronics, Computer City. Write to: Mr. John Roach, Chairman & CEO, Tandy Corporation, 1800 One Tandy Center, Fort Worth, TX 76102; phone: (817) 390-3700.

**Huffy:** Operations include bicycles, basketball products and other recreational, leisure and juvenile products, True Temper Hardware Company, Nu-Line Industries, Gerry Baby Products and Snugli products. Write to: Mr. H. A. Shaw III, Chairman & CEO, Huffy Corporation, PO Box 1204, Dayton, OH 45401; phone: (513) 866-6251.

**Levi Strauss & Company:** Operations include manufacturers brand-name apparel, primarily jeans (including Dockers). Write to: Mr. Robert D. Haas, Chairman, Levi Strauss & Company, P.O. Box 7215, San Francisco, CA 94120; phone: (415) 544-6000 or (800) 872-5384.

**Whirlpool:** Operations include appliances (washers, dryers, refrigerators, air conditioners, freezers, microwave ovens, food waste disposers, ranges, ice makers, trash compactors, dishwashers, hot water dispensers, mixers, dehumidifiers, vacuum cleaners, KitchenAid, Kenmore, etc. Write to: Mr. David R. Whitwam, Chairman, President & CEO, Whirlpool Corporation, Administrative Center, Benton Harbor, MI 49022; phone: (616) 926-5000.

For a complete list of Planned Parenthood corporate supporters, send a \$3.00 donation with a self-addressed, business size envelope, 52¢ U.S. postage affixed, to Life Decisions International, P. O. Box 419, Amherst, NY 14226.



# 1994 Christmas Cards

Your purchase represents support for prolife activities during the coming year. To place an order, arrange for pickup at a location near you and/or for more information, call: Detroit Chapter at (313) 874-0432, Oakland County Chapter at (810) 258-9760 or Wayne West, Downriver Chapter at (313) 422-6230.



## Wise Men in Adoration (in vivid colors)

Inside Verse:

*Wise men still seek  
The Light of the world  
The Lord and Giver of Life  
May His love shine upon you  
This Christmas and always*

(Actual size: 5 $\frac{3}{8}$ " x 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ ")

**\$12.00 per box of 18**

## Babe in Swaddling Cloth (embossed)

Inside Verse:

*God so loved the world  
that He gave us His only Son  
May He who is the Way, the Truth  
and the Life  
Bless you this Christmas  
and always*

(Actual size: 5" x 6 $\frac{5}{8}$ ")

**\$10.00 per box of 18**



## Holy Family (in pastels, gold border)

Inside Verse:

*So gentle this time of wonder  
So holy His moment of birth  
So wondrous this Gift of Life  
When Love was born on earth  
May the Lord of Life bless you  
this Christmas and throughout the coming year*

(Actual size: 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 6")

**\$5.00 per package of 12**





# Chapter

detroit

## Office hours

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

## Holiday Hours

Closed Nov. 24 and 25  
Closed Dec. 23-Jan. 1

## Concert success

A great time was had by all who came to the Detroit Yacht Club for our first-ever buffet and concert. Amid the elegant surroundings of the DYC, (God provided the beautiful weather), we enjoyed an excellent meal created by the renowned chefs of the Yacht Club and then listened to the heavenly music of the Gesu Gospel Choir, Earnestine Nimmons,

Kristin Donahue and Mary Jo Wilson with her son and the quint. Carl Clendenning lent his voice and his talented hands as our accompanist. All of our musicians donated their time to Lifespan. We thank God for their outstanding talent, and we thank them for their time.

Our special emcee was Police Chief Isaiah McKinnon who added a special Detroit flare to the festivities. Thanks Chief!

The Detroit Chapter wishes to give our heartfelt thanks to Mary Dean Campsie who worked so hard organizing this performance. It was an unforgettable event, Mary Dean, and you are a true dynamo. God bless you!

## Rally for Life

Each January, to memorialize the anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, in cities all over this nation, large groups of proliferers gather to show their respect for human life.

Lifespan needs you, your friends, your congregation and your organizations to help us send a powerful message to the people of metro Detroit. We must let it be known that the prolife movement is ALIVE and GROWING despite what the media says!

We cannot accomplish this through wishful thinking. It will only take an hour of your time, and it might just save a life! Please pray for and COME to our next Rally which will be held again at KENNEDY SQUARE, on Sunday, January 22, 1995 from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Let's have as many people at the Rally as we had for the Life Chain. Call us at (313) 874-0432 and let us know how many are coming.

## Detroit Chapter

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

oakland

## Office hours

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

## Holiday hours

Closed Nov. 24 and 25  
Closed Dec. 23-Jan. 1

## We have moved!

Our new office location is at Coventry Place, 1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite G, in Troy. Our new phone number is (810) 816-1546.

We are inviting all of our membership to attend an Open House and Board Meeting, Wednesday, January 18 at 7:30 p.m.

Refreshments will be served, and we hope many of you will plan on visiting us.

## Are you moving?

We recommend that you give Dave Churches your business the next time you need a professional mover. He is very prolife and donated his time to move us. Call us for his phone number. Again, thanks, David!

## Thanks, volunteers

In September, our volunteers were most generous with their time for many efforts. The first being the Troy Daze Fair: Joseph Cilluffo, Denise Duff, Mary and Chris Ehlen, Theresa Elya, Walter Graves, John Jenuwine, Joanne Knauss, Kathy and Roger Labataille, Laura Muglia, Holly Pomaville, Dennis Pozniak, Marilyn and Marisa Schirrick, Kelly Schoenherr, Jeff Schubert, Shelley Silverman, Keyanna Maddox and Elizabeth Ward. At the Calico Fair at Marian High School: Sue Hopkins, Kelly Schoenherr and Mary Beth Theissen. And, finally, our move to Coventry Place: Ginny Czarnecki, Denise Duff, and Monica Mylod, who helped with the packing; Andrew Agbay, Chris Bidlingmaier,

Don Bolton, Dave Churches, Joseph Cilluffo, Darryl Fagelman, Patrick Joyce, Dave Koehler, Bob Mullen, Vince Mullen, Tom O'Neill, Jeff Schubert and Irene Tharp, who helped with the move, transportation and setting up of our new office. Without all of your wonderful help we would not have been able to continue our work. We are very grateful!

## Crosses for Life

St. Anastasia Church in Troy will have the Crosses for Life on their church grounds November 19-27. 2500 crosses will be erected to represent the 32 million babies aborted since 1973. Each cross represents 12,800 babies killed. St. Anastasia is located at 4571 John R, in Troy, north of Wattles (17 Mile). If you get a chance, visit the crosses, and say a prayer for the unborn.

## 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.

## Holiday Hours

Closed Nov. 23-25

Closed Dec. 22-Jan. 2

## Christmas crib

Please remember our annual Christmas Crib for those who choose to donate money to worthwhile organizations in lieu of gift-giving among their families and associates. This year, we plan on using some of the Christmas donations to purchase two mini-sets of fetal models depicting an unborn baby in the womb at different gestational ages. They will be circulated in elementary schools.

We feel that as children view and hold the baby models, they will formulate an image. As they mature and hear an unborn baby referred to as a fetus, or, in pro-abortion language, as a product of conception or a glob of cells, they will already have a fixed picture of an unborn child in their minds.

We encourage you to contribute to this important educational project and request teachers to begin reserving the "babies" for their classrooms.

## Garage sales

Our two garage sales were great successes due to the efforts of Barb Schmid and Cindy Gauvin, our two garage sale wizards, their husbands, families and friends and, of course, to our suppliers and buyers. Our thanks to all of you for

your untiring support in defense of innocent human life!

## Don't be misled

The Wayne County, West and Downriver Chapter of Right to Life - Lifespan hasn't moved from Schoolcraft in Livonia. If you are contacted by phone to send your membership dues or contributions to a post office box or to an office other than a Lifespan office, don't be fooled, this request is not from Lifespan.

## In memoriam

The Board of Directors and members of Lifespan express heartfelt sympathy to the Russell Hesch family in the loss of his mother, Eleanor. May God grant her eternal peace.

## Know your legislators

It is imperative that pro-lifers visit their legislators and become acquainted with them. When phoning or writing, your message is more effective if they can put a face with your name. Elected officials must know that we are a viable organization which will continue to monitor their voting records carefully on the life issues.

If you are interested in legislative action and like to write letters, call the office; we need more liaisons between Lifespan and our Lansing and Washington legislators.

With all the new legislators, this is a perfect time to lay the groundwork for future communication. Please call now!

## Want ads

Our office still needs a few new church reps and city coordinators. You might be the missing link between your church and Lifespan. It doesn't have to take a lot of time. No experience necessary. Call now to volunteer. The babies need YOU!

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

## From the President's Desk

Dear Friends,

The leaves are still falling and Christmas decorations are going up, but tonight seems like the 4th of July.

Yes, it's election night, and fireworks are exploding! What a difference two years makes! It is so interesting to watch the major network news anchors who sang Clinton's praises in 1992, now saying the American people are fed up with Clinton's liberal agenda.

Will the media finally realize how out of touch with reality they are? They have been criticizing the so-called "religious" right, then the "radical" right. Now they may have to admit we were just RIGHT.

Congratulations to all pro-life winners whether they be Republican or Democrat. The real winners here, I hope, will be the babies, as Governor Engler said in his victory speech, "the children, born and unborn."

On another note as the year comes to an end, I want to thank all of you who have so wholeheartedly supported Lifespan's activities this past year.

Thanks also for all your hard work writing letters and making phone calls on Clinton's Health Care Plan.

1995 will mark Lifespan's 25th anniversary of service to southeastern Michigan. I am glad we will be able to start the new year with a ray of hope.

Wishing you all blessings and peace this holiday season and throughout the new year.





# 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):

## Health Care

After a year of legislative frenzy, Congress finally admitted that the health care bill with its objectionable abortion and rationing provisions is dead for now.

Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell announced on September 26 that "health insurance reform cannot be enacted this year." Modified versions of Clinton's bill were reported out of several congressional committees, and senate floor debate had begun.

In 1995, both houses will again consider health care "reform." Watch for "standard benefit packages" to reappear.

## Human Embryo Research

On September 27, the Human Embryo Research Panel of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) recommended guidelines that would allow **taxpayer-funded research on human embryos**. Human embryos will be created in the laboratory for the **sole purpose** of being experimented upon and then destroyed.

The panel has already decided to approve experiments into the third week of human development and called for consideration of experiments at an even later stage. They believe that while "the preimplantation human embryo warrants serious moral consideration as a developing form of human life, it does not have the same moral status as infants and children."

The public has until **December 1st** to send letters of protest to:

**Harold Varmus, M.D., Director  
National Institutes of Health  
9000 Rockville Pike  
Bethesda, MD 20892**

Also, please call and write members of Congress. Tell them that as an American taxpayer you are unwilling to subsidize these atrocities. **Not one single tax dollar should be used to underwrite the ghoulish recommendations of the Human Embryo Research Panel.**

## What Happened to the Freedom of Choice Act?

The Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA) was endorsed by President Clinton, and approved by committees in both the House and the Senate in early 1993. However, the FOCA stalled and died in 1993, without being brought to the floor of the full House and Senate, because even many "pro-choice" members of Congress backed away from it once they understood the sweeping nature of the bill's language. *Congressional Quarterly Weekly Report*, a magazine that covers Congress in detail and with an unusual degree of objectivity, summarized the reason for the failure of FOCA as follows:

*The bill would establish a woman's right to an abortion. But Congress balked at a number of the bill's key provisions, validating the argument of anti-abortion advocates who say the bill goes further than most Americans want. Among the most controversial provisions are those that would prohibit restrictions on third-trimester abortions, overturn several states' requirements that teenagers obtain the consent of one or both parents before having an abortion and prohibit 24-hour waiting periods.*

Nationwide, about 150,000 abortions (8 to 12% of all abortions) annually occur **after** the first three months. Roughly 4,000 abortions annually are performed in the **third trimester**—many of these elective.

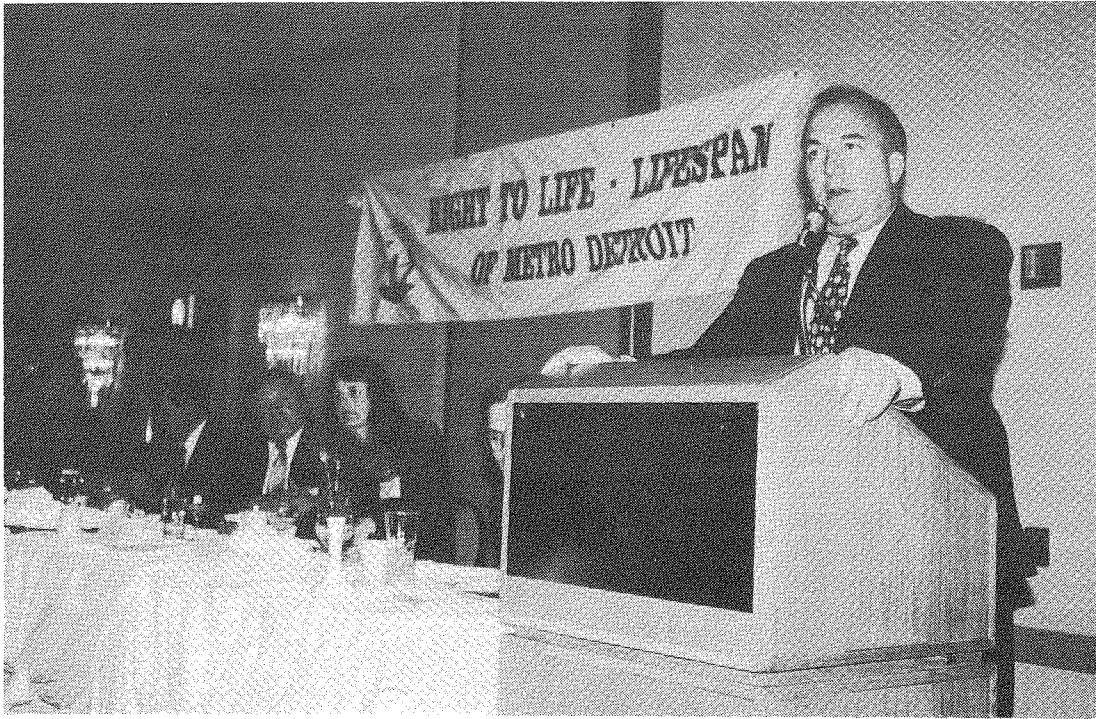
## Holiday Greetings

The holiday season is the perfect time to send a friendly greeting to your legislator, thanking him or her for their prolife support in the past year, or gently urging them to consider our issues in the coming year.

Your local Lifespan office has beautiful cards with a prolife sentiment for your purchase. See addresses (on this page); if you are not sure of the name of your legislator(s), call your local City Hall.



# 1994 Legislative Breakfast



*Governor John Engler addressing the sold-out Legislative Breakfast at the Livonia Marriott on October 22*



*Dave Andrusko, Editor of National Right to Life News*



*U.S. Congressman Joe Knollenberg (seated) and State Senator Mat Dunaskiss (standing)*

## Exploitation of Guilt

continued from page 12

There is always hope that women who have elected abortion to resolve a difficult personal problem will not be encouraged by Macbeth's rationalization for the spilling of more blood. By explaining to them that the foundations of the pro-abortion movement are arrogant and hypocritical and that the Christian belief in redemption can cleanse away a crime committed in times of ignorance, they can be persuaded to forego the convenience of state-sanctioned homicide.

In a universe populated by the Clintons and their morally bankrupt and intellectually lazy followers, every technique of communication becomes necessary to reverse the damage which is being done to the basic values of civilization. While the prolife movement cannot alter, at this time, the chemistry of the Supreme Court, it can project an understanding of a psychological condition from which so many pro-abortion people suffer and for which they can be offered the solace of forgiveness.

*Mr. Fadel, an attorney in Dearborn, is a Christian Lebanese-American, baptized in the Evangelical Church in Lebanon after his father's family had converted from the Greek Orthodox faith to Protestantism through the work of English missionaries.*

### Abortion in your past?

Each year there are 1.6 million abortions in the United States alone. Behind this statistic are women and significant others such as boyfriends, husbands and parents who are suffering from post-abortion stress.

Are you the—mother, father, grandparents, family member, medical personnel, counselor?

You were uncertain. It was the only answer. You thought: "Abortion is legal, it must be right." Pressure seemed to come from everywhere, or nowhere. You didn't know where to turn. It seemed like the sensible thing to do. As a result:

- Do you feel a sense of loss?
- Do you have feelings of despair?
- Are you suffering from emotional, physical or spiritual problems?
- Do you experience alienation and guilt?

**PROJECT RACHEL** is a healing ministry especially for post-aborted women and their families, available through the Archdiocese of Detroit.

Anyone suffering the depressing aftermath of abortion may call the Archdiocese at (313) 237-5910.

**PACE** (Post-Abortion Counseling and Education) is another ministry which brings compassion, forgiveness and healing to those who are hurting in the aftermath of abortion.

The Women in Ramah Bible Study Program, in a group or one-on-one situation, is designed to help those who have experienced or have been affected by abortion.

Dozens of PACE groups have been formed, serving hundreds of hurting women and men. These people have found forgiveness and release from the guilt, anger and sorrow that has disabled them for so many years, enabling them to lead more productive and peaceful lives.

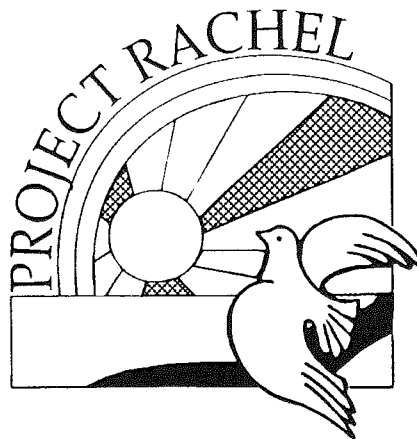
For the nearest PACE Support Group, call Judy Ellsworth at (313) 341-7053 or (313) 455-5255 or Dawn Downs at (313) 722-2839.

*Rachel mourns her children,  
she refuses to be consoled  
because her children are no more.*

*Thus says the Lord:  
Cease your cries of mourning.  
Wipe the tears from your eyes.  
The sorrow you have shown  
shall have its reward.*

*There is hope for your future.*

—Jeremiah 30: 15-17



As Thanksgiving approaches, we are so grateful for so many things at Wee Care:

For the wonderful people who continue to help us — our sorters, resale and garage sale shoppers, shower-givers, etc. — once, strangers' voices on the phone, and now, such special friends.

For God, who continues to perform His "loaves and fishes" miracle when our cupboards are bare.

For our Center — Last year, we operated out of a borrowed storefront with no heat, lights or rest room! Since January, our new office has all three!

For the opportunity to help "our" very precious little ones. Last week a layette was given to a young mother whose newborn daughter was dressed in an undershirt and diaper and except for the old, faded blanket that the hospital let her keep, that was all she had. I wish all of you could have seen the joy, relief and gratitude in the mother's eyes as she accepted her package.

For everyone who has helped Wee Care, no matter in what capacity, you are directly responsible for beautiful moments like the above. So many lives you have touched — so many babies you have helped. We are so thankful for you!

And now, as we begin to tuck snowsuits and warm blanket sleepers into our layettes, our thoughts turn to Christmas. As we remember the Infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a poor manger so many years ago, could we open up our hearts for His littlest miracles who have such desperate needs today? Some ideas that have been suggested are:

A "Giving Tree," where you take a tag and return it with a small gift for a baby.

A "Baby Shower for Jesus," which is popular at schools and church groups.

"Adopting a Baby"—providing a complete layette (clothing, blankets, bottles and diapers). This can be done by a large family or a group at work.

If you are interested or have any questions, please give me a call. As always, thank you from the bottom of my heart for everything you do for our Wee Care babies!

—Karen Patrosso, Director (313) 533-2727



## 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 **Lyle Mehlenbacher**, requested by Mr. and Mrs. Charlton G. Schoeffler.
- In memory of **Jim LaPrad**, requested by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bergmooser.
- In memory of **Eleanor Hesch**, requested by Bob and Patricia Holscher and the Wayne West Chapter board members.
- In memory of **Baby Van Asshe**, requested by Frank and Joanne Fary.

## Dearborn CPC now open

Metro Life Choices Pregnancy Counseling Center is now open. They are located at 13922 Michigan Avenue, west of Schaefer and east of Schlaff, in Dearborn. Ample parking is available behind the building.

They are a resource for any pregnant teen or adult woman, as well as any woman facing post-abortion syndrome. Their purpose is threefold: to save the lives of unborn children, to minister to the spiritual, emotional and physical needs of women in the midst of unplanned and/or unwanted pregnancies, and to provide consistent follow-up care for women after their pregnancies.

Many areas of volunteering opportunities are available. Please call Metro Life Choices at (313) 581-8830.

## Bill Knapp's coupons

We have accumulated approximately 60,000 Community Support coupon points thanks to your generous support. We are saving them toward our goal of 78,000 to be redeemed for a display board for the Oakland County Chapter for use at fairs, festivals, educational booths, etc.

Many thanks to the following donors of coupons in the past two months:

Poepppe, Ober, Schmid, Freda, Kleinbrook, Zmarzlak, Doyle, Kubik, Dionne, Lucas, Modes, Roy, Lesiak, Babik, Kwiatkowski, Tschirhart, St. Perpetua Parish, Ellefson, Trudeau, Cousino, Maguin, Smith, Queen, Kurgan, McCarthy, Wilhelm, Ervin, McLaughlin, Kovacs, Yanik, Ward, Barkay, Phillips, Ellsworth, St. Sabina Queenship of Mary Guild, Ladies Circle of St. Mary Church, MacShane, Sudeck, Nye, Prussing, Behaeghe, Bergmooser, Mosquera, Martin, Mosquera, Kacher, Collins, Bettega, Adair, Lemming, Rosevear, Duke, Dattilo, Kral, Nizol, Benninghouse, Kaza, Church, Van Houten, Condon-Duncanson, Grossa, Marria, Gnaster, Purcell, MacDonald, Grougan, Pfeiffer.

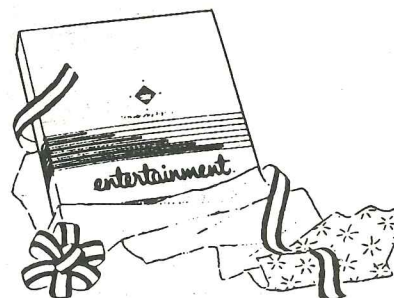
When you present your check to the cashier at any Bill Knapp's Restaurant, ask for a Community Support Coupon.

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

## Last call — Spartans

The Spartan Stores Cash for Labels Program ends December 31. 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. Thanks!

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Save 50% on almost everything; including dining, theatre, sports events, hotels, travel, car washes and more! A perfect gift idea for birthdays, Christmas, anniversaries; it fits everyone and lasts all year long! **Only \$40.**

For every book sold, Lifespan earns \$8. Help us in this fundraiser, and sell *entertainment* 95 to your friends, neighbors, relatives, co-workers.

Available at Lifespan offices

Detroit Chapter (313) 874-0432

Oakland County Chapter (810) 816-1546

Wayne West/Downriver Chapter  
(313) 422-6230

### Lifespan News

December 1994 Vol. 23, No. 8

President/Editor - Ann Sands

Desktop Publisher - Marge Bradley

**Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit**

is a non-profit organization, and is funded entirely by membership dues, private donations and fundraisers. Donations are not tax-deductible.

**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

\_\_\_\_\_ 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.



## The Pro-Abortion Movement and the Exploitation of Guilt

By Ziad A. Fadel

*"I am in blood, stepped in so far that should I wade no more, returning were as tedious as go o'er."*

—Macbeth, Act III, Scene IV

**T**he hidden guilt of many in the fight to preserve abortion has become what Paul Ricoeur might call a symbol of evil. It is the conviction that if you have committed the act of terminating a fetus sometime in your life, you are compelled by your conscience to support the furtherance of these acts lest you arrive at the conclusion that you are a killer. It is hard to come to grips with the sudden appearance of this stigmatic and painful realization. So the movement to permit women to murder babies continues with the support of those who fear that repentance is not available to them because the crime is too heinous.

The guilt hides behind a lexicon of doublespeak. Like the Intelligence Establishment, pro-abortion's apologists spew out every kind of euphemism to cloak the atrocities they feel they must abet. Eradicating the life of the innocent fetus becomes the clinical "terminating a pregnancy." Prohibiting the murder of children becomes interference with the "right to privacy." The socialization of organized mayhem in abortion clinics becomes

"family planning." Liquidating Third World infants becomes "population control." The defenselessness of the human fetus becomes "non-viability." The legal philosophy behind the practice is absurdly called "the right to choose."

Simple people who are tormented by the stain of a prior abortion fall victim to these pompous and academic-sounding mottoes and their collective conscience takes shelter behind them. The people of Germany also were protected from their basest suspicions by the shrill cacophony of Joseph Goebbel's barking out slogans which exhorted the "Master Race" (herrenmensch) to display no pity for the weak and helpless.

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### *The guilt hides behind a lexicon of doublespeak.*

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It is imperative that the pro-life movement find a medium by which those who are riddled with guilt over a prior abortion can be reached. They must be made to feel that their ancient sin, though great, is so intertwined with innocence, ignorance or overpowering hedonism that they still can denounce it without the door of redemption being shut in their face. Absent this approach, the pro-abortion movement will continue to feed off their guilt in a blood-

for-venom symbiosis which can only continue the carnage.

The sin of concealing this guilt is really subsumed within the dual sins of arrogance and hypocrisy. Arrogance is endemic in the belief that if one defends his own sins he or she can make them disappear. This is central to the "moral relativism" which is being imposed upon the uncritical world by vocal proponents of "alternative lifestyles," "radical feminism" and "liberalism," to cite just three euphemisms.

Hypocrisy is in maintaining a pretense of concern for the sanctity of human life such as in the case of capital crimes. Left wing zealots are regularly seen on television chanting their opposition to the execution of some brutal murderer like John Wayne Gacy or Theodore Bundy, a form of extreme uncton, really, which satisfies their need to expiate for the morbid world of infanticide that they promote. By presenting themselves to the public as defenders of the living adult miscreant, they convince some people that their motivations must be humane. **In fact, their defense of the life of the adult killer is totally consistent with their defense and encouragement of those who kill babies.** Thus, their hypocrisy unfolds in the denial of this basic behavioral tenet of the pro-abortion movement.

*continued on page 10*

**Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit**  
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