

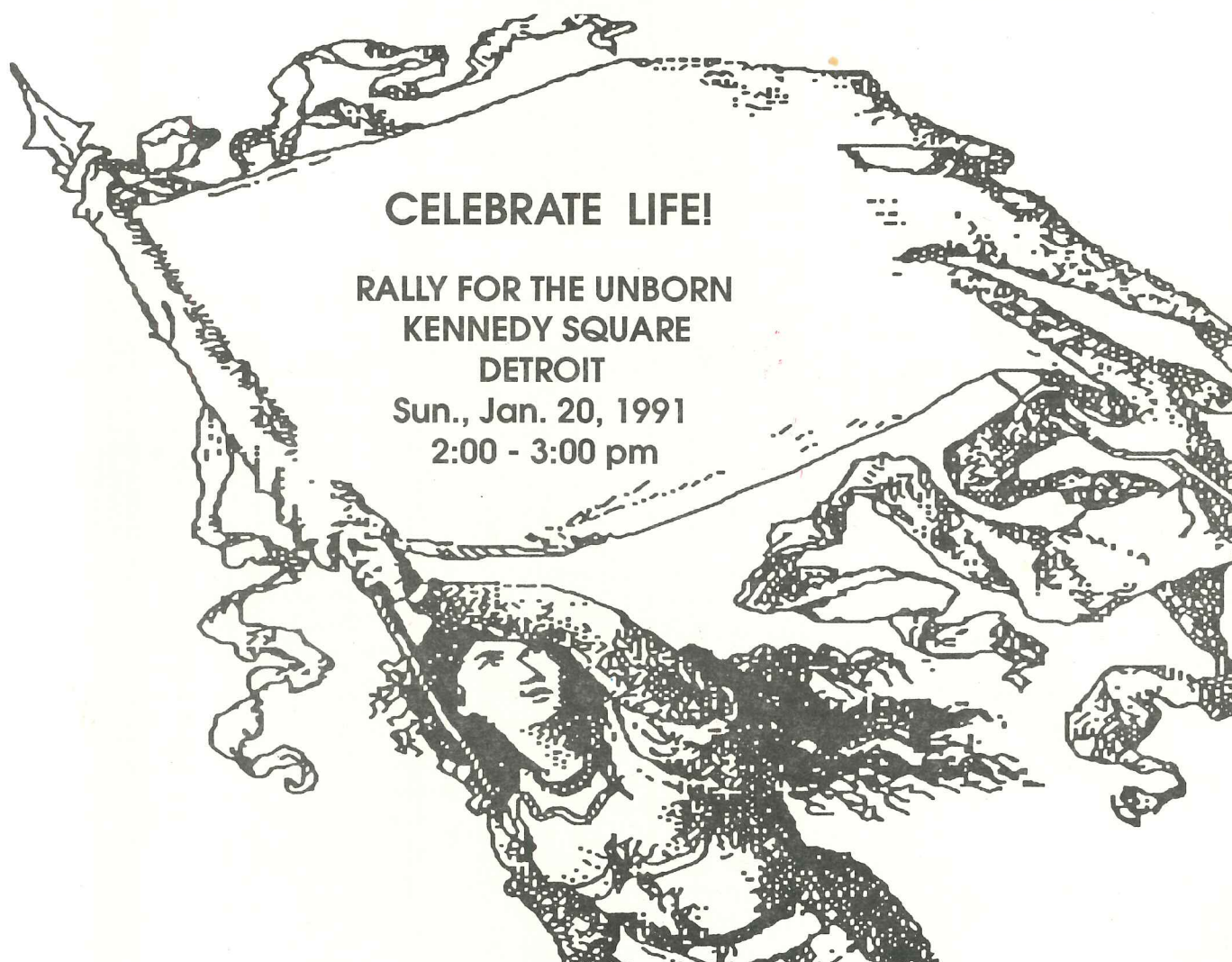
LIFE CHAIN Update!
p. 6

Lifespan *news*

Volume 12 Number 10

Serving Southeastern Michigan Since 1970

December, 1990



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Century Club

From September to November the following people have all donated \$100 or more to our Annual Fund and have thereby become charter members of Right to Life - Lifespan's Century Club. In appreciation of their generosity, all charter members have been awarded a Century Club pin which depicts our Lifespan logo. You can still contribute to the Annual Fund by simply indicating "Annual Fund" on your check. A special thank you to these generous benefactors.

Mrs. Jane Sobieck
Mr. Al Lemmo
Dr. and Mrs. Jerry Fagelman

The Caring Corner



Update on "Sally," the 17-year old girl with cancer who refused a therapeutic abortion:

When "Sally" was getting progressively worse, she and her mother traveled to a specialist in New York City. This new doctor changed her course of treatment and has given her new hope for recovery.

We recently received a Christmas card from Sally and her mother..."Dear Members of Right to Life - Lifespan, Thanks for all the beautiful cards and letters. Wishing you the happiest of Holidays! Thank you for always being there for us. God Bless You."

If you wish to make a donation to help "Sally," send the check to our office and mark it for "Sally." You may also continue to send cards to "Sally," c/o Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit, 21649 Goddard, #125B, Taylor, MI 48180.

Donate your appetite!

Our collection of Bill Knapp's Community Support Coupons amounts to a total of 58,206. Our goal of 66,000 is not that far away. We are looking forward to redeeming the coupons for a new copier for the Detroit Chapter office.

Recent "Knapper's" are:
Majewski, Will, Tschirhart, St. Perpetua Parish, St. Sabina Ladies Guild, Nye, Woolley, Kubik, Oblates of St. Benedict, Wagner, Purcell, O'Connell, Halfpenny, Kovacs, Del Duco, Kelly, Wilhelm, MacDonald, Stockhausen, Persha, Wasylon, LaJoie, Albert, Schultz, Polgar, Ptaszenski, Hirsch, Mowery, Deja, Our Lady's League (Our Lady of Victory Parish), Mamo, Retzel, Poepppe, Doyle, Werner, Bullion, Konopka, Radwick, Ervin, Beyer, Lee, Barkay, Darin, Davidson, Gorny, Ward, Masterson, St. Maurice Church, Kleinbrook, Kwiatkowski, Plank, Paladino, Malicke, Wynsberge, Doyle, Ober, Smith, Kniebes, Panowicz, Kossack, Roy, Bowker, Ginn, Trudeau, Modes, Greenstein, Ziejka, Lohrengel, Schmidt, Bettega, Prewitt, Miller, Vermette, Allasio, Habing, Simpson, Gavlinksi, Laskey, Kolbe, Dube, Brockwell, Zombek, Kovacs, Petty, Schwalm, Herridge, Hurt, Korth, Gnaster, Hoffman, McLaughlin, Pepper, Durkee. Thank you one and all!

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.

Remember us and Knapp's during the holidays! — and please send the coupons to Right to Life - Lifespan, Main Office, 21649 Goddard, #125B, Taylor, MI 48180.

Prolife Christmas cards

Right to Life - Lifespan is once again offering beautiful holiday cards with a prolife verse for you to purchase. Call your local chapter office for your area representative.

Send your legislator a holiday greeting!

The holiday season is the perfect time to send a friendly greeting to your legislator, thanking him or her for their support in the past year, or gently urging them to consider the unborn in the coming year. Your local chapter office has beautiful cards with a prolife sentiment which you may purchase.

Forms of Address

President

President George Bush
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Bush:

Senators

The Honorable (first & last names)
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator (last name):

Representatives

The Honorable (first & last names)
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman or Congresswoman (last name):

State Senator or Representative

The Honorable (first & last names)
State Capitol
Lansing, MI 48913

Dear Senator (last name):

or

Dear Representative (last name):

January 22 Commemorative Activities

■ Kennedy Square Rally, Detroit January 20

Each year on the Sunday before the anniversary of *Roe v Wade*, the Detroit Chapter of Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit hosts a prolife Rally at Kennedy Square.

This year the Rally for Life will be held from 2:00-3:00 pm on January 20, 1991. Our speakers this year will be Rev. Priscilla Tucker, of Praying Hands Around Detroit, prolife activist Joe Iskra, Rev. Rick Parker, Councilman Jack Kelley, Carol Smith and others. Join with us this 18th year of legalized abortion in peacefully reminding the country that ALL LIFE has VALUE.

More details about the Rally and a map will be published in the January edition of *Lifespan News*. However, it is not too early to begin organizing your church or group participation. If you would like fliers or more information, call 874-0432 or your local chapter office.

■ Bells for Babies

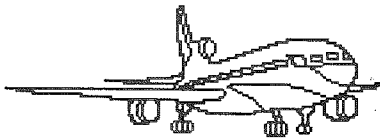
In conjunction with nationwide prolife activities, churches are being asked to toll their bells on January 22, 1991 in solemn remembrance of the 27 million unborn children killed through abortion since 1973.

If your church has bells, please request your pastor to ring them 27 times at noon to participate in this remembrance. If your church does not have bells, Lifespan has some audio tapes of ringing bells which are available for churches to borrow. Call us at 374-5111 if your church plans to participate or if you wish to borrow a

tape. It is suggested that your bells also be rung during services on Saturday and Sunday, January 19 and 20, to commemorate this tragedy of lost lives.

■ Light Candles on January 21

Prolife homes across the country will remember the 27,000,000 aborted unborn by burning at least one candle on the eve of the 22nd. Right to Life - Lifespan will have candles available; contact your local chapter office for information.



■ March for Life, Washington DC, January 22

The Eighteenth Annual "March for Life" will be held on Tuesday, January 22, 1991 in Washington, DC. The theme of the March is "No Waffling on the 'Life Principles.'" It will begin at the Ellipse in back of the White House. Marchers will walk with thousands of others from Michigan and the nation along Pennsylvania Avenue, to the Capitol and Supreme Court.

Arrival by plane will allow you to visit congressmen before the march. Appointments with your Congressman should be coordinated with your local Lifespan chapter.

Rates based on 10 people booked, subject to change until ticketed — \$321.00 per person, Northwest Flight #346; leaving Detroit at 7:25 am and

Northwest Flight #239, leaving Washington at 5:45 pm. If reservations are booked independently of the group, the fare per person is over \$600. Please make your reservations through Redford-Windward Travel, 27544 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Phone: 427-2727. Contact: Nancy. Please specify that you are with Right to Life - Lifespan's GROUP TRIP TO WASHINGTON MARCH.

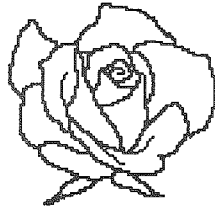
■ Hotel accommodations

A special room rate of \$85 per night for up to 4 persons/room is available at the Hyatt-Regency Washington for those going to the Rally and wishing to stay overnight. Telephone the Hyatt-Regency at: 202-737-1234 and ask for RESERVATIONS. Identify yourself as making a reservation with the MARCH FOR LIFE Education and Defense Fund. Deadline for reservations is January 5.

■ Say it with Roses!

On January 22, MARCH FOR LIFE, hand-delivers red roses and individually typed letters to President Bush, Vice-President Quayle, each member of Congress, and each Supreme Court Justice. With each rose and letter is a list of the names of the constituents sending the roses. If you would like to "say it with roses," send your name, address, city, state, zip and phone, along with a check for \$3.00 for each rose requested, to MARCH FOR LIFE, Box 90300, Washington, DC 20090.





Chapter

oakland

We've Moved!

Our new location is:
800 S. Adams
Birmingham, MI 48009-7005
Our new phone is: 258-9760

New Beginnings

Come Join our Volunteer Family
1-8 hours per week
Call us—**EVERYBODY
NEEDED AND WANTED!**

Thank you to Jane and Lucille

To Jane—A special thanks
to Jane Condron for her untiring
devotion to the Right to Life
movement. Jane, the unknown
hours (in the thousands) given

freely to this movement may never
be known, but those of us who have
worked with you over the years,
know and appreciate beyond
words. Our hope and prayers are
with you for your future endeavors.
You will always have a place in the
Right to Life movement, and we
shall hold that place open for you.
God bless.

To Lucille Jackson—The
silent, devoted membership
chairman-volunteer who has
worked quietly, efficiently and
effectively for over 15 years,
weekly, year after year—
THANKS! May God be with you
and your family. Your presence
will be missed! We hope your

retirement gives you more time
with your children and grandchil-
dren. Remember your friends in
Right to Life, for we will always
remember you.

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

wayne west

Prolife Speakers

Traditionally, October and
January are Respect for Life
months. We are now filling
requests for speakers for church
services, bible study groups,
women's and men's organiza-
tions, youth groups, etc. Don't
miss out, call 422-6230 and
arrange for a speaker now!

Holiday Office Hours

The Wayne County West
Chapter will be closed December
20 through January 1. We wish all
our members a joyous and blessed
holiday season.

Report on Dr. Vincent's Talk

—by Paula Ervin

Recently, members of Right
to Life - Lifespan of Wayne West
heard the facts about in vitro
fertilization (test tube babies) from

John Vincent, M.D., lately retired
from Oakwood Hospital, Dearborn,
as a thoracic surgeon.

Dr. Vincent, who had made a
careful study of the physical and
moral aspects of the in vitro
process, explained that in the much
publicized case of Baby Louise
Brown in England, the doctors
Steptoe and Edwards had inserted
numerous ova in Mrs. Brown
before succeeding in the live birth.
In such cases the incompetent
fertilized ova (actually the reposi-
tories of beginning human life) are
destroyed or used for experimenta-
tion. Drs. Steptoe and Edwards,
who delivered Baby Louise,
refused to attempt the procedure
unless the parents agreed to abort
any baby that was revealed by
testing to be "defective." Dr.
Vincent said that in the 180 in vitro
clinics in the U. S. today, that same
agreement must be signed by
participating parents. Only about
5% produce a live baby, and each
attempt can cost up to \$5,000 or
\$6,000.

Most of the sterility being
treated by IVF is caused by
blockage of the fallopian tubes,
and the common ailment,
endometriosis, accounts for about
one-third of these. The good news
is that a recently developed
procedure, called "Gamete Intra
Fallopian Tube Transfer" may be
followed without any moral
dilemma. In this case, an ovum
may be removed from the woman
by laparoscopy and inserted in a
non-completely blocked fallopian
tube, or in the case of complete
blockage, into the uterus, and
fertilization by intercourse of
husband and wife, may produce
conception.

The experimentation of some
scientists who seem unaware of
the moral implications of destroy-
ing beginning human life is of
concern to those who would
respect life at all its stages.

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

News

detroit
downriver

Office Hours

M, Th 10-2
TWF Closed

Work-study position available

The Detroit Chapter has a work-study position available for a Wayne State student. Up to 20 hours per week. Candidate must have a prolife philosophy, good phone skills, etc. For

further information, call the office at 874-0432.

Volunteers needed

If you can volunteer to help promote the January 20th Detroit Rally, please call Betty at 775-8776. Some of the work can be done from your home.

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

Office Hours

M, W, Th 9:30-2:30
T, F Closed

Membership

A special thanks to those who have renewed their membership this year and those who donate monthly. We will be sending out renewal notices this month, please respond promptly; or save us postage and fill in the form on the last page of this newsletter.

Volunteers

Our office needs volunteers. If you can work a few hours once a week or so, please call 374-5111 or stop by to say hello.

Resources available

Please let us know if your church or organization would welcome a prolife speaker or educational booth. We have many excellent speakers, including doctors and nurses, available to talk on various prolife subjects. We also have fetal models, videos, books, and pamphlets for your use. Please call the office for information.

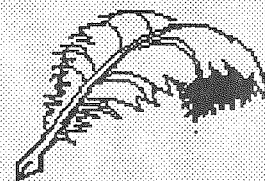
Downriver Chapter
21649 Goddard Rd., #125B
Taylor, MI 48180-4247
(313) 374-5111

Relocated

The Main Office of Right to Life - Lifespan has relocated from Livonia to the Downriver office in Taylor. The office is located on the south side of Goddard, 1-1/2 miles east of Telegraph between Pardee and Pelham in the Cedar Plaza at 21649 Goddard, #125B. Our phone is 374-5111.

Lifespan News

December 1990 Vol. 12 No. 10
President/Publisher Ann Thomas
Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit is a non-profit organization, and is funded entirely by membership dues, private donations and fundraisers. Donations are not tax-deductible.
MAIN OFFICE
21649 Goddard, #125B
Taylor, MI 48180-4247
(313) 374-5111



From the President's desk

Thank you for making 1990 the most exciting prolife year of my life. Looking back on all that has been accomplished—the Detroit Rally, Baby Showers, St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance, Washington Rally, Annual Meeting, Parental Consent, Legislative Breakfast, Prolife Activists' Seminar, and LIFE CHAIN, I am amazed. I am also humbled by the strength and dedication of the volunteers who make these and other projects a reality.

November 1990 was the 20th anniversary of the founding of Right to Life - Lifespan. The organization was originally named "People Taking Action Against Abortion" (PTAAA) by its founder and first president, Gloria Klein. The first meeting was held at the Plymouth Grange Hall and even though it was only six degrees above zero and slippery, about 100 people attended. Paula Ervin has been compiling a history of Lifespan which will be included in the 1991 Commemorative Book published in conjunction with the dinner in March.

I will keep you informed of our progress and plans for 1991. Besides all the exciting projects, there is a great need for more educational booths and speakers to reach the undecided before they become too calloused by the news media.

Thank you again for your help, donations, and prayers. God bless you.

Ann S. Thomas

LIFE CHAIN!

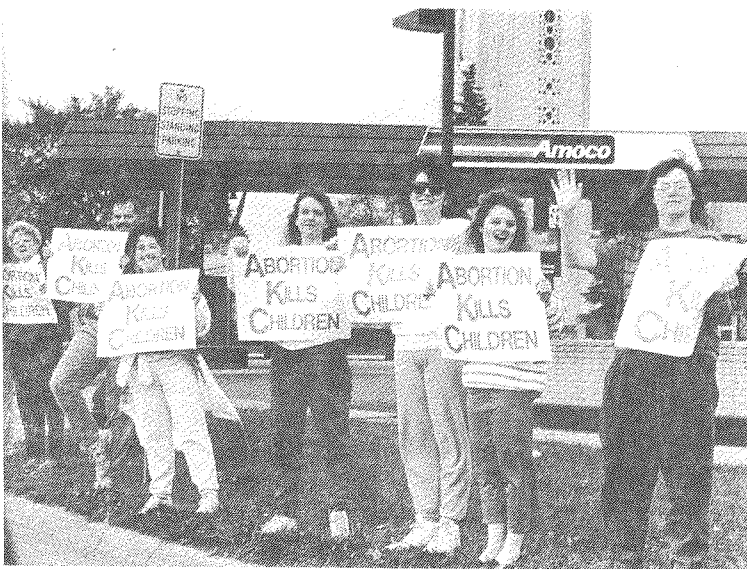
Thank you to those who promoted and participated in the LIFE CHAIN on October 21st. The LIFE CHAIN surpassed all our expectations. The Lord blessed us mightily, especially with the beautiful day. Approximately 7,500 signs were issued both to participating churches and to individuals. We know we were there even if the Detroit Free Press chose to deceive its readers.

You were peaceful, prayerful and a real witness of God's love. Most importantly of all, babies will be saved because of your efforts.

Everyone has commented that the LIFE CHAIN was a very moving and uplifting experience. It has also generated new prolife enthusiasm in many congregations. There is so much to be done to save the babies and help their mothers and fathers.

If you saw or experienced anything during the LIFE CHAIN that you would like to share, please write it down and mail to our office at 21649 Goddard Rd., #125B, Taylor, MI 48180.

The LIFE CHAIN Committee is already planning for the next BIG EVENT. We are still undecided about a LIFE CHAIN in the spring. We will be participating in the National LIFE CHAIN Sunday on September 22nd. We will keep you informed of our progress and plans for 1991.



Prolifers visit General Mills

In a recent issue of *Lifespan News*, General Mills was featured in a list of corporations currently funding Planned Parenthood. Planned Parenthood is America's top supplier and promoter of abortion-on-demand.

In May of 1990, prolifeers organized the first protest at a General Mills-owned restaurant, Red Lobster. Signs were carried to inform would-be patrons, and prolife literature was distributed to interested parties. Additional protests were promptly planned including several at Olive Garden restaurants (also General Mills-owned).

Realizing that these protests alone may not receive adequate attention from the corporation, several members of Professionals for Life researched General Mills. PFL is a fledgling organization, founded less than a year ago by several Detroit-area businessmen. PFL's intent is to offer their business experience as a resource to the prolife/pro-family community, especially in regard to corporate funding of pro-abortion organizations.

General Mills stood up and took notice. Several members of PFL were invited to meet with their Foundation's president, Dr. Reatha Clark King. On November 2, the meeting took place at their headquarters in Minneapolis, Minnesota. By this time, 15 protests had taken place at several locations over a five-month period.

PFL's presentation strategy to General Mills was to show them that Planned Parenthood is abortion, and that support of such a controversial organization just does not make good business sense. For all intents and purposes, PFL avoided discussing the morality of abortion and focused expressly on corporate neutrality. Representatives of General Mills seemed disarmed by this approach; apparently they had expected to debate the issue.

Despite this and other efforts of the prolife community, General Mills announced on November 14 that they would continue funding at the present level of \$18,000 per annum.

For more information, call PFL at 348-0970.

Editor's note: Right to Life - Lifespan has a policy against picketing as an organization, but encourages its members to participate as individuals. Please write to General Mills, Inc., 1 General Mills Blvd., Minneapolis, Minnesota 55426, and ask them to stop funding Planned Parenthood.

Debunking *(continued from page 8)*

wish to die. The organization is proposing amendments giving the lives of such patients the same protection our Constitution gives the lives of murderers.

Within the amendments are provisions ensuring that patients who choose an agent have protection against intimidation and opportunities to know their legal rights, similar to safeguards provided murder suspects under the Miranda decision. Murderers cannot be executed in capital punishment states unless they are proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. Such a standard of proof should be approached before the law determines a person would want to end his or her life.

Where the question involves pulling the plug on extraordinary treatment, when a patient is doomed to die anyway, there would be little doubt. However, the caucus states that in cases of withdrawing ordinary treatment, there would be too many doubts to rely on an agent's word or guess about what the patient wanted—far too many to stake a life on.

The caucus is asking people to write letters to state Sen. Fred Dillingham, R-Fowlerville, who chairs the Human Resources and Senior Citizens Committee—and to send copies of their letters to their own state senators—urging a total rejection of HB 4016 unless such safeguards are included.

Edmund Burke once said, "For evil to triumph, it is only necessary for good men to do nothing."

It should also be remembered that for human rights to be destroyed, it is not necessary for the government to call in storm troopers or the KGB. It is just necessary for the law to selectively turn the other way when certain groups are being killed.

And in this case, some of the lives we ultimately fail to save may be our own. *From the Detroit News 9-20-90.*

Editor's note: HB 4016 passed the Senate on Nov. 29. The bill passed with only two amendments by Fred Dillingham. Before a patient advocate can withdraw treatment, the patient must present in a clear and convincing manner that he/she wants such treatment withdrawn, and the patient knows that the withdrawal can cause death.

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	\$ 12.00	_____ Monthly pledge	\$ _____
_____ Student/Senior Member	\$ 5.00	_____ Other	\$ _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Please detach at the dotted line and return to Right to Life - Lifespan, 21649 Goddard, #125B, Taylor, MI 48180
Donations are not tax deductible.

What if they don't want to die?

By Ron Seigel

Today a growing number of people are zealously supporting the right of patients to die. Unfortunately, they are not always particularly careful about assuring that the patients want to go.

This became clear in the aftermath of the Nancy Cruzan case. In a 5-4 decision, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that in right-to-die cases, individual states could set standards of proof to determine that the patient really wished to die.

Within the media, throughout the country, there was much lamentation and gnashing of teeth and very uncharitable comments about aged, "right wing" judges. Generally overlooked was the fact that without some standard of proof about patient wishes, third parties would have a virtual license to kill them. There are some who would definitely like the ill and handicapped out of the way.

During the 1980s, these attitudes were frequently expressed in ideological terms in TV shows, newspapers, magazines and medical journals. Writers advocated replacing the principle of the sanctity of human life with a "new ethic" based on the "quality of life." Translated into everyday English, this means that America should abandon the idea that all people are created equal and assume there are second-class, third-class, grade B, C and D human lives, of which it is acceptable to neglect and destroy.

Some writers and scholars have compared this climate to the early years of Nazi Germany, where the mass destruction of individuals with handicaps paved the way for the genocide of what Hitler defined as low-quality races.

There have been warnings (and some boasts) that this "new ethic" has been put into practice in the United States. In 1984, a highly respected critic of human service institutions, Dr. Wolfe Wolfensberger of Syracuse University, estimated that 200,000 "handicapped and afflicted people" were destroyed each year by "various forms of death-making" ranging from the denial of medical treatment, institutional cruelty or neglect, starvation or the deliberate injection of dangerous drugs.

Ron Seigel of Highland Park is the corresponding secretary of the Michigan Handicapper Caucus and a Board Member of the Detroit Chapter of Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit

Whether or not Dr. Wolfensberger is right about the magnitude of the problem, it should be clear that allowing any form of third-party euthanasia without proof of the patient's wishes would invite such abuses.

Michigan faces such a prospect because of a proposed piece of legislation—House Bill 4016—sponsored by state Rep. David Hollister, D-Lansing. The most militant opposition to Hollister's bill comes from the organization representing individuals with handicaps in his own state Democratic Party, the Michigan Handicapper Caucus.

Hollister's bill sets procedures for patients to give a third party power to make medical decisions for them when they are unconscious or incompetent to make their own. A Michigan Handicapper Caucus analysis of HB 4016 states that the bill allows agents too much power to remove treatment necessary for saving a patient's life, even when the patient has a good chance of recovery. The agent could withdraw the most ordinary measures, including insulin for diabetics.

According to literature from Hollister's own office, HB 4016 would define food and water as medical treatment that could be withdrawn. Indeed, included in Hollister's material is a statement by Michigan State University associate professor Dr. Howard Brody, who suggests this could not only apply to the use of feeding tubes, but even spoon-feeding.

The caucus contends that agents should not be allowed to take such drastic measures unless they can meet strong standards of proof that a patient would

Please see "Debunking" on page 7

Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit

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



Address Correction Requested

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