

# LIFESPAN news

Volume 48 Number 1

Presenting the Pro-Life Message in Southeastern Michigan Since 1970

January 2019

Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund

Lights for Life Remembrances

The following is a list of donations made in support of LIFESPAN's Lights for Life Tree, which stood along I-275 at Grand River Ave., December through January.

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Continued on page 4

# After Years of Controversy, HHS Reconsiders Fetal-Tissue Funding

ealth researchers need alternatives to using fetal tissue, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) leaders have said after several years of controversy and investigations into whether fetal tissue procured from aborted babies was sold illegally.

HHS Assistant Secretary of Health Brett Giroir sent a letter to U.S. Rep. Mark Meadows, R-N.C., chair of the Freedom Caucus, saying HHS did too little to find alternatives under previous administrations and there need to be "adequate alternatives" to scientific research involving human fetal tissue.

The letter, which a source shared with the news site Politico, said HHS is "fully committed to prioritizing, expanding and accelerating efforts to develop and implement the use of these alternatives." He described HHS as "pro-life and pro-science" under President Donald Trump.

Scientists who back fetal-tissue research say there are few alternatives. They argue the tissue would otherwise be discarded, and there are already ethical safeguards in place. They say fetal-tissue research has been instrumental in developing vaccines and understanding phenomena like how the Zika virus affects the brains of unborn children. They say fetal tissue aids Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease research, as well as research in childhood developmental disorders.

A 1993 federal law allows the use of fetal tissue from elective abortions that would otherwise be discarded. However, the sale of such tissue is also barred by law.

Mallory Quigley of the Susan B. Anthony List told Politico her group would continue to advocate defunding fetal-tissue research "as soon as possible." She said her group is hopeful "that HHS will reach a new policy consensus that better reflects the administration's pro-life position."

Caitlin Oakley, an HHS representative, said the agency has not made an official decision on whether to fund more fetal-tissue research.

"We continue to go through a thoughtful, deliberative process, given the scientific ethical & moral considerations involved," she told Politico. "When we receive inquiries from members of Congress, we respond."

A series of undercover investigations from journalists with the Center for Medical Progress, first released in 2015, appear to show several leaders in the abortion industry involved in the illegal sale of fetal tissue from aborted babies

The investigation has had legal consequences for some procurers of fetal tissue.

DV Biologics and DaVinci Biosciences, two bioscience companies, <u>admitted fault</u>, ceased California operations

and agreed to meet the terms of a legal settlement close to \$7.8 million in value for violating state and federal laws against the purchase or sale of fetal tissue.

Following two investigations, congressional committees have made criminal referrals for both Planned Parenthood and Advanced Bioscience Resources, a nonprofit company, for alleged involvement in illegal fetal-tissue sales. There is an active Department of Justice investigation based on the criminal referrals.

There are also criminal charges against the Center for Medical Progress investigators, as well as civil lawsuits. These allegations include claims that the videos were filmed illegally in violation of privacy laws.

Federal funding for fetal tissue is now under review. As part of the review process, senior officials at HHS held an off-the record, invitation-only listening session Nov. 16 with leaders in medical research fields.

Participants included leaders with the American Society for Cell Biology, the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, the Society for Neuroscience and the International Society for Stem-Cell Research.

The inquiry has prompted opposition from pro-abortion-rights groups.

Mary Alice Carter, director of Equity Forward, which backs fetal-tissue research and monitors pro-life groups, charged that HHS Secretary Alex Azar "continually kowtows to anti-abortion groups while ignoring the scientific and medical communities," Science magazine reported.

The National Institutes of Health gave out about \$103 million in 2018 for research involving fetal tissue. In July 2018 the Food and Drug Administration gave a **\$15,900 contract** to Advanced Bioscience Resources for "fresh human fetal tissue," which would be transplanted into mice in order to create human-like immune systems for research purposes. It is the eighth contract between the FDA and the company since 2012, and seven of the contracts appear to relate to the same or similar programs.

<u>HHS canceled the contract</u> after receiving protests and criticism from several members of Congress, who said they were alarmed that the tissue procurement contracts continued despite the "serious unresolved questions" uncovered by House and Senate investigations.

In 2010 a federal judge ruled that federally funded human embryonic stem-cell research was against the law. That ruling resulted in a 19-day halt on related in-house National Institutes of Health projects, but NIH funds that had already been given to external researchers were not affected, Science reported.

- National Catholic Register, November 20, 2018

# Words of Wisdom

# Dashing through the No: Explaining SCOTUS's Logic on Life

By Tony Perkins

or a taxpayer-funded organization, Planned Parenthood has gotten away with a lot. So three years ago, when David Daleiden stumbled on the biggest scandal of the year -- the group's baby body parts ring -- states thought they finally had the proof they needed to cut those Medicaid contracts. Eleven tried, only for some to end up in courts that couldn't decide if they had that right. Yesterday, the Supreme Court had a chance to settle the issue. It passed.

For pro-lifers, the news that the justices weren't taking the case was a bit of a shock. After all, a majority of Americans don't think abortion groups should get taxpayer dollars to begin with. Now, with Justice Brett Kavanaugh on the court, they can't help but wonder: shouldn't SCOTUS have at least heard the case? And if Kavanaugh sided with the more liberal members of the court this time, should we be worried about how he'll vote in the future?

A lot of legal experts, FRC's included, are trying to cut through the noise of the media and explain what all of this means for the future of the Planned Parenthood funding debate. Based on the social media reaction, some conservatives are so upset that they're ready to join the Left's "Impeach Kavanaugh" campaign. Is it concerning that he agreed to let the lower court rulings stand? Potentially. But, as FRC's Vice President for Policy, Travis Weber, points out, we don't know the whole story.

What we should be concerned about is that SCOTUS's non-decision leaves America in limbo on a fundamental question: how much leeway do states have in ending Medicaid contracts? They've needed clarity on the issue for years -- and unfortunately, the Supreme Court is the only one who can provide it. But it's important to remember, FRC's Director of Religious Freedom Advocacy Alexandra McPhee explains, the main question before the Court wasn't whether states ought to have that freedom, but whether there was a private right to bring a lawsuit in the first place. Pro-lifers had hoped that the justices would have used the case to strike at the heart of the issue -- but the court has to be asked to decide that, and they weren't here.

In his dissent, Justice Clarence Thomas seems as frustrated as the rest of us that the court turned down the chance to speak more directly into both issues. Together with Justices Samuel Alito and Neil Gorsuch, he argues that the question "is important and recurring. Around 70 million Americans are on Medicaid, and the question presented directly affects their rights," he writes. "Because of this Court's inaction, patients in different States -- even patients with the same providers -- have different rights to challenge their state's provider decisions."

One of the most important functions of the court, he explains, is to resolve "important matter(s)" on which the courts of appeals are "in conflict." "We created this confusion," Thomas insists. "We should clear it up." So why didn't they? Thomas thinks "it has something to do with the fact that some respondents in these cases are named 'Planned Parenthood." But that, he goes on, "makes the Court's decision particularly troubling, as the question presented has nothing to do with abortion... [The cases] are about private rights of action under the Medicaid Act. Resolving the question presented here would not even affect Planned Parenthood's ability to challenge the states' decisions."

Besides, he urges, "Some tenuous connection to a politically fraught issue does not justify abdicating our judicial duty. If anything, neutrally applying the law is all the more important when political issues are in the background... We are responsible for the confusion among the lower courts, and it is our job to fix it." Fortunately, there may be another opportunity to do exactly that. As Alexandra reminds us, a preliminary injunction isn't final. So while the abortion industry may be celebrating, this is by no means a vindication of Planned Parenthood's taxpayer funding. The justices have plenty of reasons (none of which we may ever know) for denying cert. In Maryland v. Balt. Radio Show, Inc., the Supreme Court offered some possibilities. "A case may raise an important question but the record may be cloudy. It may be desirable to have different aspects of an issue further illumined by the lower courts." Or maybe the six justices were waiting for a final ruling in the Fourth Circuit before weighing in. Whatever the rationale, the court's decision not to hear the case has nothing to do with how they would decide it. As for Justice Kavanaugh, this is one decision in a very young Supreme Court career. He's reserved judgment here, and until we see more of his work, we should too.

- Family Research Council, December 11, 2018



# LIGHTS FOR LIFE

Vine & Rosita Lugosi, Judy Goltzinger, given by Rosalie Tislerics ★ Michael B. Seger, Matthew & Mary Ann Seger, given by Bob & Joan Pawlak ★ Joseph F. Bucinski, given by Michael & Sharon Misewicz ★ Ruth Cadotte, given by Robert Cadotte ★ Chester & Margaret Rule, Edward & Ardella Shedlowsky, given by Bruce & Sally Rule ★ Margaret Spas, The Spas & Kalder Families, given by Leonard Spas ★ Norville Trombley, Thomas Scott, Elizabeth Scott,

Kenneth Scott, David Scott, given by Gerald Scott ★ Richard Masiarak, Marsha Van Hoey, given by Ed & Laurie Van Hoey ★ Joanie Heaton, Aaron Hubbard, given by Bill & Helene Heaton ★ William A. Kubik, given by Helen Kubik ★ Tom Lepping, given by Jeanette Lipping ★ Edmund Koss, Cherie Malcyko, Edna Kaster, given by Rita Garbacik ★ John & Mary Birosh, Margaret Bellus, given by Mr. & Mrs. Byrl Smith \* Lorraine M. Hermes, given by Charles R. Hermes \* Joseph Mosquera, Jr., given by Carmen Mosquera ★ Kenneth Morsch, given by Ray & Jane Jakubiec ★ Ed Burger, Peggy Altenburg, given by Margaret Burger ★ Robert A. Hansen, given by Lucy Hansen ★ Jeanette Kerkes, Dorothy Rutkowske, Serafina Barcewicz, given by Allen Kerkes ★ Marilyn Davies, Frank Bettega, Francis & Matilda Bettega, Elmer & Jessie Sowers, Ronald Douglas, given by John & Bev Bettega \* Paul Burger, Tom Burger, William & Gertrude Hater, Paul & Anna Burger, Mary Nagy, given by Mrs. Helen Burger \* George Zubel, Lucille Fenn, given by Patricia Gates ★ Rocco & Rosina Boccomino, Antoinette Boccomino, John Boccomino, Sam Boccomino, Michael Volante, given by Mrs. Anne Marie Pagano ★ Baby Ray Vincent, given by Marlene Vincent ★ Loving Husband Eugene Kaczmar, Beloved Angel Babies, Beloved Family Members, given by Elizabeth Kaczmar ★ Raymond & Patricia Kelly, Bill & Jan Wherlie, given by Richard & Colleen Woodcox ★ Robert I. Mullen, given by Dolores M. Mullen ★ Stella & Jozef Majcher, Zofia & Stanley Telka, John Telka, Tadevsz Grzesiak, Frank Wallag, Mary Currell, Mary & Walter Dominik, Angelyn Rafaill, given by Joseph & Mary Majcher ★ Fred C. Babcock, given by Mary A. Babcock ★ Jerome & Betty Wieber, Milton & Helen Weber, given by Brian & Anita Weber ★ Edward Meade, given by Jeannine Meade ★ Henry Chiodini, given by Frances Chiodini ★ Ralph Dolence, Ronald Dolence, given by Christina Dolence ★ John J. Miramonti, Jr., given by Charles Oldani ★ John & Mina Vigliotti, Michael John Viglotti, Julia & Jack Fagelman, given by Jerry & Diane Fagelman \star Mark David Wagatha, Nancy Wagatha, given by Mary Bleecker \star Verda Bonello, given by Edgar Bonello \star Frank & Ann Schefke, Dennis Lents, Tom & Estelle Fritz, given by Mr. & Mrs. Michael F. Schefke 🖈 Lona & Albert Ingraham, Anne & Frank Seng, given by Bill & Linda Seng \* Mary A. Murray, Patricia J. Gabriel, Michael Tomchuck, given by Colleen Tomchuck ★ Thomas Hawver, Vicki Christensen, All of the Holy Souls in Purgatory, given by Kimberly Kenson, OFS ★ Bill Weaver, Debora Weaver Conn, given by Agnes Weaver ★ James Fabian, Eleanor Cox, Victor & Grace Fabian, Sr. Ursula Fabian, S.C., given by Patrick Fabian ★ The Moore Family, given by Marsha Moore ★ Michael A. Thornbury, Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Thornbury, given by Lois Thornbury ★ Patricia Schroeder, Christine

Northrup, given by Margaret Horne ★ Michael John Vigliotti, John & Mina Vigliotti, Vigliotti Family Members, Spietz Family Members, given by Judith Vigliotti ★ Marilyn Fryling, given by the Morin Family

IN HONOR OF: The Cascos/MacLachlan Families, The Hansen/Clark
Families, given by Tony & Chris Hansen \* Shirley Seewald, given by Joanne &
Frank Camiller \* A Friend of Life, Carol Karath \* The Paul Sullivan Family,
given by Paul & Phyllis Sullivan \* Fr. Edward Prus, given by Bill & Lynn
Kostrzewa \* Our children, Grandchildren & Great-Grandchildren, given by
Ken & Judy Haney \* 13 Children, 26 Grandchildren & 34 Great-Grandchildren,
given by George Carter \* Olivia, Hailey, Miranda, Morgan & Nick Gorsuch,
Riley & Zack Burchart, given by Ken & Karen Patrosso \* Eva Beaton, given by
Colleen Beaton \* Eric & Julie Goins, given by Friends of Life, Bruce & Sally Rule
\* Friends of Life, George & Mary Cascos \* Diane Trombley, given by Gerald
Scott \* Masiarak Children: Matthew, Marc, Luke, Mary & Elizabeth, Greg,
Elaine & Kevin Van Hoey, given by Ed & Laurie Van Hoey \* Paul Lepping,
given by Jeanette Lipping \* Friend of Life, Salvatore Mannino \* Nancy



Safronoff, given by Mary Zednik ★ Rick and Sharon Neal's precious grandchildren: Jenna, Dominic, Pierce, Luke, Damian & Nico, given by Rick & Sharon Neal ★ Friend of Life, Sylvia Gee ★ Vincent Kenson, St. Anthony of Padua Fraternity, given by Kimberly Kenson, OFS ★ Friend of Life, Norbert Motowski ★ Norman & Lois Fredericks, given by Lois Thornbury ★ Joseph Horne, John Kramarich, given by Margaret Horne ★ Friends of Life, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Woodcox ★ Tony McDuff, given by Dorothy McGrath ★ Friend of Life Steve Holden ★ Diane & Jerry Fagelman, given by Judith Vigliotti

#### Treasurer Wanted

Do you want to do more in the Pro-Life Movement? Do you love working with numbers and QuickBooks? Do we have the job for you!

We are looking for a Treasurer for the Wayne County chapter in Livonia. This is a volunteer position. Please contact the Main Office at 734-524-0162 for more information.

# **SAVE THESE DATE! PRO-LIFE EVENTS - 2019**

**Pro-Life Luminaries:** 

Monday, January 21st

**Rose Ceremony at OLGC:** 

Wednesday, January 23rd

LIFESPAN Baby Shower:

Sunday, March 10th

Be the Change Training at OU:

Saturday, March 16th

**LIFESPAN Annual Dinner:** 

Tuesday, May 7th



# The Rose Ceremony:

A Mass for the Pre-Born

Wednesday, January 23, 2019 at 6 PM

**Rosary at 5:30 PM**Commemorating the 46<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* and the 60 million lives lost due to abortion.

# Our Lady of Good Counsel

47650 North Territorial, Plymouth, MI 48170

For more information, contact:



Right to Life - LIFESPAN, Wayne County Chapter (734) 422-6230 wcdr@rtl-lifespan.org

# Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund



# **RESOURCE BOOK 2019**

# **Advertising Contract**

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

sum of \$	Full Page (7 x 10) \$305	1/4 Page	
Please run:	Inside Front Cover \$355	(3½ x 5) \$125	1/8 Page (3½ x 2½) \$75
last year's ad			
enclosed NEW ad	Inside Back Cover \$355		Page
EMAILED ad	Outside Back Cover \$580	(5 x 7) \$175	

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

A complimentary dinner ticket to the 2019 Annual *LIFESPAN* Dinner on Tuesday, May 7, 2019, will be given to <u>any individual</u> for every \$200 worth of <u>new</u> ads obtained for *LIFESPAN's* Resource Book. The ad seller's signature must appear on the Contract below when the ad and remittance is received by *Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund*.

Contact Person	Phone (	)			
Name of Advertiser/Business	Email				
Address	City	Zip			
Ad Seller's Signature	Phone (	)			
YES, please send me a copy of the 2019 <i>LIFESPAN</i> Resource Book.					

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

Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund
32540 Schoolcraft Road, Suite 100, Livonia, MI 48150-4305
For further information, call: 734.524.0162 or email: mainoffice@rtl-lifespan.org

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

# Put your special photo in LIFESPAN's Resource Book



Purchase a special ad to recognize the accomplishments of someone special! It's a great way to acknowledge a graduate, retirement, anniversary, 1st Communicant, scout troop, special teacher, etc.! Purchase a 1/8-page ad to feature your children, grandchildren or other special someone in Right to Life - LIFESPAN's Educational Fund Resource Book 2019. Photo Ads are tax-deductible! Fill out the form for photo ads below and send \$45 with a non-professional photo, along with the names of those pictured, or other desired caption, to: Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund, 32540 Schoolcraft Rd., Ste. 100, Livonia, MI 48150-4305. All picture ads must be received by March 22, 2019. If you would like your pictures returned, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. If you prefer to e-mail

your photo, you may send them in JPEG format to **mainoffice@rtl-lifespan.org** (with "LIFESPAN Photo" in the subject line) and mail your check to the above LIFESPAN address. For more information, call Right to Life - LIFESPAN's Main Office at 734.524.0162.

Yes! Please include my photo ii	ı LIFESI	PAN'S 2019 R	kesource i	300K!
Name				
Address				
City	_ State	Zip	Phor	ne
Name(s) of people in photo (or other cap	tion)			
My photo and check are enclosed		My photo will I	be sent by e-	·mail; enclosed is my check
Ad Seller's Name (if name is other than above)			Phon	ıe
Be a LIFESPAN Pat	ron!			
Resource Book 2019 Patron Ad	s:			
□Gold Patron \$100 □Silver Pat	ron \$50	<b>□</b> Bronze F	Patron \$10	☐Memorial Patron \$10
Please PRINT name(s) exactly as you wish will be listed on separate pages in the Res payable to Right to Life - LIFESPAN E	source Boo	ok 2019. <i><u><b>Patron A</b></u></i>	lds are tax-d	leductible; make checks
Patron Name(s) - Gold, Silver or Bronze _				
Memorial Patron Name(s) (deceased):				
Amount enclosed: \$				
Name	Addı	ress		
City	State	Zip	Phone	<u> </u>
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LIFESPAN NEWS → January 2019

# **Dakland/Macomb Counties**

# **/ayne County**

# LIFESPAN Chapter News

Hope

Anticipate

Patience

Persistence

Yesterday

New

Excitement

Wishes

 $\mathbf{Y}_{\mathsf{earn}}$ 

Energy

Abundance

Reliance



The New Year always begins with the anticipation of new experiences, hope and prayers for health and happiness. Sometimes, we must patiently wait for these things to come and rely on the lessons of yesterday, all the while knowing that reliance on each other and on our Creator will bring an abundance of blessings.

Each year, Right to Life - LIFESPAN is blessed with renewed energy to continue our work of providing protection and respect to all human life. The struggle has been long, but the goal is worth our continued efforts.

Happy New Year from the Oakland/Macomb Right to Life - LIFESPAN Board Members.



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

Phone: 248-816-1546

Email: oakmac@rtl-lifespan.org

Office Hours: MWF: 9-3; TTh: 8-3:30

Diane Trombley, Director

Lynn Gura, Ofc. Staff & Youth Director

# Thank you!

Happy New Year! I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year! May this coming year bring you joy and many blessings. We here at the Wayne County Chapter are so grateful for all your support! Thank you to all the pastors, church representatives, personal sellers, and volunteers who spent many hours making LIFESPAN cards available. Thank you to all who purchased our cards and their loyalty to LIFESPAN by participating in our largest fundraiser. And lastly, thank you to all who purchased Entertainment Books.

# **Memorial Luminary Kits**

January 22nd marks the anniversary of the devastating U.S. Supreme Court decision that has led to the deaths of over 60 MILLION babies through abortion in the United States. On the night of January 21st, pro-life homes across the metro Detroit area will light a candle on front porches and walkways to honor our pre-born brothers and sisters who have lost their

lives through abortion due to the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision, legalizing abortion on demand. These luminaries remind all living people of the darkness of abortion that has enveloped our country for numerous years. Luminary kits consist of a candle, white paper bag and instructions. There are an assortment of messages on the bags: "1 in 4 Babies are Killed by Abortion", "Save a heart...Stop abortion", and "Adoption is the Loving Option". If luminaries are not available at your church, please drop by our office.







32540 Schoolcraft Rd., Ste. 210, Livonia, MI 48150-4305 Phone 734-422-6230 • Fax 734-422-8116 Email: wcdr@rtl-lifespan.org

Office Hours: M-Th: 10-2; Friday Closed Anne Marie Morin, Ofc. Manager & Assoc. Youth Director



As we begin the new year, I have to thank you from the bottom of my heart for all you do for my babies!

Because of you, in the first two weeks of December, we were able to fill over 330 extra large shopping bags that were brimming over with diapers, bottles, wipes, warm clothing, blankets and so much more!

Because of you, in those same two weeks, we were able to distribute those packages to over ONE HUNDRED SIXTY FIVE sweet little ones!

Because of you, as the moms held their precious baby in their arms on Christmas Day, their baby was wearing a new little outfit and wrapped in a soft, warm blanket.

Because of you, those 165 babies were given clothing and supplies to last during the months ahead.



And finally, and most important of all, those moms and their babies were wrapped in your love - the greatest gift of all!

Thank you again, dear friends!

May 2019 overflow with laughter, love, good health, good times and all God's choicest blessings!

Love, Karen

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

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



# Be the Change!

Generation Truth is excited to announce that Trevor and Christen Pollo, the Director of Training and Executive Director of Protect Life Michigan, will be speaking at our "Be the Change" Pro-Life Training Day at Oakland University on Saturday, March 16th. The OU Protect Life Michigan group will host our training for 7th-12th grade students that will focus on Pro-Life Apologetics and a Call to Action! If you would like to be notified of details through email, please send a message to Anne Marie, Associate Youth Director at youth@milifespan.org or Lynn Gura, Youth Director at oakmac@rtl-lifespan.org. Put in the subject line: Be the Change. Stay tuned for more!



Lynn A. Gura, Youth Director 248-816-1546 oakmac@rtl-lifespan.org Anne Marie Morin, Associate Youth Director 734-422-6230 youth@milifespan.org

@miLIFESPA N



A Program of Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund 1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite G, Troy, MI 48084-3540 Phone: 248-816-1546 • Email: youth@milifespan.org Lynn Gura, Director & Anne Marie Morin, Assoc. Director

# **Abortion Will End When It Loses Its Cool**

By Carrie Gress, Ph.D.

or most of human history, the killing of other human beings was most often soldier against soldier in combat. With the exception of civil wars and familial conflicts, strangers were killing strangers.

This all changed with the arrival of Second Wave feminism. Suddenly, abortion was what the cool girls were doing. Almost overnight, even in the midst of the Vietnam War, the casualties shifted from strangers killing strangers, to mothers killing their own children. In the U.S. alone, 60 million mothers have made that awful choice to kill their own children, 10 times the number of Jews killed in Hilter's Holocaust. What changed? The mass media message targeting women.

The new message promoted by every influence maker, including celebrities, politicians, and journalists, is that abortion is cool. From Hollywood, to New York, to Washington, to London, and in every elite epicenter, the message became that the hip and savvy are pro-choice. Meanwhile, the voices of those who disagree with the elite brand of "choice" are muted.

Today, most women get the bulk of their information from their social media accounts, scrolling through articles approved by media elite with dire warnings about the sexual apocalypse that will come if Planned Parenthood is defunded or a certain judge is appointed to the Supreme Court. Actress Maggie Gyllenhaal warned in Glamour Magazine, "I've been a Planned Parenthood supporter my whole life — since my mom took me to a rally when I was in sixth grade. It's chilling to think of this resource being taken away." And given the muted opposition, in many circles, abortion isn't even up for debate. Actress Mila Kunis recently reported that she didn't even know there was a counter argument to the pro-choice position.

Abortion has become the "it" thing; Oprah encourages her readers to "shout your abortion" in the pages of her magazine, Martha Plimpton praised the abortion clinic in Seattle for her "best abortion," and Teen Vogue suggested post-abortion gifts for a teenage friend (perhaps they will start a registry?). Abortion is simply cool, much like a great fitting pair of jeans, the latest trending handbag, and jet-set weekends to Paris.

How, then, can we possibly compete with this glamourized message? How do we get women to stop listening to this "sister-think" constantly piped into our daily lives?

1. We need to start taking women's content more seriously. Too often, those of us fighting for life have underestimated the power of slick and compelling visuals. There is not a single magazine at the grocery store check-

out stand (a \$6 billion industry) that promotes a pro-life message. Considering where and how we spend our dollars is a start. Investing in projects that compete with these voices is also crucial.

**2.** Value true womanhood. We may not ever be able to beat the media at their own game, but we have something they don't, which is the truth about women. Women are the soil of society. When they are corrupted, all of society is.

Few things destroy a woman like abortion because it hollows her out physically, but also spiritually. There is nothing that transforms the character of a woman like motherhood. The challenges of child-raising are not in vain, but have the potential to make her into a woman of wisdom and beauty.

- **3. Men must be men.** The media have convinced men that they don't have a voice because they don't have a uterus (we didn't say they were logical). Men must courageously stand up for the truth whenever possible.
- **4 Remember relationships.** One of the most difficult pieces of the pro-life argument is that we are trying to get mothers, fathers, and grandparents to consider someone they don't yet know. We must remind the abortion-minded that this is their family they are killing not some stranger. Ultrasounds have bridged this gap, but talking about it is important.
- **5. Continued witness.** Our presence at abortion clinics and in the lives of our friends and neighbors can change everything, which is part of the reason why 40 Days for Life has been so successful. When a woman in crisis has someone in front of her offering her hope, truth, and life, these realities can drown out the media chatter and help her to see what is really real.
- **6. Prayer and fasting are vital.** Praying and offering sacrifices for the abortion-minded is crucial and is the true key to ending this scourge on our world today. There is story after story of lives saved because someone had a change of heart.

The day when abortion is no longer glamorized, but portrayed as the evil it truly is, will be the day that the culture of death will end. Pray for the day when abortion loses its cool.

- www.helenadaily.com, November 18, 2018

This article originally appeared in Day 41. The views and opinions expressed on this website are those of the respective author or website and do not necessarily reflect the position of Helena Daily or other authors featured on this website.

# From the President's Desk

Dear Friends,

This year will bring a lot of changes to our pro-life efforts in the State of Michigan. This past election brought a pro-abortion government to the state. This tells us we still have a lot of work--changing hearts and minds through **education**. This is the most important goal to winning a pro-life society.

Who are these people that voted for a pro-abortion legislator (who support the killing of our pre-born citizens)? Some are diehard pro-aborts who do not care about the baby; just their own agenda. Then, there are those whose party affiliation is paramount. But many will vote for a candidate without really knowing or understanding what the word pro-choice means to the baby in the womb. These are the people we need to reach. Their hearts and minds can be changed; plus there are many people who never see a reason to vote for a pro-life candidate. Educating them on the perils of abortion legislation. We can energize them, to get out and vote pro-life. LIFESPAN does not get involved with the political advocacy as defined under a 501(c)5 IRS rules, but it does not mean we will shy away from educating the public about the importance of pro-life legislation. We must reach out, especially to our youth and promote the positive strong messages on the worth of the human person and respecting life from conception to natural death.

We have our work cut out for us. So, let's get started and set a personal goal of changing just one person. Changing just one person through education on the truth; just one, a family member, friend, or co-worker from voting pro-abortion to voting pro-life in 2020. If you need educational tools, call LIFESPAN. This is your pro-life

organization: we are here to help.

THANK YOU, for all you do in promoting a respect for human life. Through God's help and working together, we <u>will</u> change hearts and minds.

– Diane Fagelman, President, Right to Life - LIFESPAN

# **Donations have been made -** *In Memory of:*

**Tom O'Neal**Given by: Irene Tharp

Florence Remski Given by: Wee Care

Robert J. Szydlowski Given by: Irene Tharp

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.

#### **LIFESPAN** News

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Co-Editors: Christina Hansen & Diane Trombley

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#### **MAIN OFFICE**

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### 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 preborn, the aged, th
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.

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	Annual MembershipStudent/Senior Member	\$30.00 \$20.00	Other		
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**.

#### Right to Life - LIFESPAN

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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

**Gift Suggestions** 

Sleepers, onesies, socks,

receiving blankets, crib sheets, diapers (size 1 to size 4), baby wipes, wash cloths,

towels, pacifiers, bottles,

bibs, personal hygiene items for baby, gift cards, cash

donations!





# Right to Life – LIFESPAN's 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Baby Shower **Sunday, March 10, 2019**

(unless different date noted)

to benefit local Pregnancy Help Centers

Baby showers will be held at the following locations.

More locations are added almost daily!!! Visit miLIFESPAN.org for updates! Bring new or gently used baby items.

For more information, call Right to Life - LIFESPAN at 734.524.0162

In alphabetical order by City:

Sacred Heart of the Hills, Auburn Hills

**Resurrection**, Canton

Weekends from March 2nd - 10th

**Guardian Angels, Clawson** 

Church of the Divine Child, Dearborn

Weekends from March 2nd - 10th

St. Alphonsus - St. Clement, Dearborn

St. Michael, Livonia

St. Mary, Our Lady of the Snows, Milford

St. Stephen, New Boston

Our Lady of Victory, Northville

Our Lady of Refuge, Orchard Lake

Our Lady of Good Counsel, Plymouth

St. Kenneth, Plymouth

Weekends from March 23rd - April 7th

Our Lady of Loretto, Redford

Weekends from March 2nd - 10th

St. Valentine, Redford

St. Thomas More, Troy

Weekend of March 9th & 10th

Ss. Simon & Jude, Westland

Sunday, March 10th from 1:00 - 3:00 pm

12/17/2018

Choose a location near you, drop off some new (or clean, gently used items) and help our local moms and their babies. Sometimes, just knowing that there are resources available through local pregnancy help centers means the difference between aborting a baby and giving a baby LIFE!

Does your church/organization want to co-host a Baby Shower for one of the Metro Detroit Pregnancy Help Centers, but don't see your name listed? Please contact us today at the LIFESPAN Main Office & we'll get you everything you need! 734.524.0162 or mainoffice@rtl-lifespan.org.