

SAVE THE DATE!
Walk for LIFE, p. 10

LIFESPAN news

Volume 46 Number 4

Presenting the Pro-Life Message in Southeastern Michigan Since 1970

June 2017

Dads are Essential in Restoring a Culture of Life

By Paul Stark

Abortion isn't only a women's issue. Here are three ways that fatherhood and abortion intersect.

(1) The importance of supportive fathers. According to the Guttmacher Institute, half of women having abortions say (as a reason) that they do not want to be a single parent or they are having trouble with their partner. A 2009 study published in the *International Journal of Mental Health & Addiction* found that pregnant women who felt they lacked support from the child's father were more likely to choose abortion.

A 2004 study in *Medical Science Monitor* found that 64 percent of American women having abortions said they felt pressured by others to abort. A wealth of other evidence confirms that fathers often play a central role in determining pregnancy outcomes.

Men who help conceive a baby must support (emotionally, economically, or in whatever other ways) both mother and child. When they don't, abortion is more likely—and women and children pay a price, whether abortion is chosen or not.

(2) The effect of abortion on fathers. Abortion can detrimentally affect men just as it can women. Fathers may experience grief, guilt, anger, depression and other psychological consequences following abortion. Books like *Men and Abortion: A Path to Healing*; *Redeeming a Father's Heart: Fatherhood Aborted*; and *Men and Abortion: Losses, Lessons and Love* have explored this issue.



Photo by Torri Jackson

A number of ministries and websites (including www.fatherhoodforever.org, www.menandabortion.net and www.menandabortion.info) seek to provide healing for men who have lost children to abortion.

(3) Defending the unborn. Pro-choice advocates sometimes say that only women may speak about abortion, and many men are silent or have their opinions disregarded. But the case against abortion is sound irrespective of the gender (or any other characteristic) of an individual making it.

Many, many women, after all, make the very same pro-life case. Men have an obligation to graciously speak the truth and to defend the lives of those who cannot defend themselves—the little girls and boys who have not yet been born.

Dads play an essential role in the lives of their children. They are also essential to restoring a culture of life in which all human beings, especially the youngest and most vulnerable, are respected and protected.

—National Right to Life News Today, March 8, 2017

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

Summary of My Experience at Justice for All Pro-Life Conference Held at Bishop Foley High School Saturday, April 29, 2017

I went to the conference with my sister, Monica, who also helped me man the pro-life booths for LIFESPAN and Educational Center for Life. The conference had very good speakers, three of whom I was able to listen to; the conference also had continual adoration, confessions and snacks.

At the booths, we found that a lot of the youth took interest in the babies (three different groups of girls mentioned how they were “squishy”) – LOL! I came back from one of the talks and found only two babies left in the basket! I even saw a boy go off with one. Also, the mini candy bars really hooked in those gals, who looked at our other items and took some with them. In my spare time, I viewed the big black board of abortion info that ECL had brought. It was interesting and had some good information that I didn’t know about!

In the first talk given by Ryan Bomberger of the Radiance Foundation, I didn’t catch all of it, but he mentioned some very interesting facts that I had never heard regarding the United Nations. He mentioned that they stated in 1959 that humans deserve legal protection before and after birth! It’s amazing how far they’ve strayed. He was interesting and interactive, but didn’t seem to go over so well with the youth, surprisingly.

Another speaker, a young woman with Culture Project, was very good! She spoke to the girls, while a guy from their group spoke to the guys in another room. She spoke about inner beauty, chastity, virtue and how a girl shouldn’t settle when it comes to love. The young woman (I forgot her name) was open in her mistakes, relatable and very interactive as well!

The other talk I was able to listen to was given by a pro-life political activist. She informed the teens and adults listening how it is a moral obligation to be active in politics and stated the different ways in which everyone could participate. She mentioned how many people don’t see all the little victories that the pro-life group has in Washington, but they sometimes come about by people getting in touch with their representatives. In doing so, the people bring important issues out of a pile of other issues and call their representatives’ attention to it, basically putting it at the top of the pile. They make it known that that issue is important to them, and in doing so, the issue is less likely to be ignored and more likely to be taken care of.

All in all, I’m glad I went and am very thankful to ECL and RTL-LIFESPAN for paying for our tickets so that we could represent them there! And because the tickets were pre-registered, Monica and I received free t-shirts that



Monica and Maria Vitale with Ryan Bomberger



look like a kind of pro-Life Captain America t-shirt! So, thank you for that as well! The students there were a great group of kids! I hope they learned a lot from the conference (and from the development cards that came with the babies)!

Thank you, Phyllis and Linda, for helping me set things up! God bless.

—Maria Vitale

Monica’s review:

I was happy to see that a lot of teens approached the tables, took the free pamphlets and baby pins, showed passion, and took part in speaking up/answering the speakers. I also really enjoyed the chastity talk at the end. It made the pro-life conference different and not like any other usual pro-life conference.

—Monica Vitale

Archbishop Naumann asks pastors to transition away from Girl Scout troops into American Heritage Girls troops

NRLC convention offers workshop on Girl Scouts

By Dave Andrusko



Archbishop Joseph Naumann of the Diocese of Kansas City issued a statement [May 1] in which he said he has “asked the pastors of the Archdiocese to begin

the process of transitioning away from the hosting of parish Girl Scout troops and toward the chartering of American Heritage Girls troops.”

Archbishop Naumann explained that the decision to make the transition was not an easy one but whether parishes “chose the immediate or phased transition, parishes should be in the process of forming American Heritage Girl troops, at least for their kindergarteners, this fall.”

He cited a number of reasons summarized in these two paragraphs:

Eventually it came down to this. Our greatest responsibility as a church is to the children and young people in our care. We have a limited time and number of opportunities to impact the formation of our young people. It is essential that all youth programs at our parishes affirm virtues and values consistent with our Catholic faith.

To follow Jesus and his Gospel will often require us to be counter-cultural. With the promotion by Girl Scouts USA (GSUSA) of programs and materials reflective of many of the troubling trends in our secular culture, they are no longer a compatible partner in helping us form young women with the virtues and values of the Gospel.

As examples of these “programs and materials,” Archbishop Naumann cited how the national Girl Scouts Association “contributes more than a million dollars each year to the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGS), an organization tied to International Planned Parenthood...”

And there are frequently cited role models—“Margaret Sanger, Betsy Friedan and Gloria Steinem”—who along with “other ‘role models’ in the GSUSA’s new manuals and web content not only do not reflect our Catholic worldview but stand in stark opposition to what we believe.”

The alternative cited by Archbishop Naumann is American Heritage Girls,” which he described as “a program based on Christian values, we believe is a much better fit for our parishes. I encourage you to read more about the American Heritage Girl program by going to its website, americanheritagegirls.org.”

—National Right to Life News Today, May 1, 2017

Free Speech Is Not So Free

Americans United for Life Vice President of Legal Affairs Denise Burke has identified a frightening trend for pro-life advocates—the increasingly aggressive ways that abortion zealots attack the free speech rights of those who value life. Recently she wrote, “Abortion advocates around the world and particularly in the United States are increasingly abandoning their professed political and moral adherence to ‘choice,’ and instead adopting an agenda of coercion. Nowhere is this dangerous and calculated shift more evident than in their utter disdain for the freedom and fundamental rights of citizens who disagree with them.”

She noted: “For example, France has criminalized ‘obstruction to abortion’ for more than 15 years, prohibiting ‘moral and psychological pressure, searching to hinder abortion.’ Pro-life French citizens are not permitted to attempt to dissuade women from having abortions or to hold public demonstrations near facilities providing abortions. Under this law, an elderly and nearly blind man was fined for giving knitted baby booties to a woman in the stairway of a building housing Planned Parenthood.

“An Australian woman’s conviction for peacefully displaying an image of an aborted baby outside a Melbourne abortion clinic was recently upheld, while pro-life students at some of England’s most prestigious universities regularly face ostracism and censorship. Not to be outdone, abortion advocates in the United States are actively seeking to deny pro-life Americans their constitutional rights.

“Pro-life displays on college campuses are routinely vandalized, most recently in California, Colorado, Kentucky, New York, Pennsylvania, Texas, Washington, DC and Wisconsin. Crosses representing lost unborn lives are kicked over, signs displaying pro-life messages are methodically destroyed, and pro-life students are even physically attacked. At the behest of NARAL and other abortion advocates, the free speech rights of pregnancy centers in California, Illinois and Maryland have been infringed by laws forcing them to promote abortion. Connecticut and Hawaii are currently considering similar legislation.”

Our free speech rights are under attack worldwide.

“AUL has been monitoring these events, and we’ve filed amicus briefs in courts across the country defending Pregnancy Care Centers from abortion industry attempts to force them to promote abortion,” said Denise Burke.

—Americans United for Life, May 2017

WHAT DO WE DO NOW?

In January, the front page of our newsletter asked the question, *What Do We Do Now?* With the new administration in Washington, D.C. 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.

JUNE 2017

Include pro-life stickers and/or bookmarks in your outgoing mail. They are available at LIFESPAN offices.



Legislative Update

National Right to Life applauds Trump pro-life accomplishments in first 100 days

Since taking office nearly 100 days ago, President Donald Trump and his administration have provided the right-to-life movement with several major victories says the National Right to Life Committee, the federation of 50 state right-to-life affiliates and more than 3,000 local chapters. Those key victories include restoration of the Mexico City Policy, directing funding away from the United Nations Population Fund, and confirmation of Neil Gorsuch to the United States Supreme Court.

“Donald Trump ran as a pro-life candidate and pledged he would have a pro-life administration, and he has made good on his word,” said Carol Tobias, president of National Right to Life. “President Trump remains steadfast in his pro-life position, and we are excited by his pro-life accomplishments in his first 100 days in office. I have no doubt that President Trump’s leadership on behalf of the pro-life cause will continue to not only save lives of the unborn, but help pave the way for generations to come.”

MEXICO CITY POLICY

On January 23, President Trump took action to restore the so-called “Mexico City Policy,” a policy that had been in place in Republican administrations since 1984, when it was announced by authority of President Reagan at an international population control conference in Mexico City. Under that policy, in order to be eligible for certain types of foreign aid, a private organization must sign a contract promising not to perform abortions (except to save the mother’s life or in cases of rape or incest), not to lobby to change the abortion laws of host countries, or otherwise “actively promote abortion as a method of family planning.”

UNFPA FUNDING

On April 4, the Trump Administration reinstated a policy directing United States foreign assistance dollars away from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) on the basis that its activities in China are complicit with that nation’s coercive population control program, the implementation of which includes forced abortion and involuntary sterilization. United States funding will be directed instead to other family planning and health programs not involved in China’s population control program.

SUPREME COURT

On April 7, by a 54-45 vote, the United States Senate confirmed Neil Gorsuch as associate justice of the United States Supreme Court, filling the vacancy created by Justice Antonin Scalia’s death in 2016. As National Right to Life’s Tobias observed when Gorsuch was confirmed, “Judge Gorsuch appears to believe that judges are constrained to enforce the text and original intent of constitutional provisions, and on all other matters should defer to democratically elected lawmakers – this heartens us, and alarms those who have relied on activist judges to impose their radical pro-abortion policies.”

TITLE X

On April 13, 2017, President Trump signed into law H. J. Res 43 dealing with Title X and Planned Parenthood. Title X of the Public Health Service Act is a major federal “family planning” program. In 2016, the Obama Administration issued a regulation to prevent individual states from directing funds from Title X away from providers deemed unsuitable, such as Planned Parenthood. Under a law called the Congressional Review Act, Congress has the power to nullify such agency regulations under certain circumstances. H.J. Res. 43, now Pub. Law No. 115-23 restores the previous authority of states to direct Title X funds to the providers that they deem suitable.

Contact Information

President

President Donald Trump
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500
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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
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Opinion Line: 517-335-7858
Website: www.michigan.gov/snyder
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Dear Governor Snyder:

Michigan State Senator

The Honorable (full name)
P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48909
517-373-1837
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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):

ADMINISTRATION

In addition to key policy victories, President Trump has surrounded himself with pro-life advocates in his administration and cabinet including Senior Counsellor Kellyanne Conway, Attorney General Jeff Sessions, Secretary of Health and Human Services Tom Price, Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos, Secretary of Energy Rick Perry, United Nations Ambassador Nikki Haley, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Ben Carson, and Chief of Staff Reince Priebus.

OTHER LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

In advance of a January vote in the U.S. House of Representatives on the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act (H.R. 7), a bill that would codify the principles of the Hyde Amendment on a permanent, government-wide basis, the White House issued a statement affirming that President Trump “would sign the bill.” The Senate has not yet taken action.

Additionally, during his campaign for the presidency, Trump expressed support for other National Right to Life legislative priorities including the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act and directing funding away from Planned Parenthood, the nation’s largest abortion provider. In a September 2016 letter to pro-life leaders, he noted that “I am committed to...defunding Planned Parenthood as long as they continue to perform abortions, and re-allocating their funding to community health centers that provide comprehensive health care for women.

Tobias added, “This is a great time for the right-to-life movement, and we take heart in knowing that the Trump Administration will continue its work to defend and protect the fundamental right to life in the United States.”

—National Right to Life News Today, April 28, 2017

President Trump Signs Religious Freedom Order Protecting Little Sisters of the Poor From Obama Abortion Mandate

By Steven Ertelt

President Donald Trump signed a religious liberty executive order [May 4] that would protect Christian organizations like the Little Sisters of the Poor from being forced to pay for abortions.

“Freedom is not a gift from government. It is a gift from God,” Trump said in signing the order. “We are here to defend the rights of all Americans.”

May 4th is the National Day of Prayer and the White House celebrated the occasion with Christian leaders by scheduling the order signing. The order is a promise to respect religious rights and could pave the way for the Trump administration dropping the lawsuit the Obama administration was fighting against the Little Sisters and dozens of Christian entities not wanting to pay for abortions or abortion-causing drugs.

The order indicates the Trump administration will “provide regulatory relief for religious objectors to Obamacare’s burdensome preventive services mandate, a position supported by the Supreme Court decision in Hobby Lobby.”

Family Research Council President Tony Perkins was at the White House for the signing ceremony of an executive order protecting religious liberty. He told LifeNews.com that the new order ensures the freedom of all Americans to believe and act in accordance with their beliefs. The executive order makes clear that the administration will pursue policies that “protect and vigorously promote religious liberty.”

“The President’s executive order is a clear reflection of his campaign promise to protect the religious freedoms of Americans. President Trump is taking a significant first step to defending religious liberty. In working with the Trump administration, it is clear that they both recognize and understand the dangers of the anti-faith policies of the previous administration and are therefore committed to undoing those policies and restoring true religious freedom,” he said. “The freedom to live out faith in all areas of society without government punishment or intimidation is what has made America great.”

“Finally, the federal government realizes the immoral and insane mandate that forces organizations like the Little Sisters of the Poor to include contraception and abortifacients in their healthcare plans,” he said. “This step today starts the process of reversing the devastating trend set by the last administration to punish charities, pastors, family-owned businesses and honest, hard-working people simply for living according to their faith. This trend is in part why 60 percent of Trump voters in the last election said they were more likely to vote for him because the GOP platform is very clear on religious liberty and unborn life.”

Kelly Shackelford, President and CEO of First Liberty Institute, also applauded the order.

“President Trump’s executive order on religious liberty should be both unnecessary and unremarkable. Yet activists have pledged to challenge President Trump in court for supporting the First Amendment. Our country was founded on the promise that its government would respect the religious liberty of its people. First Liberty will do everything in our power to support this effort for America’s first liberty—religious freedom.”

Since taking office just over 100 days ago, President Donald Trump and his administration have provided the pro-life movement with several major victories.

Trump started with reinstating the Mexico City policy defunding International Planned Parenthood and continued with defunding the pro-abortion UNFPA and signing a bill to allow states to defund Planned Parenthood abortion company.

Trump also put pro-life advocates in key places such as Jeff Sessions as Attorney General, Tom Price as HHS Secretary and Nikki Haley as UN Ambassador.

“Donald Trump ran as a pro-life candidate and pledged he would have a pro-life administration, and he has made good on his word,” said Carol Tobias, president of National Right to Life. “President Trump remains steadfast in his pro-life position, and we are excited by his pro-life accomplishments in his first 100 days in office. I have no doubt that President Trump’s leadership on behalf of the pro-life cause will continue to not only save lives of the unborn, but help pave the way for generations to come.”

—LifeNews.com, May 4, 2017



LIFESPAN Chapter News

Oakland/Macomb Counties

Dinner, Dinner, Pro-Life Dinner!

We had a packed house, filled with folks from the past and present and future at our Celebration of Life Dinner on May 16th.

Our speaker, Kristan Hawkins, president of Students for Life of America gave us several “plans of action” for our pro-life struggle, particularly against Planned Parenthood. The one that seemed to resonate the best with everyone was “be mean.”

She noted that sometimes we pro-lifers are too polite in our criticism of PP. When we know the facts, we need to let others know. PP is the largest abortion business in our country. PP does not offer pre-natal care. PP does not do mammograms. PP does receive millions and millions of tax dollars. These are facts. PP tries to avoid mentioning them or acknowledging that they are true. It is up to us. Be Mean!

We had a really great turnout of young people at the dinner, both as helpers and attendees. We had student leaders from U of M and OU. Lots of high school students came and all heard Kristan’s message and her invitation to attend the Student Conference after the next March for Life.

At the end of her remarks, Kristan asked those present to support and donate to LIFESPAN so we can continue our work, and then she did something

that no other speaker has ever done before. She prayed for us. She prayed that we remain strong, that we persevere, that we not become discouraged and that we ultimately succeed in our efforts to restore dignity and protection to human life. Her prayer touched our hearts.

There are dozens and dozens of thank yous that need to be extended to all those who helped with the dinner. The problem is, if we started listing them individually, we would absolutely miss someone, so instead, all of you who fetched and carried, took reservations, set up and took down tables and displays and were there to do whatever needed to be done, please accept our heartfelt thanks!



“Grandchildren don’t stay young forever which is good—because Grandfathers only have so many horsy rides in them.”

~ Gene Perret ~

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Lynn Gura, Ofc. Staff & Youth Director

THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to all who donated and all who volunteered time for the Garage Sale! It was a great success and we couldn’t have done it without all of you! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

#1 DAD ♦ Happy Father’s Day!

To all of the men who take on not only the title, but the amazing responsibility of being: Father, Dad, Daddy, Pops, Papa, Grandpa, etc., we hope that you are celebrated on June 18th and every day of the year! Happy Father’s Day!!!

FATHERHOOD Begins in the Womb!

Here are some amazing facts about babies and their fathers:

♦ At the moment of conception, the baby’s DNA is complete! The DNA contains portions from both the mother and the father.

♦ A baby recognizes the father’s voice in the womb, by the 22nd week of pregnancy.

♦ When fathers are highly involved, their babies interact equally with both parents and more easily with strangers. For example, one study showed that babies of 12 to 14 months who had fathers who played an active, independent and consistent role in childcare were

more sociable than babies with more distant fathers—both with their own parents and with outsiders.

♦ Several studies suggest the quality and quantity of baby-father contact has a direct impact on how secure children feel growing up. There is also research showing that toddlers and young children who spend more time playing with their dads, are more likely to be sociable when starting nursery school.

♦ Babies with strong attachments to their dads tend to have fewer behavioural problems later on. In fact, some studies suggest this relationship might have an even greater impact on the behaviour of pre-teen children than the mother-baby attachment.

♦ Substantial father involvement from at least the first month after birth promotes better language development and better cognition skills (suggested by higher IQ scores) among toddlers and young children.

♦ The very clear fact is that without the man, there would not be a baby conceived.

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Wee Care

This past week, many attended our 27th annual Celebration of Life Dinner. It was a wonderful evening with delicious food, a fun auction and best of all—a gathering of friends! The theme for this year’s event was “Praise for the Past—Hope for the Future.” Although many of you have helped my Wee Care babies in the past, and I hope that you will continue to do so in the future, I think we should have added “AND GRATITUDE FOR NOW”!

It is now that you are hosting showers for my little ones. It is now that you are arranging Giving Trees at Christmas. It is now that you are purchasing baby items. It is now that you are crocheting afghans. It is now that you are “garage-sale-ing” for my babies. It is now that you are praying for my moms and their precious little ones. My gratitude and love for all those who have provided for my babies in the past, and continue to do so today, is endless.

Without you, today, there would be no Wee Care. You are the ones who love our babies enough to spend your time and money helping them.



Without the baby supplies you purchase, collect or make... Without all of the love and time you give... Without all of the prayers you say... Wee Care would not exist!

So for all those who helped, who are helping and who will continue to help my sweet little ones—You have my deepest gratitude and love! God bless you!

—Karen
PS: A special thank you to “Debbie” who had the winning auction bid on the baby layette and after paying for it, she donated it to a very lucky Wee Care baby!

WEE CARE FRIENDS ARE THE BEST!

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.

Nonprofits Behaving Badly - I

The entities listed below are linked to Planned Parenthood and/or its agenda. Life Decisions International has released this list, not as a list of boycott targets per se, but to inform pro-lifers about their activities.

AARP

(advocates embryonic stem cell research & has worked with and/or funded Planned Parenthood); contact:

Ms. Carol Raphael, Chm.
AARP, 601 E St. NW, Washington, DC 20049
Phone: 888-687-2277

Alzheimer’s Association

(advocates embryonic stem cell research); contact:

Mr. Stewart Putnam, Chm.
Alzheimer’s Asn., 225 N. Michigan Ave., 17th Fl.
Chicago, IL 60601
Phone: 312-335-8700

American Diabetes Association

(advocates embryonic stem cell research); contact:

Mr. Robin Richardson, Chm.
American Diabetes Asn.
1701 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria, VA 22311
Phone: 800-342-2383 or 703-549-1500

Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation

(advocates embryonic stem cell research); contact:

Mr. John M. Hughes, Chm.
Christopher & Dana Reeve Fdn.
636 Morris Tpke., Ste. 3A, Short Hills, NJ 07078
Phone: 800-225-0292

National Education Association – NEA

(on record as a pro-abortion and/or population control group); contact:

Ms. Lily Eskelsen Garcia, Pres.
NEA
1201 16th St., NW, Washington, DC 20036
Phone: 202-833-4000

Remember: It is important that you stop doing business with boycott targets. This is the first step. The second step is to contact these organizations and tell them why you are no longer supporting them. We have included the contact person for each company.



SAVE THESE DATES! LIFESPAN EVENTS - 2017

Father’s Day Pen/Candy Sale: Sunday, June 18
National Day of Remembrance: Saturday, September 9
Walk for Life: Sunday, September 10
LIFE CHAIN: Sunday, October 1
“Movement in Motion” Bus Trip Registration: Sept 5–Oct 31
Lights for Life Campaign: Starts in October
LIFESPAN Christmas Cards: Sales start in October
MNFL Annual Fall Conference: Saturday, October 7

LIFESPAN News

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University Gives \$300,000 to Gender Equity and LGBTQ Centers Denies Money to Students for Life

By Steven Ertelt

Alliance Defending Freedom attorneys filed a federal lawsuit [May 17] against California State University–San Marcos officials on behalf of a pro-life student organization and its campus president, Nathan Apodaca, who are prevented from bringing pro-life speakers to campus under the university’s discriminatory funding policies.

The university funds pro-abortion and other favored views with almost \$300,000 in mandatory fees charged of Mr. Apodaca and all students, but denied Students for Life \$500 in funding to host a visiting speaker on “Abortion and Human Equality” to provide a contrasting view.

“Universities should encourage all students to participate in the free exchange of ideas, not concoct elaborate funding schemes to award their favored few with first-class status while denying even economy class to opposing views,” said ADF Senior Counsel Tyson Langhofer. “California State University–San Marcos has spared no expense to fund the advocacy of its preferred student advocacy groups but denies funding for speakers from Students for Life and similar student groups. The result is a two-track system by which the University compels some students to fund the speech of their peers with whom they may disagree, but prohibit those same students from using these funds to present a different viewpoint. Under the First Amendment’s guarantee of free speech, courts have repeatedly rejected unfair and discriminatory policies—like those found at Cal State–San Marcos—as unconstitutional.”

CSU–San Marcos has more than 100 recognized student groups. Although the university says that it prohibits any of those groups from spending activity fee grants on expenses to bring speakers to campus, the Gender Equity Center and the LGBTQ Pride Center enjoy preferential status, and as such, are exempt from that rule and the standard \$500 cap. In the 2016-2017 academic year, those two “centers” received a combined \$296,498 for speech and expressive activities—more than 21 percent of all mandatory student activity fees the programming board received for that year—compared to only \$38,629 for the more than 100 other groups combined (less than 3 percent). This year the GEC hosted the ABC’s of LGBTQ: Queer Women and the so-called “Pleasure Party.” The LGBTQ Pride Center hosted “Kink 101”—which was an interactive workshop and discussion of bondage, dominance, sadism, and masochism—and fetish-style practices. These and the centers’ other advocacy events were funded exclusively from mandatory student fees.

Earlier this year, Students for Life applied for a \$500 “Leadership Funding” grant to host pro-life speaker and University of North Carolina–Wilmington Professor Mike Adams to provide an alternative view. Student groups like SFLA may receive only \$500 per semester.

Although Apodaca, like other Students for Life members, paid the same mandatory student activity fees



that all students pay as a condition of enrollment, he and his pro-life peers are denied equal access to those fees to bring Adams to campus. Instead, the Gender Equity Center and the LGBTQ Pride Center receive the lion share of funding available for student advocacy and may use those funds to bring speakers to advocate for these officially preferred views.

“While touting a community that values ‘individual and cultural diversity, and respect[s] multiple perspectives,’ Cal State–San Marcos is not practicing what it preaches,” said ADF Senior Counsel Casey Mattox, director of the ADF Center for Academic Freedom. “Today’s college students will be tomorrow’s legislators, judges, commissioners, and voters. But at Cal State San Marcos, they are learning that government can force citizens to pay for advocacy of the views it decides shall be orthodox and effectively exclude competing views. There can be no marketplace of ideas where the government simply funds its favored views.”

“This is yet another example of a university using their power, along with student fees, to restrict speech they don’t agree with or particularly like, giving credence to the emerging fact that tolerance does not apply to pro-life or conservative speech,” said Kristan Hawkins, president of Students for Life of America. “Forcing students to pay into a system that treats their peers unfairly is a disservice to the entire Cal State-San Marcos student body and their educational experience. Pro-life students should have every opportunity available to them that pro-abortion students have and anything less is a failure on the part of Cal State-San Marcos to abide by the First Amendment.”

Daniel R. Watkins of Watkins & Letofsky, LLP is among the nearly 3,200 attorneys allied with ADF and serves as local counsel in the lawsuit, *Students for Life at California State University—San Marcos v. Abrego*, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California. ADF has prevailed in similar lawsuits against the University of Michigan, Eastern Michigan University, the University of Wisconsin–Madison, and Texas A&M University.

Students for Life of America is the nation’s largest pro-life youth organization and currently serves more than 1,040 groups in colleges, high schools, and medical schools across the U.S.

—LifeNews.com, May 18, 2017

Pro-Lifers: Get Out of Medicine!

By Wesley J. Smith

Doctors in the United States cannot be forced to perform abortions or assist suicides. But that may soon change. Bioethicists and other medical elites have launched a frontal assault against doctors seeking to practice their professions under the values established by the Hippocratic Oath. The campaign's goal? To force doctors, nurses, pharmacists and others in the health field who hold pro-life or orthodox religious views to choose between their careers and their convictions.

Ethics opinions, legislation and court filings seeking to deny "medical conscience" have proliferated as journals, legislative bodies, and the courts have taken up the cause. In the last year, these efforts have moved from the relative hinterlands of professional discussions into the center of establishment medical discourse. Most recently, preeminent bioethicist Ezekiel Emanuel—one of Obamacare's principal architects—coauthored with Ronit Y. Stahl an attack on medical conscience in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, perhaps the world's most prestigious medical journal. When advocacy of this kind is published by the NEJM, it is time to sound the air raid sirens.

The authors take an absolutist position, claiming that personal morality has no place in medical practice. Under the pretext of "patients' rights" and a supposed obligation of doctors to adhere to the medical moral consensus—a tyranny of the majority, if you will—Emanuel and Stahl would prohibit doctors from conscientiously objecting to performing requested procedures on moral grounds. From "Physicians, Not Conscripts—Conscientious Objection in Health Care" (my emphasis):

Making the patient paramount means offering and providing accepted medical interventions in accordance with patients' reasoned decisions. Thus, a health care professional cannot deny patients access to medications for mental health conditions, sexual dysfunction, or contraception on the basis of their conscience, since these drugs are professionally accepted as appropriate medical interventions.

This includes human life-taking actions such as abortion:

[A]bortion is politically and culturally contested, it is not medically controversial. It is a standard obstetrical

practice. Health care professionals who conscientiously object to professionally contested interventions may avoid participating in them directly. ... Conscientious objection still requires conveying accurate information and providing timely referrals to ensure patients receive care.

This would mean that a Catholic doctor who opposes contraception would have to prescribe it or find a doctor willing to fill out the prescription—even if she informs her patients before being retained that she practices medicine in accord with her church's moral teachings. It would also require a pro-life OB/GYN who refuses to terminate a pregnancy to find an abortionist, thus becoming complicit in the act. The authors would still allow doctors to decline to assist suicides—for now—but only because that practice is not yet accepted generally within the medical community. If euthanasia ever does become generally accepted—as it is now in the Netherlands, Belgium, and Canada—under the Emanuel/Stahl rule, dissenting physicians would be required to participate in homicide.

Emanuel and Stahl would drive noncooperating doctors out of medicine (my emphasis):

Health care professionals who are unwilling to accept these limits have two choices: select an area of medicine, such as radiology, that will not put them in situations that conflict with their personal morality or, if there is no such area, leave the profession.

Shattering medical conscience rights would also dissuade those who hold officially unwanted values—orthodox Catholics and other Christians, Jews, Muslims, and pro-lifers—from entering medical school in the first place. There is a method to this madness: The goal is to cleanse healthcare of all those who would dare to practice medicine in accord with sanctity-of-life moral viewpoints.

The attacks on conscience have already moved beyond mere intellectual advocacy. The government of Ontario, Canada is on the verge of requiring doctors either to euthanize or to refer all legally qualified patients. In Victoria, Australia, all physicians must either perform an abortion when asked or find an abortionist for the patient. One doctor has been disciplined under the law for refusing to refer for a sex-selective abortion. In Washington, a small pharmacy chain owned by a Christian family failed in its attempt to be excused from a regulation requiring all legal prescriptions to be dispensed, with a specific provision precluding conscience exemptions. The chain now faces a requirement to fill prescriptions for the morning-after pill, against the owners' religious beliefs. In Vermont, a regulation obligates all doctors to discuss assisted suicide with their terminally ill patients as an end-of-life option, even if they are morally opposed. Litigation to stay this forced speech has, so far, been unavailing.

The ACLU recently commenced a campaign of litigation against Catholic hospitals that adhere to the Church's moral teaching. For example, it sued a Catholic hospital

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Walk For Life



WHEN: Sunday, September 10, 2017

TIME: 1:30 – 3:00 PM

**WHERE: Sumac Pointe Pavilion
Edward Hines Park, Livonia**

The Walk for Life is an easy way for people of all ages to get involved by actively demonstrating support for the Sanctity of Human Life across the lifespan and a desire to make a difference in the lives of women and their babies.

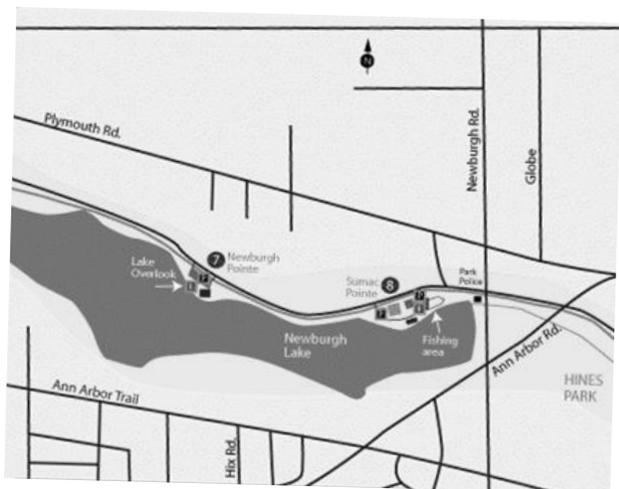
It will take less than 90 minutes of your time, but its effect could literally last a lifetime!

Put your feet to your pro-life convictions and Walk for Life; you will directly help LIFESPAN advance its mission to impact and transform people with the love of life from conception until natural death.

Start collecting pledges of support from friends and family NOW!

More information and pledge forms will be in the next newsletter and on our website: miLIFESPAN.org.

We are a 501(c)3 organization and all donations are tax-deductible!



Donations have been made—

In Memory of:

Tom Tharp

Given by: John and Beverly Bettega
Diane Trombley
Barbara and Chuck Hart
Annette and Mike Schefke
The Gorecki Family

Lois Similuk

Given by: Joyce and David Swartz

Randy Rumpz

Richard Tucholka

Given by: Eric and Eileen Brandt

Jeannine Strayhorn

Given by: Caroline and Brian Bundredthal
Joseph and Phyllis LeBlanc

Henry Bucon

Frieda Dean

Doris Makaroff

Given by: Eric and Eileen Brandt
Pat Holscher

Wayne County LIFESPAN Board Members

Tom Kelly

Given by: Pat Holscher

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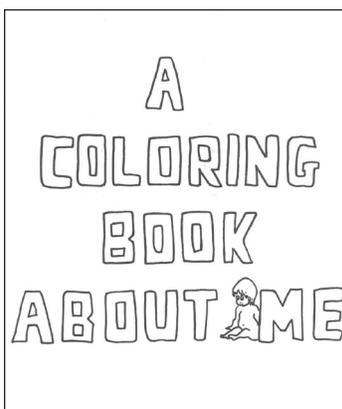
Betty Barrow

Given by: The O'Reilly Family

Gerry Milosch

Given by: John and Karen Minard

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.



**ECL
COLORING
BOOKS!**

A large supply of discontinued Educational Center for Life coloring books are available at the office—free of charge. If you are interested or know of a group who is, please call 248-816-8489.

From the President's Desk

Dear Friends,

We had a wonderful evening May 16th, hosting our Celebration of Life Dinner. As usual the food and facilities of the San Marino Club were excellent, the ambiance very conducive for our evening events--speaker, Auction and Tin Can Raffle. Our speaker, Kristan Hawkins, gave a wonderful talk, sharing with us her work with Students for Life and her hope for the future, due to the pro-life generation of youth, growing yearly.

We gave recognition to members and family members of those deceased who were LIFESPAN Board Members in 1970. These board members attended numerous board meetings and think-tank sessions, which got Lifespan active and running as a legal, productive organization.

Due to time restraints, we were unable to give individual recognition to those members in the audience who worked so hard behind the scenes in 1970. The time and efforts they gave working in the vineyard of life made us the strong, active pro-life movement we are today. You know who you are! I send to you my great admiration and heartfelt thanks.

We are planning a celebration of our 50th anniversary in 2020. I am asking for those willing to be on a committee to call the office so we can start planning now. I especially ask those who started with us in the 70s to put your thinking cap on and try to recall those you worked with and how we can reach these people (this does not commit you to work on the committee). Please call the office and volunteer your time and supply us with anything you could share to make this 50th anniversary special.

Many thanks, to all who attended the Dinner and those who donated to the Auction or Tin Can Raffle. Our work will continue because of you. Last, but not least, to all the young people who worked at the Dinner—your presence was so appreciated. You bring enthusiasm, joy and hope to LIFESPAN and the movement.

May God continue to bless all of you and give us all the strength, energy and funds needed to continue our work at LIFESPAN.

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

Pro-Lifers: Get Out of Medicine

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that refused to sterilize a woman in conjunction with her caesarian section. That lawsuit failed. Undaunted, the supposed guardians of civil liberties—except the free exercise of religion, it seems—recently brought a case against a Catholic hospital for refusing to permit doctors to perform an elective hysterectomy as part of a sex-reassignment surgery.

There is a reason that moral diversity is under attack in health care. When doctors refuse to abort a fetus, participate in assisted suicide, excise healthy organs, or otherwise follow their consciences about morally contentious matters, they send a powerful message: Just because a medical act is legal doesn't make it right. Such a clarion witness is intolerable to those who want to weaponize medicine to impose secular individualistic and utilitarian values on all of society.

Wesley J. Smith is a senior fellow at the Discovery Institute's Center on Human Exceptionalism. He is also a consultant to the Patients Rights Council.

—First Things, May 12, 2017

KEEPING TOMORROW ALIVE

Life is for everyone.

The National Right to Life Convention 2017

June 29-July 1 ♦ Milwaukee, Wisconsin

The National Right to Life Convention is the essential pro-life educational and training event of the year. During this three-day event, national experts on life issues gather in one place to equip the pro-life grassroots with the knowledge and skills they need to advance our cause. Learn from the best, mingle with like-minded people, hear and meet amazing speakers, and leave feeling rejuvenated and ready to go home, get to work and save lives!

Go to: <http://nrlconvention.com>

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
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Celebration of Life Dinner 2017

A great time was had by all!

