



national
RIGHT TO LIFE
NEWS

June 2021

dads make a difference



*HAPPY
FATHER'S DAY!*



national RIGHT TO LIFE NEWS

Sweeping abortion bill seeks to eliminate all pro-life protections nation-wide

By Jennifer Popik, NRLC Federal Legislative Director

On Tuesday, June 8th, the so-called “Women’s Health Protection Act” (WHPA) was introduced in the 117th Session of the U.S. Congress. This sweeping legislation seeks to enshrine into federal law abortion-on-demand and require taxpayer funding of abortion.

While similar dangerous legislation has been introduced for decades, a record number of pro-abortion co-sponsors have signed on in 2021. Bill advocates have claimed there is a renewed urgency to pass the WHPA in the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision



to hear oral argument in the Mississippi case of *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*, on whether prohibitions on abortions performed pre-viability are unconstitutional.

This session’s bill was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives by Reps. Judy Chu (D-CA) and in the U.S. Senate by Sen. Sydney Blumenthal (D-CT).

The WHPA has a total of 48 Democratic Caucus co-sponsors in the Senate—all

See “Sweeping,” page 37

Nine days and counting until the start of the 50th National Right to Life Convention in Herndon, Virginia

Rev. Gregory Seltz will address Prayer Breakfast, Sen. Tom Cotton, will speak at Closing Banquet

By Dave Andrusko

The deadline mentioned in the headline, referring to June 25, is very important but so, too, is the fact that Early Registration has been extended to June 21! Please go here [<https://nrlconvention.com>] to register.

We very much want you and your family and friends to attend the June 25-26 convention which will be held at the Hilton Washington Dulles hotel in Herndon, Virginia, near Dulles Airport. 2021 will be our 50th convention! That is a special landmark for the nation’s oldest and most representative single-issue pro-life organization.

See “Convention,” page 25

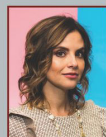
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Olivia Gans Turner



Jennifer Popik, JD



Tara Sander Lee, PhD

& MORE!

Editorials

A shrewd analysis of how pro-lifers are hemming in *Roe* on the way to its extinction

When you read articles by pro-abortionists such as “How the Anti-Abortion Movement Used the Progressive Playbook to Chip Away at *Roe v. Wade*,” your first thought (or at least my first thought) is that likely the authors will suggest that the usage is somehow illegitimate. Tainted, as it were. How could **those** people (aka us) be allowed to get away with using (as the subhead states) “The tactics that advanced civil rights and gay rights have been put to work against abortion.”

But Profs. Mary Ziegler and Robert L. Tsai give every appearance of having a kind of grudging admiration for the genius of our Movement--incrementalism—perhaps because that was at the core of the successful “multi-decade strategy” employed by the civil rights and gay rights movements. (In the case of the former, the beginning of the “strategy” goes back over a hundred years.)

However to jump ahead to the very end of their essay in *Politico Magazine*, I confess I also anticipated a stronger explanation of why they believe the wheel will turn again. That is, why pro-life successes, including a potential victory in the Mississippi case the Supreme Court has agreed to hear, will spark a “backlash that ultimately writes abortion rights into black-letter law.”

I would strongly encourage you read the piece [www.politico.com/news/magazine/2021/06/13/anti-abortion-progressive-roev-wade-supreme-court-492506], so allow me to highlight four considerations.



#1. Ziegler and Tsai understand that the Supreme Court both makes changes and reflects them. They go into depth in many areas but not about what may be the most telling. Courtesy of ultrasounds in particular, pictures/representations of the one-time largely invisible unborn child are on refrigerator doors, in albums, and in tons of advertisements. “Fetus” always was a clunky term,

See “*Analysis*,” page 25

Future prospects for pro-abortion Democrats continually grow bleaker

Last November, after most of the dust had settled, some pro-abortion strategists were frank enough to acknowledge that the future did not look good for their party—the Democrats. At the time, borrowing from a piece that appeared in *Slate* magazine (decidedly not our friend), we wrote about that grim scenario (for Democrats) under the headline, “‘It’s the statehouses, stupid.’ Pro-abortion publication acknowledges how well pro-life Republicans did in the states.”

Why is this worth mentioning in June 2021? Simply because even those anti-lifers most determined to bury their heads in the sand can’t miss the import of this recent headline from their house newspaper, the *New York Times*. It read “Republicans win two Texas mayoral races, including one in McAllen, which is 85 percent Hispanic.”

If you didn’t bother to keep track on what was going on last year, these are hugely surprising setbacks. But they shouldn’t

be, any more than the large (and growing larger) number of pro-life Republican women taking their seats in Congress and the statehouses. So, let me revisit and update what we wrote last November, which is even more true today than seven months ago.

The title for Mary Harris’ piece in *Slate*, which was “an excerpt of a conversation from *Slate*’s daily morning news podcast, ‘What Next,’ is “Democrats Have a Much Bigger Problem Than the Senate or the Electoral College: It’s the statehouses, stupid.”

It’s a long post [https://slate.com/news-and-politics/2020/11/democrats-statehouses-republican-control-gerrymandering-redistricting-census.html], but let’s start with the conclusion that appears at the very end of the excerpt:

Mary Harris: The Democrats seem to lack the organizational knowhow, the infrastructure to

See “*Bleaker*,” page 30

From the President Carol Tobias

The Biden-Harris Budget, with no Hyde Language, Must be Defeated



We knew it was coming -- we knew there would be a concerted effort to make you and your neighbors pay for abortion.

As Memorial Day weekend was beginning, President Biden released his proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2022. He is asking Congress to approve a budget that removes Hyde amendment language, thus allowing your tax dollars to be used to pay for abortion. Prior to enactment of the Hyde Amendment, federal dollars, mostly Medicaid, paid for 300,000 abortions a year.

How did we know such a budget was coming? In 2019, once Biden realized that his chances of winning his party's presidential nomination were non-existent if he did not roll over, he sold out the babies and the taxpayers. He flipped on his 45-year history as a senator who opposed taxpayer funding of abortion. Biden and the abortion industry were now one.

It was very different back in 1977 when then-Senator Biden wrote an open letter to his Delaware constituents, stating that he has consistently opposed the use of federal funds to pay for abortion "unless the life of the mother is in danger."

Throughout the years, the pro-life movement has faced its up and downs. We've had pro-life presidents and pro-abortion presidents. We've had Republican-controlled congresses and Democrat-controlled congresses. There was one constant: the Hyde amendment prevailed.

Why? Because a strong majority of Americans do **not** want their tax dollars being used to kill preborn children. Most elected officials, even Democrats, respected those desires.

No more. The abortion industry and the leadership of the Democrat party have pulled back the curtain. They no longer attempt to hide their true goal-- no limits on abortion throughout all nine months of pregnancy paid for by taxpayers. Unborn children are to be treated like a tumor, and any laws that provide some safeguards for women seeking an abortion need to be repealed.

The damage the Biden budget would inflict doesn't just impact the Medicaid program, the initial intent of the Hyde Amendment. For your information, I'm including a summary from the office of pro-life Senator Steve Daines (R-MT). Sen. Daines chairs the Senate Pro-Life Caucus. This is the most thorough analysis I've seen of how the Biden budget would dismantle 40+ years of anti-funding protections for babies and taxpayers.

As you may have seen, President Biden's FY22 budget calls for the elimination of the Hyde Amendment (pg. 807) – which would allow taxpayer funding for abortion on demand through Medicaid, Medicare disability, and other programs funded under the Labor/Health & Human Services appropriations bill.

The Hyde Amendment has saved an estimated more than 2.4 million lives since it first became law in 1976, and it routinely saves more than 60,000 lives in the United States every year. Nearly 6 in 10 Americans oppose using tax dollars to pay for abortions ([Marist/Knights of Columbus poll, 2021](#)).

Other pro-abortion provisions in Biden's FY22 budget:

**Eliminates the Dornan Amendment (pg. 1272), which would allow the District of Columbia to fund abortions through its Medicaid program. When the Dornan amendment was last gutted in FY2010, D.C. funded 300 abortions through Medicaid.*

**Eliminates the Aderholt Amendment (pg. 188), which would lift the Federal ban on gestating gene-edited embryos, such as three-parent embryos.*

**19% increase in funding for the Title X family planning program by \$53.521 million to \$340 million from \$286.479 million (pg. 438). Once the Biden administration finalizes its new Title X rules, this funding will serve as a slush fund for Planned Parenthood and the abortion industry. Biden promised on the campaign trail that the public option would cover abortion on demand.*

**Calls for making permanent the expanded Obamacare premium tax credits (which subsidize abortion coverage) under the American Rescue Plan Act, and the creation of a so-called "public option" for a government run health insurance*

plan offered through the Obamacare exchanges. (pg. 24) Biden promised during his campaign that any public option would cover abortion on demand.

**Increases the funding floor earmark for international family planning/reproductive health by \$8.7 million to \$583.7 million from \$575 million (pg. 916). This is a slush fund for international pro-abortion organizations including International Planned Parenthood and Marie Stopes International, which can now receive these funds due to Biden's rescission of Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance.*

**72% increase in funding for the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) by \$23.5 million to \$56 million from \$32.5 million (pg. 125 of State Dept request). The UNFPA promotes abortions around the world and supports China's forced abortion and sterilization regime.*

**Eliminates conditions on U.S. funds to the UNFPA, including requirements that the UNFPA not fund abortions and that funds not be directly used for country programs in China (pg. 916)*

**Adds a sweeping notwithstanding authority for funding "to promote gender equality" overseas, which would bypass the Helms Amendment and Siljander Amendments, to potentially allow taxpayer funding for abortion or abortion lobbying overseas. (pg. 916)*

**Eliminates the application of the Helms Amendment to the Complex Crises Fund (pg. 832), which could allow those funds to pay for abortions*

**Eliminates provisions removing time limitations on embryo storage for IVF procedures funded by the Department of Defense (pg. 329)*

We must make sure that everyone knows what this militantly pro-abortion administration is trying to do. Many of our friends and neighbors may support abortion but they do not want their tax dollars used in this way. Talk to them. Educate them. And urge them to contact their U.S. Senators and Representative. And, certainly, every one of our pro-life friends and neighbors must be motivated to act.

Washington must hear from us. If Hyde language is not added back into this budget, the budget must be defeated.

Democrats' Exclusion of Protections for the Unborn Breaks With Commonsense, Bipartisan Precedent

'So President Biden's decision to abandon the Hyde Amendment aligns him with an increasingly radical consensus among elected Democrats. But it puts him way out of step with the clear majority of Americans who oppose taxpayer-funded abortion.' – U.S. Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell

By Sen. Mitch McConnell

Editor's note. Sen. McConnell delivered these remarks June 10th on the Senate floor regarding protections for the unborn.

Unfortunately, the Administration's radical left turn touches much more than just infrastructure policy. In fact, it includes an unprecedented new threat to the basic dignity of human life.

On the campaign trail last year, President Biden announced that he would abandon a mainstream position he had held for decades – that taxpayer dollars should not be used to fund abortions.

It was an alarming reversal. But, under immense pressure from the far Left, President Biden kept his radical campaign promise, shrugged off a commonsense precedent upheld by Administrations of both parties for more than 40 years, and proposed a budget that entirely erases the protections of the Hyde Amendment.

When asked about it at a hearing yesterday, the Secretary

of Health and Human Services confirmed that the President's change of heart was no mistake: "The budget is a reflection of what the President has said..."

Here in the Senate, our colleagues have repeatedly blocked efforts to limit elective abortion after the 20th week.

Their opposition keeps

among elected Democrats. But it puts him way out of step with the clear majority of Americans who oppose taxpayer-funded abortion.



This new, fringe stance on taxpayer-funded abortions aligns much more closely with the Secretary's own views, as our colleagues may recall from his confirmation process.

Now, it's no secret that the Democratic Party has been hurtling to the left on abortion in recent years.

the United States in rather inglorious company alongside China, North Korea, and just four other countries that fail to offer this basic protection to the unborn.

So President Biden's decision to abandon the Hyde Amendment aligns him with an increasingly radical consensus

Mr. President, the Administration's budget request continues to make headlines for all the wrong reasons.

But its plan to sell out on longstanding protections for the most vulnerable Americans might just be the lowest of the low."

Clara's Story

Editor's Note: Clara is the 11-year-old daughter of Joleigh Little, the Region 5 & 6 Field Representative at Wisconsin Right to Life. Her story below was originally shared in the May 2021 Teen Impact Subscription Box, which focused on creating a culture of life for people with disabilities.

Some would say I was doomed when I was born. Others would say I was born to shine. My world ended up shining. This is how my world began...

My birth mom understood my needs so she said "no" to aborting me. She had me when she was very young, in a country called Bulgaria. While I was growing inside her, part of the amniotic sac came loose and wrapped around my leg, causing it not to grow. The same thing happened to some of my fingers. I was born early – about eight weeks before my due date. My birth mom knew she couldn't take care of me, so she walked out the door, leaving me with doctors I didn't know. But they took good care of me

and when I was strong enough, I went to live at an orphanage.

I was adopted from the orphanage, and now I have an

awesome mother. I was a little too pleased to leave that place! I have pretty simple needs that are easily taken care of. Once I came home to America, I began

to live what you might call a normal life. Sort of! I mentioned my mom. She works for Wisconsin Right



to Life and I have been able to travel with her to events. When I heard my own story from my mom, I wanted to become involved with the pro-

life movement, and have done so. I am writing this essay so everyone will know that it is so important to choose life for kids like me.

I have many, some might say, odd looks about me. I have that half a leg I told you about. I also have fingers that are braided together like a braid in your hair. I have a Leggie for my half leg that helps me walk and run. When I do not have my leg on I hop around on one foot. The exercise is great for me! I guess you could say I have come a long way since I was born. I ride horses, I walk our dogs, I run, I swim – I can do anything any other kid can do.

I hope you know that it's so important to choose life. Just because kids like me look different or we have special needs that might take more time and care, doesn't mean we should be killed. All of us have things that make us different and we all need care – young or old. As human beings we need to stand on many legs to survive. I'm glad that I get to stand with people who love life!

Major Pro-Life Opportunities in Upcoming Governor Races

By Karen Cross, National Right to Life Political Director

There will be gubernatorial elections in Virginia and New Jersey in 2021, as well as a special recall election in California. In addition, there are 20 Republican and 15 Democrat governor seats up for election in 2022. Following are highlights of some of those elections.

Virginia

The first major midterm election during the Biden-Harris era comes to the Commonwealth of Virginia in November 2021. There will be a pro-life versus pro-abortion showdown in the two major candidates with pro-life Republican businessman Glenn Youngkin taking on pro-abortion former Governor Terry McAuliffe.

The *Cook Political Report* has categorized the race as Likely Democrat. However, there are a number of factors that point to a very competitive race.

One is historical trends. Apart from the 2017 gubernatorial race, the party which does not hold the presidency has traditionally won the Virginia governor's race. That bodes well for Youngkin with pro-abortion President Biden in office.

While Virginia has been trending blue, midterm elections have been much closer than in presidential years. In the 2014 Senate race, for example, Republican Ed Gillespie came within 0.8% of defeating incumbent Senator Mark Warner.

In 2013, the last time Terry McAuliffe was on the ballot for governor, pro-life Republican Ken Cuccinelli came within 2

points of winning the race. One of the major reasons he lost was McAuliffe's huge fundraising advantage.

With that in mind, another factor working in Youngkin's favor is his ability to self-fund his campaign. As a successful businessman, Youngkin has been able to invest large sums of his personal wealth into the

on the President. After 4 years of Ralph Northam's abortion extremism it is time to take the Commonwealth back.

Arizona

Pro-life Governor Doug Ducey is limited by state law to only two consecutive terms. As a result, Arizona will have an open race for governor in 2022.

distinction of being the first Asian American ever elected to the Arizona Legislature.

Karrin Taylor Robson, a member of the Arizona Board of Regents and the president and founder of Arizona Strategies, a land-use strategy company, has also entered the race for the Republican nomination.

On the Democratic side, pro-abortion Marco Antonio Lopez, the former mayor of Nogales, has thrown his hat in the ring. More candidate announcements on both sides are expected.

Georgia

Like Arizona, Georgia was one of the closest states of the 2020 election with President Biden narrowly eking out a win. Pro-life Governor Brian Kemp (R) is running for reelection and Republicans are looking to reverse recent trends in the Peach State after also losing two Senate seats to pro-abortion Democrats in the January runoff elections.

On the Democratic side, pro-abortion former House Minority Leader Stacey Abrams may seek a rematch from her 2018 race against Kemp, a race she has never officially conceded. Another potential candidate is pro-abortion former Atlanta mayor Kasim Reed.

Pennsylvania

Pro-abortion Governor Tom Wolf (D), a former Planned Parenthood clinic escort, is term-limited, leaving an open race for governor in Pennsylvania. Pro-life former



[Left to right] NRLC Political Director Karen Cross; Pro-life Virginia Gubernatorial Candidate Glenn Youngkin; and Virginia Society for Human Life President Olivia Gans Turner.

race allowing him to go toe-to-toe with McAuliffe who previously served as DNC Chair and was a top fundraiser for Bill and Hillary Clinton.

How close is the race less than five months out? A poll from WPA Intelligence put the candidates neck and neck with McAuliffe leading 48% over Youngkin at 46%.

Winning in 2021 will require maximum effort from pro-life advocates who understand that "off-year elections" are often interpreted as a referendum

In the 2020 elections, President Biden carried Arizona by one of the narrowest margins in the country: just 10,000 votes--or 0.3%. But in 2018, Governor Ducey won reelection in what was considered a Democratic wave year with 56% of the vote.

On the Republican side, pro-life State Treasurer Kimberly Yee has announced her candidacy. Prior to her role as treasurer, Yee served as the Majority Leader of the Arizona Senate. She bears the

See "Races," page 36

Attorney General Cameron Files U.S. Supreme Court Brief in Kentucky's Live Dismemberment Abortion Case

High court will hear case this fall

FRANKFORT, Ky. (June 14, 2021) – Attorney General Daniel Cameron today filed a brief before the United States Supreme Court in support of his defense of House Bill 454, Kentucky's law prohibiting live-dismemberment abortions.

In March, the U.S. Supreme Court agreed to hear Attorney General Cameron's appeal in the case of *Cameron v. EMW Women's Surgical Center*, in which the Attorney General argues that he should be allowed to defend HB 454 on behalf of Kentuckians.

HB 454 prohibits the gruesome live dismemberment abortion procedure, also known as Dilation and Evacuation (D&E), from being performed on a living unborn child. D&E

abortions involve tearing the unborn child apart, in the womb, while he or she is still alive. The General Assembly



Kentucky Attorney General Daniel Cameron

passed HB 454 in 2018, and it was challenged by a Kentucky abortion clinic and two of its abortion providers.

"HB 454 represents the

values of Kentuckians and demonstrates the respect we have for the dignity of life," said Attorney General Cameron. "These values, set forth in our laws, must be defended at every turn, and it's my job to step in, especially when other state officials refuse. This brief is the next step in this process, and we look forward to presenting our case to the U.S. Supreme Court this fall to ensure Kentucky's laws can always be defended by our office."

Attorney General Cameron's team defended HB 454 on behalf of the Secretary of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services before the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. The Sixth Circuit upheld an injunction

against the law in a split vote, and the Beshear Administration refused to appeal and continue defending the law. Attorney General Cameron attempted to intervene in the case two days later to ensure the law continued to receive a full defense, but the Sixth Circuit denied his motion.

The brief argues that as the "chief law officer" for the Commonwealth, the Attorney General must be allowed to intervene in the case given how quickly he acted.

Attorney General Cameron's office is expected to argue the case before the Supreme Court this fall. To view a copy of the brief, click here [<https://ag.ky.gov>].

Sen. Hyde-Smith continues push for thorough FDA review of dangerous chemical abortion pills

At Hearing, Senator Questions FDA Inconsistencies in Regulating Abortion Pill vs. COVID Vaccines

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-Miss.) on Thursday continued a push for the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to conduct a thorough review of the risks to women's health from a chemical abortion pill made more widely available during the pandemic.

During a Senate Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee hearing to review the FY2022 FDA budget request, Hyde-Smith questioned FDA regulatory inconsistencies regarding the Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) for mifepristone, the chemical abortion drug.

In April, Hyde-Smith led a bipartisan, bicameral letter to the FDA that expressed concerns about the agency's decision not to enforce the mifepristone REMS during the pandemic and requested the agency mandate complete

reporting of adverse effects of the drug on women.

"The FDA decision is alarming because this drug is dangerous. The limited data we



Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith

do have shows unacceptable rates of complications for women and girls," Hyde-Smith said.

"I am particularly struck by the inconsistency of FDA's actions. For instance, the FDA

and CDC imposed a pause on the Johnson and Johnson COVID vaccine after reports of blood clots in some women. At the same time, FDA is expanding the approval for chemical abortion pills that have much, much higher risks of blood clots than the J&J vaccine," she said.

More than 20 percent of reported complications from mifepristone use were life threatening or resulted in death, and over 70 percent of reported complications required follow up surgery, including total hysterectomy, Hyde-Smith reported.

Acting FDA Commissioner Dr. Janet Woodcock, in her response at the hearing and in a letter, said the agency will undertake a review of the REMS for mifepristone.

"I will have to look at the conditions of the REMS. All serious events need to be

reported to the FDA. So let me look into that, but it may well be that if a person has a headache after using this drug that that may not have to be reported because it's a non-serious, self-limited event," Woodcock said.

Hyde-Smith responded, "Twenty percent, though, that's pretty serious for life threatening or resulting in death."

In January, Hyde-Smith and Congressman Bob Latta (R-Ohio) introduced companion legislation, the Support and Value Expectant (SAVE) Moms and Babies Act of 2021 (S.78 and HR.554), to prevent labeling changes for already-approved abortion drugs; prevent providers from dispensing these drugs remotely, by mail, or via telemedicine; and prevent FDA approval of new chemical abortion drugs.

NRLC 2021 will open with Prayer Breakfast Speaker The Rev. Gregory Seltz explaining “Standing Up for Life Matters To Us All”

By Holly Gatling, Executive Director, South Carolina Citizens for Life

The Rev. Dr. Gregory P. Seltz, the first executive director of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty in Washington, D.C., believes the pro-life message and traditional family values are “under siege” by what he calls a “secular puritanism” bent on outlawing those who advocate for the biblical view. He will expand on that fundamental insight as the featured speaker at the National Right to Life Convention Prayer Breakfast on Friday, June 25, 2021, in an address titled “Standing Up for Life Matters To Us All.”

Dr. Seltz says secular puritans “don’t think they are religious, but they are way more religious than you would imagine,” he said. For example, you can go to jail for violating the “Ethnic Agitation Laws” of Finland. “Having a bible perspective on things will get you thrown in jail in Finland.”

With religious liberties under assault, the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod recognized the need to have a presence in Washington, D.C., the very epicenter of where a compelling Christian witness will be needed most in years to come. As Dr. Seltz wrote last month, under the headline, “When Faithfulness Calls Believers to Stand up and Stand Firm,” “Is this a “Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego” moment for Christians in America? It’s time for believers to realize that the Church isn’t ‘politicizing’ everything, it is merely defending its right to exist. Standing up and standing firm are also part of our mission and

witness (especially when you are even doing it for those with whom you disagree).”

Standing up means opposing legislation such as the so-called “Equality Act” that passed the U.S. House and is pending in



The Rev. Gregory Seltz

the Senate. Among other threats to religious liberty, the Equality Act could be interpreted as creating a right to demand that health care professionals and institutions provide abortion procedures regardless of any moral objection to killing unborn members of the human family.

Dr. Seltz said, “Our [political] leaders are in some ways saying to Christians, ‘We’re done with you people.’ I think the Christian Church is saying, ‘No! You work for us.’ That’s the tension of our culture right now.”

In 2017 The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty hired Dr. Seltz away from his position with the popular radio program, *The Lutheran Hour*, where he presented the Gospel message from 2011 to 2017. Leaving

The Lutheran Hour, he said, “was the hardest decision of my life because I thought that was the pinnacle of my work.”

He made his decision to leave based in part on an incident that goes all the way back to 1938

deeply religious Lutheran parents and grandparents. He began his college career at the University of Michigan in the six-year medical school program and played basketball. He soon found his faith to be the object of ridicule in the science classes and that propelled him into changing his career path to the ministry. “I learned there is a secular movement in our country, and they laughed at our faith in my biology classes. I was a straight A student. I can do all the science, but I have a whole different world view,” he recalled. “That’s when I began to realize there is a clash of world views in our culture.”

As a Lutheran pastor beginning in 1988, Dr. Seltz’s ministry took him and his wife, Marie Yvette, to many interesting places including inner city evangelization and “church planting” ventures in areas where the church wasn’t always welcome. In New York, Los Angeles, and Dallas he started to get involved with political realities in neighborhoods in hopes of getting the unchurched into church. In New York he worked with the late John Cardinal O’Connor, a pro-life role model for him. To counter the absurdly false narrative that the pro-life movement doesn’t care about women, Cardinal O’Connor created programs that “pay for everything”

when overtly liberal religious groups filed a complaint against *The Lutheran Hour* and demanded it be taken off the air. Dr. Walter Maier, then *The Lutheran Hour* speaker, fought back using Jeffersonian Freedom Principles of free speech and freedom of religion. He “defended the church’s right to be on the radio,” Dr. Seltz said. The Federal Communications Commission sided with Dr. Maier and his supporters.

“That was part of *The Lutheran Hour* work to be both the person to keep the government in its place and proclaim the Gospel freely,” Dr. Seltz said. “Now I’m in DC taking up that legacy.”

The oldest of five boys, Dr. Seltz was born in Detroit, Michigan, and raised by

See “Prayer,” page 9

Powerful pro-life video encourages women to choose life

By SPUC—the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children

Choice42, a Canadian pro-life group led by Laura Klassen, has produced a heartfelt animated video, encouraging women to choose life over abortion.

A short video has been posted on social media promoting life over death, hope over despair, empowering women who might be considering an abortion.

At the beginning of the video, a pregnant woman, uncertain and worried, holds her belly.

“You didn’t plan this. You didn’t want it. And now you have a choice to make. Take a breath... you can do this”, the video says.

A voice is then heard saying: “For whatever reason, this baby was given to you. You were chosen to be this child’s mother, and, no matter what’s going on in your life, you can rise up and take this on...

“Abortion is probably going to be suggested – even pushed on you by the people closest to you... They’ll tell you it’s the best option. They’ll tell you to think of your future. They’ll say you’re not old enough, not young enough, not experienced enough, not financially stable enough, not educated enough.



They might even threaten you.” The video has gone viral, gaining more than 100,000 views on Facebook in less than

12 hours.

A SPUC spokesperson said

“This video illustrates the real fear and pressure women are facing today.

“Abortion is being pushed on women, yet this video’s impactful message empowers women to make the best decision, to choose life.”

“Short films such as this hold a massive capacity to turn the tables on the typical pro-abortion messages that infiltrate society.”

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From page 8

for a woman experiencing a crisis pregnancy. Whether the woman chose to parent or place the child for adoption was immaterial. “We didn’t ask. We just got her on her feet.”

The Founding Fathers created a system of limited government to free people to live religious lives, but, Dr. Seltz says, “That’s being flipped upside down. If secular progressive puritans get in charge, then you’re

going to see the squashing of religious liberty. You’re going to see churches made illegal overnight. The question is, will the people of our country push back against that or not.”

Dr. Seltz said the pro-life movement is an example of effective political engagement that must say “No” to *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*, the twin 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decisions that effectively

legalized abortion on demand through all nine months of pregnancy and for any reason.

He said the pro-life movement went beyond a “No” message and brilliantly created a “Yes” message. “We started to talk about the positive things of the pro-life movement with the ‘abundance of life God wants for us no matter what,’” Dr. Seltz said. “That messaging was genius. It took courage

because you had to say the No first.” The pro-life yes, he said, is promoted in such a way “that even people who disagree with you say that’s a pretty positive message.”



Pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute worries “2021 is on Track to Become the Most Devastating Antiabortion State Legislative Session in Decades”

By Dave Andrusko

To be honest, I really did think that the Guttmacher Institute, Planned Parenthood’s former “special affiliate,” had gone about as far as it could in promoting the conclusion that 2021 was, for pro-abortionists, the legislative equivalent of the 1929 stock market crash.

I was wrong.

Here’s the latest measured, restrained, just-the-facts headline: “2021 Is on Track to Become the Most Devastating Antiabortion State Legislative Session in Decades.”

So, how have the last five months prefigured Apocalypse Now? Guttmacher’s Elizabeth Nash and Lauren Cross tell us “Right-wing ideologues are engaging in a shock and awe campaign against abortion rights that is largely getting lost against the background of a broader attack on other basic rights...”

Those other “basic rights” do not fall within our single-issue bailiwick, but they remind us again that the Abortion Industry is now, more than ever, comfortable ensconced within the broader Left coalition.

Their dire summary is right there in the first paragraph:

The number of abortion restrictions—and specifically bans on abortion designed to directly challenge Roe v. Wade and the U.S. constitutional right to abortion—that have swiftly been enacted over the past five months is unprecedented. If this trend continues, 2021 will end up as the most

damaging antiabortion state legislative session ever.

So Nash and Cross roll out the laundry list of “abortion restrictions” like a dirge. Note when Guttmacher is busy “Tallying the Damage in 2021 so far,” their numbers never match up with ours. They are always larger because they break out any given law’s components and add them up. So one law counts as four “abortion restrictions.”

It’s the same technique, only in reverse, that allows Planned Parenthood to pretend that abortion is “only 3% of its services.” As *National Review’s* Rich Lowry explained it

By Planned Parenthood’s math, a woman who gets an abortion but also a pregnancy test, an STD test, and some contraceptives has received four services, and only 25 percent of them are abortion. This is a little like performing an abortion and giving a woman an aspirin, and saying only half of what you do is abortion.

What does Guttmacher have correct?

#1. “The 2021 abortion restrictions largely build on earlier ones” in “states already considered to be hostile or very hostile toward, abortion rights.” Put positively (our perspective), pro-life legislatures continued to pass laws that protect mothers and unborn children by limiting the way in which the PPFAs of

this world can avoid or minimize the impact of laws already passed. An example would be passing follow-up legislation to prior laws that banned allowing abortion survivors to



die unattended but had lacked enforcement mechanisms.

#2. “As our earlier analysis predicted, state policymakers are testing the limits of what the new U.S. Supreme Court majority might allow and laying the groundwork for a day when federal constitutional protections for abortion are weakened or eliminated entirely.”

Guttmacher just figured that out? We have been “testing the limits” since 1973. *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* were abysmally reasoned decision, untethered to the text of the Constitution and totally disdainful of the states’ legitimate right to pass their own laws on abortion. We are simply assisting the Supreme Court to wake up to these realities. And...

#3. “Because of the coordinated and creeping [‘coordinated and creeping’? Wow!] nature of these tactics, it can be anticipated that antiabortion lawmakers in other

states may try to pass similar legislation in the near future.”

So, let me get this straight. Pro-abortionists never learn from one another, nor do they attempt pass legislation in states D, E, and F that were enacted in states A, B, and C?

What pious poppycock.

One other thought.

The pro-abortion ethos is built on an inversion. They do not honor the most crucial bond in human culture, that between a mother and her unborn child, rather they celebrate that the bond is one they can dissolve at the flip of suction machine.

Justice is not treating the lives of the helpless vulnerable with special reverence but obliterating them with casual ruthlessness because they are powerless to stop us. This brings to mind the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s June 1965 Commencement Address at Oberlin College. Dr. King famously observed that, “Yes, we shall overcome because the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.”

But in the very next sentence, Dr. King added, “We shall overcome because [Thomas] Carlyle is right: “No lie can live forever.”

“No lie can live forever” because (as Rev. King said in his very next sentence) “James Russell Lowell is right”:

*Truth forever on the scaffold,
Wrong forever on the throne,
Yet that scaffold
sways the future,
And behind the dim unknown
Standeth God within the
shadow,*

Keeping watch above his own.

Eleni's story: "You are going to work for a pro-life organization and tell your story. And that's what I ended up doing."

By Holly Gatling, Executive Director, South Carolina Citizens for Life

At barely 22-years-old, Eleni Mastronardi has a unique perspective on her own existence and an amazing story to tell that goes back to her life in the womb.

Eleni's mother was 41 and pregnant with her fifth child. The doctor announced at her mother's first ultrasound there were brain anomalies including a large cavity abnormally filled with either fluid or air. She advised Eleni's parents, Ann and Peter Demos, to abort the baby so they wouldn't have to raise a child with "a long list" of mental and physical disabilities.

Eleni says her father, a physician, is "the king of making bad jokes at inappropriate times" and, as the story goes, he told the doctor abortion was out of the question. "That's not what we're going to do," he said. "Now we know who the real airhead is in the family."

The family sought prayers "everywhere" for their baby, Eleni says, but at the second ultrasound, the diagnosis was the same. The doctor pressed for abortion and then insisted on doing risky prenatal tests -- until Dr. Demos asked a question: "What is the rate of death [to the unborn child] from these tests?"

"The doctor got really mad," Eleni says her father recalls. "Dad thinks he saw something in her eyes. She knew what he was talking about." The implication was the doctor would deliberately do something to cause an abortion because she was so strongly pressuring Dr. and Mrs. Demos to abort Eleni. Her parents refused the test and said, "We will take the airhead."

Their faithfulness and courage was rewarded at the third ultrasound appointment: the images showed **no** problem with Eleni's brain. Whether she was miraculously healed *in*

to write five reasons you love your mother. Eleni listed as #1, "You didn't abort me."

Eleni's journey to working at the National Right to Life Committee is another story in

NRLC, Eleni met her future husband, Matthew Mastronardi, a medical technician with the U.S. Air Force. They married and are now the parents of their first child, Anastasia, born May 14, 2021.



Matthew, Eleni, and Anastasia Mastronardi

utero, or the pro-abortion doctor made egregious mistakes in interpreting the ultrasound is unknown.

Eleni was born healthy on May 30, 1999, the youngest of five siblings. She grew up in West Springfield, Massachusetts, and excelled in school. "Mistakes can happen or a miracle can occur," she says. "God always has a plan."

For as far back as she can remember, Eleni knew the story of her pre-natal life. Recently her mother sent her something Eleni wrote in the second grade. The assignment was

itself. When she was working on her undergraduate degree in Russian and Russian Literature at Virginia Tech, she applied for several internships that didn't come through. A friend suggested that she apply with National Right to Life. She did and was accepted.

That internship quickly led to part-time employment, and in 2020 to full-time work with Jacki Ragan, the NRLC director of State Organizational Development and NRL Conventions, Inc.

That's still not the end of the story. While an intern with

Given her degree in Russian and Russian Literature, Eleni said she imagined a different career path than pro-life work. Yet all her life her mother told her, "You are going to work for a pro-life organization and tell your story. And that's what I ended up doing."

And that's exactly what Eleni will be doing later this month at the June 25-26 National Right to Life Convention in Herndon, Virginia. She'll be conducting workshops on how state organizations can effectively use social media.

A Father's Day reflection on Men and Abortion

Understandably, in conversations about abortion, we most often discuss the mother, the unborn child, and even the abortionist and clinic workers. But there is someone too often forgotten, the father.

Every counselor at a Women's Helping Center will tell you fathers can and do play an absolutely pivotal role in whether a mother chooses life for their unborn child. Employers, doctors, counselors, friends, and relatives may suggest, or sometimes even pressure, a mother to end the life of her unborn child. But the support of a courageous father who is willing to stand by her and their unborn child has a huge impact. It sends an unmistakable message: this is our baby and we will work through any difficulties together.

Abortion ends the life of an unborn child and that loss affects each member of the family, including the father. However, they often suffer in silence. They are told their grief is invalid because abortion is strictly a woman's "choice." They are told they have no stake in this life-and-death decision. But in every abortion, the unborn child and their mother are not the only victims. Both mother **and** father are left with the heartbreak that can follow abortion.

In the pro-life movement, we do not condemn these men and women. We recognize that they too are victims of the

financially and ideologically driven abortion industry and a society that prioritizes convenience over compassion. We also know from experience that they are deeply scarred.

One man anonymously wrote to the Silent No More Awareness Campaign, a group that helps men and women seeking healing after abortion, saying,

"My role in two abortions has been long-lasting. I can tell you the mental and emotional effects on a man are real and devastating. I really don't let anyone get close to me because I don't want to let them down. I've had a divorce, no current relationship with my two living sons, countless unfinished projects, and several jobs left before true success--mainly because I never felt I deserved it."

His story is just one of millions. There have been 63 million abortions in the United States since the Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* decision legalized abortion on demand in 1973. That is 63 million unborn babies lost and millions of parents left to navigate feelings of sadness, guilt, shame, and loss.

This need for support applies to grandfathers as well as the baby's father. His compassion and support can also make all the difference when his teenage daughter faces an unexpected pregnancy. She is worried

about judgment from others, whether she is capable of being a mother, how she is going to finish school or pursue higher

the heroic men who step up to the plate to support the women and children in their lives. But we cannot forget the fathers



education, or whether she can still pursue the career she has always dreamed of. She needs to know her father will shower her in unconditional love and do all he can to help her in a time of uncertainty.

On Father's Day, we celebrate

who suffer in silence whose children never got a chance at life due to abortion.

Each father's journey is different but every father has a role to play as we work to build a culture that truly respects the life of every human person.

What can men do to help end abortion?

By Paul Stark, Communications Director, Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life

Editor's note. With Father's Day just around the corner, Paul's story is particularly apt, as I think you will agree.

Isn't abortion a "women's issue"? That's what people say. Many men feel powerless. They are often told that they aren't even allowed to speak about it.

The truth is that men are absolutely essential. Abortion can't be stopped without them.

Here's how men can make a difference.

a woman's decision about whether or not to have an abortion. A study in *BMC Women's Health*, for example, found that 31 percent of women seeking abortion cited factors related to their partner as a reason for abortion.

And according to a major Guttmacher Institute study, "More than half of the women [having abortions] ... cited concerns about their relationship or single motherhood as a reason to end

up, and when women receive the support they need, lives are saved. Men can make that happen.

(2) Tell stories.

With more than 62 million abortions in the United States alone, abortion has personally impacted tens of millions of men in various ways. "Whether married or single, in casual or committed relationships, some men have a very difficult time after abortion," writes Dr.

the harm that abortion often causes—not just to unborn children, but to women and men—and can inspire others to protect and defend life.

(3) Get involved in the pro-life movement.

Men, no less than women, should advocate respect and protection for unborn children and support for their mothers. That might mean having conversations and seeking to inform, persuade, or motivate others. It might mean volunteering at a pregnancy care center. It might mean getting involved with pro-life organizations that educate the public. It might mean supporting pro-life legislative or political work.

Some people say that men have no right to speak out like this. And it's true that pregnancy and abortion affect women in a unique way. Women have a special relationship with the children they alone can gestate—the children who grow inside their own bodies. Men don't and can't have those experiences and challenges.

But it's also true that someone's experience (or lack of experience) doesn't change the fact that unborn children are human beings, or that all human beings matter, or that intentionally attacking and destroying them is unjust.

Millions of women believe all of those things, and for good reason. Men must join them. Abortion is a human catastrophe, and it calls all of us to do something about it.



(1) Support women and children.

Too often, fathers don't support women and value their unborn children. Too often, they think that because they have no legal say, they should stay out of it. Too often, women are left feeling alone. And abortion is much more likely as a result.

Indeed, research shows that the attitude of the father is frequently a major factor in

the pregnancy. ... Many of these women were disappointed because their partner had reacted to the pregnancy by denying paternity, breaking off communication with them or saying that they did not want a child."

There's simply no denying the huge role that fathers often play—and the unique opportunity they have to make a difference. When fathers step

Catherine Coyle in a review of abortion's impact on men.

Some fathers have encouraged, coerced, or just gone along with abortion—and are now filled with regret. Some saw their unborn children aborted against their wishes. Some helped the mother of their child reject abortion, even in difficult circumstances.

All of these men have stories to tell. These stories illustrate

Tell Congress: We want to keep the Hyde Amendment!

This just may be the most important thing you do today. Please go to prolifepetition.com and read the message, then sign the petition and get as many others to do the same. Thank you for being a part of saving lives.



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Latest attempt to eliminate parental notice in Illinois fails once more

By Dave Andrusko

A tremendous victory in Illinois, where pro-abortionists have tried for decades to eliminate a law requiring teenagers to notify a parent before undergoing an abortion.

The *Belleville News-Democrat's* Sarah Mansur reported that “A bill to repeal the parental notification requirement for young girls seeking an abortion didn’t come up for a vote.” Naturally, the bills were filed by pro-abortion Democrats.

According to Mansur

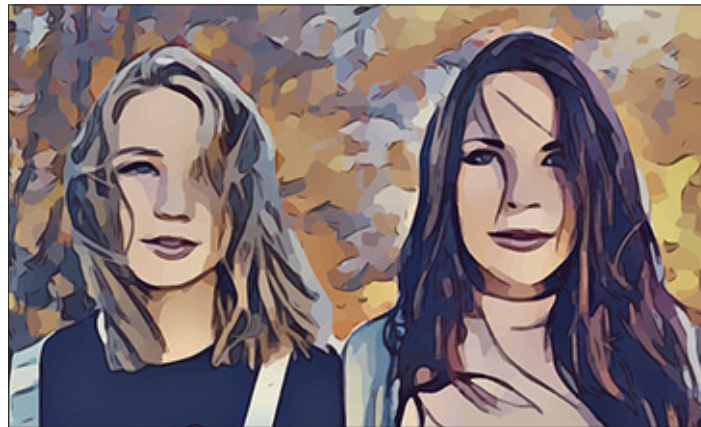
House and Senate Democrats filed bills — House Bill 1797 and Senate Bill 2091— to repeal a 1995 abortion law that requires girls under the age of 18 who are seeking an abortion to notify their parents at least 48 hours before the procedure, with some exceptions.

In fact, the law has numerous exceptions, which undercut the notion that it was essential to eliminate a law that has been on the books for 26 years and in effect since 2013. For example, as Mansur writes, the law has a judicial bypass that “allows for minors to obtain a court waiver, if the minor can show she is mature and well-informed enough to make the decision to obtain an abortion, or that it is not in their best interest to notify an adult family member.”

It is difficult to find any new polling on the issue of parental notice or consent, but in 2011 Gallup asked

Next, do you favor or oppose each of the following proposals? A law requiring women under 18 to get parental consent for any abortion

A whopping 71% were in favor. Parental consent



is different than parental notification, and approval for the latter would presumably be even greater.

Pro-abortionists have fought Illinois’ “Parental Notice of Abortion Act” without letup since its passage in 1983 (over the veto of then-Gov. James Thompson) and its update in 1995. The law did not go into effect until 2013, following a host of legal challenges up to and including the state Supreme Court which unanimously ruled in its favor.

The latest onslaught was aided by a report issued in March by The American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois, in partnership with Human Rights Watch, which (of course) concluded the law is “dangerous for youth in the state, violates their human rights, and threatens their health and safety.”

Opponents of the repeal effort vigorously responded, laying out how effective the law has worked in practice. For

the minor emotionally, humanly or materially at a critical moment in her life.

The Bishops go on to argue that

Simply put, the Parental Notice of Abortion Act works. According to statistics gathered by the Illinois Department of Public Health, since the law’s final enactment by the Illinois Supreme Court in 2013, abortions performed on minors in Illinois have decreased over 30 percent. The lives saved by this law are real and present among us.

These are the reasons every state in the Midwest and 37 states overall have laws requiring some form of parental involvement in the decision of a minor to have an abortion. **Illinois has been among those states for 8 years and no obvious problems or detriments have been publicly exposed. The repeal of Parental Notice of Abortion is a tragic solution in search of a problem.**

Congratulations to Illinois pro-lifers.

example, in a March 16th call to action letter, the Catholic bishops of Illinois warned that repeal would lead to “tragic and irreversible outcomes.”

In every other facet of life, we are taught—and we teach—that parental involvement is key to the child’s best interest. Repealing the Act is nothing less than an invasion into the sacred space of family life by the state, with no provision to support

Another victim of abortion: Grandfathers

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

My paternal grandfather was an amazing man. An immigrant from Italy, he established himself in the U.S. as a barber and raised seven children with his lovely wife while running his small business.

He would cut my bangs, make the spaghetti, and offer me cold drinks on blistering summer days.

But when I recall my grandfather, the thing I remember most is the big hug he would offer me as soon as he saw me. I felt so comforted in that kind embrace, and I knew I was safe in his arms.

In this month dedicated to fathers, I have been thinking a great deal about grandfathers and the incredible role they play in families. I was on a video call recently, and a grandfather was enthusiastically relating how his grandson jubilantly sang a hymn. The great pride he held for his offspring was evident in the smile that lit up his face.

Meanwhile, at a radio station where I do pro-life recordings,

a volunteer told me a story about his granddaughter. The 75-year-old was bursting with energy as he described the little girl's latest exploits.

Seldom do we discuss the impact of abortion on grandfathers in particular. Theirs is a silent suffering which is often hidden from view. These are the men who were robbed of the experience of holding a precious grandbaby in their arms. They never got to impart a lifetime of wisdom to their grandchildren. They never had a chance to play catch, play croquet, or share tales of their youth with their son or daughter's child.

Our families are impoverished by abortion. There are so many dinner tables that are missing members because of the cruel court decision known as *Roe v. Wade*. That is why this death knell for the family needs to be reversed. That one ruling has done a colossal amount of damage to generations of people. It is time for the cruelty to be brought to a peaceful end.



“Silent Witness” star Liz Carr speaks out against assisted suicide

By Right to Life UK

The actress and disability rights campaigner, Liz Carr, has spoken out against introducing assisted suicide to the UK.

Carr starred in BBC crime thriller series *Silent Witness* from 2013 to 2020. In 2019, she starred in *The OA*. In 2020 she appeared in the miniseries *Devs*. In March 2021, it was announced that Carr had joined the cast of Polish-American drama *The Witcher*.

Writing in *The Sunday Times*, which, only a week earlier had announced its support for legalising assisted suicide, Carr argues that since the issue was last brought before Parliament in 2015 nothing has changed and that MPs should reject any further attempts to change the law.

Pointing out that the majority of doctors who are most intimately involved in the care of patients at the end of their lives do not want a change in the law, Carr said: “[In 2015], as now, the majority of doctors who would be licensed to provide the lethal drugs did not want a bill passed. This included the Association for Palliative Medicine and the British Geriatric Society, the experts on end-of-life care”.

Carr, who herself has a disability, goes on to point out how frightening assisted suicide law is for people with disabilities.

“Then, as now, no organisation of disabled people supported assisted suicide. Many of us have degenerative conditions

and the idea of an assisted suicide law terrifies us”.

The Sunday Times, in its statement in support of a change in the law on assisted suicide on 23 May, used the tragic case of a WWII veteran who took his own life in part because he was unable to socialise. Campaigners against a change in the law argue that ‘hard cases make bad law’ and Carr argues that the consequences of mistakes are so severe that a change in the law is not safe.

“Then, as now, supporters of assisted suicide said that the current law was broken. The current law is exactly where it needs to be when the consequences of abuse or mistakes are fatal”.

“Then, as now, the safety of the many had to overrule the desires of the few. MPs must again vote against legalising assisted suicide.”

Most doctors working in palliative care opposed assisted suicide

The majority of British doctors working in palliative care – the medical field that focuses on optimising quality of life for the seriously and terminally ill – continue to oppose the legalisation of assisted suicide. In 2020, the British Medical Association (BMA) surveyed its members asking whether it should change its stance on assisted suicide from ‘opposition’ to ‘neutral’. 70% of doctors working in palliative care stated they were

opposed to changing their stance on assisted suicide. Only 7% were in favour of changing the law.

The Sunday Times chose to begin their public campaign for assisted suicide ahead of when

the court said: “In our judgment the courts are not the venue for arguments that have failed to convince parliament.”

Right To Life UK spokesperson, Catherine Robinson, said: “The voices



Liz Carr

Baroness Meacher’s private member’s bill to legalise assisted suicide had its First Reading in the House of Lords last Wednesday.

Assisted suicide in Britain

Assisted suicide remains a criminal offence in the UK under the Suicide Act 1961. If a doctor assists in the suicide of a patient, they could spend up to 14 years in prison.

Since their Bill’s resounding defeat in 2015, assisted suicide supporters have since attempted to pass assisted suicide legislation through the courts. All such attempts have so far failed. In 2019, the High Court said the courts were not the place to decide moral issues. In a ruling concerning a man with motor neurone disease who wanted to be assisted in suicide,

of disability rights groups and people with disabilities must be listened to. As Liz Carr points out, no disability rights group is advocating for the legalisation of assisted suicide. They recognise how dangerous such a law is for vulnerable people already in ill health”.

“In 2015, *The Times* itself argued against the legalisation of assisted suicide. The paper emphasised advances in palliative care and the psychological pressure that sick and dying people who think themselves a burden can experience. These were good arguments against assisted suicide in 2015, and they are still good arguments now”.

Editor’s note. This appeared at Right to Life UK and is reposted with permission.

Viable: A Life-Changing Story of Post-Abortive Redemption

Will be performed June 24 at NRLC convention

By Jessie Morgan, Intern

Playwright John Hoover remembers a moment long ago, when a spark was ignited inside him. Little did he know that years later, that spark would blossom into the life-altering reality known as *Viable* the play.

In 1984, when attending a pro-life symposium in California, Hoover listened to a woman speak out about her experiences as a former abortionist. This woman was from the Middle East and had been performing abortions for years before her eyes were opened to the painstaking reality of abortion.

“God took the scales off her eyes,” said Hoover. “She realized what she was doing and quickly became a pro-life advocate”.

The woman described that in early days, abortion failures were common, which resulted in physically impaired and developmentally-challenged children being born alive. To prevent potential lawsuits, procedures were developed to ensure that the baby in the womb would be undoubtedly dead.

After listening, Hoover couldn’t help but wonder: “what would the world be like if women were told the truth of abortion?”

He remembered reading a survey which first informed women about the procedures done to abort an unborn child. Afterwards, they asked if the women would still obtain an abortion. 90 percent of women responded “no.”

This alarming response gave Hoover an idea, one that he

carried with him for 25 years. In 2019, he finally put it on paper.

According to the play’s website, “The *Viable* storyline captures an unforgettable confrontation as an aborted child visits her mother nearly 30 years later. The mother has carried guilt and grief for all that time, trying all the while to protect her emotional stability

children to abortion. However, everything changed on the very first night of the production, during a scene when Judy rushes through the audience in a dramatic exit.

Gisele Gathings, who plays Judy in the production, remembers seeing a man walking out of the audience in tears. By the time she rushed out of the theater, the man was

are involved. The cycle that passes down when abortion is in a family, not just one person having more than one abortion, but also family members following in the footsteps.”

To Gathings, the theme of *Viable* is not abortion, but redemption through Christ.

“It is bigger than abortion. This (abortion) can lead to various different issues and pain where people need healing. Jesus is about life more abundantly, but also about us choosing him and the choices we have to make. For me, *Viable* touches on dealing with and bringing up the pain that needs to be healed and addressed.”

Both Gathings and Hoover hope that this play may be what inspires families to begin conversations about their own abortion experiences, so that feelings of hatred, betrayal and regret might be replaced with forgiveness, grace and love.

Hoover is also excited to announce that the *Viable* tour is back in action. After months of show dates being cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, *Viable* plans to resume its tour across the United States, with new dates and locations being added every day. The play will also be performed at this year’s National Right to Life Convention in Herndon, VA, on Thursday, June 24th. For more information, visit <http://www.viableplay.org/>.

Editor’s note: This was posted on the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation Blog and is re-printed with permission.



by professing the mantras that abortion providers originally used to comfort her”.

With nothing but three actors and two chairs, *Viable* invites viewers on a journey of continued healing as Judy, the mother, searches for a ray of hope after walking for decades in post-abortive shame and regret.

When asked about the primary audience, Hoover said that when writing the play, he assumed that it would be targeted at women who had lost

standing in the lobby, sobbing.

“I wanted to comfort him!” Gathings recalled. “But I had to get to my next scene.”

Gathings has observed that an abortion does not just affect women. Rather, all family members—fathers, grandparents, children, husbands, are part of the story, too.

“Delving into the emotions, the negative emotions of how abortion doesn’t just affect the woman that is post abortive, but also the family members that

Hey Jane is one of the latest on-line pharmacies and virtual clinics now selling and shipping abortion pills

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

Specialty online pharmacies and virtual abortion clinics are popping up everywhere offering to sell and ship abortion pills by mail in the wake of a recent Biden administration decision to drop enforcement of a government requirement that the abortifacient mifepristone be delivered only in person on site by certified prescribers.

Hey Jane, or Hey Jane Health, is just one of the latest, offering “fast, safe and affordable abortion care from home” for just \$199.

Currently, the website says that the service is only available to women in New York and Washington state, though articles linked on the website say Hey Jane has plans for distribution in California

How we got here

Rebecca Gomperts and Aid Access have been defying regulations of the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) for years, making foreign-made abortion pills available by mail to women in all fifty states while fending off government regulators in court. Beverly Winikoff helped bring mifepristone [“RU-486”] to the U.S. when she worked at the Population Council in the 1990s. The last five years, she’s been offering abortion by mail to women in several states as part of her TelAbortion “study” with her new group, Gynuity.

But once lower courts temporarily lifted FDA restrictions on distribution of abortion pills in the summer of 2020 for the pandemic, on-line pharmacies Honeybee Health and American Mail Order Pharmacy began

shipping pills to patients directly (*Ms Magazine*, 11/16/20). Virtual abortion clinics such as “Choix” and “Just The Pill” began offering “medication [chemical] abortions” via telemedicine. Choix focused on California while Just the Pill was set

Who is “Hey Jane”?

The group’s name, origin, leadership, the names or credentials of their prescribers, the location of their offices, etc., are never really offered or explained on its website. The Hey Jane website links to a 10/2/20 online article by Fast



Hey Jane tells women that they can receive their “FDA-approved abortion pills delivered to your door in 1-3 business days,” and assures them that “They’ll arrive in an unmarked box to protect your privacy.”

They promise that their service “Costs 60% less than average abortion care,” that there is “No need to travel to appointments, treatment or follow up,” that there is “Free 1-3 day shipping” on the pills and “Support during and after your treatment.”

If the \$199 fee (about \$300 less than what clinics normally charge for chemical abortions initiated on site) is still too high a cost, they helpfully note that “Financial assistance is available for those who need it.”

Double Talk on Safety

Hey Jane assures women that “Relief starts here,” that they can “Get the care you need from home – safe, fast and effective.”

“Abortion, regardless of the type you have,” Hey Jane tells women, “is very safe.” Repeating unwarranted denials pushed by the abortion industry against studies that actually demonstrate the contrary, Hey Jane wants to make clear that “abortion does not cause breast cancer or mental health issues” and “does not make it harder to have children in the future.”

As for the safety of chemical or “medication” abortions, Hey Jane says that “Complications from this treatment are very uncommon – they occur in

up for women in Minnesota. Hey Jane joined the fray around the same time.

These new on-line “providers” appear to have suspended operations once the Supreme Court reinstated FDA restrictions on distribution in January of 2021. Sales resumed in a matter of weeks, however, when the new Biden administration took charge and the FDA declared it would not enforce those regulations during the pandemic.

Though the original limits on distribution were supposed to be reinstated once the pandemic lifted, the Biden administration has given clear indications that it will review and consider dropping these regulations permanently (Endpoints, 5/10/21)

Clearly, Hey Jane, Choix, and Just The Pill expect to be around for the long term.

Company which says the name is one “that evokes the Jane Collective, an underground abortion group that operated during the early 1970s in Chicago” [before the Supreme Court declared abortion legal].

Without specifying the credentials or the training of the prescribers, the website assures women that they can will consult with a “licensed provider” by “secure text chat.” That “provider” is available around the clock, 24 hours a day, but only on Monday through Friday.

Additional research shows that Hey Jane has an office in Boston, is headed by Harvard Business School grad Kaitlin Freedman, and has New York physician Kate Shaw Baron as its Medical Director.

They tell women that a video visit is available if they’d like, but it is not required.

See “Hey Jane,” page 20

Hey Jane is one of the latest on-line pharmacies and virtual clinics now selling and shipping abortion pills

From page 19

less than 1% of patients.” This may be what standard industry propaganda states. However, actual studies found complication rates for chemical abortion in California to be much higher – 5.19% – more than four times higher than they were for standard first trimester suction abortions!

The group mentions, almost casually, that a woman’s self-dating of her pregnancy “could be inaccurate.” But this is very important.

The FDA originally approved mifepristone for pregnancies no more than 7 weeks after a woman’s last menstrual period (LMP) because the drug’s “effectiveness” dropped off after that. While the FDA extended that to ten weeks LMP in March of 2016, the reality of the drug’s reduced effectiveness as the pregnancy progressed did not change.

A woman visiting a doctor or clinic might have her pregnancy properly dated by an ultrasound. However, the possibility of mistakes in self-dating—or deliberate misreporting of dates to the “licensed provider”—obviously not only increases the likelihood that the abortion will “fail,” but also that a subsequent surgical procedure will be required to address complications or complete the abortion.

Hey Jane tells women that the risk for an undiagnosed ectopic

pregnancy may be increased, but assures women that ectopic pregnancies are rare. But their advice in this regard seems at odds with their marketing model.

They say that by “very rare” they mean that these occur in 1-2% of pregnancies. While that might spare most women, it seems self serving to readily dismiss something that is likely to occur to perhaps every 50th patient of yours.

Their advice—“You can make sure that your pregnancy is inside the uterus by having an ultrasound”—seems to undercut their claim that women can get “fast, safe, affordable abortion care **from home**” (emphasis added).

Mifepristone does **not** work in circumstances of ectopic pregnancy. However, mifepristone and its companion drug misoprostol does prompt pain and bleeding that look very similar to the normal side effects of a ectopic pregnancy that is growing in and rupturing a mother’s fallopian tube. Even an attending physician may not be able to tell the difference until it is too late to repair the damage and save the mother’s life.

Not our problem

Despite promises that “Throughout your treatment, we’re here to support you” and the provision of telephone numbers or website where

women can text or call if they have “urgent concerns,” Hey Jane’s “Terms of Service” makes the following disclaimer (emphasis ours):

Possible Health **does not provide medical services or medical advice**. Possible Health **does not make any representations or warranties about the training or skill of any Providers who provide services** via the Services. You are ultimately responsible for choosing your particular Provider, if any. **All Providers are independent** of Possible Health. Any information or advice received from a Provider comes from the Provider alone, and not from Possible Health. Possible Health is **not responsible or liable for any advice obtained from a Provider** or any other user of the Services. You acknowledge that your reliance on any information provided by any Provider or any other user via the Services is **solely at your own risk**. **No doctor-patient relationship is created** by use of the Services. Information you receive via the Services is **not a substitute for a formal diagnosis or physical examination**, and should **not be used to treat a medical condition**. Do not ignore or delay obtaining professional medical advice because of information you obtain through the Services.

Whether “Possible Health” is the legal name of Hey Jane or just the entity hosting its website the message is clear to women relying on Hey Jane for their health and safety – “you’re on your own here.”

At least two dozen women who have taken mifepristone have died and thousands more women have suffered serious, potentially life threatening complications. And this was with nearly all of those patients coming into the clinic, meeting and being screened, counseled and physically examined by a trained medical professional – that is, a trained medical professional who could confirm their pregnancy, verify their gestational age, eliminate the possibility of ectopic pregnancy, and ensure that they had no disqualifying medical conditions that could make these drugs deadly for them.

Women are not only putting the lives of their unborn children at risk, but their own as well every time they get these pills from unidentified, unaccountable strangers, salespeople having perhaps only minimal medical background or qualifications, exploited by activists ready to write off the loss of a few patients for the sake of the “cause,” bought from a website built by slick entrepreneurs who see the chance to make a quick buck.

Sex-selective abortion in India keeps claiming more victims

By Michael Cook

On March 4, 2010, *The Economist* ran one of its most memorable covers: a completely black page, except for a pair of tiny pink shoes with frilly bows the bottom. The headline was “Gendercide: what happened to 100 million baby girls?”

Good question. The answer is that they were aborted or killed, mainly in China and India, but in other countries, too. It painted a picture of a tragedy: the intersecting violence of lower fertility, more accurate pre-natal testing, and son preference.

A few years later, in 2017, *The Economist* was more optimistic: “In India, and in the world as a whole, the war on baby girls seems to be winding down.” It concluded with characteristic aplomb: “Asia has engaged in a demographic experiment with disastrous consequences. It will surely not repeat it.”

Ooops, sorry. Spoke too soon. According to an article in *The Lancet Global Health*, the sex ratio in India, at least, keeps widening. The natural ratio at birth is about 950 girls per 1000 boys. The researchers found that:

13.5 million female births were missing during the three decades of observation (1987–2016), on the basis of a natural

sex ratio of 950 girls per 1000 boys. Missing female births increased from 3.5 million in 1987–96 to 5.5 million in 2007–16. Contrasting the conditional sex ratio from the first decade of



observation (1987–96) to the last (2007–16) showed worsening for the whole of India and almost all states, among both birth orders. Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, and Rajasthan had the most skewed sex ratios, comprising nearly a third of the national totals of missing second-born and third-born females at birth.

If the natural ratio is actually 975 to 1000, 22 million girls are missing.

In summary, between 13

million and 22 million Indian girls went “missing” between 1987 and 2016 due to sex selective abortion.

The gendercide holocaust is not for lack of social messaging and feel-good feminist-friendly rhetoric. Politicians, bureaucrats, activists, educators

are all singing from the same song sheet: do not abort girls.

It hasn’t worked.

In 1994, the Pre-Conception and Prenatal Diagnostic Techniques Act banned the use of prenatal sex diagnosis which enables sex-selective abortions – but it has had little impact. The researchers found that the sex ratio stabilised between 2007 and 2013, but thereafter it has worsened.

Female infanticide seems to have vanished, but ultrasound diagnosis followed by abortion is becoming more common. The researchers write:

Sex-selective abortion appeared to be more

pronounced for third-order births than for second-order births after an earlier daughter or daughters. Sex-selective abortion continued to be more common in richer and more educated families than in poorer and less educated families, in contrast to differences in childhood survival and health-care access. The main determinant of missing female births in second-order and third-order births was an earlier daughter or daughters. The unfavourable trends in missing female births are in marked contrast to the substantial improvement in female child mortality in the past two decades in India.

According to a study by an Australian researcher, Richard Egan, son preference and a willingness to resort to sex-selective abortion are also present in immigrant Indian, Chinese, Vietnamese communities around the world.

Editor’s note. Michael Cook is editor of BioEdge where this appeared. Reposted with permission.

Pro-abortion NYTimes opinion writer calls on corporations to blackmail states that pass protective abortion laws

By Dave Andrusko

Before we dissect the latest pro-abortion harangue by the *New York Times*' Linda Greenhouse ["The Sound of Silence on Abortion"], it's instructive to read what follows her plea/threat for corporate pro-abortion activism— or else. It reads, "The Times is committed to publishing a diversity of letters to the editor."

Of course, any "diverse" letters against the *Times*' stridently pro-abortion stance (as personified by Greenhouse) would be as welcomed as ants at a picnic.

Now a "contributing Opinion writer," Greenhouse, for nearly 30 years, contributed anti-life opinions in the form of the wholly one-sided "news stories" as the *Times*' Supreme Court correspondent.

The gist of her 1,216 word long op-ed piece, posted at 5am, is straightforward. We live in a time when "the country is drowning in antiabortion fanaticism." (While you're at it, tell us how you really feel.)

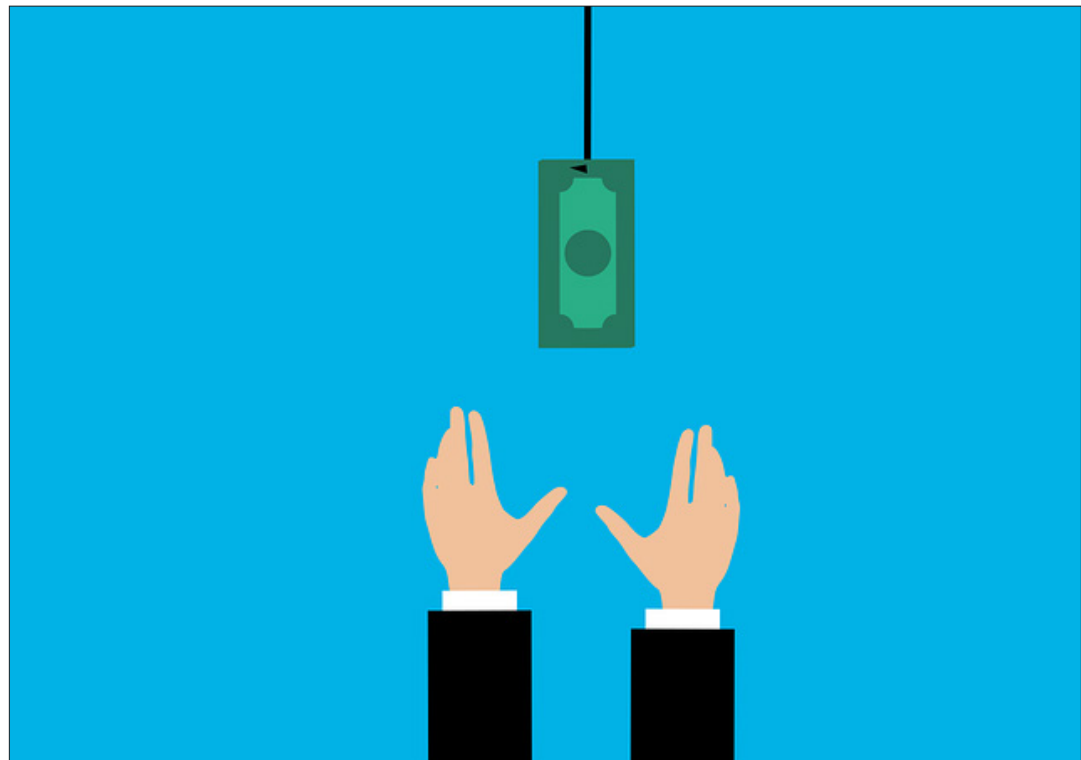
And if [a thin slice] of "corporate America" has taken "progressive" stands on other issues, well, how about taking another big step? "And this brings us to a subject that corporate America would evidently prefer not to talk about: abortion. It's possible," Greenhouse laments, "I've missed something, but I've been listening hard, and so far all I've heard is the sound of silence."

To be clear, Greenhouse concedes that, for the most part,

the "progressive" stands on other issues taken by a segment of corporate America are but "a fleeting suspension of the business of making money."

to a Texas law but no doubt applicable to all protective laws), she tells us, "Much of this activity might have been shrugged off as just so much

[Speaking of political theater, I wonder if pro-abortionists have any idea how absurd they look protesting "dressed in red robes and blinking



No matter.

She is not subtle: Greenhouse wants economic blackmail of those states that are engaging in "anti-abortion fanaticism." And she names [corporate] names, complaining "Who will speak up for your female customers and your female employees" if you don't? Of course, in Greenhouse's world, **all** "female employees" are pro-abortion.

After listing what are, to Greenhouse, examples of "a perversion of the legal system as Americans have traditionally understood it" (a reference

political theater" unless...

Unless what?

had the Supreme Court not agreed last month to hear Mississippi's defense of its ban on abortion after 15 weeks of pregnancy....

In other words, what if the Supreme Court takes another look at its abortion jurisprudence and gives states additional leeway to protect unborn babies and their mothers? To Greenhouse, it would be "a 'Handmaid's Tale' dystopia come to life."

white bonnets" described by one sympathetic writer as "the uniform of reproductive slavery in Margaret Atwood's dystopian novel" —aka, "The Handmaid's Tale."]

To Greenhouse, for corporations to make life miserable for states that don't toe her line is a profile in courage. To the rest of us, it spells economic disaster for corporations, a ruinous misreading of public opinion on abortion, and a potentially calamitous backlash from the public.

Becoming that “one person” who assists a woman through an unplanned pregnancy

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

Whenever I contemplate the effect of abortion on women, I think of a friend I will refer to as “Jessica.”

A boyfriend pressured Jessica into an abortion when she was a young teenager. She felt she had no say in the matter, and she believed she was powerless.

Years after that tragic event, she firmly believes that if a single person had supported a decision for life on the day of abortion, her baby would not have died.

A noteworthy national poll bears that out. The survey of post-abortive women indicated that the vast majority of respondents would have decided against abortion if just one person had offered support. Just one!

Jessica has now dedicated her life to being that “one person.” I have lost count of the number

of women and children she has helped through her outreach.

And Jessica is far from alone now. Many, many women who have had abortions are channeling their pain into positive action, trying to assist other women facing challenging pregnancies. A number of post-abortive women have key leadership roles in the pro-life movement, demonstrating that the movement is incredibly empowering for women.

Meanwhile, with research showing as many as 60% of abortions are coerced, it is more important than ever to show pregnant women in difficult circumstances that they do, indeed, have options other than abortion. Women are being pressured by boyfriends, husbands, even parents and grandparents to

abort their precious offspring. Certainly we can show them that there is, in fact, a better way.

women, offering them the chance at hope and healing following their abortions.

Let us never forget the terrible



Mothers are the second victims in any abortion. They are left to grieve their children—often alone and in silence. I thank all the dedicated pro-lifers who reach out to these

wounds inflicted on women by abortion trauma. *Roe v. Wade*, the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court case legalizing abortion, was an assault on both women and children which cannot stand.

Post-abortion woman: “To this day I still hear that haunting suction sound.”

By Sarah Terzo

Luana, a postabortion woman, tells her story:

“My first abortion was done in Madison, Wisconsin. I was 17 years young and my boyfriend told me if I didn’t have the abortion that he would leave me. I thought I loved him, and I knew I could not have a baby without his help and support. So I did what I was told and went through with the abortion.

When going in for my abortion I was told by the ‘professionals’ that it was only a blob of tissue, and it would be safer and easier to abort than to carry my baby to term. I would

later find out this was a lie.

I remember laying on the cold table with no anesthetic for the pain, staring at the ceiling,

wishing I were someplace else. It seemed to last forever and the pain was unbearable. No amount of anesthetic could dull the pain

in my heart and mind. The type of abortion I had was the vacuum aspirator method. I could hear by the increased labor of the suction machine what part or limb of my baby was being extracted. Each time I tried to look at the jar with my baby’s remains they would push me back down. To this day I still hear that haunting suction sound.”

“Personal Stories” Wisconsin Right to Life.

Editor’s note. This appeared at Clinic Quotes and is reposted with permission.



Nation's Strongest Regulation of Chemical Abortions Approved by Legislature; Governor Stitt Signs Bills into Law

By Tony Lauinger, State Chairman, Oklahomans For Life and Kevin Calvey, State Vice Chairman, Oklahomans For Life

The Oklahoma legislature last week gave final approval to a pair of critically important pro-life bills. The last step in the legislative process for SB 778 and SB 779 was passage one final time by the Oklahoma House of Representatives. Governor Kevin Stitt has signed the bills into law.

In a devastating display of tragically misguided priorities, not a single House Democrat voted for either of the pro-life bills. In the Senate, only one Democrat, J.J. Dossett of Owasso, voted for these critically urgent pro-life bills. Opponents of the legislation put the profits, convenience, and lethal efficiency of the abortion industry ahead of the lives of unborn children and the lives, health, and safety of their mothers.

One of the foremost experts on chemical abortions, National Right to Life Director of Education & Research, Dr. Randall K. O'Bannon, Ph.D., has pointed out that approximately two dozen

patients have died after taking these abortion drugs, and thousands of women have suffered "adverse events," including life-threatening hemorrhages, infections, or ruptured ectopic pregnancies.



Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt

SB 778 and SB 779 will codify in Oklahoma law safety regulations that had previously been, but are no longer, required by the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The bills will implement a wide range of regulations, restrictions, and

requirements that will provide essential protections, oversight, and safeguards involving chemical abortions. Oklahoma is the first state to provide such comprehensive oversight of this dangerous abortion method.

The Biden Administration has been dismantling various pro-life policies of previous administrations, and the abortion industry has been aggressively lobbying for the FDA regulations on chemical abortions to be revoked. On April 12th, the Biden FDA began doing exactly that. The politicized FDA will now allow abortionists to ship abortion pills directly to women's homes without ever seeing the patient in person or doing a physical exam.

Chemical abortions are more profitable and more efficient for the abortionist than surgical abortions, especially when the abortionist doesn't even examine the patient. An ever-increasing percentage of first-trimester abortions are now chemical rather than surgical,

even though chemical abortions have higher complication rates than surgical abortions. Chemical abortions now account for approximately half of all abortions in Oklahoma.

Our sincere thanks go to Senator Julie Daniels and Representative Mark Lepak for leading the effort to enact this vital legislation. We thank also the other pro-life legislators in Leadership, on committees, and in the full Senate and House who supported these critically important bills. And we thank Governor Kevin Stitt for his unwavering support for the right to life and for signing these bills into law.

Finally, we thank all of you who contacted legislators and urged, persuaded, and encouraged them to vote pro-life. Your faithful and positive support for the right to life provides inspiration and reinforcement for legislators and ultimately leads to pro-life bills becoming law. Thank you!

A shrewd analysis of how pro-lifers are hemming in *Roe* on the way to its extinction

From page 2

but hearing it now is to be reminded of the squeal chalk makes as it skips across a chalkboard. They are, far more often than not, “unborn child” or “your baby.”

#2. In a particularly insightful paragraph, Ziegler and Tsai maintain

In a campaign to shift the scope of constitutional rights, marrying a

and abortion—the Democrats were solidly on the other side: pro-slavery and pro-abortion. It’s not as if abolitionists or pro-lifers necessarily preferred one party over the other. But Democrats were wedded to these shameful practices and did everything possible to shore up slavery and abortion.

#3. They write

Anti-abortion forces have employed the

person in non-abortion homicide cases.

Which, if you think about, is both profoundly practical and deeply insightful. In the abortion context, we are rolling back the absurd notion that the unborn is a nothing. Simultaneously we are busy on every other non-abortion front to establish that the little ones are somebodies.

different car: *Doe v. Bolton*.

We understand both the legal and ethical incongruities and the soft underbelly of the “right” to abortion. Ziegler and Tsai write

By flooding the field of action with abortion restrictions based on different standards over the years, abortion opponents have forced courts to wrestle with difficult and often murky medical questions, and given judges with more favorable ideological leanings maximal opportunities to revisit legal rules and frameworks.

Roe v. Wade is Simply BAD LAW

social movement to formal power is always a critical step. Nineteenth-century anti-slavery activism and 20th-century anti-segregation efforts were grounded in churches and civic groups, but truly took off once their goals were incorporated into the reform agenda of a major political party. So too anti-abortion activism has been sustained by a potent union with the modern GOP.

Which is true—absolutely true. In both cases—slavery

exact same strategy by convincing legislatures to enact laws that reject the assumptions and values contained in *Roe*. In the 1980s, anti-abortion leaders focused on the idea of establishing “fetal personhood” as a national norm, pushing for fetal protection well outside the abortion context: in homicide laws, personal injury law, even child abuse law. These efforts proved remarkably successful: 38 states now treat an unborn child as a

There is legal schizophrenia to be sure but that merely heightens the tension. A man can and will be punished for killing a woman’s unborn child in the midst of a crime committed against her. But that same child—that same exact child—has zero rights in the abortion context?

#4. Each legal challenge to prevailing abortion jurisprudence—even when it has failed—ultimately has compelled the Justices to trim back the absolute right to abortion. Abortion on demand—the very results Harry Blackmun and Chief Justice Warren Burger insisted *Roe* did not usher in—had, in fact, arrived on the same train in a

One other consideration very much worth mentioning. *Roe* never made any sense, which is why wiser pro-abortionists have long sought a backstop—an alternative foundation.

As Ziegler and Tsai observe, that other possible footing is “characterizing abortion rights as a matter of sex equality.” That is patently absurd but some courts have bought it hook, line, and sinker and is why pro-abortionists, like Dr. Frankensteen, are desperately trying to bring the pro-abortion ERA monster back from the dead.

Take a few minutes and read their piece at politico.com

How we blend appeals to the heart and to the mind to persuade the undecided to join us in defending unborn children

By Dave Andrusko

On page one we remind you that we are barely a week away from the 50th National Right to Life Convention, a two-day gathering I have affectionately described as an educational smorgasbord.

I have the privilege of participating in a workshop with two other people who are among the absolutely best pro-life communicators. In a sense what the three of us will offer will resemble music you hear on Sirius FX's "Cover Channel." That is, our remarks will be a tribute to the leader of the band, the late Jean Garton, who was the first person I ever asked to join the group in this workshop on persuasion. Jean was the master communicator and taught us by word and deed how persuasion ingeniously blends an appeal to the head and to the heart.

I mention this because I recently heard a song—"Canvas and Clay"—by Pat Barrett, one of my favorite artists. Somehow, although I had listened to half a dozen times, I had totally missed the significance of what he was singing. I listened **through** "Canvas and Clay" rather than listening to it.

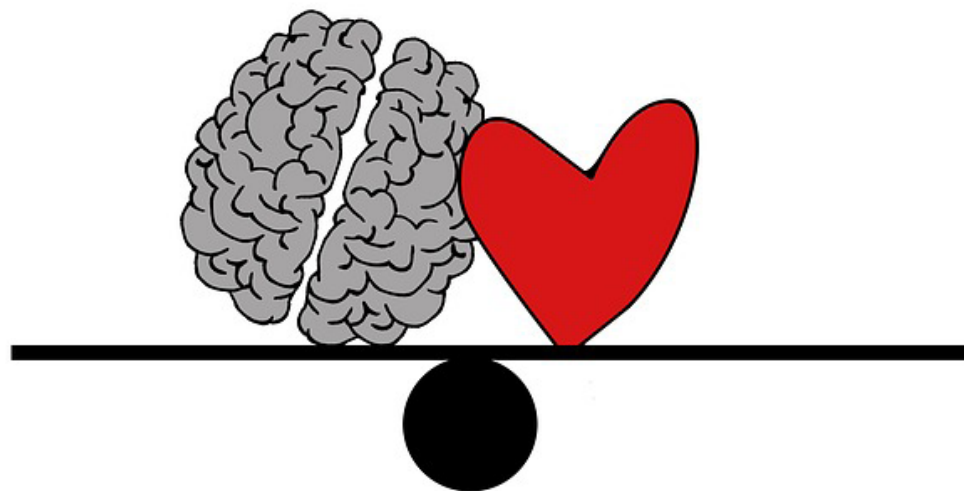
The beginning is familiar to pro-lifers. Pat sings about how God not only formed each and every one of us in our mother's womb but loved us before we took our first breath. And

***When I doubt it, Lord,
remind me
I'm wonderfully made***

I want you to listen to Pat's song for yourself[youtube.com/watch?v=OcDRp0zWGIw] so let me discuss just two additional considerations.

#1. None of us is a "mistake"; perfection is an illusion.

***I know nothing
has been wasted
No failure or mistake***



***You're an artist and a potter
I'm the canvas and the clay***

What about that most awful of words: "wantedness"? That says everything about us and nothing about the unborn child.

#2. Pro-lifers, by experience and because of the values we live by, fully understand that an unplanned pregnancy presents tremendous challenges.

Maria V. Gallagher wrote this for us the other day about a young woman who had been pressured into having an

abortion: "She firmly believes that if a single person had supported a decision for life on the day of abortion, her baby would not have died. A noteworthy national poll bears that out. The survey of post-abortive women indicated that the vast majority of respondents would have decided against abortion if

just one person had offered support. Just one!"

A woman with an unplanned pregnancy could very much use help from many people but without that one person....

When Pat sings this, he may be referring specifically to trials and tribulations overcome or to when a woman has given into the pressure but subsequently finds spiritual hope and reconciliation:

***There's a healing light
Just beyond the clouds
Though I've walked through***

***fire
I see clearly now***

It's a beautiful sung song that is powerful, inspirational, true to life, and touches heart and head. And the end of our time together, I always ask my adult Sunday school class, "What is the most important takeaway?" What

I will remember most from "Canvas and Clay" is the most important takeaway (in this case from "Canvas and Clay")? For me, that would be

***You make all things
work together
For my future and for
my good
You make all things
work together
For Your glory and for
Your name***

A thorough overview of one pro-life state's successes from a pro-abortion newspaper

By Dave Andrusko

As readers of *NRL News* know, Arkansas is not only among the most pro-life states in America, it continues to pass protective legislation that as much as possible hedges in the “right” to abortion while enacting measures to protect and inform abortion-minded women.

Earlier this month, Rachel Herzog provided an exceptionally thorough review of what pro-lifers in the state, led by Arkansas Right to Life, have accomplished.

It's a lengthy overview but whether you live in Arkansas or not, it is very much worth reading. Why?

Some reasons are obvious, beginning with how encouraging it is to read how Arkansas has circumscribed abortion in such a creative and thorough manner. Put another way, it's good to know creating a pro-life legislative environment can be accomplished in a multifaceted way.

Another reason is that the story allows sponsors of various laws to explain what was behind their thinking. Pro-abortionists get to misrepresent the law, both its impact and potential effect, but pro-lifers can counter with the truth. For example, Herzog writes

Act 787 requires an abortion provider to report a rape or incest to law enforcement officials if a patient attempts to terminate a pregnancy resulting from the crime. It also adds the reporting requirement to sections of the code dealing with exemptions in state law that allow abortions in cases of rape or incest.

Pro-abortionists label this a ‘trap law.’ Not at all.

“This is not to shame the victims,” but rather to hold accountable those who are victimizing someone, the sponsor,



Sen. Blake Johnson, R-Corning, told a legislative committee in March. “This helps us in our reporting and data collection.”

Or the new ultrasound law. The new law, Herzog explains, **requires the doctor to provide a simultaneous verbal explanation and medical description of what the ultrasound is depicting, including the presence and location of the fetus, the number of fetuses depicted, the dimensions of the fetus and the presence of external members and internal organs if present and viewable. The doctor also must document in the patient's medical record that the ultrasound images were displayed.**

According to Herzog, Sen. Cecile Bledsoe, R-Rogers, said in March, “This is for her edification, for her knowledge, because there are so many myths and misnomers out there about abortion.” In addition, “The patient has the option to look away, Bledsoe said.”

One pro-life advocate explains that laws such as the “Arkansas Unborn Child Protection Act” may take years to litigate, which is not uncommon given how much money and legal muscle pro-abortionists have at

their disposal. But, as Herzog observes,

Barring enjoinder by the courts, laws passed in the 2021 session that don't have emergency clauses [meaning they went into effect immediately] or specify another effective date will go into effect July 28, according to an opinion issued May 20 by Arkansas Attorney General Leslie Rutledge.

In other words, of the array of laws, some will go into effect soon, or have already taken effect. Each of those pieces of legislation tackles a different component of the Abortion Industry.

Here's one illustration from Herzog:

Act 90, officially titled the “Every Mom Matters Act,” aims to reduce the number of abortions in the state by requiring women seeking an abortion to first call a hotline informing them of services they can receive if they remain pregnant. The requirement goes into

effect Jan. 1, 2023.

The legislation mandates that the Health Department establish the hotline, though it doesn't include funding for the agency to do so.

The law's sponsor, Rep. Jim Dotson, R-Bentonville, has estimated the cost of implementing the program at \$1.2 million to \$1.5 million, based on the figures of similar programs in other states, while Health Department officials told a legislative committee that it would cost \$4 million to \$5 million.

Dotson said the law was inspired by an organization that does something similar in Texas.

Cross-fertilization, in other words. One pro-life state learns from another and vice-versa. Can't get much better than that.

“The success of pro-life legislation is due to the broad grassroots support of pro-life groups, pro-life lawmakers and pro-life network working together in defense of innocent unborn babies in our state,” said Rose Mimms, executive director of Arkansas Right to Life. “Our united goal is to protect both mother and child from the tragedy of legal abortion. We won't rest until all are saved.”

Take a few minutes out and read “Array of new Arkansas laws focus on abortion.” at www.arkansasonline.com/news/2021/jun/06/array-of-new-laws-focus-on-abortion/ You'll be glad you did.

Nine days and counting until the start of the 50th National Right to Life Convention in Herndon, Virginia

From page 1

An important addendum. You do **not** have to be registered for the convention to attend the special showing of the play “Viable,” along with a dinner that will begin at 6:30 Thursday, June 24. Tickets are \$35 each. We’ve reviewed this powerful play here [www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/2019/07/abortion-and-hidden-pain-viable-the-truth-presented-in-one-act].

The featured speaker for the 7:30 am June 25 Prayer Breakfast that opens the convention is The Reverend Dr. Gregory P. Seltz. Rev. Seltz is Executive Director of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty in Washington, D.C.

Holly Gatling interviewed Rev. Seltz. If you take just a few minutes to read her story [www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/2021/06/nrlc-2021-will-open-with-prayer-breakfast-speaker-the-rev-gregory-seltz-explaining-why-standing-up-for-life-matters-to-and-for-us-all], you’ll know why being present for “Standing Up for Life Matters To and For Us All” is a must.

Tickets are just \$35 each.

Following the Prayer Breakfast, in Friday morning’s General Session, a panel of experts will discuss a multitude of crucial political and legal issues, including the Mississippi abortion case the Supreme Court has agreed to hear this fall. James Bopp, Jr., J.D. General Counsel for National Right to Life, will address the question, “Is this Case the First Step to Overturning Roe?”

On Friday evening, author, global speaker, and *EWTN* show host Patricia

Sandoval will be our guest. Her testimony is a tremendous story of hope for this generation. Maria V. Gallagher wrote about this remarkable

offer. Holly Gatling’s interview with Wesley will appear this week in *NRL News Today*.

Wesley has written numerous books, several of

Closing the convention Saturday night is 100% pro-life Senator Tom Cotton (R-Ark.) After a clerkship with the U.S. Court of Appeals and private law practice, he left the law because of the September 11th attacks. Tom served nearly five years on active duty in the United States Army as an Infantry Officer.

Sen. Cotton has spoken eloquently about the inalienable right to life, stating on many occasions that life begins at conception. In the February 2020 Senate debate over the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, he told his colleague, “This week we have another choice to live up to our nation’s highest principle—that every person has the right to life—or stoop down to a narrow vision of humanity peddled by the abortion industry and its cronies.”

But there is much more when you attend NRL 2021. There are 54 workshops on all the topics of interest to pro-lifers.

And, as NRLC has for many years, there is also a separate National Right to Life Teens convention, along with Pro-Life Exhibits, and Childcare so your children have a great time while you are equipping yourself to go spread the word and the knowledge you have learned in your own city and state.

Stay tuned. And there will be still more. To keep on top of what to expect and to register, visit <https://buff.ly/1UBg3xk> for the latest information!

We really hope to see you in Herndon, Virginia in just nine days.



Pro-life Sen. Tom Cotton

woman for *NRL News*. As Maria explained, Patricia’s “powerful testimony is contained in the book *Transfigured*, a story of redemption following the profound despair of working in the abortion industry.”

Eventually she found her way to a Rachel’s Vineyard retreat, which brought her to a place of healing and hope. The title of her Friday evening session is, appropriately, “Relentless.”

Day Two—Saturday morning, June 26—begins at 9 am with one of our favorite speakers, Wesley J. Smith, J.D., author, and one of the very few pro-life bioethicists. The title of his session is “There’s No Such Thing as ‘Just a Little’ Euthanasia,” an allusion to all the phony “safeguards” proponents pretend to

them reviewed at *NRL News*, including “Culture of Death: The Assault on Medical Ethics in America.” In addition he has published hundreds of articles and opinion columns nationally and internationally on issues such as the importance of being human (human exceptionalism), assisted suicide, bioethics, the [im]morality of human cloning, legal ethics, medical ethics, and public affairs.

You will not want to miss this!

Another general session focuses on APR—Abortion Pill Reversal—one of the most important new pro-life initiatives. Dr. Matthew Harrison, who performed the first recorded abortion pill reversal, will speak at a General Session on Saturday, June 26.

Facing a crisis pregnancy, this woman's beautiful example of moral courage will warm your heart

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

Cyberworld is full of amazing testaments to the beauty of life—if only we have eyes to see and a heart ready to be filled.

I was reminded of this truism when a colleague sent me a TikTok video labeled @tellmethenewsjohnny. You see a sorrowful woman who is being asked a series of question by a doctor. It's as if she has a computer screen in front on which she can respond. You can see her expressions and how she answers life-and-death questions.

First, she is told by a doctor, "You know you can abort this pregnancy?" The woman, who is crying, is left with two options: "yes" or "no."

Spoiler alert: If you want to see the dramatic response yourself, stop reading and view the video now.

The woman, with an almost imperceptible shake of her head, presses "no," and lets out a breath. But that is just the beginning.

She is then confronted with a second question. Like the first, it is intended to steer her in the

direction of death. The doctor says, "Having a child with Down syndrome means you won't have a normal life, are you sure?"

The woman pauses, exhales a

tiny breath, and again responds "yes." It is as if she has passed a test, something out of Greek mythology. Her reward is to be asked, "Okay, would you like to see your future?"

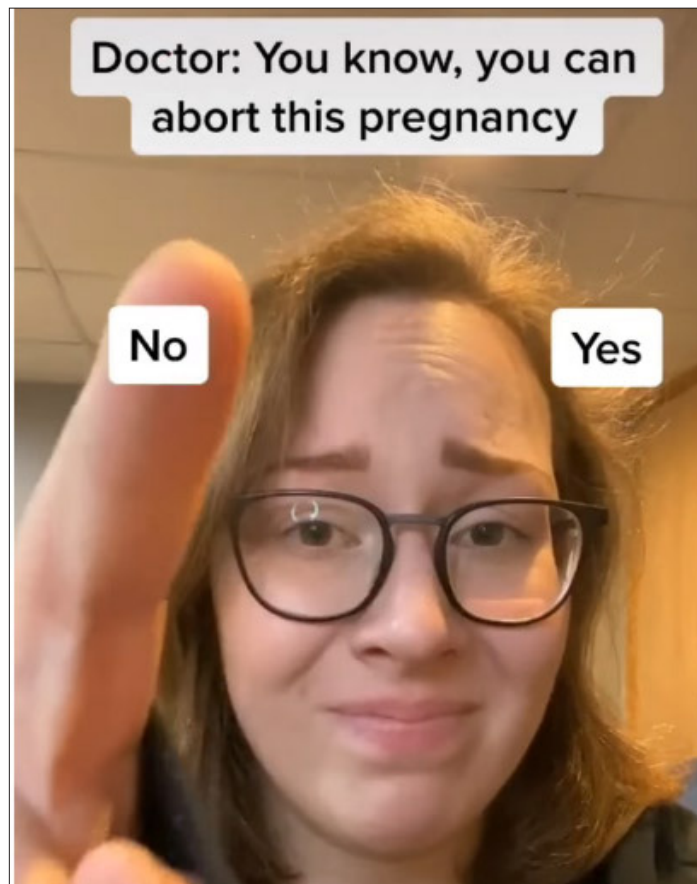
Letting out another deep breath, the woman eagerly nods her head in agreement and presses "yes."

In the next segment, we see a beautiful baby, with a smile that lights up the screen. In a series of clips, we see the baby crawling, standing, playing, and walking—each milestone met with abundant encouragement by his real-life mother.

The ending is a true tear-jerker: A message which reads, "I wouldn't change you for the world."

It is not the life-affirming ending alone that makes this less than one-minute-long video so powerful. The woman's face, the pain in her eyes, the intake and exhale of breath (as if to summon her courage) as she contemplates her answers speak volumes. You really sense a woman facing a genuine crisis who overcomes her fears.

If you haven't already done so, give yourself a gift today and watch the video. Chances are it will capture your heart—and remind you of the incredible joy that can be found in raising a child with Down syndrome.



Future prospects for pro-abortion Democrats continually grow bleaker

From page 2

compete with Republicans in these states they see as battlegrounds. Is my perception right here or am I just being cynical?

Ari Berman: I don't know if that's totally true when it comes to state legislative races, because Democrats

not competing as strongly as they should be in states that are red or haven't flipped yet from red to purple. And a lot of the seats that needed pickup were in the redder parts of purple states. It was about the more conservative suburban areas, the rural areas?

with rare exceptions, pro-abortion Democrats enjoyed unified support from the entire media complex, in addition to Hollywood, academia, and virtually unlimited funding from pro-abortion billionaires. That, and some (such as President Trump) would say, dishonest ballot counting in a number of key battleground states.

Democrats," Berman says—that will come back to haunt Democrats.

"[T]his year you had Joe Biden on the ticket, you had high Democratic turnout, and they were still unable to flip these state legislative chambers," a reference to Pennsylvania, Michigan, Minnesota, and Texas where Democrats had hoped to assume control of the state legislature.

So how did what took place on November 3rd come to pass?

Berman argues, "Republicans basically held all of their vulnerable chambers and seats" which means "right now it looks like, with a few exceptions, the post-2020 redistricting cycle is going to look very similar to the post-2010 redistricting cycle, when Republicans dominated the process." Berman adds, "So you just wonder, when are they going to get a better opportunity?"

As we have written many times, President Trump will never, **ever** be given credit for the rallies that help turn out enormous numbers of Republican voters. And, of course, pro-lifers will never, **ever** be given credit for the massive work done by NRLC and state pro-life organizations.

But looking ahead, these victories at the state level that you helped make possible are incredibly important.



raised more money than Republicans did with state legislative races. They had really high-profile figures like Eric Holder [President Obama's Attorney General] working on these races. I don't think it was for lack of effort or for lack of organization. I just think these were really, really difficult places to win seats. And I think Democrats have a red America problem. It's very, very clear they're

That's where the Democratic Party really underperformed. Donald Trump ran up huge margins there. That was enough for Republicans to be able to hold control of all of these state legislative chambers.

Democrats spent hundreds and hundreds of millions of dollars on state and congressional races, aided and abetted by pro-abortion financial powerhouses such as EMILY's List. Moreover,

All this going for pro-abortion Democrats. What a huge advantage. Granted, Joe Biden eventually did win by the skin of his teeth, but Democrats also suffered major losses in the House of Representatives; finished with a 50-50 Senate saved only by the vote of the Vice President who is President of the Senate; and suffered losses in many, many legislatures.

Harris and Berman never quite say it so bluntly, but clearly they believed 2020 was a huge loss—"This year was the best opportunity for

Canadian Parliament Defeats Bill to Ban Killing Babies in Sex-Selection Abortions

By Mike Schouten, We Need a Law

On June 2nd Members of Parliament voted against sending Bill C-233, the Sex Selective Abortion Act to committee for further study. Introduced by Saskatchewan MP Cathay Wagantall, the bill would have prohibited physicians from knowingly performing sex selective abortions – a practice that is disproportionately used to target girls. Despite Erin O’Toole’s emphatic pro-choice stance and commitment to vote against this bill, exactly two-thirds of his caucus voted in favour of it.

“MP Wagantall is to be commended for bringing the issue of sex selective abortion into the open,” said Tabitha Ewert, legal counsel for We Need a Law, which actively supported the bill. “This is an ugly reality in Canada, where girls are aborted simply because they are girls. We need to address sex-based discrimination in every form, including at life’s earliest

stages, and MPs missed an important opportunity to do that today.”

During the debate on this



bill, speakers from all parties indicated they opposed the practice of sex selective abortion, yet, in the name of women’s rights, they were unwilling to take a stand that would limit abortions that target women.

“It was evident in the debates that while Canadians are having ongoing conversations about

abortion, elected lawmakers seem unprepared for it. Most Canadians support common sense abortion restrictions,

MP Wagantall and her colleagues introduced dozens of petitions representing thousands of signatures over the past year in support of Bill C-233. During the lead-up to the debate, MP’s offices were flooded with thousands of empty pink envelopes from Canadians, each one representing a pre-born girl lost to abortion. Pink flag displays and lawn signs popped up around the country in support of this bill.

“This is clearly an issue that resonates with Canadians,” said Ewert. “The debate around sex selective abortion is necessary and will continue. Women’s rights cannot include targeting women before they are born. Sex selective abortion is antithetical to Canada’s commitment to equality and needs to be prohibited as an unacceptable practice. Until MPs have the courage to prohibit this practice, it remains legal and will continue to happen in Canada.”

including a restriction on sex selective abortion. There can be nuance in restricting abortion in a way that many in Parliament do not yet acknowledge,” continued Ewert. “We look forward to when Parliament catches up to where Canadians are already at and accepts a prohibition on such an overtly sexist practice.”

Mother graduates from college 10 years after becoming mom at age 14

By Nancy Flanders

Danielle Yonemura was only 14 years old when she became a mother. While abortion advocates believe that abortion would have been necessary in order for Danielle to achieve her goals and graduate from college, it was her baby girl, Leilani, who inspired her to build a better life.

“Wow, I really need to get my stuff together because I’m about to be a mom,” she told the local CBS station KCCI of the realization she was pregnant. “I need this child to grow up and have a good life, a better life than I did.”

Danielle proved to herself and those around her that teenage girls and young women can earn a degree and be mothers when she graduated from high school in the top 10% of her class. Next, she went on to earn her associate’s degree. This month (May 2021), she graduated from the University of Iowa with a degree in

nursing, and was nominated by her class to speak at the virtual commencement. Though there were times of struggle and hardship, and even some time spent homeless, Danielle made

to have failed,” she said in a pre-recorded version of her commencement speech. “I’m thankful for those experiences because it made me stronger in the end.”



good on her promise to her baby girl, now age 10 — whom she called, “my light in the darkness” — to create a good life for them.

“I know what it has been like to have struggled and

Leilani, right by her mother’s side through all of the challenges and triumphs, is proud of everything her mom has accomplished. “She’s worked so hard for this,” she said. “The journey she’s been

through just shows how strong she is and how proud I am of her.”

Abortion is not a necessary tool to help women achieve their dreams, though the message of the abortion industry to women is so often ‘you can’t do this.’ On the contrary, women can be both mothers and earn a degree or advance in a career. Countless women have shown that mothers are capable, strong, and can overcome obstacles. This includes Lamyrcal Harris, a teen mom who received more than \$1 million in academic scholarships, and Brianna Hill, who went into labor during her bar exam and passed.

Women do not have to choose between their goals and the lives of their children. They can do both and succeed.

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Sisters of Life celebrates 30 years of ministering to abortion-vulnerable women

By Anne Marie Williams, RN, BSN

30 years since Sisters of Life — a religious order of Roman Catholic sisters dedicated to protecting innocent preborn life and guiding post-abortive women towards God’s healing mercy — was founded.

The Sisters of Life was formed in 1991 as a direct response to

Eight women answered the newspaper ad he placed, which simply read: “Help Wanted: Sisters of Life.” Thirty years later the Order has grown to 116 members. In addition to the traditional vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, each Sister of Life takes a fourth vow to protect and enhance

over 1,000 women every year, spoke to The Tablet about their ministry to women considering abortion. She commented, “We have encountered in our mission vulnerable, pregnant women, those who might be feeling so alone in an unexpected pregnancy. We offer material support. We don’t offer them

that, she will wrestle with that and need to walk toward healing. That’s a big grace that we love to share. We love to share that there is healing after abortion. There is hope. We love to push aside the veil that covers the mercy of God. “Look, look at God’s mercy!” It’s like a lighthouse.

So many women that we’ve served in the past, now they’ve been able to trust God through the hardship of coming back to Him after suffering an abortion. She becomes this big lighthouse of knowing that there’s a way through the pain. [Women who’ve healed after abortion are] the most gorgeous women, ’cause they know that there’s been suffering but they also know the absolute truth in trusting God through this.



a moving experience founder Cardinal John O’Connor of New York had while visiting the Dachau concentration camp. In the crematorium where the bodies of Jews and others who had been gassed to death were reduced to ashes, Cardinal O’Connor mourned the evident lack of respect for human life.

Understanding that a lack of respect for human life in his own time was leading to a tragic loss of life each year to abortion, he resolved to found an order of religious sisters whose mission would be to promote life.

the sacredness of human life. The sisters serve in a variety of locations across the United States and now in Canada.

The two biggest ways they seek to promote human life are through their work with vulnerable pregnant women, to whom they provide housing, help with rent or utility payments, and more, and by ministering to hurting post-abortive women through their Hope and Healing program.

Sr. Gianna, who serves at the Sisters’ Visitation Mission pregnancy resource center in lower Manhattan that serves

just diapers and a stroller, but love, so that they know that they’re not alone.”

In an interview with *EWTN’s Pro-Life Weekly*, Sr. Magdalen Teresa, who serves as head of the Visitation Mission, spoke about the Sisters’ other primary emphasis- helping women heal after abortion. She explained:

Because maternity is forever, that’s a big principle that we live by, a woman will feel a huge loss after she has...lost her baby to abortion. So when she comes to understand

In pursuit of their mission, the Sisters have also released several children’s books, host a podcast, speak at various retreats and events across the country, and engage in outreach to college students at several campuses in Colorado. Their most recent venture is the creation of a webpage regarding End-of-Life issues.

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Missouri AG to appeal decision by appeals court panel not to reinstate law banning abortions based solely on diagnosis of Down syndrome

By Dave Andrusko

On June 9th, a split three-judge panel of the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld U.S. District Judge Howard F. Sachs's injunction of "Missouri Stands For the Unborn Act," passed in 2019, which, among other provisions, bans abortions when the sole reason is a prenatal diagnosis of Down syndrome. The lawsuit was filed by the American Civil Liberties Union and the Reproductive Health Services, which operates the St. Louis abortion clinic.

Missouri Attorney General Eric Schmitt immediately issued a statement vowing that the state will appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

"My son Stephen has shown me the inherent beauty and dignity in all life, especially those with special needs," Schmitt said. "While we're disappointed in the Eighth Circuit's decision, their decision does provide an avenue for this case to be heard by the Supreme Court, and we plan to seek review in the Supreme Court. I have never and will never stop fighting to ensure that all life is protected."

In the 2021 legislative session, a number of states passed laws against "discrimination-based" abortions, including those based solely on a prenatal diagnosis of Down syndrome.

"Governors in Arizona and South Dakota recently signed such bills into law, and similar measures are pending in North Carolina and Texas," Jim Salter of the *Associated Press* reported. "Meanwhile, a federal



Missouri Attorney General
Eric Schmitt

appellate court said Ohio could begin to implement a 2017 law that has been on hold.

During the September 24 hearing, which took place via videoconferencing, Missouri State Solicitor General John Sauer told the panel, "A radical reduction in the number of the class of people with Down syndrome would inflict an incalculable loss in our society."

Sauer also told Circuit Judges Jane Kelly, Roger Wollman, and David Stras, "People with Down syndrome are literally one generation away from complete elimination."

Planned Parenthood attorney Claudia Hammerman maintained that HB 126 is incompatible with the 1992

Casey v. Planned Parenthood decision. Judge Kelly, who wrote the opinion and who was joined by Judge Wollman, "agreed with Planned Parenthood that the Down syndrome provision is a ban rather than a restriction," according to Joe Harris of *Courthouse News*.

Judge David Stras began by noting that

A preliminary injunction is hard to get, all the more so when the target is a democratically enacted state law. The court makes it easy, however, by relaxing the rules to let Reproductive Health Services have one, despite its failure to show a "threat of irreparable harm" from Missouri's Down Syndrome Provision. I would apply the usual rules and vacate the injunction.

Later Judge Stras elaborates on the key requirement of the law — that the abortionist has "knowledge that a Down Syndrome diagnosis is the sole reason for an abortion." [Dr. Colleen McNicholas is a Planned Parenthood abortionist who testified against the law.]

Dr. McNicholas all but admits in her declaration that she has no idea how many women, if any, seek an abortion solely for

that reason. Consider her words carefully. In addition to never identifying any women who sought abortions "solely because of" a Down Syndrome diagnosis, she goes on to say that "there is generally no medical need for [her], or any other physician providing abortion care at [the clinic,] to know a patient's reason for seeking an abortion or to distinguish between one particular fetal diagnosis or another in order to provide compassionate, safe abortion care." If there is no medical reason to ask, and no evidence that the reason for seeking an abortion is routinely volunteered, then the statute itself cannot create the "threat of irreparable harm."

The future? As noted, Missouri Attorney General Schmitt said he will appeal the appeals court decision to the Supreme Court. In addition, Salter ends his account by writing, "Last month, the Supreme Court voted 6-3 to take on a case about whether states can ban abortions before a fetus can survive outside the womb. Experts say the case could dramatically alter nearly 50 years of rulings on abortion rights."

Police officer saves newborn's life: 'I just know that God put me there that day'

By Laura Nicole

A Pennsylvania couple is grateful for the efforts of a police officer, who saved their nine-day-old baby's life.

Joe Schleicher and his wife were driving their newborn daughter Olivia to

her out of the car seat,' and we were sitting at a red light at that point," Schleicher said, according to *WKRC*.

That's when Schleicher saw Officer Kristin Mitrison. He beeped to gain her attention and

parking lot, and as soon as he did, she jumped into action doing chest compressions on the baby.

While this was going on, a bystander also pulled over and offered to help. "I asked him

and the Schleichers stood by, terrified.

When the baby let out a cry a few minutes later, the Schleichers let out a sigh of relief while Officer Mitrison described it as "the best cry" she had ever heard. Olivia was rushed to the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, where she is doing well but will require surgery for a heart condition.

That Olivia made it that far is all thanks to Officer Mitrison being in the right place at the right time. "She saved my baby's life. I'm very thankful. Words can't even explain how I feel and how thankful I am," said Ms. Schleicher.

Mitrison felt duty-bound to assist. "I'm a mother of two children so I would hope someone could help me," Mitrison said. For Officer Mitrison, the life-saving encounter with the Schleichers was not merely luck or good timing. "I just know that God put me there that day," she said.

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



the hospital because she had been very fussy. When they were stopped at a red light, his wife suddenly shouted to her husband. "She said, 'She's not breathing. She's not breathing. I have to get

shouted that his baby needed help. "I heard beeping next to me. I saw a male driver waving to me. I put down the window," said Mitrison, according to *WXPI*. Mitrison instructed him to pull over into a nearby

'sir can you please get the AED out of my car.' He said, 'yes I'm a corrections officer, I'll help you,'" Officer Mitrison stated. The AED analyzed the baby's heart rhythm while Mitrison continued to do compressions,

Major Pro-Life Opportunities in Upcoming Governor Races

From page 6

Congressman Lou Barletta has announced his candidacy on the Republican side while former State Treasurer Joe Torsella, Attorney General Josh Shapiro, and Philadelphia mayor Jim Kenney (all pro-abortion) are considered potential candidates for the Democrats.

President Trump won the Keystone State in 2016 but it flipped back into the Democratic column in 2020. Pro-life Republicans control the Pennsylvania House and Senate but their pro-life efforts have been stymied by Governor Wolf's veto. Electing a pro-life governor could mean success for pro-life priorities in the state including protections against dismemberment abortion and protections for unborn babies diagnosed with Down syndrome. The race is considered a pure tossup.

Kansas

Kansas is one of the pro-life movement's biggest pick-up opportunities in 2022. Pro-abortion Governor Laura Kelly (D) is seeking reelection in a state that voted for President Trump in 2020 by a 15-point margin. Prior to Kelly's victory, Kansas had been on the cutting edge of passing pro-life initiatives.

Since taking office, Kelly has been a roadblock to pro-life legislation advanced by

the state legislature. She is endorsed by EMILY's List, a political action committee that seeks to elect Democratic women who support abortion without limits.

On the Republican side, pro-life former Governor Jeff Colyer, who narrowly lost the GOP nomination in 2018, has declared his candidacy. Kansas Attorney General and former Senate Majority Leader Derek Schmidt and Businessman Chase LaPorte have also announced that they intend to run. All three candidates hold pro-life positions. The race is considered a pure tossup.

Wisconsin

Pro-abortion Governor Tony Evers (D) is up for reelection in Wisconsin. His extreme position on abortion drove him to veto even the most commonsense legislation such as the bill to protect infants who survive abortions. Defeating Evers is crucial for advancing life-saving measures in Wisconsin once again.

Potential challengers on the Republican side include former Congressman Sean Duffy, former Lieutenant Governor Rebecca Kleefisch, former White House Chief of Staff Reince Priebus, Wisconsin Senate President Chris Kapenga, and more. All are pro-life.

Florida

Pro-life Governor Ron DeSantis (R) is up for reelection in the Sunshine State in 2022. DeSantis has an impressive list of pro-life accomplishments during his first term. Another term would mean even more progress in protecting unborn children and their mothers in Florida.

There are handful of Democratic candidates already in the race, including former Governor and Congressman Charlie Crist and Florida Agriculture Commissioner Nikki Fried. Both Crist and Fried support a policy of abortion on demand. As a member of Congress, Crist holds 100% pro-abortion voting record, supporting taxpayer funding of abortion and even voting against legislation to protect unborn babies who can feel pain from late abortions and legislation to safeguard newborn infants who survive failed abortions. The Cook Political Report ranks the race as Leans Republican.

Michigan

Pro-abortion Governor Gretchen Whitmer (D) is up for reelection in Michigan, a state that has been a major political battleground since President Trump's unexpected win there in 2016. Whitmer has not yet indicated if she will

seek a second term, although most political pundits believe she will. She is also backed by EMILY's List.

On the Republican side, James Craig, the Chief of the Detroit Police Department, is expected to announce a run against Whitmer. Already announced Republican candidates include businessman Austin Chenge, conservative media personality Tudor Dixon, Allendale Township Planning Commission member Ryan Kelley, Pastor Ralph Rebrandt, Vice President of the Evangelical Alliance Ministerial Association Bob Scott, and businessman Garrett Soldano.

The large Republican field demonstrates just how vulnerable Whitmer's position is in the state. Still, the Cook Political Report gives Whitmer an edge, listing the race as Leans Democrat.

While Biden carried the state in the 2020 election, it remains a top prize for both parties. Michigan is a state to keep an eye on. The governor's race is winnable in 2022!

Be sure to pay attention to the gubernatorial race in your state! Having a pro-life governor makes a world of difference to preborn babies, their mamas and to those who are vulnerable!

Sweeping abortion bill seeks to eliminate all pro-life protections nation-wide

From page 1

except Sens. Manchin (D-W. Va.) and Casey (D-Pa.)—and 181 total co-sponsors, in the House of Representatives, all of whom are Democrats.

“The so-called Women’s Health Protection Act would essentially remove all legal protections for unborn children on the federal and state level,” said Carol Tobias, president of National Right to Life (NRLC). “The Women’s Health Protection Act is, in effect, a no-limits-on-abortion-until-birth bill. Pro-abortion Democrats have yet to hear of an abortion-expansion bill they didn’t like and they are more than willing to push it on to the American people.”

Tobias continued,

“Tragically, the only ones to benefit from such a law would be abortionists and abortion providers such as Planned Parenthood, the nation’s largest abortion provider. This legislation endangers women and their unborn children, would expand taxpayer funding of abortion, and would no longer require that a woman be given information about the development of her unborn child.”

Among the protective laws that WHPA would nullify:

- Requirements to provide women seeking abortion with specific information on their unborn child and on alternatives to abortion;
- Laws providing

reflection periods (waiting periods);

- Laws allowing medical professionals to opt-out of providing abortions;
- Laws limiting the performance of abortions to licensed physicians;
- Bans on elective abortion after 20 weeks when an unborn child is capable of feeling pain;
- Bans on the use of abortion as a method of sex selection. These anti-sex selection laws generally have broad public support in the states in which they are enacted, including support from substantial majorities of women.

the U.S. Supreme Court entirely repudiates *Roe v. Wade* and the other rulings that were built on *Roe*. The bill authorizes lawsuits by both federal officials and private parties to enforce its provisions.

According to Alexis McGill Johnson, president & CEO, Planned Parenthood Federation of America, “Abortion is safe, essential health care. Yet state politicians across the country have been doing all they can to block people from this care, and our nation’s highest court is about to hear a case that could undermine our constitutional right to abortion...The Women’s Health Protection Act would bring us one step closer to a world where everyone can take full control of their bodies and their futures.”

The WHPA seeks to strip away from elected lawmakers the ability to provide even the most minimal protections for unborn children, at any stage of their pre-natal development. Elective abortion would become the procedure that must always be facilitated, never delayed, never impeded to the slightest degree.

This radical legislation **must** be stopped in its tracks.

The bill would also invalidate most previously enacted federal limits on abortion, including federal conscience protection laws and most, if not all, limits on government funding of abortion since they would be regarded as reducing access to abortion.

The WHPA has sweeping consequences on not only settled law, but contemplates nullifying potential positive Supreme Court rulings in the future.

The bill would nullify even specific types of abortion-related laws that have been held by the U.S. Supreme Court not to violate any constitutional right – indeed, the prohibitions in the bill would apply even if

To view an always-current list of co-sponsors of either S. 1975 or H.R. 3755, arranged by state, go to the National Right to Life Legislative Action Center at <https://cqcrcengage.com/nrlc/legislation?0>

Abortion in 3 words:

VIOLENT

GRUESOME

PAINFUL