

# Choose Life ...

2015 - Issue 2



NATIONAL RIGHT TO LIFE COMMITTEE

512 10th Street NW

Washington, DC 20004

202-626-8800

# A Pro-Life Religious Outreach Newspaper

# PLANNED PARENTHOOD EXPOSED:

# Abhorrent Videos Intensify Call to End Public Funding of Abortion

Committee (NRLC), the federation of state right-to-life organizations, recently called on all pro-lifers, including pro-life public officials and pro-life candidates, to pledge to enact pro-life laws such as the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act and the Unborn Child Protection from Dismemberment Abortion Act, and work to end public funding of the entire abortion industry.

"One of our top priorities should be enactment of legislation like the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, which will at least begin to limit the ability of the abortion industry to deliver intact, well-developed baby

candidates alike also need to prioritize ending public funding of the abortion industry. It's time to say 'enough is enough'."

NRLC's call to action was prompted by comments caught on tape made by Dr. Deborah Nucatola, Senior Director of Medical Services for Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) and Dr. Mary Gatter, President of the Medical Directors Council of PPFA, regarding the procurement of post-abortive baby body parts. Both were recorded by a

non-profit, non-partisan organization called The Center for Medical Progress (CMP) using hidden cameras. CMP workers posed as biotech company employees during meetings with Dr. Nucatola and Dr. Gatter. The footage of these meetings was made available to the public online.

manipulating unborn children in order to obtain an intact head, apparently to preserve an intact brain. She says, "with the calvarium [the head], in general, some people will actually try to change the presentation so that it's not vertex," (head-first). "If you do it starting from the breech presentation," (feet-first), she says, "you can evacuate an intact calvarium at the end." She also

WASHINGTON - The National Right to Life describes her technique for procuring sellable baby body parts: "We've been very good at getting heart, lung, liver... I'm not gonna crush that part, I'm going to basically crush below, I'm gonna crush above, and I'm gonna see if I can get it all intact." These comments and others raise a host of ethical questions, including whether pregnant women are being given detailed information in advance about exactly what is going to be done to them and their babies.

In a second video released a week later, Dr. Gatter is caught discussing how abortion procedures can be altered to produce "intact specimen," or whole organs and body parts suitable for sale. Dr. Gatter is also caught negotiating baby body parts to order," said Carol Tobias, National Right body part prices and agrees that \$100 per body part would to Life president. "Pro-life activists, public officials, and make her "happy." She then says, "If it's still low, then we

can bump it up. I want a Lamborghini."

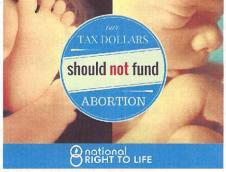
Statements like these raise ethical regarding PPFA's practices, including whether or not informed consent is being obtained from the mothers before abortion procedures are altered and whether or not PPFA is making a profit from aborted baby body parts.

Several more videos have been released -and more are expected in the coming weeks- containing highly graphic and disturbing material, both showing an aborted baby's remains as abortionists attempt to find sellable parts. An abortionist,

Dr. Savita Ginde, Vice President and Medical Director of Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains, confirms in

These videos have sparked nationwide investigations into Planned Parenthood facilities across the country. Legislative action has also been taken in an effort to stop Dr. Nucatola specifically describes abortionists the public funding of Planned Parenthood. In late July, the U.S. House of Representatives referred a bill to committee calling for the defunding of PPFA. The U.S. Senate voted on a similar bill in early August which failed by a slim margin.

one of these undercover videos, "It's a baby."



(Written in Part By Tara Marasco, 2015 National Right to Life Outreach Intern)

## **National News and Notes**

#### **WISCONSIN PASSES 20 WEEK ABORTION BAN**

OSHKOSH – Wisconsin governor Scott Walker signed into law the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act on July 20, 2015. The bill protects unborn children from 20 weeks fetal age (22 "weeks of pregnancy"). Legislative findings indicate that there is compelling evidence that an unborn child by that point (if not earlier) is capable of experiencing excruciating pain during the process of dismemberment or other

abortion procedures.



When he signed the bill in Oshkosh. Wisconsin, Walker said, "For people, regardless of where they might stand, when an unborn child can feel pain I think most people feel it's appropriate to protect that child."

"Wisconsin now joins eleven other states in recognizing the humanity of the unborn child," said Mary Spaulding Balch, J.D., National Right to Life director of state legislation. "The smallest and most vulnerable members of our human family need our protection, and Wisconsin has taken a vital step to save unborn children who are capable of feeling the excruciating pain of abortions."

In May, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a national version of the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act (H.R. 36), which has also been introduced in the U.S. Senate (S. 1553).

## **CA JUDGE: No Right to Assisted Suicide**

SAN DIEGO - In California, one trial judge nixed the assertion that there is a right to assisted Superior Court Judge suicide. Gregory Pollack maintained the constitutionality of a state law prohibiting assisted suicide.



From the Times of San Diego

story:

Pollack said appellate courts Judge Gregory Pollack and the U.S. Supreme Court have made a distinction between "letting a person die and making a person die."

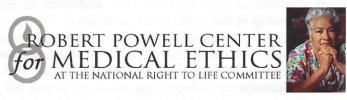
"You can't do that (make a person die) in California," the judge said.

The plaintiff plans to appeal.

#### CHALLENGING MEDICARE'S "ADVANCED CARE"

WASHINGTON - Congressman Steve King has introduced a bill, H.R. 3251, that would prevent Medicare from paying for "advanced care planning." Although many advance care planning proponents give lip service to honoring individual preferences, in practice its pervasive focus is to 'nudge' patients to agree to forego life-saving treatment and even assisted feeding through the use of unbalanced, distorted, and even inaccurate information. Advance care planning is openly promoted as a means of slashing health care spending.

National Right to Life Committee provides a 'Will to Live' version on http://www.nrlc.org/medethics/ willtolive (202) 378-8862 medethics@nrlc.org



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## **Bulletin Inserts**

August 9 - A study published in the medical journal The Lancet last year indicates that people diagnosed in PVS (persistent vegetative state) may have a much greater level of awareness than the diagnosis implies. This raises significant ethical concerns surrounding the decision of whether to continue life-sustaining measures for these patients. In the words of Dr. Steven Laureys, lead physician on the study, "if life support and feeding are to be withheld, 'we better get it right." Ken Connor, "Erring on the side of Life," Townhall.com 1/20/14

August 16 - There are now countless studies demonstrating that adult stem cells are far superior in practice to stem cells taken from embryonic human beings. When it comes to making a difference in people's lives, adult stem cells are the gold standard. The most recent breakthrough came in the treatment of multiple sclerosis where using the patient's own adult stem cells "gave a wheelchair-bound woman her life back" without the possibility of transplant rejection and the possibility of tumors from embryonic stem cells. NRL News Today. 3/3/15

August 23 – "Assisted suicide is the deceptively-attractive face of euthanasia. The most compelling cases grip our attention and sway the debate, and so the [Canadian Supremel Court opens the door to assisted suicide, all the while seeming to do less than it actually has done by surrounding its action with a set of limiting conditions, seeking to guarantee informed consent, as if that were the key issue. But the state is authorizing the killing of an innocent person, whatever controls are in place, and even those limitations can over time be swept away, leading to the more widespread practice of euthanasia," as the European experience shows. - Canadian pro-life activist Jim Hughes

August 30 – In a large survey (n > 75,000) of abortioninclined pregnant women who saw an ultrasound image of have been given, we pray their unborn children before deciding about an abortion, 78% of those women chose life. Planned Parenthood has tried over the years to downplay the significance of ultrasound examinations for a pregnant mother considering August 30 - That God's law "Thou shall not kill" may again abortion. The results of this survey - which is the largest national sampling to date on this issue - conclusively show that when a mother considering abortion sees an ultrasound image of her baby, she is overwhelmingly more likely to choose life. Atty. Thomas Glessner, president of National Institute of Family & Life Advocates, in NRL News Today, 3/6/15

September 6 - In his conclusion to an emotionally wrenching story in American Thinker, a father who sought September 20 - That all may realize that each unborn child to (and failed) to protect two of his triplets from "selective is a gift from God, we pray abortion," wrote, "For I have failed, intentionally and knowingly, in the first duty of a parent: protecting the lives of two of my children." Story from Americanthinker.com, cited in LifeNews.com, 2/18/15

September 13 - For every one black murder victim in 2011 there were 19 blacks killed by abortion, according to data from the FBI and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). 2011 is the latest year for which the data is available. Columnist Leah Barkoukis challenges those marching under the banner "Black Lives Matter" with the statement, "Black lives do matter—beginning in the womb. It's well past time the movement shift its focus." Townhall.com, 1/20/15

September 20 – After a nine year struggle with infertility, adoptive couple Dennis and Carita Chen wrote the following beautiful reflection on adoption: "Adoption is more than a pursuit of a child. It is more than attempts to complete a family. It is more than a salve for the wounds of infertility. It is more than lofty, noble intent...more than desperate longing. Adoption is about a loving God, pursuing and ultimately redeeming. It is, more than anything, theology... because adoption tells us something profound and beautiful about God and how He sees us." LifeNews.com 3/6/15

September 27 - Commenting on the Canadian Supreme Court's decision to legalize assisted suicide, Toronto Cardinal Thomas Collins observed, "We all are on the way to death and should gain wisdom from contemplating that inescapable fact, so that we use each present moment to prepare for the moment of our death by living well. We should provide all who are suffering with the best medical assistance we can offer, especially in palliative care for those who are coming to the end of life. Most importantly, we should accompany each person with love, especially those without friends or family. But any society that authorizes killing people through assisted suicide and euthanasia has lost its moral compass. NRL News Today, 2/11/15

# **Suggested Prayers**

August 16 - For parents of children with physical or mental problems, that they may see God's wisdom in the gift they

August 23 - That all who follow Christ may realize their obligation to work for respect for each human life, we pray

be the law of the land, we pray

September 6 - That those who support abortion, infanticide and euthanasia may open their eyes and ears to the beauty of each life, we pray

**September 13** - For those in the pro-life movement, that they may continue their battle for the right to life of each person, we pray

September 27 - For those who pray outside abortion clinics, that their efforts may change the minds of those planning an abortion, we pray





# Presidential Forum: Speaking Out and Winning for Life



#### **Presidential Candidate Forum Attendees**

Louisiana Right to Life Executive Director Ben Clapper no doubt captured the thoughts of everyone who attended the Presidential Candidates Forum held at the 45th annual National Right to Life Convention in New Orleans: "The Bench is so deep with pro-life candidates [referring to the seven pro-life Republicans who appeared in person or sent a video], the other side's bench is short. ... We are on the right side of history."

Beginning Thursday night with the appearance of Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal at the "Festival of Life," attendees were treated to brilliant, passionate expressions of pro-life convictions by pro-life presidential candidates.

On Friday, we heard from Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, former Pennsylvania Senator Rick Santorum, former Texas Gov. Rick Perry, and retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson. Joining the convention by video were Texas Sen. Ted Cruz and former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush.

Each drew from his unique experiences, reinforcing the driving principle that undergirds the right to life movement: every human being, born and unborn, is one of a kind and irreplaceable.

As National Right to Life President Carol Tobias said, "This nation was founded by brilliant, dedicated men; let us work to elect men and women who will re-establish the unalienable right to life as the first right, the unequaled, paramount right our founding fathers intended."

### IN THEIR OWN WORDS:

Gov. Jeb Bush: "When we devalue life, whether it's at the beginning of life or at the end, we devalue our society, we devalue our culture. This is a value...that is hugely important: that we need to protect innocent life in every aspect."

**Dr. Ben Carson:** "It is up to us the people, to stand up for what we believe in, and what I believe in is life, and using the talent that God has provided to give life."

**Sen. Ted Cruz:** "There is no more precious, more fundamental right than the right to life. Our founders had the foreknowledge to protect life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness in that order. Without life, there is no liberty. Without life, there is no pursuit of happiness."

Gov. Bobby Jindal: "We can't declare victory until every life, the unborn, as well as the elderly, the disabled; every human life is welcomed and celebrated in our country, in our culture."

Gov. Rick Perry: "As long as Roe v. Wade is the law of the land, the only way to stop abortion is one pregnancy at a time, one woman at a time, one heart at time. ... We leave here as an army...of love, of compassion, of tolerance, of healing."

**Sen. Marco Rubio:** "The goal of reclaiming the American dream, which is, itself, about defending the potential of every human being; this goal can never be complete if we do not succeed in defending the basic right of every human life to exist."

**Sen. Rick Santorum:** "I do not believe life begins at conception. I know life begins at conception. This is not a matter of debate. This is not a matter of faith. It's not a matter of belief."