

# Lifespan *news*

Volume 14 Number 3

Serving Southeastern Michigan Since 1970

April 1992

## "Mother of the Year"

In conjunction with our Mother's Day Dinner, we will be honoring the "1992 Mother of the Year." We are seeking nominations from among our members or others for this award. The nominee must be a resident of the Metro Detroit area. Nominations must be submitted in writing explaining why you feel this person qualifies for "Mother of the Year." **Nominations must be received no later than April 15th.** No nominations by or for Right to Life - Lifespan board members will be considered.

Our "Mother of the Year" will be an honored guest at the dinner. She will be awarded a plaque, a dozen long-stemmed roses, and a \$100 gift certificate to J. C. Penney's. If your nominee is chosen, you will also receive a free ticket to the dinner. If the "Mother of the Year" is nominated by two or more individuals, the first one received will be eligible for the free ticket.

Last year's "Mother of the Year" was Betty Wasner of Lincoln Park. Betty was nominated by her daughter, Mary Stehno of Dearborn.

Please include your name, address and phone number and also the address and phone number of your nominee. Mail or deliver your nomination for "Mother of the Year" to Right to Life - Lifespan, 28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127, Livonia 48152.

## Mother's Day Dinner



Therese McGee

Right to Life - Lifespan is pleased to announce that Therese McGee will be the special guest speaker at our Mother's Day Dinner on Tuesday, May 5, 1992 at Vladimir's in Farmington Hills.

Therese is a local humorist and author of *Real Grandmas Don't Bake Cookies Anymore*. She is the mother of 14 children and grandmother of 28.

We invite you to make a reservation for yourself and friends. Look for the reservation form and more information on page 3.

### Inside this issue:

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## The missing girls

### China's population gender gap

An analysis of population statistics from China's 1990 census reveals a disturbing trend: millions of young girls are missing. Speculation abounds as to what happened to them, but an undetermined number are believed to be victims of sex selection abortions or infanticide.

Worldwide, newborn baby boys outnumber girls by a ratio of 105 or 106 boys to every 100 girls. But in China last year, the official ratio was 111.3 boys to 100 girls. Approximately 600,000 girls were missing; and that was just one year. An analysis of statistics for the overall Chinese population indicates that about 30 million women are missing altogether. No one can say for sure what has happened to them.

In a culture where daughters are seen as a liability to begin with, the Chinese government's "one child per couple" policy results in an increased preference for male children. Chinese officials downplay reports of female infanticide, claiming that the missing girls are raised in secret or adopted. But in rural and remote areas where midwives keep a bucket of water handy during delivery, girl babies may be quietly drowned at birth without any reports reaching local authorities.

The availability of modern technology makes the prevalence of sex-selection abortion harder to deny. "Everyone wants a son, so they get an ultrasound test and if it's a girl they have an abortion," a Chinese man told Nicholas Kristof of *The New York Times*. Chinese doctors are prohibited by law from telling expectant parents the sex of the baby; but bribery to extract the information is a common practice.

Nor is the problem confined to China. Some estimates put the number of missing girls and women worldwide at more than 100 million. About 23 million women are missing in India, for example. In one study of 8,000 abortions performed in Bombay, India, all but one of the babies aborted were girls.

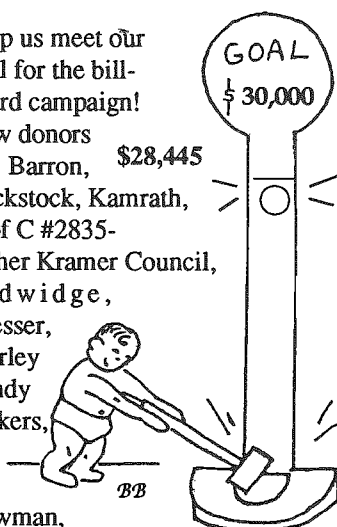
*NRLC Chapter Newsletter, 11/25/91*

## Help our baby ring this bell!

Help us meet our goal for the billboard campaign!

New donors are: Barron, \$28,445  
Hackstock, Kamrath, K of C #2835-  
Father Kramer Council, Ledwidge, Loesser, Morley Candy Makers,

Newman, Pomictor, Rivetto, Spas, St. Anastasia Church ("Adopted a Billboard"), Symons, and Weddle. Mail your contribution to RTL - Lifespan, 28200 Seven Mile, #127, Livonia 48152. Thank you!



## The world

If the world population of about 5.4 billion people were gathered together in one spot, with each person standing on a generous two-by-two-foot patch of ground, we'd cover an area of less than 800 square miles—only about the size of Jacksonville, Fla.

—Marilyn vos Savant, *Parade*

## Lifespan News

April 1992 Vol. 14, No. 3

President/Editor - Ann S. Thomas

Desktop Publisher - Marge Bradley

**Right to Life - Lifespan**

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**MAIN OFFICE**

28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127

Livonia, MI 48152-3736

(313) 533-9090



## New York abortion deaths

A 21-year-old Connecticut woman died at Bellevue Hospital Saturday, August 3, a few hours after experiencing a heart attack during an abortion at the Eastern Women's Center.

Doctors worked on her for five hours trying desperately to save her life, but lost the battle soon after 4 p.m.

This is the second time a death has occurred during an abortion procedure at Eastern. In January 1991 a 13-year-old girl died after a botched abortion. A jury subsequently awarded the parents \$1.2 million in damages after testimony showed that she was allowed to choke on her own vomit, which led to a heart attack.

*The Abortion Injury Report, November 1991*



**LIFE CHAIN 1992** — We are proud and excited to announce that the Metro Detroit area will again participate in **NATIONAL LIFE CHAIN SUNDAY** on **OCTOBER 4, 1992**. Cities all across this great country will **LIFE CHAIN** on the same day. We will stand together as a sign of solidarity to the news media and general public that abortion is wrong. **ABORTION KILLS CHILDREN**. The task: to hold up signs bearing the message, "ABORTION KILLS CHILDREN." It is that simple. **LIFE CHAIN 1992** can only happen with God's blessing and your help. Work has already started. We urge you to encourage participation by your church or group. For more information and/or to be placed on our **LIFE CHAIN** mailing list, please call 533-9090.



Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit  
INVITES YOU TO ITS  
**Mother's Day Dinner**

Tuesday, May 5, 1992

6:00 p.m.

with Local Humorist, Therese McGee  
Mother of 14 Children, Grandmother of 28  
Author of *Real Grandmas Don't Bake Cookies Anymore*  
Vladimir's  
28125 Grand River  
Farmington Hills

**Dinner Reservations:** \$30.00 per person/\$200 per table of eight. Advance reservations required by April 28.

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

## 1992 COMMEMORATIVE BOOK

This book will contain educational material and will be used throughout the year, and your tax-deductible business ad will identify you as a prolife business. An ad represents support for our educational and lobbying efforts in the coming year. Names of Gold Patrons will also be listed, but these donations are not tax-deductible. Just fill out the form below and send it to us with your remittance included. **Deadline for submission is April 8, 1992.**

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

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

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Please attach copy-ready advertising slick, business card, business letterhead, or typed copy of ad. Black and white is preferred. All advertisers will receive a copy of book. Business ads are tax-deductible. Lifespan reserves the right to refuse any advertisement it deems unsuitable. **Deadline for submission is April 8, 1992.**

**REMITTANCE MUST ACCOMPANY CONTRACT.**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Business Name (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE, AND MAIL TO: RIGHT TO LIFE - LIFESPAN OF METRO DETROIT,  
28200 SEVEN MILE RD., #127 LIVONIA, MI 48152. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CALL (313) 533-9090  
(Donations are not tax-deductible)





# Chapter

## detroit

### Office hours

M, Th 10-2  
TWF Closed  
Carol Smith, Chairman  
Betty Queen, Ofc. Mgr.

### A friendly reminder:

Have you misplaced your green membership renewal envelope? These envelopes are sent with a letter to members whose memberships are up for renewal. Our sincere thanks to those who have responded so generously and promptly,

but many are lagging in sending their dues. The March and April notices will be going into the mail very soon, and we sincerely hope you will take the time to return the envelope, or any envelope, with your 1992 dues. Printing bills, updated videos, literature, office rent, utilities, postage, insurance, exhibition fees all constantly strain and drain our financial resources. Thus, you can see we need your continued support. Thank you.

### Congratulations!

Congratulations to Janice DeMaggio, our Advisory Board Member and former Detroit Chapter Board Member, who is now Sister Janice Ann Joseph.

Janice was received into the Sisters of Life Novitiate on February 2. The Sisters of Life is a new religious order established by Cardinal O'Connor to devote prayers and apostolic work to the prolife cause.

Janice said, "Through prayer we give thanks to God for life and remind people that they should also give thanks. Through prayer we are seeking reparation for sins against life."

You may write Sister Janice at Sisters of Life, 198 Hollywood Ave., The Bronx, NY 10465-3350.

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

## oakland

### Office hours

M, T, Th, F 10 - 3  
Diane Fagelman, Chairman  
Clare Schneider, Secretary

### Bowling balls to roll

Cynthia and Jim Hook, new Church Reps at St. Rita's in Holly, have offered to take on the job of chairing the 1992 Bowling for Life fundraiser. A date will be set for the fall. Anyone who could help, please let them know. Call the office for more information.

### Membership drive

Board members have been contacting members who have not renewed since 1988. You can help eliminate extra phone calls for them by sending in your dues as soon as possible.

### Help with ads

Please help get ads for the 1992 Mother's Day Dinner Commemorative Booklet. Anyone to whom you give your business is a prime target. Good examples are cleaners, beauty and barber shops, shoemakers, party stores, produce and grocers, lawyers, doctors, dentists, technicians, repair men and women, milkmen, et al. You get the idea. Call the office for ad contracts.

### Calling all fair workers

Do you have a local fair near you? Call the office and let us know. If you worked a fair last year, start organizing a group to do it again in 1992. We need you!

### Mother's Day Dinner

Get your reservations in early. This fun event promises to be a sellout! The speaker, Therese McGee, is a personal friend of mine and I guarantee you a laugh a minute. As mother of 14, she gives life a special meaning!

### Carnations sale

Mother's Day will be here in no time. If your church would be interested in selling carnations, please call the office. Fundraiser chair, Sue Hopkins will be taking orders soon.

### Reminder: all welcomed—

Regional Meeting at Lutheran High School Northwest, 1000 Bagley, in Rochester Hills at 7:00 p.m., March 25: Regions 2, 8 and 9, encompassing Rochester, Rochester Hills, Lake Orion, Leonard, Addison Township, Oakland, Oxford, Auburn Hills, Oxford Township, Lake Angelus, Ferndale, Pleasant Ridge, Hazel Park, Madison Heights, Royal Oak, Clawson, Troy, Bloomfield Hills, Birmingham and Bloomfield Township.

Anyone willing to become a representative to their church, synagogue or neighborhood group, please contact our office for information.

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**Oakland County Chapter**  
800 S. Adams, #102  
Birmingham, MI 48009-7005  
(313) 258-9760

# News

## Office hours

M-F 9-4

Patricia Holscher, Chairman  
Linda Kournoian, Ofc. Mgr.

## Thanks . . .

Our thanks to Nancy Stanford, Dorothy Cullen, Mary Ann Clos and Valerie Lents, members of the Right to Life - Lifespan Committee St. Mary's of Wayne who hosted a bake sale for our Chapter. All those who so generously bought and gave donations are to be commended. Their pastor, Fr. Ray Bucon, is a staunch supporter and defender of the unborn. If you would like to join this group, call 422-6230.

## Garage sales

We will have a garage sale on Friday and Saturday, May 1 and 2 in the Canton and Plymouth area. Call Barb at 981-3442 to donate items. **No clothing, please.** Continue saving items for other garage sales. We encourage our members to have garage sales and to donate the money to Lifespan. Many small sales could really help our treasury.

## Telechain

One of the most effective kinds of communication between our legislators and our prolife members is through a telechain. These calls can make the difference between a good prolife bill or a pro-abortion bill. We need a few good people to make the telechain work

efficiently. Please contact us so that we may get this vital link between Lansing or Washington operating successfully.



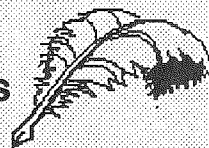
## Caring is sharing

Have you always wanted to do something in the prolife movement, but just didn't know how to go about it? Here are a few suggestions to get you started. The list is so lengthy, it will be continued next month.

- Bowling for Life Chairman. Once-a-year event. No experience necessary. Sunday, July 26, 2 - 5 pm. Office help provided.
- Baby clothes, new and used, clean and in good condition.
- Baby furniture; 2 mattresses and 1 crib or bassinet needed immediately.
- Someone to put layettes together and to keep baby clothes and furniture organized.
- Church members to participate in our Annual Mother's Day Silk Rose Sale. One-day event. Call 422-6230 immediately.
- Computer operators to help enter data into our new computer. Days, preferably.
- More people to donate \$1.00 to help resolve our immediate financial crisis due to the poor economy. Please send your dollar to the address below.

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

## From the President's Desk



Dear Friends,

"One death is a tragedy, but 1000 deaths are a statistic." These are the words of a man who was responsible for the deaths of millions during the Russian Revolution—Joseph Stalin.

So, are the 28 million babies who have died from abortions since 1973 a tragedy or just another statistic?

While this figure is mind-boggling, remember, we are talking only about the U.S. I have heard that there may be as many as 50 million abortions a year worldwide. Horror stories are coming out of Russia where individual women have had abortions in the double digits. Forced abortions in China and sex-selection abortions in India are common.

I shudder everytime I think that my precious grandson might have been a "statistic."

In college, one of my math courses had a section on "How to Lie with Statistics." The lie we are witnessing is not in the numbers, but in the pro-abortion rhetoric.

The 28 million babies killed by abortion are America's tragedy—each and every one.

God help us.

# Girl showered with baby gifts found reason to live

Dear Abby:

The letter you published from the office women, in conflict over whether a baby shower should be given for an unwed mother-to-be, revived a long-forgotten memory.

In 1962, I was 17 and had just graduated from high school. I had to give up two scholarships to college and take a job because I was pregnant and unmarried. In those days, most unwed mothers were sent away to have their babies, then gave them up for adoption so that no one in the family would be embarrassed. I chose to stay home and keep my baby.

I'm sure my parents were embarrassed and disappointed in me. The baby's father and I were immature, and a silly quarrel had caused our breakup. I was so depressed that I considered suicide on a daily basis.

In my seventh month of pregnancy, 30 women from my office gave me a baby shower! I can't begin to tell you how much it meant to me to have those wonderful women shower me with their good wishes and much-needed gifts. They literally saved my life and my baby's life.

That shower turned my life around. After that, I was able to hold my head up. When my son was a year old, his father and I got together and were married. Five years later, we had another son. I worked while my husband finished college, and after he graduated, I went to college and graduated in 1977. Today, our firstborn is married and has a son of his own.

Abby, when I think of how close I came to ending my life, I shudder. I also thank God for those wonderful co-workers who didn't ponder whether it was proper to give a baby shower for an unmarried girl. That shower brought me out of the worst depression of my life.

Your advice was right on, Abby. Keep up the good work. Karen in Rochester

*Taken from the "DEAR ABBY" column by Abigail Van Buren.*

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## Crisis Pregnancy Centers

Crisis Pregnancy Center	Allen Park	386-4005
Crisis Pregnancy Center	Berkley	545-6508 or 545-6411
Mother & Unborn Baby Care	Detroit	372-1058
Pregnancy Aid, Inc.	Detroit	882-1000
Pregnancy Shelter	Detroit	874-0432
Zoar Pregnancy Counseling Center	Detroit	892-1070
Mother & Unborn Baby Care	Lathrup Village	559-7440 or 559-7576
AAA Crisis Pregnancy Center	Livonia	425-8060
Pregnancy Counseling Center	Livonia	522-8484
Bethany Christian Services	Madison Heights	588-9400 or 1-800-Bethany
Pregnancy Counseling Center	Madison Heights	546-5225
Crisis Pregnancy Center	Melvindale	382-5941
Heartbeat	Monroe	243-6550
Mother & Unborn Baby Care	Oxford	969-2177
Women & Teens Pregnancy Center	Pontiac	338-4357
Crisis Pregnancy Center	Rochester	651-9487 or 651-9480
Birthright of Oakland County	Royal Oak	547-4600
Crisis Pregnancy Center	Taylor	374-0520
Birthright of Macomb County	Utica	254-5930
Another Way Pregnancy Center	Wixom	624-1222

## Comprehensive Live-in Facilities For Pregnant Women

Salvation Army Booth Services	Detroit	496-1500
Marillac Hall	Farmington Hills	626-1707

For additional information on pregnancy assistance and/or post-abortion counseling, call your local Chapter office or the Main Office, 533-9090.

## BABY SHOWER GIFT SUGGESTIONS

Sleepers (light to medium weight) 3 mos. to 1 year  
White T-shirts - 3 mos. to 1 year or 8-10 lbs. to 1 year  
Socks and footies  
Receiving blankets  
Crib sheets  
Cloth diapers/disposable diapers (newborn & medium)  
Plastic pants, Baby wipes  
Wash cloths/towels  
Teething rings/rattles  
Clear plastic bottles (without inserts)  
Terry cloth bibs  
Personal hygiene items for baby: shampoo, soap, nail clippers, thermometers  
Cribs and Porta-cribs  
Bassinets, Strollers, Swings  
Car Seats, High Chairs  
Slippers/nightgowns  
for Moms



## Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit

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

invites you to its third annual

# BABY SHOWER

Sunday, April 5, 1992  
2 - 3:30 pm



To Benefit Local  
Pregnancy Help Centers

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

**Emmanuel Baptist Church**  
960 E. Huron River Dr.  
Belleville

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

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

**Assumption Grotto Church**  
13770 Gratiot  
Detroit

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

**St. Raphael Church**  
Activities Bldg.  
5775 Merriman  
Garden City

**St. Clare Church**  
Teen Room  
1401 Whittier  
Grosse Pointe Park

**Memorial Church of Christ**  
Fellowship Hall  
35475 Five Mile Rd.  
Livonia

**Ward Presbyterian Church**  
Calvin Room  
17000 Farmington Rd.  
Livonia

**Assembly of God Church**  
C.L.C. of Milford  
525 Hickory  
Milford

**St. Valentine Church**  
Rectory Meeting Room  
14841 Beech Daly  
Redford

**St. Andrew Church**  
1234 Inglewood  
Rochester

**St. Mary Church**  
Elementary School Rm. 104  
730 S. Lafayette  
Royal Oak

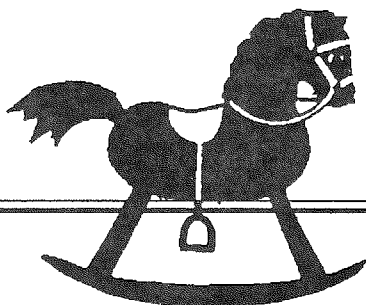
**Highland Park Baptist Church**  
28600 Lahser Rd.  
South of 12 Mile Rd.  
Southfield

**St. Cletus Church**  
Community Hall  
26244 Ryan Rd.  
Warren

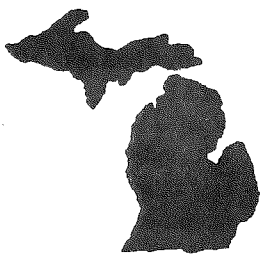
**New Life Community Church**  
34645 Cowan  
Westland

**For Drop-off Only**

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



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



# Legislative

## MICHIGAN NEWS

### Informed Consent

#### Addresses

##### **President**

President George Bush  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500  
Opinion Line (202) 456-1111, before 5 PM  
(202) 456-1414, after 5 PM

Dear Mr. President:

##### **Senators**

The Honorable (first and last name)  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3121

Dear Senator (last name):

##### **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:

##### **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):

The Michigan House Public Health Committee decided to hold a hearing on the original informed consent Bill (SB 141) instead of on the amendments to the Health Care Licensing Bill (HB 4280). (See the Feb., March 1992 issue of *Lifespan News*.) SB 141 was voted out of committee with only a few minor changes. However, on March 5th when the bill was brought before the full House for approval, it was changed so drastically that the only prolife provision remaining was the 24-hour waiting period. The bill was passed 55-49 by pro-abortion House members and a few prolife crossovers. The crossovers from this area include Bennett, Hertel, Kosteva, W. Bullard and Middleton.

##### **How the House voted:**

**Democrats For (32)**—Anthony, Barns, Bennane, Bennett, Berman, Brown, P. Bullard, Byrum, Clack, Clarke, DeBeaussaert, Dobronski, Emerson, Gire, Gubow, Hertel, Hood, Jondahl, Jonker, Kilpatrick, Kosteva, Leland, Murphy, O'Neill, Profit, Saunders, Stallworth, Varga, Wallace, Yokich, J. Young, Jr., J. Young, Sr.  
**Democrats Against (25)**—Alley, Baade, Bartnik, Ciaramitaro, DeMars, Dodak, Gagliardi, Griffin, Harder, Hickner, Jacobetti, Keith, Mathieu, Niederstadt, Olshove, Owen, Palamara, Pitoniak, Porreca, Rocca, Stopczynski, Webb, Weeks, Wozniak, R. Young.  
**Republicans For (23)**—Allen, Bankes, Bender, Bobier, Brakenridge, Bryant, W. Bullard, Dobb, Dolan, Dresch, Fitzgerald, Gilmer, Goss, Johnson, Knight, Martin, McNutt, Middleton, Munsell, Ostling, Oxender, Power, Sparks.

**Republicans Against (24)**—Bandstra, Bodem, Dalman, DeLange, Gernaat,

Gnodtke, Hillegonds, Hoekman, Hoffman, Horton, Jamian, Jaye, London, McBryde, Middaugh, Muxlow, Nye, Randall, Robertson, Shugars, Sikkema, Strand, Trim, Van Singel.  
**Absent or Not Voting (5)**—Harrison, Hollister, O'Connor, Scott, Walberg.

On March 11th, in a victory, the Senate rejected the House version by a 25-12 vote. This sends the bill to a House-Senate Conference Committee. Senator Jack Welborn, the sponsor of the original bill, has been appointed Chairman of the Conference Committee. Other members include Senators Dillingham and Pollack and Representatives Berman, Hertel and Dalman.

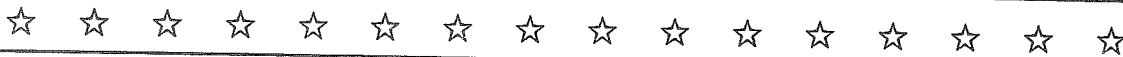
**How the Senate voted:** (The YES votes supported the House version, a NO vote sent it to the Conference Committee):

**Democrats For (10)**—Berryman, Cherry, Conroy, Faxon, Hart, Kelly, Pollack, V. Smith, Stabenow, Vaughn.  
**Democrats Against (7)**—Barcia, DiNello, Dingell, Holmes, Koivisto, Miller, O'Brien.  
**Republicans For (2)**—Gast, Schwarz.  
**Republicans Against (18)**—Arthurhultz, Bouchard, Carl, Cisky, DeGrow, Dillingham, Dunaskiss, Ehlers, Emmons, Geake, Honigman, McManus, Posthumus, Pridnia, N. Smith, Van Regenmorter, Wartner, Welborn.

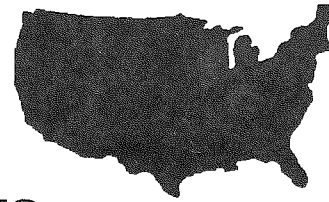
It is very important to contact your Michigan Representative and Senator in support of the original provisions of the Informed Consent legislation. It is crucial to contact the committee members, particularly Rep. Hertel of Detroit, a possible swing vote.

For an update on this and the ban on assisted suicide, call your local Lifespan office.





# Update



## NATIONAL NEWS

### HR 25 — Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA)

The purpose of this proposed law is to prevent state legislatures, counties, cities, etc., from passing laws or municipal ordinances which would restrict or prohibit abortion. The bill reads as follows:

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Freedom of Choice Act of 1991."

#### SECTION 2. RIGHT TO CHOOSE.

(a) **IN GENERAL**—Except as provided in subsection (b), a State may not restrict the right of a woman to choose to terminate a pregnancy—

(1) before fetal viability; or

(2) at any time, if such termination is necessary to protect the life or health of the woman.

(b) **MEDICALLY NECESSARY REQUIREMENTS**—A State may impose requirements medically necessary to protect the life or health of women referred to in subsection (a).

#### SECTION 3. DEFINITION OF "STATE."

As used in this Act, the term "State" includes the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and each other territory or possession of the United States.

A 1991 Gallup poll found that 73% of Americans favor making abortion illegal after the first 12 weeks, except to save the mother's life. However, the FOCA prohibits any restrictions on *reasons* for abortion until "viability."

With current medical knowledge, "viability" begins at about 22 or 23 weeks—but the bill does not define the term, and the bill's sponsors insist that each abortionist alone must be allowed to establish his own criteria for "viability." As the ACLU analysis puts it, "The determination of when viability occurs would be made on an individual basis by the woman's physician."

Moreover, the bill explicitly grants women an unlimited right to abortion **even after viability** for "health" reasons. As defined by the Supreme Court in *Doe v. Bolton* (1973) and later rulings, "health" in this context includes all factors, including emotional factors, considered pertinent to a woman's "well being."

The radical scope of the FOCA was acknowledged by its prime sponsor Rep. Don Edwards (D-CA), in an unguarded moment: "[The FOCA] is explicit. It provides for no exceptions—no exceptions whatsoever. It is a classic one-sentence statute that says a state may not restrict the right of a woman to terminate a pregnancy—and that is for any reason." (Remarks to National Abortion Rights Action League briefing, Jan. 22, 1990, broadcast on C-SPAN.)

The FOCA is the major legislative priority for NOW, NARAL and other organizations that oppose any legal limits on abortion. All three major Democratic presidential contenders have endorsed the bill.

**Make no mistake, the proposed Freedom of Choice Act, (the Freedom to Kill Bill), would permit unlimited slaughter of any unborn child, for any reason, at any time during pregnancy, with no restrictions whatsoever, and in all 50 states.**

The full House and Senate are expected to vote on the bill in July or August. Speaker Tom Foley (D-WA) has predicted that Congress will send the bill to President Bush this year.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

The next 100 days are critical. Please write immediately to your U.S. congressman and to your two U.S. senators. Get other prolife citizens to do the same. Express your strong opposition to the so-called "Freedom of Choice Act" (HR 25, S 25). Explain that the bill would prohibit states from placing any meaningful restrictions on abortion, even during the final months of pregnancy. Explain that it would even invalidate laws requiring waiting periods, parental notification and informed consent requirements.

## "Personally opposed"

The famous Lincoln-Douglas debates occurred in 1858, one year after the Dred Scott decision and two years before Lincoln was elected and the Civil War began. Lincoln and Douglas faced off again during the presidential campaign of 1860. Douglas was pro-choice on slavery. His argument was that the Supreme Court had spoken and that it was a basic constitutional right for a man to own a slave. Douglas pointed out that he himself was personally opposed to owning slaves and would never own a slave himself. He noted that many people in the South were morally opposed to slavery, and did not own slaves. He emphasized, however, that it was a slave owner's right to own a slave if he wished, and that he, Mr. Douglas, would defend that right to choose to own a slave. This theme was repeated many times during those two campaigns.

Lincoln's answer was clear, direct and consistent. It's one that all of us should remember. It is one that applies just as directly to today's abortion controversy as it did then to the slavery controversy. Lincoln's answer was this: "No one has the right to choose to do what is wrong."

*RTL of Greater Cincinnati Newsletter,  
February 1992*

## Update . . . new video at the Educational Center for Life

### "Preview of a Birth"

Explore the wonders and hidden mysteries of fetal development in this up-to-date, medically accurate "preview" of a birth.

This fascinating video chronicles the journey of the unborn from conception to birth with full color photography and live film of the developing child as well as ultrasound images.

Excellent educational film of fetal development. Video running time: 16 minutes. Call ECL at 338-1910.

## RU 486 Book Review

*continued from page 12*

serum lipids, diabetes, elevated blood pressure, over 35 years, below 18 years, irregular menses, fibroids, pregnancy more than 42 days, endometriosis, cervical incompetence, previous abortion history, post history of abnormal pregnancies, ectopic pregnancy, pelvic inflammatory disease, have used IUDs or the birth control pill or taken aspirin, allergies, asthma, epilepsy, adrenal insufficiency, kidney disease, gastro-intestinal disorders, liver disorders, or "any serious medical disorder"! "And more will certainly be added in the future." This explodes the myth that RU 486 is safe for a large number of women.

### *Why do women clamor for RU 486?*

*"Women today have the  
impression that they are getting  
something others wanted to  
refuse them, so they are more  
likely to accept or  
be silent about  
the disadvantages."*

A study of medical journal articles covering a span of seven years (1984-1990) revealed discrepancies in determining age of pregnancies, critical to the effectiveness of RU 486, (14-21 days); incomplete abortions up to 44% when used alone, 13-23% when combined with prostaglandins; heavy bleeding up to 45 days (16%), many necessitating D & C and blood transfusions; pain by all for several days or weeks until abortion is complete, often requiring narcotics to relieve, but often considered insignificant by male researchers, "but would be unnatural, intolerable for men"; gastrointestinal, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea up to 57%; fainting 4.8%; fatigue 61.3%; marked thirst; irritability; depression, indicating that RU 486 affects various functions of the hypothalamus; infection and fever requiring antibiotics; expulsion of fetus

at home, or on the job, or anywhere up to 4 weeks later.

Edmond Sakiz, Chairman of Roussel Uclaf admits that:

"As abortifacient procedures go, RU 486 is not at all easy to use. In fact, it is much more complex to use than the technique of vacuum extractions . . . A woman who wants to end her pregnancy has to 'live' with her abortion for at least a week using this technique. IT IS AN APPALLING PSYCHOLOGICAL ORDEAL." (Emphasis ours.)

The authors argue that because doctors burn out and many refuse to do abortions, RU 486 actually humanizes the abortion experience more for the doctor than for the woman.

The unproven claims regarding its therapeutic action on glaucoma, breast cancer, etc., only help to show RU 486 affects many organs, even the immune system.

Why do women clamor for RU 486? A woman's health activist stated: "Women today have the impression that they are getting something others wanted to refuse them, so they are more likely to accept or be silent about the disadvantages."

This "simple, effective, safe" method can take up to 6 steps, and as many exams by a doctor.

The rhetoric of RU 486 does not match the reality.

RU 486 is targeted for the women of undeveloped countries with poor or non-existent health care. The authors point out that this is unethical, immoral and dangerous. Close medical supervision is essential and not possible in these countries. Prolonged and/or heavy bleeding in women already anemic could be fatal. The manufacturers and male researchers also view all complications documented as "unimportant," and "acceptable" when experienced by poor, uneducated, minority women.

This book is "must reading" for anyone involved in the prolife movement, especially in debates. It also shows how important it is to keep RU 486 out of this country.

### **RU 486 - RU Crazy!**

*Madeline Satwicz, R.N., B.S.N., is a  
member of the Detroit Chapter of  
Right to Life - Lifespan.*

## Donate your appetite!

We continue to save Bill Knapp's Community Support Coupons. We have 50,726 points so far toward redemption for display boards for fairs, meetings, and other events.

We want to thank the following people for saving and sending us coupons since December: Marria, Montgomery, Hebets, Roy, Truchan, Satwicz, Barkay, Yambrock, Lohrengel, Sterbenz, Radzialowski, Bradley, Konopka, Compton, Gibbons, Gorny, Majewski, St. Perpetua Parish, Hoffman, Lorenz, Barrett, Rizzo, Casey, Poma, Bleecker, Cutright, Shimkus, McCarthy, Mosquera, O'Connor, Woolley, McGauley, Michelini, St. Maurice Parish, Thomas, Radwick, Heffernan, Paczkowski, Kournoian, Bullion, McLaughlin, Ervin, Schmid, Fogoros, Holscher, Trudeau, Happ, Allen, Wilhelm, LaJoie, Kral, Doyle, Massey, Smith, Carrols, Quilty, Kreft, Cunningham, Burns, Currie, Murphy, Kleinbrook, O'Connell, Pettibone, Tschirhart, Panowicz, Kossak, Goodaker, Miceli, Barylski, Dattilo, Needham, Miller, Church of the Holy Spirit, Lenze, Omer, Micheli, Harte, Darket, Bowker, Henderson, Fessler, Stewart, Intyre, Grougan, Hoffman, Poepppe, Hubbard, Ptaszenski, Kniebes, Ellsworth, Harrington, Our Lady of Grace Seniors, Kelley, Martinuzzi, Holzhuer, Kwiatkowski, Hutchinson, Behaeghe, Wozny, Malicke, Wynsberghe, Luther, Obers, Loftis, Locke, Achatz, Gavliniski, Mitchell, Sweetest Heart of Mary Church, Rzeppa, Stockhausen, Jakubowicz, Wojtyshyn, Sporka, Van Esley, Lindeman, Paler, Zalinski, Hutira,

Mahoney, Freda and others whose names we do not have.

When you present your check to the cashier at any Bill Knapp's Restaurant, ask for a Community Support Coupon. The cashier will indicate on the coupon how many points are awarded. Points are awarded based on this formula: 1 point equals \$1.00 on the total amount received by the cashier for meals, bakery items, take-out orders or purchased gift certificates.

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



## Book sale coming

Save your books for our Used Book Sale later this year (please no magazines, text books or Reader's Digests). Watch the *Lifespan News* for further details.

## Spartan Stores cash for labels program

Lifespan has enrolled in Spartan Stores Cash for Labels Program. Spartan Stores will pay us \$.02 for every Spartan brand UPC symbol (except canned pop and refrigerated biscuits) received before December 31, 1992. Spartan products are carried by many grocers in the metro area.

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

Thanks!

## Join the Committee of Correspondence

During the American Revolution, newspapers were rare and the telephone, radio, TV had not yet been invented. Dedicated patriots got vital information to each other through a "Committee of Correspondence." They wrote each other letters with the information needed, delivered by pony express.

Now, Lifespan, finding the press and electronic media heavily stacked on the side of abortion advocacy, has developed its own Committee of Correspondence. Its purpose is to bypass media distortions and deal directly with our elected representatives.

You can join this group and become a lobbyist from your kitchen table. You are the grass roots. Do not let the powerful media act as a barrier between you and the people who represent you.

Have you ever written a careful "letter to the editor" that was never printed? The letter you write with this Committee may not be printed in the paper, but it will be read.

To join, please fill in this coupon, and mail to RTL - Lifespan, 28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127, Livonia 48152. We will contact you when proposed legislation is on its way.

Yes, I want to be part of the Committee of Correspondence!

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## 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	_____ Monthly pledge	\$ _____
_____ Student/Senior Member	\$ 7.00	_____ Century Club (\$100 & above)	\$ _____
		_____ Other	\$ _____

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
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Please detach at the dotted line and return to: Right to Life - Lifespan, 28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127, Livonia, MI 48152-3736.  
Donations are not tax-deductible.



# RU 486: Misconceptions, Myths and Morals

## A Book Review

By Madeline Satwicz

*RU 486: Misconceptions, Myths and Morals*, by Janice G. Raymond, Renate Klein, Lynette L. Dumble; Institute on Women and Technology, Cambridge, MA (1991), \$10.95.

The pro-life response to RU 486, the abortion pill, has always been "RU CRAZY." We have opposed it primarily because its purpose is to kill an unborn baby by blocking the production of the hormone progesterone which prepares the lining of the uterus to support a pregnancy. We have also opposed RU 486 because of its largely unknown or denied short and long-term effects on the mother's body and on the preborn who survives the failed RU 486 attack.

Now three very pro-abortion feminists have written this absolutely devastating exposé of the chemicals and politics involved in the research production, promotion and uncritical acceptance of RU 486 by the pro-abortion crowd. Their credentials are impressive:

Janice G. Raymond is Professor of Women's Studies and Medical Ethics at the University of Massachusetts.

Renate Klein is a Lecturer in Women's Studies at Deakin University, a biologist and the author of many books on reproduction technologies.

Lynette Dumble is the Senior Research Fellow in the University of Melbourne's Department of Surgery at the Royal Melbourne Hospital and Visiting Professor of Surgery at the University of Texas in Houston.

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## RU 486 . . . RU CRAZY!

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This book is concise, factual, and a splendid source of information; however, it is important to keep in mind that it is not from prolife researchers, but from very committed pro-abortion feminists. They use all the biased terms when speaking of the proliferers: fanatics, Fascists, enemies of women's rights and poor women, extremists, etc. They defend conventional abortion methods and remain silent or blind to the complications of suction, D & C, saline and hysterectomy abortions. They use

inaccurate statistics to defend their acceptance of these dangerous procedures.

The researchers denounce the RU 486 promoters who acknowledge the serious complications from surgical abortions such as hemorrhage, perforated uterus, infections, infertility, and psychological trauma. These admissions enrage the authors. The RU 486 backers do this in order to say that their drug is more effective, safer, cheaper and more private than surgical abortions.

The authors included 20 pages of bibliography from scientific papers, journals, newspaper and magazine articles, Planned Parenthood reports and their own research. They frequently pointed out the poor quality of research. The small number of women involved, the confusing, contradicting results and conclusions. They had little reason to believe the glowing reports that included members of the Roussel Uclaf (RU) team, the pharmaceutical company that developed the pill.

The following is a partial list of the problems with RU 486 and RU 486 combined with prostaglandins:

Must not be used on women with a history of smoking, obesity, elevated

*continued on page 10*

## Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit

Wayne County, West/Downriver Chapter  
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