

FREE COPY

Happy Holidays!

# Lifespan *news*

Volume 27 Number 8

Serving Southeastern Michigan Since 1970

Nov./Dec. 1998

**We did it!**  
**Thanks, Michigan,**  
**for voting**  
**NO**  
**on Proposal B**  
**and assisted suicide.**  
  
**Congratulations!**

**Inside:**

- **Abigayle**  
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Cards**  
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Memberships**  
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Beware**  
*page 10*

# NEWS & NOTES

## When aborted babies become mothers

Some scientists are attempting a new procedure in infertility treatments. They take the ovaries from an aborted baby girl and implant them into women who are sterile. When these women then have children, the child will genetically be the child of an aborted baby. Research has found that an unborn baby girl, just 12 weeks old, already has nearly all of the eggs she ever will, and the baby's ovaries would quickly mature if transplanted into an adult woman. This procedure would promote abortion more so than other types of fetal tissue research, which at times can use naturally miscarried babies, because it is felt that miscarried babies are "frequently abnormal and infected, and thus of little value for therapy or research."

—WELS Lutherans for Life, *Beginnings*  
July/August 1998

## Who's dumb?

Ted Turner, CNN's founder, favors a global one-child-per-family policy. When reminded that he has five children, Turner said, "If I was doing it over again I wouldn't have done it, but I can't shoot them now that they're here." Turner called opponents of China's one-child policy "dumb-dumbs."

—American Life League, *communiqué*  
October 2, 1998

## Fatal error

A woman who had an abortion four months into her pregnancy after lab tests indicated her child had severe abnormalities is now suing a testing company and a New York City hospital for malpractice. Following her abortion, Janet Sheikhan learned her child had been normal.

—American Life League, *communiqué*  
October 16, 1998

## Pregnancy rates fall

According to a report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, fewer teens are having abortions and teen birth rates are falling in nearly every state. According to the report which studied 42 states plus the District of Columbia, fewer teens are getting pregnant contributing to the combination of both birth rates and abortion rates dropping nationwide. However, nearly one million teenage girls still become pregnant each year, and more than 200,000 girls have abortions. The report showed that teens aged 15 to 19 had fewer pregnancies between 1992 and 1995.

Abortion rates went up in three states (Maine, Ohio and Oregon) but fell in every other state. However, states are not required to report abortion statistics and eight states including California, Illinois and Florida did not send a report. States vary dramatically in this area, ranging from 56 pregnancies for every 1,000 teenage girls to 229 per 1,000. The decreases in pregnancy were larger for black teens than white, although black teens are still more likely to get pregnant than white teens.

—WELS Lutherans for Life, *Beginnings*  
September/October 1998

## Calendar of Events

Nov. 25, 26, 27 ... Closed for Thanksgiving  
Dec. 21-Jan. 3 ..... Closed for Christmas  
Jan. 16 ..... Morning of Reflection, p. 2  
Jan. 17 ..... Rally for Life, p. 6  
Jan. 22 ..... March for Life, p. 2  
Mar. 14 ..... Baby Showers, p. 3  
May 4 ..... Mother's Day Dinner  
Oct. 3 ..... LIFE CHAIN

## 26th Annual March for Life

On Thursday, January 21, the March for Life Education and Defense Fund will hold a convention at the Hyatt-Regency Capitol Hill Hotel, Washington, D.C.

On Friday, January 22, beginning at noon, pro-lifers by the thousands, from all over the U.S., will gather for the 26th annual March for Life, with a Rally in the Ellipse, just south of the White House. The March proceeds along Constitution Avenue to the Capitol and Supreme Court. Marchers are then urged to lobby their legislators. A Rose Dinner begins at 6 p.m.

In conjunction with March for Life activities, live red roses will be delivered to each Member of Congress, the Supreme Court, the President and Vice President, along with an individualized letter to educate them about the humanity of each unborn child. If you too would like to "say it with roses," send your name, address, city, state, zip and phone, along with a tax-deductible contribution (\$3.00 per rose is suggested) to MARCH FOR LIFE, Box 90300, Washington, D.C. 20090.

For more information about the Convention, March or Rose Dinner, please call (248) 777-9090 or (202) LIFE-377.

Hotel reservations must be made directly with the Hyatt Regency by January 1, 1999. Call (202) 737-1234 and identify yourself as part of the March for Life.

## Morning of Reflection

The third annual Morning of Reflection will be held Saturday, January 16 at Sacred Heart Major Seminary. For more information, call (313) 883-8682.

## Crisis hotline numbers

If you or someone you know is experiencing a crisis pregnancy, help is available. There are 23 pregnancy help centers located throughout the metro Detroit area. For more information, you may call your Lifespan office listed on pages 6 or 7. Bethany Christian Services also has a 24-hour hotline number; please call 1-800-BETHANY.

Those suffering from post-abortion stress may wish to call Project Rachel at 1-(888) RACHEL5 or PACE (Post-Abortion Counseling and Education) at (734) 722-2839.

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

## Lifespan News

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Layout/Design - Marge Bradley  
Contributor - Paula Ervin

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

**MAIN OFFICE**  
28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127  
Livonia, MI 48152-3736

Phone: 248-777-9090  
Fax: 248-777-3556

Website: <http://www.ring.com/nprofit/lifespan>

E-mail: [RTLifespan@aol.com](mailto:RTLifespan@aol.com)



# "The Heart of Abigayle Ministries"

By Bill Gross

She was a young, single woman who found herself in a situation that is all too common in these days. She was pregnant, but had little or no emotional or practical support from either the child's father or her own family.

This young woman was in crisis. She felt alone, vulnerable and confused. What was she to do? The simple answer seemed to be—get an abortion. Why not? It was legal, so how wrong could it be? Yet, while she considered this "choice," something inside told her, no! This was not right!

Mercifully, she found her way to a crisis pregnancy center. There, she received counseling, compassion and hope. With the support she received, she was able to make a decision for life—to give birth to the child she was carrying. Through the center, she also found a home. A couple opened their home to her, and she lived with them through the remainder of her pregnancy, and for some time after the birth of her daughter, whom she named Abigayle.

This true story reveals the heart of Abigayle Ministries.

Many critics of the pro-life movement have made the accusation that pro-lifers don't care about the woman. Former Surgeon General Joslyn Elders epitomized this attitude in her famous "they have a love affair with the fetus" quote. Yes, we do care about the precious little one still in the womb. But we realize that we cannot reach out to those innocent ones without reaching out to their hurting, needful mothers. This is the heart and vision of Abigayle Ministries.

We are a Christian, non-denominational, not-for-profit residential ministry for single, pregnant women from eighteen years of age and older. Our desire and intent is to provide a life option to that confused, frightened woman who may see no practical way she can choose life for her child. As our Mission Statement reads, in part, we are "dedicated to providing a Godly, safe and nurturing environment for the unwed pregnant woman and her child."

In addition to creating a loving atmosphere for the mother and baby, we are committed to helping her prepare to take care of her little one in several practical ways. The Life Skills program covers basic decision making, baby care, nutrition, parenting skills and other areas.

A major aspect of our program is education and job skills training. We endeavor to help the young woman prepare to meet the future financial needs of herself and her child.

A third and, we believe, just as important aspect is the Values portion of the program. This covers moral areas, such as chastity before marriage, human relationships and our relationship with our Creator and our God.

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***We realize that we  
cannot reach out to  
those innocent ones  
without reaching out  
to their hurting,  
needful mothers.***

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There are three facets to Abigayle Ministries.

First, there is the private extended living homes program. Here, we place expectant mothers in private homes with families who have opened their hearts and homes to them.

Second, there is the Group Maternity Home. We are presently renovating a facility on Nineteen Mile Rd. in Sterling Heights, that will house up to six women and their babies at a time, in addition to a resident house parent couple. The women will be able to stay here through their pregnancy; for those who choose to parent their child, they can remain for up to six months after giving birth.

The third facet of Abigayle Ministries is the Apartment Community. We have a vision for a community of small apartment buildings, which will house the single moms and their babies for up to two years, while they prepare to support themselves through education or job training.

As you can see, the vision for this ministry is very large. It has to be, because

the need is that large. To carry out this vision will require a great deal of material and financial support. In addition to that, however, it will require the greatest asset we could ask for: people. We believe that if enough people hear about Abigayle, and open their hearts to God and to these needful women and their babies, then all that is necessary will be provided.

**The areas of need we have right now for the Maternity Home are: carpeting, paint, furniture, kitchen items, linens, ceiling fans, unvented gas fireplace, computers, fax machine, copier and funds to purchase other building materials. We will also be in need of monthly operating funds.**

For the Apartment Community, we are looking for ten to twenty acres of land, with or without buildings. The area we are looking is Macomb County, but we will consider Oakland and St. Clair Counties.

We ask you to consider if you might join together with us in answering this call. If you would like to participate in one of the above ways, or would just like more information, please contact us at:

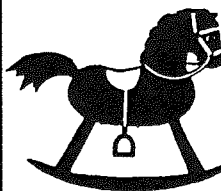
**Abigayle Ministries**

**1101 Military St.**

**Port Huron, MI 48060**

**Phone: (810) 326-0459**

*Bill Gross is Vice-President of Abigayle Ministries.*



## **Baby Showers**

Continuing the tradition of caring for mothers and their babies, born and yet to be born, Lifespan is planning its tenth annual Baby Shower for crisis pregnancy centers.

On Sunday, March 14, 1999, Lifespan will host approximately 30 baby showers simultaneously at different locations throughout the metro area. Showers are usually held from 2:00-3:30 p.m., but may also be held after church services or simply as a gift drop-off shower.

If you or your church are interested in co-hosting a baby shower, please call our Main Office at (248) 777-9090.



# Legislative Update



## 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) 335-7858  
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):

Dear Pro-Lifer,

I am writing to update you on two very important pro-life votes that occurred in the Senate.

In February, I introduced the Child Custody Protection Act which would protect state laws requiring parental involvement in a minor's important decision whether or not to undergo an abortion. If the minor's home state has a parental involvement law, this legislation would make it a federal offense to transport that minor across state lines to obtain an abortion, unless the parents have been involved as that law requires, or the requirement has been waived by a court. Unfortunately, opponents of the bill filibustered this important legislation. Because time is limited at the end of a session, we decided to file cloture to limit debate and to try to break the filibuster. We needed 60 votes to invoke cloture. Unfortunately, the Child Custody Protection Act only received 54 votes. Even though the legislation received a majority of votes, it was not enough to break the filibuster.

While I am disappointed by this setback, I remain committed to passing this legislation. I intend to re-introduce the bill at the beginning of next session and will work to secure a vote early in the session. I will continue to work tirelessly to protect state-passed parental involvement laws.

The Senate also recently voted to override President Clinton's veto of the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban. While the veto override received 64 votes, it was 3 votes short of the two-thirds needed to override a Presidential veto.

I am deeply disappointed by the Senate's vote on both of these very important bills. I am hopeful the Senate will gain additional pro-life votes after this November's election and we will have more success next year.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Senator Spencer Abraham  
United States Senate

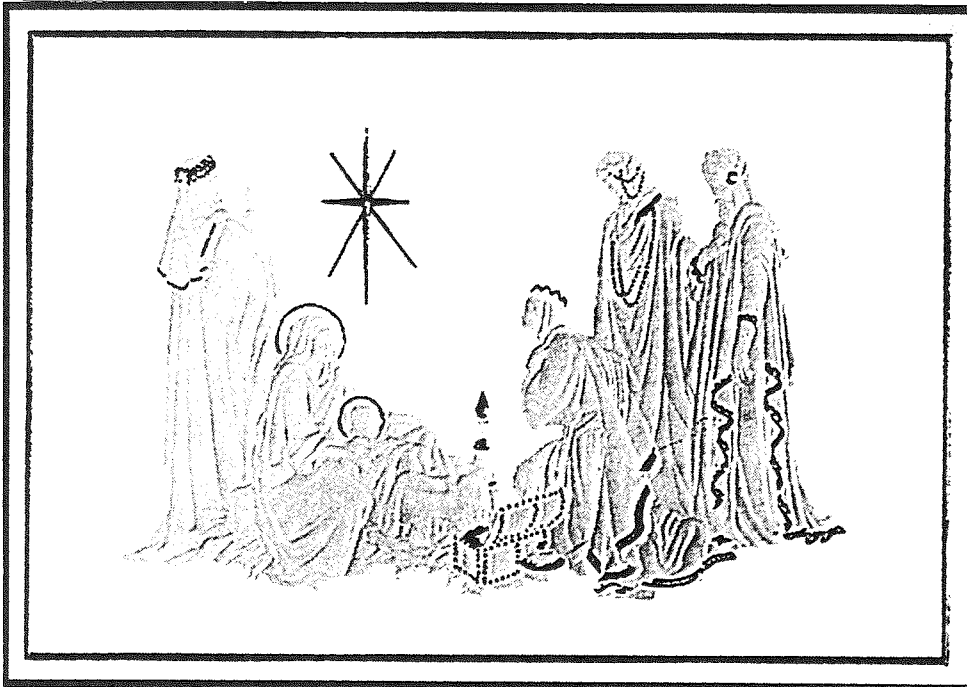
## Send your legislator a holiday greeting!

The holiday season is the perfect time to send a greeting to your legislator, thanking him or her for their pro-life support in the past year, or gently urging them to consider our issues in the coming year.

Your local Lifespan office has beautiful cards with a pro-life sentiment for your purchase (page 5). See boxed column for addresses of legislators; if you are not sure of the name of your legislator(s), call your local City Hall.

# 1998 Christmas Cards

Your purchase represents support for pro-life activities during the coming year. To place an order, arrange for pickup at a location near you and/or for more information, call your local Lifespan office:  
Detroit (313) 874-0432, Oakland/Macomb (248) 816-1546 or Wayne West/Downriver (734) 422-6230.



## Nativity Scene

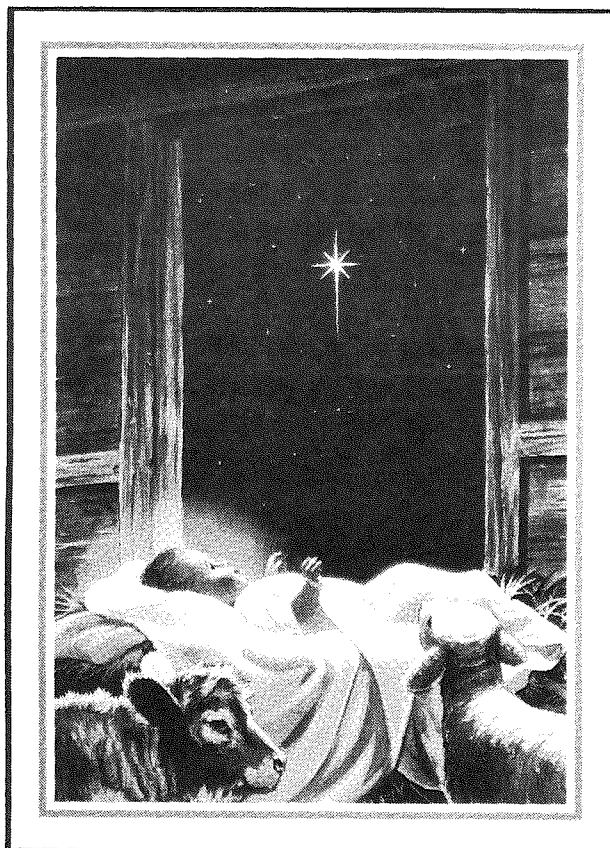
An elegant, soft beige card surrounded by a gold-foil border, depicting the birth of Christ. The "Nativity Scene" is richly embossed, pearlized and accented in gold with gold-lined envelope.

Actual size: 7-3/4" x 5-3/8"

**\$14.00 per box of 20**

Verse:

*May the birth of the  
King of Kings  
enkindle in our hearts  
a reverence for Life  
this Christmas and always*



## Baby Jesus

Full-color, radiant illustration of the Baby Jesus, lying in the manger and gazing at the night sky. A simple, but compelling card.

Actual size: 4-7/8" x 6-3/4"

**\$5.00 per pkg. of 10**

Verse:

*We celebrate the miracle  
of one small Baby's birth  
and how He brought  
the Gift of Life  
to all on earth*

*May the love that came  
that Christmas night  
light all your days with hope and joy*



# Chapter

detroit

## Office hours

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

## Our sympathy

Friends of the Detroit Office would like to express our heartfelt sympathy to Madeline Satwicz, on the passing of her beloved brother, Msgr. Francis Canfield.

Madeline has devoted the last couple of months to the caring of her brother during his time of need. This is truly what God desires of ALL of us, to surround our dying loved ones with love and support so that they may die in peace when Our Father calls them to Himself.

We pray that Madeline and her family will soon replace the feeling of loss with the warm feeling of memories shared.

## Christmas cards

Christmas cards are still available from your church representative and/or from the Detroit office. Call (313) 874-0432 before your favorite selection is sold out.

## Perfect Christmas gift

Call the office before the end of December to purchase "The Ultimate Entertainment '99" book. This book is filled with 50%-off coupons to restaurants, theaters and hundreds of other events in the metro area as well as hotel savings all over the country. The book is still only \$40 and besides saving money, you will be help-

ing support ongoing pro-life education. Call the office today at (313) 874-0432.

## Rally for Life

Plans are underway for Lifespan's January 17, 1999 Rally for Life. If you would like to help us organize this event, please call (313) 874-0432.

Please plan on attending—with your family, your friends, your fellow church members, your neighbors. Come, and be counted among those who stand up for LIFE! Look for more information in our January newsletter.

## Detroit Chapter

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

oakland/macomb

## Office hours

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

## Election excellence

Doesn't it feel absolutely great to realize that all of you who stuffed envelopes, licked stamps, applied labels, made phone calls, put yard signs in your yards and bumper stickers on your cars were the reason Proposal B was defeated!! So many people worked so very hard to defeat this poorly conceived, badly worded and dangerous proposal, and the result of the election was a wonderful reward. Stand up and take a bow!

We mustn't get too self-satisfied, however, because we will see this type of legislation again. It will have different words, and may be put forward by a different group, but we will see it again. This struggle has shown us that we must bet-

ter explore end-of-life decisions. A better understanding of pain and its control, the impact of depression on the seriously ill, the wonderful work of hospice, the loving support of church and family are all steps in the right direction. If Proposal B had any beneficial effect, it was to awaken all of us to the need to understand what we can do for ourselves and our loved ones. It has given us a clearer understanding of what we can expect from our physicians and our society, and that there are ways to achieve true death with dignity that does not require taking our own lives or assisting others to take theirs.

## Label listings

Please look at the mailing label on this newsletter. Membership in Lifespan is renewed yearly, and the date on the label shows the last time you renewed. If it is not current, please consider renewing today! We cannot do it without you.

## Terrific Ts

Christmas is coming and the Oakland/Macomb Chapter has the perfect gift idea—T shirts showing the design from the National Right to Life conference.

The design is of children with their arms raised in joy and the slogan, "Love of Life...Our Hope for Tomorrow." Call the Oakland/Macomb office to order (248) 816-1546. The cost is only \$10.00

## Counting crosses

There is no doubt that 2,000 white crosses on the grounds of local places of worship get attention. It is not an easy project to undertake and requires several people and some "muscle" to accomplish. The visual impact of the finished project literally takes your breath away. The crosses make it almost impossible to ignore the terrible loss of human life and the amount of human suffering caused by abortion. Any congregation in the Lifespan area can schedule the cross display. We have pictures of what the display looks like as well as a written explanation of its impact. If you are interested, call the Oakland/Macomb office (248) 816-1546.

## Oakland/Macomb Chapter

Coventry Place  
1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite G  
Troy, MI 48064-3540  
(248) 816-1546  
Fax: (248) 816-9066



# News

## wayne west/downriver

### Office hours

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

### In memoriam

It is with sorrow that I report the August deaths of two dedicated women, Grace Higgins from St. Genevieve and Marge Hershey from St. Anselm.

Both of them were in the right-to-life movement most of their adult lives and were church reps, or liaisons between their parishes and Lifespan. We could always count on them to do whatever we asked, no matter how small or large the task might be. And believe me, most of them were very time-consuming events.

Grace also supported Lifespan's annual "Bowling for Life" FUNdraiser by bringing her children, in-laws and grandchildren to bowl. She was so proud of them when they won, and she was there to console them if they didn't.

Marge was part of her church's Christmas boutique where she offered Lifespan sale items. I remember her joy when she brought in the checks. She was eager to support our organization.

Marge had to retire as church rep two years ago after having that position for 26 years. Grace continued volunteering her time, approximately 28 years until the time of her death.

We will miss these loving Moms and their gentle ways. In memory of these women, Lifespan pledges to continue protecting lives, both born and unborn. Heaven's gain is our loss.

### Thanks

The Legislative Breakfast and library meeting on "Making End of Life Decisions" were great successes. Many new people participated in the "Vote NO on Proposal B" Campaign. It was my pleasure to work alongside each of you on these special projects. Many hands did make lighter work!!

Special thanks to Ron Sulkowski and Stan Sidick who put up most of the large signs, "Vote NO on B" in western Wayne County. We are blessed to have these men on our side. Thank you for your loyalty to the Life issues and Lifespan.

### And the winners are...

Many fun-loving people gathered for our 16th annual "Bowling for Life."

Because of you, hundreds of people who were contacted as sponsors, learned a little more about Lifespan's presence and activities in your communities.

Most pledges collected (by 11-2-98) and prizes:

1st ....	Aaron Carpenti .....	\$484.00
2nd....	Chip Kleinbrook .....	\$310.00
3rd ....	Dorothy McGrath .....	\$277.00
4th ....	Jim Kidd .....	\$253.00
5th ....	Evelyn Phelps .....	\$189.00

### High games with handicap:

Man .....	Frank R. Gonzales .....	233
Woman .....	Kathie Carpenti .....	249
Child...	No one qualified with \$50 in pledges	
<b>High series:</b>	Kathie Carpenti .....	692

Congratulations and thanks to all who participated. Your love and commitment to Life never falters. You are all winners!

*Marie Gonzales*

*"Bowling for Life" Chairwoman*

Director's note: Thank you, Marie, for chairing this event for the fifth year. The gift certificates you solicited and presented to the bowlers added to the excitement.

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

## From the President's Desk

Dear Friends,

Just a few post-election thoughts I'd like to share with you—

What can I say about Proposal B that you don't already know? Victory is sweet! Just don't become complacent—physician assisted suicide will rear its ugly head again. Over two million voters agreed that Proposal B was "Bad," but that isn't enough. We need to educate the public on positive alternatives such as hospice and pain control management.

I was certainly relieved that Governor Engler was reelected. It's incredulous that over a million people actually voted for Fieger. God help us! I'm also thankful I don't have to watch Fieger's campaign commercials on TV anymore.

Congratulations to all the victorious pro-life candidates! Term limits has changed the State House so dramatically it's going to take some time to adjust to the new names and faces.

As I write this, it's too early to know whether we'll pick up the three votes we need in the U.S. Senate to finally pass the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban. Let's hope and pray.

One solidly pro-abortion senator who has been replaced is John Glenn of Ohio. Yes, the very same shuttle astronaut that we keep hearing about is finally retiring from the Senate. He will be succeeded by pro-life Gov. George Voinovich. Glenn will never be my hero.

And speaking of pro-aborts...how ironic that the Monica Lewinsky scandal broke on January 22, 1998—the 25th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*. Clinton has disgraced himself, the presidency and our country.

But on a more positive note, let's end this year thankful for our many pro-life victories. God bless you and your family for your efforts on His behalf.



## Oregon restricts payment for key pain medicine but funds assisted suicide

Oregon Medicaid has restricted payments for Oxycontin, a powerful pain medicine used for patients suffering from a number of painful disorders, according to Physicians for Compassionate Care which protested the move in a statement September 2. In the meantime, assisted suicide has been granted priority on Oregon's tax-funded health care plan.

"The state now has launched an unprecedented dosage regulation rule that will prevent Oregon doctors from being able to prescribe enough pain medication for seriously ill patients on the Oregon Health Plan," stated prominent Oregon pain care specialist, Marshall D. Bedder, M.D. Oxycontin will no longer be available in sufficient doses for treating patients seriously or terminally ill from diseases such as Lou Gehrig's disease, diabetic neuropathy, multiple sclerosis, reflex sympathetic dystrophy and several other painful disorders. The Oregon Medical Assistance Program (OMAP) now limits such prescriptions to cancer patients.

Dr. Bedder says he can no longer meet the needs for this medicine for many of his patients. Moreover, according to Physicians for Compassionate Care, OMAP's ruling is one of a series of restrictions on funding of needed care for the seriously and terminally ill enacted since Oregon's assisted suicide law was implemented last November. OMAP also attempted to restrict access by Medicaid beneficiaries to antidepressant drugs. After assisted suicide was given priority in OMAP's health care plan, over 150 needed services were denied coverage.

"This is an example of how government sanctioned assisted suicide threatens good pain management and palliative care," asserted N. Gregory Hamilton, M.D., a Portland psychiatrist and president of Physicians for Compassionate Care. "It was predicted to happen and has happened. Prescription of legitimate pain medicine for the seriously ill is being undermined by the only state that pays for assisted suicide."

—National Right to Life Committee  
Choose Life, September/October 1998

# End the Ignorance Now!

*By Michele Jackson*

It is impossible to become energized to fix a problem if you do not know it exists. Many black Americans do not know that over 1.3 million babies are dying from abortion each year. They do not know that about 34% of those dying are black babies, meaning some 440,000 black children die by abortion each year. Many black Americans perceive abortion as a political fight, something having little to do with their daily lives. They could not be more wrong. We must make our community see abortion as a problem in our homes. Otherwise, how can we ask that abortion be put on the agenda of critical problems to fix within the black community? How can we call it a genocide or a manifestation of white supremacist thinking, as we call drugs in our community, if it is not common knowledge that abortion has killed nearly 12 million black babies since the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision? In other words, those of us who know the truth about the enormous destructiveness of abortion have a special obligation to make abortion not an abstraction but something intensely personal to the less informed.

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***Government funding of organizations such as Planned Parenthood, one of the nation's largest providers of abortion clinics, reinforces the beliefs that the "solution" to black poverty is to curb black reproduction...***

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The problem of drugs in the black community is personal. Many of us know the men and women dying from and being destroyed by drugs. They are not just statistics to us. They are not somebody else's problem. They are part of our families. They have connections in the community and we have a leadership grappling for ways to solve the drug problem.

The aborted baby dies a violent death before even being allowed to come into

the world; typically we do not even know her name. Her mother often suffers the loss of her child in lonely silence. Her family might not even know the woman was pregnant and that a relative had existed and was killed. Our community has never gotten the chance to feel these losses consciously and collectively. Also, our media-appointed national leadership has treated the problem of abortion by consistently advocating policies that increase the number of abortions.

However, the women suffering abortion in silence, and their dead children, are a part of our community in staggering numbers. We have the job of rallying the community to stop the killing of our children. We have the job of rallying the community to find better solutions to pregnancy than killing the baby, than pitting mother against child.

But government and health care policies often discourage black women from choosing life for their babies. Our nation's policies are often based on the premise that black people's poverty is caused by their reproduction. Blaming the birthrate for poverty ignores the political, social, economic and individual reasons for people being poor.

The public funding of abortion advocacy groups at a time of drastic cuts in welfare spending is particularly significant. This willingness to facilitate abortion for poor women, who are disproportionately black, but not to address their basic needs, is strong evidence that much of the government is more interested in population reduction than in improving poor women's welfare. Government funding of organizations such as Planned Parenthood, one of the nation's largest providers of abortion clinics, reinforces the beliefs that the "solution" to black poverty is to curb black reproduction, that the fertility of black women is fearsome, and that black women do not deserve to be mothers.

*Michele Jackson, a black leader in her community, is an at-large board director for the National Right to Life Committee.*

—First appeared in the  
*National Right to Life News*, August 12, 1998  
Reprinted with permission



# Emergency Contraception it is NOT

By Dr. Jack C. Willke

**A**fter sperm are deposited inside of a woman, they rapidly swim through the uterus, through the tubes, and out to the ovary. This passage takes as little as thirty minutes. If an egg awaits, fertilization then occurs immediately. One sperm enters the ovum and proceeds to unite its 23 chromosomes with the 23 female chromosomes in the nucleus of the ovum. Sperm entrance until the first cell division takes about one day. From then on, rapid cell division occurs.

For the first week of life, this new human embryo floats freely down his or her mother's tube, journeying to the womb. When one-week-old, he or she plants in the nutrient lining of the womb.

If fertilization has occurred, and if the woman takes the "morning-after" pill within a few hours or days after the "event," the hormones in the pill harden the lining of the womb. When this tiny human embryo reaches the womb, he or she cannot plant and dies. The effect of the pill, then, is to kill this tiny human at one week of life. The effect is a very early abortion.

Pro-abortion forces have labored mightily to claim that "pregnancy" does not begin until the embryo has attached to the uterus. It may well be that the mother's body is not directly affected until that time, but this human embryo is already one-week-old when this occurs. Reading and listening to the news accounts, you will hear the term "pregnancy" used interchangeably with "human life." They are not the same. It has long since been scientifically proven that human life begins at that first-cell stage. Whether you call her pregnant at conception or at implantation one week later is a mere matter of semantics. The fact of the matter is, a human life exists at the beginning and dies at one week from the effect of this pill. In fact, then, this pill is not emergency "contraception," but rather is emergency "abortion."

Reporting has correctly claimed that if the embryo has already attached, the pill apparently does no harm. It is true that the pill, then, would not cause an abortion, but it is not proven that it is

harmless. Let's not forget the tragic harvest of genital deformity in girls and boys born to mothers who were given an artificial estrogen compound, DES, back in the 1950s, while pregnant. In any case, since the baby is one-week-old when he or she plants, that is some days after she has taken the pills.

Spokeswomen for the National Right to Life Committee, among others, have made another claim, and that is that this pill stops ovulation and therefore is a contraceptive. This may be possible in a very few occasions. It would work this way: A woman has sex on Saturday night and takes the pills Sunday morning. She has sperm inside of her. She was programmed to ovulate Monday night. Without the pills, she could have conceived Monday night, because sperm can live and be active enough to fertilize for 24, and as long as 72 hours after entering her body. If she took the pills Sunday morning, it is theorized that this might block her Monday evening ovulation. If that were true, this would be a contraceptive effect. One problem here is that this mechanism has not been proven—it is only a theory. The major problem, however, is that it would occur in only a very small percentage of cases, and that in the overwhelming majority of times, she would have become pregnant within the hour after she had sex, and the pills would cause an abortion.

The reports have been correct in separating the effect of these pills from the French abortion pill RU 486. The RU 486 is taken three weeks or more after conception and two weeks or more after implantation. Its effect is to kill a developing baby after his or her heart has begun to beat. It clearly is an abortion drug and operates quite differently from a "morning-after" pill.

## Conclusion:

In all but a very few cases, this pill does not prevent human life from beginning. What it does is kill a new human life when he or she is one-week-old. Its advocates constantly confuse their definition of "pregnancy" with the public's understanding that what is being spoken of is when human life begins and whether human life is destroyed or not.

—Life Issues Connector, October 1998

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Here's a great idea for your friends and family—  
Give holiday gift memberships to people you feel would benefit from reading *Lifespan News*.



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## Planned Parenthood

*continued from back page*

like one which would read, "Pro-Peace, Pro-Humanity, Pro-Nuclear Holocaust." All of the slick slogans and doublespeak in the world will not change the facts.

It should not surprise us that Planned Parenthood lies in its advertising slogans because it unabashedly misleads the public in pushing its political agenda. For example, the medical director of Planned Parenthood's Washington, D.C., affiliate put in writing the false claim that during a partial-birth abortion babies are not killed by the abortionist who stabs them, but by the anesthesia administered to their mothers. This untruth, deliberately circulated by a person who, remarkably enough, still holds a license to practice medicine, caused such fear among pregnant mothers that the American College of Anesthesiologists asked Congress to hold a special hearing to refute this dangerous lie.

Planned Parenthood is not about choices or truth. It is about building a financial empire and expanding a culture of death to the whole world. It is no less than a battle between good and evil; between God and the author of lies and death.

—Michael Schwartz is chairman of Life Decisions International's (LDI) board of directors and Douglas R. Scott is president of LDI. *Special Reports*, an official publication of Life Decisions International, is published quarterly. Subscribers also receive LDI's newsletter, *The Caleb Report*, which is published six times per year. A minimum donation of \$25 per year is requested. Commentaries are designed to stimulate critical thought and may not represent the views of LDI's staff or board. For more information write to LDI at P.O. Box 907, Washington, DC 20044-0907.

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### Prayer request

Please join in daily prayer during November and December for our newly elected local, state and federal officials. Pray that these new leaders will be men and women of integrity who value the lives of the unborn, disabled, ill and elderly.

## Shoppers, beware

In doing your holiday shopping, remember that the following corporations are ardent financial supporters of Planned Parenthood, the world's largest promoter and provider of abortion.

**Dayton-Hudson**—Operations include Dayton's, Hudson's, Target, Mervyn's and Marshall Field's.

**Esprit**—Operations include: apparel and apparel stores, Dr. Seuss apparel & watches.

**General Mills**—Operations include: Betty Crocker products, Bisquick, Gold Medal flour, all "Big G" cereal varieties, and many more.

**Hewlett-Packard**—Operations include: computer-related equipment and service.

**Levi Strauss & Company**—Operations include: apparel (primarily jeans, Britannia & Dockers).

**Sony**—Operations include: electronics (video equipment, cameras, televisions, VCRs, CD players, etc.)

**Tandy/Radio Shack**—Operations include: electronics and appliances retailer & manufacturer.

To obtain a complete boycott list of Planned Parenthood corporate supporters, send a \$10 check to: **Life Decisions International, P.O. Box 907, Washington, DC 20044**. Enclose a self-addressed, business-size envelope with 55¢ affixed.

## Parent-Infant Partners

MCHS Infant Mortality Project's Parent-Infant Partner (PIP) program trains volunteers (partners) to mentor high risk, pregnant women and their families up to one year postpartum through home visits.

These partners maintain pre/postnatal care, offer emotional support, provide child development and parenting information and recommend community resources.

The Jubilee Parenting Support Group offers mothers and their children under five years of age the opportunity to participate in workshops on parenting skills, literacy and health promotion.

If you would like to be a partner or would like to learn more about the Jubilee program, please call (313) 868-8420.



November at Wee Care—a time to pause and thank

God for blessing our little miracle program throughout the year.

Logistically, Wee Care should not exist. There is no public funding, no advertising and as "Director"—a very "impressive" title—I have no staff! In spite of all this, over 500 babies each year continue to receive all of the warm blankets and tiny clothing that they need to begin their precious little lives, and their mothers receive the special gifts of love and hope.

How does this happen in a program that "on paper" isn't possible? God sent me—YOU! You, who donated your child's outgrown clothes; you, who organized a giving tree or shower at your church; you, who lovingly crochets an afghan or tiny booties; you, who generously donates gifts or money (even a dollar can buy a baby bottle) or time by picking up supplies; you, who washes and sorts the gently-used clothing; you, who gives our name to a frightened young mother; and you, who keeps us in your constant prayers. For all of you, I am so thankful this Thanksgiving!

Now, one would think that I could just sit back and have faith that God would continue to provide for Wee Care; however, I also believe that God helps those who help themselves, and at this time of year especially, I become anxious, hoping that Wee Care can provide for all of our Christmas babies and the increase of requests that we get during the cold months ahead. So, once more I am begging for anything you can do for my babies!

May God richly bless you this Thanksgiving for your part in the continuing miracle of Wee Care!

—Karen Patrosso, Director  
Wee Care 248-777-2727

*A Program of Right to Life - Lifespan*

PS: We need one more miracle—a very special, hard-working friend of Wee Care is sick. Please keep "Al" in your prayers—we need her and we love her.

## Donations have been made—

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Della Fabian  
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#### Catherine Anderson

Given by: Christopher and Anne Burgess

#### Ruth Radack

Given by: The Hesch Family

#### Bette T. Rooker

Given by: The Hesch Family

#### James Morrison

Given by: Raymond and Patricia Kelly

### In appreciation of a very special birth mother:

Given by: Tom and Carol

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've put the tent project on hold for now and are saving for a scanner for the Oakland office and a TV/VCR to show pro-life videos at the State Fair.

Donors of coupons in the past two months are: MacDonald, Truchan, Werner, St. Roch Church, Johnathon, Bettega, Lenz, Morris, Lutz, Pipoly, Kleinbrook, Sobieck, Salesky, Sudeck, McLaughlin, Astalos, Babik, Chaussee, Kamrath, Robert, St. Hedwig Church, Phillips, Perry, Puente, Theisen, Johnson, Lohrengel, Kubik, Benninghouse, Our Lady of Grace Church, Wilhelm, Archer, St. Hubert Church, Sporka, Ring, Nelson, Mullins, St. Raphael Church, Reynolds, Schmidt, Kacher, Basner, Clairmont, Krol, Behaeghe, Rosa, Fabian, Dreslinski, St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Durkee, Dell'Eva, Sind, Dewaelsche, Yanik, St. Linus Seniors, Freda, O'Connell, Cousino, Burger, Dadabbo, Lemming, Gura, Grougan, Altena, Lesiak, St. Perpetua Church, Kwiatkowski, Wagener, Harrington, Martinuzzi, Sabo, Dunn, Gibbons, Brukwinski, Ellsworth, Brinckek, Vuylsteke and other anonymous donors.

When you present your check to the cashier at any Bill Knapp's Restaurant, ask for a Community Support Coupon. Send the coupons to Right to Life - Lifespan, 28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127, Livonia 48152. Thank you very much!

## Entertainment '99

Entertainment '99 books are available for \$40. Call your local Lifespan office to order your book today—  
Detroit (313) 874-0432; Oakland/Macomb (248) 816-1546 or Wayne West/Downriver (734) 422-6230.



### Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit Membership Form

Right to Life - Lifespan believes that human life has value in all stages of development from conception until natural death, and is committed to speaking on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves — the unborn, the aged, the incapacitated. Won't you please help in our struggle to preserve respect for human life? A contribution brings you the monthly newsletter as well as educational materials and special mailings.

_____ Annual Membership	\$ 20.00	_____ Monthly pledge	\$ _____
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Please detach at the dotted line and return to: Right to Life - Lifespan, 28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127, Livonia, MI 48152-3736.  
Memberships and donations are not tax-deductible.

# Planned Parenthood and the Culture of Death

*A Commentary by Michael  
Schwartz and Douglas R. Scott*

**P**lanned Parenthood is to the culture of death what Microsoft is to computer software. With its huge financial empire, Planned Parenthood permeates the planet with its deadly philosophy.

With money from the U.S. foreign aid program, the United Nations, and the wealthiest foundations, Planned Parenthood undermines the laws and cultures of developing countries in order to make them conform to its own anti-human vision. At the same time, Planned Parenthood convinces those in the Western World that the planet cannot survive without population control achieved by almost any means.

In the United States, Planned Parenthood is the behemoth of the abortion industry. In its own facilities, Planned Parenthood killed 153,367 children in 1996 and, with but two exceptions, has increased both its volume and market share in killing for hire every year. In fact, Planned Parenthood actively seeks to do so.

Planned Parenthood carries on the largest and most effective market promotion plan in the abortion industry through its distribution of sex aids to children. Hundreds of thousands of young girls are enticed by Planned Parenthood's so-called educational, counseling and "family plan-

ning" programs into performing sex acts—in many cases becoming victims of statutory rape.

Every year, a certain proportion of these exploited girls go back to Planned Parenthood as customers. What's more, Planned Parenthood gets the federal and state governments to pay for its child exploitation activities, an achievement the common pimp on the street has yet to realize.

This is only the beginning, but the point is clear. Planned Parenthood is far out of step with the views of most Americans when it comes to sexual morals. Yet it uses taxpayer dollars to spread its horrific message to the most vulnerable and innocent among us.

The best way to judge Planned Parenthood is by comparing its rhetoric to its record. Any neutral observer can find a pattern of deception:

- Planned Parenthood claims to be pro-family, yet it routinely violates the natural right of parents to guide the health and welfare of their children and to protect those children from criminal exploitation.
- Planned Parenthood claims to be pro-child, yet it kills more children than any plague or tyrant.
- Planned Parenthood claims to be pro-choice, yet it has successfully sued to prevent a state from giving financial support to organizations that offer choices to mothers with difficult pregnancies. This is because Planned Parenthood makes

money only when mothers have abortions, not when they have choices.

- Planned Parenthood claims to be pro-woman, but it has gone to court to take away from women the right to be informed about the nature of abortion and the right to take time to reflect on their own life-or-death decision.

- Planned Parenthood claims it represents the views of most Americans, yet it has successfully sued the State of Missouri to force it to give taxpayer money to Planned Parenthood when the elected representatives of the people decided against doing so.

- Planned Parenthood claims to be a voice for minority populations, yet the methods created by eugenics advocate and Planned Parenthood founder Margaret Sanger to destroy minorities are the same ones employed by Planned Parenthood today to "help" these people. The sad reality is that Planned Parenthood has killed more minority human beings than the Ku Klux Klan could ever have hoped of lynching.

- Planned Parenthood even claims to be pro-freedom, yet it has given awards to the criminals who manage Communist China's forced abortion program and has demanded that American taxpayers subsidize that horrific cruelty.

This comparison of rhetoric to reality shows that the bumper sticker which reads, "Pro-Family, Pro-Child, Pro-Choice" is

*continued on page 10*

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