

Lifespan *news*

Volume 35 Number 3

Serving Southeastern Michigan Since 1970

April/May 2006

Right to Life - LIFESPAN



*Invites you to its 16th Annual
Mother's Day Dinner
Tuesday, May 9, 2006*

*Honoring
Mother of the Year 2006
Missy Parker*

Student Art Contest Winners

See page 3 for reservation information

News & Notes

Mandatory abortion proposed in Holland

Editor's Note: Holland also has permissive euthanasia laws. Except for China, which has the most notorious and brutal population control policies, this is the first time we have seen a call for mandatory abortion from a government official—will it be the last?

A health official in the Netherlands has called for a debate on the idea of forced abortion and contraception to deal with what she sees as a crisis of unwanted children. Alderman Marianne van den Anker of the Leefbaar Rotterdam Party wants specifically to target communities of Antilleans and Arubans where she sees the biggest problems of unwanted children. Her comments have stirred protest by a health foundation working with those communities in Rotterdam. The group, which called the comments degrading, is asking Mayor Ivo Opstelten and other politicians to distance themselves from Van den Anker's views.

—WorldNetDaily.com, February 21, 2006

Whose choice?

The top reasons women cite for having an abortion, courtesy of Planned Parenthood's website, are as follows: "She is not ready to become a parent." "She cannot afford a baby." "She doesn't want anyone to know she has had sex or is pregnant." "Her husband, partner or parent wants her to have an abortion." "She or the fetus has a health problem." "She was a survivor of rape or incest."

The most disturbing item on this list is, "her husband, partner, or parent wants her to have an abortion." For an institution supposedly based on a woman's free 'choice' and liberation, this is certainly an odd argument... Planned Parenthood has no issue with a patient submitting to an abortion because she feels coerced by her boyfriend or parents.

—Mary McPherson, writing on "Aborted Future," in the January issue of *Carolina Review*; *Washington Post*, February 9, 2006

Unwanted Children

Every child has the right to be wanted.

But why should any parent not want a child?

Should a child be unwanted because the parents fear a change in their lifestyle?

Should a child be unwanted because the arrival of another person in the home will throw the family budget out of balance?

Should a child be unwanted because a birth will upset some preset timetable?

Should a child be unwanted because, like Abraham Lincoln, he or she will be raised in poverty?

Should a child be unwanted because he or she might have some physical handicap?

Should a child be unwanted because the birth would reveal wrong conduct by the parents and shame looms larger than life?

How can any parent not want a child who is yet unseen?

How can a child be unwanted who has not yet had the opportunity to love or receive it...whose cry has never been heard...whose arms still wait to give their first hug?

Is it fair to deny birth to a child thought to be unwanted when that child has never had the chance to convince the parent of his or her worth?

And who is this unwanted one?

One who bears the image of both parents.

But more than that.

One who reaches back through generations, combining all family roots in

one special person. Very special.

So unique that this child can never be replaced.

No other person will have the same appearance.

No other person will have the same temperament.

No other person will have the same ability to solve problems that trouble all of us.

No other person will have this child's voice.

No other eyes will carry the same expressions as these.

No one will be the same mix of past and present.

So if this child is not allowed to live, we lose more than a statistic.

We lose a very special part of the past that is intended to be shared with this family.

We lose a family historian.

We lose one who seems to step out of old family portraits to walk among us.

We lose grandma's beauty.

And grandpa's gift to build.

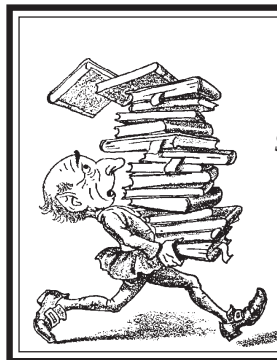
We lose great-grandma's sense of humor.

And great-grandpa's ability to invent or make the ground produce a bumper crop.

When a child is aborted, a family loses part of its heritage and we all lose the reward of that person's presence in the world.

"Children are the heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward" (Psalms 127:3).

—Observer and Eccentric, January 19, 2006
Permission to publish granted by Rev. Roger Campbell, www.rogercampbellministry.com



LIFESPAN'S USED BOOK SALE!

Friday and Saturday, August 11 and 12
St. Gerald Church, 21300 Farmington Rd., Farmington

PLEASE SAVE & DONATE YOUR USED BOOKS!

A truck will be available for collection of books on the parking lot at Lifespan's Main Office in June and July

For more information, call - 248-478-8878

COME TO THE BOOK SALE IN AUGUST!



Mother's Day Dinner



Tuesday, May 9, 2006

Silent Auction 5:45 p.m. • Dinner 7:15 p.m.

San Marino Club • 1685 E. Big Beaver Rd., Troy

Sandy Rios served as President of Concerned Women for America, from 2001 to 2004, the nation's largest public policy women's organization with 500,000 members. In her role at CWA, Sandy became a respected voice on Capitol Hill and at the White House, as well as a strong leader in the pro-family movement. She interceded on Capitol Hill and in the media for strong judicial nominees, exposing the Senate filibuster and smears against otherwise honorable candidates. She worked hard to overturn approval of the chemical abortion pill, RU-486, approved by the FDA, and to refute the lies that would deny the abortion-breast cancer link.

Sandy served as host of CWA's nationally syndicated radio program, Concerned Women Today (CWT), heard in almost every major market from New York to Los Angeles to Toronto.

Prior to CWA, Sandy had eight years of experience as host of her own award-winning WYLL drive-time radio news and talk show in Chicago. She has appeared regularly on major broadcast media, including ABC, NBC, CBS, CNN and FOX News Channel, and is frequently quoted in key print media, such as The New York Times, the Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, Chicago Tribune, Wall Street Journal, the Associated Press and many Christian publications.

Sandy is the recipient of the 2005 Henry Hyde Leadership Award, Pro-Life Action League's Protector Award in 1999; Eagle Forum's Excellence Award and was declared Conservative of the Year by Family PAC also in 1999.

Sandy is the mother of two children, one of whom is severely disabled. Caring for her daughter, Sasha, has given Sandy a unique insight into the sanctity of human life and the needs of the disabled. Her son, Jeremy, is married and working on his Masters in Divinity degree. Sandy currently resides in suburban Chicago.



Dinner Reservations: \$50 per person/\$475 per table of 10. Advance reservations required by April 28.

Yes, I (We) plan to attend. Enclosed please find a check in the amount of \$_____ for _____ reservations. (Please list names of all those for whom reservations are made on a separate sheet of paper. Tickets will be held at the door.)
Seat with _____

Yes, I (We) plan to sponsor a table of 10. Enclosed please find **one** check in the amount of \$_____ for _____ tables. (Please list names of all those for whom table reservations are made on a separate sheet of paper. Tickets will be held at the door. Table arrangements will be determined by date of receipt of paid reservation.)

I (We) are not able to attend. Enclosed is a donation of \$_____ to support your pro-life efforts.

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone (area code) _____



**For Dinner reservations, please make checks payable and mail to:
Right to Life - LIFESPAN, 1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Ste. G, Troy, MI 48084
For information, call 248-816-1546
(Dinners, personal ads and donations are not tax-deductible.)**



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Addresses

President

President George W. Bush
The White House
Washington, DC 20500
Opinion Line 202-456-1111, M-F, 9-5
Fax Number: 202-456-2461
e-mail: comment@whitehouse.gov

Dear Mr. President:

U.S. Senators

The Honorable (Carl Levin, Debbie Stabenow)
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-3121

Dear Senator (last name):

U.S. Representatives

The Honorable (first and last name)
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
202-224-3121

Dear Congressman or Congresswoman
(last name):

Governor

The Honorable Jennifer Granholm
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, MI 48909
517-373-3400
Opinion Line: 517-335-7858
e-mail: migov@aol.com

Dear Governor Granholm:

Michigan State Senator

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

Dear Senator (last name):

Michigan State Representative

The Honorable (full name)
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909
517-373-1837

Dear Representative (last name):

Ayotte v. Planned Parenthood

On January 18th, the United States Supreme Court rendered its decision in the *Ayotte v. Planned Parenthood* case.

This case came out of New Hampshire whose legislature passed a law requiring teenage girls to notify at least one parent before obtaining an abortion. The lawmakers deliberately excluded a broad health exception from their parental-notification law. The law still provides for a judicial bypass when deemed necessary. Abortion rights groups claimed that the exclusion rendered the law unconstitutional and created an undue burden on women (teens) seeking an abortion. A federal judge and a federal appeals court panel agreed.

The Attorney General, Kelly Ayotte, of New Hampshire, appealed the case to the U.S. Supreme Court and the Court, in a 9-0 decision, sent the case back to the lower court to reconsider whether it was appropriate for it (the lower court) to strike down as unconstitutional, the entire parental consent law, or whether only part of the law should be enjoined. "We agree with New Hampshire that the lower courts need not have invalidated the law wholesale," O'Connor wrote. "Only a few applications of the New Hampshire's parental consent statute would present a constitutional problem."

James Bopp, general counsel to the National Right to Life Committee, called the decision good news. "They have rejected the notion that every single abortion law can be nullified by finding one hypothetical burdensome situation. This is the court saying to the abortion rights' movement that the court is unanimous in the idea that you can't nullify every single abortion law because of one hypothetical situation," he said.

It is expected that the ruling will likely change the tone of the ongoing challenges to the federal Partial-Birth Abortion Act. Like the New Hampshire case, appeals courts had followed the high court's lead in striking down the entire law when only portions of the act raised constitutional questions.

Gonzales v. Oregon

In 2001, after the passage of the state of Oregon's Death With Dignity Act, then Attorney John Ashcroft issued the Ashcroft Directive. The Controlled Substances Act allows the attorney general to prohibit medical practices he or she deems are "inconsistent with public interest." Ashcroft's opinion was that "assisting suicide with the use of controlled substances was not a legitimate medical purpose." He authorized the prosecution of physicians who distributed drugs to patients for self-administration under the Oregon Death With Dignity Act. Originally known as *Ashcroft v. Oregon*, the name of the case was changed when Alberto Gonzales was named to replace John Ashcroft as Attorney General.

In a 6-3 ruling on January 16, 2006, the court ruled that Ashcroft exceeded his authority when he determined that assisted suicide was not a "legitimate medical use" of controlled substances without obtaining any information about the practice of medicine, assisted suicide, or other relevant matters necessary to come to that conclusion outside the Department of Justice. Consequently, the Court found Ashcroft's interpretation, while reasonable, was not persuasive because it exceeded his "expertise."

The findings of the Court were narrowly drawn. The Court did not endorse physician-assisted suicide or uphold the Oregon statute as a matter of constitutional law. Nor did it address whether there is a constitutional right to die, or that Congress was powerless to override state laws that allow doctors to help their patients end their lives.

Partial-Birth Abortion

On February 21, 2006, the U.S. Supreme Court announced that it would hear a challenge to a federal law outlawing partial-birth abortions. The law, the Partial-Birth Abortion Act, passed in 2003 and signed by President Bush on November 5, 2003, was immediately challenged in court and

has never taken effect. It was ruled unconstitutional by three federal appeals courts in the last year, in rulings based on a Supreme Court decision in 2000 striking down a similar law passed in Nebraska.

In the Nebraska case, *Stenberg v. Carhart*, the majority of the court found that any abortion must include an exception for the health of the mother. The case accepted by the present court does not involve a challenge to the core ruling that established a legal right to abortion (*Roe v. Wade*) but does raise questions as to whether or not the new court, with Justices Roberts and Alito, will be more sympathetic to efforts to limit abortions.

The current law does not challenge the court's position that abortion restrictions must accommodate the health needs of pregnant women. Instead it raises the question of who determines the necessity and benefit of a particular procedure. The law was drafted by Congress to specifically respond to the court's decision of 2000 and to meet the objections of the court to the state law. It specifically put into the law Congressional findings that the partial-birth abortion procedure is never necessary to protect the physical and psychological health of the mother.

The court will hear arguments and decide the case during its next term, which begins in October, 2006.

Holly's Law

On March 3, 2005, Congressman Roscoe Bartlett (R-MD) introduced HR 1079, known as Holly's Law. This measure would suspend sales of RU 486, the abortion drug, while its safety is investigated. Joined by 10 other U.S. Congressmen, Bartlett cited a recent study, co-authored by Dr. Donna J. Harrison and Dr. Margaret M. Gary appearing in the February, 2006 issue of the *Annals of Pharmacotherapy*. The study focuses on complications from RU 486 abortions contained in reports to the FDA from Danco Laboratories. Danco is the maker of the abortion drug and they filed reports that indicated that between September 2000 and September 2004 five deaths, 64 life-threatening events and 224 severe events were experienced by women who had taken the drug.

Coercive Abortion Prevention Act (CAPA)

In March of 2005, several female legislators announced plans to introduce the Coercive Abortion Prevention Act in the Michigan Legislature.

The package of bills is designed to protect women against coercion during pregnancy, an often neglected form of domestic abuse

"Our whole purpose with this legislation is to give women the power and the legal standing to protect themselves from being coerced into doing something against their will," said Barbara VanderVeen, a registered nurse and co-sponsor of the measures.

The package of bills would make it illegal to coerce a female into seeking an abortion; protects a woman's rights to a civil lawsuit when she's being coerced; requires abortion providers to screen for potential coercion; and implements an additional 24 hour waiting period if a woman discloses coercion has taken place.

\$600M on Stem Cell Research

Because of his limits on using taxpayer funds to pay for any new embryonic stem cell research and their support of it, President Bush and pro-life groups are frequently accused of not supporting stem cell research in general. However, the president's 2007 budget includes spending more than \$600 million on the research. Approximately 95 percent of the money would go towards adult stem cell research, which has already been responsible for producing dozens of cures and treatments for various diseases. Some \$38 million will be spent on 21 preexisting embryonic stem cell lines. Under Bush's August 2001 executive order, federal funds can only be spent on embryonic stem cell lines created before the order was put in place. That means no taxpayer funds can be spent on any new embryonic stem cell research because it involves the destruction of human life.

—*LifeNews.com, March 23, 2006*

Michigan Debates Stem Cell Research, Human Cloning

A Michigan bill to repeal the state's ban on embryonic stem cell research was the subject of a hotly contested

legislative hearing on March 21. Supporters and opponents of the bill debated the merits of the research and whether the ban would lead to human cloning. Backers of the legislation say they want to lift the ban because they claim embryonic stem cell research could lead to curing a host of diseases, even though it's nowhere close to being ready to benefit patients, if ever. Gov. Jennifer Granholm supports lifting the ban and pro-life groups must persuade lawmakers to stop the bill before it gets to her desk. The House Health Policy Committee was the first stop. Pro-life groups say adult stem cell research is more ethical because it doesn't involve the destruction of human life. They also say it has proven far more effective since dozens of treatments for people have already been produced. "The benefits of adult stem cell research are making headlines across the globe as thousands of people are walking, seeing and moving again after undergoing adult stem cell therapy," Michigan Catholic Conference representative Paul Long told legislators. —*LifeNews.com, March 22, 2006*

Ultrasound Images

On March 3, 2005, Michigan Representative David Robertson introduced HB 4446 which would require an abortion practitioner to offer a woman seeking an abortion an ultrasound image of her unborn baby.

The bill was changed in the Senate from requiring the practitioner to show the mother ultrasound pictures of her to baby to simply allowing him/her to show the images. The measure was sent back to the House where the language was reworded.

On March 20, 2006, Governor Jennifer Granholm announced that she would sign the measure which would require abortion providers to give a pregnant woman the option of viewing ultrasound images of her baby before the abortion would take place. This represents an expansion of the Informed Consent provisions in Michigan. The measure, with its new language, passed the state House on a vote of 84-21 and passed the Senate unanimously. This marks the first time Governor Granholm has agreed with the Legislature's pro-life majority to regulate the abortion procedure.

PRENATAL CHILD PROTECTION PETITION



continued from back page

The Thomas More Law Center, a national public interest law firm based in Ann Arbor, Michigan, announced that it “supports and has agreed to defend the current citizen-initiated pro-life petition drive.”

Late Breaking News

We have just learned that people in six other states want to introduce their own version of the Prenatal Child Protection Amendment. The states are: Alabama, Kansas, Texas, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Colorado.

Points to Remember

You may have heard some different opinions about whether this petition effort is necessary. Here are some points to remember.

- The current Michigan law that is “on the books” may not fully protect the right to life of all unborn babies if and when *Roe v. Wade* is overturned.
- There is never a wrong time to do the right thing.
- The *Roe v. Wade* decision should be challenged from all directions.

Visualize the following:

There is a very large mountain that is completely covered with snow. At the bottom of the mountain there is a sign that reads: *Roe v. Wade decision 1973*. Near the top of the mountain, the snow starts to slide a little. As the snow slides, it picks up a little more snow. It continues to slide very slowly, always gathering more snow. The snow slide gains more speed. Eventually, it’s an avalanche. The snow continues down the mountain with the speed increasing as it goes. As we watch from a safe distance, we see this huge avalanche of snow completely bury the *Roe v. Wade* sign. There is silence...then we hear cheering coming from behind us, we turn around...and there we see five smiling people wearing black robes. It all started with a tiny amount of snow movement near the top of the mountain.

A petition form has been inserted into this newsletter. We are requesting that you use this form to gather signatures in favor of the proposed amendment that has been described above. If you have any questions or need more petition forms, please call the Wayne West/Downriver office at **734-422-6230** or the Oakland/Macomb office at **248-816-1546**.

The signing instructions are on page 7 of this newsletter. Please read the instructions before circulating the petition. The signatures on each form must be by county. There is a line at the top to write in the county name. If someone from another county wants to sign, it must be on another form with their county written in for that sheet.

Completed forms should be returned to:

Right to Life - LIFESPAN or
27592 Schoolcraft Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150

Right to Life - LIFESPAN
1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite G
Troy, MI 48084

Please remember that each person who signs this petition is speaking for an unborn child.

Prenatal Child Protection Petition...Signing Instructions

Please read all the instructions before circulating petitions.

**Important: Use black or blue ink only, do not use pencil.
Do not abbreviate.**

1. The circulator must write in a county name at the top of each petition form. Make sure that all signers are registered to vote in that county. You may circulate petitions for any county in the state, but a different form must be used for each county.
2. The signers must write in the City or Township where they are registered to vote and check the appropriate box. Villages and unincorporated areas are always within townships.
3. The signer must sign his or her full name in the same form as when they vote. Then the signer must print his or her name.
4. In the space provided, the signers should write their house number and street name or rural route. **Post office boxes are invalid.**
5. The signers must provide their zip code in the space provided. **They must also write in the date they signed the petition.**
6. **If there is an error by a signer, draw a line through the entire line space and begin again on the next line. Do NOT discard the petition.**
7. Petition forms are acceptable with at least one but no more than fifteen signatures. The circulator may be a signer of his own petition form.

9. After the circulator has gathered signatures he or she must complete the section in the lower right of each petition form. No signatures may be added to the petition form after this portion has been completed and dated.
10. Make certain that all sections have been completed.

Return the completed petition forms to one of the Right to Life - LIFESPAN offices listed below.

If you have any questions or need additional petition forms, please contact one of the Right to Life - LIFESPAN offices.

Right to Life - LIFESPAN
Oakland/Macomb Chapter
1637 W. Big Beaver Rd. Suite G
Troy, MI 48084
248-816-1546

Right to Life - LIFESPAN
Wayne West/Downriver Chapter
27592 Schoolcraft Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150
734-422-6230

www.PrenatalChildProtectionPetition.net
(for more information)

A proposal to amend the Michigan Constitution by adding new Sections 26 and 27 to Article I (or if Sections 26 and 27 of Article I already exist, then the proposal shall add new sections to Article I in the next available numeric order) to read as follows: Section 26: "The right to life process, whereby no person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, guaranteed in Article I, Section 17, and the right to equal protection of the law, guaranteed in Article I, Section 2, vest at conception." Section 27: "A 'fetus', for purposes of the Constitution and laws of the State of Michigan, shall be considered as a person from the moment of conception." This proposal is to be voted on at the November 7, 2006 General Election.

We, the undersigned qualified and registered electors, residents in the county of _____, State of Michigan, respectively petition for amendment to the constitution.

WARNING - A person who knowingly signs this petition as a circulator, signs a name other than his or her own, signs when not a qualified and registered elector, or sets opposite his or her signature on a petition, a date other than the actual date the signature was affixed, is violating the provisions of the Michigan election law.

INDICATE CITY OR TOWNSHIP IN WHICH REGISTERED TO VOTE	SIGNATURE	PRINTED NAME	STREET ADDRESS OR RURAL ROUTE	ZIP CODE	DATE OF SIGNING		
					MO	DAY	YEAR
CITY OF _____	1. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOWNSHIP OF _____	2. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
CITY OF _____	3. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOWNSHIP OF _____	4. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
CITY OF _____	5. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOWNSHIP OF _____	6. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
CITY OF _____	7. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOWNSHIP OF _____	8. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
CITY OF _____	9. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOWNSHIP OF _____	10. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
CITY OF _____	11. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOWNSHIP OF _____	12. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
CITY OF _____	13. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOWNSHIP OF _____	14. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
CITY OF _____	15. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOWNSHIP OF _____	16. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

CERTIFICATE OF CIRCULATOR

The undersigned circulator of the above petition asserts that he or she is qualified to circulate the petition and that each signature on the petition was signed in his or her presence, and that, to the best of his knowledge and belief, each signature is the genuine signature of the person purporting to sign the petition, the person signing the petition was at the time of signing a qualified registered elector of the city or township indicated preceding the signature, and the elector was qualified to sign the petition.

WARNING - A circulator knowingly making a false statement in the above certificate, a person not a circulator who signs as a circulator, or a person who signs a name other than his or her own as circulator is guilty of a misdemeanor.

CIRCULATOR - Do not sign or date certificate until after circulating petition.

SIGNATURE OF CIRCULATOR _____ DATE _____

PRINTED NAME OF CIRCULATOR _____

CITY OR TOWNSHIP WHERE QUALIFIED TO BE REGISTERED _____

COMPLETE RESIDENCE ADDRESS (Street and Number or Rural Route) _____ ZIP CODE _____

Paid for with regulated funds by Michigan Citizens for Life, P.O. Box 1090, Lapeer, Michigan 48446 (517-441-5309) www.michigan citizens for life.net

detroit

17336 Harper PMB 293, Detroit, MI 48224-1980
Phone 313-640-8534 • Fax (same as phone)
Office Hours: MW 10-2; TThF Closed
Mary Cascos, Office Manager

Showers of love and thanks

Hundreds of beautiful baby items were donated to local pregnancy help centers after Lifespan's 17th annual Baby Shower. Because of your compassion and generosity, many mothers were given the choice to keep their babies. The following Detroit churches participated this year: Christ the King, Assumption Grotto, Brightmoor Bible Missionary, Old St. Mary's, Sts. Augustine and Monica, and St. Clare of Montefalco in Grosse Pointe Park. Thank you for all your support, and may God bless you for all you do for His "little ones."

Mark your calendar

What do you have on your busy agenda for Saturday, **April 22**? Are you going grocery shopping or banking or to a movie? What if I told you that on Saturday, **April 22**, you could

livingston

P. O. Box 1532, Brighton, MI 48116-9998
Phone 810-220-LIFE (5433)
Judy Zabik, Jane Thierfeldt, Co-Directors

Baby Showers

A big thank you to those churches that participated in our annual Baby Shower. The goods will be put to great use. Spread the word to friends at other churches, and help make next year's Baby Shower the biggest yet!

Petition drive

Thanks to those churches that are doing, or have already done, the Prenatal Child Protection petition drive, including Holy Spirit Roman Catholic Church, St. Joseph Catholic Church, Cornerstone Presbyterian Church, Pleasant Valley Baptist, First Baptist Church of Brighton and others. This petition will amend the Michigan State Constitution to extend the protection of the laws to those children yet to be born from the moment of conception. If you don't have petitions yet and would like to circulate them at your church, please contact our office as soon as possible. We need 317,000 valid signatures by July 10th. We're seeking volunteers to help with coordinating distribu-

tion and circulation of petitions. Contact Lifespan's Main Office if you're able to help with this lifesaving effort.

save the life of a child! Would you delay your grocery shopping for that? Come to the next **Prayer Vigil for LIFE**. On April 22, begin with Mass at St. Basil Church, 22800 Schroeder, Eastpointe. After Mass, drive to St. Veronica Church parking lot where Detroit police will escort participants to the two abortion clinics on 8 Mile Rd. The Rosary will be led by Bishop Quinn. Women have been known to change their minds and keep their babies after they see all the people praying for them in front of the abortion clinics. After the Vigil you are invited back to St. Basil for Benediction and refreshments. Call Helper's of God's Precious Infants, **313-530-4539**.

Girl Scout note

Girl Scouts of Metro Detroit has no affiliations with Planned Parenthood. They have developed an excellent abstinence program in which Lifespan and many local churches have been advisors. All Girl Scout Councils are run differently; if you have questions about your Council, do not hesitate to call. Most Girl Scout troops are run by caring and loving leaders. If you question what they are teaching your girls, it is in your best interest to volunteer and become a leader or an assistant. Girl Scouts is a wonderful organization that instills self-worth and integrity and develops service-oriented leaders who love their fellow scouts and their country. I have been a leader for over 25 years. Questions? Call me, Mary, **313-885-8238**.

Contraception v. abortifacients

There is great confusion in understanding the fact that there is a difference between contraception and abortifacients. Dr. Jack Wilke, MD, President of Life Issues Institute and former NRLC President, attempts to shed some light on this issue. In his brochure entitled "Stem Cells, Cloning, Emergency Contraception—The First Week of Life," he states: "In the early 1960s, it was determined that this newly available birth control pill would block ovulation and was a 'contraceptive.' It was correctly judged that the public would accept this. But there was this anti-implantation effect also, which clearly was an abortion. They worried that if the general public found this out, the pill would be rejected. What to do? There was a meeting of officials of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, some drug companies and a prominent doctor, Alan Guttmacher. They solved this 'dilemma' by officially, but very quietly, ruling that henceforth the word 'conception' would no longer mean union of sperm and egg. Its new meaning was to be implantation, one week later. The word 'pregnancy' was also a problem so they changed its definition from beginning at fertilization to beginning at implantation. Their stated reason was that her body was not pregnant until implantation. Almost nobody was told about this then, nor do even most doctors know about it now, but this enabled the drug companies to call the 'pill' and the IUD contraceptives."

oakland/macomb

1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite G, Troy, MI 48084-3540
Phone 248-816-1546 • Fax 248-816-9066
e-mail: oakmac@rtl-lifespan.org
Office Hours: M, T, Th, F 8-4; W 9-3
Irene Tharp, Director; Diane Trombley, Ofc. Mgr.
Lynn Gura, Ofc. Staff

Eye of the beholder

We all spend a lot of time on computers and phones and instant messaging and other electronic devices these days. There have even been reports on television about how disconnected we are from those around us because of the lack of face-to-face interaction. We hear from so many of you in the office week by week, but we rarely put a face with the voice. The same holds true for those of you who speak to us—you don't really know what we look like either.

Is it really possible that Diane is a 250-year-old Leprechaun? How about Lynn—could she really be only 17? There is a rumor that Irene has the cutest grandson ever—is it true? And let's not forget about the Oakland/Macomb board—accountants, car guys, teachers, nurses—how many hats do they really wear?

We are giving you all an opportunity to put a face to the voice and answer these questions for yourselves on April

26th. The Oakland/Macomb Chapter is inviting you to an evening of "reveals." You will get a chance to see what we really look like, and we will try to give some insights on how the chapter works. Hopefully, you will have some ideas for us to try, and some of you may even be willing to become board members or committee chairmen.

We plan on showing the new movie, *A Distant Thunder*. This film was produced by Jonathan Flora, an award-winning producer at Disney (note: *A Distant Thunder* is not associated with Disney). The film has been featured at two film festivals and at one was a finalist for best short film. The topic of the film is partial-birth abortion, and it deals with the consequences of the abortion decision, legally, physically and spiritually. The producer is quoted as saying that his personal experience with abortion caused him to produce the film in order to have something that could "initiate dialogue" about partial-birth abortion. With the Supreme Court's recent announcement that it would hear arguments about the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban law signed by President Bush, this is a timely presentation indeed.

We will have light refreshments and plenty of time to talk. Please mark you calendars for April 26th, 7:30 p.m. at the National Shrine of the Little Flower Conference Center, located on Woodward at Roseland, just north of the church's Woodward parking lot.

wayne west/downriver

27592 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150-2203
Phone 734-422-6230 • Fax 734-422-8116
e-mail: wwdr@rtl-lifespan.org
Office Hours: M-Th 10-4; F Closed
Patricia Holscher, Director; Laurie Masiarak, Ofc. Mgr.

Bake Sale needs bakers

Our big, big, big Bake Sale will be at St. Mary Church in Wayne on Saturday and Sunday, April 1 and 2. Lifespan members, even those who live outside that parish, may help with this annual event. Baked items can be dropped off at our office in Livonia on Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. or at the church after 2 p.m.

Resource Book 2006

Last call to be listed as a patron in the "Book of Life," better known as Lifespan's annual Resource Book."

- * Gold Patron \$100
- * Silver Patron \$ 50
- * Bronze Patron \$10
- * Memorial \$10

* Nurses for Life Patron (any \$ amount)

* Photo Album Ad, 1/8 page—introduce a new family member, kids and grandkids to our Lifespan family - \$35
Deadline for these ads is Monday, April 1. Please consider buying or selling just one ad to make this a successful fundraiser for the Main Office of Lifespan.

Mother's Day Dinner

Lifespan's Mother of the Year, Missy Parker, has been selected from your nominations and will be honored at our Mother's Day dinner. We always have outstanding speakers, and this year we've done it again in the person of Sandy Rios. You won't want to miss meeting this remarkable woman; see page 3. As in the past, our Chapter will have transportation available to take dinner guests to the San Marino Club in Troy. Reservations will be on a first-come, first-serve basis. Call the office for reservations and pick-up points.

Father's Day recognition

We will be offering pens for dads on Father's Day for a donation. These neat pens will be printed "Thanks Dad, for Life!"—"Happy Father's Day." If you'd like your church or school to participate, call as soon as possible, so that enough pens are ordered.

Pro-Life speakers

Lifespan has many professional pro-life speakers including doctors, lawyers, nurses, the medically challenged and others who are willing to speak at church services, public forums, meetings and schools. Give us a call and we'll help make the arrangements.

If your church or school is having a festival or fair coming up, ask if Lifespan can have an educational booth with the fetal models and pro-life literature. *We have saved moms and their babies from abortion by our presence and sharing pro-life materials.*

How lying marketers sold Roe v. Wade to America

Part III and Conclusion

(Continued from *Lifespan News*, Vol. 35, Nos. 1 and 2)

'Everything changes'

Levantino, an obstetrician-gynecologist in Troy, N.Y., relates the revealing and very personal story of what happened that caused him to stop performing abortions:

There was this tremendous conflict going on within me. Here I am, doing my D&Cs (an early-term suction abortion), five and six a week, and I'm doing salines on a nightly basis whenever I was on call. The resident on call got the job of doing the salines, and there would usually be two or three of those. They were horrible, because you would see one intact, whole baby being born, and sometimes they were alive. And that was very, very, very frightening. It was a very stomach-turning kind of existence.

My wife and I were looking desperately for a baby to adopt, even while I was throwing them in the garbage at the rate of nine and 10 a week. The thought occurred to me even then, "I wish one of these people would just let me have their child." But it doesn't work that way.

We were lucky—it just took four months before we adopted a healthy little girl, and we called her Heather.

We can talk about why doctors do abortions, and I think that the reasons tend to be more or less universal. But why doctors change their minds, I think, is very personal, very different from one doctor to the next. My reasons for quitting were very personal.

Life was good until June 23, 1984. On that date I was on call, but I was at home at the time. We had some friends over and our children were playing in the back yard. At 7:25 that evening, we heard the screech of brakes out in front of the house. We ran outside, and Heather was lying in the road. We did everything we could, but she died.

Let me tell you something. When you lose a child—your child—life is very different. Everything changes. And all of a sudden the idea of a person's life becomes very real. It's not an embryology course anymore; it's not just a couple of hundred dollars. It's the real thing. It's your child you buried.

The old discomforts came back in spades. I couldn't even think about a D&E abortion any more, no way. Then you start to realize, this is somebody's child. I lost my child—someone who was very precious to us. And now I'm taking somebody's child, and I'm tearing them right out of their womb. I'm killing somebody's child. That's what it took to get me to change.

My own sense of self-esteem went down the tubes. I began to feel like a paid assassin. That's exactly what I was. You watch the movies, when somebody goes up to a hit man and pays them to kill someone; that's exactly what I was doing. It got to a point that it just wasn't worth it to me anymore. The money wasn't worth it. "Poor women," my butt. I don't care. This was coming out of my hide, costing me too much personally. For all the money in the world, it wouldn't have made any difference. So I quit.

Putting the genie back in the bottle

In the strangest of ironies, Bernard Nathanson, perhaps the closest thing to being "the man who started it all" for the "pro-choice movement"—the Edward Teller of abortion—now spends his days trying to put the abortion genie back in the bottle. Like Norma McCorvey—who as the barefoot-and-pregnant "Jane Roe" was the pro-abortion plaintiff in the Supreme Court's momentous and fateful *Roe v. Wade* decision—Nathanson, also, is today dedicated to putting an end to what both now see as a national tragedy on a par with the Nazi Holocaust.

"This is an evil torn free of its moorings in reason and causality, an ordinary secular corruption raised to unimaginable powers of magnification and limitless extremity."

"Let me share with you my own personal perception of the abortion tragedy," Nathanson told one California audience: I'm going to set it against my Jewish heritage and the Holocaust in Europe. The abortion holocaust is beyond the ordinary discourse of morality and rational condemnation. It is not enough to pronounce it absolutely evil. Absolute evil used to characterize this abortion tragedy (43 million and counting) is an inept formulation.

The abortion tragedy is a new event, severed from connections with traditional presuppositions of history, psychology, politics and morality. It extends beyond the deliberations of reason, beyond the discernments of moral judgment, beyond meaning itself. It trivializes itself to call itself merely a holocaust or a tragedy.

It is, in the words of Arthur Cohen, perhaps the world's leading scholar on the European Holocaust, amysterium tremendum, an utter mystery to the rational mind—a mystery that carries with it not only the aspect of vastness, but the resonance of terror, something so unutterably diabolic as to be literally unknowable to us.

"This is an evil torn free of its moorings in reason and causality, an ordinary secular corruption raised to unimaginable powers of magnification and limitless extremity. Nelly Sachs, a poetess who wrote poems on the Holocaust in Europe and who won the Nobel Prize in 1966, wrote a poem called 'Chorus of the Unborn.' Permit me to give you a few lines. She said:

*We, the unborn, the yearning has begun to plague us
as shores of blood broaden to receive us.*

*Like dew, we sink into love but still
the shadows of time lie like questions over our secret."*

When we honestly face the sheer barbarism and brutality of abortion—some of which amounts to infant torture and murder—we're left with a dilemma.

Most people who consider themselves “pro-choice” are, by all appearances, reasonable and caring human beings. And yet they condone, and some even champion, the right to perpetrate the very acts of deception, betrayal, mutilation, torture and killing described in these pages. How can this be?

In searching for an explanation, Bernard Nathanson compares America’s abortion “holocaust” with what occurred in Germany during WWII. While some might call that a stretch, there are at least a couple of parallels that are both stunning and inescapable—and very instructive.

During the Nazi era, it’s a fact that many “reasonable and caring” Germans somehow came to regard Jews as less than human. Somehow their perception had been so tampered with that, although their physical eyes would see a human being, in their minds they saw the Jew as something less than human and therefore disposable.

For that matter, even in our own nation during the Civil War era, the Supreme Court in its infamous Dred Scott decision denied the full personhood of Americans of African origin, and ruled that they could never become U.S. citizens. Writing for the court majority, Chief Justice Roger B. Taney said blacks have “no rights which the white man was bound to respect; and that the negro might justly and lawfully be reduced to slavery for his benefit. He was bought and sold and treated as an ordinary article of merchandise and traffic, whenever profit could be made by it.”

But what about the Declaration of Independence, with its bedrock affirmation that “all men are created equal”? How did the Supreme Court get around that? According to Chief Justice Taney: “It is too clear for dispute, that the enslaved African race were not intended to be included, and formed no part of the people who framed and adopted this declaration...”

...Once upon a time pregnant mothers were respectfully, lovingly referred to as being “with child,” today we coldly refer to the unborn not as a child but as a “fetus...” implying something less than human, with little intrinsic worth, and therefore disposable.

As it has so many times throughout history, this same dehumanizing phenomenon—complete with an illegitimate blessing by the U.S. Supreme Court—has occurred once again, this time with unborn children as the victims.

Whereas once upon a time pregnant mothers were respectfully, lovingly referred to as being “with child,” today we coldly refer to the unborn not as a child but as a “fetus.” Indeed, the word “fetus” has taken on qualities and characteristics convenient to the pro-abortion viewpoint—implying something less than human, with little

intrinsic worth, and therefore disposable. If an abortionist or “pro-choicer” looks at a “fetus,” his eyes will see a perfectly formed human child—for that is what a fetus actually is—but his mind will see an ugly, nonhuman, disposable lump of tissue.

...how does a population get itself into such a trance, such a grotesque and deadly delusion, all the while thinking it’s embraced something enlightened and liberating?

Interestingly, if there were no word for “fetus,” such a switch of realities would be more difficult. The word itself becomes a convenient carrier of the “ugly, nonhuman” characteristics, and is thus a key tool for denying the humanity of the unborn human child.

We’re dealing with very deep denial here. Let me offer a personal example: More than two decades ago, as a news reporter I confronted a Planned Parenthood attorney with a photograph of a white, five-gallon plastic bucket filled with dead, late-term human babies—the results of one day’s abortions at a Canadian hospital. His response was to deny that what he saw were really human babies, and suggested that perhaps they were actually dead monkeys. Mind you, this man made his living defending the world’s largest abortion provider—but when he saw real abortions, he denied what was right in front of his own eyes.

Babies, “fetuses,” monkeys? This sleight-of-hand substitution of a false reality for the real one may make more sense when you consider that a skilled hypnotist can cause his subject to see a doll as a real baby—and more chillingly, to see a real baby as only a doll.

But we’re not talking about hypnosis here—or are we?

When a stage hypnotist can so quickly and dramatically alter his subject’s perceptions—quickly making an educated adult forget his own name, think he’s a yodeling champion, or strut around on stage clucking like a rooster—isn’t it reasonable to think that whatever mysterious dynamics allow this sort of mental manipulation on stage would also crop up, perhaps in more disguised ways, in “real life”?

If so, how does a population get itself into such a trance, such a grotesque and deadly delusion, all the while thinking it’s embraced something enlightened and liberating?

In the case of Nazi Germany, the answer is obvious. There was one, national hypnotist-in-chief, a leader-manipulator who understood the wounded pride of a people crushed by their total loss of WWI and humiliated by the subsequent Treaty of Versailles. Understanding their anger and their intense need to reclaim their national pride, Hitler played the German people like a virtuoso violinist plays a Stradivarius. Bypassing reason, he appealed directly and intensely to raw emotion and he radically altered their perception of reality.

continued

In America, the process is much more subtle.

First, over the last few decades our nation embraced the notion that total sexual freedom, without marriage, without restriction of any kind, is a right—an entitlement. We've been seduced into separating sexuality from its God-ordained purpose—the sanctified union between husband and wife, within the protective confines of marriage, from which issues the most precious of all things—our children. We have abandoned reason and self-restraint in favor of the self-indulgent fulfillment of our personal desires and lusts. And logically, if sex without consequences is the top priority—which it has become—then abortion simply *has* to be OK, no matter what.

Second, a huge factor in making abortion acceptable, indeed a fundamental American right, has been the change in American law: Whether in Nazi Germany or in *Roe v. Wade* America, legalizing something is immensely powerful in persuading people of the moral acceptability of immoral acts. In fact, for a great many people, legal equals moral.

...legalizing something is immensely powerful in persuading people of the moral acceptability of immoral acts.

Today, in America, the unborn baby is the obvious victim of the abortion holocaust. But there are other victims. Vulnerable young women are deceived by manipulative counselors and unscrupulous “health professionals” into believing their unborn babies are not human, only to find out too late, in the recovery room or shortly thereafter, that they ended the lives of their own children. What crueler trick could one play on a mother.

In truth, millions of people who think of themselves as “pro-choice” are victims of sophisticated marketing campaigns, designed to appeal to their deepest feelings about freedom and equality, while simultaneously hooking them through powerful appeals to their selfishness.

Understand that marketing evil is different from marketing blue jeans. In the commercial world, you profile people in your target market and map out strategies for selling to them. You're appealing to them, yes, but you're not *changing* them, just understanding their mental-emotional-cultural makeup and reaching in and pushing buttons to elicit the desired response.

In marketing evil, however, a much more profound process is at work. You're in the business of changing, seducing, corrupting people. And the way back is not so easy—because we all exist in a state of pride, which means we don't like to see we've done something wrong. So, once we've been tempted to cross the line—in this case, to have an abortion—our very consciousness and loyalties often change.

In the same way, many of the physicians who perform abortions have also been victims of sorts, pressured to do so by an amoral and cowardly medical establishment. Each in his own way has fallen prey to the appealing rhetoric of the abortion marketer who justifies their destructive acts and anesthetizes their consciences.

Let's take a closer look at how easily a person's conscience can be deadened and their perceptions tampered with: As Dr. Brewer explained, medical students go against their conscience by learning to perform abortions because their residency chief insists they must if they ever want to become doctors. The residency chief is an authority, and authorities exert an automatic hypnotic effect on suggestible people. (Indeed, people's vulnerability to an authority's “suggestion” is a core principle of hypnosis.) And what makes the “subject” here suggestible? The fact that the med student's future career is at stake provides a strong inducement for him to give up his principles to fulfill the requirements for success in his chosen field.

When people are the victims of con men, they often are loath to recognize that they have been deceived, simply because they don't want to think they have exercised bad judgment or done anything wrong. In this example, once the medical student started performing abortions, before long he could no longer see that it was wrong. Moreover, the decreasing conflict he felt each time he performed an abortion is evidence of a movement away from conscience as his involvement progressed. This mirrors the pattern in all corruption—the first lie, the first act of embezzlement, the first rape, the first murder is always the hardest.

The Bible describes this seduction process whereby we ignore our conscience so we can obtain some perceived advantage, as well as the spiritual blindness that is our only real reward: *Hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive: For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.* — Acts 28:26-27

Waking up

From its inception in the 1960s, America's legal and cultural embrace of abortion has been based on lies, deception, greed and monumental selfishness. Bernard Nathanson courageously exposed the cynical marketing campaign he led—the fabricated statistics, the slogans, the issue positioning by public relations professionals and the cowardly cooperation of a servile news media. The other repentant abortion providers profiled here further illustrate the emotional manipulation and deceit—not to mention the betrayal, suffering and death—that have characterized the abortion movement from the start.

But these are only a few stories. There's not enough room to go into the utter fraud of Planned Parenthood, the world's largest abortion provider, founded by the racist eugenicist Margaret Sanger, who preached the inferiority of non-white races and had close ties to Hitler's director of genetic sterilization, Ernst Rudin.

There's not enough room to go into detail about Norma McCorvey—the original “Jane Roe” on behalf of whom the *Roe v. Wade* case was fought and won. Guess what? McCorvey now admits *Roe v. Wade* was a fraud, and that she was “used” by abortion-rights attorneys in their quest to legalize the procedure. In fact, in 2003 McCorvey filed suit in federal court to have *Roe v. Wade* overturned. Among her 5,437 pages of evidence were affidavits from more than 1,000 women who testified that having an abortion had devastating emotional, physical and psychological effects on them. Today, McCorvey is passionately and publicly committed to undoing the damage she did in her earlier years and putting the abortion genie back in the bottle.

Ah, but this is not easily done. McCorvey has encountered the same bizarre denial that Nathanson has on his journey to personal redemption. After years of promoting abortion and helping to make it acceptable in the minds of the media and the public, Nathanson could not undo his earlier manipulations. Once he sold his followers on the abortion idea, he could not un-sell them—even by explaining the mechanics of behind-the-scenes manipulation, or by producing films showing frighteningly clear video footage of the horrors of abortion.

In truth, it's one thing to make a person do something wrong by deceiving him into thinking that it was right, but it is quite another thing to get him to face the fact that it was wrong, and that he has been deceived. The human ego doesn't like to see that it is wrong.

Whether this seduction comes by way of an instructor in medical school, by peer pressure from friends or parents to have an abortion, or by Planned Parenthood (an authority figure for scared teenagers), the seduced no longer sees reality as he or she once saw it, but as the seducer-authority sees it. Of course, there is a temporary comfort in this for the victim. He or she has been set free to pursue whatever course is most convenient or advantageous or pleasurable—thanks to abortion.

However, due to the unnaturalness of the conditioning process, the pain of suffering and tragedy can often jolt people back into a state of consciousness and awakening. Dr. Levantino mysteriously “woke up” from his “trance” to the horror of his abortion practice when his own daughter died. Dr. McMillan woke up while standing at the sink at the back of her clinic, examining the ripped-apart body of a little aborted baby. Although she had done this examination hundreds of times before, this time, for some mysterious reason, her consciousness was awakened as she realized for the first time that this was a human baby.

Sometimes self-deception, like a rubber band, can be stretched only so far before it breaks or snaps back to normal.

When the Nazi Holocaust finally came to an end, Allied soldiers led the horrified German population—the law-abiding, government-believing, “reasonable and caring” people of the day—through the concentration camps. Newsreels of this guided tour show women crying convulsively, stunned men with heads bowed low in shock and dismay.

Filing past piles of emaciated corpses, the stench of death everywhere, an unspeakable horror permeated their souls. For all at once, they realized that the nagging doubt in the back of their minds—the secret fear that the rumors of genocide might actually be true, but which they had disbelieved, thinking such negative thoughts to be from the demon of disloyalty—had actually been the desperate cry of inner truth. The soft, velvety denial they had lived in vanished instantly, and in its place, the agony of guilt and betrayal.

Don't look down on these people. At least they faced their sins of omission and tacit complicity, having believed their leaders and ignored the urgings of their own conscience. They were forced to acknowledge the horror they had previously denied.

What about us? Will we one day tour through the wreckage of our own culture of death and weep?

Epilogue

“Women must have control over their own bodies.”

“Safe and legal abortion is every woman's right.”

“Who decides? *You* decide!”

“Abortion is a personal decision between a woman and her doctor.”

“Who will make this most personal decision of a woman's life? Will women decide, or will the politicians and bureaucrats in Washington?”

“Freedom of choice—a basic American right.”

The next time you hear these feel-good “pro-choice” marketing slogans, don't be surprised if a chill runs up your spine, as you realize more vividly than ever what they really mean.

—David Kupelian is vice president and managing editor of *WorldNetDaily.com* and *Whistleblower* magazine, and author of the forthcoming book, “*The Marketing of Evil: How Radicals, Elitists, and Pseudo-Experts Sell Us Corruption Disguised as Freedom.*”

—*WorldNetDaily*, Thursday, January 20, 2005

Post-Abortion Recovery and Healing

Brighton Pregnancy Hotline: Her Choice to Heal
Brighton 810-494-LIFE (24 hr. answering service)

Family Life Services: Forgiven and Set Free
Ypsilanti 734-434-3088; 734-434-3109

Another Way Pregnancy Center: Forgiven and Set Free,
Her Choice to Heal, Farmington 248-471-5858

Compassion Pregnancy Center: Her Choice to Heal
Clinton Township 586-783-2229

Healing Hearts Ministries: P.A.C.E. (Post Abortion Counseling and
Education), Berkley 248-545-3542

Christine Elwart MA, LLP : One-on-one professional counseling
Royal Oak 248-545-8510

Valerie J. Lukasik PHD.,LLC: One on one professional counseling
Farmington Hills 313-682-4699; Dearborn: drlukasik@sbcglobal.net

Blue Water Pregnancy Care Center: Her Choice to Heal Port Huron 810-985-4673

Lapeer Pregnancy & Family Care Center: P.A.C.E., Lapeer 810-667-0055

Oxford Problem Pregnancy Center: P.A.C.E., Oxford 248-969-2177

Northridge Church; P.A.C.E., Forgiven and Set Free, Plymouth 734-737-9303

The Lennon Center: P.A.C.E., Dearborn Heights 313-277-5637

Project Rachel, Detroit 1-888-RACHEL5

National Ofc. of Post-Abortion Reconciliation & Healing 1-800-5WE-CARE

From the President's Desk

My Dear Friends in Life,

Another newsletter, full of pro-life activities—I know there are times we sit back and wonder if all this work will really stop the killing of the innocent. It is my humble opinion that it WILL! It may not be in our life times, but eventually the respect for human life must and will return to our great country. If it does not, we will go the way of other great civilizations.

In a continuing effort to insure the rights of the unborn, Lifespan has joined with other pro-life organizations throughout the state of Michigan in a petition drive to put a constitutional amendment on the state ballot in November 2006. The Prenatal Child Protection Amendment to the Michigan State Constitution would extend personhood to the unborn child from the moment of conception. When we get the needed 317,000 signatures and the measure goes on the ballot, we will then be able to vote to extend personhood to the preborn child.

Will we be successful? I don't have the answer to that. What do Michigan voters really think about that little one in the womb? Are they willing to give the same rights to this segment of society, the child in the womb, as that segment of society that is already outside the womb? This is the big unknown!

When passed, we know that the Prenatal Child Protection Amendment will be challenged by the "culture of death" forces. Should this stop us from trying—NO! Some pro-life organizations and churches feel that the time is not right for this effort. When is it the *right* time? No one has a crystal ball; no one knows what events will change history. Some say it's an election year. Well, every two years is an election year. Every election is important. Some question the expense. Every fight for life will cost money.

This is a fight between the forces of good and evil—make no mistake about that. It has never been easy fighting evil—there is no such thing as perfect timing! If nothing else, we will be able to educate the public to the fact that preborn children are treated differently when it comes to human rights.

So, please join us in this latest effort to save babies' lives. Included in this newsletter is a petition form. Also, see the back page and pages 6 and 7 for more information and petition-signing instructions. *The pre-born child is not considered a person under our present Michigan Constitution.* Let's change that—and educate at the same time!



Educational Center for Life

1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite G, Troy, MI 48084-3540
Phone 248-816-8489 • Fax 248-816-9066
info@edcenterforlife.org; www.edcenterforlife.org

Educational Center for Life has the following pamphlets available: *What Happens!!! If you make Abortion Illegal???* and *Partial-birth Abortion—Killing a Baby During Delivery.*

What's Up With the Youth?

Hello Teens, Parents of Teens, College Students, Youth Group Ministers and Coordinators, Jr. High and High School Teachers, Pro-Life Youth Groups and Adult Volunteers for Youth Activities!

I am happy to share with you more comments about the *Movement in Motion* Bus Trip to Washington, D.C.:

"It really made me feel like I could make a difference and change the issue of abortion. It strengthened my faith and my relationship with God. I also loved meeting all the new people and bonding with them on the bus ride there and back."
—*Cara MacLean, Marian High School*

"I liked meeting new people and reflecting on LIFE. Thank you for another great experience."

—*Michael Bessessen, senior at Catholic Central High School*

"I really enjoyed both of the Masses (referring to the Vigil Mass at the Basilica on Sunday night and the Youth Rally / Mass at the MCI Center on Monday morning before the March). I really appreciate all the work put into the trip and the affirmation that you give. It can be very difficult to be a teen with a focus beyond the present in a secular world, and the role models I have met in the past three years on this trip have given me great encouragement to keep fighting the good fight."
—*Katie Renfer, senior at Mercy High School*

"What I liked about the trip was the enthusiasm put forth into it. Everybody seemed so excited to be there. I also liked meeting a lot of new people on the trip. I'm planning on bringing a lot of my friends next year. It was a lot of fun!"

—*Karl Romkema, Our Lady of the Lakes High School*

For my first time, it was amazing and (I) consider it a life-changing experience. I would definitely recommend coming to everyone."
—*Alex Pepper, Riley Middle School*

Plans for January 2007 have been arranged. Buses will leave on Saturday, January 20, from the Lifespan office in Troy and Madonna University in Livonia. The buses will return early Tuesday, January 23. Call 248-816-1546 or e-mail oakmac@rtl-lifespan.org for more information.

Here are some exciting upcoming activities:

4th Annual National Pro-Life T-Shirt Day, April 25

The Oakland / Macomb office has t-shirts available that say "DON'T FORCE YOUR BELIEFS ON ME!"—unborn baby. Shirts are white with blue and red lettering and an unborn baby faded in the background. Sizes are small, medium, large and x-large. The cost is \$8.50, including postage. Call 248-816-1546 with name, phone number, address, size and quantity. Order while supplies last!

Annual Summer Fairs—Each year, our Educational Booths give a pro-life presence at the fairs. If you would be interested in working a 3-4 hour shift, please call! Oakland County 4-H Fair: July 25-30; Michigan State Fair: August 23-September 4; Troy Daze Festival: September 14-17.

3rd Annual Pro-Life Teen Jeopardy Games—Saturday, August 26th, at the Auburn Hills Christian Center. It is a fun, exciting, competitive and educational event for young people, ages 12-18 years old. Please call 248-816-1546!

Your friend FOR LIFE,
Lynn Gura, Youth Projects Coordinator

Donations have been made—

In loving memory of:

Barbara Satwicz

Given by: Mary Ellen Servitto
George and Mary Cascos
Jean Martell
Jerry and Diane Fagelman

Charles McIntyre

Given by: Blue Cross Blue Shield Employer
Primo and Marie Roncelli

Baby Matthew Fary

Given by: Richard and Maryann Dixon

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...

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 will be used to save the lives of many through our efforts. Send donations to your local Lifespan office.

Help the F.R.O.G. team (faithfully relying on God)

Over 47 million babies have been killed because of abortion. This really needs to stop. We are a group of girls who want to do our part to help stop this cruel act. The main problem is that no one can possibly conceive of 47 million of something—the eye has never seen that much of anything—it is way too much for our brains to calculate! So, even though it is a hard task, our group is trying to collect 47 million of something. You guessed it! Beads! We beg of you to send us as many beads as possible, of any shape, size or color. Tell everyone you know about this. We hope to have the beads displayed at a local church, but we can't unless we get your help in collecting them. For more information, call 313-561-4813. Send beads to F.R.O.G. Team, 4678 Merrick, Dearborn Heights 48125 or drop off at St. Gerald Church, 21300 Farmington Rd., Farmington. Thanks so much and God bless you!

The Prayer of Pro-Lifers

O God, the Father and Creator of human life, help us never to become discouraged in defending the full breadth of that most precious gift, from the miracle of fertilization to the spiritual serenity of a natural death. Inspire us to remember that without you we are powerless, and that what we do for the least, especially the helpless unborn dearest to you, we are actually doing for your Son, who lives and works in and through us. Protect us against the wiles and wickedness of the devil, "a murderer and a liar from the beginning." May the Holy Spirit enlighten us along our daily way! Amen.



—Rev. Paul B. Marx, OSB
(Pope John Paul II to Rev. Paul Marx: "You are doing the most important work on earth.")

Crisis hotline numbers

If you, or someone you know, is experiencing a crisis pregnancy, help is available. Call your Lifespan office, pp. 8-9. Bethany Christian Services also has a 24-hour hotline number 800-BETHANY. Sheltering homes are available to women in crisis pregnancies, call Abigayle Ministries 586-326-0459. For post-abortion counseling, call Project Rachel 888-722-4355. For those with life-limiting illnesses, call Angela Hospice 734-464-7810; Cranbrook Hospice 248-334-6700, or Hospice of Michigan 888-HOM-5656. Project Life, Archdiocese of Detroit, offers pastoral guidance to persons considering abortion or assisted suicide; for this counseling assistance, call 800-281-2102.

Lifespan News

April/May, 2006; Vol. 35, No. 3
Published eight times a year
President & Editor - Diane Fagelman
Layout/Design - Marge Bradley



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Right to Life - LIFESPAN is a non-profit organization, and is funded entirely by membership dues, private donations and fundraisers. Donations are not tax-deductible.

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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 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 \$ 20.00 _____ *Angel in the Waters* Special Membership
_____ Student/Senior Member \$ 10.00 \$40 or more; (call a Lifespan office for details)

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Please complete this form and return with your donation to: **Right to Life - LIFESPAN, 29200 Vassar, Suite 545, Livonia, MI 48152-2193.** For more information, call 248-478-8878. Sorry, donations are not tax-deductible.

PRENATAL CHILD PROTECTION PETITION



Right to Life – LIFESPAN has joined with other pro-life organizations and individuals throughout the state of Michigan in a petition drive to put a constitutional amendment on the state ballot in November, 2006. The proposed Prenatal Child Protection Amendment would provide that a person exists at the moment of conception for the purposes of statutes and the constitutional rights to due process and equal protection of the laws.

A minimum of 317,000 signatures by registered voters throughout the state are needed by early July to place the amendment on the November, 2006 ballot.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

You can help by signing the petition. Think of it this way—each person who signs the petition is speaking for an unborn baby whose life may be ended by the tragedy of abortion. Imagine 317,000 unborn babies crying out—asking for the opportunity to be born. Since their voices can't be heard, we must speak for them.

HELP NEEDED TO COLLECT SIGNATURES

We need people who are willing to help collect signatures. Petition forms will be supplied along with signing instructions and information about whom to ask to sign the petition and what to say to them. Churches are one of the prime locations to gather signatures. If you are able to have a table in a church gathering room or vestibule, you can be a major contributor to the signature collecting process.

For more information, or to find out where you can sign a petition or pick up blank petition forms in the following counties, call one of the Right to Life – LIFESPAN Chapters.

Oakland/Macomb Counties	248-816-1546
Wayne County West/Downriver	734-422-6230
Detroit/Wayne County East	313-640-8534
Livingston County	810-220-5433

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Right to Life - LIFESPAN
Oakland/Macomb Chapter
Coventry Place
1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite G
Troy, MI 48084-3540



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