



Right To Life - Lifespan Inc.

SERVING SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN SINCE 1970

VOLUME 10 NUMBER 1

JANUARY 1988

Rally for Life!



FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY MEMORIAL RALLY FOR THE UNBORN

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 1988

2:00 - 3:00 P.M.

DETROIT'S KENNEDY SQUARE
WOODWARD AT MICHIGAN

FELLOWSHIP AND SOCIAL HOUR
FOLLOWING RALLY AT
HARDEE'S RESTAURANT
ON GRISWOLD BEHIND KENNEDY SQUARE

JOIN US TO MEET THE SPEAKERS
AND FELLOW PROLIFERS!



FEATURED SPEAKER

AMINA FAKIR

MISS BLACK AMERICA
1985

MUSIC

SPEAKERS

BALLOONS

SPIRIT!



FOR WAYNE COUNTY CHAPTER NEWS, SEE PAGES 4 & 5.



LEGISLATIVE NEWS

TWO OBJECTIONABLE BILLS DEBATED IN MICHIGAN HOUSE

Michigan H.B. 4176 (Rep. P. Bullard, Dem.) allows patients to refuse food and water. This dangerous proposal must be defeated. When this Newsletter was typed, the bill had not been voted upon. Please call the Main Office, 261-2757, to see if you should write or call your legislator to express your opinion. The bill may have already been decided when you read this in January.

Michigan H.B. 4647 (Rep. D. Hollister) is the old durable power of attorney bill. It was passed out of committee on Wednesday, December 9, without protection for unborn and prohibition for withdrawal of food and water. As it is, Lifespan does not support the bill.

Right to Life of Michigan strongly supports a provision entitled, "H-2, the Ciaramitaro Substitute." It is a pro-life alternative to, among other things, allow individuals to appoint a Patient Advocate to make medical treatment decisions for the patient during periods of incapacity. There are other significant safeguards, especially one which forbids withdrawal of food and water.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD, U.N. FUND LOSE BID FOR FOREIGN AID

WASHINGTON--Two major pro-abortion groups suffered sharp defeats when the Senate Appropriations Committee voted against restoring U.S. "population assistance" funds to the Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) and to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA).

The Committee rejected a proposal to overturn the "Mexico City Policy." The Mexico City Policy denies U.S. population-control funds to private organizations which promote abortion or campaign for the legalization of abortion in other nations.

Senator Daniel Inouye (D-HI) proposed language for the Fiscal Year 1988 Foreign Aid Appropriations Bill to overturn the Mexico City Policy. But the committee voted 14 to 11 to adopt an amendment by Senator Bob Kasten (R-WI) which preserved the Mexico City Policy.

The Mexico City Policy, announced by President Reagan in 1984, has resulted in removal of U.S. funds from the International Planned Parenthood Federation. In addition, the Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) has announced that it will not accept funds under the Mexico City conditions when its current contract with the Agency for International Development (A.I.D.) expires on December 31.

PPFA has spent a reported \$1.5 million this year on advertising and a legal campaign to overturn the Mexico City Policy. A U.S. District Court in New York rejected PPFA's legal challenge to the Policy on September 29.

--(National Right to Life-December 1987)

DR. NATHANSON RECEIVES AWARD

Dr. Bernard N. Nathanson, creator of the controversial film, THE SILENT SCREAM, has been awarded three prizes in highly regarded film industry competitions for his new film, ECLIPSE OF REASON.

Just recently released, this film has already garnered the Intercom Certificate of Merit from Chicago, the 1987 International New York Film and T.V. Festival Medal, and the Chris Award from the Film Council of Greater Columbus. Those winning the Gold Chris Award are eligible for an Academy Award. -- News Advisory, Nov. 1987

RIGHT TO LIFE - LIFESPAN, INC.

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Right To Life - Lifespan, Inc. is a voluntary organization and is funded entirely by membership dues, private donations and fundraising. 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, Inc. or a donation in memory of a loved one, will be used to save the lives of many through our efforts. Donations are not tax-deductible.

SPLIT SUPREME COURT VOTE KEEPS ABORTION RIGHTS FOR MINORS

The Supreme Court, in a split decision that sets no national precedent, on Monday let stand a lower court ruling striking down an Illinois law that restricted minors' access to abortions.

The Court, one member short since Justice Lewis Powell retired in June, split 4-4 to affirm a lower court ruling declaring invalid portions of the law, which placed restrictions, including a 24-hour waiting period, on a minor's right to abortion.

The ruling, in a one-line order in the case Hartigan vs. Zbaraz, did not list the votes of the individual justices. It was an anti-climactic ending to a case that has been before the Court for more than a year.

Groups on both sides of the abortion issue and members of the Senate were quick to note the impact Judge Anthony Kennedy, whose confirmation hearings began Monday before the Senate Judiciary Committee, could have on the next abortion case.

However, legal scholars also noted that the court's landmark 1973 decision, Roe vs. Wade, decided on a 7-2 vote with Justices William Rehnquist and Byron White in dissent, would not necessarily stand or fall on Kennedy's vote if the issue were to come before the court again.

They said the Illinois case did not address the basic right to abortion and instead dealt with the extent of a minor's access to the procedure, a right the court already has said is not as extensive as that of adults. They said there is no evidence the court would be equally divided if the basic right to abortion were at issue.

--Detroit Free Press, December 15, 1987

DOWNRIVER CHAPTER LEADS OPPOSITION TO SCHOOL BASED CLINIC

A very small news item in The Detroit Free Press, October 30 is headlined: "Taylor -- No Teen Health Clinic."

The article says: "The Board of Education voted 4-3 this week to rescind a June resolution approving a teen clinic at Taylor Center High School, which was to provide sports physicals, counseling, medical care and tests for sexually transmitted diseases."

The rest of the story, which was not printed, should congratulate this major victory by the Lifespan Downriver Chapter led by local pastors and many individuals whose opposition caused the Board of Education to rescind their previous decision. Part of the reason this prolife group opposed the clinic was that they did not trust the clinic's operators to abide by the law which prohibits school-based clinics from prescribing abortions.

MEA ADVISES MEMBERS ON ABORTION POLICY

The Voice, the local Michigan Education Association paper published an article November 16 to assist its membership in dealing with the new state policy which prohibits school employees from making referrals for abortions.

MEA attorneys say that the act applies to school employees acting within the scope of their employment.

The article continues with MEA attorneys' recommendations for "avoiding problems with the section."

"If a student asks you where she can get an abortion, or if you feel that a student needs pregnancy counseling, refer that student to an organization or social service agency that presents all options that are available."

"Do not refer a student to an organization or physician who solely advocates abortions or performs abortions," the article adds.

WAYNE COUNTY, WEST CHAPTER NEWS

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

Educational Center For Life
909 Woodward Avenue
Pontiac, MI 48053-3015
(313)338-1910

Pregnancy Services
Birthright 532-3030

FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK:

As we begin a new year, I'd like to share a few thoughts about our chapter and where we are going. In the past few years, we have grown and accomplished a great deal. I think we are tempted to say, "There are a lot of people out there to do the job. I'm busy and so I'll let the other person do it." Unfortunately, if everyone did this, we would have no volunteers and no chapter. We have accomplished much, but there is a huge task before us. We need more leaders, more volunteers to help. We need to grow in membership. Hopefully, you will be called and asked to help in some capacity. Please say "Yes!" to this request. You are needed. You are very important. If we are to continue the struggle to speak out for the right to life of all, especially the elderly, the handicapped and the helpless, we need you.

Consider the following ways you could help:

Leadership:

Co-chairman, vice-chairman, chairman of special project (we currently need a newsletter-mailing chairman), board member.

Educating:

Attend speaker workshops and become knowledgeable, speak to churches, schools, community groups, contact such groups to arrange for speakers.

Service:

Volunteer weekly in office, help with mailings, be church representative, make telephone calls from home, organize projects, type, drive to post office or other errands, participate in fundraisers, write your legislator.

THIS NEW YEAR RESOLVE TO SAY YES TO SOME INVOLVEMENT IN RIGHT TO LIFE - LIFESPAN.

Open Arms
P O Box 40508
Detroit, Mi 48240

Open ARMs



(313) 751 2917

(Abortion Related Ministries)

The Detroit Metropolitan Chapter of Open ARMs (Abortion Related Ministries) wishes to announce its organization and availability in the Detroit Metro area. We are a confidential, Christian, post-abortion support ministry to anyone suffering from post-abortion emotional aftermath. Open ARMs is made up of people who have personally experienced and understand the pain, emptiness and heartache which follow abortion.

Open ARMs is committed to ministry by offering confidential Christian support for those who are experiencing post-abortion trauma and unplanned pregnancies, through one-on-one telephone and group support counseling. We are also committed to glorifying Jesus Christ, speaking the truth in love, through distribution of literature, radio/TV/newspaper appearances and articles, and lobbying activities. It is our heartfelt desire for Open ARMs to set a Christian example of love within the pro-life movement.

As any new ministry, we need assistance in prayers and financial support. The costs we incur range from duplicating costs/educational manuals/bible studies (and other counseling tools) to telephone costs, to travel expenses for representatives to attend local/regional/national Open ARMs conferences. Without assistance, the effectiveness of Open ARMs in the Detroit Metro area is in jeopardy. We are a non-profit organization and all contributions, whether a one-time donation or on a monthly basis, are tax-deductible.

Your prayerful consideration to this matter would be greatly appreciated. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss our organization with you at any time.

Sincerely,

Debbie Eaker
Metro Detroit Director

Mail to: Open ARMs; P.O. Box 40508; Detroit, MI 48240

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Amount of Donation _____

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Laurie Masiarak who is our Volunteer of the Month. For many years, with a young, growing family, Laurie has said "Yes!" to many requests for help. She has been a church representative, has helped with mailings, has participated in many fundraisers, has attended many meetings and has been supportive in so many other ways. Thank you, Laurie. You are an excellent example of the grass roots members that are the very backbone of this organization.

DON'T FORGET:

Detroit Rally for Life -- January 17 in Kennedy Square -- 2:00 p.m.

Why not organize a van or at least a car load from your neighborhood or church group.

March for Life in Washington, D.C. -- See November Newsletter for details.

NEW YEAR'S DAY

by Marion Holden

The gate of the years stands open;
What will the new year bring?
Whatever may lie before us,
We can depend on Spring,
Summer, and Autumn and Winter.
Seedtime and harvest are sure.
Troubles may come but never
Without the strength to endure.
Take each day as a journey,
Each morning, a dew-fresh start,
Each night as a safe returning
With the peace of God in your heart.

A SYMPOSIUM: OUR COUNTRY MOVES TOWARD EUTHANASIA

(Those who respect life should become increasingly aware of our country's tendency toward legalizing euthanasia. The following excerpts from three timely articles are an overview of the movement in that direction. Ed. Note)

DOCTOR SPECIALIZES IN MANAGING DEATH

There is a new medical specialty making its worldwide debut right here in Michigan. It is called obitriatry -- the medical management of death.

When practiced according to special principles, obitriatry would offer terminal patients the means to end their lives.

The specialty's founder and first practitioner, Jack Kevorkian, M.D. of Royal Oak says "obitratrists" would offer active euthanasia to people with terminal illnesses who wish to die without suffering. Right now he is waiting for his first patient. He will work for free.

Kevorkian says he fully expects to be arrested after supervising the death of his first patient, but says he welcomes prosecution because it will force government, the public and organized medicine to face the issue.

He will not actively take part in killing the terminal patient but will describe the method of death and advise the family of a procedure to use. This way he would only be charged with abetting suicide.

--Taken from Health Care Weekly Review, Aug. 24, 1987

CALIFORNIA BAR ASSOC. SUPPORTS DOCTOR ASSISTED SUICIDE

"Legal Delegates OK Euthanasia for Terminally Ill in California." Such is the headline of a story in the Lansing State Journal, September 22, 1987 by Bob Egelko, an Associated Press writer.

The article says that the California Bar Association delegates have approved a resolution supporting "doctor-assisted suicide."

Such suicide would involve doctors giving terminally ill patients a prescription for a lethal dose of drugs.

After an intense debate, delegates to the C.B.A.'s annual meeting voted 282-239 to direct the organization's Board of Governors to back a euthanasia bill before the state legislature.

The law now allows a healthy person to authorize removal of life-saving measures in the event of future terminal illness. Courts have also authorized doctors to withhold food and water at the request of an incurably ill patient.

This measure would go further by allowing a doctor to give the patient a prescription-drug dose at the patient's request that would cause instant death.

Opponents have said that the proposal was a perversion of medical practice and would lead to pressures on patients to die for the convenience of others.

EFFECTS OF WITHHOLDING FOOD AND WATER DESCRIBED

In an article entitled, "Come Sweet Death," by Nat Hentoff published in the NRLC News, September 15, 1987, Mr. Hentoff writes about the trial to determine whether it would be legal to remove a feeding tube from Paul Brophy to allow him to die by withholding food and water.

In his finding of fact, according to Hentoff, the trial judge, David Kopelman, listed the effects a person's body would be likely to experience if he were to be deprived of all nutrition and hydration.

- (a) His mouth would dry out and become caked or coated with thick material.
- (b) His lips would become parched and cracked or fissured.
- (c) His tongue would become swollen and might crack.
- (d) His eyes would sink back into their orbits.
- (e) His cheeks would become hollow.
- (f) The mucosa (lining) of his nose might crack and cause his nose to bleed.
- (g) His skin would hang loose on his body and become dry and scaly.
- (h) His urine would become highly concentrated, causing burning of the bladder.
- (i) The lining of his stomach would dry out, causing dry heaves and vomiting.
- (j) He would develop hyperthermia, a very high body temperature.
- (k) His brain cells would begin drying out, causing convulsions.
- (l) His respiratory tract would dry out, giving rise to very thick secretions, which could plug his lungs and cause death.
- (m) Eventually his major organs would fail, including his lungs, heart, and brain.

This information disturbed the judge. So did testimony by Dr. Richard Field, the Chief of Staff at New England Sinai Hospital, where Paul Brophy was a patient. Dr. Field was asked if he had ever seen a person dehydrate and starve to death. Yes, he had. When? During World War II, Dr. Field explained, he had been attached to an infantry division, and it was his division that liberated Dachau. The courtroom became very quiet. "I saw," Dr. Field said, "literally thousands of people who had been subject to both dehydration and starvation -- both dead and dying....Bringing about death through dehydration and starvation is a barbaric and savage way to induce death, and as such is cruel and abusive and not conscionable."

--NRLC News October 18, 1987

"Come Sweet Death" by Nat Hentoff

CALENDAR UPDATE

- Jan. 17 RALLY FOR LIFE, Kennedy Square, Detroit, 2:00-3:00 p.m.
- Jan. 22 MARCH FOR LIFE, Washington, D.C.
- Feb. 25 Detroit Chapter Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Detroit Office

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Save a Life! Ask a friend to become a member. Please fill in below and mail to:

RTL-Lifespan, Inc. Main Office • 27578 Schoolcraft • Livonia, MI 48150

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Please check Annual Membership desired: ☐ \$12.00/Individual & Family ☐ \$5.00/Senior Citizen & Youth ☐ Other

Donations are not tax-deductible.

SEX-SELECTIVE ABORTIONS CHALLENGED

"Any woman in the United States can legally get an abortion because she doesn't like the sex of her baby." So states an Americans United for Life letter dated Nov. 16.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and other representatives of the abortion industry are challenging some Illinois legislation which specifically prohibits the practice of aborting children for sex selection.

"Any case that points out the personhood of an unborn child can fracture the illusion that the Constitution protects a mother's right to abort her baby.

"It would lead to the reversal of Roe v. Wade and the restoration of legal protection of unborn children," the letter continues.

Since sex-selective abortions take place in the fourth to ninth month of pregnancy after the baby's sex is determined, all such abortions are late-term abortions.

The AUL Legal Defense Fund is raising money to defend this case entitled, Keith vs. Daley.

To have the ACLU--the self-proclaimed legal protector of all of our rights--supporting this suit just adds to the drama.

Please call the Main Office at 261-2757 should you wish to contribute to this defense fund.

TELEPHONE SOLICITATIONS???

As a result of some recent phone solicitations, which were reported to our office, Lifespan, Inc. wishes its membership to know that we do not do telephone solicitation to raise funds. Should you receive such a phone call, it is not from Lifespan.

Lifespan also wants to take this opportunity to encourage all members to support their local, grass-roots organization.

KNAPP'S COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM

We received over 2300 Community Support Coupons since our last Newsletter report. The deadline for this drive was Dec. 31. We successfully passed our goal of 32,500 with a total over 36,000. Thanks to all of you! Keep tuned for Educational Center for Life activities which you may attend and see the audio/visual equipment in use that you helped obtain.

We have applied to Bill Knapp's to begin another drive for office equipment. Keep those Bill Knapp's Community Support Coupons coming! When you present your check to the cashier at Bill Knapp's, 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 pt. equals \$1.00 computed on the total amount received by the cashier for meals, bakery items, take-out orders or purchased gift certificates.

Send the Community Support Coupons to us at Right to Life-Lifespan, Inc., 27578 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150.

Right To Life - Lifespan, Inc.

Wayne County, West Chapter
27578 Schoolcraft Road
Livonia, MI 48150-2203



If you are moving, please
notify us of your new address.

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Westland, MI 48185

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

URGENT DATED MATERIAL