

August 2022

"Lies about ectopic pregnancies and miscarriages, and false claims that women who have abortions would be prosecuted, promulgated by the media and the abortion industry resulted in a tragic loss for women and their unborn babies.



Now, thousands and thousands of babies will die in Kansas"



RIGHT TO LIFE

**Carol Tobias, NRLC President** 

# RIGHT TO LIFE NEWS

### Running from Abortion Issue Not a Winning Strategy for Pro-Life Candidates

By Karen Cross, National Right to Life Political Director

On August 2nd, abortion advocates and their allies in the media were successful in defeating a pro-life referendum in Kansas following a massive misinformation campaign bolstered by out-of-state spending and the unwavering support of a pro-abortion media.

Now, they are determined to use the result of the referendum as a scare tactic to spook prolife candidates into backing away from the issue just as our movement is in a prime position, as a result of the *Dobbs* decision, to advance meaningful protections for unborn children and their



mothers. But, if pro-life candidates want to win on this issue, running is not an option.

Abortion advocates have worked hard to center the discussion about "abortion" around anything but abortion. They have talked about ectopic pregnancies, contraception, miscarriage, in vitro fertilization, and even samesex marriage. These issues are mentioned intentionally to distract from the extreme reality of the pro-abortion position. They support abortion on demand for any reason, right up to the moment of birth, with

See "Candidates," page 42

### Biden ramps up administration's efforts to increase abortion "access"

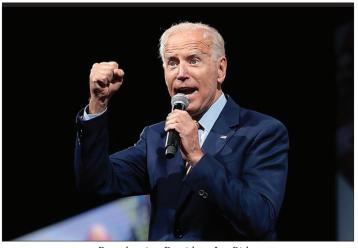
By Dave Andrusko

EMTALA is a federal law that requires hospitals which receive Medicare funds to stabilize and care for any patient who needs emergency treatment, regardless of a patient's ability to pay. Its purpose is not to smuggle in abortion, but that is exactly what the Biden Administration is intent on doing. First, some background.

As we discussed in NRL News Today, Attorney General Merrick Garland has filed a lawsuit against Idaho's protective abortion law which allows abortion when "necessary to prevent the death of the pregnant woman" as determined by a physician "in his good faith medical judgment and based on the facts known to the physician at the time," as Dan McLaughlin of *National Review* has explained.

It "further allows a defense when a doctor performed a procedure that 'provided the best opportunity for the unborn child to survive, unless, in his good faith medical judgment, termination of the pregnancy in

See "Biden," page 44



Pro-abortion President Joe Biden Photo: Gage Skidmore (CC BY-SA 2.0)

### **Editorials**

# The perfect storm brings together a Trifecta of lies, omissions, and distortions to take down the pro-life Kansas amendment

"On Tuesday night," *National Public Radio* intoned, referring to August 2nd, "as results rolled in for Kansas's consequential vote on abortion rights, advocates on both sides of the abortion debate were watching closely, looking for lessons as they prepare for similar votes on abortion rights measures this fall."

And, yes, there were lessons aplenty, just not the ones trumpeted by *NPR*, the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times*, and virtually all of the legacy media.

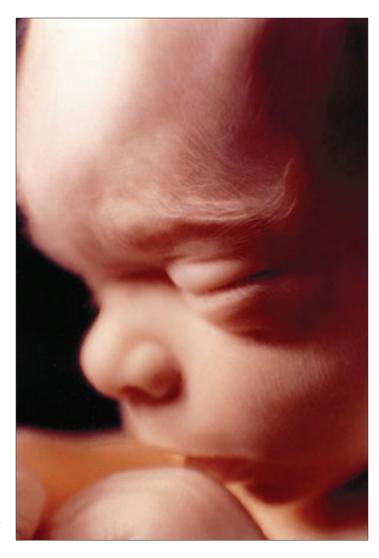
As we will see, the setting for the vote on "Value Them Both" was the perfect storm, bringing together a Trifecta of lies, omissions, and distortions.

#1. No matter how many times opponents insisted that it did, the amendment did not "outlaw all abortions." As *National Review's* Alexandra DeSanctis observed, "In reality, the amendment would've taken Kansas back to abortion neutrality, allowing lawmakers to legislate on the issue."

Note that much of the opposition—as is par for the course—did not even mention "abortion" in many of their ads. Rather they pressed the specter of "government interference" and "threats to autonomy." Typically, one group called itself "Kansans for Constitutional Freedom."

#2. The amendment was defensive in nature, a response to the 2019 *Hodes & Nauser v. Schmidt* decision by the Kansas Supreme Court. As the Value Them Both coalition explained

In 2019, an activist state court radically changed the Kansas Constitution, making it impossible to regulate abortion in even the simplest of ways. Unlike our neighboring states, taxpayer-funded and late-term abortion could soon be 100% allowed in Kansas unless you vote "Yes" on the VALUE THEM BOTH Amendment August 2.1



#### From the President

#### Carol Tobias

#### Your Efforts are Needed Now More than Ever!



We knew that if *Roe* v. Wade was overturned, we would still have many battles ahead of us. This hysteria surrounding the *Dobbs* decision over the last six weeks confirmed that our efforts to protect preborn children will not

soon be over. Which is why we need every pro-lifer to be involved to an even greater extent.

To loosely paraphrase a famous typing exercise, "Now is the time for all pro-life men and women to come to the aid of our most defenseless brothers and sisters."

We face large, well-funded adversaries. Working arm in arm with Democrats and bolstered by a friendly media, their goal is to see unlimited abortion in every state, or better yet in their minds, as a national law.

Over the last few months, many news articles focused on the number of states that would protect unborn children, how many would continue to allow abortion, and how many states could go either way.

Reminiscent of slave states and free states 200 years ago, it appeared we would have pro-abortion states and pro-life states. Some may have assumed the country would be happy with this split, but I knew prolifers would never give up until all states protected unborn children. I suspect our opponents were just as determined to have all states protecting abortion.

Over the past few years, 13 states enacted pro-life "trigger laws" which would go into effect as soon as, or soon after, *Roe v Wade* was overturned. Ten states had pro-life pre-*Roe* laws on the books which would presumably go back into effect when *Roe* was reversed. Five states had both, so a total of 18 states should have been able to protect unborn children soon after the *Dobbs v Jackson* decision was released.

Regrettably, judges in some states have enjoined pro-life laws. They are looking at the state constitution like a Rorschach inkblot test, interpreting the document to mean whatever they want it to mean.

The first states to address the possibilities

post-*Roe* were Indiana and Kansas. On August 5, Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb signed legislation passed by the Indiana legislature to protect unborn children in the state. That law will take effect September 15.

Three days earlier, voters in Kansas rejected an effort to overturn an egregious state Supreme Court ruling. The court had determined that the state constitution, ratified in 1859, included the right to kill preborn children. The court decided that the state legislature was not even allowed to protect these little one from gruesome dismemberment abortions.

We frequently see statements that women will be sent to jail for getting an abortion. National Right to Life was joined by more than 70 pro-life organizations, stating that we do not and will not support legislation that seeks to penalize women. Our goal is to save children by limiting the practice of abortion, working toward a day when abortion and all its ugliness is unthinkable.

But to get to that point, we need every prolifer involved in the battle. We need prolife men and women elected to Congress and state legislatures. We need pro-life men and women elected to offices like governor, attorney general, and secretary of state.



Using the established process to amend the constitution, pro-life people in Kansas and the state legislature placed a measure on the August 2 ballot that would have simply said that the right to abortion is not in the state constitution and state law would be decided by elected representatives in the legislature.

Much of the pro-abortion campaign against this effort told Kansans that voting yes would make abortion illegal—that all abortions would be banned—in the state, which wasn't true. As we are seeing everywhere, women are being lied to, told that if they have an ectopic pregnancy or suffering a miscarriage, doctors will be unwilling to treat them, afraid that they will be charged with committing an abortion.

Such claims are, of course, ridiculous. As the American Association of Pro-Life Obstetricians and Gynecologists (AAPLOG) clearly states, "There are no laws in any state in the United States which criminalize treatment of any of these conditions." If your favorite pro-life candidate didn't win the primary election, support the pro-life candidate who did win. Or vote for the candidate who will prevent leaders such as Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer and Speaker Nancy Pelosi from being in charge.

Please get involved with a campaign. Make phone calls, distribute campaign literature, share campaign information on your social media platforms, write letters to the editor (yes, people do still read newspapers!), and talk to your friends and neighbors.

Candidates need donations to fund their campaigns. I'm asking that, if you are able to donate or raise funds from others, you do so for the National Right to Life Victory Fund. Polling has shown that NRLC is extremely effective in getting out the vote for candidates. And we need your help to do that again.

Much is riding on this election. Now is the time for all good men and women to come to the aid of our most defenseless brothers and sisters.

### Preparing the 2022 NRLC Academy class for the challenging post-*Roe* world

By Randall K. O'Bannon, Ph.D. NRL Director of Education & Research

Editor's note. Last Friday was the conclusion to the NRLC Academy, a five and a half week educational and training course for effective pro-life work and advocacy. The Academy roster this year included Lauren Lipinski, Lauren Shovlin, and Amy Baker. The following are Dr. O'Bannon's closing comments.

You are, in so many ways, a historic class.

You are the first post-Roe class in Academy history, the first to live and learn in an environment where abortion on demand is no longer the law of the land.

It is a new world. But many of the same issues remain. Abortion is still legal in most states and activists are trying to overturn or undermine whatever protective legislation there is.

Abortion groups are on the prowl for pre-teen rape victims and terrifying women with false tales of miscarriages and ectopic pregnancies that can no longer be treated.

Many clinics have closed, but some have simply moved across the state border. Domestic and foreign sources are promoting and shipping dangerous abortion pills to try and get around the laws that are there.

The media has ignored the fact that there are unborn lives at stake and largely forgotten that there might be at least two sides to any issue. That abortion has never shown itself to be a solution to woman's economic, relational, or psychological issues, on either a personal or a broader social level, that many postabortive women today are pro-life today and part of the pro-life movement because of that realization, are things that

modern journalists have rarely investigated.

So though we have accomplished much, and enjoyed a great victory as a result of all of our efforts, we still have much work to do before every child is welcome in life and protected by law.

own, but even among the three of you are a mix of younger and older, of Northern and Southern, Ivy League and working class, married and single, Protestant and Catholic, young women with very different gifts, personalities, and outlooks. Some of you are

It was tough, but if you look back, you'll see that we have tried to prepare you for the challenging post-Roe world, where every sought abortion is presented as a hard case, where abortion pills are as easy to get as an overnight delivery, where the media ignores or



Left to right: Lauren Shovlin (PA); Dr. Randall K. O'Bannon, Academy Director; Lauren Lipinski (OH); and Amy Baker (SC).

We've been doing this a long time and are going to keep at it, but chances are a lot of us won't be around the next 49 years. That means folks like YOU are going to be the ones who will have to do it.

As you've seen, we are a real mix of people, different sizes, shapes, ages, genders, talents, abilities, personalities, histories, religious backgrounds, social circles, etc. We aren't perfect – far from it. But we have learned to work together, to unite behind our common goal, to appreciate and utilize each other's unique talents and gifts.

In many ways, you three reflect that diversity in the movement. Your variations may not be as profound as our

new to the Movement, others have been involved in the cause for years, each of you touched in different ways by the tragedy that defined our cause for decades.

We have covered a lot of ground in the last five and a half weeks, taking classes in biology, in ethics, in legislative strategy and history, various courses in communications and organization.

You have honed important skills under high pressure conditions, studying how to lobby, to give a speech, do an interview, to analyze and do research, write a column, prepare a post for social media, run an ad campaign, and even put together a short film.

distorts everything you say. A topsy turvy world where the pregnancy care centers offering the real help that pregnant women need are treated like villains and the abortion clinics that offer pain, loneliness, and death are treated like heroes.

I believe it's something you all are now prepared to address. You have the talent, the training, the drive to make it happen.

Looking at you after these five and half weeks, I am hopeful for the future.

I believe you are prepared. You are equipped. You are informed. You are motivated. You are ready.

We are ready to see what you can do.

#### Op-ed: Making the pro-life case post-Roe

Note: The following bvMCCL's commentary Paul Stark and Diane Paffel Moravec was published on June 25, 2022, in the Star Tribune.

The Supreme Court's ruling in Dobbs v. Jackson doesn't end the abortion debate. It returns it to the American people, who will now decide their own abortion laws. And nothing will immediately change in Minnesota, where a state court ruling continues to require that abortion be legal for any reason.

But the *Dobbs* decision opens the door to a fresh dialogue over abortion—one that must address fundamental questions about the reality of science, the scope of human rights, and the demands of love. This is a conversation that those of us in the pro-life movement are eager to have.

Our view is grounded in a few core ideas. The first is an empirical fact known through the science of embryology: Human embryos and fetuses are distinct, living members of our species. They are not mere organs, tissues, or cellsthey are whole organisms developing themselves through the different stages of human life. Just as each of us was once a teenager and a toddler, so each of us was once a fetus and an embryo.

But how should we treat these young humans? Here's the second core idea: Human rights don't belong only to the big, or the wanted, or the strong and independent. They also belong to the small, the rejected, and the powerless and needy. Human rights belong to all human beings.

Suppose, as some defenders of abortion argue, that only individuals with higher mental functions have rights. That criterion could exclude a whole range of human beingsinfants, those with advanced dementia, those in temporary comas. Any standard that leaves out unborn humans leaves out other vulnerable humans, too.

It also undermines equality for everyone. After all, people have we are. We matter because we are human beings. This is why everyone counts, and why everyone counts equally.

And it's why unborn children, as a matter of justice, deserve respect and protection from violence. They are human beings, and human beings have human rights.

Pro-choice advocates raise



cognitive capacities to varying degrees. If those abilities confer rights, then some of us have greater rights and some of us have lesser rights. Some people, according to this view, count more than others.

Throughout history, every single effort to divide humanity into those who matter and those who don't has been an egregious mistake. Why? Because the differences between us don't determine our value. We matter not because of what we can do, or what we look like, or what others think or feel about us. We matter because of what

objections to all this, of course, and those objections warrant serious attention. What about a woman's right to bodily autonomy? Bodily autonomy is important and has too often been flouted or ignored. But this autonomy is not a right to attack the body of someone else. If unborn humans have rights, then to intentionally kill them through dismemberment or poison is to violate those rights.

Others point to the difficult and unfair circumstances pregnant women often face. But is abortion a good

solution? No one thinks similar circumstances would justify the killing or abandonment of a five-year-old child. If unborn humans matter like five-yearolds do, then destroying them isn't justified either.

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These arguments for abortion tend to treat mother and child as isolated individuals competing for scarce resources. They assume that one person's flourishing comes at expense of another's. The reality, however, is that human beings live in community and depend on each other. We flourish together. We flourish when we love one another.

Mother and child are just that-mother and child. And since its beginnings, the prolife movement has sought to love them both and reject the either/or dichotomy. This both/and love is the third core underpinning of the pro-life view. It's why, across Minnesota, dozens of pregnancy care centers and other pro-life programs help support and empower pregnant and newly parenting women and their families.

No one should ever be made to feel like her success requires the death of her child. Nor should anyone ever think that the trauma of an abortion experience puts her or him outside the bounds of compassion and healing.

That's what the pro-life movement believes. position is based on science and universal human rights. Above all, though, it is rooted in love.

Paul Stark is communications director and Diane Paffel Moravec is vice president of Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life.

### Biden issues another executive order to 'advance access' to abortion

#### By Bettina di Fiore

President Biden has signed yet another abortion-related Executive Order to "secur[e] access to reproductive and other healthcare services." The order directs Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra "to consider action to advance access reproductive healthcare services," including the use of waivers, which would allow states in which abortion is legal to provide Medicaid coverage — at taxpayer expense — to out-of-state residents.

It also directs Secretary Becerra to "consider all appropriate actions to ensure health care providers comply with Federal non-discrimination laws so that women receive medically necessary care without delay."

Thirdly, the order directs

Becerra "to evaluate and improve research, data collection, and data analysis efforts at the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on maternal health and other health outcomes."

"Secretary Becerra is going to work with states through Medicaid to allow them to provide reproductive health care for women who live in states where abortions are being banned in that state," President Biden said. "The executive order makes sure health care providers comply with federal law so women don't face delays or denials of medically necessary care. And this executive order advances research and data collection to evaluate the impact that this reproductive health crisis is

having on maternal health and other health conditions and health outcomes."

This is Biden's second abortion-related Executive



Pro-abortion President Joe Biden Photo: Gage Skidmore

Order. His first order mandated expanded access to abortion pills, strengthened enforcement of the Obama Administration's birth control mandate, and organized pro bono legal representation for anyone facing abortion-related charges. That order also provided \$3 million in new funding for family planning organizations, made provision for federal employees traveling for abortion to receive leave, and protected access to abortion for women in the military.

The White House's fact sheet on the August 3rd Executive Order states: "President Biden continues to call on Congress to codify the right to abortion into federal law and has said he would support changing the filibuster rules to codify *Roe v. Wade* into law."

Editor's note. This appeared at Live Action News and is reposted with permission.

# Kentucky Court of Appeals removes temporary injunction blocking the state's Human Life Protection Act and Heartbeat law from going into effect

#### By Dave Andrusko

Kentucky Court of Appeals Judge Larry E. Thompson has reinstituted both the state's comprehensive Human Life Protection Act and its Heartbeat Law which bans abortions at the point the unborn child's heartbeat can be detected.

Judge Thompson sided with Attorney General Daniel Cameron. Cameron had asked that a temporary injunction ordered by Jefferson Circuit Judge Mitch Perry, who had sided with abortion providers be overturned.

"Today the Court of



Appeals granted our motion to have the Kentucky Human Life Protection Act and the Heartbeat Law reinstated in the Commonwealth," Cameron said. "I appreciate the court's decision to allow Kentucky's pro-life laws to take effect while we continue to vigorously defend the constitutionality of these important protections for women and unborn children across the Commonwealth."

See "Kentucky," page 11

#### Mainstream pro-lifers do not condone violence

By Olivia Gans Turner, president, Virginia Society for Human Life (VSHL)

Editor's note. This letter to the editor appeared in the Roanoke Times on July 29.

A July 25 letter from a Radford resident ('Pro-life' faction has grim history of violence) suggested that the pro-life movement is responsible for random acts of violence perpetrated by outliers in the 1990s and early 2000s. The exact opposite is true. In fact, mainstream prolife organizations are on record condemning those actions in the strongest terms. By contrast, there are no statements pro-abortion groups denouncing the actions of those vandalizing pregnancy centers around Virginia offering free support to women seeking help.

Virginia Society for Human Life, the state affiliate of the National Right to Life Committee, aligns with statements of NRLC and repeated over the years since its founding. VSHL rejects all violent or illegal action

a longstanding policy that "its directors, officers, employees, agents or any person or entity acting in its name, or in concert with it, shall not encourage,



and supports prosecution for anyone who performs any such act. True pro-lifers work within the law to change the law.

From the resolution passed by the NRLC board in 1995:

WHEREAS, the National Right to Life Committee has

promote, or engage in any unlawful activities related to the purposes of the National Right to Life Committee, Inc.";

#### THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The National Right to Life Committee reaffirms its unequivocal condemnation of violence as a means to end abortion;

- 2. the National Right to Life Committee urges all who oppose abortion to adopt its policy of engaging in only peaceful, legal activities to seek protection for unborn children and aid women facing crisis pregnancies;
- 3. The National Right to Life Committee affirms that pro-life citizens have the same rights of free speech and peaceful legal assembly as any other citizens of the United States;
- 4. The National Right to Life Committee urges the media, for the common good, to cease immediately to publicize and promote the views of any who espouse or seek to justify violence as a tactic in the abortion debate and instead report the views of those who espouse non-violence and the use of peaceful legal means.

#### Encouraging Post-Roe State Legislation Update

By Ingrid Duran, Director, Department of State Legislation

Since the June 24th Supreme Court *Dobbs* decision that reversed the holdings in *Roe* and *Casey*, states have been busy either contemplating a special session to protect the unborn or working diligently to enforce any pre-*Roe* or trigger law already on the books.

A pre-Roe abortion ban is a law that was enacted prior to the 1973 Roe decision which made abortion legal. A trigger law is a law that would ban abortions as soon as a court has overturned Roe.

10 states have a pre-Roe abortion ban: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Texas, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

13 states have a trigger law:
Arkansas, Idaho, Kentucky,
Louisiana, Mississippi,
Missouri, North Dakota,
Oklahoma, South Dakota,
Tennessee, Texas, Utah, and
Wyoming.

So far, the unborn are currently protected by the steady stream of laws mentioned above, or gestational time limits. Some states have laws that protect

the unborn throughout gestation, others when there is a presence of a heartbeat around six (6) weeks gestation, and some when a preborn child is capable of feeling pain at 15 weeks.

The following states currently protect the unborn:

Alabama (throughout gestation), Arizona (at 15 weeks gestation¹) Arkansas (throughout), Florida (15 weeks), Georgia (6 weeks²), Kentucky (throughout), Louisiana (throughout), Mississippi (throughout), Missouri (throughout), Ohio (6 weeks), Oklahoma (throughout), South Carolina (6 weeks³), South Dakota (throughout), Tennessee (6 weeks), Texas⁴ (6 weeks) and in Wisconsin, while their pre-*Roe* abortion law has been challenged by the Governor and the Attorney General, abortion facilities have decided to stop performing abortions for fear or prosecution, and therefore preborn babies are saved.

There is also ongoing litigation in a few states. For instance, the trigger law in Idaho is currently in litigation and not in effect. Michigan and West Virginia's pre-*Roe* abortion bans were challenged in court, and a preliminary injunction was issued so those laws are currently not in effect. North Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming's trigger laws have been enjoined in litigation. Louisiana has had three instances where their trigger law has been in effect, then enjoined; it is currently in effect.

Some state legislatures have initiated special sessions since they now have the authority to protect the unborn. Recently, the Indiana, South Carolina, and West Virginia legislatures have held special sessions.

On the flips side, some state Governors have also looked to protect abortion in an assortment of directives that claim to protect abortion access, and/or protect abortionists from judgments filed in other states. Responding to a circumstance that has never happened.



CAROL TOBIAS
President

WALL STREET JOURNAL POLL IS THE LATEST TO SHOW SUPPORT FOR PROTECTIVE LEGISLATION FOR UNBORN BABIES

"In 1973, when Roe v. Wade was decided, the technology did not exist to allow babies to survive outside the womb at 21 or 22-weeks' gestation. With the advancement of science, more babies survive before what has been previously considered 'viability.' As Americans learn about the life of the unborn baby in the womb, they are rejecting abortion."

The Governors from Colorado, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Washington State have all issued an executive order directing all state agencies to protect abortion access and prohibiting state agencies from cooperating with any investigations from other states. Michigan's Governor not only challenged their pre-*Roe* abortion ban as mentioned above, but also issued a similar executive order like the above-mentioned states.

So, while the status of these laws may change, one thing is for certain: pro-lifers in all states are working even harder to protect these unborn children. We are already preparing for more special sessions, and for the regular sessions due to begin in January 2023.

NRL News Today will continually update you on our progress.

#### **Notes:**

- [1] Arizona also has a pre-*Roe* abortion ban and a personhood law that is currently in litigation and not in effect.
- [2] Georgia was just challenged this week, the law remains in effect, but this may change.
- [3] South Carolina's law was recently challenged in state court, their law remains in effect.
- [4] Texas also has a pre-*Roe* law that is also in effect, and a trigger law that will take effect on August 25, 2022.

### Media promotes lies and disinformation about miscarriages and ectopic pregnancies

By Laura Echevarria, NRL Director of Communications and Press Secretary

Since the *Dobbs* decision. members ofthe news media have colluded with the abortion industry, proabortion Democrats, and the White House in a troubling misinformation campaign. In its efforts to keep its grip on the money it makes convincing women that abortion is the answer to the troubles they may face, the abortion industry and its supporters have pushed the narrative that women facing a miscarriage or an ectopic pregnancy will die without access to abortion.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

With the help of a sympathetic news media, contrary to what the abortion industry and its supporters have peddled, abortion and miscarriages are not the same thing. An abortion, by definition, is a deliberate, violent action designed to cause the death of an unborn child. A miscarriage is the loss of an unborn child that occurs naturally and through no deliberate actions.

An ectopic pregnancy is when the baby implants outside the mother's uterus—most often in the fallopian tube. An ectopic pregnancy is a life-threatening situation for the mother that puts her in eminent danger. The only way to save the mother's life is through a surgical procedure that removes the fallopian tube and, by extension, the unborn baby. Sadly, there is nothing that can be done to save the life of the child.

Neither a miscarriage nor an ectopic pregnancy are related to abortion yet pro-abortion groups and their sympathizers have presented terrifying falsehoods to a media eager to further the misinformation campaign. They insist that protective pro-life laws that became active with the reversal

country and around the world.

And legacy media has obliged. Here's an example.

From a July 12 article in the *Washington Post*:

Doctors and abortion rights advocates have warned that bans on the procedure and on the abortion pill will create a health crisis patients report delayed or denied miscarriage care because doctors and pharmacists fear running afoul of abortion bans.

And the headline from a July 20 *CNN* news story reads

"In some states, doctors weigh



of Dobbs are placing women in danger. They allege that doctors don't know if they will be prosecuted for helping a woman following a miscarriage or if they will be arrested for performing a surgical procedure to remove an ectopic pregnancy. In most cases, the laws at issue are explicit in describing an abortion or excluding ectopic pregnancies and miscarriages. But, this doesn't help the abortion industry. So, as usual, they make up scenarios and situations, lie about the law, and expect the media to promulgate the lie at length-across the

for millions, including those seeking care for miscarriages. Biden signed an executive order last week to safeguard access to abortion medication and emergency contraception.

And the subhead summary from a July 17 *New York Times* article:

Surgical procedures and medication for miscarriages are identical to those for abortion, and some 'ruinous' litigation against proper care for women who have miscarriages."

Spreading this misinformation is fearmongering, plain and simple. But the abortion industry and its allies rely on fearmongering in their attempts to maintain control.

As we move forward, the prolife movement, as always, will rely on the truth and we will challenge news articles and political statements that use lies and misinformation to create fear.

#### How to open hearts and minds to the national tragedy of abortion

By Maria V. Gallagher, Legislative Director, Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation

It has probably happened to you at some point in your life's journey—you have to excuse yourself from a meeting, a party, or some other event because of a family crisis. There really is no need to explain, because virtually everyone can relate. An incident comes up that is dire, that requires immediate

a crisis? If thousands of women everyday are left to grieve children lost to death, is that not a crisis? If boys and girls are losing brothers and sisters, friends and companions, without having an opportunity to mourn, is that not a crisis?

Pro-lifers believe in education, in changing hearts

child, who are so removed from what is happening to unborn children and their mothers they actually celebrate abortion.

We must work diligently to educate them so that they can see with their mind's eye what abortion really is: the taking of an innocent, unrepeatable life.

Others do not go this far.

reluctant to take the immediate, life-affirming action that is necessary to combat it. They are the lukewarm.

So how do we reach the lukewarm? I believe we need to be consistently sharing stories—stories of women and men who survived botched abortions...women who have undergone abortions, but now regret them...women who were saved from abortion by the intervention of love.

Here is another category. Those who may believe that legal abortion in this country has gone on for so long, it no longer constitutes a crisis or is beyond remedy. But I disagree. Whenever someone's life hangs in the balance, it is a crisis—a critical moment in history that demands loving, peaceful action.

Speaking for myself, I go through each day behaving as if abortion was just legalized yesterday. For 2,400 little ones, today is their death date.

Yet because there is an army of pro-life volunteers working unceasingly, I look forward with hope to the day when a far greater number of government officials, community leaders, and clergy will see the abortion crisis for what it is: a massive tragedy that demands immediate attention and a concrete compassionate response.



attention in order to be resolved.

Merriam-Webster offers a definition of the word "crisis" which I feel is particularly instructive: "a situation that has reached a critical phase."

If 2,400 people are dying each day from a preventable cause, would not that constitute

and minds. How do we reach those who seemingly are unable—or unwilling—to grasp the scope of this tragedy?

It depends on where they are on the spectrum. For example, there are people in this world who, sadly, do not recognize the humanity of the unborn They seem to recognize abortion as something negative and undesirable. Yet, by their words and actions, they fail to recognize abortion as the crisis it is.

Yes, it is regrettable, they seem to say, but so are a variety of other social ills. They appear

### Building an "altar" in which to place the "products of conception" after a chemical abortion

By Dave Andrusko

More than once I have characterized abortion as a secular sacrament. If ever you were tempted to think I was going overboard, consider this.

Scrolling through the Internet, conservative activist Drew Hernandez uncovered an extremely disturbing "DIY" video on YouTube. Of what, you ask.

"A woman teaches how to build an altar for a post abortion, which includes a container for the remains of the baby after being aborted and the abortion pills on the altar, she ends the DIY video by kneeling before the altar," Hernandez wrote. He provides a link to the video.

"Welcome to building your altar," our mentor coos. Why an altar? For starters it "creates a space for your sacred container" into which you will place the "products of conception." (You notice that in the six minute long video, she uses "sacred" about every other sentence as if to ward off evil spirits and/

or criticism.) It's unclear how soon she recommends burying the baby's remains. You may want to "contemplate" it again at a later date.

She tells us that before building any altar she begins give reverence to the experience and hold the experience in a really sacred way."

Micaiah Bilger describes the setting:

On a small table, the woman places a lit



by cleansing the space. She light up a small piece of paper and fans the smoke. (Always have a candle or two so there is "always light within the darkness."]

"It's a really beautiful way to

candle, crystals, a tarot card and an image of the Virgin Mary. At one point, she fans herself and the area around her with incense to "clean the space." Later, she places a packet of abortion pills on the table to "bless" them, encouraging women to "really put your intention for healing into the pills before you take them."

(That and a "dab" of "sacred oil." She advises women to lay down a red cloth followed by a container to hold "fetal remains"—the dead baby.)

"Once your altar is complete," she counsels, "go ahead and sit in front of it, taking a moment to contemplate your experience." After facing the altar for 20 seconds— contemplating" the "sacred" abortion experience—she turns and faces the camera.

She folds her hand, prayer like. "Thanks for so much for building your altar with me today," she says. "So much love."

"So much love." The unintended irony is almost too much to bear.

#### Kentucky Court of Appeals removes temporary injunction blocking the state's Human Life Protection Act and Heartbeat law from going into effect

From page 6

In his ruling, Perry reasoned there "was a 'substantial likelihood' that the bans were unconstitutional in Kentucky and blocked the abortion restrictions from taking effect until a final decision on their constitutionality could be made by state courts," according to Andrew Jeong of the Washington Post. "Perry with two abortion clinics that said the bans were unconstitutional because they went against the rights to privacy and self-determination enshrined in state constitution.'

However Thompson "overruled Perry, on grounds that allowing abortions to proceed — even temporarily is unfair because the procedures would be irreversible, should state courts later rule the abortion restrictions to be constitutional," "The Court Jeong added. emphasizes, however, expresses opinion no whatsoever as to the merits of the underlying dispute."

Last week Cameron filed a 56-page filing petitioning Judge Thompson for emergency relief. He said Judge Perry's decision blocking the state's abortion ban was "egregiously wrong."

"Less than a month after the Supreme Court's decision in Dobbs, a single circuit judge has created the Kentucky version of Roe v. Wade," Cameron wrote. "The court below enjoined enforcement of two duly enacted statutes after finding that there is a substantial likelihood that the Kentucky Constitution contains a right to obtain an abortion. Just like Roe, that conclusion does not rest on any text in the Constitution. Nor does it rely on any history within the

Commonwealth."

Attorney General Cameron added, "We will soon find out if Kentucky courts will adhere to the text and original meaning of our state Constitution, or if they are intent on repeating the mistake of the failed *Roe v. Wade* decision."

Addia Wuchner, RN, Executive Director of Kentucky Right to Life, said "Kentucky Right to Life salutes Attorney General Daniel Cameron and his team for their perseverance and legal acumen in defending the laws of the Commonwealth and our Kentucky Constitution."

#### Pro-life recap of August 2 political primaries

By Karen Cross, National Right to Life Political Director

On Tuesday, August 2nd, voters in Arizona, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, and Washington cast their ballots in their respective state primaries.

lawyer Karrin Taylor Robson. Both women are strongly prolife, and both have called for expanding legal protections for unborn children and contains more Republican voters.

Like in the 1st Congressional District, Arizona's 2nd Congressional District has





Here is a pro-life recap of some of the key races:

#### Arizona

Blake Masters, a pro-life businessman and author, won the Republican nomination for U.S. Senate in Arizona. He will take on pro-abortion incumbent Democrat Sen. Mark Kelly, who holds a 0% voting record with National Right to Life. Kelly supports a policy of abortion on demand for any reason, and he supports using American tax dollars to pay for abortions. The Arizona Senate race is expected to be one of the most competitive of the 2022 cycle. The Cook Political Report puts the contest in the Tossup category.

The Republican primary in the Arizona Governor race remains undecided at this time, but former television news journalist Kari Lake holds a narrow lead over their mothers in Arizona. In contrast, the Democrats nominated Secretary of State of Arizona Katie Hobbs, who is a staunch abortion advocate. Hobbs supports a policy of abortion on demand for any reason until birth, and she supports using Arizona tax dollars to pay for abortions.

Arizona's 6th Congressional District, prolife incumbent Congressman David Schweikert faced strong primary challenges from two Republicans: Elijah Norton and Josh Barnett, both businessmen. With results still coming in, the race remains too close to call, but Schweikert holds a sizable lead over both challengers. Rep. Schweikert's district was competitive in previous election cycles but after this year's redistricting, the primary winner will face off against pro-abortion Democrat Jevin Hodge in district that

a Republican primary that is still too close to call. Six candidates are facing off for the chance to take on pro-abortion Congressman Tom O'Halleran. In the redistricting process, O'Halleran lost a significant amount of his Democratic base. and he will face steep odds to hold onto his seat. The Cook Political Report categorizes the race as Likely Republican. Currently leading the pack on the Republican side is combat veteran and small business owner Eli Crane, who is also a strong pro-life advocate.

Pro-abortion Congressman Greg Stanton in Arizona's 4th Congressional District is also facing a tough general election to hold onto his seat. Due to redistricting, the partisan breakdown of the district is virtually even, handing an opening to a Republican to unseat the Democrat incumbent. The Republican

primary remains too close to call but currently Kelly Cooper, a former Marine and restaurant owner, is in the lead while his closest competitor is trailing him by about 5 points. In contrast to Stanton's voting record supporting abortion on demand for any reason until birth, Cooper supports protections for unborn children and their mothers, and he opposes the use of tax dollars to pay for abortions.

In Arizona's 6th Congressional District, the retirement of pro-abortion Congresswoman Kirkpatrick and the drawing of new district boundaries with a partisan lean of R+7 have made this race a prime pickup opportunity for Republicans. The Cook Political Report has labeled the race as Lean Republican. Juan Ciscomani, who is pro-life, secured the Republican nomination on Tuesday evening. He will face off against pro-abortion Democrat Kirsten Engel. Engel supports a policy of abortion on demand for any reason until birth, and she would use Americans' tax dollars to pay for it. She is supported by EMILY's List, the radical pro-abortion fundraising giant which pours money into the campaigns of female Democrats who subscribe to their abortion-without-limits ideology.

#### Kansas

Incumbent Kansas Senator Jerry Moran officially secured the Republican nomination for another term in the U.S. Senate.

See "Recap," page 39

### Withholding information from doctors about abortion pill use is dangerous

By Chris Alexis

New York Magazine recently offered shockingly dangerous advice.

In the article "Guide to Abortion Access," writers Rebecca Grant and Elizabeth Isadora Gold tell women who are experiencing abortion pill complications that, "You are now having a miscarriage; everyone at the ER should treat you accordingly, so avoid mentioning abortion, and the pills, entirely."

This is exceptionally risky—in fact, it's downright dangerous.

"Encouraging women to hide their abortions hides any evidence of complications," said Christa Brown, director of Medical Impact for Heartbeat International.

"For the safety of women experiencing complications after an abortion, it is critically important they disclose to their healthcare team medications they have taken and recent procedures they have undergone," Brown said.

"The abortion chemicals given to women have serious side effects and when these complications occur, treatment should never be delayed," she added.

Jor-El Godsey, president of Heartbeat International, was equally horrified at *New York Magazine's* hazardous advice.

"There is no plausible health reason to instruct a person to lie to the medical professional that will be about taking care of them," he said. "Physicians need precise information in order to prescribe the best care for their patient."

But Godsey also suspects

why the magazine would steer women in this perilous direction.

"The only viable reason is that the abortion proponent wants the patient to be an accomplice in hiding the bad effects of the abortion pill," he said.

"Unethical guidance like this, apparently, is deemed less risky than a lawsuit that may be at increased risk of multiple hospitalizations and surgical intervention if they do not inform medical personnel that they are experiencing an abortion complication."

The following facts clearly

of 507% (2002 and 2015)

Countless women have been promised privacy before starting a chemical abortion. Providers tell them it will remain in their isolation of their own home.

As a result, the thought of sharing this information



might arise from an abortion pill complication," Godsey continued. 'Not for the patient though, but the abortion pill provider."

"Directing someone to lie about their condition is inappropriate guidance for those who claim to value bodily autonomy," he said.

A recent study revealed the specific dangers that can appear when a woman needs emergency care and her abortion is miscoded or concealed. Brown shared.

According to researchers:

"Abortion providers should advise women that they

refute the assertion that the abortion pill is completely safe. Chemical abortion has:

- four times the risk of complications with chemical abortion as compared with surgical abortion (recent studies)
- literally thousands of adverse events
- severe side effects, including heavy bleeding, intense pain, and death reported.
- an increase in emergency-roomvisit rates for women taking abortion pills

with a doctor in the event complications occur can be unpleasant.

"Healthcare professionals should not be judgmental about your situation," Brown said. "Your safety and wellbeing are the most important."

It is imperative for women to know that help is readily available if they are considering an abortion pill.

"Pregnancy help centers are a safe place to slow down and seek the information you need to make the best decision

See "Withholding," page 23

## Gov. DeSantis suspends Hillsborough County state attorney for pledging not to enforce Florida's new 15 week abortion ban

By Dave Andrusko

Pro-life Florida Governor Ron DeSantis has suspended Andrew Warren, the Hillsborough County state attorney, for pledging not to enforce the state's new abortion law, which took effect July 1. The law prohibits abortions after 15 weeks, with exceptions if the abortion is necessary to save the woman's life, prevent serious injury or if the unborn child has a fatal abnormality.

DeSantis selected Hillsborough County Circuit Court Judge Susan Lopez to replace Warren during his suspension.

"When you flagrantly violate your oath of office, when you make yourself above the law, you have violated your duty, you have neglected your duty and you are displaying a lack of competence to be able to perform those duties," DeSantis said to cheers.

"DeSantis focused heavily on Warren's signing of statements where prosecutors from across the country said they won't use their offices to pursue criminal cases against seekers or providers of abortion," the Associated Press reported. "More than 90 district attorneys, state attorneys general and other elected prosecutors across the U.S. have signed the letter saying they don't intend to prosecute people for seeking, providing or supporting abortions."

"The governor's suspension of State Attorney Warren is not political to me. It's about law and order. It's about ensuring our loved ones are safe. It's about the victims and their voices," said Hillsborough County Sheriff Chad Chronister. He said Warren has been acting as a kind of On April 14, when Gov. DeSantis signed the "Reducing Fetal and Infant Mortality Act" (House Bill 5) into law, he said "It's a statement of our values that every life is important."

DeSantis said being able

similar restrictions, some of which have been in effect for many years. Moreover, plaintiffs can point to no evidence that these laws have prevented any women — let alone all women — who desire



Pro-life Florida Governor Ron DeSantis after signing HB 5, the "Reducing Fetal and Infant Mortality Act"

"supreme authority by reducing charges, dropping cases and singlehandedly determining what crimes will be legal or illegal in our county."

DeSantis said Warren's conduct has fallen "below the standard of the Florida Constitution" and that he's neglected his duty to state law," the *AP* reported.

"I don't think the people of Hillsborough County want to have an agenda that is basically woke, where you're deciding that your view of social justice means certain laws shouldn't be enforced," DeSanctis said. to sign the bill prohibiting abortion after 15 weeks was "really meaningful."

"We are here today to defend those who can't defend themselves," DeSantis said on a stage surrounded by lawmakers, pro-life advocates and children. "This will represent the most significant protections for life that we have seen in a generation."

The bill signing come just days after Leon County Circuit Judge Angela Dempsey upheld a 24-hour waiting period, a law passed way back in 2015. "Twenty-six other states have

an abortion from obtaining one."

"Previously, Florida had allowed abortion through the second trimester of a pregnancy, making it one of the most permissive states for abortion in the southeast," according to CNN's Steve Contorno. "According to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Florida reported 71,914 abortions in 2019, or 18.5 per 1,000 women, the third highest rate in the country.

HB 5 passed the House by an overwhelming vote of 78-39 and the Senate by a 23-15.

#### NRL Academy Exemplifies Vision and Vocation

#### By Amy Baker

Editor's note. The NRLC Academy is a five and a half week long educational and training course for effective pro-life work and advocacy. The Academy roster this year included Lauren Lipinski. Lauren Shovlin, and Amy Baker. The Academy actually began with time spent at the NRLC Convention where everyone heard the tremendous news that Roe v Wade had been overturned

The National Right to Life brought Academy three of us together with unique differences and similarities from Ohio, Pennsylvania, and South Carolina. Our shared experiences from our states, combined with our personal stories. added significant value to the well-established academia that is the National Right to Life Academy.

Multiple articles could be written on the benefits of the National Right to Life Academy, the value it serves for the pro-life movement, and the challenging academic program it presents. In the words of inspirational writer Lailah Gifty Akita, "Where lies your vision, there will you find your vocation." Vision and vocation was exemplified by the National Right to Life leaders. we were determined to whole - heartedly absorb their vision

during our five weeks spent at the Academy.

Dr. Randall K. O'Bannon, the Academy Director, brought the intellectual side of the pro-life movement, combined with the historic nature and impact that *Roe* has had on our nation for nearly 50 years. His wisdom,

our imagination to become not only truth and fact tellers, but real people who would bring humanity back to the unborn, those marginalized by society, and the medically vulnerable.

Our lobbying sessions were conducted by Ingrid Duran, NRL State Legislative Director,



patience, and love of humanity created an environment for lively questions and discussion. The truth of the roots of *Roe* opened our eyes to the vision for why the three of us were at the Academy to begin with.

Raimundo Rojas, Director of Latino Outreach for NRL, engaged us in practicums with extremely uncomfortable topics that challenged us far beyond and Jennifer Popik, JD, NRL Federal Legislative Director. They exemplified all of the attributes that Mr. Rojas so strategically made impactful on us.

Karen Cross, Political Director, empowered us to be politically involved to continue the pro-life movement in our spheres of influence to elect pro-life leaders to our State and United States Legislatures. Jacki Ragan, Director of State Organizational Development Department and Conventions, encouraged us to be effective in the grassroots area of our movement.

NRL President Carol Tobias and Dr. David N. O'Steen, NRL Executive Director. showed us the importance of the intrinsic value of life and how to effectively communicate that to our society. Dave Andrusko, NRL News Today editor, gave us insight on where to find and write stories impactful for prolifers. Derrick Jones, NRL's Chief Marketing Officer, and Laura Echevarria, NRL Press Secretary, gave us the tools on how to effectively create a marketing and media relations campaign to present while at the Academy, and deliver to our states upon our return. Olivia Gans Turner, VSHL President, made sure we could competently answer questions with "When They Say, You Say".

There's more than meets the eye at the National Right to Life Academy. I expected to be challenged academically. What I discovered was a team of visionaries uniquely placed in their positions where their gifts and talents were best served. Their vision carried over to usand, now we begin making our own impact "for such a time as this".

### "Thank you, National Right to Life for investing in me and the other students. I hope to make you all proud!"

#### By Lauren Shovlin

Editor's note. Lauren Shovlin was one of three outstanding students who attended the NRL Academy, a five week crash course in pro-life work and advocacy. The Academy students were in attendance at the NRL Convention when the Supreme Court's historic decision came down. The following are her reflections.

The moment of *Roe*'s overturn will forever remain a vivid snapshot in my memory. The shouts of exclamation, tears of joy, and loving embraces that befell the conference room at NRLC's National Convention the moment of Roe's reversal brought me an overwhelming sense of humility and honor. I couldn't have imagined a more humbling and inspiring way to learn of Roe's demise than alongside so many who had been in the movement since and prior to '73.

It was at that moment that the words of *Esther* seemed more relevant than ever: that perhaps, I, and those around me in the conference room, were intentionally there "for such a time as this" (4:14).

My experience at the NRLC Academy affirmed and reaffirmed this premonition. While acting as one of the most demanding, exhausting, and (quite honestly) humbling experiences of my life, the Academy has equipped me with an unfathomable amount of knowledge, insight, wisdom, and friendships that will last me a lifetime (and beyond).

In the past two years, I can vividly remember wishing there was an opportunity to participate in an intensive program that would teach me everything I needed to effectively lead the pro-life club at Penn State. As the president

of the club the past two years, I learned what every pro-lifer eventually realizes: you only learn to swim when you venture into the water. "God qualifies the called" is not just a cliché, but a fact that proved true for me in my formation in this movement, especially through the Academy.

I have learned not only the biological basis for the pro-life position, but the philosophical and social basis, all which meld into a beautiful composite of the truth. This Academy has taught me that logic flows from truth and that every aspect of the pro-life position is founded in truth, logic, and reason.

When I initially applied to this Academy, I had no idea I would meet so many incredible pro-life leaders that would change how I viewed myself, the movement, and those I interacted with.

My roommate and classmate, Lauren Lapinski, taught me to recognize the woman in front of me, rather than immediately looking past her and into her womb. If we don't genuinely love the life of the woman in front of us, we cannot claim the honorable title of "pro-life."

My other classmate, Amy Baker, taught me how to be comfortable in the uncomfortable, how to voice my beliefs unabashedly and unapologetically. Her eagerness to learn had no time for pride or ego, and her urgency reminded me that this movement isn't about me but about something greater.

My primary teacher, Dr. Randy O'Bannon, demonstrated how to serve others authentically and humbly, bringing intellect, energy, and love to every class.

Rai Rojas, my other teacher, expected nothing short of

excellence from his students, reminding me of historian Will Durant's interpretation of Aristotle's words: "we are what we repeatedly do... therefore excellence is not an act, but a habit. "Rai called

confirmation dates of all 9 US Supreme Court Justices to connecting with my pro-choice classmates back at Penn State.

Olivia Gans Turner revealed the power of listening and smiling, demonstratingwhat



us to excellence in everything we did, from responding to his texts (of which, I admit, I could have done a better job!) to formulating quick responses while mock lobbying.

Carol Tobias, NRL President, taught me the importance of poise, and displayed the calm that inevitably follows those who bear the truth. We are made for truth and by Truth. Carol's elegance and confidence taught me that we all inherently yearn for truth, and people respond to that.

Jacki Ragan revealed how deep a hug can penetrate the soul, never failing to ease my homesickness or worries about my Academy performance with her nurturing heart. A woman's heart is created towards motherhood, to receive another and to bear fruit. Even Eve in the Garden picked the fruit of the tree. Despite this disordered act, it is clear women have an innate desire to bear fruit, and that is, to bear life.

Jacki taught me that I must bear fruit in whatever I do in life, from memorizing the it means to authentically welcome those in front me. She emphasized the immeasurable worth of individuals, each of whom have valid and very real desires, pain, and feelings, from whom I have much to learn. As children of God, and especially as women, we are all tabernacles, or vessels, for Christ. Olivia exemplified the womanly virtue of receptivity so important in the pro-life movement.

These were only a few of the many incredible witnesses to life I had the honor of encountering during my time at the Academy. I leave these five weeks not only more confident in my knowledge of the pro-life position but more convicted and equipped to share this knowledge with those that I meet throughout my life.

I cannot fully convey my appreciation and honor at receiving the opportunity to attend the Academy. Thank you, National Right to Life for investing in me and the other students. I hope to make you all proud!

#### Biden's job approval remains dismal, handling of the economy in the same range

By Dave Andrusko

How quickly—supposedly things have changed for proabortion President Joe Biden. Having passed the "Inflation Reduction Act"-a misnomer if ever the was one; it's actually "Build Back Better 2.0"we're told this "deliver[ed] a major win for President Joe Biden and his agenda before the midterm elections."

Will this affect President Biden's job approval numbers, as seen in the latest Gallup's poll? There are many awful figures but this is probably the topper: "Since Gallup started polling presidential approval in the 1950s, in fact, no one has ever rated more poorly in the summer of his second year than Biden." That figure is 38%, the first time Biden has dropped below 40% in a Gallup survey.

Jeffrey M. Jones tell us "The July 5-26 Gallup survey finds 59% of Americans disapproving of the job Biden is doing, the highest for him to date." He adds

> While Biden retains the support of the vast majority of Democrats, **78%** approval among rating fellow partisans ties as the lowest for him to date, having previously descended to that level in December.

> The 31% of independents approving of Biden is a new low for him, while Republican approval continues to be scarce.

"Scarce" as in 13% of Republicans!

Gallup's result is hardly an outlier. Biden's job approval rate is 39.6%, according to

Real Clear Politics's average of major polls.

Meanwhile a brand new ABC News/Ipsos poll found that the public's outlook on the economy remains dismal.

Americans' views of Biden's handling the economic recovery remain overwhelmingly negative -- and are



Hannah Demissie tells us

With the midterm elections three months awav. **Americans** maintain a sour view on the state of the economy and pessimistic about its future course, with President Joe Biden's approval rating across a range of issue areas continuing to suffer, according to a new ABC News/Ipsos poll.

More than two-thirds (69%) of Americans nation's think the economy is getting worse -- the highest that measure has reached since 2008, when it was 82% in an ABC News/ Washington Post poll. Currently, only 12% think the economy is getting better and 18% think it is essentially staying the same.

virtually unchanged from the same poll in early June, with only 37% of Americans approving of the job the president is doing and 62% disapproving in the latest ABC News/ Ipsos poll, which was conducted using Ipsos' KnowledgePanel.

The president's rating on inflation is even worse, with 29% of Americans saying they approve, while 69% disapprove. This number is also unchanged since June.

One other factor that is not getting much play: how poorly abortion is playing Hispanics (whose support Democrats are already hemorrhaging) and Blacks. The Associated Press reports

> Facing critical races for governor and U.S.

**Democratic** hopefuls in Wisconsin hoping their support for abortion rights in the face of a Supreme Court ruling that overturned Roe v. Wade can overcome the headwinds of a midterm election long expected to favor Republicans. But there's one key group their strategies might fail to mobilize: Black voters.

AUGUST 2022

An issue with strong support from white **Democrats** is more complicated in the Black community, especially among churchgoers who hold more conservative views on abortion. The topic is so fraught that most community organizers avoid bringing it up.

"Among the Black Baptist church alone, that would split us in half," said David Liners. executive director of WISDOM, a faith-based organizing group with a statewide presence, when asked why his group isn't organizing around abortion.

And, oh by the way, the Associated Press reported

When asked how enthusiastic they were about voting in November, the poll found that 75% of Republicans are either somewhat very  $\mathbf{or}$ enthusiastic about voting, compared to 68% of Democrats and 49% of independents.

### Women are being lied to about what pro-life movement seeks

By Olivia Gans Turner, President, Virginia Society for Human Life

Editor's note. This appeared in the Roanoke Times.

The climate surrounding the reversal of Roe v. Wade is a swirling mess of hysteria misinformation stirred up by pro-abortion activists and the industry that 50 years of legalized abortion created. Abortion promoters, including Planned Parenthood, stage rallies and spread half-truths and confusion about what the Dobbs ruling actually does and doesn't do. The distress created in the minds of many women has one immediate result: a powerful new fundraising trick for those same abortion groups.

The Supreme Court's ruling did not make abortion illegal anywhere, much less prevent vital appropriate medical care for any woman. The justices spelled out very clearly what was and what was not an abortion, and they also clarified that treatment intended to save a mother's life was not in jeopardy. In fact, the decision specifically says that the states have a vested interest in "the protection of maternal health and safety."

Perhaps the most heinous lie is that women will be denied lifesaving treatment during a pregnancy. Media stories suggests that when a woman faces a threat to her life by a pregnancy in states with strict child seeks to protect the life and health of both patients, where possible. In contrast, the purpose of abortion is to cause the death of one of the

ABORTION: KILLS ONE, HURTS ANOTHER

abortion regulations, she will not be medically treated.

This is simply not true.

It is important to distinguish the medical treatment of ectopic pregnancies and miscarriages from abortion procedures. Medical treatment of a pregnant mother and her patients, namely the unborn child. An abortion procedure is not the same thing as treatment for an ectopic pregnancy or miscarriage management.

Every mainstream prolife organization in America supports this understanding of medical procedures to treat miscarriage and ectopic pregnancy and has supported appropriate legislative language that has already passed many state legislatures; we will continue to support and promote this language in future pro-life legislation. Thankfully, modern medicine can in many life-threatening circumstances protect both mother and child.

The other terrible lie being pushed by abortion advocates is that women who get abortions will be punished. Pro-abortion groups are once again preying on our fears to push their antiwoman and child agenda.

Nothing like this will ever be supported by the mainstream pro-life movement. To make it clear where they stood on this point: on May 12, 70 leading pro-life groups signed a letter spearheaded by the National Right to Life Committee rejecting legislation that would seek to punish women who have abortions. The letter can be read at https://bit.ly/prolifeletter.

The pro-life movement has spent the last 50 years building networks of support for women and their babies that offer extensive services, free of charge, to any mother as long as needed.

### Minnesota report reveals five babies born alive after abortion in 2021

By Sarah Terzo

Minnesota has released its annual report on abortions that took place in the state in 2021. The report reveals that five babies were born alive after abortions. All were denied medical care, even though this is illegal in Minnesota. All of them died.

The Minnesota Born Alive Infants Protection Act, passed in 2015, states:

When an abortion is performed after the 20th week of pregnancy, a physician, other than physician performing the abortion, shall be immediately accessible to take all reasonable measures consistent with good medical practice... to preserve the life and health of any born alive infant that is the result of the abortion.

There is no way to determine how old these babies were, but the report also reveals that 159 abortions were committed last year in Minnesota between 21 and 24 weeks, and one was committed between 25 and 30 weeks. Any one of these babies could have been born alive.

The youngest premature baby ever to survive was Richard Scott William Hutchinson, who was born at 21 weeks and two days. Despite being given a 0% chance of survival at birth, Hutchinson went home after six months in the hospital. In 2021, his family celebrated his first birthday.

Ironically, Hutchinson received his lifesaving care in the state of Minnesota,

at Children's Minnesota in Minneapolis. Even though there was a facility that had saved babies as young as 21 weeks right in Minnesota, none have survived this procedure.

Later abortions can be done by induction, and it is more likely a baby will be born alive in this case, because the child a staff member cares for the baby until s/ he dies. If staff does not have the time or desire to hold the



of the five babies born alive after abortions were transferred there.

In one case, the baby had "fetal anomalies," which the report says caused his or her death after delivery. According to the report, "No measures taken to preserve life were reported and the infant did not survive."

Notably, the Missouri law doesn't exempt doctors from providing medical care if the baby has a fetal anomaly.

Two of the babies were said to be "previable." They were not given any medical care. The report doesn't stay how far along these children were, so it's conceivably possible that they were less than 20 weeks. But it's highly unlikely because abortions between 14 and 21 weeks are done by D&E, where the baby is dismembered, rather than induction. You can see a former abortion doctor describe a D&E below. It is highly unlikely a child could

is delivered intact after being poisoned, and the poison has been known to fail to kill the baby. You can see a video about these abortions below.

The other two babies were considered viable and could've survived with medical treatment. However, neither baby received it. According to the report:

"comfort care measures were provided as planned and the infant did not survive."

Nurse Jill Stanek, who worked in the ironically named Christ Hospital, where abortions were committed, defined comfort care as "keeping the baby warm in a blanket until s/he dies."

Stanek further explains "comfort care":

Parents may hold the baby if they wish. If the parents do not want to hold their dying aborted baby, baby, s/he is taken to Christ Hospital's new Comfort Room. Before the Comfort Room was established, babies were taken to the Soiled Utility Room to die.

Stanek later testified before Congress. She and others successfully lobbied for a national Born Alive Infants Protection Act to be passed.

Unfortunately, the report makes clear that abortion facilities are simply ignoring the law and letting babies die. Incidentally, the statistics reveal that 3% of babies aborted at 21 weeks or later in Minnesota were born alive. If the statistic holds true for the rest of the country, this would mean there are roughly 335 abortion live births a year.

Editor's note. This appeared at Live Action News and is reposted with permission.

#### A lovely twist: "There goes my life" because two teenagers made the right choice

By Dave Andrusko

Who knew—I sure didn't—that Country Western Music Superstar Kenny Chesney had sung one of the most powerful life-affirming song you'll ever encounter. And if you are, like me, a dad with a loving wife and three beautiful daughters

2003. I stumbled across it this weekend.

At first we see a young woman sitting in a car, looking at something we can't see. Then, as Kenny sings, we see a young man on his high school football team, meeting his girlfriend Got my whole life ahead.
Hell I'm just a kid myself.
How'm I gonna raise one.
She's crying, he's crying
All he could see were his
dreams goin' up in smoke.
So much for ditchin' this town
and hangin' out on the coast.

to bed. As she drags her teddy bear up the stairs, his daughter smiles back at him. Kenny sings

There goes my life.
There goes my future, my
everything.
I love you, daddy good-night.
There goes my life.

The song transitions from the little girl going up the stairs to a young woman coming down the stairs. She has dreams of her own, which, as it happens, is down that long freeway ending in that same West Coast her dad gave up without a moment's regret.

What we saw her looking at in the first few seconds in now revealed: it's a picture of her Mom and Dad back when he was playing football.

She smiles as she drives away and her Mom and Dad hug each other as tightly as they did her. And Kenny sings

There goes my life.
There goes my future, my
everything.
I love you.
Baby good-bye.

Take 4:55 second and listen to "There Goes My Life". You'll be so glad you did.



and one wonderful daughterin-law, "There goes my life" is almost unbearably poignant.

The song, written by Wendell Mobley and Neil Thrasher, was composed nearly twenty years ago— in after practice. She tells him she is pregnant. Understandably—these are teenagers, after all—all he can think of at first is himself.

All he could think about was I'm too young for this.

And then we flash forward a few years and the "mistake" he thought he'd made is now a precious young daughter whose pictures cover up the refrigerator....

Momma's waiting to put her



You, your family, and your friends may remember a deceased loved one by making a memorial contribution to National Right to Life. This memorial gift is a fitting way to remember a lifetime of love for the unborn at the time of death. Your contribution can also be made to commemorate birthdays, new arrivals, anniversaries, Mother's Day, Father's Day, or any other special occasion. An acknowledgment card in your name will be sent to the family or person you designate. The contribution amount remains confidential.

#### In Memory of

Lorraine Adler Linda L Shorb

**Joan P. Allgaier** Michael Allgaier

Nancy Berger Jim & Margie Forshey

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Gene & Mary Lou Cooley MaryJo Hidecker

Rena T. Dempsey John & Frances Yurek

Judy Frideres Meg Frideres

Rose Gerrard Carolyn Schultz

Catherine Gibbons Sueanne Belicose

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My Aborted Child Mark Czerwinski

**My Unborn Baby in Heaven** Daniel Mishkin

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Julie Cowan Patricia Cowan

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**Kathleen Hryckewicz** Amy Piske

Julianna Jameau Christopher Finnegan

**Dezarae Lacrue** Ken Falkenstein

Henrietta Massina Susan Chipouras

Christian Mullins Robert Mullins

Cherryville, Missouri Class of 1956 B Douglas Munsell

**Child of Kaitlin Reichart** Tom Lahowetz

August 2022

You can make your contribution in loving memory or in honor of someone online at donate.nrlc.org or by sending your contribution along with the form below.

You can also send a check payable to National Right to Life Committee to:
National Right to Life Development Office
1446 Duke Street | Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Please include information on the memorial or tribute and the address to acknowledge your gift to the family of the deceased or the honoree.

#### 10,000+ Canadian Euthanasia Killings in 2021

By Wesley J. Smith

Canada has gone all in for euthanasia, and it is going to get worse now that the "strict guidelines to protect against abuse" — in the movement's parlance — have expanded to people with chronic and disabling conditions, and will soon expand to those with dementia and mental illnesses

The statistics are startling and illustrate that once euthanasia consciousness infects a culture, it grows like a fungus. Alex Schadenberg of the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition reports that:

Comparing the Third Annual report (2021) to the Second Annual Report (2020), the report states that there were: **10,064 assisted deaths in 2021** up from 7603 in 2020, 5661 in 2019, 4480 in 2018, 2838 in 2017 and 1018 in 2016.

The report indicates that the number of assisted deaths increased by 32.4% representing 3.3% of all deaths in 2021.

When all data sources are considered, the total of number of (MAiD) reported assisted deaths in Canada from legalization to December 31, 2021 is **31,664**.

That's a huge number. With the newly loosened guidelines fully in effect for 2022, the darkness will only deepen.

A few more thoughts:

- Some of these people might still be alive had they received sustained suicide prevention treatment. But that essential service is not usually offered to people asking for euthanasia Canada assisted suicide in the U.S.). This abdication of compassion profound abandonment of the despairing ill.
- Only 15 percent of Canadians have access to quality palliative care — compassionate treatments that can make all the difference in wanting to live or die.
  - In Ontario, doctors have no conscience rights. They must either kill qualified patients who ask to die or find a doctor they know will do the deed known in the euphemisms so typical of the movement as an "effective referral."

Some people were euthanized out of fear of loneliness caused by Covid lockdowns. In one case, a woman asked to die because eligible for euthanasia.

Some readers may think that this doesn't matter because Canada isn't the U.S. That reaction is truly whistling past







of the isolation she would face. Ironically, her family was allowed to attend her death, but not visit as a means of helping her continue on. Moreover, hundreds of people chose death, at least in part, due to fear of loneliness in 2019, a trend that has continued.

- Canada conjoins euthanasia and organ harvesting, giving the despairing a reason to choose death over life.
- Beginning in 2023, the mentally ill will be

the graveyard. Canada is our closest cultural cousin. If it can happen there, it can happen here, too.

And here's a shocking truth: Nearly 4 million Americans die each year. If the same percentage of people were killed by doctors here as are now in Canada, it would amount to more than 120,000 euthanasia killings per year. And even more, if (when) the law permitted euthanasia/ assisted suicide beyond the terminally ill, as will surely happen should the American culture swallow the euthanasia movement's cultural hemlock.

#### CPAC Texas Speaks for Life

#### By Carol Tobias, President

I had the amazing opportunity to participate in "CPAC Texas" in Dallas on August 4. I participated in a panel discussion with Sandy Rios, host of Sandy Rios in the Morning, and Amanda Head of Real America's Voice to talk about a post-Roe America.

I encouraged attendees not to take anything for granted. Even if they live in a pro-life state—a state that already has or soon will have laws that protect unborn children—the abortion industry and its advocates will seek to challenge those laws, wanting instead to

protect abortion and abortion providers.

I was encouraged by staff members of CPAC who relayed heightened audience interest in the pro-life panel, that protecting unborn children was clearly a high priority for those in attendance.

Several people later told me they appreciated the panel and were determined to get more involved in the fight for life back in their states. That was wonderful to hear because with the many battles ahead of us, we need all hands on deck!



NRLC President speaking at CPAC

### Withholding information from doctors about abortion pill use is dangerous

From page 13

possible," Brown said. "They do not profit from your choice and will help you free of charge."

Many times women who do choose a chemical abortion are suddenly flooded with regret as the reality of what they have done hits them.

But it might not be too late.

If a woman chooses chemical abortion and has regret, the Abortion Pill Rescue® Network (APRN) is available to help. The Abortion Pill Reversal Hotline is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The number is 877-558-0333.

"No one should face these challenges alone, and there is

no obligation to start reversal if you call for information," Brown said. "Our team of nurses is trained to answer your questions, explain abortion pill reversal, complete a medical intake, and connect you with a local provider as quickly as possible to begin treatment."

Women who start the reversal within 72 hours have a 68% percent success rate (oral protocol), she added. Those odds give women a decent shot of saving their children.

But whether through chemical or surgical means, when a child does pass away from abortion, it often leads to long-last devastation for the mother. "In my 25 years of assisting thousands of women with pregnancy choices, rarely have I seen women actually hoping to abort," Brown said.

"It's not the empowering moment the media portrays it to be," she said. "Instead, it's often a moment marked with great sadness and defeat — one that is replayed in her head for years to come."

Brown shared witnessing the "real grief" for the pregnancies lost to abortion.

"I can still remember the pain in their voices and the sadness in their faces as they explained what they felt they must do," she recalled. And she said women are stronger than the abortion industry gives them credit for, and they can live without intentionally stopping the lives of their children.

"I found the women we helped to be resourceful, emotionally strong, courageous, and often able to parent their children when given the chance," Brown said. "And I also found that women regret their abortions."

Editor's note: Heartbeat International manages the Abortion Pill Rescue® Network (APRN) and Pregnancy Help News where this first appeared. Reposted with permission.

# FBI search warrant, obtained by Fox News Digital, shows online postings from Kavanaugh assassination suspect

#### By Dave Andrusko

A FBI search warrant obtained by Fox News Digital reveals that "26-year-old Nicholas John Roske Googled various search terms related to the attack, including 'how to be stealthy,' 'assassin skills' and 'most effective place to sb someone' in the weeks leading up to the planned attack" on Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh.

The warrant also makes Roske's motivation crystal clear: he was furious at the prospect of *Roe v. Wade* being overturned and by killing Justice Kavanaugh it had the additional "benefit" of giving his life "meaning."

"im gonna stop roe v wade from being overturned," Roske told another internet user in an online conversation, according to the documents. Quoting from the warrant...

The other user responded with, "what u tryna do."

Roske said back, "remove some people from the Supreme Court."

The person Roske was speaking with said that "two dead judges ain't gonna Roske responded, "yeah but I could get at least one, which would change the votes for



do nothing. The whole government is f\*\*\*\* There's no fixing that You would die before you killed them all."

decades to come, and I am shooting for 3 all of the major decisions for the past 10 years have been along party lines so if there are more liberal than conservative judges, they will have the power."

The other two of the "3" justices were not identified.

Roske, who had pleaded not guilty, was "carrying a gun, ammunition, a knife, pepper spray, a screwdriver, zip ties, and other gear when he was arrested by Montgomery County Police Department officers early in the morning outside Kavanaugh's home in early June," according to *Fox News Digital*.

Roske took a cab to Justice Kavanaugh's neighborhood "and was spotted by U.S. marshals but was apprehended after he called 911 and told the operator that he was having suicidal thoughts and was planning to kill Kavanaugh."

"During the 15-minute 911 call, Roske said that he was 'having thoughts' and traveled from California to 'act on them."

### Help the church provide real choices to pregnant women

By Joseph Naumann, Archbishop for the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas

Editor's note. This is taken from May 20th issue of The Leaven, the official newspaper of the Archdiocese of Kansas City and was written prior to the vote on the "Value Them Both" amendment.

Once again, I encourage every member of the archdiocese to vote in favor of the "Value Them Both" amendment. While I earnestly hope that someday Kansas will protect every mother and unborn child from the tragedy that results from every abortion, the "Value Them Both" amendment will not ban abortion.

What it will do is return to the people of Kansas through their elected representatives the ability to determine public policy regarding abortion. It will correct the false claim of the Kansas Supreme Court that the Kansas Constitution contains a right to abortion. It will allow the state Legislature to protect Kansas from becoming a destination state for abortion.

"Value Them Both" will allow the people of Kansas, not a few unelected judges, to decide whether taxpayers should be coerced to fund abortion; whether parents have a right to know about their minor daughter's pregnancy; whether women have a right to know about the possible physical and psychological consequences of abortion; whether mothers have a right to see ultrasound images of their child; and whether abortion facilities are required to observe health and safety standards.

It is important not only to vote in favor of "Value Them Both," but to be knowledgeable about the amendment in order to be able to encourage family, friends, neighbors and coworkers also to vote in favor of "Value Them Both." With the disinformation originating from the abortion industry and being disseminated by a complicit media, we should not be surprised that many people are confused about abortion.

Legalized abortion has been sold as a foundational right for the health and equality of women. Abortion has been promoted as a woman's right to choose. This slogan is an incomplete sentence. No one is in favor of all choices. Every law limits our choices.

We must ask the question: What is being chosen? Every abortion destroys a unique human life. Ironically, we know more about the beginning of human life today than at any previous point of human history. Follow the science. We know today that at the moment of conception a new, unique human life has begun. The tiny embryo has a unique DNA, different from the genetic code of both mother and father.

There is no authentic scientific confusion about the beginning of human life. Consider modern fertility treatments, such as in vitro fertilization (IVF). There are significant moral problems with in vitro fertilization, but this technology illustrates that fertilization of the female egg by a male sperm is the necessary beginning for a new human life. What is chosen in every abortion is the destruction of a unique human being who can never be replicated.

Current public policy places all the responsibility upon the woman in the so-called choice of abortion. In so doing, it absolves men from any responsibility to care for and support his child and his or her mother. It should not surprise us that the legalization of abortion was

led and initiated by men, who recruited high profile modern feminists to become the face of the pro-abortion movement.

The reality is that most women who have abortions do so because they believe they have no other choice. Abortion



Joseph Naumann, Archbishop for the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas

does not value women and their unique ability to nurture a new human life within their womb. Abortion liberates men from any responsibility to mother and child and entices and encourages women to attack an essential part of their femininity.

In addition to supporting "Value Them Both," this is also a moment for Catholics to renew and deepen our commitment to supporting abortion alternative ministries. The bishops of the United States initiated Walking with Moms in Need two years ago, challenging every Catholic to help provide real choices for pregnant women.

We need to support our pregnancy resource centers — not only financially, but with our

time and talent as well. Abortion advocates accuse pro-lifers of only caring about the birth of the child. Nothing could be further from the truth. Our pregnancy resource centers not only accompany mothers through the pregnancy but for several years after the birth.

Our church and the pro-life community strive to surround every woman experiencing an untimely pregnancy with a community of support and love. We are committed to helping mothers and children, not only survive but thrive.

If you are experiencing a difficult pregnancy or know someone who is, come to one of our Catholic parishes or to Catholic Charities. Give us the opportunity to connect you with resources to assist you with good prenatal care and help find solutions to economic, housing, educational or employment challenges. We are eager to walk with you at this special moment in your life.

Our church also wants to help those who have had an abortion or who assisted someone else to have an abortion and now deeply regret their choice. We want to help you find healing and reconciliation. The Gospel of Jesus is all about mercy. Contact our Project Rachel or Project Joseph ministries. The Lord wants to heal the wounds of grief and guilt that result from abortion.

This is a moment of great promise and opportunity for our nation and state. The prolife path is not one of violence, threats and intimidation. It is one, rather, of compassion, love and mercy. The Lord wants to empower each of us to be part of building a culture of life and a civilization of love, where abortion will be unthinkable.

### Coach Jim Harbaugh Says He Would Adopt Unwanted Babies in ESPN Interview

#### By John Simmons

A common complaint that abortion enthusiasts have is that pro-life advocates never lift a finger to help single mothers in need. That's a load of nonsense, and Michigan Wolverines head coach Jim Harbaugh is providing yet another example of how ridiculous this narrative is.

In an interview conducted Saturday at in Muskegon, Michigan during the Maize n' Blue's summer tour of the state, Harbaugh told ESPN's Gene Wojciechowski that if anyone within his family or program has a child they will not be able to support after it was born, he and his family would adopt the child to prevent it from being aborted.

"I encourage them if they have a pregnancy that wasn't planned, to go through with it, go through with it," Harbaugh said. "Let that unborn child be born, and if at that time, you don't feel like you can care for comes after he attended the Plymouth Right to Life Dinner in Plymouth, Michigan just



Coach Jim Harbaugh

it, you don't have the means or the wherewithal, then Sarah and I will take that baby."

Harbaugh's interview

10 days ago and unashamedly proclaimed his firm belief that life in the womb is to be protected and valued.

"I believe in having the courage to let the unborn be born," Harbaugh, who is Catholic, said. "I love life. I believe in having a loving care and respect for life and death. My faith and my science are what drives these beliefs in me. Quoting from Jeremiah, 'Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you. Before you were born, I set you apart. I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

If any progressive finds something wrong with Harbaugh now (as they predictably tried to shortly after his original comments), then they are really scraping the bottom of the barrel for a problem that doesn't exist.

Editor's note. This appeared at Newsbusters and is reposted with permission.

# Attorney General Todd Rokita and team achieve fourth straight win for Indiana laws protecting unborn babies and women's health

On July 28, a federal appeals court handed Attorney General Todd Rokita the state's fourth legal victory this month in cases involving Indiana abortion laws.

The 7th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals ruled that Indiana can immediately begin enforcing a law requiring the notification of the parents of minors who obtain abortions — a law previously enjoined by a federal district court before it could ever go into effect.

"This pro-life victory is not just a win for me or this office," Attorney General Rokita said. "It's a win for all Hoosiers who believe in protecting the sanctity of life, the health of women and the crucial importance of families."

Indiana law generally requires the consent of adult parents in order for minor females to obtain abortions, but the law exempts minors who successfully persuade a juvenile court that they are



Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita

mature enough to make the decision for themselves.

The parental-notification law requires that even in those

cases, however, the adult parents must be notified that their minor child is undergoing the procedure. The law does not require that notification in cases in which the juvenile court finds that it would endanger the wellbeing of the minor undergoing the abortion. A minor in Indiana is defined as someone under age 18.

Since the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade on June 24, Attorney General Rokita has secured three earlier wins for Indiana pro-life laws.

On July 7, Attorney General Rokita achieved another historic pro-life legal win when a federal district court granted his motion to lift an injunction on dismemberment abortions, which occur well into an unborn baby's development.

Then, on July 11, a U.S. appellate court vacated judgments in the Whole Woman's Health Alliance

v. Rokita case that had invalidated several other Indiana laws protecting unborn children and the health of their mothers.

On July 18, a U.S. district court vacated a judgment against an Indiana law prohibiting abortions sought on the basis of the unborn child's race, sex or disability.

"I look forward to working together with all Hoosiers of good will to continue building a culture of life in Indiana," Attorney General Rokita said. "Let it be clear that we value the life of every individual, born and unborn. Let us work to ensure that everyone has the best possible chance at the best possible life, and certainly let us give special priority and emphasis to the mothers bringing these children into the world. Truly, the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world."

### Abortion Advocates Hoping to Beat *Dobbs* with Mail Order Abortifacients

By Randall K. O'Bannon, Ph.D. NRL Director of Education & Research

Editor's Note. This is adapted from Dr. O'Bannon's June 24th speech at NRLC Convention 2022

Today, we stand at the threshold of what looks to be a whole new era, the first time in nearly 50 years that abortion has not been treated by the Supreme Court as some sort of "super duper" right or precedent hidden somewhere in the shadowy emanation and dark penumbras of the Constitution.

A great day in which our states can finally pass laws protecting unborn children and their mothers from the horrors of abortion without the threat of *Roe* handing over our work.

It is not a day, however, when we should expect abortion's long time defenders and supporters to suddenly give up their efforts. Far from it.

Just as this is a day we have long worked and prayed for, it is also a day that our opponents on the other side have been planning and preparing for for decades. They have developed a particular type of abortion — chemical or "medication" abortion with pills — that they can perform on a woman without her ever having to come to a clinic, one where she can order abortion pills on line and have them delivered to her home.

Abortion pills that they think you and your state cannot effectively legislate against, whose sale you cannot easily monitor or prohibit.

It is a time of great possibility and of great danger. So exactly how did we get to where we are today and what can we do about it?

#### A very old dream

1973 certainly wasn't the first time women first woke up pregnant and decided they didn't want to be.

As far back as Ancient Times we encounter recipes for herbal concoctions that were supposed to help women "strip off" or "loosen the child" in the her belly. These "potions" included chemicals dangerous mercury or sulfur or bizarre combinations of herbs like wormwood, pennyroyal, castor beans and other delicacies like fermented dough or crocodile dung that could either be drunk. eaten, or inserted into the birth canal and act as a pessary.

None of these every really caught on in any major way. Most women only experienced two basic outcomes – either those potions didn't work, or, if they did, they were as likely to kill the woman as to kill her child.

Though some of these herbal recipes continued to exist on in fringes of folk medicine over the next several centuries, the medical profession as a whole began to turn towards surgical methods in the 18th and 19th century. Even still, surgical abortion didn't become common for at least a hundred years more when physicians learned how to control bleeding, infection, and pain with better surgical techniques improved and antiseptic methods.

While surgical techniques advanced, advocates of abortion never entirely gave up on the idea of finding a chemical abortifacient.

When the pregnancy hormones progesterone and

estrogen were discovered in 1929 and 1934, a whole new avenue of research opened up.

Gregory Pincus used funding from Margaret Sanger and his own knowledge of hormones and steroid receptors to develop the progesterone based birth in 1980, the antiprogesterone drug they were looking for. Baulieu tested his new compound, given the generic name mifepristone, in 1981, aborted nine of the 11 pregnant women upon whom he tested. He announced his "success" in



control in the late 1950s.

Though **not** the abortion pill we know today, in the process of his research, Pincus theorized that any drug that could be developed to counteract progesterone, it could also function as an "implantation inhibitor."

A young French chemist named Étienne-Émile Baulieu who visited Pincus during trials of birth control pills in Puerto Rico in 1961 was intrigued by Pincus' theory. When Baulieu returned to France, where he was working as a consultant to pharmaceutical maker Roussel Uclaf, he began looking for chemical compound which could block progesterone.

#### A functional abortifacient hits the market

Under Baulieu's direction, Roussel scientist George Teutsch discovered RU-486 1982 and petitioned the French government to approve his "abortion pill"

France told Baulieu to add a prostaglandin to increase effectiveness and then approved mifepristone for sale in 1988. China put out its own version later that year. Approvals in Britain and Sweden followed within a couple of years.

Of course, once the abortion pill got approved in Europe, the American media and abortion lobby began clamoring for the abortion pill to be brought to this country.

Once President Clinton took office, he set the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) to the task of bringing the abortion pill to the U.S. After wrangling

See "Mail Order," page 29

### Abortion Advocates Hoping to Beat *Dobbs* with Mail Order Abortifacients

From page 15

with the French company over American rights to the pill, an American group did national testing of the pills and arranged to have them manufactured in China. Ultimately Mifeprex – mifepristone's trade name – was approved for use September of 2000.

Abortion advocates like to tell this as a tale of triumph, of progress, as the introduction of a new, easy, safe, simple, effective alternative to the already old, increasingly unpopular, surgical abortion.

It was presented as a softer, kinder, "more natural" abortion for women who were turned off by the intimidating, mechanical, bloody cutting of surgical abortion. The industry saw it as a way of enlisting a whole new class of doctors, nurses, and others in the cause who weren't surgically trained, and never had an interest in adding surgical abortion to their practices.

But even with approval, it was a mixed verdict. The FDA did not simply approve the drug for general use. It approved the drug under "Subpart H," a special administrative rule that allowed the FDA, because of the drug's inherent safety issues, to set a number of conditions on mifepristone's use and distribution.

#### Approval came with strings attached

Here's what the FDA mandated: Two drugs, three visits, for women no more than 7 weeks LMP (Last Menstrual Period).

This was just the start. There were more limits, each one hated by the abortion industry.

Women were to be no more than 49 days pregnant

(measured since their last menstrual period - the baby would be two weeks younger). They were to visit the clinic, be screened and counseled to make sure they were the appropriate gestational age, did not have an ectopic or tubal pregnancy, and then receive three pills of mifepristone, which they took there in the doctor's office. Those pills began the process of blocking progesterone in her system, shutting down the baby's life support system and initiating the shedding of the child and uterine lining.

They came back two days later to take the prostaglandin, misoprostol, to initiate powerful uterine contractions to expel the dead or dying baby. In the FDA's original protocol, the woman came back a third time at two weeks to determine whether or not the abortion was complete or additional drugs or surgery were required to complete the abortion.

The FDA also declared that these drugs would only be available directly from the U.S. distributor. They were only to be prescribed and administered under the supervision of a physician certified able to date pregnancies and diagnose pregnancies. ectopic ordering physician had to be able to provide emergency surgical backup for failure, bleeding, or refer to someone who could do so. Paperwork on risks and procedures had to be signed by both patient and prescriber. The FDA required mandatory reporting of failures, complications, and deaths.

The FDA had considered more protections than these. Abortion advocates successfully talked the FDA out of requiring surgical training or mandating ultrasounds, but they were still unhappy with the restrictions the FDA left in place.

Their immediate complaints were the dosages, the cutoff date, and the required second visit, However, advocates made clear that they wanted even more concessions.

#### Ignoring the FDA, paying the price

Almost immediately, abortion advocates began promoting an alternate protocol of their own. They wanted reduce doses of the more expensive mifepristone (from three pills to one) and doubling the dose of the cheaper misoprostol prostaglandin.

Instead of taking the misoprostol orally in the office, they gave women the misoprostol at their first visit to take home and self- administer vaginally. Some of the follow up seems to have been done over the phone rather than in person.

Evidence that the FDA's safety concerns were justified began to surface once the abortion pills hit the market. A young teenage girl from the San Francisco area died in 2003 after coming into contact with a rare bacteria. Soon information surfaced that the same rare bacteria. Clostridium sordellii, had killed at least four other mifepristone patients. All had used the vaginally self administered misoprostol of the National Abortion Federation's alternate mifepristone protocol. Some felt was how the deadly bacteria entered their system.

News then came out about Swedish and British teens who had bled to death after taking mifepristone. A mifepristone patient in Chattanooga died when her undetected ectopic pregnancy ruptured.

The FDA's official record showed other deaths and hundreds of women hemorrhaging, getting infections, being hospitalized, having their ectopic pregnancies missed by the doctors prescribing their pil

The FDA investigated the deaths, issued public health advisories, added warnings to the label. But instead of reconsidering the pill's safety and the wisdom of their industry protocol and its modifications, abortion advocates continued to push for even fewer restrictions.

### FDA caves (somewhat) to unrelenting abortion industry pressure

After years of pushing by abortion advocates, the FDA, under President Obama, granted some of these requests in March of 2016. They adjusted the dosages, allowing the misoprostol to be taken at home (though not vaginally), extended the cut off to 10 weeks, and broadening the list of approved prescribers to any "certified health care provider."

All these changes made it easier, cheaper, and more convenient for abortionists. Nothing made it safer.

Advocates were still not satisfied. A group of abortion all-stars calling themselves the Mifeprex REMS Study Group published an article in the February 27, 2017, issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*. They argued that after 16 years of

#### Do Pro-Life Laws Threaten the Lives of Women?

#### By John Stonestreet

So far, the most common response from pro-abortion advocates since Roe v. Wade was overturned by the Supreme Court is misinformation. One of the most common pieces of misinformation that's been floated by media outlets, politicians. and cultural commentators alike is that certain pro-life laws triggered by the Dobbs decision place the lives of pregnant women at risk, especially those facing an ectopic pregnancy or miscarriage.

These pro-life laws are not clear, the argument goes, so doctors could face legal reprisals for offering the lifesaving treatments that women with at-risk pregnancies need. In some versions of this scenario, hospitals and doctors are frozen with fear and confusion, unsure of what they can and cannot do.

However. as Alexandra DeSanctis wrote recently at National Review, "This is simply not the case." What her article offers is exactly what pro-lifers need to answer this pro-abortion talking point, and exactly what the title promises: "How Every State Pro-Life Law Handles Ectopic Pregnancy and Miscarriage." Here's the summary of what DeSanctis' deep dive into state law revealed:

"Abortion supporters have argued that state abortion limits aren't clear about whether these types of health care are permitted—and they have argued that, as a result of this supposed lack of clarity, doctors have declined to perform necessary and potentially lifesaving procedures out of fear of reprisal from officials enforcing state pro-life laws.

"This is simply not the case. If doctors are doing so—and abortion supporters have offered little evidence of a systemic problem in this regard—it is the fault of the doctors themselves, not the fault of the pro-life laws, which are eminently clear. The

died, and ectopic-pregnancy treatment removes an unborn child who cannot develop or survive, in order to save the life of the mother. Neither of these types of health care bears any resemblance to directly and intentionally killing the child. The only people confused



pro-life worldview has always held that both lives matter, that of the mother and that of her unborn child. It is always permissible to act to care for a pregnant mother whose life is at risk.

"Neither miscarriage care nor treatment for ectopic pregnancy has anything to do with an induced-abortion procedure, which intentionally kills an unborn child. Every successful elective abortion has a single aim: to end the life of the child growing in his or her mother's womb. What's more, medical professionals acknowledge that induced abortion is never medically necessary to treat a pregnant mother; modern medicine can treat the mother without intentionally killing the child.

"For instance, miscarriage care treats a woman whose unborn child has already about this—or pretending to be confused—are supporters of abortion on demand. And their aim is clear: to cause confusion for the sake of undermining pro-life laws.

"To put a fine point on the issue: Until just last week. even the website of Planned Parenthood explicitly stated that ectopic-pregnancy treatment is not an abortion. But then the abortion business erased that clarifying information in an effort to perpetuate the tide of misinformation, intentionally blurring the lines between actual health care aimed at saving a mother's life and abortion procedures, which intend to cause the death of an unborn child."

DeSanctis then provides a summary and a quote of the relevant portion of the law from every state in question: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, West Virginia. Wisconsin, Wyoming. I highly recommend that you read the whole thing, especially if you encounter this particular talking point that has been repeated so often that many have begun to actually believe it.

And I recommend Alexandra DeSanctis' book, co-authored with Dr. Ryan Anderson, "Tearing Us Apart: How Abortion Harms Everything and Solves Nothing." In it, Anderson and **DeSanctis** describe what's really behind this particular talking point. Legalized abortion has taught us to see the God-given and good ability to procreate as a barrier to full humanness as women. Along the way, fertility is treated as a problem to be overcome, not a good thing to be embraced.

If Christians are going to build a culture of life, we must understand all the ways in which this legal travesty poisoned our understanding life. sex, marriage, and children. That's what Tearing Us Apart offers: the understanding we need to continue to uphold the dignity of life. I think this book is so very important right now. For a gift of any amount this month, I will send you a copy of Tearing Us Apart by Alexandra DeSanctis and Ryan Anderson. Just go to breakpoint.org/give before the end of July.

Editor's note. This appeared at Breakpoint and is reposted with permission.

### A decent story about Pregnancy Help Centers from an unlikely source

#### By Dave Andrusko

As much as they may not wish to draw attention to the thousands of Pregnancy Help Centers, CBS News, like many of the legacy media, can't resist the urge to see for themselves the impact of the Supreme Court's Dobbs decision overturning Roe v. Wade on the work of the alternatives to abortion wing of the Movement.

Her story takes place in Mississippi because the *Dobbs* decision was in response to a Mississippi's ban on post-15 week abortions.

So does Melissa Quinn's "Antiabortion pregnancy centers see chance to grow in wake of Supreme Court's ruling" give our side a fair shake?

Actually, she does. Quinn lays out what she calls by a name not used much anymore—crisis pregnancy centers—beginning with a truth: "they vastly outnumber Planned Parenthood facilities."

Quinn explains

The centers, many faithbased, offer pregnancy tests. counseling resources and like clothes, diapers and parenting classes. Some provide limited medical services such as ultrasounds. And since the high court's conservative majority struck down Roe v. Wade, the landmark decision that legalized nationwide, abortion the pregnancy centers particularly Republican-led states — have seen an uptick in interest from their communities and an opportunity to grow their resources.

Quinn quotes Karen Sims, executive director of Hope Clinic in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, who tells her "We need to make our presence even more known." She adds, "If it's our responsibility and important for us to encourage people to continue their pregnancies, then we need to be Quinn tells us there are states providing funding for these women-helping services. She cites two:

> In addition to receiving funding from private donors, lawmakers in some Republican-led states have directed funding to the centers.



there and provide what we can, to eliminate as many obstacles as we can."

Quinn lays out how they've "seen an increase in calls from neighboring states and more interest from first-time donors looking to fulfill either material needs — diapers, formula, wipes — or give money.

"We want to grow the practical resources that we provide and educate her more, but also be there to help her look at the obstacles in the way and help be part of eliminating and working through those obstacles," Sims said.

Of course there is the usual complaints from abortion supporters: they're deceptive, not really medical facilities, etc, etc. They hate it when women and their babies escape their lose-lose philosophy.

In May, Mississippi Gov. Tate Reeves, a Republican, signed into law a measure that provides tax credits businesses donate to pregnancy resource centers or crisis pregnancy centers. Texas awarded than more million to four service providers, which work with 177 locations around the state, for Alternatives Abortion program for fiscal year 2021, according December report from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission.

Quinn, to her credit, does not neglect the violence against crisis pregnancy center that has taken place since the Supreme Court's June 24th decision.

But amid the [proabortion] backlash to the Supreme Court's decision, which began after a draft opinion leaked was published in early May, pregnancy centers have also been targeted abortion-rights advocates. In Florida, anti-abortion pregnancy center was defaced in late May, with the words "If abortions aren't safe then neither are you" painted on its exterior. Centers in Texas and Wisconsin have also been vandalized.

Brittany Sherman, executive director of Choices Clinic of Laurel, told CBS News her Mississippi center has experienced fake calls and a flood of online contact-form submissions, which she believes is intended to crash the site.

All in all, a decent story about the saintly work of Pregnancy Help Centers. As Sara Smith, executive director of Center for Pregnancy Choices in Meridian, Mississippi, told Quinn

> "We don't want women to think abortion is the only solution to unplanned pregnancy," Smith told CBS News. "That's a real message that's being shared, 'how to make it easier for people to get abortions.' It's not the only option they have."

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# VP Harris will be "overt politicking" on the abortion issue in hopes of raising Democrats' chances in the November midterm elections

By Dave Andrusko

So, if *Politico* is to be believed—and it is as wired into the Democratic Party as you can get—we should be on the lookout for Vice President Kamala Harris as she "plots her next, more aggressive, volley in the abortion fights." To wit "More overt politicking would be an extension of the post-Roe portfolio she's been crafting."

Despite the absence of polls showing how an emphasis on abortion will meaningfully Democrat turnout increase next November, the obvious explanation for the emphasis is that Democrats hope to divert the public's attention away from a four-decade high on inflation of 9.1%, skyrocketing gas prices, a 37% job approval rating for President Biden, and the grim truth that threequarters of the American public is convinced the country is on the wrong track.

So, according to Politico's Eugene Daniels, Harris studied, honing message that Republicans are "extremists" on abortion. This from the titular #2 leader of a party that has passed legislation in several blue states that allows abortion throughout the entire nine months of pregnancy and has attempted to duplicate that at the national level with the woefully mislabeled "Women's Health Protection Act."

According to Daniels

Democrats say Harris is uniquely qualified to make the push both as the first woman vice president and a past state and local elected official herself. Allies and attendees of Harris' legislator meetings

legislators and governors on the abortion rights frontlines."

One wonders if she'll have much of her team left. Domestic policy adviser Rohini Kosoglu and director of speechwriting Meghan Groob are leaving. "Groob had taken over for Kate Childs Graham, who announced her departure



Pro-abortion Vice President Kamala Harris

say she has leaned on that experience to stress that "she inherently understands the stakes" of state and local elections on abortion policy.

Harris wants to be "out in America three days a week," a source told *Politico*. Along with her "team," they will "hit the campaign and fundraising circuit in an aggressive bid to elevate Democratic state in February."

"The latest turnover comes just weeks after a staff shakeup in the vice president's office following a series of gaffes and reports of dysfunction in her office," Landon Mion reported.

And why does being a woman "and a past state and local elected official herself" make her "uniquely qualified"?

Finally, Alexandra DeSanctis of *National Review Online* reminds us

Meanwhile, Harris

hasn't proven herself the most competent spokeswoman on the issue. As a presidentialprimary candidate, she marked herself the most radical in the field by pledging instate a regime of "preclearance" under which her DOJ would block any state laws that it deemed in violation of Roe. Shortly after Dobbs came down, Harris implored voters consider how the ruling would affect their sons: "If you are a parent of sons, do think about what this means for the life of your son and what that will mean in terms of the choices he will have." It's hard to find an argument better suited to confirming point pro-lifers have been making for generations. And just vesterday, Harris offered this absurdity an interview: "Listen, women are getting pregnant every day in America, and this is a real issue."

Harris really does have a way with words, doesn't she?

### New Canadian children's book tries to convince kids that euthanasia is acceptable

By Wesley J. Smith

Children are being indoctrinated into everything that subverts traditional values these days, and in Canada that includes bringing children along when a loved one is being euthanized — which goes by the euphemism MAID for medical assistance in dying.

Children are introduced into the medical killing fields by Canadian Virtual Hospice with its *Medical Assistance in Dying Activity Book*, described as being for children ages 6–12. In it, the child is taught how a person is killed during euthanasia:

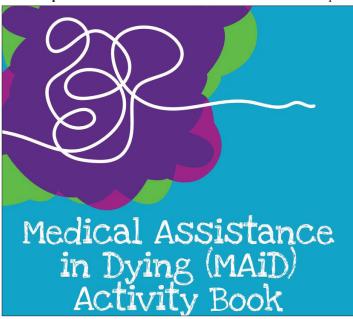
The three medicines work like this: The first medicine makes the person feel very relaxed and fall asleep. They may yawn or snore or mumble.

The second medicine causes a "coma." A coma looks like sleep but is much deeper than regular sleep. The person will not wake up or be bothered by noise or touch.

The third medicine makes the person's lungs stop breathing then their heart stops beating. Because of the coma, the person does not notice this happening and it does not hurt. When their heart and lungs stop working, their body dies. It will not start working again. This often happens in just a few minutes, but sometimes (rarely) it can take hours.

And if the person asks to die, there is no changing their mind:

As much as other people may want to change their mind, the person who is suicide ideation in the seriously ill and disabled. But those asking for euthanasia are denied this essential hospice service. Moreover, only 15 percent of Canadians have adequate



choosing MAiD probably wishes just as strongly that they could change their illness or condition and how it is affecting their life. When someone decides to ask for MAiD, it is usually after thinking very carefully and having very hard feelings for a long time. They may feel that nothing change their mind because there is nothing that can help their body or their suffering get better.

That isn't true, of course. Palliative care and appropriate emotional and psychological interventions can overcome access to palliative care — a true scandal in a country that pushes euthanasia.

And there are activities for the child:

Activity: Draw or write about your ideas and feelings about the person in your life who is choosing MAiD. You can share this sheet with someone in your family or a health care team member who can help you with your questions, ideas, and feelings...

Using blank paper or the picture below, decorate it to look like you and the person. Write or draw what you think they think or feel about choosing

MAiD in the space around them.

The child has "choices" too:

Think about what different choices vou have and which ones might feel best for you. First, ask a parent or caregiver to go through the list and cross out anything that is not possible in your situation. Then you can look at the rest of the list together and choose the things you would like to do or think about. There are no right or wrong choices, and you can change your mind about your choices anytime...

Would you like to spend time with them before they have MAiD?

- Yes
- No

Where would you like to be when the person is having MAiD?

- in the room with the person
- nearby but not in the room (another room in the hospital/ hospice/home)
- somewhere else that feels familiar (school, camp, a friend or family member's home)

See "Book," page 38

#### How Assisted Suicide Euthanized Roe v. Wade

By Wesley J. Smith

Back in the '90s. the assisted-suicide movement tried to convince the Supreme Court to impose a Roe v. Wade-style decision for their cause that would circumvent the democratic process by imposing doctor-hastened death as a constitutional right. (Full disclosure: I wrote and filed an amicus brief in the Supreme Court against that effort as a lawyer for the International Anti-Euthanasia Task Force, now the Patients Rights Council.) The effort failed, with the Supreme Court ruling 9-0 in Glucksberg v. Washington (1997) that there is no right to be found in the United States Constitution to assisted suicide.

Now, in a turn that could not have been anticipated at the time, *Glucksberg* provided the primary precedent for striking down Roe as bad constitutional law! From *Dobbs v. Jackson* (my emphasis):

We hold that Roe Casey must and be overruled. The Constitution makes no reference to abortion, and no such right is implicitly protected by any constitutional provision, including the one on which defenders the Roe and Casey now relv-the chiefly **Due Process Clause** of the **Fourteenth** Amendment. That has provision been held to guarantee some rights that are not mentioned in the Constitution, but any such right must be "deeply rooted in this Nation's history and tradition" and "implicit in the concept of ordered liberty." Washington v. Glucksberg...

More:

In deciding whether a right falls into either of these categories, the Court has long asked whether the right is "deeply rooted in [our] history and tradition" and whether it is essential to our Nation's "scheme of ordered liberty." . . . Glucksberg . . . And in conducting this inquiry, we have engaged in a careful analysis of the history of the right at issue. . . .

Thus, in Glucksberg, which held that the **Due Process Clause** not confer does right assisted to suicide, the Court surveyed more than 700 years of "Anglo-American common law tradition," 521 U.S., at 711, and made clear that a fundamental must right be "objectively, deeply rooted in this Nation's history and tradition."

Analyzing the history of the unenumerated claim of a right to abortion, the majority found it wholly wanting.

As the Court cautioned in

Glucksberg, "[w]e must ... exercise the utmost care whenever we are asked to break new ground in this field, lest the liberty protected by the Due Process Clause

persisted from the earliest days of the common law until 1973. The Court in *Roe* could have said of abortion exactly



be subtly transformed into the policy preferences of the Members of this Court." 521 U.S., at 720 (internal quotation marks and citation omitted).

Although a pre-quickening abortion was not itself considered homicide, it does not follow that abortion was permissible at common law—much less that abortion was a legal right. Cf. Glucksberg, 521 U.S., at 713 (removal of "common law's harsh sanctions did not represent an acceptance of suicide").

And kaboom!

The inescapable conclusion is that a right to abortion is not deeply rooted in the Nation's history and traditions. On the contrary, an unbroken tradition of prohibiting abortion on pain of criminal punishment

what Glucksberg said  $\mathbf{of}$ assisted "Attitudes suicide: toward [abortion] changed since have Bracton, but our laws have consistently condemned, and continue to prohibit, [that practice]." 521 U.S., at 719.

So, in a hubristic attempt to force assisted suicide on the nation in the same way abortion had been, euthanasia activists instead laid the groundwork for *Roe's* obliteration. The irony is so delicious I can't stop smiling.

Editor's note. Wesley's great columns appear at National Review Online and are reposted with permission.

### The "torturous villain" Senator Warren wants to cancel? It just might be you.

#### By Sherri Pigue

I have never mentioned Senator Elizabeth Warren's name during any interaction with a pregnant woman in a pregnancy help center. Not once.

There's a good reason for that. When women walk through the doors of a pregnancy help center (PHC), they don't care to talk about politics.

It's true. In this moment, politics and politicians alike are irrelevant; it's personal. Pregnant women care about finding a safe and compassionate space where they can figure out what they're going to do next.

But lately, Senator Warren's been talking about me.

"We need to shut them down here in Massachusetts, and we need to shut them down all around the country. You should not be able to torture a pregnant person like that," Warren declared of [crisis] pregnancy centers around the United States.

The "them" Senator Warren is referencing is actually an "us." We are the torturers she wants to shut down. It's me — and maybe it's you, too.

You see, PHCs aren't faceless. We are many faces – the staff, volunteers, and donors – who've been providing pregnancy help services since even before the Roe decision was handed down in 1973.

Together, we provide services that Warren labels as "torture" – like pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, STI testing, options consultations, parenting support, material needs assistance, post-abortion recovery, and connections to additional supports in the

community. Services that are almost always free.

The PHCs the Senator is trying to shut down served roughly 2 million women, men, and youth with nearly \$270 million in services – at little or no cost to their clients, in 2019 alone.

And Senator Warren is not just vilifying the many thousands of Americans who currently support PHCs; she's also patronizing millions more: those who received services and care from PHCs – and seemingly weren't clever enough to know they were being tortured.

Reframing a woman's experience for her is condescending, Senator Warren. And anti-woman. And dishonest.

You see, our clients aren't hostages. We don't chase them down and drag them into our centers kicking and screaming. They choose to enter our doors. And choice is a term the Senator should understand.

I know this because, despite Warren's efforts to bring dishonest and inciteful accusations against PHCs, the true story about PHCs is being told – by the women who actually receive services in our centers.

Turns out, the people Senator Warren wants to protect from PHCs – they're not victims. They're grateful. Satisfied. Empowered. Overwhelmingly, so – including the clients who receive the services they need from our centers and then head to abortion clinics.

You see, post-appointment reviews would be the perfect place for PHC clients to list the ways they've been tortured. But their reviews convey the opposite.

You don't have to take my word for it – we have evidence that the majority of our pregnancy help center clients

And if it comes down to believing Senator Warren or believing the women who've actually experienced the services and support of a local PHC, I choose the women. And these women – genuine clients



really like the services they receive.

In 2019, Care Net and Heartbeat International affiliated-pregnancy centers reported a greater than 99% positive response rate when actual clients were questioned about their experiences inside these centers.

That beats Chick-fil-A's customer satisfaction ratings – and that's a hard act to beat.

Side note, PHCs have good reviews despite being the target of abortion activists' ongoing and organized attempts to override genuine reviews by urging people to "review a fake clinic" (by gathering their friends and leaving bad reviews for clinics from which they've never received a single service). When Warren mentions her concerns about PHC's so-called deceptive practices, though, she does not mention these deceitful smear antics.

of PHCs - don't sound tortured at all.

But since Senator Warren has inserted herself into this conversation, she owes the public – in front of whom she's made these inaccurate charges – an explanation.

Explain where she's been throughout her tenure in the Senate. PHCs have been serving pregnant women for decades. Senator Warren has been a Senator since 2013. Throughout all her years in the Senate, and well before, PHCs have provided medical services and support to pregnant women across the US — including those right in her own state of Massachusetts.

If women were being "tortured," why didn't Senator Warren protect them sooner?

See "Warren," page 41

### Gov. Walz, AG Ellison stand as roadblocks to protecting unborn children and their mothers in Minnesota

By Paul Stark MCCL Communications Director

On July 11, a judge in Ramsey County District Court eliminated a number of longstanding, bipartisan, and commonsense abortion laws in Minnesota.

August 2022

No longer does Minnesota require parental notification prior to abortions performed on minors. No longer does Minnesota ensure that women receive informed consent information before thev undergo the procedure. No longer do those performing surgical abortions have to be physicians. These womanempowering and abortionreducing laws were struck down

Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison—who is tasked with defending Minnesota's laws—then decided not to appeal the judge's extreme and constitutionally groundless decision.

That's no surprise. Ellison had recently held a press conference with Planned Parenthood to tout the availability of abortion in our state. And he has a long history of supporting abortion-on-demand in public office. In fact, when he ran for attorney general in 2018, he "said ... he won't defend new abortion restrictions in court if state lawmakers approve them," MPR News reported at the time.

Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz also indicated his opposition to appealing the radical district court ruling. That's no surprise, either. Walz had



Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz

earlier called on Congress to pass a sweeping bill, the so-called "Women's Health Protection Act," that would nullify almost all pro-life laws across the country, including parental notification and informed consent laws.

We know where Walz stands. Leading up to and in the wake of *Dobbs v. Jackson*, he has gone out of his way to make clear that he opposes any protections for unborn children or any limits on abortion. "As long as I have the honor of holding this office, I will not sign laws that restrict access to abortions in our state," he

said. "I'll fight tooth and nail to protect abortion rights and access."

That no-limits approach has always been his position. When Walz served in Congress, he repeatedly voted in favor of taxpayer funding of abortion. And he repeatedly voted against protecting unborn children even later in pregnancy when they can feel excruciating pain.

Walz did vote pro-life one time—accidentally. He voted



Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison

for the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act. That bill would ensure that newborn babies who survive abortion be treated with the same degree of care as other babies born at the same age (so that they are not neglected, abandoned, or killed). But Walz almost immediately apologized for his accidental vote (calling it "an honest mistake") and reaffirmed his opposition to requiring ordinary care for abortion survivors (he had opposed the bill in the past as well).

He has not changed since becoming governor. The Walz administration envisions a Minnesota where abortion is a considered good thing and where everyone pretends that the young human beings subjected to lethal violence don't even exist. Walz's lieutenant governor, Peggy Flanagan, recently tweeted that, in Minnesota, being a good neighbor means not just bringing you a hotdish and shoveling your driveway, but also providing you with an abortion.

No. Good neighbors love those in need, including vulnerable unborn children and their mothers. A just and compassionate society protects the human rights of those at risk.

But Walz and Flanagan promise to obstruct even the most modest protections as long as they remain in office. On the watch of Walz, Flanagan, and Ellison, abortion extremism is the law of the land.

#### The World's Most Dangerous Idea explained

#### If there is no right and wrong, we sail through perilous waters

#### By Michael Cook

I think that I have nailed the World's Most Dangerous Idea. It's Dialetheism.

Never heard of it? You are not alone. Most people haven't. But that doesn't mean that they don't subscribe to it. It's a kind of sophisticated version of moral relativism.

Here's an example dialetheism at work. A recent issue of Scientific American ran a very unscientific opinion "What piece. Ouantum Mechanics Can Teach Us about Abortion". It was written by an abortion doctor in Salt Lake City, Cara C. Heuser, who may know a lot about obstetrics and gynaecology, but about quantum mechanics not so much maybe.

Ouantum mechanics basically pretty easy understand, as fans of Marvel films know. Many of their heroes' superpowers and many of their plot lines incorporate gobbledygook about quantum mechanics. Dr. Heuser may have learned a thing or two from Marvel scripts. "Is light a particle or a wave?" she asks. "Quantum mechanics, a discipline within physics, has demonstrated that both are true. Sometimes light acts like a particle, sometimes a wave."

Similarly, she explains:

"That these two seemingly irreconcilable beliefs could come together gives me hope that similar harmony could be achieved in the discussion of other deeply polarizing topics, including abortion."

Even though she performs abortions, Dr. Heuser believes

that she is serving the cause of life by helping women through difficult pregnancies. This leads her to conclude triumphantly:

"Particle and wave, abortion providers and ethical physicians, prolife and pro-choice."

Actually, the fact that light considered from one point of view is a wave, and from another point of view is particles does not mean that it is both at the same time and in the same respect. It means that there is something missing in our understanding of light. Waves and particles are complementary, not contradictory, features of light.

Quantum physics can't solve moral questions because killing an unborn child is not good from one point of view, and bad from another. It's just bad. Its effects may be both good and bad, but not the act itself.

D.r Heuser's Marvel-ous insight is a handy illustration of dialetheism – that contradictory statements can both be true. "The Empire State Building is in New York" and "the Empire State Building is in Los Angeles" are both true.

If this were actually the case, all of Western philosophy would tumble down. Ever since Plato and Aristotle there has been nigh-universal acceptance of the Law of Non-Contradiction, that A and not-A cannot both be true.

However, as a defence of abortion, the notion of dialetheism is catching on.

A philosopher at Wofford College, in South Carolina, Katherine Valde, recently published a brief article in the Journal of Medical Ethics, in which she defended her own decision to have an abortion.

She didn't do this for what might be regarded as compelling reasons:

"My abortion didn't save my life or allow me to finish school. It dialetheism- that there might be contradiction in the world itself."

What if dialetheism is true? There can be no difference between good and bad, right and wrong. What can justify jailing the perpetrator of the Buffalo mass shooting? What



just let me live a life I wanted. And, for whatever reason, that isn't supposed to be enough."

Why, she asks, does she need to have a reason? Isn't the fact that she wants it good enough? Rod Stewart provided an anthem for dialetheism in his song: "If loving you is wrong, I don't want to be right." Dr. Valde dresses up this sentiment in philosophical garb. She writes:

"I'm tired of the defense of abortion that relies on the idea that there are good and bad reasons to get abortions..."

Unsurprisingly, as a professional philosopher, Dr Valde is fascinated by "the possibility of metaphysical

will happen to morality? No dialetheist will ever seriously defend torturing babies – but it will be hard to explain why it's evil. And inevitably there will be more people who torture babies. Ideas, you know, have consequences.

There is a maxim in logic, ex absurdo sequitur quodlibet, from a contradiction you can derive whatever you want. Ideas built on contradiction are pure fantasy. That's why the gobbledygook of the Marvel Universe is so popular. You can get whatever you want from it. But that's also why it's not reality!

The emergence of dialetheism is one of the most corrupting consequences of defending legalised abortion. It's easier to argue that right and wrong don't exist than to defend a decision to take an innocent life.

### Biden flack argues against Court's ruling on *Roe*, calling decision 'extreme' and 'unconstitutional'

Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre's claim defies the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that Roe v. Wade was unconstitutional.

#### By Emily Mangiaracina

WASHINGTON D.C. – White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre claimed that the overturning of *Roe v. Wade* was an "extreme" decision that took away what she called a "constitutional right."

"From day one, when the Supreme Court made this extreme decision to take away a constitutional right — it was an unconstitutional action by them — a right that was around for almost 50 years, a right that women had to make a decision on their bodies and how they want to start their families," Jean-Pierre said during a Wednesday press conference.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in its *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* decision released in June that, to the contrary, *Roe* was unconstitutional from the beginning.

"Its reasoning was exceptionally weak, and the decision has had damaging consequences," wrote Justice Samuel Alito, who delivered the opinion of the court. "The Constitution makes no reference to abortion, and no such right is implicitly protected by any constitutional provision."

"Roe's constitutional analysis was far outside the bounds of any reasonable interpretation of the various constitutional provisions to which it vaguely pointed," Alito continued. "It is time to heed the Constitution and return the issue of abortion to the people's elected representatives."

In the span of only about a month, the Supreme Court decision has already had a significant impact. At least 43 abortion facilities in 11 states have stopped committing abortions in the wake of *Roe v. Wade's* fall.



White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre

Editor's note. This appeared at LifeSite News and is reposted with permission.

### New Canadian children's book tries to convince kids that euthanasia is acceptable

From page 33

If you are going visit them, would you like to bring something:

- to hold onto to help you feel comfortable, like a special blanket, jewelry, photo, or toy?
- to do to help you feel comfortable or to pass the time.

Once we endorse killing as an acceptable answer to human suffering, we have to train the children that killing is okay. Because they are not stupid and will know that their loved one is being terminated, and their immediate instinct will probably be that it is wrong.

The whole euthanasia agenda

is gut-wrenching, morally destructive, and wrong. It not only ends the life of despairing people who are abandoned by the "It's your choice" deflection, but as this book illustrates, has the potential to seriously impact the emotional well-being of children in the family who watch as their loved one's killing is discussed,

planned, and executed.

If I were a kid and that happened to somebody I loved, I'd never want to see a doctor again. Good grief.

Editor's note. Wesley's great columns appear at National Review Online and is reposted with permission.

#### Pro-life recap of August 2 political primaries

From page 12

Pro-life Republican Derek Schmidt, who has served as Kansas Attorney General since 2011, won the Republican primary for Governor. His strong record of standing up for life stands in stark contrast to incumbent Governor Laura Kelly, who supports a policy of abortion on demand for any reason until birth and using tax dollars to pay for abortions. The Cook Political Report ranks this race as a Tossup.

In November, Republicans have a great opportunity to oust pro-abortion Congresswoman Sharice Davids and flip the District Congressional Kansas. On Tuesday, GOP voters selected former Congressional candidate Amanda Adkins, who is prolife, as their nominee. Adkins also ran against Davids in 2020 but fell short by just a few points. Since then, the redistricting process modified the district lines, and the new Congressional District now has a partisan lean of R+3 giving an advantage to Adkins.

#### Michigan

Tudor Dixon, a strong prolife advocate, was declared the winner in the Michigan Governor Dixon's race. dedication to protecting unborn children and their mothers stands in stark contrast to pro-abortion incumbent Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. As governor. Whitmer has been an unfortunate roadblock to enacting life-saving legislation in Michigan. The Cook Political

Report ranks the race as Leans Democrat but now that Dixon can pivot her focus completely to the general election, it's game on.

In the Republican primary for Michigan's 3rd Congressional District. incumbent Congressman Peter Meijer was defeated by challenger John Gibbs, the former Assistant to the Secretary of HUD under President Trump. Both are prolife. The race is rated Leans Democrat by the Cook Political Report. Gibbs has room to grow his base of support as the Republican Party unites behind him as the nominee. This race will continue to be one to watch.

In Michigan's 7th Congressional District, which now has a partisan lean of R+4 after redistricting, Pro-life Michigan State Senator Tom Barrett officially became the Republican nominee to take on pro-abortion incumbent Congresswoman Elissa Slotkin in the general election. Slotkin has an abysmal 0% voting record with National Right to Life. She supports a policy of abortion on demand for any reason until birth and using tax dollars to pay for it. The Cook Political Report lists this race as a Tossup.

In Michigan's 8th District, Republican nominee Paul Junge will take on pro-abortion incumbent Congressman Daniel Kildee in a race also considered a pure tossup. The partisan lean of the district after redistricting is now R+1. Paul Junge is a strong advocate for life while Rep. Kildee holds a 0% voting record with National Right to Life. Kildee supports a policy of abortion on demand for any reason until birth and using tax dollars to pay for it.

#### Missouri

One of the most spirited primaries of the 2022 election cycle came to a close on Tuesday with Missouri Attorney General Eric Schmitt winning the Republican nomination for Senate. He will face proabortion Democrat nominee Trudy Busch Valentine in the November general election. As attorney general, Schmitt has been crucial ally to the pro-life movement. Busch Valentine. on the other hand, supports a policy of abortion on demand for any reason until birth, and she would use Americans' tax dollars to pay for it.

#### Washington

In Washington, pro-abortion Senator Patty Murray (D) and pro-life Republican Tiffany Smiley advanced from the state's open primary for U.S. Senate. The two will go headto-head in the November general election. It would be seismic event if a Republican were able to unseat Senator Murray, but some political observers have pointed to several factors working in Smiley's favor such as Murray's low approval ratings, sinking numbers for President Biden, more and more voters saying the country is headed in

the wrong direction, as well as Smiley's compelling personal story as a military wife who took on the federal government to get her husband quality care at the VA.

In Washington's 3rd Congressional District, early show incumbent Republican Congresswoman Jaime Herrera-Beutler pro-abortion Democrat Marie Perez as the top two votegetters in the open primary. The race remains too early to call. A not too far distant third is conservative veteran Joe Kent. who also attempted to defeat Herrera-Beutler in the 2020 primary. Both Herrera-Beutler and Kent support protections for unborn children and their mothers and oppose taxpayer funding of abortion. However, Perez supports a policy of abortion on demand for any reason until birth and using tax dollars to pay for it.

Washington's 8th Congressional District. pro-abortion incumbent Congresswoman Kim Schrier has qualified to advance to the general election. Competing against her on the November ballot will likely be one of three Republicans; Matt Larkin, Reagan Dunn, or Jesse Jensen, the 2020 candidate who nearly defeated her last cycle. No official call has been made. In redistricting, the 8th District was drawn with an even number of Democrats and Republicans, making it a true swing district. The Cook Political Report puts this race in the Tossup

### Abortion Advocates Hoping to Beat *Dobbs* with Mail Order Abortifacients

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"overregulation" it was time to "unburden" Mifeprex.

However. even while modifying the protocol to meet many of the abortion lobby's demands, the FDA continued to keep the abortion pill under strict distribution limits still requiring certification of prescribers, still requiring paperwork, still requiring that patients come to the clinic to receive their pills and receive necessary instruction counseling.

In 2011, the FDA put mifepristone under its new safety monitoring program, its "REMS" or Risk Evaluation Mitigation Strategies program. This is "a drug safety program that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) can require for certain medications with serious safety concerns to help ensure the benefits of the medication outweigh its risks."

Again, advocates were concerned that these regulations gave women the (fully accurate) idea that these pills were dangerous. They also felt all the certification process discouraged many would be prescribers, doctors, nurses, and clinicians. They felt they would find this process, and all the accompanying paperwork, unnecessary and onerous.

#### **Using COVID for Cover**

When COVID hit, abortion pill advocates saw their opportunity. They said women could have their consultations virtually, on the computer or over the phone. They argued that women didn't need to expose themselves to the virus by coming into the clinic for their pills.

Backed by their political allies, abortion advocates, sued the FDA in the courts to suspend the REMS regulations. A federal district judge accepted their argument and ordered the FDA to comply in July of 2020. Though the Supreme Court overturned that and reasserted the FDA's authority to regulate the use and distribution of drugs in January of 2021, that victory was short-lived.

Shortly after the Biden administration took over, it directed the FDA to suspend the REMS again in April of 2021 and pledged to consider overturning the regulations permanently before year's end. This it did, in December of 2021, saying the drugs no longer had to be dispensed in person and pharmacies could become certified prescribers. FDA kept some of the basic REMS regulations in place, still requiring certifications, paperwork, limited distribution, and keeping a ten week cutoff. But essentially the FDA authorized abortions by telemedicine and set it up that the drugs could be shipped from on-line pharmacies.

Even before the latest tussle over regulations, there were renegades like Dutch abortion activist Rebecca Gomperts with Aid Access who were already selling unauthorized foreign abortion pills online. But as soon as the rules were first suspended in 2020, many telemedical, online providers in the U.S. sprung up, such as Choix, Just the Pill, Hey Jane and online pharmacies like HoneyBee Health. These had much more liberty to promote themselves and their products once the FDA's rules on in person distribution were permanently dropped.

Many of these may have been more entrepreneurial than medical ventures, perhaps seen as a chance to make a quick buck. But the industry as a whole wanted much more.

#### Insurance against Roe's fall

Abortion advocates have been aiming for abortion pills that can be given to women with NO rules, no oversight whatsoever, no exams, no tests, and no direct consultation. They have made clear that they want women to be able to buy these over-the-counter, without a prescription, to be able to stock and keep in their home medicine chest for us "as needed." Essentially, "DIY" or "Do it Yourself" abortions.

What had been implicit for many years has been made explicit in the last few months: abortion advocates have been playing the long game. For more than three decades, they have been developing a unique product, clearing all obstacles that stood in the way of an abortion method that could bypass all the rules, the laws, the normal medical safeguards, one that can be ordered online and sent directly to a woman's home. One that she can access even if abortion is illegal in her state.

Over the last several years, they have methodically gotten rid of every legal and logistical barrier that stood in their way. They've had insiders – their good buddies in the industry – do studies supposedly establishing the safety and efficacy of telemedical chemical abortions, of pills delivered to women who have not been

examined, have not received an ultrasound to determine their gestational age or identify ectopic pregnancies, who have not been checked for the Rh factor which can harm future pregnancies, whose completion of the abortion process has not been verified.

They've infiltrated and corrupted the some of the nation's top medical societies and convinced sympathetic government authorities that the high numbers of patients lost to follow up can just be ignored, that hundreds or thousands of women being hospitalized for bleeding, for severe infections, for ruptured pregnancies, ectopic surgery for incomplete or failed abortions really don't matter and don't affect the drug's safety or efficacy profile.

To them, everything's fine so long as a young woman can go online, see an unrealistically rosy sales pitch about a safe, simple abortion, and then order pills sent to her in an unmarked box or envelope.

Those who have problems are welcome to try to get to their local ER before they bleed to death. It's all good, so long as abortion advocates have a way to continue the killing and keep the industry going after Roe's fall.

#### A tough road ahead

We have been watching and we have been preparing for this development.

Many states have passed regulations either directly prohibiting the online prescription and mailing of

See "Mail Order," page 41

### Abortion Advocates Hoping to Beat *Dobbs* with Mail Order Abortifacients

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abortion pills or have at least mandated that these pills only be dispensed in person by a physician who has met, counseled, and examined a woman.

These laws have already kept many of these groups from marketing telabortions in those states.

But they are challenging our laws in the courts and looking for ways around them. They are angling to have doctors in other states ship pills across state lines. They are actively talking about prescribing these pills in states where mail order abortion pills are prohibited by claiming they are being shipped not for abortion, but for "miscarriage management."

Of course, they are still pushing the FDA to drop the REMS entirely. They want to skip the telemedical interview entirely and just have women fill out an online application. They want this available for sale over the counter.

We are continuing to tweak our laws to address the new realities. We are considering some new ideas. We are beefing up our education program so that women know how dangerous these abortion pills are and what they do to their babies.

But with *Roe* now consigned to the dustbin of history and states gaining the power to limit abortions, this is where the battle is going to be played out over the next several years.

So let's celebrate our great victory, but be prepared. Stop thinking of abortion as something only done at dilapidated clinics by old grey haired abortionists with a tired suction machines or a rusty scalpels. The new, modern menace is a chemical or "medical" abortion with pills ordered online and mailed directly to a woman's home. It's hard to detect and even harder to control.

Can it be stopped? Yes. Will it be easy? No.

But we have faced tough challenges before, and we have triumphed with compassion, determination, and ingenuity. It's going to take every bit of that to win this fight.

### The "torturous villain" Senator Warren wants to cancel? It just might be you.

From page 35

PHCs aren't underground; we aren't hiding. We're just a quick online search away. If women were being harmed, she had a duty to protect them. Either she was unaware of PHCs existing in broad daylight in the state she was elected to represent, or this type of "torture" just didn't bother her so much before.

Either way, I would think real torture would be hard to ignore.

Past aside, now Senator Warren is on a mission to cancel these PHCs across the board. She's for canceling women's rights to choose a safe place to consider all their options and get medically necessary services as part of their decision process. She's for canceling life-affirming pregnancy options. She's for canceling babies. And she's not just canceling pregnancy centers by refusing their services for herself, she wants to cancel pregnancy centers for

everyone. That's cancel culture, dictator-style.

But life is too important to cancel, Senator Warren. So here we are. We are not one; we are many. We are millions of faces.

We represent the 2700-plus locally-operated pregnancy centers of America. Our clinics outnumber abortion clinics 3 to 1. Don't ignore what those numbers mean. Largely funded by private donors, our nonprofits exist because we have the support of the American people. We couldn't exist otherwise.

We are over 10,000 licensed staff and medical volunteers strong, over 11,000 non-medical employees strong, and over 47,000 non-medical volunteers strong. We are donors who reach into our pockets and give money so women, children, and families can have the care and support

they need. We are millions of women who've received medical services, material needs assistance, support, and hope over the years. We were the babies whose mothers chose life because they found the help and hope they needed when they were pregnant. We are women, families, and children.

Pregnancy help work is worthy, honorable, important – and torture-free. You see, we agree with you, Senator Warren – we don't want people tortured, either. But we think you don't aim high enough. We believe everyone should be protected from torture – preborn babies included. We choose to protect and support moms and their babies.

And we reject the singular choice you'd like to give women in our nation.

Unplanned pregnancies are complicated. Women seek and deserve a chance to understand what's going on inside their bodies before they purchase abortion pills online or visit an abortion provider. Many want a chance to think things over and understand all their options — because a pregnancy decision is a big decision, for the mother and the child. That's why we're here.

As for me, I plan to continue serving pregnant women. I also intend to continue doing so without mentioning the Senator. I don't mind so much that she talks about me; I just wish she'd tell the truth about me and the millions who are part of the pregnancy help movement. That seems like a reasonable request of a U.S. Senator.

Editor's note. This appeared at Pregnancy Help News and reposted with permission.

### Running from Abortion Issue Not a Winning Strategy for Pro-Life Candidates

From page 1

no parental involvement for minors, and all funded with taxpayer dollars.

Abortion advocates have also spread misinformation about pro-life legislation, claiming that the pro-life movement wants to prosecute or punish women who have abortions. Earlier this year, over 70 pro-life organizations signed a statement from National Right to Life opposing criminal penalties for women who have abortions.

Additionally, pro-life legislation allows the treatment of miscarriages, the removal of ectopic pregnancies, and other procedures to save the life of the mother.

When pro-life candidates try to hide from the issue, they give their opposition the opportunity to write the narrative about the pro-life candidate's position. Instead, pro-lifers can gain the upper hand by embracing the issue and speaking clearly to voters about the commonsense protections for unborn children and their mothers that they support.

It is not extreme to support protecting unborn babies when science shows they can feel pain. Or when their heartbeats are detectable. It is not extreme to support parents being notified or giving consent before their minor daughter can get an abortion. It is not extreme to oppose our hard-earned dollars being used by the government to pay for abortion on demand. It is not extreme to support greater resources for mothers and children in need through

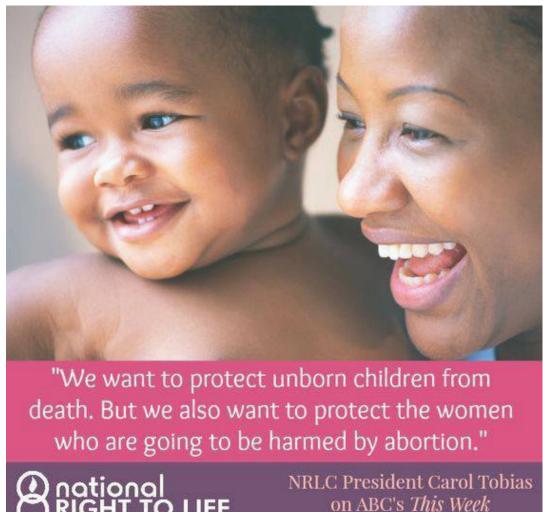
the nationwide network of pregnancy resource centers.

The pro-abortion position is the one that is extreme and the one that is out-of-touch with American voters. A 2022 Marist Poll found that 71% of Americans support some limits on abortion, 54% of Americans oppose taxpayer funding of abortion, and an astounding 81% believe that laws can protect both mother and child. A Wall Street Journal poll found

48% support protecting unborn children at 15 weeks, which was the measure at the center of the *Dobbs* case, versus 43% who oppose.

There is a reason that proabortion movement wants to talk about anything else besides abortion itself. They are in the untenable position of having to defend unborn babies being dismembered, poisoned, or suctioned out of their mother's womb at any point in pregnancy and for any reason. They do not want the reality of abortion, what every abortion does to an unborn baby, to be the center of the conversation.

But, if pro-life candidates are willing to accept the proabortion movement's tangential parameters of the debate and allow abortion advocates to write the narrative about their positions, they will turn a winning issue into a losing one.



### Kentucky judge blocks pro-life laws by claiming when life begins a 'distinctly Christian' belief

Activist judges are trying new ways to protect abortion in a post-Roe America.

By Calvin Freiburger

Roe v. Wade can no longer be used in court to claim a constitutional "right" to abortion, but a judge in Kentucky has asserted a new rationale for blocking legal protections for the preborn.

Jefferson Circuit Court Judge Mitch Perry granted abortion facilities in the Bluegrass State a temporary injunction against enforcement of two pro-life measures, a heartbeat-based abortion ban and a general abortion ban designed not to take effect until Roe was overturned, which together effectively prohibit nearly all abortions.

Perry claimed there was a "substantial likelihood" that the laws "violate the rights to privacy and self-determination" as well as to equal protection and religious freedom under the Kentucky Constitution, and suggested that the trigger law was "unconstitutionally vague" and an "unconstitutional delegation legislative of authority."

Republican state Attorney General Daniel Cameron rejected Perry's assertions about the state's constitution. Cameron has previously argued that the "non-enforcement of even ordinary statutes amounts to irreparable harm. The nonenforcement of the Human Life Protection Act and Heartbeat Law amounts to something far more grave. These laws prohibit what the General Assembly has determined is the unjustified taking of unborn human life. So every day that these laws are not enforced is a day in which unborn children of the Commonwealth perish."

Kentucky's 15-week abortion ban currently remains in effect.

The ruling reflects plans pro-abortion activists have mulled for years to root abortion-on-demand in state constitutions rather than the U.S. Constitution, to insulate it from action by the U.S. Supreme Court. Of particular note is Perry's assertion that the laws' premise of life beginning at conception is "a distinctly Christian and Catholic

preferred treatment."

The judge was invoking a common trope of pro-abortion apologetics, presenting prenatal life as a purely theological concept rather than a question of empirical fact. In reality, long-settled biological criteria and mainstream medical textbooks establish that a living human being, structurally and genetically distinct from his



belief," enforcement of which constitutes an establishment of religion.

"Other faiths hold a wide variety on when life begins and at what point a fetus should be recognized as an independent human being," Perry said. "The laws at issue here, adopt the view embraced by some, but not all, religious traditions, that life begins at the moment of conception. The General Assembly is not permitted to single out and endorse the doctrine of a favored faith for

or her mother, is created upon fertilization and is present throughout the entirety of pregnancy.

This is not in serious dispute; in 2019, University of Chicago Department of Comparative Human Development graduate Steve Jacobs found that 96% of more than 5,500 biologists he surveyed agreed, despite overwhelmingly identifying as "liberal," "pro-choice," and Democrats, and a majority identifying as "non-religious

While it is true that the Judeo-

Christian tradition teaches that human life is sacred, and religious Americans are deeply involved in the pro-life movement, that is a statement on the value of all life, which has been applied to a wide range of human- and civilrights causes throughout history, not a statement of when life is present.

Moreover Perry's logic could be as easily be applied to any number of legal tenets shared with major religions, such as prohibitions against stealing or killing after birth.

Roe's overturn sparked the activation of numerous pre-Roe abortion bans that had gone unenforced for decades, as well as more recent pro-life laws that had been blocked by courts, and trigger laws designed not to take effect until Roe was reversed. Across the country, abortion giant Planned Parenthood has suspended abortions and/or closed locations in reaction to the ruling, and pro-life attorneys general have declared their intentions to enforce their states' duly-enacted abortion prohibitions. ...

President Joe Biden has called for electing more Democrats to Congress to support codifying a "right" to abortion-on-demand in federal law.

It remains to be seen how arguments like Perry's will fare in the courts. Amending state constitutions to clarify they do not protect abortion is generally much easier than amending the national Constitution, although Kentucky Republicans have tried and failed to pursue such

Editor's note. This appeared at LifeSite News and is reposted with permission.

### Biden ramps up administration's efforts to increase abortion "access"

From page 1

that manner would have posed a greater risk of the death of the pregnant woman,' McLaughlin continues. "In short, it treats the mother and child as having an equal right to life, but permits abortion when the mother's own life is threatened (even if her death is not certain, and the child's is) and, even then, requires that best efforts be made to ensure the child's chances of survival."

The Justice Department is suing under EMTALA, arguing that the "Idaho law bans abortions in situations where the denial of an abortion would violate the federal Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act," according to McLaughlin.

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton filed a motion to enjoin the Biden Administration from using EMTALA to require Texas hospitals and doctors to perform abortions as a condition of receiving Medicare and Medicaid funding.

A press release from the Attorney General's office reads

This Biden
Administration's
Abortion Mandate has
the effect of requiring
doctors and hospitals
to choose between
performing abortions
in violation of State law
or caring for women as
they always have while
incurring fines and the
loss of federal funding.

Texas law has long permitted doctors to perform abortions when the life of the mother is at risk. That is still the law. EMTALA does not empower the federal government to change that. EMTALA requires hospitals to treat patients the same regardless of their ability to pay; it does not authorize the federal government to commandeer the practice of medicine.

"While the Biden Administration continues to make rules that unconstitutional, will keep holding them accountable," said Attorney General Paxton. "I will not allow the Biden Administration to threaten doctors and hospitals with unlawful mandate and put millions of Texans' access to healthcare on the line."

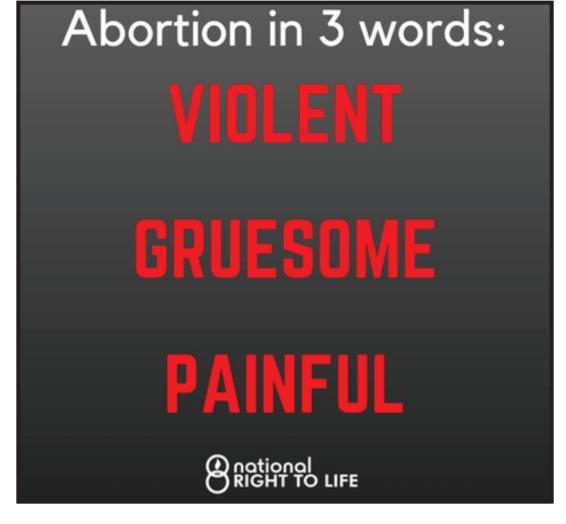
The Attorney General's brief asks for a preliminary injunction.

He writes

As set forth more fully in the brief filed in support of this motion, injunctive relief is warranted because Plaintiffs are likely to prevail on their claims that the Abortion Mandate is unlawful. Defendants lacked statutory authority to adopt it, failed to follow required procedures for adopting a rule, acted arbitrarily and capriciously, and made other legal errors. Moreover, the Abortion Mandate will cause irreparable harm by requiring doctors and hospitals to either violate State law and risk their medical licenses or comply with State law and risk enormous penalties and loss of federal funding.

"Defenders of legal abortion have grown accustomed to winning in court just on the basis of precedent and sympathetic judges," McLaughlin writes. "When forced to argue on the facts and judged on the same legal standards as any other litigant, they do not fare so well."

Stay tuned. The Biden Administration is determined to circumvent the June 24th Supreme Court *Dobbs* decision overturning *Roe v. Wade* as well as democratically approved state pro-life law. We are equally determined to stop them in their tracks.



### Pro-life medical professional blast pro-abortion ABOG for its threat to certification status

#### By Dave Andrusko

Responding to threats from the pro-abortion American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology to the certification status of physicians who promote "misinformation and disinformation" about abortion, the American Association of Pro-life Obstetricians and Gynecologists blasted ABOG's July 7 statement.

ABOG certifies obstetricians and gynecologists.

ABOG said it would "review reports  $\alpha f$ dissemination ofmisinformation and disinformation about COVID-19. reproductive health care, abortion and other OBGYN practices that may harm the patients we serve or public health," the statement reads.

"Eligibility to gain or maintain ABOG certification may be lost if ABOG determines that [physicians] do not meet the standards that they have agreed to meet and that the public deserves and expects."

Pro-life doctors are poised to take legal action against a national medical board.

Valerie Richardson wrote. Donna Harrison is CEO of the American Association of Pro-life Obstetricians and Gynecologists which represents nearly 7,000 medical professionals.

"The threat by the proabortion American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology to cancel the board certification of tens of thousands of OBGYNs who educate their patients about the peer-reviewed, evidence-based facts concerning abortion unprecedented an intrusion into the doctorpatient relationship," Dr. Harrison said in a statement.

ABOG wrote that misinformation "about contraception and abortion can create false narratives about essential safe practices in the specialty" and be used "to advocate for legislation, regulations, criminal code, and health policy," according to Richardson.

"ABOG considers

the dissemination of misinformation and disinformation that may threaten the health of the

Catholic Medical Association and the Christian Medical and Dental Association.

ABOG

#### First in Women's Health®

American Board of Obstetrics & Gynecology

patients who place their trust in its [physicians] to be a violation of medical professionalism," the board said.

The pro-life group said it has not received a response to a July 11 letter from its attorney "warning ABOG that any actions taken against pro-life doctors may result in 'legal liability."

The letter from attorney Heather Gebelin Hacker, former Texas assistant solicitor general, also represented the

"ABOG's statement seeks plainly intimidate diplomates who may offer opinions testimony that state legislatures or courts may rely on in examining abortion regulations," Ms. "It is Hacker said. naked attempt prevent these diplomates from exercising their constitutionally protected rights."

### The perfect storm brings together a Trifecta of lies, omissions, and distortions to take down the pro-life Kansas amendment

From page 2

A "YES" vote would ensure Kansas does not remain a destination state for extreme abortions in unregulated facilities.

It is no coincidence that the number of abortions in Kansas has skyrocketed. Since the *Hodes & Nauser v. Schmidt* decision (2019-2021) there has been:

\*13% increase in the overall annual number of abortions

\*17% increase in live dismemberment abortions performed

\*16% increase in abortions performed on out-of-state residents.

"A spokesman for Trust Women, an abortion clinic in Wichita, reported a 60 percent increase in out-of-state patients over the past year and a doubling of overall patient volume since last year," according to proabortion Sarah Smarsh.

#3. As noted, the inspiration for the amendment was the 2019 Hodes decision. The coalition began planning soon after. The good guys were blindsided by the Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization decision which overturned Roe Wade. Since this was the first statewide vote on abortion post-Roe, the opposition had free rein to let their imaginations run wild—aka the amendment was "extremist." DeSantis added, "The status quo bias in favor of a 'no' vote was helped by the fact that very few state abortion bans have been in effect for much time, if at all, yet. That made it easier to paint a 'yes' vote as a leap into a hazardous unknown."

#4. If they were capable of shame, the pro-abortion coalition would have blushed at the baseless allegations they spewed out. For example, life-threatening ectopic pregnancies where "the baby implants outside the uterus, usually in the fallopian tube," as Emma Waters writes. "Doctors are

fully aware that an ectopic pregnancy is not an abortion, and state law has similarly recognized it."

And **of course** women won't be "jailed" for a miscarriage.

The Boston Globe's columnist Stephanie Ebbert describes what she is doing as "Chronicling the next chapter in America's battle over abortion rights." That's what all of us are doing, but drawing vastly different conclusion.

Here's what Alexis McGill Johnson, president of Planned Parenthood Action Fund, said in a statement. "As the first state to vote on abortion rights following the fall of Roe v. Wade, Kansas is a model for a path to restoring reproductive rights across the country through direct democracy. From Michigan to Nevada, we have the opportunity to protect abortion access at the ballot box in November. We know that Kansas will not be our last fight, or our last victory."

The Value Them Both coalition said, "This outcome is a temporary setback, and

our dedicated fight to value women and babies is far from over. As our state becomes an abortion destination, it will be even more important for Kansans to support our pregnancy resource centers, post-abortive ministries, and other organizations that provide supportive care to women facing unexpected pregnancies. "We will be back."

National Right to Life's President Carol Tobias shared

her thoughts.

"Sadly, thousands and thousands of babies will die in Kansas. Lies about ectopic pregnancies and miscarriages, and false claims that women who have abortions would be prosecuted, promulgated by the media and the abortion industry resulted in a tragic loss for women and their unborn babies.

"Contrary to those lies, prolife legislation allows the removal of ectopic pregnancies and other procedures to save the life of the mother, the treatment of miscarriages, and does not impose any penalties on women who have abortions. Over 70 pro-life organizations signed a statement opposing criminal penalties for women who have abortions."

One of my adages to live by comes from William Feather: "Success seems to be largely a matter of hanging on after others have let go."

Pro-lifers have hung on for nearly 50 years. In all the commentary about the significance of the Kansas amendment fight, it's been almost forgotten that we took down *Roe v. Wade*!

That is a monumental accomplishment. Never, ever forget that.

Nobody but nobody ever said we could now put our efforts on autopilot—that with *Roe* overturned and cast into the dustpan of history, we would cruise to victory unchallenged by the forces of death.

John Updike once wrote, "Death, once invited in, leaves his muddy bootprints everywhere." Come what may, we will never give in until the day comes when we have evicted him once and for all.

