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# Lifesparwa

Volume 28 Number 5

Serving Southeastern Michigan Since 1970

July/August 1999

# Every fourth baby dies from Choice.



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he name of the hospital doesn't really matter. Neither does the geographic location. It was here, in the United States, the place where Mr. Clinton says abortion should be legal, safe and rare. We know it is legal, we know it is not rare, and for Baby Hope, it certainly wasn't safe.

A woman, claiming to be 22-weeks pregnant, had undergone the first stage of a partial-birth abortion. Experiencing severe abdominal pain, she went to her local emergency room where she gave birth while being examined.

Shelly Lowe, a medical technician, was handed a specimen dish containing the newly born infant and told to take it to the lab. When she looked into the dish and saw the perfectly formed, breathing little girl, she replied that she didn't think she could take it to the lab.

With the help of nurse Connie Bowles, Lowe took the infant to the resuscitation unit to be weighed, measured and assessed. Baby Hope was judged to be too premature to live. But she was breathing. She would not have her young life sustained. But she was breathing. Lowe and Bowles could not simply throw Baby Hope into the trash can. SHE WAS BREATHING. Receiving permission from her superiors, Lowe held Baby Hope. She rocked her and sang to her for the three hours Baby Hope continued to breathe, without mechanical assistance.

Discussing the case later with co-workers, nurse Bowles was amazed by their lack of knowledge about partial-birth abortion. She contacted a friend in the pro-life movement and asked for literature on partial-birth abortion to share with her co-workers. That is when the story became public.

In spite of earlier assurances from hospital administrators about "openness and freedom," each woman was shunned by hospital doctors and nurses. Bowles was accused of compromising patient confidentiality though she never saw the mother of Baby Hope, did not know her name, race, age or any other identifying information.

Bowles and Lowe believe that the emergency room doctor knew Baby Hope to be more than 22 weeks old. The older the gestational age, the better chance the baby has to survive. Baby Hope was not offered any life sustaining treatment because, after all, she was not supposed to live. Baby Hope complicated things by breathing when she was born. No hospital wants complications to be made public. Nurses are supposed to be advocates for their patients, even inconvenient ones. This is true unless, apparently, the patient is a child who was not supposed to breathe, but did. Nurse Bowles was certain she would be fired by her employer, so she resigned. Technician Lowe was suspended but is appealing.

Baby Hope knew warmth, tenderness, lullabies and love—until she stopped breathing.

#### **News & Notes**

#### LIFE WALK

Join the Allen Park Crisis Pregnancy Center for its third annual LIFE WALK to be held Sunday, September 19 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. LIFE WALK will begin at Champaign Park in Allen Park and will follow a walk route through the city. Walkers may choose either a one-mile route or a three-mile route.

The Crisis Pregnancy Center of Allen Park has been serving the Detroit/ Downriver communities for the last 18 years, and the need for help in aiding women and children in crisis situations continues to grow.

Refreshments and snacks will be provided. There will be face-painting and balloons for the children and a special guest speaker. Each participant will receive a gift after the walk.

Contact Elaine at (313) 386-4005 for pledge sheets or further information.

#### Hospice volunteers sought

Hospice of Michigan is looking for volunteers to help make the lives of terminally ill people more comfortable and enjoyable.

Volunteer caregivers offer friendship to people who spend many of their last days alone. "You can help make the road less difficult by your presence and support," says Hospice of Michigan spokeswoman Betty Petakovic.

Hours are flexible and assignments can be based on proximity to the volunteers' homes. Free training is available. **Call (810) 445-6855,** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

#### Ice cream social

An Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social will be held at Mill Race Historical Village in Northville on Sunday, August 8th from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. to benefit AAA Crisis Pregnancy Center of Livonia.

Everyone is welcome; bring family and friends. There is no charge for admission to the Village. Mill Race Historical Village is located in Northville on Griswold Rd., just south of Northville Rd. For further information, call (734) 425-8060.

#### Population debate

In his recent book, "Management Challenges for the 21st Century," Peter F. Drucker argues that the greatest challenge facing the corporate world is the collapsing birthrate in developed countries. Statistics he cites include the current U.S. birthrate of 1.9 children per family. We need 2.18 just to replace the current population. In addition, the 1998 U.N. Population Report predicts that the world population will begin to decline by 2050.

Jim Sedlak, director of Stop Planned Parenthood International (STOPP) states that it is only a matter of time until we won't be able to replenish our population which will result in fewer young people to support Social Security and worker shortages, particularly in newly created jobs and jobs vacated by retirees. He maintains that the population pyramid is upside down and that by the early years of the 21st century, there will be more people in the United States under 60 than over 20.

U.S. Census Bureau statistics counter Mr. Sedlak's arguments, but he maintains that it is difficult to get people's attention to the problems he foresees when the economy is so strong.

#### Entertainment 2000

Entertainment Books will be available in Lifespan offices after Labor Day. More details will be forthcoming.

#### Lifespan News

July/August 1999 Vol. 28, No. 5 Published eight times a year, irregularly President & Editor - Diane Fagelman Layout/Design - Marge Bradley Contributor - Paula Ervin

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MAIN OFFICE 28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127 Livonia, MI 48152-3736 Phone: (248) 777-9090 Fax: (248) 777-3556 http://www.ring.com/ nprofit/lifespan RTLifespan@aol.com



#### Pro-Life Essay Contest ELIGIBILITY:

Any student in grades 9-12, in public, private or home school, who resides in Wayne, Oakland or Macomb Counties, is eligible for the contest except for students in the immediate family of a board member of Right to Life - Lifespan.

#### **RULES:**

- 1. The topic of the pro-life essay entry must feature one or more aspects of abortion, infanticide or euthanasia. The essay must be titled.
- 2. The essay shall be a minimum of 500 words, a maximum of 1000 words. No poems will be accepted.
- 3. The essay should be typed, but may be legibly handwritten.
- 4. Each entry must be the student's original work and shall not have been submitted to any other publisher or in any other contest. One entry per student.
- 5. On the <u>BACK</u> only of the last page of the essay, the student must PRINT neatly his/her name, address, phone number, age and grade, name of school, plus the names of his/her parents or guardian.
- 6. Each entry becomes the property of Right to Life Lifespan, and each student who enters the contest assigns copyright for the entry to Right to Life Lifespan.
- 7. The essay shall be judged on content and style.
- 8. All entries shall be considered by impartial judges selected with experience in the content. Judges reserve the right to award no prize winner if no entry is deemed meritorious of the prize.
- 9. Decisions of the judges shall be final.
- 10. All entries must be received by noon, Wednesday, November 10, 1999, and mailed or delivered to: 1999 Student Contest, Right to Life Lifespan, 28200 Seven Mile Rd., Suite 127, Livonia, MI 48152.

#### PRIZES:

First Prize: \$500 Savings Bond Second Prize: \$200 Savings Bond Third Prize: \$100 Savings Bond

Prizes will be awarded at the 2000 Rally for Life in Detroit in January. The first-prize winner shall also be invited to read the winning essay at the Rally, and the winning entry shall be printed in *Lifespan News*. For more information, call Lifespan's Main Office (248) 777-9090.

#### Ethicist?

Dr. Peter Singer, 52-year-old Australian-born bioethicist, has been appointed to the Ira W. DeCamp Professorship of Bioethicists at Princeton University's Center for Human Values. The following is an excerpt from his book *Practical Ethics*, a book he will be assigning for his course at Princeton. This appointment has created much controversy among Princeton's Students Against Infanticide, disability groups and parents of differently-abled children.

uppose that a newborn baby is diagnosed as a hemophiliac. The parents, daunted by the prospect of bringing up a child in this condition, are not anxious for him to live. Could euthanasia be defended here? Our first reaction may well be a firm No, for the infant can be expected to have a life worth living, even if it is not quite as good as a normal baby. The "prior existence" version of utilitarianism supports this judgment. The infant exists. His life can be expected to contain a positive balance between happiness over misery. To kill him would deprive him of this positive balance. Therefore, it would be wrong.

On the "total" version of utilitarianism, however, we cannot reach a decision on the basis of this information alone. The total view makes it necessary to ask whether the death of the hemophiliac infant would lead to the creation of another being who would not otherwise have existed. In other words, if the hemophiliac child is killed, will his parents have another child whom they would not have had if the hemophiliac child lives? If they would, is the second child likely to have a better life than the one killed?

Often it will be possible to answer both these questions affirmatively.

When the death of a disabled infant will lead to the birth of another infant with better prospects of a happy life, the total amount of happiness will be greater if the disabled infant is killed. The loss of happy life for the first infant is outweighed by the gain of a happier life for the second.

Therefore, if killing the hemophiliac infant has no adverse effects on the others, it would, according to the total view, be right to kill him. The main point is clear: killing a disabled infant is not morally equivalent to killing a person. Very often it is not wrong at all.

For more information, see this website: http://www.frontpagemag.com/archives/ academia/smith10-22-98.htm

#### Blinded by Might—Can the Religious Right Save America?

By Cal Thomas and Ed Dobson Zondervan Publishing House Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1999.

Book Review by Paula Ervin

"The Kingdom of God is about Truth. Politics is about Power. When you mix the two, Power always wins."

Those words form the thesis of this book. The two authors are Cal Thomas, politically conservative syndicated columnist, and Ed Dobson (no connection to James Dobson) who today is the Pastor of Calvary Church in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Both have protestant fundamentalist backgrounds and felt comfortable working closely with Jerry Falwell in the founding of Moral Majority (1979). They cherished the dream of renewing the face of America—away from abortion, homosexuality, drugs, pornography and divorce.

Their pastors held forth from church pulpits with criticisms of politicians, often getting carried away by their own emotions. They managed to collect millions of dollars, registered voters who had considered politics too "dirty" to enter the polls, and drew from political hopefuls bright promises of a government that would live up to its noble beginnings.

Yet twenty years later, they see children shooting each other and teachers in their schools. They see homosexuals gaining power through politics and our entire culture sinking into a raw, permissive promiscuity.

They are concluding that:

- "Abortion is not the cause of our social problems. It is a reflection of them. If the religious right wants to fix things at the top, it must attend to things at the bottom. A stable house requires a firm foundation." This means minds and hearts must be changed.
- "The Christian is a citizen of two kingdoms, earthly and eternal. He cannot merely sit by and passively watch society self-destruct."
- "We need to remember the priority of justice."
- We need to exercise caution with those with whom we differ. Thomas prefers to make friends out of his enemies.

Ed Dobson, whose parents immigrated to these shores to avoid the continuing

hatred of northern Ireland, claims that Ireland is really two countries without peace. His grandfather's grocery store in Castledawson was bombed by the Catholic IRA, and two of his cousins in Belfast were shot in cold blood while minding their parents' business. Both events were expressions of a non-personal vengeance that never ends.

He tells a moving anecdote of visiting a restaurant here with another pastor who had requested his favorite waitress, Colleen. Colleen had been born a few miles from Dobson's birthplace, so he assumed that she would be Protestant like himself. They struck up an immediate friendship, exchanging Irish jokes and sayings, until it was almost time to leave when he ventured to ask her what her faith was.

She looked him in the eye and said, "I'm Catholic and my husband was shot seventimes one night by Protestants. There were two bullets in his heart." Dobson rose from his chair; he and Colleen embraced with bitter tears, and they walked arm in arm to the door. Dobson no longer expresses oral interest in political controversies from his pulpit.

Both authors sharply disagree with James Dobson of Focus on the Family for knitting close ties with Republican politicians while evangelizing his own Christian faith. They emphasize the wisdom of looking to God for the miracles of minds and hearts while pursuing the goals of responsible citizenship.

But Kay James, Dean of the Robertson School of Government, Regent University, believes James Dobson is doing a wonderful job. In fact, this is a point of argument among the pro-life brethren that Thomas interviews in the latter part of the book when we hear such disparate viewpoints as those of Norman Lear, George McGovern, Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson.

It is somewhat typical of the pro-life movement that segments of it will criticize each other's tactics. Nor may the movement's opponents take comfort in that fact, for no matter what roads each will take, they are all headed in the same direction. And each will learn, if they have not already done so, that "The Kingdom of God is about Truth. Politics is about Power. When you mix the two, Power always wins."



# Legislative

#### **Addresses**

#### President

President Bill Clinton The White House Washington, DC 20500

Opinion Line (202) 456-1111, M-F, 9-5

Fax Number: (202) 456-2461 e-mail: President@whitehouse.gov

Dear Mr. President:

#### U.S. Senators

The Honorable (Spencer Abraham, Carl Levin) 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 John Engler P.O. Box 30013 Lansing, MI 48909 (517) 373-3400 Opinion Line: (517) 335-78

Opinion Line: (517) 335-7858 e-mail: migov@aol.com

Dear Governor Engler:

#### 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):

#### **Child Custody Protection Act**

By a lopsided, bipartisan margin of 270-159, the U.S. House of Representatives approved a bill on June 30 to make it a federal offense to transport a minor across state lines for an abortion if this circumvents the right of her parents to be involved under the law of their home state.

The bill, the Child Custody Protection Act (HR 1218), is opposed by the Clinton-Gore Administration. "The Clinton-Gore Administration has implicitly threatened a veto unless the bill is radically changed to allow various non-parents to transport a minor girl out-of-state for a secret abortion-including any parent's in-law, or any sibling of a pregnant girl. Fortunately, the House refused to undermine parental rights in that fashion. After all, if the minor girl is injured by the abortion, it is the parents who must authorize and pay for necessary medical treatment-not a brother, sister, or in-law," stated Susan Musket, policy analyst for the National Right to Life Committee.

Senator Spencer Abraham reintroduced the bill on March 18 as Senate Bill 661. It is now before the Senate.

See Action Alert box on page 10.

#### **Pain Relief Promotion Act**

In order to avert the gravely impending threat of legalized euthanasia, Senator Don Nickles and Representatives Henry Hyde and Bart Stupak introduced the Pain Relief Promotion Act on June 17.

"The Pain Relief Promotion Act fosters pain relief and palliative care, essential positive alternatives to euthanasia. It also ensures that narcotics and other dangerous drugs controlled by the federal government are not used to kill patients," said Burke Balch, director of National Right to Life Committee's Department of Medical Ethics.

Physicians for Compassionate Care, a leader in education concerning advanced pain management and palliative care, will lend its support to the bi-partisan Pain Relief Promotion Act and indicates that the Act protects both physicians and patients by:

- Reaffirming the physician's ability to aggressively manage pain (especially among the seriously ill) while rejecting the deliberate use of controlled substances to kill patients.
- Funding education of doctors and health professionals concerning state of the art practices on relieving pain and other palliative care.
- Providing research grants and establishing new programs for palliative care with a focus on treatment of pain in the seriously ill.
- Educating local, state and federal law officers to better accommodate the legitimate use of controlled substances for pain relief.
- Clarifying existing law to retain a uniform national standard over controlled substances. In those states which do not legalize assisted suicide, the application of the Controlled Substances Act remains unchanged.

The Pain Relief Promotion Act will reassure doctors, nurses and hospice workers that they can provide patients with state of the art palliative care. It will comfort seriously ill patients and those in chronic pain, and it will protect doctors who prescribe drugs for the legitimate medical purpose of relieving pain.

#### 1999 Legislative Breakfast Saturday, November 13 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. Burton Manor, Livonia

\$15 per person (\$7.50 students, 21 or younger) Remittance must accompany reservations. Make your check payable, and mail to:

Right to Life - Lifespan 28200 Seven Mile Rd., Suite 127 Livonia, MI 48152

Call (734) 422-6230 or (248) 777-9090.

# **Update**



#### Michigan Partial-Birth Abortion Ban

On June 2, 1999, House Bill 4656, was voted favorably out of the State House Criminal Law and Corrections Committee by a vote of 8-2.

Passed in the House 70-32, it is now before Governor Engler for his signature.

The following is the testimony of Lifespan's Legislative Liaison, James McLaughlin, before Committee on June 1.

Thank you, Madam Chairwoman, and the members of the Committee. My name is James McLaughlin, and I am the Legislative Liaison for Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit. Our non-profit organization supports the Infant Protection Act, Senate Bill 546.

Michigan has a compelling interest in protecting the lives of its children who are the most vulnerable in this society. At this time in Michigan and in America, a live infant is at risk for its life.

The unborn child in the second and third trimester, four to eight months, is in mortal danger. Guided by ultrasound and with forceps, the abortionist positions the baby feet first. The baby's leg is then pulled out into the birth canal. The baby's entire body is delivered except for the head. The skull contents are then evacuated, decompressing the head and allowing it to pass through the cervix.

It is said that these late-term procedures are done if the mother's life is threatened or the baby is severely deformed. Dr. Warren Hern, a specialist in late-term abortions, said, "I would dispute any statement that this is the safest procedure to use." He added, "You have to be concerned about amniotic fluid embolism or placental abruption, turning the fetus to the breech position is potentially dangerous." (American Medical News, November 20, 1995).

Former Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, M.D. and Fetal Maternal Specialist said, "With all that modern medicine has to offer, partial-birth abortions are not needed to save the life of the mother, and the procedures impact on a woman's cervix can put future pregnancies at risk (New York Times, September 26, 1996).

Pamela Smith, M.D., is the director of Medical Education, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Mt. Sinai Hospital in Chicago. She states that "there are absolutely no obstetrical situations encountered in this country which require a potentially delivered human fetus to be destroyed to preserve the health of the mother. This procedure is risky to the mother."

The American Medical Association (AMA) says that partial-birth abortion is usually not needed to ensure the health of the mother. The AMA has reported that maternal health factors, which demand termination of a pregnancy can usually be accommodated without the sacrifice of the unborn child. The AMA says that the only exceptions are extraordinary circumstances. Otherwise, the AMA says it is generally not necessary to perform these abortions to preserve the life or health of the mother.

The procedure inevitably wreaks emotional turmoil on the physicians and staff. "There is no possibility of denial of an act of destruction by the operator...The sensations of dismemberment flow through the forceps like an electrical current." (An abortionist quoted in "Meeting of American Association of Planned Parenthood Physician," *OB/GYN News*, p. 196).

It is estimated that 30,000 abortions were performed in Michigan last year. Health officials say few, if any, were partial-birth procedures. But Dr. Ron Fitzsimmons, Executive Director of the National Coalition of Abortion Providers

said partial-birth abortion is performed 3,000 to 5,000 times a year, most often on healthy mothers and healthy babies. (Los Angeles Times, March 4, 1997).

Interviews with physicians who use the method reveal that in New Jersey alone, at least 1,500 partial-birth abortions are performed each year. Moreover, doctors say only a 'miniscule amount' are for medical reasons" (*The Bergen Record*, September 26, 1996).

We need to end this gruesome and unnecessary procedure. Life is too precious to be taken at any time, and that includes the time of birth. I ask the Committee to support Senate Bill 546. Thank you.

#### **Informed Consent**

A 1993 law requiring women to wait 24 hours before obtaining an abortion in Michigan will take effect this year in mid-September. The law had been challenged by abortion clinic operators and others who sued the state after the law was passed.

Under the terms of the lawsuit settlement, abortion clinics will be required to furnish women with state-issued information at least 24 hours before an abortion so the women can make an informed decision as to whether or not to have the procedure. Doctors can waive the 24-hour period if the delay will threaten the life or health of the pregnant woman.

Doctors who do not wait can be charged with a misdemeanor, punishable by 90 days in jail, and possible loss of license.

#### "Wrongful birth"

Parents who might have aborted a deformed fetus can't sue for "wrongful birth" if hospitals fail to let them know about the fetus's condition, the Michigan state Court of Appeals ruled recently in a case involving a girl born in 1994 with severe deformities.

# detroil

# oakland/macomb



# Chapter

#### Office hours

MW 10-2; TThF Closed Mary Cascos, Ofc. Mgr.

#### State Fair

Lifespan will again be at the Michigan State Fair and will need volunteers to work the booth. Your admission to the Fair is FREE, and if you are a new volunteer, you will be placed with an experienced "veteran."

We will need two volunteers for each four-hour shift. Shifts begin at 9:45 a.m. and run until 10:00 p.m. The Detroit office is responsible for filling Monday, August 30 and Tuesday, August 31. This means that we are in need of twelve volunteers.

Shift times are 9:45 - 2:00 p.m., 2:00 - 6:00 p.m. and 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Call early to get your desired shift. Besides having a great time exploring the Fair before or after your shift, you will also feel good about helping us spread the pro-life message to the thousands who walk by our booth. Call Mary at (313) 874-0432 today.

#### Membership renewal

Please help us cut costs by renewing your membership early. We send a second notice about two months after the initial renewal notice. If you know of anyone who would be interested in receiving our monthly *Lifespan News*, give us a call at (313) 874-0432.

Our *Lifespan News* is a great way to keep up with all LIFE issues. As we all know, our local newspapers are very biased against pro-life concerns.

#### Congratulations!

We wish to extend our belated but sincere 25th wedding anniversary congratulations to George and Mary Cascos who were honored with a surprise party on May 23. The wedding date was May 18, 1974.

May you have many, many more years of happiness together. We also want to thank you for your dedication and devotion to the unborn through your work with Right to Life - Lifespan. Thank you, George and Mary, and to all your lovely family!—Betty Queen

Detroit Office 5930 Woodward Ave. Detroit, MI 48202-3516 (313) 874-0432 Fax (same as phone)

#### Office hours

M-F 9-2:45 Diane Fagelman, Director Diane Trombley, Ofc. Mgr. Mary Small, Adm. Assistant

#### Introducing Irene

Actually, Irene Tharp really needs no introduction to Lifespan members. She has been a member of Lifespan since 1974 and the treasurer and board member of the Oakland/Macomb Chapter for at least the last ten years. She and her husband live in Royal Oak with their three children.

As you have read elsewhere in this issue of *Lifespan News*, Diane Fagelman has assumed the duties of president of Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit, Inc., which left a vacancy in the position of director of the Oakland/Macomb Chapter. At our last board meeting, Irene was elected as our

new director. We are so pleased that she accepted. These are exciting times in our organization. We wish Godspeed to Ann Sands and offer her our heartfelt thanks for her years of dedication to Lifespan and to our efforts; we offer a fond farewell to Diane Fagelman as she assumes her new duties; we offer a warm hello to Irene Tharp as she leads our Oakland/Macomb Chapter.

#### **Pens for Pops**

On Father's Day this year, Oakland/ Macomb offered ballpoint pens with the message, "My Dad Loves Me" on them instead of candy bars to our dads. The response was mixed—some folks (the ones with the sweet tooth) wondered where the candy was, others reported the pens to be a wonderful idea. We have some pens left, so if the special "Pop" in your life missed out, call the office, and we can send you some.

#### Fairs, festivals and fun

It's that time of year again. We will be needing folks to help staff our display

booths at the Davisburg 4-H Fair, the State Fair and Troy Daze. Those who have done it in the past can attest to the fact that this is a really fun way to support Lifespan and the babies and their moms. We always pair a "veteran" with a "rookie" so you can feel very comfortable at the tables. Please give us a call at the office and volunteer.

#### LIFE CHAIN lines

As promised, there will be a new LIFE CHAIN in Macomb County this year. On the first Sunday of October, we will have a chain on Gratiot, from Thirteen to Sixteen Mile Roads. So, all of you on the east side of Macomb County, may plan to spend the afternoon of October 3rd helping to make the first ever Macomb County LIFE CHAIN a great success!

Oakland/Macomb Chapter Coventry Place 1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite G Troy, MI 48084-3540 (248) 816-1546 Fax (248) 816-9066

# News

#### Office hours

west/downrive

M-Th 10-4; F Closed Patricia Holscher, Director Linda Kournoian, Ofc. Mgr.

#### Open House feedback

The board of directors welcomed members and guests to our Open House on Sunday, June 27, as was advertised in the June *Lifespan News*.

Those who came, between the heavy rains, were pleased with what they saw, and had many good comments: "Office looks beautiful." "The decorating (by Linda) outstanding." "So much more room." "Great . resource materials." "New tables will make the mailings more efficient." "Really looks professional." "Love the fetal model display." "Call me for mailings." The staff, Pat, Linda and Laurie added, "We love it." "What a difference having room to work." "We are more productive." "We're anxious to take on new educational projects." Thank you loyal members for making this move possible. Please stop by to say, "hello" and tour "your" new office.

#### LIFE CHAIN

Great news! By popular request, the WW/DR Chapter is having their own Life Chain on Middlebelt from Jamison (two blocks south of Five Mile) to Seven Mile Rd. on Sunday, October 3rd, from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. Because this event is much closer to home, we are anticipating that more churches will be involved. It's going to take a lot of pro-lifers to cover both sides of Middlebelt. If your church is not co-sponsoring this

event and you'd like to be a part of this National Life Chain, check with your pastor. We've learned from past experience that when the pastor becomes actively involved in the Life Chain, the congregation is usually eager to join him/her. If your church has not received a registration form, call (248) 777-9090.

#### Thank you

Many thanks to Ruth Ann Wickham and Donna Kempfer for hosting the Father's Day Bake Sale at St. Thomas a'Becket. The many desserts made by parish and Lifespan members quickly disappeared. We are grateful for the \$394.25 donated to us. We appreciate Fr. Richard Kelly's endorsement of this annual event; we thank him for his generosity and support in Lifespan's educational endeavors.

#### **Bowling for Life**

Our 17th annual "Bowling for Life" is planned for Saturday, October 16th, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Woodland Lanes, 33775 Plymouth Rd., Livonia. BOWL THREE GAMES FREE and win exciting prizes with sponsored pledge forms.

Enlist family and church members to join you or come alone. No one is a stranger in a pro-life crowd.

GRAND PRIZES for the most pledged money collected: 1st prize...\$200 bond; 2nd prize...\$ 100 bond; 3rd prize...\$ 75 bond; 4th prize...\$ 50 bond; 5th prize...\$ 50 bond

ADDITIONAL PRIZES: High game scores (with handicaps) for Men, Women and Children...\$100 in each category. High series score including Men, Women and Children (with handicaps)...\$100 bond.

Youth Groups Welcome. For details regarding eligibility or pledge forms, call (734) 422-6230 or (734) 728-5856.

Wayne West/Downriver Chapter 27592 Schoolcraft Livonia, MI 48150-2203 (734) 422-6230 Fax (734) 422-8116

## From the **President's Desk**

Dear Friends,

It is an honor to again serve as your president. It has been a long time since I wrote as your president. At the request of the Right to Life - Lifespan, Inc. board and much prayer, I agreed to take on this position once again. The challenge to be pro-life has always been very time-consuming and full of uncertainty, but also full of wonderful excitement.

I have always believed and will continue to believe that God has put all of us on earth for a specific reason. I am never closer to Him then when doing His work in the Right to Life movement. I feel I have again been called and will try to work as your president to persuade and nurture others to become involved in what I believe is the most vital work of our lifetime.

People have asked me over the 28 years of my pro-life work what keeps me so active in a movement that seems to have so little measurable results; I sometimes ask myself that also—but deep inside I know it's a calling from God.

The last time Gloria Klein, founder and first president of Lifespan (at that time, we were known as "People Taking Action Against Abortion) and I were together was at an awards ceremony for Gloria, Paula Ervin and myself. She asked me what kept me going after all these years and stated she admired those of us who were so persistent and stayed so committed. This was a great compliment from Gloria. I told her that God was in charge of my life and that this was His influence. I also commented on the wonderful people He has sent to us through the years that have kept this movement alive.

continued on page 8

#### President's Letter

continued from page 7

Gloria has passed on, as have so many others, so influential in those early years. They were there when we were known as the extremist, fringe movement of the time (according to the media). They include Robert Nixon, M.D., internist, Paul Mitros, D.O., obstetrician/gynecologist, who went out in those early years and spoke for life when so many others were afraid; and let us not forget our first attorney, Pat Barkey, who incorporated our group and fought for us to be given the 501.c4 status to which we were entitled.

So it seems we have come full circle, and I am back as your president. You have had a wonderful, efficient, caring president in Ann Sands for over nine years. I will never be able to fill her shoes, but I hope to be able to carry on the many wonderful activities she started—LIFE CHAIN, Baby Showers, Student Essay Contest, Mother of the Year Award, Mother's Day Dinner, Legislative Breakfast, Wee Care—THANK YOU, ANN, FOR YOUR DEDICATION AND LEADERSHIP.

I would also like to take time to thank the wonderful people I have worked with in the Oakland/Macomb Chapter. As your director, it has been a pleasure serving over these past years. There are so many volunteers in this movement—I could not name all of you.

I would be remiss in not naming those who served with me as a board member or office staff; forgive me if I forget a name, contact me if I do and I'll right that wrong. Your volunteer time, courage and persistence will not be forgotten.

I first want to thank those who have been with me from the beginning—1970—they are original Lifespan board members who are still working in leadership roles in Oakland/Macomb—Margaret Joyce, Phyllis Sullivan and Diane Trombley; they are not only my co-workers, but also my friends.

Some of the other wonderful people who are serving on the Oakland/

Macomb Board and have kept this chapter alive and vibrant—Irene Tharp, who is now the new Oakland/Macomb director, Pat Barrett, Katie Barron, Kim DeSalle, Cinda Holloway, Doug Ritter, Mary Small, Judy Ward—you have made my life so much easier—thanks!!

For those who worked with me as past board members and key office staff—my sincere gratitude—Mary Ehlen, Sue Hopkins, Theresa Koehler Dick Lomas, Mary Murphy, Tom and Sharon O'Neill, Ginny Czarnecki, Clare Schneider.

During my tenure as your president, I hope to serve you, to help continue your education and strengthen your beliefs. I call upon all pro-lifers—we must work together to promote and enhance human life values in our southeastern Michigan area.

It has always been the goal of prolife groups to work toward a Human Life Amendment to the Constitution. This, I have come to realize, will never come to fruition until we change the hearts and minds of our fellow citizens.

This is our goal—going into the second millennium—to change hearts and minds. As you know, Lifespan was formed as a non-sectarian, non-denominational organization so that all people would feel welcomed, believers and non-believers, churched and non-churched.

Personally, I will begin this mission with a prayer for courage. All of us need to have the courage to get involved in whatever way is comfortable. Talk over the back fence with your neighbor about legislation, tell your family what we do and invite them to join us. Write letters to your legislators; fax or e-mail them—your opinions are important.

### YOU ARE THE PRO-LIFE MOVEMENT! THANKS FOR BEING THERE!

Yours in Life,

Dione

#### Christians and Jews for Life

By Paula Ervin

have long admired the Jewish people—their tough, no-holds-barred approach, their zeal for excellence, their humor. Oh yes, their humor. Hitler hated them with a diabolical envy and some of that envy steals even into normal people. But wherever they live—however minor their minority—they rise to the top like cream in a milk bottle before homogenization.

I have longed for their company in the Life movement and suffered bewildering wonder that I did not see them there.

Now I see them coming. We reported their meager beginning in these pages (*Lifespan News*, April/May 1999) in the article headed "Jews Choosing Life" when we told of a meeting November 12, 1998 at Catholic University of America in which 100 rabbis met with pro-life activists for the purpose of passing the partial-birth abortion ban and affirming the sanctity of human life.

That meeting has developed into an organization called "Christians and Jews for Life." Nine Jewish senators have voted against the partial-birth abortion ban and 30 Jewish congressmen have also opposed it. It needs only two more senate votes to override the President's veto which he has cast twice. The House has already overridden his vetoes. This new political action committee plans to target these individuals and to raise funds for candidates for federal office.

A recent letter states, "CJFL will also work to educate the Jewish community about traditional Jewish teaching on abortion, placing full-page ads in Jewish papers throughout the nation." Twenty-three names on its advisory committee include ten rabbis, three leaders of the National Right to Life Committee, Rev. Richard Neuhaus, editor of First Things, Rev. Peter West of Priests for Life, David Neff of Christianity Today magazine plus many others. The leaders of this new PAC are Chris Gersten, President, and Rabbi Moses Abraham Birnbaum. Senator Rick Santorum is the Senate leader who is spearheading the current fundraiser.

If you wish to become involved, you may write to Christians and Jews for Life at P. O. Box 249, Purcelville, Virginia 20134-0249; fax (540) 668-6757.

#### Co-Sponsored By:

Another Way Pregnancy Center Farmington

Assumption Grotto Catholic Detroit

Auburn Hills Christian Center

Bethel Baptist, Roseville

Christian Trinity Assembly of God, Eastpointe

Community Bible, Waterford

Cornerstone Baptist, Roseville

Cornerstone Family Worship Center, Livonia

Covenant Community, Redford

Crisis Pregnancy Information Center, Berkley

Cross of Christ Lutheran Bloomfield Hills

Divine Child Catholic, Dearborn

Educational Center for Life, Troy

Faith Bible Presbyterian, Trenton

First Baptist of Pontiac

Fisherman's Net, Utica

Garden City Christian Center

Gilead Baptist, Allen Park

Guardian Angels Catholic, Detroit

Holy Cross Lutheran, Warren Christian Women's Club

Holy Family Catholic, Novi

Hope Lutheran, Warren

Inkster Catholic Community

Lake Pointe Bible Chapel Plymouth

Madonna University, Livonia

Marian High School L.I.F.E. Club, Bloomfield Hills

Marimont Community, Pontiac

Metro Detroit Christian Home Educators, Detroit

Mother and Unborn Baby Care Detroit

Mother and Unborn Baby Care Lathrup Village

Mt. Vernon Baptist, Redford

National Shrine of the Little Flower Catholic, Royal Oak

New Life Community, Westland

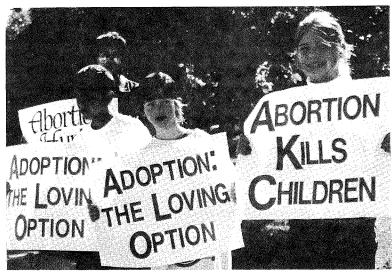


# 10th Annual LIFE CHAIN

#### of Metro Detroit National Life Chain Sunday

October 3, 1999 - 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

Woodward, from 10 to 12 Mile Rds.
Gratiot, from 13 to 16 Mile Rds.
Gratiot, at 6 Mile Rd.
Middlebelt, from Jamison
(2 blks. so. of 5 Mile Rd.) to 7 Mile Rd.



North Pointe Baptist, Warren

Northville Christian Assembly

Northwest Fellowship, Detroit

Oakland Woods Baptist, Clarkston

Our Lady of Good Council Catholic Plymouth

Our Lady of Grace Catholic Dearborn Hts.

Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Waterford

Thousands of participants will stand on the sidewalks in witness to their commitment to love and protect the unborn and their mothers. LIFE CHAIN challenges the community to be aware and to care. The signs will deliver the messages that Abortion Kills Children, Adoption is the Loving Option, Abortion Hurts Women and Jesus Heals and Forgives. This is what is known as a LIFE CHAIN. This peaceful, prayerful event will provide a visual statement of unity by the metro Detroit church community. Our tenth annual LIFE CHAIN is scheduled in conjunction with National Life Chain Sunday. Will you invest one afternoon to help save a lifetime? Call (248) 777-9090 for details.

Our Lady of Loretto Catholic Redford

Our Lady of Refuge Catholic Orchard Lake

Our Lady of Victory Catholic Northville

Peace Lutheran, Waterford

Right to Life - Central Macomb

Right to Life - Southeast Macomb

Right to Life - Warren/Center Line

St. Anselm Catholic, Dearborn

St. Athanasius Catholic, Roseville

St. Barnabas Catholic, Eastpointe

St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Eastpointe

St. Claude Catholic, Clinton Twp.

St. Edmund Catholic, Warren

St. Fabian Catholic, Farmington Hills

St. Hugo of the Hills Catholic Bloomfield Hills

St. John Bosco Catholic, Redford

St. John Lutheran, Rochester

St. John Romanian Byzantine Catholic, Detroit

St. Joseph Catholic, Lake Orion

St. Justin Catholic, Hazel Park

St. Lawrence Catholic, Utica

St. Matthew Lutheran, Walled Lake

St. Maurice Catholic, Livonia

St. Mel Catholic, Dearborn Hts.

St. Perpetua Catholic, Waterford

St. Ronald Catholic, Clinton Twp.

St. Sabina Catholic, Dearborn Hts.

St. Stephen Lutheran, Waterford

St. Stephen-Mary, Mother of the

Church (Catholic), Detroit St. Therese of Lisieux Catholic

Shelby Twp.
St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic

South Redford Church of Christ

Southpoint Community Christian Woodhaven

Temple Baptist, Plymouth

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Northville





#### **Abortion-Breast Cancer Link**

The Wisconsin Law Review has published a groundbreaking article assessing the legal liability of abortionists who fail to inform women of the abortion-breast cancer (ABC) link ("The Fit Between the Elements for an Informed Consent Cause of Action and the Scientific Evidence Linking Induced Abortion with Increased Breast Cancer Risk," Wisconsin Law Review, Volume 1998, No. 6).

The article, written by third-year University of Wisconsin-Madison law student John Kindley, clearly summarizes the scientific evidence supporting an association between induced abortion and a higher risk of breast cancer. It discusses the prevailing standards of informed consent and the "materiality" of the ABC risk, determining, "[T]he ABC link is likely to be significant in the decision-making process of a reasonable patient, and therefore must be disclosed."

The article shows how the scientific evidence for the ABC link survives the legal tests for admissibility of expert testimony. It goes on to analyze whether a post-abortive woman with breast cancer could legally show that the abortionist's failure to inform her of the ABC link was a deciding factor in her abortion decision. It also considers whether abortion could be legally shown to be a causal component of her disease.

The article concludes:

[A]ll elements for an informed consent civil action can be satisfied for many plaintiffs whose breast cancer risk was increased by an induced abortion without their knowledge or consent...[T]here is no doubt that abortion providers have a duty to inform women considering the procedure about this significant health risk before an abortion is performed. Moreover, public health officials must take active measures to inform the public at large about the ABC link...Women have been led to believe that abortion is a safety net, when in fact its safety is in serious doubt.

> —Americans United for Life Spring, 1999

#### Crisis hotline numbers

If you or someone you know is experiencing a crisis pregnancy, help is available. Call your Lifespan office listed on pages 6 or 7. Bethany Christian Services also has a 24-hour hotline number 1-800-BETHANY.

For people with life-limiting illnesses, call Angela Hospice (734) 464-7810 or Cranbrook Hospice (248) 334-6700.

Project Life, Archdiocese of Detroit, also offers pastoral guidance to persons considering abortion or assisted suicide. If a relative, friend or even yourself are in need of this counseling assistance, do not hesitate to call **1-800-281-2102**.

#### **Prayer for LIFE**

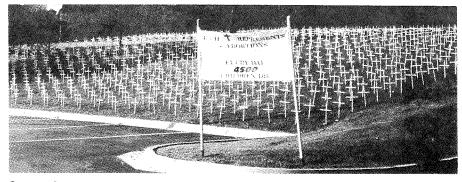
Creator of all, accept this prayer we offer for those who provide or support abortions. Please touch them with your amazing grace which has the power to save and transform lives. Help them to see the truth of their actions and then, having seen the horror of their deeds, help them to seek your forgiveness and mercy. Amen.

#### ACTION ALERT

"All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing." —Edmund Burke

- 1. Write to Senator Spencer Abraham. Thank him for his pro-life leadership in reintroducing the Child Custody Protection Act, Senate Bill 661 (see page 4).
- 2. Write to Senator Carl Levin. Request that he support Senate Bill 661 (see page 4).
- Ask a family member or friend to become a Lifespan member (see page 11).
- 4. Mark your calendar for LIFE CHAIN (see page 9).

(For names and addresses of your elected legislators, call one of our offices.)



#### Counting crosses

There is no doubt that 2000 white crosses on the grounds of your church gets attention. It is not an easy project to undertake and requires several people and some "muscle" to accomplish. However, the visual impact of the finished project literally takes your breath away.

This display puts into visual reality the sometimes dry and dusty numbers of the tragedy of abortion. The crosses make it almost impossible to ignore the terrible loss of human life and the amount of human suffering caused by abortion.

Any faith community in the Lifespan area can schedule the crosses for two successive weekends. Call the Oakland/Macomb office at (248) 816-1546 for details.

#### Donations have been made In loving memory of:

#### Betty Zimmerman

Given by: Oakland/Macomb Board

#### **Ed Roberts**

Given by: Barbara Roberts & Family Helen Kleinbrook

#### Mary Bell

Given by: Shirley & Norbert Veit Wayne West/Downriver Board & Friends

#### **Herbert Gross**

Given by: Wayne West/Downriver Board
Maryanne J. Senkowski
The Hesch Family
Don & Alice Paisley
Jack & Toni Little
Bert & Bernie Sunderman & Family

#### **Claire Doiron**

Given by: Beverly Reading

#### In Celebration of Life:

Given by: Mrs. Lynne Boron

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

#### Bill Knapp's coupons

Our participation in the Bill Knapp Community Support coupon project continues. We are in the process of redeeming coupons for a computer scanner for the Oakland/Macomb chapter and a TV/VCR for use at the State Fair.

A big "Thank You" to the following donors of coupons in the past few months: Truchan, Kleinbrook, Neam, Condon-Duncanson, Angelides, Burke, Squire, Condon, Bettega, Martinuzzi, Dell Eva. Sporka, Gura, St. Richard Church's 50-Plus Club, St. Raphael Parish, St. Roch Church, Wilhelm, Flewelling, Altena, Bergmooser, Guardian Angels Church, Konti, Grougan, Reuter, Gibbons, Frv. Nizol, Freda, Lemming, Heimiller, McLaughlin, St. Linus Seniors, St. Michael Church (Livonia), Kruse, Durkee, Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church, Garden City Christian Center, DeSousa, Phillips, Schmid, Babik, Albert, Lutz, Sebastiani, Savoie, Little Sisters of the Poor, Sterbenz, Smith, Barylski, Roy, Kell, St. Scholastica Church, Lenz, Ervin, Sobieck, Morris, Schwalm, Widman, Church, AAA Crisis Pregnancy Center, Pender, Hall, Miller, Moran, Doyle, Our Lady of Grace Church, Selwa, McDermott, Persha, Pepper, Schweiger, Mullins, Cousino, Donohoe, Queen, Lohrengel, St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Ellsworth, Bleecker, McDermott, Schultz, Sudek, Gorny, Gill, McDonald, Sabo, Heier, Bradley, Konopka, Pernak, Rytel, Sweeney, Hessling, Bowker, Trombley, Brincheck, MacDonald and other anonymous donors.

Please save these coupons for our next project. When you present your check to the cashier at any Bill Knapp's Restaurant, ask for a Community Support Coupon. (A few Knapp's Restaurants, use the customer's receipt as the "coupon.") Send the coupons/receipts to Right to Life Lifespan, 28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127, Livonia 48152. Every coupon point helps!





And just as all her friends at Lifespan will miss her, she will be sorely missed by our Wee Care Program.

Wee Care was one of her "babies." She was the driving force behind the inception of the program, always supporting us 100%, and never being able to turn away from helping any tiny baby.

She took an idea that on paper shouldn't work and turned it into a program that has helped thousands of babies over the years.

She took the phrase "Lifespan cares about the mother and her baby, both born and unborn" and made it a reality.

We wish her a future filled with all the smiles, all the hugs, all the joy and all the happiness that our new mothers feel when they come to Wee Care. God bless you, Ann!

—Karen Patrosso, Director Wee Care (248) 777-A Program of Right to Life - Lifespan

P. S. There is a special lady who makes adorable blankets for our babies. If anyone has new material—1-1/2 yds. cotton or flannel that you would like to donate—she would be happy to turn it into a blanket to keep a little one warm this winter.

#### **Calendar of Events**

Aug. 3-8	Davisburg 4-H Fair
	State Fair
	Troy Daze
Oct. 3	LIFE CHAIN, p. 9
Oct. 161	Bowling for Life, p. 7
Nov. 13 Legis	slative Breakfast, p. 4

Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit Membership Form  Right to Life - Lifespan believes that human life has value in all stages of development from conception until natural death, and is committed to speaking on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves — the unborn, the aged, the incapacitated. Won't you please help in our struggle to preserve respect for human life? A contribution brings you the monthly newsletter as well as educational materials and special mailings.										
	Annual Mem Student/Seni		\$ 20.00 \$ 7.00	_	Mon Othe	thly pledge r		\$ \$		
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Address	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		<u> </u>	Cit			-	Zip		
Please deta	ach at the dotted l	ne and return to	: Right to L Donatio	ife - Lifes ns are not	pan, 2820 tax-deduc	0 Seven Mil ctible,	le Rd., #1	27, Livoni	a, MI 48152	3736.

#### When will media stop aborting our knowledge?

By Thomas Sowell

certain professor who teaches students who aspire to become speech pathologists begins by showing them the development of the various organs involved in speech. When he shows his class an ultrasound picture of the development of the palate in an unborn baby, it is not uncommon for one or two women in his class to have tears in their eyes, or to say to him afterward that they have had an abortion and were very much affected by seeing what an unborn baby looks like.

For too long we have been led to believe an abortion is the removal of some unformed material, something like having an appendix operation. The very expression "unborn baby" has almost disappeared from the language, being replaced by the more bloodless and antiseptic term "fetus."

Many vocal advocates who declare themselves "pro-choice" do not want women to have the choice of knowing just what they are choosing before having an abortion. Ferocious opposition has stopped the showing of pictures of an abortion in process—even in schools or colleges that show movies of naked adults performing various sex acts. Still photographs of aborted fetuses have been banned as well.

The particularly grisly procedure known as "partial-birth abortion" cannot even be referred to in much of the media, where it is called a "late-term abortion"—another bloodless term and

one that shifts the focus from what happens to when it happens.

What happens in a partial-birth abortion is that a baby who has developed too far to die naturally when removed from his mother's body is deliberately killed by having his brains sucked out. When this is done, the baby is not completely out of his mother's body because, if he were, the doctor would be charged with murder. There is no medical reason for this procedure, which has been condemned by the American Medical Association. There is only a legal reason—to keep the doctor and the mother out of jail.

All this is smoothly covered over in the media by calling such actions a "late-term abortion" and refusing to specify what happens. Such patterns of determined evasions and obfuscations show that "pro-choice" in practice often really means pro-abortion. Knowledge is the first thing being aborted.

Philosophical questions about when life begins may preoccupy some people on both sides of the abortion controversy. But the raw physical facts of what happens in various kinds of abortion have turned many others, including physicians, from being proabortion to being anti-abortion.

With most other medical procedures, "informed consent" is the watchword. But when the issue is abortion, great efforts are made to keep "choice" from becoming too informed.

Politically and legally, the abortion issue is too complex for any easy resolution. We have gone through a quarter of a century of bitter contro-

versy precisely because the Supreme Court went for an easy resolution back in 1973 with the *Roe v. Wade* decision.

Before then, various states had made differing efforts to wrestle with and balance the weighty concerns on both sides of the abortion issue.

Far from settling things, *Roe v. Wade* has led to polarization and escalating strife all across the country, including bombings and assassinations. It has corrupted the media, academia and other sources that are supposed to inform us, but which have instead become partisan organs of political correctness.

However this highly charged issue is ultimately resolved—and there is no resolution on the horizon—surely honesty must be part of that resolution. Political catch-phrases like "a woman's right to do what she wants with her own body" cannot be applied to situations where a baby is killed at the very moment when he ceases to be part of his mother's body.

One of the few signs of hope for some ultimate resolution is that most people on both sides of this controversy are not happy about abortions. The women who shed tears at the very sight of an unborn baby may not be politically committed to either side of this issue, but their feelings may be part of what is needed to bring opposing sides together.

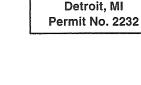
—Thomas Sowell writes for Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century, Suite 700, Los Angeles, California 90045.

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