

LIFESPAN *news*

Volume 46 Number 2

Presenting the Pro-Life Message in Southeastern Michigan Since 1970

Feb./Mar. 2017



Right to Life – LIFESPAN's 28th Annual Baby Shower

Sunday, March 12, 2017

(unless different date noted)

to benefit local Pregnancy Help Centers

Gift Suggestions
Sleepers, onesies, socks, receiving blankets, crib sheets, diapers (size 1 to size 4), baby wipes, wash cloths, towels, pacifiers, bottles, bibs, personal hygiene items for baby, gift cards, cash donations!

In alphabetical order by City:

Auburn Hills Christian Center, **Auburn Hills**
Weekends of March 12th - 16th

Sacred Heart of the Hills, **Auburn Hills**

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, **Beverly Hills**
Weekend of March 4th & 5th

St. Hugo of the Hills, **Bloomfield Hills**

Resurrection Parish, **Canton**

St. John Neumann, **Canton**
Weekends of March 11th - 19th

Guardian Angels **Clawson**

Church of the Divine Child, **Dearborn**
Weekends of March 4th - 12th

St. Alphonsus - St. Clement Church, **Dearborn**

St. Anselm Catholic Church, **Dearborn Heights**
Weekend of March 11th & 12th

St. Sabina Catholic Church, **Dearborn Heights**
Weekend of January 27th & 28th: Diaper Drive

Christ the King Catholic Church, **Detroit**
Sunday, March 5th

St. Gerald Catholic Church, **Farmington**

St. Fabian Catholic Church, **Farmington Hills**
Throughout the Lenten Season

St. Thomas the Apostle Church, **Garden City**

The River and Faith Churches,
Goodrich, Grand Blanc, Holly & Waterford
Mother's Day - Sunday, May 14th

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, **Livonia**
Weekends of January 8th - 22nd: Diaper Drive

St. Colette Catholic Church, **Livonia**
Weekend of March 11th & 12th

St. Edith Catholic Church, **Livonia**

St. Genevieve - St. Maurice Church, **Livonia**
Weekend of March 11th & 12th

St. Rafka Maronite Catholic Church, **Livonia**

St. Mary, Our Lady of the Snows, **Milford**

St. Stephen Catholic Church, **New Boston**

Our Lady of Victory Church, **Northville**
Throughout the Lenten Season

Our Lady of Refuge, **Orchard Lake**

Our Lady of Good Counsel, **Plymouth**

Plymouth Church of the Nazarene, **Plymouth**
Throughout February

St. Kenneth Catholic Church, **Plymouth**
Weekends of March 18th - April 2nd

Our Lady of Loretto Catholic Church, **Redford**
Weekends of March 4th - 12th

St. Valentine Catholic Church, **Redford**

St. Andrew Catholic Church, **Rochester**
Care & Share Weekend of March 4th & 5th

St. Mary of the Hills, **Rochester Hills**
Weekends of March 11th - 19th

Living Rock Church, **Romulus**

St. Kieran Catholic Church, **Shelby Township**
Weekend of March 11th & 12th

St. Jane Frances de Chantal, **Sterling Heights**
Sunday, March 5th

Christ Our Light Catholic Church, **Troy**
**TRADITIONAL* February 26th - 2-3:30 pm*

St. Thomas More Catholic Church, **Troy**
Weekend of March 11th & 12th

St. William Catholic Church, **Walled Lake**
After Easter - Date TBD

St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church, **Warren**

Ss. Simon and June Catholic Church, **Westland**
**TRADITIONAL* March 12th - 1-3 pm*

Baby Showers will be held at these locations.
Bring new or gently used baby items.

March 44

It is really easy to get discouraged. I was especially. I felt that organizations like Planned Parenthood were “winning” because of the Women’s March and the slow progress of the Pro-Life Movement during the past eight years. To be honest, I thought that the Pro-Life Movement was a lost cause (or close to one). I guess it’s just the feeling that all odds are against us—even Christ says “that people will hate you because of my name.” I am a very visual person, and it’s harder for me to understand things completely without seeing them. As I stepped across security lines and into the rally, there weren’t many people at first, but eventually so many people accumulated that people were squished like sardines in a can and filing space beyond the barriers surrounding the rally. The March was a great way to walk alongside friends, family, classmates, teachers and all people alike and to let our actions say to the government that we Americans believe and are willing to stand up for this mission of Life and willing to defend it, even if it means angry comments on our Twitter, etc. Just because we don’t see evil happening doesn’t make it non-existent. Sometimes, we have to step out of the utopia of ourselves into the realities of the world. The March was a great reassurance of hope that so many people are willing to stand up against a moral injustice!

— Anna, high school student



Silent Auction and Tin Can Raffle

Auction Items Needed!

Every year at our *Celebration of Life* Dinner in May, we have a wonderful variety of items for the Silent Auction and Tin Can Drawing. We are looking for items that will bring in large auction bids, such as:

- Accommodations at tourist destinations
- Restaurant Gift Cards (Red Lobster, Applebee's, etc.)
- Sporting Event Tickets
- Specialty/Department Store Gift Cards
- Golf Packages
- Family-Friendly places to visit
- Movie Packages

Monetary donations will be put to good use; donate any amount and an auction item will be created in your name. Please go to miLIFESPAN.org/donate to donate online or call the Main Office at 734-524-0162 for more information.

Celebration of Life Dinner Silent Auction

Tuesday, May 16, 2017*

San Marino Club

1685 East Big Beaver Road
Troy, Michigan



- ★ Silent Auction begins at 5:30 pm
- ★ Dinner served at 7:15 pm

*Dinner will be on Tuesday after Mother's Day this year.

What a great Mother's Day GIFT... Bring your mom to our Celebration of Life dinner.

Dinner Reservations: \$50 per person/\$475 per table of 10. Students (under 21) \$25 per person

Advance reservations by Friday, April 21.

Yes, I (We) plan to attend. Enclosed please find a check in the amount of \$_____ for _____ reservations. (Please list names of all those for whom reservations are made on a separate sheet of paper).

Seat with _____

Yes, I (We) plan to sponsor a table to 10. Enclosed please find one check in the amount of \$_____ for _____ tables. (Please list names of all those for whom table reservations are made on a separate sheet of paper. Table seating will be determined by date of receipt of paid reservation).

I (We) are not able to attend. Enclosed is a donation of \$_____ to support your pro-life efforts.

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____ Email Address _____



For Dinner reservations, please make checks payable and mail to:

Right to Life - LIFESPAN, 1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Ste. G, Troy, MI 48084. For more information, call 248.816.1546.

Photos/videos may be taken at this event and may be used on the web, in publications and/or other media. If you would prefer that your image not be included, please contact Right to Life - LIFESPAN's Main Office at 734.524.0162 or mainoffice@rtl-lifespan.org



Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund

RESOURCE BOOK 2017

Advertising Contract

This book will contain pro-life informational material that will be used throughout the year. Your ad represents support for LIFESPAN's educational efforts. Please fill out the form below and send it to us with your remittance included.

I wish to publish a _____ page ad for the
sum of \$ _____

Please run:

_____ last year's ad
_____ enclosed NEW ad
_____ EMAILED ad

Full Page (7 x 10) \$300 Inside Front Cover \$350 Inside Back Cover \$350 Outside Back Cover \$575	<table border="1"> <tr> <td> 1/4 Page (3½ x 5) \$120 </td> <td> 1/8 Page (3½ x 2½) \$70 </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"> 1/2 Page (3½ x 5) \$170 </td> </tr> </table>	1/4 Page (3½ x 5) \$120	1/8 Page (3½ x 2½) \$70	1/2 Page (3½ x 5) \$170	
1/4 Page (3½ x 5) \$120	1/8 Page (3½ x 2½) \$70				
1/2 Page (3½ x 5) \$170					

Deadline for submission is Friday, March 24, 2017.

- Due to the difficulty of working with various formats, we prefer to receive pdf files, at 300 dpi, all fonts embedded, sent by email to: mainoffice@rtl-lifespan.org, indicating "LIFESPAN Resource Book Ad" in the subject line. In the case of electronic submissions, please send contract and check via post to the address below.
- You may also send a hard copy, camera-ready ad.
- If you are not able to submit camera-ready work, we will help you with your ad, just call us!
- **Payment must accompany ad and contract.**
- Advertisers will be sent a copy of the LIFESPAN Resource Book *upon request only*.
- LIFESPAN reserves the right to refuse any advertisement that it deems unsuitable.

A complimentary dinner ticket to the 2017 Annual LIFESPAN Dinner on Tuesday, May 16, 2017, will be given to any individual for every \$200 worth of new ads obtained for LIFESPAN's 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 Educational Fund**.

Contact Person _____ Phone (_____) _____

Name of Advertiser/Business _____ Email _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Ad Seller's Signature _____ Phone (_____) _____

_____ YES, please send me a copy of the 2017 LIFESPAN Resource Book.

Visit miLIFESPAN.org/donate or call the Main Office to use a Credit Card or mail checks payable to:

Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund

32540 Schoolcraft Road, Suite 100, Livonia, MI 48150-4305

For further information, call: 734.524.0162 or email: mainoffice@rtl-lifespan.org

Contributions to Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund are deductible as charitable contributions for Federal Income Tax purposes.

Feb/Mar17 News

Put your special photo in LIFESPAN's Resource Book



Purchase a special ad to recognize the accomplishments of someone special! It's a great way to acknowledge a graduate, retirement, anniversary, 1st Communicant, scout troop, special teacher, etc.! Purchase a 1/8-page ad to feature your children, grandchildren or other special someone in Right to Life - LIFESPAN's Educational Fund Resource Book 2017. **Photo Ads are tax-deductible!** Fill out the form for photo ads below and send \$40 with a non-professional photo, along with the names of those pictured, or other desired caption, to: **Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund, 32540 Schoolcraft Rd., Ste. 100, Livonia, MI 48150-4305**. All picture ads must be received by **March 24, 2017**. If you would like your pictures returned, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. If you prefer to e-mail your photo, you may send them in JPEG format to **mainoffice@rtl-lifespan.org** (with "LIFESPAN Photo" in the subject line) and mail your check to the above LIFESPAN address. For more information, call Right to Life - LIFESPAN's Main Office at 734.524.0162.

Yes! Please include my photo in LIFESPAN's 2017 Resource Book!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Name(s) of people in photo (or other caption) _____

_____ My photo and check are enclosed _____ My photo will be sent by e-mail; enclosed is my check.

Ad Seller's Name (if name is other than above) _____ Phone _____

Be a LIFESPAN Patron!

Resource Book 2017 Patron Ads:

Gold Patron \$100 Silver Patron \$50 Bronze Patron \$10 Memorial Patron \$10

Please PRINT name(s) exactly as you wish them to appear. Names of patrons in each of these categories will be listed on separate pages in the Resource Book 2017. **Patron Ads are tax-deductible; make checks payable to Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund.** Deadline for submission is **March 24, 2017**.

Patron Name(s) - Gold, Silver or Bronze _____

Memorial Patron Name(s) (deceased): _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Ad Seller's Name (if name is other than above) _____ Phone _____

Visit miLIFESPAN.org/donate or call the Main Office to use a Credit Card or mail checks payable to:

Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund

32540 Schoolcraft Rd., Ste. 100, Livonia, MI 48150-4305

734-524-0162 • mainoffice@rtl-lifespan.org • miLIFESPAN.org

Contributions to Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund are deductible as charitable contributions for Federal Income Tax purposes.

v.3



“My body, my choice”: Why bodily autonomy doesn’t justify abortion

By Paul Stark

Abortion is justified, many of its defenders argue, because women have a right to control their own bodies. “My body, my choice,” signs and bumper stickers proclaim. The bodily autonomy argument takes a few different forms. None, however, are successful.

Some people think that the unborn (the human embryo or fetus) is a mere part of the woman’s body. But science, of course, has established that the unborn—though physically dependent on and inside of the mother—is a distinct, self-developing individual with his or her own DNA, brain, arms and legs, etc.

Abortion attacks and kills the body of someone else.

Other people believe that even though the unborn is a distinct human organism, a pregnant woman should be able to decide what happens in or to her body. Whereas many arguments for abortion contend that the human being in utero is not a “person” with intrinsic value and rights, this argument holds that abortion is permissible regardless of whether or not the child is a valuable person.

The Sovereign Zone argument

Trent Horn helpfully distinguishes between two variations of this approach. The first version, which he calls the “Sovereign Zone” argument, claims that a woman has an absolute right to do whatever she wants with anything that is inside her body. And the unborn child—even if she is a human person—is currently within that sovereign zone.

But sovereignty cannot be absolute. Consider an analogy: May we do whatever we want with anything that is on our private property? May we attack or kill innocent people who are passing through or seeking refuge? No, we must respect the rights of other people. “Mere ownership,” acknowledges pro-choice philosopher Mary Anne Warren, “does not give me the right to kill innocent people whom I find on my property.” And so it is with pregnancy.

May a pregnant woman ingest drugs that she knows will cause her child to be deformed or disabled? Clearly not. And if knowingly harming the child is wrong, killing her (through abortion) is even worse. Bodily autonomy is important, but there are obvious limits to that autonomy when someone else’s body is also involved.

The Right to Refuse argument

The second, more sophisticated version, which Horn calls the “Right to Refuse” argument, was first introduced by moral philosopher Judith Jarvis Thomson in 1971. It contends that a woman has a right to refuse to let the unborn child use her body to survive. Just as a person is not obligated to donate an organ to save the life

of someone else, the pregnant woman is not obligated to provide her uterus (and the sustenance and protection it affords) to her child.

This argument has enormous problems. Abortion, in the vast majority of cases, is not merely the withholding or withdrawing of “life support” from the unborn child—it is the intentional and active killing of that

child, often by dismemberment. This killing violates the child’s right to life (the right not to be intentionally killed) and right to bodily integrity. Indeed, “if people have a right to bodily integrity and so do not have a duty to donate a kidney,” writes philosopher Christopher Kaczor, “then people in utero have a right not to have their bodily integrity fatally violated through abortion” [www.amazon.com/Ethics-Abortion-Question-Routledge-Bioethics/dp/041573293X].

Moreover, even if abortion were not intentional killing (i.e., if it were simply a refusal to aid the child by removing her from the womb), abortion would still be wrong because a pregnant woman does have an obligation to allow her baby to live and grow in the womb. Here’s why.

First, the father and mother, except in cases of rape, willingly engaged in an activity that caused the creation of a new, dependent human being. So they bear responsibility for the resulting child.

Second, parents have special obligations to their dependent offspring that they do not have to others. Fathers, for example, must pay child support even if they did not intend or desire to become fathers. Parents may not abandon their children or refuse to provide for their needs (though they may relinquish those obligations through adoption).

Indeed, more generally, “we are by nature members of communities,” explains ethicist Patrick Lee. “[O]ur flourishing involves being in communion with others. And communion with others of itself—even if we find ourselves united with others because of a physical or social relationship which precedes our consent—entails duties or responsibilities.”

Parental obligation may not require extraordinary acts (like donating a kidney), but it does require basic,



continued on page 13

Bioethics in 2017

By Wesley J. Smith

Aside from Donald Trump's call to "repeal and replace" Obamacare and Hillary Clinton's promise to repeal the Hyde Amendment, bioethical issues were not much discussed during the 2016 election. But that doesn't mean that such issues won't be important in the coming year. Here are five bioethical issues that have the potential to explode into controversy.

Assisted Suicide: Last year, Colorado voters and the Washington, D.C. City Council legalized physician-assisted suicide. Ohio, by contrast, passed a law making assisted suicide a felony, no matter who does the helping, and attempts to legalize doctor-prescribed death in about half the states failed. Expect advocates across the country—funded in the abundant millions by George Soros—to push legalization again, with the greatest efforts focused in Hawaii, Massachusetts, New York, and New Jersey.



While this issue mostly plays out at the state level, there is potential for the debate to go federal. In 1997, the United States Supreme Court ruled 9-0 that there is no constitutional right to assisted suicide. I believe advocates would like to try again for an assisted suicide *Roe v. Wade*—such as they just achieved in Canada—but they would need around twenty states to legalize in order to make another go at it. Opponents of assisted suicide could strike a body blow by amending the Controlled Substances Act to prohibit the use of federally regulated drugs in the intentional ending of life. Indeed, during the Bush years, the Department of Justice interpreted the CSA to that effect, but that interpretation was deemed invalid by the United States Supreme Court, for failure to follow proper administrative procedures. It is worth noting, however, that the Court ruled that Congress could pass such a prohibition. Perhaps some intrepid congressman or senator will take up that important cause.

Futile Care: Futile care is a form of ad hoc health-care rationing. Doctors and hospital bioethics committees are empowered to refuse to provide wanted life-sustaining treatment, based on their perception of the patient's

quality of life and/or cost-of-care considerations—a true “death panel.” The bioethics movement has been quietly pushing futile care for years, with mixed success, mostly via internal hospital administrative policies.

Texas—improbable as it might seem—has the most explicitly pro-futile care law. Repealing the Texas law has proved difficult. But a major legal challenge has now been mounted, seeking to declare the law unconstitutional. Notably, the Texas Attorney General decided not to defend the futile care provisions of Texas law. If the law is ruled unconstitutional, it will be a blow to the futile care movement nationwide. If it is not, look for increased legislative efforts to grant bioethics committees the legal right to make the ultimate decision about whether to provide life-sustaining medical treatment.

Brave New World: The term “Brave New World” encompasses a number of developing, futuristic biotechnologies that have the potential to influence culture, medicine, and our concept of the human family. Did I say “futuristic”? That “future” is already here. Though it has been little noted in the media, scientists have successfully accomplished human cloning, manufacturing four human embryos via the same process that created Dolly the sheep. Researchers are on the verge of creating sperm and eggs from skin cells. In rodent tests, these gametes were successfully fertilized and pups were born. The UK has opened the door to the creation of “three-parent” embryos, now intended to prevent the transmission of mitochondrial disease but with the potential to create novel family forms. The FDA has also begun considering the question. Bioscientists are beginning to clamor for permission to experiment on twenty-eight-day-old embryos, twice the current general fourteen-day restriction on maintaining embryos for experiments. A form of gene editing called CRISPR makes it easy to genetically engineer any organism, including human beings.



Given our increasing biotechnological prowess and the potential consequences of these new developments,

continued on page 14



Legislative Update

Michigan Bill Becomes Law That Will Stop Abortion Clinics From Selling Aborted Baby Parts

On December 28, 2016, Michigan Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley signed into law the Fetal Organ Trafficking Ban.

Federal and Michigan law bans tissue trafficking, but a loophole allows tissue traffickers to compensate abortion clinics. Vague language together with federal officials friendly to abortion meant that abortion clinics could successfully evade the law.

Michigan's new ban is comprised of two bills. S.B. 564 prohibits the exchange of any form of compensation for fetal tissue or organs. S.B. 565 describes the legal penalties for engaging in the trade of fetal tissue or organs. The bills received bi-partisan support, including some legislators in the Michigan House who generally support abortion.

Michigan's new ban will still allow organ and tissue donations to proceed, but no longer can abortion businesses abuse the spirit of the law by profiting from such donations.

The Fetal Organ Trafficking Ban ends another successful pro-life legislative session in Michigan. Earlier in 2016, the Rape Survivor Child Custody Act and the Coercive Abortion Prevention Act were also signed into law.

—LifeNews.com, December 28, 2016

Pro-Life Rep. Paul Ryan Re-elected Speaker of House

Pro-life work in 2016 elections paying dividends for unborn babies

Pro-life Rep. Paul Ryan (R-Wis.) has been overwhelmingly re-elected as Speaker of the House. Pro-life Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) was unanimously reelected Senate Majority Leader on November 16.

The January 3rd vote count for the Speaker position was 239 votes for Ryan and 189 votes for pro-abortion Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.).

Pelosi, who supports abortion on demand, will continue to serve as the minority leader.

Soon there will be announcements of pro-life legislation making its way through the legislative process and eventually to the desk of pro-life President Donald Trump.

Three areas of major focus will be protecting pain-capable unborn babies from abortion, making the Hyde Amendment a permanent law under the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act, and defunding Planned Parenthood, the largest abortion provider in the world.

—National Right to Life News Today
January 3, 2017

Reflections on President Trump's Inaugural Address

Editor's note: What follows are the personal reflections of the author.

By Dave Andrusko

When I left the NRLC (National Right to Life Committee) office in Washington, DC [on January 20] to grab a cup of coffee, I glanced at my watch. It read exactly 8:05.

I felt a single drop of rain fall on my sleeve. Since rain was in the forecast, I feared the inauguration might be bathed in showers. But as far as I can tell, we were moisture-free for the next four hours.

After now-President Donald Trump had delivered his speech, there were a series of stirring prayers (as there had been earlier). The Rev. Franklin Graham, Billy Graham's son, came second.

He began by noting, "Mr. President, in the Bible, rain is a sign of God's blessing. And it started to rain, Mr. President, when you came to the platform. And it's my prayer that God will bless you, your family, your Administration, and may He bless America."

Our family has lived in the Washington, DC area since 1981. As trite as it sounds (and I know it does), the peaceful transfer of power (the best efforts of angry protestors to the contrary notwithstanding) never fails to

Contact Information

President

President Donald Trump
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500
Opinion Line: 202-456-1111, M-F, 9-5
Fax Number: 202-456-2461
Web contact: www.whitehouse.gov/contact/
Dear Mr. President:

U.S. Senators

The Honorable (Gary Peters, Debbie Stabenow)
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-3121
Website/Email: www.peters.senate.gov/
Website/Email: www.stabenow.senate.gov/
Dear Senator (last name):

U.S. Representatives

The Honorable (first and last name)
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-224-3121
Website/Email: www.house.gov/
Dear Congressman/Congresswoman (last name):

Governor

The Honorable Rick Snyder
P.O. Box 30013, Lansing, MI 48909
517-373-3400
Opinion Line: 517-335-7858
Website: www.michigan.gov/snyder
Email: Rick.Snyder@michigan.gov
Dear Governor Snyder:

Michigan State Senator

The Honorable (full name)
P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48909
517-373-1837
Web contact: www.senate.mi.gov/
Dear Senator (last name):

Michigan State Representative

The Honorable (full name)
P.O. Box 30014, Lansing, MI 48909
517-373-1837
Web contact: www.house.mi.gov/
Dear Representative (last name):

send a chill up my spine. Watching the ceremonies on television, I felt proud of my country.

If you did not hear his speech, go to YouTube and watch. The reasons President Trump won are there in bold relief.

This was a rough election, with bad feelings abounding. A year ago no one, and I do mean no one beyond Mr. Trump, thought he could be elected President for all the reasons we are all familiar with.

But he did win 304 electoral votes, a victory so stunning, so unexpected, so counter the media consensus, that many who are not professional Trump-haters remain stunned. I don't think it would be ungracious to say they are not accepting defeat graciously.

Over the course of the campaign, Mr. Trump made a series of very explicit promises to the pro-life community. It begins with the aforementioned promise to nominate only pro-life justices to the Supreme Court. In his first press conference after the election, then President-elect Trump said that would make his first nomination (to replace the late Justice Antonin Scalia) "within two weeks" of his inauguration.

Mr. Trump also vowed to sign into law the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, which would end painful late-term abortions nationwide, defund Planned Parenthood as long as they continue to perform abortions, and reallocate their funding to community health centers that provide comprehensive health care for women.

And as we know from previous changes in administrations, there is a bevy of Executive Orders that can be taken soon to begin to heal some of the damage inflicted by pro-abortion President Barack Obama.

A final thought about President Trump's speech. Having listened to President Obama talk about himself unceasingly, it was refreshing and heartening that President Trump rarely used the word "I."

The speech was brief and vintage Trump. There were few rhetorical flourishes—but they were very good—and many, many promises to keep faith with the American people. Most specifically that "The forgotten men and women of our country will be forgotten no longer."

And no one has been more forgotten, more neglected, or treated more unfairly than the unborn child.

Congratulations President Donald Trump.

—National Right to Life News Today, January 20, 2017

President Donald Trump Signs Executive Order to Defund International Planned Parenthood

Most pro-life Americans are anxiously awaiting Congress to pass a bill to defund the Planned Parenthood abortion business. While that defunding legislation concerns the domestic-based Planned Parenthood

abortion corporation, President Trump has the ability to put in place an executive order that would revoke funding for its International affiliate.

When pro-abortion former President Barack Obama took office, Obama overturned a policy that prevented funding of groups that promote or perform abortions overseas. The Mexico City Policy covered over \$400 million in federal funds, part of which flowed to the abortion businesses International Planned Parenthood and Marie Stopes International for their foreign efforts.

The pro-life policy had been in place during the entirety of the Bush administration and Obama rescinded it on his first week in office. Named for a 1984 population conference where President Reagan initially announced it, the Mexico City Policy made it so family planning funds could only go to groups that would agree to not do abortions or lobby foreign nations to overturn their pro-life laws. On January 23rd, Trump restored the Mexico City Policy by executive order.

The Executive Memorandum to reinstate the Mexico City Policy stops taxpayer funding of groups that perform and promote abortions overseas but does not stop non-abortion international assistance. The order ensures U.S. foreign aid will continue to go to health care and humanitarian relief in the millions of dollars. It just will not subsidize abortion overseas.

Leading pro-life groups were quick to praise Trump.

"President Trump is continuing Ronald Reagan's legacy by taking immediate action on day one to stop the promotion of abortion through our tax dollars overseas," said Susan B. Anthony List President Marjorie Dannenfelser. "President Trump's immediate action to promote respect for all human life, including vulnerable unborn children abroad, as well as conscience rights, sends a strong signal about his Administration's pro-life priorities."

—Excerpted from *LifeNews.com*, January 23, 2017
(To read this article in its entirety, go to: <http://www.lifenews.com/2017/01/23/president-donald-trump-signs-executive-order-to-defund-international-planned-parenthood/>)

Please consider thanking President Trump for signing the executive order to defund International PP, through the comment page of the White House website. Here is the link: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact#page>. Also, please consider sharing both links on social media.



As our newsletter goes to press, President Trump has nominated federal appellate court judge Neil Gorsuch to the United States Supreme Court. Look for more information on Judge Gorsuch and his nominating process in the next issue of the *LIFESPAN News*.



LIFESPAN Chapter News

Oakland/Macomb Counties

Ads, Ads, Ads

Do you own a business? Do you know someone who owns a business? Do you ever shop at a business? (silly, of course you do!) Do you have any children? Do you know someone who has a bunch, or just one or two grandchildren? Do those parents or grandparents like to see their children and grandchildren in pictures? Do you know anyone who is pro-life and just doesn't have time to be actively involved? Does someone cut your hair? Do you know if your doctor or dentist or hairdresser, or snow-removal serviceman, or your manicurist, or veterinarian, or dog groomer, or church, or attorney, or ANYBODY who is pro-life?

If you answered yes to any of these, that individual or business might be interested in placing an ad in our Celebrate Life Dinner Resource Book. In most cases, all that has to happen for them to say, "Sure, I'll place an ad in the book," is that they need to be asked.

If each of you asked two or three people, odds are that at least one of them would say yes. That would increase our ads by literally hundreds of new people.

On pages 4 and 5 of this issue of *LIFESPAN News*, you will find an ad contract and a photo/patron flier

that explain all the prices, etc. If someone wants to see the book, we can get one from previous years to them.

This is really important. The proceeds from the Dinner and the Resource Book really comprise the entire budget for LIFESPAN'S Main Office. In order for us to keep the doors open and the lights on, we need you to ask someone, everyone, and anyone to take an ad in the book.

The absolute, most awful thing that can happen is that the person says, "no," but they will know that you care about Life and our responsibility to protect it.

Think About It

Mother Teresa of Calcutta said, "The so-called right to abortion has...sown violence and discord at the heart of the most intimate human relationships. It has portrayed the greatest of gifts—a child—as a competitor, an intrusion and an inconvenience. It has nominally accorded mothers unfettered dominion over the independent lives of their physically dependent sons and daughters."

1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite G, Troy, MI 48084-3540

Phone: 248-816-1546

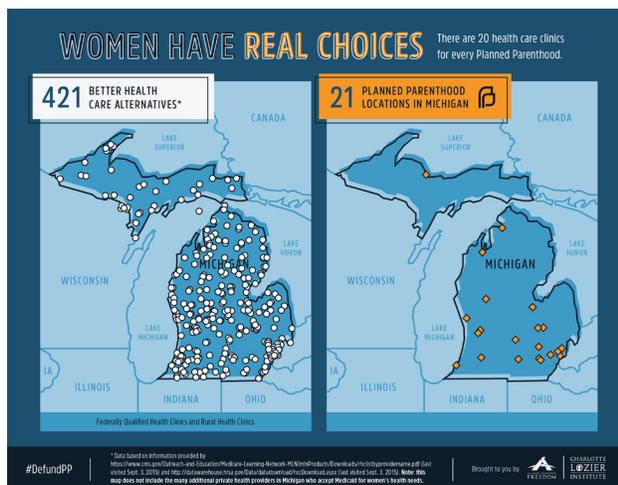
e-mail: oakmac@rtl-lifespan.org

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9-3

Diane Trombley, Director/Ofc. Mgr.

Lynn Gura, Ofc. Staff & Youth Director

Wayne County



The REAL Score in Michigan: Health Care Centers 421 vs. PP 21

Federally-qualified health clinics and rural health clinics outnumber Planned Parenthood clinics 20 to 1 in Michigan. The actual numbers completely destroy the abortion giant's claims that women wouldn't have access to healthcare without their abortion clinics. On the contrary, low-income healthcare clinics would be able to provide even more services, if they were to receive the money currently allocated to PP.

Hopefully, the newly elected officials in Washington, D.C. will take an actual look at the numbers for low-cost healthcare for women and finally DEFUND Planned Parenthood!

Let's provide real, quality healthcare to women and their babies. #DefundPP

Maps and data were compiled and created by Alliance Defending Freedom and the Charlotte Lozier Institute. The national data reflects the same ratio across the country. Important note: this map does not include the many additional private health providers in Michigan who accept Medicaid for women's health needs.

Successful Luminary Memorial

Thank you to everyone who participated in our luminary memorial on January 21-22. Each candle lit throughout the night created awareness of the over 59 million lives lost through abortion in the United States since the decision of *Roe v. Wade* on January 22, 1973.

"It is better to light one candle, than to curse the darkness."

32540 Schoolcraft Rd., Ste. 210, Livonia, MI 48150-4305

Phone 734-422-6230 • Fax 734-422-8116

e-mail: wcdr@rtl-lifespan.org

Office Hours: MW 10:30-4; TTh: 9-2:30; Friday Closed

Eileen Brandt, Director

Anne Marie Morin, Office Manager



Wee Care

Dear Friends,
A New Year! A New President!
New Hope! And New Babies!

One of the first babies you have helped in the New Year is a little one whose grandmother frantically called us. Her daughter and six-month-old baby were abandoned in another city by the baby's father. He took everything, including her daughter's cell phone. With no way to call her family and nothing but a blanket and a few diapers, she walked into the closest police station.

The caring officers there, fed her and her little daughter, provided some diapers and had her call her mom here in Michigan. They purchased a train ticket home and gave her food for the long trip. As she travelled home, her mom called us!

They were picking them up from the train station that evening and had nothing for the baby.

BECAUSE OF YOU—we were able to give her formula, diapers, wipes, baby wash, clothing, soft blankets and a warm snowsuit!

When her daughter and precious granddaughter arrived late that night, they not only felt their family's love surround them, but your love as well!

And so the year begins—you touching lives and making such a difference! Thank you for all you have done—God bless you for all you do!

Love, Karen



A Program of Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund
32540 Schoolcraft Rd., Ste. 100, Livonia, MI 48150-4305
Phone: 734-524-0165 • Fax: 734-524-0166
Office Hours: By appointment; Karen Patrosso, Director

All material and monetary donations to Wee Care are tax-deductible. Checks must be made payable to Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund.

LIFE IS PRECIOUS



Artwork by Claudia Bihar, one of our youth who attended the March for Life 2017 with LIFESPAN.

Lights for Life Remembrances

continued from January LIFESPAN News

IN MEMORY OF:

★ Marsha Van Hoey; Richard Masiarak, requested by Ed and Laurie Van Hoey ★ Bob Hansen, Elena Tilley, requested by Lucy Hansen ★ Elizabeth Petroff, requested by Tom and Irene Tharp ★ Matthew and Barbara Keller, Leo and Madeline Long, Henry Dziadosz, Mary Ann Perkins, Richard Rzepka, requested by Matthew and Madeline Keller ★ Vigliotti Families, Spietz Families, requested by Judy Vigliotti.

IN HONOR OF:

★ Elaine Kisner, Masiarak and Van Hoey Families, requested by Ed and Laurie Van Hoey ★ Friend of Life, Sharon Cisco ★ Friend of Life, Joseph Heffernan ★ All LIFESPAN Workers, requested by Judy Vigliotti ★ Friend of Life, Anne J. Stouffer ★ Friend of Life, Joan Martinuzzi ★ Ace Cudillo, requested by Mark Joyce ★ Friend of Life, Michael Condit ★ Friends of Life, Mr. and Mrs. Michael DePetris ★ Friend of Life, Chester Lawrence ★ Friend of Life, Daniel Vecchioni ★ Elizabeth Parnin, requested by Chris and Christine Parnin.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT GIRL SCOUT COOKIES

2017

What's the Concern About Funding Girl Scout Councils and GSUSA?

- The Girl Scout organization participated in 2016 Presidential politics:
 - Girl Scouts hosted and starred in a Hillary for America campaign ad
 - Girl Scouts partnered in post-election protests in New York City against President-elect Trump
 - Girl Scouts celebrated Hillary Clinton's candidacy as a top 10 moment of 2016, honoring her as a "proud Girl Scout alum [who] made history and inspired many girls and women across the country"
- Girl Scouts' curriculum for girls, sold and promoted by every local Girl Scout council, recommends pro-abortion role models/organizations such as Betty Friedan, Gloria Steinem, Geraldine Ferraro, Hillary Clinton, Amnesty Intl., Population Council, ACLU, and National Organization For Women.
- Local Girl Scout councils and Girl Scouts USA (GSUSA) honor and promote abortion rights advocates including Michelle Obama, Hillary Clinton, Donna Edwards, Nancy Pelosi, and Barbara Mikulski, among many others.
- GSUSA confirms that its local councils and troops may collaborate with Planned Parenthood.
- GSUSA is the largest member organization of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS), providing 2.6 million of its 10 million girl and adult members worldwide and paying approximately 1.5 million dollars annually to WAGGGS based on the number of registered GSUSA members.
- WAGGGS, which states that "anyone who is a Girl Guide or Girl Scout is automatically a member of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts," aggressively promotes youth reproductive/abortion and sexual rights, specifically on behalf of its 10 million members.
- GSUSA maintains memberships in abortion rights advocacy groups, including the Coalition for Adolescent Girls. Other organizations working alongside GSUSA in these groups include abortion providers International Planned Parenthood Federation and Marie Stopes International, and numerous organizations that push for unrestricted abortion rights.

Pastoral Guidance/Statements of Concern Regarding Girl Scouts

- Pro-life entities and Catholic Bishops have recently published concerns with supporting documentation in an effort to inform families about the pro-life concerns surrounding the Girl Scout organization.
- Pro-life groups publishing concerns include National Right to Life and Missouri Right to Life.
- Organizations offering pastoral guidance include the Archdiocese of St. Louis, the Diocese of Colorado Springs, Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau, and the Archdiocese of Kansas City, KS.

Where Does The Cookie Money Go?

- A girl's troop keeps an average of just 10 to 20 percent of the money she collects from selling cookies.
- The local council receives an average of 65 to 75 percent of the money collected by all local troops.
- GSUSA collects a royalty payment based upon its licensed trademark on every box of cookies produced. With approximately 200 million boxes of cookies sold annually, this amounts to millions of dollars of funding for GSUSA every year.

Now that I know...
no thank you.

For documentation of this information and additional pro-life concerns about the Girl Scout organization, visit:

MyGirlScoutCouncil.com

“My Body, My Choice”

continued from page 6

ordinary care, such as the nourishment and shelter provided during pregnancy. If unborn children are valuable members of the human family, like born children, then the same parental duties that apply after birth are present beforehand as well.

Third, the purpose of the uterus is to gestate the unborn child—it is where that child belongs. All human beings, during their prenatal stages of development, rely on it for care and protection. “The uterus exists for the unborn child rather than for the mother,” notes Stephanie Gray [www.endthekilling.ca/sites/default/files/publications/publications_a_kidney_versus_the_uterus.pdf]. It is reasonable to think that a child has a right to live in her natural environment.

Finally, even apart from the other reasons, a moral obligation seems to arise when we alone are in a position to provide ordinary care (food and shelter) to someone who needs it to survive.

“Suppose you live in a cabin far out in the wilderness, cut off from civilization by extreme distance and weather for much of the year, say, nine months,” writes Mathew Lu, a philosophy professor at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul. “One day you return to the cabin to discover that an infant has been left at the door without explanation....Do you have an obligation to care for the infant, who will surely die if you do not take it in?”

Most people would say yes. “[W]e have a general obligation to protect the vulnerable, and a special obligation towards those we contingently encounter,” Lu concludes.

Bodily rights do not justify abortion

The right to control one’s body does not justify the intentional killing of others. Nor does it nullify our obligations to the youngest and most vulnerable members of the human family.

Indeed, the autonomy argument turns common sense and justice upside down. The unique nature of pregnancy—the bodily dynamic between an unborn child and her mother—is not, as the argument supposes, a reason to think that killing or neglect is permissible. It is, instead, a reminder that human beings are connected to and dependent on each other.

“The so-called right to abortion has...sown violence and discord at the heart of the most intimate human relationships,” observed Mother Teresa of Calcutta. “It has portrayed the greatest of gifts—a child—as a competitor, an intrusion, and an inconvenience. It has nominally accorded mothers unfettered dominion over the independent lives of their physically dependent sons and daughters.”

This “unconscionable power,” Mother Teresa said, must be rejected. Both mother and child deserve respect, protection, and care.

Mr. Stark is Communications Associate for Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life, NRLC’s state affiliate. This appeared in the latest edition of MCCL’s newsletter, *MCCL News*.

—National Right to Life News Today, December 29, 2016

Editor’s Note: Abortion Hurts the Entire Family



Grandmother of Aborted Baby Says She “Cries Often” at Losing Her Grandchild

By Sarah Terzo

One woman tells her story:

“My story is different since I am the grandmother in this

situation, and my daughter chose to have an abortion. I personally did not agree with her decision, yet I did not condemn my daughter for her choice.

My heart cries often for that precious life that I now believe is with our Lord in heaven. No one knows of my placing a plaque at this memorial for my lost grandchild...

I will always cry for that precious life I will never know down here. This small gift of a memorial is all I can do other than pray.” —Anonymous

Women often mourn after an abortion. Men can too. And other family members are affected as well.

—LifeNews.com, January 2, 2017



SAVE THESE DATES! LIFESPAN EVENTS - 2017

LIFESPAN’s 28th Annual Baby Shower: Sunday, March 12

Annual Dinner & Silent Auction: Tuesday, May 16

Mother’s Day Flower Sale: Sunday, May 14

Father’s Day Pen/Candy Sale: Sunday, June 18

National Day of Remembrance: Saturday, September 9

LIFE CHAIN: Sunday, October 1



NOW WHAT DO WE DO?

In January, the front page of our newsletter asked the question, *What Do We Do Now?* With the new administration in Washington, DC promising to protect human life, we will be offering ideas for action by you. It will change with each newsletter, and, hopefully, will raise awareness for the need to protect human life at all its stages.

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2017—Try to wear the little feet pin on your coat. If you don’t have one, call LIFESPAN’s Oakland/Macomb office, **248-816-1546**, or Wayne County office, **734-422-6230**, and we will send you one. The little feet show the size of an unborn child’s feet at 10-weeks gestation. They come with a card that explains a little about fetal development. They are great conversation starters and go a long way to helping folks know that there is a real, living baby in there, just waiting to be born.

Bioethics in 2017

continued from page 7

properly regulating these areas should be the subject of intense democratic deliberation. Instead, we hear the corn growing. But that could change. The birth of a cloned human being or the attempt to gestate a genetically engineered baby, the development of an artificial womb (currently in animal testing), or some other such sudden breakthrough—any of these could awaken the sleeping giant and spark an intense policy brouhaha.

Medical Conscience: Should doctors and nurses be forced to provide abortions even if they believe that doing so would be a mortal sin? Should a doctor who is opposed to assisted suicide be forced, where that procedure is legal, to discuss it with his patients? Should Catholic hospitals that receive public funding be legally required to sterilize patients who request it? Is it “sex discrimination” for a health-insurance company to refuse coverage for elective abortions? Forcing doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and medical institutions to perform or permit legal medical procedures that violate their religious or moral consciences is fast becoming one of the hottest of hot-button issues in bioethics. Imagine a court ordering a Catholic hospital to perform an abortion or else face millions of dollars in damages. The societal clash such a decision would provoke would quickly reach Terri Schiavo levels.

Animal Research: For nearly four decades, the animal liberation movement has been at war with medical research conducted on animals—even though conducting such experiments before trying new drugs or procedures on people is a crucial human rights protection established

in the Nuremberg Code. Hostility to animal research now extends beyond the animal rights movement. The NIH will no longer fund experiments using chimpanzees—based on animal welfare criteria—which is understandable, given chimpanzees’ high intelligence and social needs. But there is also an incipient movement to thwart research on other primates, even though doing so would cause tremendous harm to the biological sciences and medical advancements. For example, a new Ebola vaccine was just developed, and its creation required the use of monkeys. Animal welfare is an important issue, but so is human thriving. The simmering controversy over experiments on primates and other lab animals could heat up wherever there are attempts to impose undue restrictions.

These are just a few of the many controversial bioethical issues we will be hearing more about. Some bioethicists want to do away with the dead donor rule in organ transplant medicine, opening the prospect of live human harvesting. The abortion issue never goes away. And the movement to repeal and replace Obamacare is sure to be fraught with bioethical controversy. To paraphrase a famous quote attributed to Leon Trotsky: “*You may not be interested in bioethics, but bioethics is interested in you.*” Wesley J. Smith is a senior fellow at the Discovery Institute’s Center on Human Exceptionalism and a consultant to the Patients Rights Council.



The pro-life cause is the preeminent cause of our time, and this struggle between the gospel of life and the culture of death will determine the destiny of mankind.

~ Peter Garrett ~



March for Life Volunteers - Ben, Sam, Hallie, Luke, Lizzie and Mary

Here is a picture of helpers who came into the Oakland/Macomb Chapter office to work on Youth Bus Trip preparation, sorting beanie hats for the buses, making name tags for all the Jr. chaperones, assistant chaperones, chaperones and captains for the buses, checking to be sure medical forms are included in the captains’ binders for each person on the buses and proofreading the bus trip itineraries.

From the President's Desk

Dear Friends,

New Year's Day always brings hope for a better future. We, in the pro-life movement, know that especially as LIFESPAN begins our 47th year of service in this life-saving movement.

We all get somewhat nostalgic during this season. I am no exception. This year, I thought of the many people in my life who are no longer with us. I especially was thinking of all my old friends who were so instrumental in giving of their time, money and sweat to start a pro-life movement.

It was the day after Christmas when I learned of another pioneer from the past who was taken home to God during the holiday season. That person was Jean Garton. She wrote the book, *Who Broke the Baby*. If you have not read this book, I encourage you to do so. Jean did a lot of public speaking trying to change hearts and minds. (Read her article on the back page, written before she passed away).

It was that same weekend that Debbie Reynolds and her daughter, Carrie Fisher, died. It was tragic. There was a media frenzy with people making makeshift memorials in Hollywood to commemorate their lives. Yet, where were those same media accolades when Jean died? Of course, she was not in the media spotlight like Debbie and her daughter, but Jean's life had an impact on making society better—far more lasting than any movie.

I will miss her; I will also miss Nat Hentoff who passed away a few days ago. He was a liberal—his ideas were progressive, except for one—abortion. Nat spoke out against abortion till the end. LIFESPAN had both Jean and Nat as speakers in the 80s. Those of us who heard them were made stronger and more educated by hearing their message.

So, my pro-life friends, Jean and Nat may not have been well known to the world, but were known to us because of their pro-life work, and so will you. Fame is fleeting—good works are forever. Good things are happening because of the commitment of those dedicated to the cause of life. May God give us courage and strength.

—Diane Fagelman, President, Right to Life - LIFESPAN, Inc.

Donations have been made—

In Joyous Celebration of the First Birthday of:

Abby Rose

Given by: Ray and Marlene Vincent

In Memory of:

Vivienne Kerkes Smith

Given by: Jane, Sophie and Reggie Barcewicz

Tom Kelly

Given by: Diane Kelly Trombley

Mary Short

Ken and Karen Patrosso

Tony and Chris Hansen

Eric and Eileen Brandt

Jerry and Diane Fagelman

Baby Super Luke Charles Morris

Given by: The Fox Family

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... Send donations to your local LIFESPAN office.

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 will be used to save the lives of many through our efforts.

Lifespan News

February/March 2017; Vol. 46, No. 2

President & Publisher: Diane Fagelman

Co-editors: Marge Bradley, Diane Trombley

Right to Life - LIFESPAN is a non-profit organization, and is funded entirely by membership dues, private donations and fundraisers.

Donations are not tax-deductible.

MAIN OFFICE

32540 Schoolcraft Rd., Ste. 100, Livonia, MI 48150-4305

Phone: 734-524-0162; Fax: 734-524-0166

email: mainoffice@rtl-lifespan.org

website: www.miLIFESPAN.org



Right to Life - LIFESPAN 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 \$ 30.00 _____ Other

_____ Student/Senior Member \$ 20.00

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Email address _____

Please complete this form and return with your donation to: **Right to Life - LIFESPAN, 32540 Schoolcraft Rd., Ste.**

100, Livonia, MI 48150-4305. For more information, call **734-524-0162.** Sorry, donations are not tax-deductible.

Right to Life - LIFESPAN
Oakland/Macomb Chapter
1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Ste. G
Troy, MI 48084-3540

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Royal Oak, MI
Permit No. 294



DATED MATERIAL

Words of Wisdom

Abortion: Another Word for Failure

Editor's note: Sadly, Jean Garton passed away this past December. Jean was best known to pro-lifers as the author of the classic, "Who Broke the Baby?" Over the years, she not only spoke at the annual NRLC Convention but also contributed a number of wonderful essays for National Right to Life News and National Right to Life News Today.

By Jean Garton

One of the most frayed and tattered books in my office is a treasure I found at a garage sale. It was in a dirty cardboard box filled with dusty old volumes. A scribbled sign read, "10[cent] each."



My bargain book is a 60-year-old copy of *Roget's Thesaurus*. Unlike the newer copy on my shelf, the old one contains words which, in current usage, sometimes have been emptied of their meaning. When I need an alternate word for a speech or article, the old version is a valuable resource.

One day when I was seeking a synonym for the word "failure," the thesaurus provided the following options: "successlessness, blunder, defectiveness, abortion...."

Abortion? A synonym for "failure"? Pretty wretched company, especially since so many people today associate abortion with such benign and positive words as "choice," "privacy," and "rights."

The results of abortion are indeed wretched, as most women know who have experienced this first hand. But, we might ask, if abortion is another name for blunder and defectiveness (and failure and pain and disappointment), why don't more women tell other women?

One reason victims are reluctant to "go public" with their "choice" is because often concealing an abortion

quickly becomes their highest priority. These unfortunate women have learned to their everlasting regret that yesterday's "solution" has become today's (and tomorrow's) ever-present problem. Managing guilt, suffering, and loss can absorb all their energies. But the conspiracy of silence is not limited to the grieving woman whose child has died.

After all, she has a family, friends, and the baby has (had) a father. How do we explain the unwillingness of others around her, including those who are personally pro-life, to "go public" with what they know to be true?

Perhaps part of the explanation is that while it is unborn babies who die as a consequence of abortion, a nation's moral imagination—its ability to empathize—can also be killed. To think that we can kill without something very important in us dying is a dangerous illusion.

I recall one column that glowingly touted the chemical abortion pill, RU-486. The author dismissed concern for the unborn child as insignificant. After all, she said, what is involved is "no larger than a grain of rice."

She didn't mention that RU486 is used at a time when the unborn child has a beating heart, spinal cord, two brain lobes, internal organs, and even a face. After decades of pro-life education and legislation, how is it possible for people to be so ignorant of reality? Perhaps it is there are "none so blind as those who refuse to see."

But in the end, because the pro-life movement has gone public with the truth, despite the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* ruling that was supposed to have "settled" the abortion question, abortion remains today the most unsettled question in our public life.

Looking back over lo these many years, it is obvious that my old 10[cent] *Roget's Thesaurus* had it right.

Abortion IS a failure—a failure to care, a failure to protect, a failure to help.

—National Right to Life News Today, November 16, 2016