



**national**  
**RIGHT TO LIFE**  
**NEWS**

**April 2017**

Justice Neil Gorsuch: “a man who is deeply faithful to the Constitution of the United States”



Justice Neil Gorsuch is sworn in by Associate Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy as President Trump and Mrs. Gorsuch look on.

*(Chip Somodevilla [Getty Images])*



# national RIGHT TO LIFE NEWS

## U.S. Senate Republicans disarm Democrats' filibuster, confirm Neil Gorsuch to U.S. Supreme Court

WASHINGTON (April 12, 2017) – The Republican-controlled U.S. Senate dealt a historic double blow to the pro-abortion movement this month.

When Democrats mounted a filibuster in an attempt to block the confirmation of Judge Neil Gorsuch, President Trump's first nominee to the U.S. Supreme Court, all 52 Senate Republicans voted together to employ the so-called "nuclear option" – changing the chamber's rules to forbid filibusters on this or future nominations to the Supreme Court.

That change allowed the Senate to confirm Gorsuch, 54-45, which occurred on April 7. On the confirmation roll call, three Democrats joined a united bloc of Republicans.

Gorsuch was sworn in on April 10, and began participating in Supreme Court deliberations immediately.

Gorsuch fills the seat left vacant by the sudden death of Justice Antonin Scalia in February, 2016. Immediately following Scalia's death, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) announced

that the Senate would not act to fill the vacancy until a nominee was submitted by the new president who would be elected in November.

Nevertheless, President Obama promptly nominated liberal Judge Merrick Garland.

*See "Disarm," page 13*



## 7 Myths Planned Parenthood is Peddling to Fend Off Defunding: Part One

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

*Editor's note. This is Part One of a three-part series in which Dr. O'Bannon discusses Myths #1 and #2. You can read the series in its entirety this week at [www.nationalrighttolifeneews.org](http://www.nationalrighttolifeneews.org).*

With its work and reputation facing unwanted scrutiny and many in Congress and the administration talking about defunding the abortion giant, Planned Parenthood is fighting back. PPFA is calling in its political and media allies, trotting out high

profile Hollywood celebrities, cranking up its expensive marketing machine to try to

make the case that they're the good guys, facing unfair and unwarranted assaults.

But truth is a stubborn thing. You can say you're not about abortion but when you performed well over 300,000 abortions each and every year, the numbers scream otherwise.

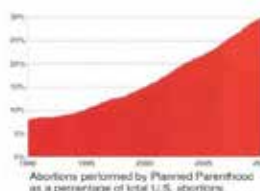
Despite impassioned pleadings that Planned Parenthood wants nothing more than to "set the record straight," an examination of the seven myths PPFA peddles quickly

### ABORTION IS BIG BUSINESS\$

Using the average cost of a less-expensive 1st trimester abortion (\$451), the abortion business is at least a **\$477 million a year industry.**

While abortion rates have been dropping in the United States, abortions performed at Planned Parenthood clinics during the same time period (1990 - 2010) have increased by:

**255%**



In fact, the percentage of abortions for which Planned Parenthood is responsible has steadily increased from 8% in 1990 to nearly 30% today. Planned Parenthood is now the nation's largest abortion provider, responsible for nearly 1/3 of all abortions in the U.S.

Their estimated revenues from abortion in 2014 alone was:  
**\$147,771,503.00**

*See "Myths," page 26*

# Editorials

## Justice Neil Gorsuch: “a man who is deeply faithful to the Constitution of the United States”

It is not often that attending ceremonies interests me in the slightest. With too much to do and having been in the nation’s capital for more than 35 years, ordinarily I would just want to plow ahead and (as it often the case) watch the event later on television.

No so this past Monday. I would have loved to have been at the White House Rose Garden as Justice Anthony Kennedy administered the judicial oath to now Justice Neil Gorsuch. Gorsuch worked as a law clerk for Justice Kennedy in 1993-94. At 49, he is, as was mentioned at his confirmation hearings, the first Generation-X justice. (The average age of the Justices is just under 70.)

In addition to expressing his great admiration for Justice Scalia, in his brief remarks Justice Gorsuch thanked many people who, in a sense, helped pave the way for him to become the 113<sup>th</sup> Supreme Court justice. He concluded this way:

**To my wife, Louise, and my daughters, Emma and Bindi, thank you for your perseverance and your patience, your courage and your love. I simply could not have attempted this without you.**

**And to the American people, I am humbled by the trust placed in me today. I will never forget that to whom much is given, much will be expected. And I promise you that I will do all my powers permit to be a faithful servant of the Constitution and laws of this great nation.**

For pro-lifers who know the devastation wrecked by the extra-constitutional *Roe v. Wade* decision, a vow to be “a faithful servant of the Constitution and the laws of this great nation” is music to our ears.

Justice Gorsuch will join the High Court in mid-stream; he will



hear the final 13 cases of the term. But as *NBC News* observed, “Though Justice Gorsuch cannot vote on cases already argued but not yet decided, he could still end up playing a role. If the court is tied 4-4 on any of those cases, the justices could order them to be re-argued, which would allow him to participate and eliminate the possibility of another deadlock.”

*See “Justice,” page 31*

## Gorsuch confirmed as 113th justice of the Supreme Court

Friday’s *Washington Post* headline was succinct and to the point: “Senate confirms Neil Gorsuch to Supreme Court.”

But those seven words offered pro-lifers the assurance that pro-life President Donald Trump was serious about choosing someone in the mold of the late Justice Antonin Scalia and a reminder that pro-life Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell had vowed unequivocally that **Judge** Gorsuch would become **Justice** Gorsuch.

Securing kudos from the *Post*, however grudgingly, is like pulling teeth. But Ed O’Keefe and Robert Barnes conceded Gorsuch’s confirmation as the 113th Supreme Court justice was “a marquee accomplishment for President Trump” and a “big legislative win for Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.)” who displayed “unflinching discipline.”

But no *Post* story about the Trump administration would be complete without the usual loaded verbiage [“ram through”] and dismissive put downs [“Trump introduced Gorsuch to the country

in a slickly produced prime time address from the White House”].

Not to be confused, of course, with that plain-spoken former President Obama who would never have been caught doing anything that smacked of slick. The blatant double-standard and tunnel vision from the publication that now tells us (without a hint of self-awareness) that “Democracy Dies in Darkness” is stunning.

But who cares? This is par for the course and Gorsuch was subsequently sworn-in, “allowing him to join the high court for the final weeks of its term, which ends in June.”

As NRLC explained Friday, “In landmark week, united Senate Republicans win ‘historic victory’ on Supreme Court nominations,” there were still machinations by Senate Democrats the morning of the final vote. Three Democrats joined 51 Republicans in voting to

*See “Gorsuch,” page 33*

# From the President Carol Tobias



## “If you didn’t believe that elections have consequences....”

Wow! If you didn’t believe that elections have consequences, the past few weeks should have been able to convince you otherwise.

In a nine-day period, the Senate (following House action in February) voted to overturn an Obama administration rule that prevented states from withholding tax funding from Planned Parenthood through the Title X program; the Trump administration notified Congress that, because the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) violates the Kemp-Kasten amendment by supporting “a program of coercive abortion or involuntary sterilization” in China, UNFPA would no longer be eligible to receive foreign aid funds from the United States; and to top it all off, the Senate confirmed Neil Gorsuch to the United States Supreme Court.

I really wish we could have this string of victories at least once a month!

The confirmation of now-Justice Neil Gorsuch was the high point of everything that has happened so far this past week. The Senate defeated an attempted filibuster by pro-abortion Democrats. Justice Gorsuch, a man who strongly believes in the primacy of our Constitution, is 49 years old and will hopefully be on the High Court for many, many years to come.

During the campaign last year, then-candidate Donald Trump said, “We have a very clear choice in this election. The freedoms we cherish and the constitutional values and principles our country was founded on are in jeopardy. The

responsibility is greater than ever to protect and uphold these freedoms and I will appoint justices who, like Justice Scalia, will protect our liberty with the highest regard for the Constitution.” True to his word, President Trump nominated someone of outstanding caliber. In the Rose Garden swearing-in ceremony, the President said, “Americans are blessed to have in Neil Gorsuch a man who will [like Justice Antonin Scalia] be a devoted servant of the law.”

We are deeply grateful to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) for holding firm last year, after the death of Justice Scalia. McConnell properly said that it should be the next president elected by the voters who should nominate the next Supreme Court Justice. McConnell’s efforts showed wisdom, strength, determination, and leadership.

Along with the passage of pro-life legislation around the country and the defeat of assisted suicide legislation in many states, everything appears to be going well. But these kinds of victories could **only** have happened because of the day-in-and-day-out dedication you and millions of right-to-lifers like you have shown: educating your communities, working with pregnant women so they realize that there are options other than abortion, and electing candidates who will pass/sign pro-life legislation. These recent successes are the culmination of many years of hard work.

But much as we might want otherwise, there are no permanent victories or defeats, only permanent battles. Nothing can be taken for granted. Our opponents are loud and forceful. They have virtually limitless resources and a media that loathes pro-lifers. They will not back down or slow down.

But we won’t, either.

Planned Parenthood, NARAL, EMILY’s List, and many other organizations are already working on next year’s elections, recruiting candidates and raising money. Their goal, of course, is to put Nancy Pelosi and Chuck Schumer back in charge of the House and Senate, respectively. We can NOT let that happen. What can we do to make sure that doesn’t happen?

Continue to talk about the almost one million unborn babies that die every year. Continue to talk about how the pro-life movement, not the abortion industry, helps women through a crisis pregnancy. Continue to educate your neighbors and co-workers about why it’s important that we pass laws to protect these children and their mothers.

Continue to work with legislators, helping them plan how best to protect innocent human life, from unborn children to the elderly and those with disabilities. And continue to inform voters about why it’s important that they elect candidates who believe in the civil and human rights of all human beings—born and unborn.

In 1942, after England had been fighting Nazi Germany for several years and just one year after America had joined the fighting, Winston Churchill stated, “Now this is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end, but it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning.”

Thanks to you, we are much farther along than the “end of the beginning.” But I also know we still have a tough road ahead of us.

If you need to take a break, focus on family concerns, or just step back and catch your breath, that’s not only okay, it’s a great way to recharge your batteries. But don’t stay away too long.

We have a battle to win!

## Our Life-Saving Victories, Successes Need Your Continued Support!

The news has been good: confirmation of a Supreme Court justice, passage of new bans on abortions of pain-capable unborn babies, a huge drop in the number of abortions in the latest report.

But the news on the day-to-day operating side of our Right to Life movement is more challenging.

Success can breed complacency, and while we know no pro-lifer will ever be complacent as long as a single unborn baby is threatened by abortion, sometimes supporters of a cause can get the idea that as long as we're winning, their financial assistance isn't as needed as it once was.

But the truth is, our pro-life successes in many cases are happening because we spend the donations we receive right away on the most effective way to bring about wins for unborn babies. We don't waste anything. Everything we get

goes to the cause of the unborn.

After every victory – like the elections last year, a campaign to pass pro-life laws, or the

confirmation of a Supreme Court justice – we start anew looking for financial support for our next undertaking. National Right to Life has the ability to deeply affect this issue, as many commentators have observed. But we do not have deep pockets. We don't hold back resources when babies' lives are literally on the line. How could we?

So we are coming to you after these latest victories in the hopes that you will help us set the table for the next wins –

wins that will save more lives, change more hearts, win over more minds. In short, the kinds of wins that will make America

---



---



---

*We don't hold back resources when babies' lives are literally on the line.*

*How could we?*

pro-life again and make this great country a safe place for the unborn, as it should be.

Won't you please help us create that kind of America, and save those innocent lives? Your support is desperately needed at this juncture of the battle for Life. Please click here to contribute to the National Right to Life Committee. Your gift will support vital, life-saving projects like these:

We are currently working hard in several state legislatures to pass laws that

will protect pain-capable unborn babies, ban the barbaric practice of dismemberment abortions, and pass other needed protections for babies and their mothers.

And at the federal level, we're fighting to garner support for removing subsidies from insurance plans that cover abortion, to eliminate funding for Planned Parenthood, and to remove provisions of Obamacare that threaten to ration life-saving medical treatments.

*You* make all of this critical life-saving work happen with your generous support. Of course, a pro-life victory brought about by that support can make us feel good and hopeful for the future. But for the little baby whose life is saved, that victory *is* his future. Please help us give little children many, many more of those life-saving victories in the days ahead.

*Make A Donation*

# Trump administration redirects U.S. funding away from United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

WASHINGTON – On April 4 the Trump Administration reinstated a policy directing United States foreign assistance dollars away from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) on the basis that its activities in China are complicit with that nation's coercive population control program, the implementation of which includes forced abortion and involuntary sterilization. United States funding will be directed instead to other family planning and health programs not involved in China's population control program.

**"We congratulate President Trump and his administration for making it abundantly clear the United States will not support a United Nations agency that cooperates in China's brutally repressive population control policies,"** said National Right to Life President Carol Tobias. **"I heartily applaud what we are seeing from this pro-life administration."**

The State Department memorandum determined that the UNFPA was in violation of the Kemp-Kasten anti-coercion law. The amendment prohibits giving U.S. "population assistance" funds to "any organization or program which, as determined by the President of the United States, supports or participates in the management of a program of coercive abortion or involuntary sterilization."

As the memo states:

**The Chinese Government's Population and Family Planning Law, even as amended in 2015, and related regulations and practices at the central and Provincial levels,**

**clearly constitute a "program of coercive abortion or involuntary sterilization," and are an integral part of the comprehensive population-control program the Chinese Government advances. While there is no evidence that UNFPA directly engages in**



**coercive abortions or involuntary sterilizations in China, the agency continues to partner with the [National Health and Family Planning Commission] on family planning, and thus can be found to support, or participate in the management of China's coercive policies for purposes of the Kemp-Kasten Amendment.**

The Kemp-Kasten Amendment was originally enacted in 1985 in response to the UNFPA's extensive involvement in China's coercive program. In 1985, the Reagan Administration determined that UNFPA was in violation of the law. That determination was challenged in a federal lawsuit by the Population Institute, a U.S. advocacy group receiving substantial funding from the UNFPA.

In 1986, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia upheld the cutoff. In a ruling written for a unanimous three-judge panel, Judge Abner Mikva upheld the Reagan Administration determination that "the UNFPA's activities in China aid the aspects of China's program that Congress condemned."

Under the administrations of President Clinton and President Obama, the Kemp-Kasten anti-coercion law was essentially not enforced. Nevertheless, the law has been renewed each year by Congress, and it flatly prohibits funding of any organization that either (1) "supports" or (2) "participates in the management of" a program of coercive abortion or involuntary sterilization.

During fiscal year 2016, the Obama Administration gave \$67.88 million to UNFPA.

**"In China, government officials continue to subject women and their families to crushing fines and employment sanctions, and even destroy their homes, for becoming pregnant without government permission,"** said National Right to Life Legislative Director Jennifer Popik, J.D. **"U.S. law prohibits funding an agency that in any way participates in such a coercive program."**

For decades, top UNFPA officials have vigorously defended China's program against its critics, and have held China's program up as a model for other developing nations. For example, then-UNFPA Executive Director Nafis Sadik told a congressional briefing on May 24, 1989, "The UNFPA firmly believes, and so does the government of the People's Republic of China, that their program is a totally voluntary program."

The move to redirect funds away from UNFPA should be seen in light of the president's actions in January to reinstate the Mexico City Policy. That policy, which had been in place in Republican administrations since 1984, when it was announced by authority of President Reagan at an international population-control conference in Mexico City. Under that policy, in order to be eligible for certain types of foreign aid, a private organization must sign a contract promising not to perform abortions (except to save the mother's life or in cases of rape or incest), not to lobby to change the abortion laws of host countries, or otherwise "actively promote abortion as a method of family planning."

**"Over his eight years in office, President Obama advanced a pro-abortion agenda with executive orders and regulations that were dangerous to the lives of many unborn children,"** said Popik. **"This latest action by the Trump Administration helps keep the U.S. out of the business of international abortion advocacy."**

National Right to Life takes no position on federal funding of contraceptive services. Nor does National Right to Life take any position on what the funding level for international population assistance programs should be - so long as President Trump's "Mexico City Policy" and the Kemp-Kasten Amendment remain in effect. National Right to Life is strongly opposed to any weakening of these two policies, which would result in resumption of U.S. taxpayer support for organizations which promote abortion and even programs of coercive abortion.

# “Keeping Tomorrow Alive” is powerful theme of June 29-July 1 NRLC Convention in Wisconsin

By Dave Andrusko

When the NRLC board of directors recently met to conduct the business of the preeminent single-issue pro-life organization in the nation, much of the conversation revolved what was then the impending vote in the Senate Judiciary Committee on the nomination of Judge Neil Gorsuch to replace the late Justice Antonin Scalia on the Supreme Court. As you know that vote went well there and (in spite of fervent pro-abortion opposition) and Judge Gorsuch is now Justice Gorsuch

But that left plenty of opportunity to talk about the annual gathering of pro-life

activists from across North America—National Right to Life’s three-day educational conference held this year in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

As the graphic below explains, this has become an annual event for grassroots pro-lifers. Its uniqueness is that the subject matter covered is so comprehensive there are multiple opportunities to learn whether you’ve been in the Movement for decades or just threw your lot in with the greatest movement for social justice of our time.

Workshop topics (the heart and soul of the convention) range from the connection

between abortion and breast cancer, the dangerous campaign for “Do-It-Yourself” abortions through debunking the myths about embryonic stem cells and the legacy of Terri Schindler Schiavo. They will be supplemented by multiple general sessions, a Friday morning Prayer Breakfast, and a Saturday night closing Banquet.

We will be posting additional stories about the general session speakers over the next three months. So far you’ve already had the opportunity to read about author/speaker/columnist Ben Shapiro and Ann McElhinney, one-half

of the dynamic team that has produced both a book about abortionist Kermit Gosnell — *Gosnell: The Untold Story of America’s Most Prolific Serial Killer*—and a forthcoming movie, “Gosnell.” There will be a sneak-peak screening of “Gosnell” at the convention.

When you go to [nrlconvention.com](http://nrlconvention.com), you’ll find all the information you need, not only about the guest speakers already lined up, but also how you can register online in just a couple of minutes.

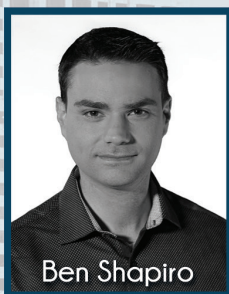
It’s April 12. Hard as it may be to believe, June 29th will be here before you know it. Be sure to register soon!



**NATIONAL RIGHT TO LIFE  
CONVENTION**  
JUNE 29 - JULY 1, 2017  
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

Three days of dynamic speakers, workshops, exhibits, and more to empower you to help in **keeping tomorrow alive!**

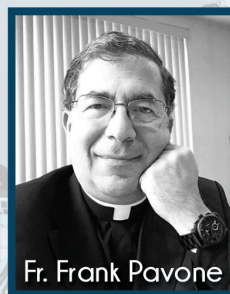
**SPEAKERS INCLUDE (MORE LISTED ONLINE):**



Ben Shapiro



Ann McElhinney



Fr. Frank Pavone

**Topics Include:** Abortion and Breast Cancer | The Rise of the DIY Abortion | Using Adult Stem Cells Successfully to Save Lives | When They Say ... You Say | Myth of the Unwanted Child: Special Needs Adoption | Pro-Life Concerns about Girl Scouts | Communicate, Convert, and Commit: The Art of Pro-Life Persuasion | Teens for Life Convention | StandUpGirl.Com | Terri Schindler Schiavo



**For More Information & to Register: [NRLConvention.com](http://NRLConvention.com) or Call 202.378.8843**

# Empowering pro-life college students to make a difference: the National Right to Life Academy

By Rai Rojas

The National Right to Life Academy, a five-week summer program held at NRLC's DC headquarters, trains pro-life student activists to become effective advocates for life. The ripple effect of the program's graduates can be felt across the country.

Over the five weeks of the program, pro-life students learn from the foremost leaders in the pro-life movement on a variety of topics, including abortion, euthanasia, stem cell research, Planned Parenthood, legislative strategy, lobbying, politics, communication, grassroots organizing, social media and more.

Graduates of the program are currently working for state pro-life groups, starting local right-to-life chapters, aiding in the efforts of crisis pregnancy centers and bringing a pro-life perspective to their workplaces in the medical, legal, and social work fields.

Notable graduates include John Seago, the legislative director for Texas Right to Life. John was instrumental in the passage of the Texas pro-life omnibus bill HB-2.

Chelsea Shields currently serves as the legislative/PAC director for Wisconsin Right to Life. She testified before a legislative committee on Wisconsin's Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act,

which was ultimately passed and signed into law.

Since his graduation from the program in 2014, Brock Schmeling went on to become the executive director of North Dakota Right to Life. Brock

has also served on the National Right to Life Board of Directors representing North Dakota.

Lacey Dent serves on the board of West Virginians for Life and heads up a county chapter in Tucker County,

West Virginia. Lacey is also a frequent pro-life speaker in her home state.

Students interested in participating in the 2017 summer program, which will run June 29, through August 4, should email the Program Director Rai Rojas at [academy@nrlc.org](mailto:academy@nrlc.org) or call 202-626-8809. More information is also available at [www.nrlc.org/academy](http://www.nrlc.org/academy).

Tuition for the program is \$3600 and includes the cost of the program itself, housing in downtown Washington, DC, and registration/lodging at the National Right to Life Convention.

The National Right to Life Academy focuses on equipping young pro-life leaders with the skills and knowledge they need to put their pro-life passion to work. The efforts of just one person can make an incredible difference. And with an estimated 58 million lives lost since 1973, now is the time for each one of us to stand up and be a voice for the voiceless.

Please download the ready to print flyers at [nrlc.org/uploads/academy/academy.pdf](http://nrlc.org/uploads/academy/academy.pdf) to post around campus, as well as Academy application form. There is limited space, so please apply today.

*Editor's note. Mr. Rojas is National Right to Life Committee Academy Program Director.*

The  
National  
RIGHT TO LIFE Academy

June 29- August 4th, 2017

This innovative five-week program is training the next generation of pro-life leaders

In addition to learning to be an articulate and effective advocate for life, students have the opportunity to earn 3 college credits.

Tuition is \$3600 and includes lodging near NRL headquarters in Washington and attendance at the 2017 NRL Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Sarah Trice, Little Rock  
Class of 2014

For more information: [academy@nrlc.org](mailto:academy@nrlc.org)

apply today! [nrlc.org/academy](http://nrlc.org/academy)



# Parents refused abortion for their disabled daughter, say she “never stops smiling”

By Texas Right to Life

Zoe Lush’s parents learned about their daughter’s disability before she was born. During an ultrasound at five months’ pregnant, a doctor told Zoe’s mother, “Mrs. Lush, there’s something very wrong with your child.”

Zoe’s parents later learned that Zoe has Osteogenesis Imperfecta (OI) Type III, a condition that causes brittle bones. Even in the womb, Zoe had multiple fresh and healing fractures. Zoe’s mother said in a video for the BBC, “We were told it was a one in 50,000 chance for it to happen to her. She has a mutation in her DNA which causes her OI.” Doctors did not know whether Zoe would live to birth.

The distraught parents were pressured to abort their daughter. Zoe’s father says they were told abortion was the only “humane” thing to do. They were even told that they should abort Zoe and donate her body to scientific research.

Despite their distress and the pressure to choose abortion, Zoe’s parents chose Life. Pro-Life legislators in Texas are working to pass the Disabled Preborn Justice Act, so that parents like Zoe’s can find support, and children like Zoe are not violently killed in

abortion for the sole reason of their disability.

The Lushes journey has been

parents have stopped counting. Her dad says, “We stopped counting at around a hundred.”



a difficult one. At birth Zoe broke her collar bone, and within the first month of life she fractured arms and legs. She has broken so many bones, her

When she was an infant, three people were needed to change her diaper to prevent more fractures.

But her parents and everyone

she meets says Zoe “never stops smiling.” Her mother insists, “I would not change Zoe. If I could take her OI back, I would never, ever take it back.” With continued treatment, Zoe is expected to live a long and full life.

Zoe’s story demonstrates the need for laws like the Disabled Preborn Justice Act. No matter what disability a child may have, he or she is still an innocent human being. The deadly discrimination in Texas law denies these children the Right to Life and the opportunity to overcome their disability.

The Disabled Preborn Justice Act would protect disabled babies from violent late abortions. The law would also ban the practice of sex selective abortion and outlaw force or threats of force for anyone, including physicians, attempting to coerce a woman to undergo an abortion due to her preborn child’s ethnicity, sex, or disability.

Send a message to your legislators to protect babies like Zoe. Disabled children should be protected from discrimination starting in the womb.

## “Autos for Life” Gears up for Spring!

By David N. O’Steen, Jr.

With winter **finally** drawing to a close, your attention may already have turned to spring cleaning!

Maybe you have a project car occupying the driveway or garage. Or perhaps you have a minivan no longer needed because the kids are all grown, or an extra car that is rarely

deduction for the FULL SALE AMOUNT!

The “Autos for Life” program has received a great variety of vehicles from pro-lifers all across the country. We have received everything from classic and luxury cars to minivans, boats, economy cars, and jet skis! The National Right

of any age, and can be located anywhere in the country! All that we need from you is a description of the vehicle (miles, vehicle identification number (VIN#), condition, features, the good, the bad, etc.) along with several pictures (the more the better), and we’ll take care of the rest. Digital photos

convenience! All vehicle information can be emailed to us directly at [dojr@nrlc](mailto:dojr@nrlc), or sent by regular mail to:

**“Autos for Life”  
c/o National Right to Life  
512 10<sup>th</sup> St. N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20004**



being used but you’re still paying insurance on it!

What to do?

We’ll take it! By donating your vehicle to the National Right to Life Educational Foundation, you can help save the lives of countless unborn babies, and you receive a tax

to Life Educational Foundation wishes to thank all of the dedicated pro-lifers that have donated their vehicles to this great program.

We are looking to make 2017 our best year ever!

This is where you can help.

Your donated vehicles can be

preferred, but other formats work as well.

Please note that you don’t have to bring the vehicle **anywhere**, or do **anything** with it. And there is no additional paperwork to complete. The buyer picks the vehicle up directly from you at your

Often when I write, it is to remind you of the great challenges ahead. But, thankfully, as all of us in the pro-life movement know, we now also have some of the greatest opportunities in decades!

With our educational efforts we will continue to see a dramatic reduction in the number of abortions each year. We also know that we will continue to see those numbers decline even more as we teach the truth about how abortion hurts babies and their mothers.

“Autos for Life” needs your continued support in making 2017 a great year for the pro-life movement!

If you or someone you know has a vehicle to donate, please contact me, David O’Steen Jr., at (202) 626-8823 or [dojr@nrlc](mailto:dojr@nrlc).

Please join us in helping to defend the most defenseless in our society. With your prayers and continued support, we know we will win!

# South Carolina House Votes 89-17 to Ban Savage Dismemberment Abortion

COLUMBIA, S.C. -- On March 29, by a lopsided vote of 89-17, the South Carolina House of Representatives passed the Unborn Child Protection Against Dismemberment Abortion Act (H 3548) that outlaws the savage procedure of killing an unborn child by ripping and tearing the baby apart limb by limb.

Lin Bennett of Charleston, the bill's chief sponsor, asked House members, "What kind of people have we become that this procedure is even a matter for debate?"

She said "It is mind-boggling that we are even debating this issue — that we have to argue about the legality of an abortionist using clamps,

Life President Lisa Van Riper praised the strongly bi-partisan vote noting that 17 Democrats joined the Republican "to protect unborn children from the barbaric abortion procedure that results in the dismemberment of a living unborn child.

"This gruesome procedure has no place in a civilized

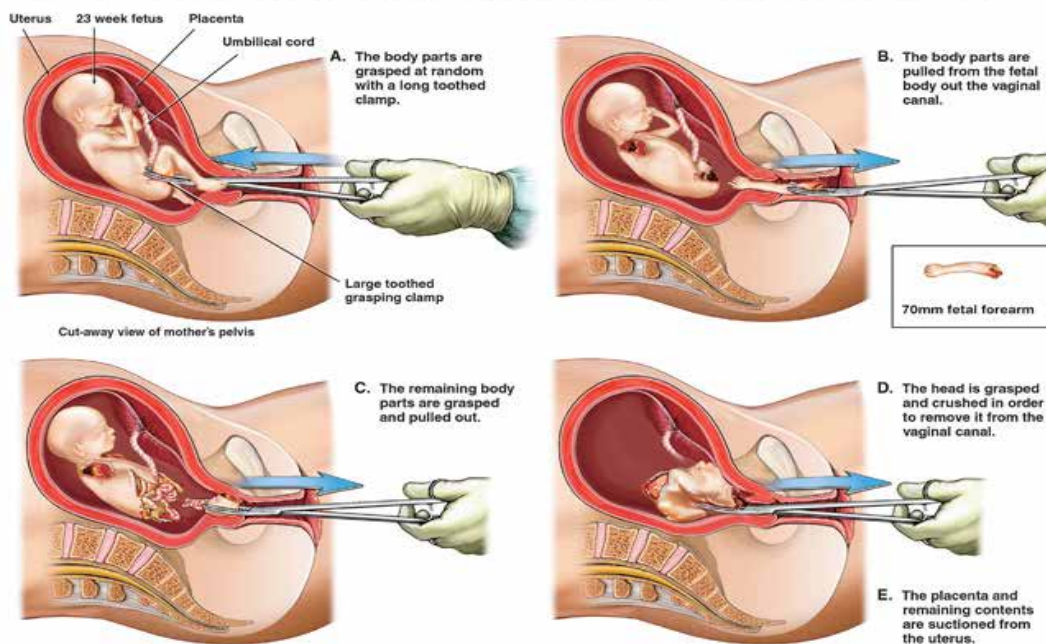
of the unborn," he said. "Representative Lin Bennett and other passionate conservatives have worked for months on this bill and I commend them for its overwhelming bipartisan passage. The dismemberment process is disturbing and horrific and I am very pleased South Carolina is added to the list of states where this procedure is essentially banned."

"For decades, the South Carolina House Republican Caucus has provided strong leadership in support of numerous pro-life efforts," said House Majority Leader Gary Simrill, R-Rock Hill. "Today's successful vote in favor of the Unborn Child Protection from Dismemberment Abortion Act is one more way we can protect the unborn, promoting a culture of life and the pursuit of happiness. Our caucus will always support life at every opportunity."

Since 1990 the General Assembly has passed 15 pro-life laws and the number of abortions occurring in South Carolina has declined by nearly 60 percent.

Other organizations joining SCCL and its statewide network of chapters in supporting passage of H3548 include the South Carolina Association of Pregnancy Care Centers, the South Carolina Baptist Convention, the Catholic Diocese of Charleston, and Palmetto Family Council and its affiliate, the Nehemiah Project.

## Dilation and Evacuation Abortion (D&E) of a 23 Week Old Fetus



The bill now moves to the South Carolina Senate.

The dismemberment ban is the legislative priority of South Carolina Citizens for Life (SCCL) and of the National Right to Life Committee that produced the model law.

During the nearly five hours of debate, freshman Republican

grasping forceps, tongs, scissors or similar instruments that, through the convergence of two rigid levers — slices, crushes, and grasps a portion of the living — living — unborn child's body to cut or rip it off so that she bleeds to death in her mother's womb."

South Carolina Citizens for

society" Mrs. Van Riper said.

No Republican opposed the bill.

House Speaker Jay Lucas, R-Darlington, praised the majority party's success.

"The South Carolina House Republican Caucus is committed to protecting the unalienable right to life

# Abortion and Breast Cancer: Statistics of Abortion's devastation keep piling up in the West

By Joel Brind, PhD

*NRL News* readers are largely aware that I have lately been documenting the epidemic of breast cancer that has followed the expansion of abortion into Asia—China and India in particular. But lest we forget that abortion and breast cancer are still wreaking havoc among women in the West, a new authoritative paper on the state of the breast cancer epidemic in the UK has just been published.

The primary author of the new study, published in this spring's issue of the *Journal of American Physicians and Surgeons*, is Patrick Carroll. Carroll heads the London-based Pension and Population Research Institute (PAPRI). He is not an epidemiologist, but an actuary, whose business it is to identify and track long-term trends in disease incidence and mortality.

Ten years ago, Carroll created quite a stir when his earlier authoritative study established that induced abortion is the single best predictor of breast cancer incidence in eight European countries for which abortion data were available, including in the UK. Similar trends also apply in the US, although one has to read in between the lines of data in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute* (JNCI). The NCI is the federal agency which is viewed worldwide as the preeminent authority on what causes cancer, but which still denies the abortion-breast cancer connection (known as the ABC link).

In the new study, "The British Breast Cancer Epidemic: Trends, Patterns, Risk Factors, and Forecasting," Carroll and co-workers extend and confirm his earlier results regarding the

UK, but focus more particularly on what is called the "social gradient" in breast cancer. The social gradient effect—or more precisely, the reverse social gradient effect—is the fact there is a greater incidence of breast cancer among wealthier, more highly educated women, compared to those less wealthy

incidence persists even when they control or adjust for known risk factors such as alcohol consumption and reproductive factors such as nulliparity (childlessness) and older age at first full-term pregnancy, which are more prevalent in educated, professional women.

In the new paper [www.

highly educated women). That's because in the UK, social class has always been rather rigidly demarcated. So Carroll was able to use government statistics that break down the social gradient into five or six social class strata by country within the UK, i.e., England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland. He was thus able to reveal national differences in the link between social class and breast cancer.

A striking finding of the new study is fact that the social gradient is steepest in England and Wales, where abortion rates are highest, while the gradient is substantially reduced in Scotland, where the abortion rate is lower. Most striking is that in Northern Ireland, where abortion is still essentially illegal and rare, the social gradient almost disappears! Abortion explains, as it were, why breast cancer is a disease of the "higher" classes.

As a breast cancer researcher who has been studying the ABC link for a quarter century now, I'm always gratified when the reality of the link is corroborated by different approaches, such as Carroll's excellent actuarial studies. It should be a front page story, at least in breast cancer circles.

But they never seem to be interested in tarnishing the reputation of abortion as safe for women.

*Joel Brind, Ph.D. is a Professor of Human Biology and Endocrinology at Baruch College, City University of New York; Co-founder of the Breast Cancer Prevention Institute, Somerville, NJ; and a frequent contributor to NRL News.*



and with less education. This is actually a worldwide phenomenon specific to breast cancer among female cancers.

So, for example, on the Indian subcontinent, breast cancer is replacing cervical cancer as the most common cancer in urban women compared to women who live in rural areas. The cities are where the more modern, better educated and wealthier women reside.

However, "mainstream" breast cancer researchers have largely come up empty in explaining most of breast cancer's reverse social gradient effect. An unexplained social gradient in breast cancer

[[www.nationalrighttolifeneeds.org/vol22no1/carroll.pdf](http://www.nationalrighttolifeneeds.org/vol22no1/carroll.pdf)], Carroll et al. confirmed that childlessness and age at first full-term pregnancy—two of the strongest reproductive risk factors for breast cancer—do not parallel breast cancer incidence in the UK. Abortion does, as Carroll had previously shown in his authoritative 2007 paper, as we discussed here [[nationalrighttolifeneeds.org/news/2012/02/abortion-the-best-predictor-of-breast-cancer/](http://nationalrighttolifeneeds.org/news/2012/02/abortion-the-best-predictor-of-breast-cancer/)].

But the UK is also a particularly good place to study the social gradient (once again, by that we mean there is a higher incidence of breast cancer among wealthier, more

# Abortion: the most under-reported issue of our time

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

This was not fake news. I only wish it were. It was all too real.

I had clicked on a local news broadcast to catch up on the day's happenings. The first report shocked me. In one year, one hundred people had died as a result of domestic violence in the Commonwealth I call home. The magnitude of the tragedies was difficult to fathom.

A subsequent news report stated that more than 3,700 residents of my state had died from drug overdoses in a single year. Staggering. Horrifying.

A thought then crossed my mind--a statistic I had found in a Pennsylvania Department of Health report. Some **31,818** precious preborn children had died in PA in 2015 as a result of legal abortion. To my knowledge, that statistic had not been mentioned on a local news broadcast since it was released some months ago.

## **Mind-boggling. Mystifying.**

The equivalent of the population of an entire city is wiped out in one year--and it escapes the notice of those reporting the news.

fervently believe each life has inherent dignity and value, we know the loss of a single life diminishes all of us.

The point is simply, contrary to popular belief, that abortion

abortion actually is--the taking of an innocent, unrepeatable, infinitely important human life. A being with separate DNA from the mother--who is often a different sex from the mother--is a human who deserves protection, love, and respect.

It is vital to point out that, thankfully, abortions are on the decline in Pennsylvania--as they have been across the U.S. PA's abortion totals are less than half what they were before the advent of a protective law--the Abortion Control Act--which requires informed consent, parental consent, a 24-hour waiting period, and bans the discriminatory practice of sex selection abortions.

Still, those 31,818 citizens who perished at the hands of abortionists should and must be remembered.

Don't they deserve at least a 15-second mention on the evening news?



This reflection is not meant in any way to minimize the tragedies caused by family and partner violence and drug overdoses. As people who

is the most under-reported issue of our time. Why?

Part of the answer to this lies in the tragic truth that much of society denies what

## U.S. Senate Republicans disarm Democrats' filibuster, confirm Neil Gorsuch to U.S. Supreme Court

From page 1

Despite harsh criticism from liberal interest groups, the mainstream media, and Senate Democrats, McConnell and the Senate Republicans held fast, taking no action on the Garland nomination, and so the Supreme Court seat was still vacant when President Trump was inaugurated in January 2017.

During his campaign, Trump had released a list of 21 persons, including Gorsuch, and pledged to fill the vacant seat from a name on that list. Trump reportedly adopted the list based on advice from several sources, chief among these Leonard Leo, the longtime executive vice president of the Federalist Society, an influential conservative legal organization.

After personally meeting with several persons on the list, on January 31 Trump announced his pick of Gorsuch. In response to the pick, National Right to Life issued a supportive statement: "As a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit since 2006, Gorsuch has not reviewed any state or federal abortion laws. However, he showed support for conscience rights in two cases involving Obamacare mandates. He dissented from a ruling hostile to Utah's attempts to curb funding for Planned Parenthood (*Planned Parenthood Association of Utah v. Herbert*). Gorsuch's 2006 book *The Future of Assisted Suicide and Euthanasia* argued against the legalization of assisted suicide, and defends the idea that 'human life is fundamentally and inherently valuable, and that the intentional taking of

human life by private persons is always wrong."

In the same release, National Right to Life President Carol Tobias commented, "All too often, our efforts to protect unborn children and other vulnerable humans have been overridden by judges who believe they have a right to impose their own policy preferences. We are heartened that Judge Gorsuch appears to share Justice Scalia's view that federal judges are constrained to enforce the text and original intent of constitutional provisions, and on all other matters should defer to democratically elected lawmakers. Pro-life legislators and activists nationwide can have high confidence that as a Supreme Court justice, Neil Gorsuch will not join those who have nullified past efforts to protect the lives of unborn children and other vulnerable humans."

During three days of testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee in late March, Gorsuch deflected numerous attempts by Democratic senators to elicit his opinions on *Roe v. Wade*, *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, and other past Supreme Court rulings pertaining to abortion, and on other controversial issues. Gorsuch testified in general terms that he believed that Supreme Court precedents on any subject must be afforded respect, but he also noted that it is sometimes appropriate and necessary to overturn precedents.

By the time the hearings were over, it was clear that Democrats were prepared to launch a filibuster to

try to prevent Gorsuch's confirmation. That course of action was being loudly demanded by an array of liberal interest groups, including leading pro-abortion advocacy groups such as NARAL. Many liberal groups insisted that the vacant Supreme Court seat had been "stolen" from President Obama's nominee.

Under general Senate rules, it is impossible to bring a matter to an up-or-down vote unless all senators agree, or unless the Senate votes to "invoke cloture," which generally requires affirmative 60 votes (out of 100 senators). However, in 2013, when Democrats controlled the Senate, Majority Leader Harry Reid (Nv.) had employed a seldom-used parliamentary procedure, now often referred to as the "nuclear option," to change Senate rules to eliminate the right to filibuster presidential nominees, including nominees to the lower federal courts. This change allowed the Democrats to confirm a large number of liberal Obama appointees to federal courts of appeals and district courts during 2013 and 2014.

The 2013 "Reid precedent" contained a single exception -- for nominees to the Supreme Court. However, shortly before the 2016 presidential election, both Reid himself and Democratic vice presidential nominee Sen. Tim Kaine (Va.) said that if Hillary Clinton won the White House and Democrats controlled the Senate, Democrats would again change the rules to prevent any Republican attempt to filibuster a Clinton nominee to the Supreme Court.

On March 31, after it was clear that most Senate Democrats were prepared to support a filibuster against Gorsuch, National Right to Life sent senators a letter urging senators to change the rules to prohibit filibusters on Supreme Court nominees -- which the letter characterized as a matter of "overriding importance."

The NRLC letter also strongly supported a positive vote on confirmation: "Based on the evidence available, it appears that Judge Gorsuch is the type of nominee that the abortion advocates fear most -- one who will take seriously his oath to defend the Constitution, even when this produces results that may outrage certain elites. They fear that Judge Gorsuch will fail to find in the Constitution any provision that denies a self-governing people the right to fashion laws that recognize the humanity of unborn members of the human family. We agree with that assessment, because there is no such provision to find."

The Senate Judiciary Committee, under the leadership of pro-life Sen. Charles Grassley (R-Iowa), approved the nomination on April 3, on a party-line vote of 11-9, and the full Senate took up the nomination the next day. On April 6, an attempt to end debate ("invoke cloture") failed, 55-45, with 60 votes being required under the 2013 "Reid rule." This was the first time in Senate history that a partisan filibuster had blocked an up-or-down vote on a Supreme Court nominee.

See "Disarm," page 37

# U.S. Senate bars filibusters on Supreme Court nominees, and confirms Neil Gorsuch as Supreme Court justice

Shown below are the April 6-7 roll calls by which the U.S. Senate first voted to prohibit filibusters on nominees to the U.S. Supreme Court, and then confirmed Judge Neil Gorsuch as an associate justice of the Supreme Court.

On January 31, 2017, President Trump nominated Gorsuch to the Supreme Court seat left vacant by the February 2016 death of Justice Antonin Scalia. Republicans currently control the U.S. Senate by a margin of 52-48. When the Gorsuch nomination came to the Senate floor on April 4, 2017, Senate Democrats launched an unprecedented partisan filibuster to prevent an up-or-down vote on confirming Gorsuch. Under the Senate's operating rules ("precedents"), 60 votes were required to end such a filibuster. An initial cloture attempt failed, with only four Democrats supporting cloture.

Pro-life Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) then triggered the so-called "nuclear option" -- that is, he forced a Senate vote to whether to create a new precedent, under which only a simple majority would be required to end debate on a Supreme Court nominee. The McConnell motion prevailed on a straight party-line vote, 52-48, shown below in column no. 1 (Senate roll call no. 109, April 6, 2017).

This outcome means that future nominees to the Supreme Court

can be confirmed if they have the support of a simple majority of senators; they will not be subject to any 60-vote hurdle. The change does not affect filibusters against bills or amendments.

Following the rules change, the Senate quickly voted to end debate, setting the stage for the April 7 roll call by which Gorsuch was confirmed, 54-45, shown below in column no. 2 (Senate roll call no. 111, April 7, 2017). On confirmation, Gorsuch received support from all Republicans and three Democratic senators: Joe Donnelly (In.), Heidi Heitkamp (ND), and Joe Manchin (WV). Sen. Johnny Isakson (R-Ga.), a Gorsuch supporter, missed the confirmation vote for medical reasons.

For a detailed report over the Senate battle over the Gorsuch nomination, see the story that begins on page one of this issue.

## Key

- X** Vote against allowing filibusters of Supreme Court nominees; vote in support of confirming Neil Gorsuch
- O** Vote in favor of allowing filibusters of Supreme Court nominees; vote against confirming Neil Gorsuch
- ?** Absent and not voting

<b>Alabama Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Hawaii Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Richard Shelby (R-AL)	X	X	Mazie Hirono (D-HI)	O	O
Luther Strange (R-AL)	X	X	Brian Schatz (D-HI)	O	O
<b>Alaska Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Idaho Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)	X	X	Michael Crapo (R-ID)	X	X
Dan Sullivan (R-AK)	X	X	Jim Risch (R-ID)	X	X
<b>Arizona Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Illinois Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
John McCain (R-AZ)	X	X	Richard Durbin (D-IL)	O	O
Jeff Flake (R-AZ)	X	X	Tammy Duckworth (D-IL)	O	O
<b>Arkansas Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Indiana Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
John Boozman (R-AR)	X	X	Todd Young (R-IN)	X	X
Tom Cotton (R-AR)	X	X	Joe Donnelly (D-IN)	O	X
<b>California Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Iowa Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Kamala Harris (D-CA)	O	O	Charles Grassley (R-IA)	X	X
Dianne Feinstein (D-CA)	O	O	Joni Ernst (R-IA)	X	X
<b>Colorado Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Kansas Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Cory Gardner (R-CO)	X	X	Pat Roberts (R-KS)	X	X
Michael Bennet (D-CO)	O	O	Jerry Moran (R-KS)	X	X
<b>Connecticut Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Kentucky Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Christopher Murphy (D-CT)	O	O	Rand Paul (R-KY)	X	X
Richard Blumenthal (D-CT)	O	O	Mitch McConnell (R-KY)	X	X
<b>Delaware Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Louisiana Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Thomas Carper (D-DE)	O	O	John Kennedy (R-LA)	X	X
Chris Coons (D-DE)	O	O	Bill Cassidy (R-LA)	X	X
<b>Florida Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Maine Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Marco Rubio (R-FL)	X	X	Angus King (I-ME)	O	O
Bill Nelson (D-FL)	O	O	Susan Collins (R-ME)	X	X
<b>Georgia Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>			
David Perdue (R-GA)	X	X			
Johnny Isakson (R-GA)	X	?			

# Senate roll calls on Supreme Court

*From page 14*

<b>Maryland Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Oklahoma Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)	O	O	James Inhofe (R-OK)	X	X
Benjamin Cardin (D-MD)	O	O	James Lankford (R-OK)	X	X
<b>Massachusetts Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Oregon Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Edward Markey (D-MA)	O	O	Jeff Merkley (D-OR)	O	O
Elizabeth Warren (D-MA)	O	O	Ron Wyden (D-OR)	O	O
<b>Michigan Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Pennsylvania Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Gary Peters (D-MI)	O	O	Bob Casey (D-PA)	O	O
Debbie Stabenow (D-MI)	O	O	Patrick Toomey (R-PA)	X	X
<b>Minnesota Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Rhode Island Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)	O	O	Jack Reed (D-RI)	O	O
Al Franken (D-MN)	O	O	Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)	O	O
<b>Mississippi Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>South Carolina Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Thad Cochran (R-MS)	X	X	Tim Scott (R-SC)	X	X
Roger Wicker (R-MS)	X	X	Lindsey Graham (R-SC)	X	X
<b>Missouri Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>South Dakota Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Claire McCaskill (D-MO)	O	O	John Thune (R-SD)	X	X
Roy Blunt (R-MO)	X	X	Mike Rounds (R-SD)	X	X
<b>Montana Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Tennessee Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Jon Tester (D-MT)	O	O	Lamar Alexander (R-TN)	X	X
Steve Daines (R-MT)	X	X	Bob Corker (R-TN)	X	X
<b>Nebraska Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Texas Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Deb Fischer (R-NE)	X	X	Ted Cruz (R-TX)	X	X
Ben Sasse (R-NE)	X	X	John Cornyn (R-TX)	X	X
<b>Nevada Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Utah Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Dean Heller (R-NV)	X	X	Orrin Hatch (R-UT)	X	X
Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV)	O	O	Mike Lee (R-UT)	X	X
<b>New Hampshire Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Vermont Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)	O	O	Patrick Leahy (D-VT)	O	O
Maggie Hassan (D-NH)	O	O	Bernard Sanders (I-VT)	O	O
<b>New Jersey Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Virginia Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Robert Menendez (D-NJ)	O	O	Tim Kaine (D-VA)	O	O
Cory Booker (D-NJ)	O	O	Mark Warner (D-VA)	O	O
<b>New Mexico Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Washington Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Tom Udall (D-NM)	O	O	Maria Cantwell (D-WA)	O	O
Martin Heinrich (D-NM)	O	O	Patty Murray (D-WA)	O	O
<b>New York Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>West Virginia Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Charles Schumer (D-NY)	O	O	Shelley Capito (R-WV)	X	X
Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY)	O	O	Joe Manchin (D-WV)	O	X
<b>North Carolina Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Wisconsin Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Richard Burr (R-NC)	X	X	Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)	O	O
Thom Tillis (R-NC)	X	X	Ron Johnson (R-WI)	X	X
<b>North Dakota Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Wyoming Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
John Hoeven (R-ND)	X	X	John Barrasso (R-WY)	X	X
Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND)	O	X	Michael Enzi (R-WY)	X	X
<b>Ohio Senators</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>			
Sherrod Brown (D-OH)	O	O			
Rob Portman (R-OH)	X	X			



## Virginia General Assembly Recognizes Virginia Society for Human Life 50th Anniversary

Prior to the Reconvene Session of the 2017 Virginia General Assembly last week, a House Joint Resolution, HR1025, patroned by Delegate Jimmie Massie, R-72, was presented to the representatives of the Virginia Society for Human Life

The resolution commends the Virginia Society for Human Life for its 50 years of service to protect innocent human life from conception to natural death.

VSHL was founded by concerned Virginians in 1967 to preserve the Commonwealth's strong pro-life laws from attack by pro-abortion forces in order to protect unborn children from

**Celebrating 50 years  
Virginia Society for Human Life**

**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1025  
Offered February 17, 2017  
Commending the Virginia Society for Human Life.**

WHEREAS, until the mid-1960s, Virginia and other states, with few exceptions, prohibited abortion unless the mother's life was in danger; and  
WHEREAS, in 1966, an official at the Virginia Department of Health urged the legalization of abortion in a major speech on family planning, calling it a "logical and necessary extension of the thriving program of population control"; and WHEREAS,

**Saving Virginia One Heart At A Time**

the violence of abortion.

Among the pro-life efforts that have become law since the founding of VSHL are the Parental Notification, Parental Consent, Partial Birth/Infanticide ban, Physician Assisted Suicide ban, and Virginia Women's Right to Know Law.

VSHL commends those members of the Virginia General Assembly who have over the past fifty years sponsored and supported its efforts to defend innocent human life.

Virginia Society for Human Life is the first statewide pro-life organization in the country and the Virginia affiliate of National Right to Life Committee.

## “A Baby’s First Months” follows the development of the unborn child in utero from fertilization until birth

National Right to Life’s wonderful educational pamphlet “A Baby’s First Months” is a truly remarkable, full-color brochure which follows the development of the unborn child in utero from fertilization until birth. It documents the development milestones that occur during a baby’s first months of life, including the development of her fingers and toes, ears, and her capacity to feel pain. A must-have for every pro-lifer!

All pricing includes regular United States Postal Service (USPS) or ground shipping in the USA. There is a minimal order of 5 pamphlets.

To place your orders, please email us at [stateod@nrlc.org](mailto:stateod@nrlc.org). If you are ordering from outside the United States, call 202-378-8843 for shipping information. The prices of the pamphlets are:

5 – 99	\$ .50 each
100 – 499	\$ .40 each
500 plus	\$ .30 each

So stock up now and get your order in early for one of the best educational tools available in the pro-life movement!



# Kansas' Gov. Brownback signs first-in-nation Simon's Law

By Kathy Ostrowski, Legislative Director, Kansans for Life

Appreciative parents, legislators and pro-life family advocates surrounded Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback this morning as he formally signed Simon's Law.

Simon's Law passed the Kansas Senate 29-9 on March 16 and the House by 121-3 on March 31. The victory culminated a grassroots campaign among families whose children with chromosomal disorders were denied life-saving care.

Simon's Law is a very significant pro-life measure in the area of selectively "rationed" care and medical discrimination against children with life-limiting diagnoses.

Simon's Law:

- validates both the medical advisory role and parental rights;
- ends "secret" DNRs based on "quality of life" judgments;
- buttresses dignity for children with disabilities;
- exposes policies denying life-saving care; and
- combats erosion of the Sanctity of Life ethic in our culture.

As catalogued in an award-winning 2014 short documentary, "Labeled," a frightening number of children with chromosomal disorders are denied life-saving medical treatment.

Trisomy 18, Trisomy 13, and related genetic disorders have been routinely labeled "lethal" and "incompatible with life." As a result, children with these conditions almost automatically receive DNR (Do

Not Resuscitate) orders without parental consent.

That was the experience of Sheryl and Scott Crosier, who

growth and development. He had also been given medications incompatible with his apnea.

These revelations fueled their

the Kansas Senate, there was insufficient time for action in the House in the 2016 legislative session.



*Kansas pro-life legislators surround the Crosier family (at left: Samuel, Sean, Sheryl, Scott, and Sabella), immediately behind Gov. Brownback is Sen. Mary Pilcher Cook, Sen. Jacob LaTurner (lead sponsor), and KFL legislative director Kathy Ostrowski. To the right are Ann & Frank Barnes, whose daughter Megan, like Simon Crosier, was the victim of a secret DNR order.*

lost their infant son, Simon, six years ago.

Simon had a diagnosis of Trisomy 18. Simon had a diagnosis of Trisomy 18. At age three months, he had what proved to be a fatal apnea attack in the hospital. While his parents held him, they waited in numbing shock as no emergency aid came to the rescue.

Later, Sheryl and Scott found that a DNR order was in Simon's chart, which neither parent knew about nor approved.

After Simon's death, Sheryl and Scott reviewed his chart and discovered Simon had only been given "comfort feeds" which are not sufficient for

anger and their resolve to do something.

## A LAW TO ALERT PARENTS

The Crosiers' believed legislation was needed to expose the practice of futile care policies and stop the issuance of unilaterally-issued DNRs. They began in Missouri in 2014, but certain medical interests were opposed and the measure has not yet been able to secure committee passage.

Kansans for Life took up the original bill last year, and redrafted it with aid from NRLC's Robert Powell Department for Medical Ethics. After an impressive win in

This year, the bill was refiled amid delicate negotiations between Kansans for Life [KFL] and hospital staff and hospital ethicists. The result was a more narrowly focused bill that was able to bridge entrenched medical objections.

The Crosiers approved the revisions and came to testify at the Statehouse with 12-year-old son Sean. The sadness and sense of betrayal of Simon's death is still very real for them. Sean testified about how his excitement at being a "big brother" tuned into "pain and heartache" that still endures.

*See "Kansas," page 18*

# Ark. Gov. signs bill banning Sex-Selective abortion

By Dave Andrusko

And now there are eight. When Gov. Asa Hutchinson signed House Bill 1434, Arkansas joined Arizona, Kansas, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania and South Dakota in having laws on the books that ban sex-selective abortions.

HB1434 passed by overwhelming margins in both the state House and state Senate.

The measure requires the abortionist to ask the woman if she knows the sex of the child. "If she does, the doctor must let her know that it's illegal to have an abortion based solely on gender," the *Associated Press* reported. There is fine up to \$2,500 and one year in jail for abortionists who knowingly abort a baby for the sole reason of his or her gender. Consistent with all pro-life legislation, the mother would not face any criminal or civil charges.

"There is no room in America for lethal prenatal discrimination based on the baby's sex," NRLC State Legislative Director Ingrid

Duran told *NRL News Today*. Gendercide represents "a real war on unborn baby girls."

Pro-abortionists argue the law imposes an undue burden on a woman's right to abortion. The



Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson

ACLU has already said it plans to challenge HB1434 which takes effect in 2018.

Some pro-abortion feminists uneasily support sex-selection abortion; after all, in virtually all cases, the baby who is aborted is female.

But others, such as Sarah Ditum, make light of the incongruity of feminists

supporting abortion because an unborn child is not a boy.

In a column written for the *Guardian* Ditum begins

**When you talk about being pro-choice, sex selective abortion is often slung at you as the triumphant gotcha. "You love women so much you want them to be in charge of what grows inside their bodies, but what about the women who are aborted, have a go at answering that? ZING!"**

But the pro-abortion "answer is actually remarkably simple," Ditum writes (actually, it is remarkable incoherent but...)

**[A]s far as I'm concerned, it doesn't matter why any woman wants to end her pregnancy. ...**

**Ultimately, if you believe strongly that girls have as much right to be born as**

**boys, then you should also believe that women have the right to decide what happens within the bounds of their own bodies.**

Arkansas has been very busy, passing pro-life legislation, with more on the way. Most recently, *NRL News Today* reported on passage of the Arkansas Unborn Child Protection from Dismemberment Abortion Act. The law, which passed the Senate 25-6 and the House 78-10, bans the grotesque practice of dismemberment abortions. Gov. Hutchinson signed HB 1032 into law

In addition, Arkansas has passed the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act; a law requiring a 48-hour period of reflection for abortion-minded women; a measure requiring abortionists to be in the same room as the pregnant woman when she receives chemical abortifacients (so-called webcam abortions are premised around just the opposite), to name just a few.

## Kansas' Gov. Brownback signs first-in-nation Simon's Law

From page 17

### NATIONAL IMPACT

Frank and Ann Barnes from North Carolina also traveled to Topeka to celebrate the bill signing today. Their daughter Megan, was profiled last year in the *NRLC News Today*.

Yes, Megan had limitations, but her mother described her as "content" and "knew she was loved." At age nineteen, Megan was hospitalized for virus-caused dehydration, in a pediatric intensive care unit at a major teaching hospital. She was never to return home.

Due to her Trisomy 18 condition, a DNR had been verbally ordered into her chart by an "attending" physician without parental notice or consent. Megan was dead four days later.

Ann and Frank are actively involved with S.O.F.T., a nationwide family support group for Trisomy 13, Trisomy 18, and related disorders. At today's signing and press conference, Gov. Brownback invited them to talk about their daughter and the

impact of her death.

As of July 2, Simon's Law in Kansas will mandate:

1. Parents receive both written and verbal notification before a Do Not Resuscitate Order (DNR) is placed in a child's medical file. Parents can then allow the order— or refuse it orally or in writing. Court access for disputes is delineated and the child

remains safe during resolution.

2. Parents and prospective patients of any age have the right to request and receive hospital policies concerning "denial of life-saving care" (sometimes referred to as medical futility policies). There is no mandate that hospitals have such policies.

# Even *LA Times* understands AG prosecution of David Daleiden is “misplaced”

By Dave Andrusko

Nine months ago, all charges filed by the [Texas] Harris County District Attorney’s office against David Daleiden and Sandra Merritt were dropped before the pair could pursue their legal motion to quash the charges. As we wrote at the time, the alleged “crimes were as serious as they were bogus,” attempting to criminalize the use of normal undercover reporting techniques.

But once again Daleiden and Merritt, the investigators behind the Center for Medical Progress (CMP) videos that exposed the trafficking of fetal body parts, have been charged, this time in the state of California, with 15 felony counts of invasion of privacy (one for each of the 14 people CMP recorded, and a 15th for “conspiracy” to invade privacy).

The charges were filed March 28 by California Attorney General Xavier Becerra. His statement accused the two of using “manufactured identities and a fictitious bioresearch company to meet women’s healthcare providers and covertly record the private discussions they initiated.” Becerra added in righteous indignation, “We will not tolerate the criminal recording of confidential conversations.”

The allegations are so preposterous—and the “remedy” so overboard—that even the pro-abortion-to-the-hilt *Los Angeles Times* editorialized against Becerra’s actions.

To be clear, right out of the box the editorial buys into the media narrative that the videos were “heavily edited.” But in that same first paragraph, the editorial says, “It’s disturbingly aggressive for Becerra to apply



David Daleiden

this criminal statute to people who were trying to influence a contested issue of public policy, regardless of how sound or popular that policy may be.” If the parties who were videotaped are aggrieved, “sue for damages. The state doesn’t need to threaten the pair with prison time.”

The editorial badmouths the pair but points to another example in which the newspaper has editorialized against charging parties whose

aim “was to change people’s views on important and controversial issues.” Referring to it, they write, “That work, too, is aimed at revealing wrongdoing and changing public policy. That’s why the

Becerra’s attempt to take this to the level of a criminal felony is misplaced here.”

The real gripe, of course, is what the videos reveal about major players in the supplying and purchasing of fetal body parts, principally Planned Parenthood and representatives from “Tissue Procurement Organizations” (TPOs), As *NRL News Today* discussed on many occasions, your stomach turns as you hear the participants cavalierly talk about baby parts and the demand for particular organs, all in a manner that alternates between pretend world-weariness with giggles.

I remember one in particular (although she was by no means the worst): Dr. Carolyn Westoff, Planned Parenthood’s Senior Medical Advisor. She told the undercover CMP investigator

**“We’ve just been working with people who want particular tissues, like, you know, they want cardiac, or they want eyes, or they want neural. ...Oh, gonads! Oh, my God, gonads.”**

And in case anyone should ask

**“Everything we provide is fresh.”**

You could hope that AG Becerra would see the error of his way (even the ACLU is critical of his decision to prosecute). But I wouldn’t hold my breath.

state law forbidding recording of conversations should be applied narrowly, and to clear and egregious violations of privacy where the motive is personal gain.” For all the pro-abortion criticism of CMP (and it is mountainous), I don’t remember anyone claiming the Daleiden was doing his work for “personal gain.”

More heavy-handed lambasting of Daleiden and Merritt ensues before the editorial concludes, “But

# Senate narrowly passes bill to nullify 11th hour gift from Obama to Planned Parenthood

## *Vice President casts tie-breaking votes*

By Dave Andrusko

It was every bit as tight as expected. In his role as President of the Senate, pro-life Vice President Mike Pence cast a tie-breaking vote which allowed action to proceed on H. J. Res. 43.

On March 30 he cast the same tie-breaking vote on the measure itself which uses the Congressional Review Act to address Obama's Department of Health and Human Services' regulation designed to prevent states from redirecting Title X funds away from unsuitable organizations such as Planned Parenthood.

H. J. Res. 43 had previously passed the House 230-188.

H. J. Res. 43 now moves to President Trump for his signature.

The 50-50 vote came about because Republicans control the Senate by only a 52-48 margin. Republican Senators Susan Collins of Maine and Lisa Murkowski of Alaska voted against allowing the legislature to move forward, necessitating Pence's tie-breaking vote, and against the bill itself, requiring a second tie-breaking vote by the Vice President.

Adding drama to an already tense situation, Sen. Johnny Isakson (R-Ga.) returned to the Senate for the first time since having back surgery to cast the



*Pro-life Vice President  
Mike Pence*

50th vote, creating the tie that led to Pence's vote.

In recent years, several states receiving Title X family planning grants have opted to direct those funds to county health departments, community health centers, or other types of providers, in preference to organizations engaged in objectionable activities, such as Planned Parenthood, a megamarketer of abortion that has

also been involved in fetal organ trafficking.

The HHS regulation took effect January 18, two days before Obama left office.

H.J. Res. 43 would mean that states, if they chose, could continue to attempt to redirect Title X funds away from objectionable organizations.



*Pro-life Iowa Senator  
Joni Ernst*

In its letter to members of the Senate in support of H. J. Res. 43, NRLC wrote

**Over one-third of all abortions in the U.S. are performed at PPFA-affiliated facilities. Longstanding**

**objections to the massive governmental funding of PPFA have been reinforced by widely publicized undercover videos, which illuminate the callous brutality that occurs daily in these abortion mills.**

When the House voted in favor of H.J. Res. 43, pro-life Iowa Senator Joni Ernst congratulated her House colleagues:

**Today marked a major step toward scrapping the Obama administration's eleventh-hour rule, which secures Title X federal family planning funding for Planned Parenthood – the nation's largest provider of abortions. I remain committed to restoring our states' ability to make their own decisions about the best eligible Title X providers for folks, and I look forward to seeing this rule overturned."**

# Twelve years ago Terri Schiavo died after 13 days without food and water

By Dave Andrusko

March 31 was the twelfth anniversary of the grotesque death by starvation and dehydration of Terri Schindler Schiavo. I would like to use this somber occasion again to update comments I've made about Terri and her brave parents and siblings. As you will see whenever I looked at Terri, I could never, ever get another death by starvation out of my heart and mind.

When your life revolves around trying to stem the anti-life tide that has swept away over 59 million unborn lives, you might think that the power of individuals cases—instances where the fate of one human life hangs in the balance—would be diminished.

You would be wrong.

I had been at National Right to Life only few months when the case of an Indiana baby—"Baby Doe"—became a topic of intense debate. As the letter to the Movement that we reprinted in *NRL News* from President Reagan explained, when this little boy was born in 1982, he needed only routine surgery to unblock his esophagus which would allow him to eat. Except Baby Doe had Down syndrome.

"[A] doctor testified, and a judge concurred, that even with the physical problem corrected, Baby Doe would have a 'non-existent' possibility for a 'minimally adequate life,'" the President wrote back in 1984. "The judge let Baby Doe starve and die, and the Indiana Supreme Court sanctioned his decision."

As I wrote at the time, **"Up until the time that tiny newborn baby died of starvation I took my pro-life commitment very seriously but impersonally. Baby**

and Terri's estranged husband.

The Schindler family waged their courageous fight in multiple courts, in the Florida legislature, in the halls of Congress, until January 24, 2005, when the United States

medical condition (Terri was falsely described as being a "persistent vegetative state" and/or "brain dead"), what she allegedly would have "wanted" (to die this horrible death), her condition after 11 days without



**Doe's unnecessary death forever changed that for me, and I'm sure for many others as well."**

I did not learn of Baby Doe's plight until near the very end of his very brief life. But it was the exact opposite with Terri Schindler Schiavo's ghastly ordeal.

When Terri died on March 31, 2005, having been denied nourishment for 13 agonizing days, the 41-year-old's starvation death brought to an end—in one sense, at least—a tumultuous, eleven-year battle between the Schindler family

Supreme Court rejected an appeal from Florida's then Governor Jeb Bush to reinstate "Terri's Law." The law which had been passed by the Florida legislature in an emergency session in October of 2003, and signed into law by Gov. Bush, protected Terri Schindler Schiavo from a hideously painful death by starvation and dehydration.

It is enough to say that, if truth is "the first casualty in war," then long before the campaign to starve and dehydrate Terri to death succeeded, all the important details had been thoroughly distorted.

Virtually nothing—her true

any nourishment (described by her estranged husband's attorney as "peaceful," "beautiful," and/or "free of pain")—was within hailing distance of the truth.

Terri's memory lives on in the work of the Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network.

Maybe the best way to end these remarks is to quote from pro-life President George W. Bush who worked hard on behalf of the Schindler family:

**"The essence of civilization," he said, "is that the strong have a duty to protect the weak."**

# Utah becomes third state to enact law requiring abortionists to inform women that chemical abortions can be halted

By Dave Andrusko

Utah Gov. Gary Herbert has signed a bill that requires abortionists to inform women who are undergoing a chemical abortion that their abortion may be halted if they do not take the second of the two-drug RU486 abortion technique.

The law, HB141, is scheduled to take effect in May.

In the past two years Arkansas and South Dakota have enacted similar laws. According to Ingrid Duran, NRLC director of State Legislation, Indiana {where it has passed the House} and North Carolina are also considering measures that would inform women that should they change their minds, they have this choice.

In a chemical ["RU-486"] abortion, a woman takes two drugs: Mifeprex, at the abortion clinic, and then 48-72 hours later, misoprostol,

a prostaglandin, typically at home.

The former blocks progesterone, which is crucial



*Utah Gov. Gary Herbert*

to early fetal development, the latter causes uterine contractions which expel the developing child.

Here's how a chemical abortion is halted. Instead of taking the second pill [the misoprostol], the pregnant woman is given large dosages of progesterone in order to counteract the Mifeprex

Opponents argue if a woman has changed her mind, just let her not take the second drug. Somewhere in the vicinity of 30% of babies will not be aborted, they say.

But there is a much higher rate of success when the woman is given high dosages of progesterone. As Dr. George Delgado, one of the pioneers of this technique, has said, by using progesterone, they hope to "out-compete [mifepristone] at the receptor."

Dr. Mary Francis testified before the Indiana House Public Policy Committee on House Bill (HB)112. Subsequently she wrote an op-

ed for the *Fort Wayne News-Sentinel*.

Here is how Dr. Francis completed her op-ed:

**HB 1128 informs women who are seeking chemical abortions that abortion reversal may be possible, should she change her mind. It places no additional burden on the abortion business. It doesn't block access to abortion. Abortion pill reversal information empowers women. I urge the Indiana legislature to pass this bill. I'm glad we are talking about this issue. But as we talk about it, your readers deserve to have balanced reporting – a child's life may depend on it.**

# Man who murdered pregnant ex-girlfriend sentenced to life in prison

By Dave Andrusko

In late March, following a nearly six-month-long trial and a near-hung jury, Steven Capobianco was sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole for murdering his pregnant ex-girlfriend on Maui.

During the sentence hearing Second Circuit Chief Judge Joseph Cardoza told Capobianco, “Your actions were senseless, cold, calculated and self-centered, and for that you must serve an extremely severe penalty under the law, and all communities must be protected.”

According to reporter Mileka Lincoln Cardoza said Capobianco lured his ex-girlfriend Carly “Charli” Scott to her death.

**In his closing remarks, Cardoza said that “as excited as Carly Scott was about the pregnancy, the defendant was not. The defendant seemed burdened that he would be tied to Carly for life for the birth of their child.”**

**He added, “There is absolutely no question that the murder of a pregnant woman is outrageous and horrific.”**

In 2014, Scott was five months pregnant when she disappeared from the island of Maui. Her body was never found, but investigators “did comment after the sentencing, said he was innocent.

In his opening statement Maui Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Robert Rivera told jurors



*On December 28, a Wailuku jury found Steven Capobianco guilty of murdering his five-months pregnant ex-girlfriend. The verdict followed almost a month of deliberation.*

find her jawbone, fingertips, hair and clothing,” Lincoln reported. “Court testimony revealed her skirt was punctured close to 20 times below the waistband.”

Capobianco, who did not testify during the trial or

**When they were no longer a couple, Capobianco had another girlfriend and Scott got pregnant. She decided to continue with the pregnancy even though**

## Capobianco insisted on an abortion.

Prosecutors told the court that Capobianco stabbed Scott “nearly two dozen times before setting her car on fire as payback for not getting an abortion,” the *Daily Mail* reported. Capobianco was convicted of second-degree murder and arson for torching Scott’s car.

“She loved you enough to forgive so much,” Scott’s sister, Fiona Wais, said to the defendant in court. “You took away the one thing she wanted to be. She wanted to be a mom.”

Deliberations began December 1. Twelve days later the jury told Judge Cardoza they were at an impasse “but the judge urged jurors to push through their deadlock,” according to Lincoln. Following a break for Christmas, they resumed deliberations and “after three weeks, they finally reached a unanimous decision” More than 70 witnesses were called to testify.

Since Capobianco said he was innocent, he had no response when Scott’s mother, Kimberlyn Scott, whispered while facing Capobianco in court, ““Where is she? ...Give her back to us. Do one decent thing and give her back.”



# Why not a single existence is “ordinary”

By Dave Andrusko

Last week my wife and I attended a sneak preview of a movie based on a book by author Lee Strobel. Without getting into the substance of the film, there is a scene in which Strobel, who earlier in his career was an award-winning investigative reporter for the Chicago Tribune, goes to a hospital to visit a man who

Doerr is a brilliantly accomplished story-teller, as an author or in person. He charmed the packed audience which (judging by the caliber of the questions) was comprised of serious readers who'd read *All the Light We Cannot See* very carefully and with insight.

Doerr joked about how, when he won the Pulitzer for the book,

**qualities lead them on a clear path towards each other. The novel has been praised in, among other publications, the *Guardian* as a “page-turner.”**

In fact, according to my daughter and multiple reviews I read and Doerr's dazzling

First, I am not by any stretch of the imagination comparing what comes out of most of our mainstream media on the abortion issue with Goebbels' savagery. That would be just stupid. Besides pro-lifers were never forbidden from listening to competing “foreign broadcasts.”

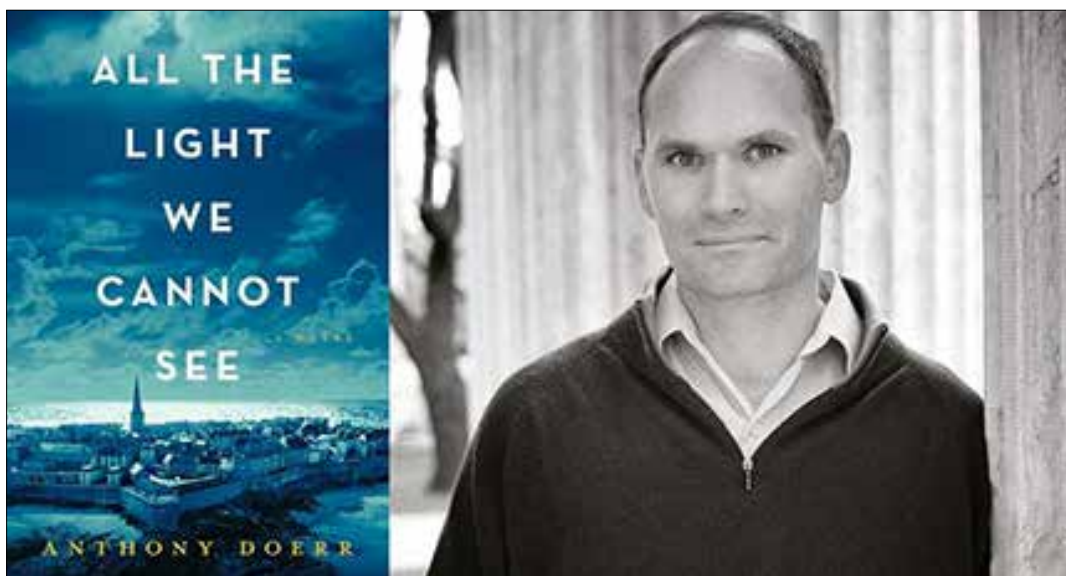
What I **am** saying is that once upon a time, there was no *NRL News* or *NRL News Today* or any of the many other fine pro-life news outlets, nor the vast communication network we all use to reach people around the world.

What the average person heard about unborn babies was drivel and highly dehumanizing. Now people—and not just confirmed pro-lifers—have access to the truth about the marvelous prenatal journey each of us takes as a developing human being.

It is also true, however, that many, **many** people do not **want** to know the truth, an attitude-cum-blindness the prisoner accused Strobel of harboring. Overcoming that hurdle is one of our primary challenges.

Second, Doerr referenced a passage from the work of the Polish poet Wislawa Szymborska which clearly meant a great deal to him. It comes from Ms. Szymborska's December 7, 1996, Nobel Lecture, “The Poet and the World.” I had not read the lecture but Doerr's reference made me read it that same night.

The passage he alluded to comes near the end where



had been falsely sent to prison, largely based on a story Strobel wrote.

In a sense Strobel was an unwilling stooge but in the film his desire for fame led him to cut investigative corners. Strobel apologizes for not seeing the truth. The man, who had barely survived a brutal beating in prison, rejoins, “You didn't want to see the truth.”

When we left the theatre I thought of a lecture Lisa and I attended last year delivered by Anthony Doerr, the novelist whose *All the Light We Cannot See* was a *New York Times* 2014 bestseller. We had been invited by our youngest daughter Louisa, who had read the book. We hadn't.

he'd get calls from reporters asking him to summarize in 30 seconds an immensely long [531 pages] and very complicated work which comes packed with flashbacks.

In the spirit of that request, here's a summary from *The Guardian*:

***All the Light We Cannot See* follows two children whose fates are entwined by the second world war. One, a French girl named Marie-Laure, is blind. The other, a German boy named Werner, is a whiz with radios. Without giving much away, these complementary**

presentation, *All the Light We Cannot See* raises moral issues of the most profound kind that this or any other snippet could not do justice to.

To understand one of the key motifs of the book, we need to know about a kind of cheap radio Joseph Goebbels, Hitler's Minister of Propaganda, mass produced to spread the Nazi message of hate and “Aryan” superiority. For our purposes, the point is that the radios [Volksempfänger] were built in a manner that the listener could not tune in foreign broadcasts. Getting around that built-in defect—and what happens because of it—is a central plot in the book.

Let me make two points.

*See “Ordinary,” page 24*

# Handicapped people lead great lives

By Lizzy Cannon

As a teen living with Spina Bifida, I hear arguments from the pro choice community about how people born with handicaps will have “horrible lives.” I’m here to explain that that is a GIANT LOAD OF BLEGH.

never even used a wheelchair (besides for long shopping trips and amusement park visits).

Yet abortion advocates think that the majority of people with handicaps can’t do anything. People with my handicaps who use wheelchairs to get

continues to discriminate against us.

Our handicaps should not be a death sentence. You have no idea what a handicapped person will accomplish if you don’t give them a chance. We can have our own homes, drive,

to help parents of handicapped kids. But... what upsets me is, my continence supplies are super expensive! We shouldn’t have to spend a bunch of extra money to get the supplies we kinda sorta need so we don’t die or get some crazy infection in our private parts.

I want to tell you that having a handicap is not all bad. I can play instruments, play adaptive sports (there are sports created for handicapped people, cool eh?), crochet, ride a bike. I love to inspire people.

If you are carrying an unborn child with any handicap, I want you to know that you can do anything. Your child will accomplish great things and inspire people. You will find love anywhere, and there are people who will support you no matter what. I promise. Give them a chance at life; I promise you it is so worth it.



Unfortunately, I have noticed how doctors usually give the worst case scenario about life with Spina Bifida. I have the worst form, called myelomeningocele. I wasn’t supposed to walk, but I have

around have also accomplished wonderful things. A wheelchair is a source of freedom and independence for many people. Most people with handicaps lead wonderful lives, yet the pro-choice community

get married, have friends, get a job, get an education, and, and despite many people thinking we can’t, we can indeed have sex.

A handicapped person is not a burden. Many programs exist

*Editor’s note. This appeared at Secular Prolife and is reposted with permission. Ms. Cannon recently founded Make Ableism Wrong Again.*

## 7 Myths Planned Parenthood is Peddling to Fend Off Defunding: Part One

*From page 1*

tells us that at some serious factchecking and mythbusting is in order.

### **MYTH #1: Abortion represents only 3% of Planned Parenthood's business.**

It's a statistic so often repeated and so often challenged that even some of Planned Parenthood's erstwhile defenders are beginning to question it (e.g., *Washington Post*, 8/12/15). Anytime people start talking about PPFA as the largest abortion provider in the world, some Planned Parenthood spokesperson or political or media defender tries to minimize its significance, saying it represents only "3% of its services."

Planned Parenthood is only able to generate this counterfactual statistic by some rather bizarre accounting acrobatics, e.g., counting every packet of birth control pills given out, every STD test, every pregnancy test as a separate "service." A woman coming in for an abortion is likely to get all those things.

If all services are counted separately and equally, regardless of price or medical value or necessity, abortion looks like one service among many – 323,999 against a backdrop of 9,455,582 "services." This is about 3.4%.

But change that denominator to "patients" (individual women or men) instead of "services," that 3.4% figure jumps to nearly 13% -- more than one in every eight. Planned Parenthood says that is sees "approximately two and a half million patients."

Even that misrepresents abortion's importance to

Planned Parenthood. At going rates for the most basic surgical abortion, Planned Parenthood's revenues from 323,999 abortions would run at least \$150 million. Because they also advertise and perform chemical abortions and later surgical abortions, which cost considerably more, that figure is probably a significant underestimate.

Even so, at \$150 million, that would represent more revenue in 2014 than all that Planned Parenthood brought in (if current market rates prevail there) from reversible contraceptives, breast exams, and cervical "cancer screenings" or pap tests, and pregnancy tests *combined*.

Try to be kind and call it misleading, call it deceptive, but the "3% figure" in no way reflects the actual figure, let alone the importance of abortion to Planned Parenthood's bottom line.

And shouldn't someone point out, that whether it's 48%, 13%, or 3%, taxpayer dollars shouldn't go to anyone who makes killing innocent babies *any* part of their business?

### **MYTH #2: Planned Parenthood is all about women getting mammograms and "cancer screenings."**

Over and over, when faced with the prospect that their extensive abortion performance may threaten their government funding, Planned Parenthood and its defenders start talking about all the mammograms and "cancer screenings" they perform that they say would never be performed if they disappeared. Often a woman will be brought out to claim that

a cancer screening at Planned Parenthood saved her life.

There are serious problems with this defense, however.

First, as we, along with many of nation's best fact-checkers have pointed out, Planned Parenthood doesn't do mammograms (e.g., *Washington Post*, 3/9/17). Never has, has not announced any plans to add them anywhere. If a woman's life was saved by a mammogram detecting early signs of cancer, it didn't happen at a Planned Parenthood.

Second, for someone so concerned about women's cancer screenings, there's a lot of explaining Planned Parenthood needs to do about its own recent service patterns.

In its most recent annual report, Planned Parenthood reported performing 682,208 "cancer screenings" for 2014. For 2009, they reported nearly three times that many. The number of cancer screenings, breast exams, pap tests, colonoscopies has also fallen every year in between.

Why, if those are so critical? Has demand just dropped? Thankfully, new cervical cancer cases are down in the U.S. in recent years, and breast cancer rates are slightly down from what they were in the 1990s (see data from the National Cancer Institute). But they have not fallen at anywhere near the rate that cervical and breast cancer patients have at Planned Parenthood, not by two-thirds!

It doesn't seem like it could be that money is tight at Planned Parenthood. Revenues went up during that time from just over \$1 billion dollars a year to right at \$1.3

billion. Other services like contraception and prenatal care saw some decline, but one offering stayed fairly steady – abortion.

Note: even while Planned Parenthood clinics were closing and abortions were dropping everywhere else across the U.S., the number of abortions at Planned Parenthood clinics held fairly steady, generally between 320,000 and 330,000 a year,

If cancer screenings fell because of the 179 clinics Planned Parenthood closed between 2010 and 2015, then why didn't the number of abortions? The obvious answer would be that Planned Parenthood kept the clinics performing abortions open, but not those performing just the cancer screenings and other less profitable services.

Planned Parenthood maintained the abortion services, improved its revenues, but lost about 2/3 of its vaunted "cancer screenings."

So what exactly are "non-profit" Planned Parenthood's priorities? How dedicated are they to "cancer screenings" if they chose not to maintain the levels of five years ago, even with increased government funding? (FY 2010 \$487.4 million vs. FY 2015 \$553.7 million)

You'd think they'd at least be able to buy a few mammogram machines with all that extra money.

*Editor's note. As noted at the beginning, the entire three-part series can be read this week at [www.nationalrighttolifenews.org](http://www.nationalrighttolifenews.org).*

# Indiana House Passes Bill to Protect Minors and Increase Parental Rights

## *SB 404 Passed the Indiana House 74-23*

INDIANAPOLIS – On April 3, the Indiana House of Representatives passed Senate Bill (SB) 404 by a bipartisan vote of 74-23. SB 404 protects minor girls, increases parental rights, and helps victims of sex trafficking.

SB 404 passed the Indiana Senate on Feb. 28 by a vote of 36-13. Because the House made changes to SB 404, the bill's original author will either accept changes or the Senate and House will appoint a conference committee.

"We appreciate the many Hoosiers who took the time to contact their state representative to vote 'yes' on SB 404," said Sue Swayze Liebel, Indiana Right to Life Vice President of Public Affairs.

"We extend our thanks to Rep. Peggy Mayfield and the full Indiana House for passing SB 404," Liebel added. "We



*Indiana State Rep.  
Peggy Mayfield*

have been advocating strongly for SB 404 because it protects young girls whose pregnancy was the result of sexual abuse.

The bill changes reporting requirements to the Indiana State Department of Health and the Indiana Department of Child Services from 'less than 14 years of age' to 'less than 16 years of age.'

Liebel concluded

**SB 404 increases parental rights by providing civil recourse if a parent or guardian learns someone fraudulently posed as them in order to help their minor daughter obtain an abortion. It places new requirements on abortion businesses to help ensure the person giving a minor girl permission for an**

**abortion is actually her parent or guardian. Finally, it highlights the important role that parents have in the health of their young daughter by requiring judges to consider parental notification in every judicial bypass hearing.**

**SB 404 also extends help to victims of sex trafficking or those being coerced into abortion. Additionally, it updates Indiana abortion facility licensing provisions to account for the growing number of chemical abortions in the state.**

---

## Why not a single existence is "ordinary"

*From page 24*

she is meditating on how "astonishing" the world is:

**But "astonishing" is an epithet concealing a logical trap. We're astonished, after all, by things that deviate from some well-known and universally acknowledged norm, from an obviousness we've grown accustomed to. Now the point is, there is no such obvious world. Our astonishment exists per se and isn't based on comparison with something else.**

**Granted, in daily speech, where we don't stop to consider**

**every word, we all use phrases like "the ordinary world," "ordinary life," "the ordinary course of events" ... But in the language of poetry, where every word is weighed, nothing is usual or normal. Not a single stone and not a single cloud above it. Not a single day and not a single night after it. And above all, not a single existence, not anyone's existence in this world.**

You already see where I'm going with this. You don't have to be a poet, let alone a Nobel-

prize winner, to be awed by the knowledge that everyone's existence is singular.

**Everyone**, born and unborn, is unique. There is nothing "usual"—commonplace or lacking in significance—in the tiniest unborn child or the oldest woman in a nursing home. Each is, to borrow from Ms. Szyborska, "astonishing."

That is "the light," unfortunately, that many cannot see.

Nothing—absolutely **nothing**—more fundamentally separates pro-lifers from pro-abortionists than this foundational principal. Why? Simply because if we are essentially indistinguishable; if we are like mass-produced widgets with no overriding

moral worth that **must** be respected, then our lives are forever on the chopping block.

I've now put it off for the better part of a year. When I get home tonight I will have to put away the remote and dig into *All the Light We Cannot See*.

# Missouri House overwhelmingly passes measure neutralizing ordinance making St. Louis an “Abortion Sanctuary City”

By Dave Andrusko

When last we reported on Board Bill 203, passed by the St. Louis board of aldermen in February to make the largest city in Missouri an Abortion Sanctuary City, pro-life Missouri Gov. Eric Greitens was expressing his steadfast opposition and pro-lifers were about to file a bill intended to reverse the new ordinance.

What the Board of Aldermen did on February 17 was to add abortion to the city’s discrimination ordinance. Abortion became a protected class equal with race, gender, religion, and disability. The vote was 17-10 in favor of Board Bill 203.

A coalition of groups, including Missouri Right to Life and the Catholic Church, fought back. “(St. Louis) civic leaders have taken every citizen into the business of protecting abortion,” Missouri Right to Life President Steve Rupp said at the time. “This action

betrays the fine history of this state, betrays the many citizens in the St. Louis area and across



*Pro-life Missouri Gov. Eric Greitens*

the state who are proud of and love St. Louis and love to spend time there with friends and family. Board Bill 203 clearly discriminates against the

religious freedom of those who oppose the killing of innocent human beings in the womb.”

In late March, on a vote of 116-34, the Missouri House gave initial approval to HB 174 which “would give clear protection to the religious

liberty of alternatives-to-abortion agencies and their agents to freely engage in religious practices and speech without government interference,” according to Rupp.

Reporter Celeste Bott of the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* explained, “The bill preempts cities like St. Louis from enacting ordinances that would infringe on the free speech and religious rights of alternatives to abortion agencies, or facilities that counsel pregnant women against abortion.” She added, “After one more vote in the House, the measure will head to Senate, where it is expected to pass.”

Democrats, as always groused. Their hatred for crisis pregnancy centers is limitless.

Gov. Greitens is committed to signing the bill, fulfilling his promise “We must win this and I am proud to lead the fight on this issue.”

# When does life begin? It's pretty simple

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

“When does life begin? It’s not so simple.” That’s the title of a recent *Slate* essay by Elissa Strauss.

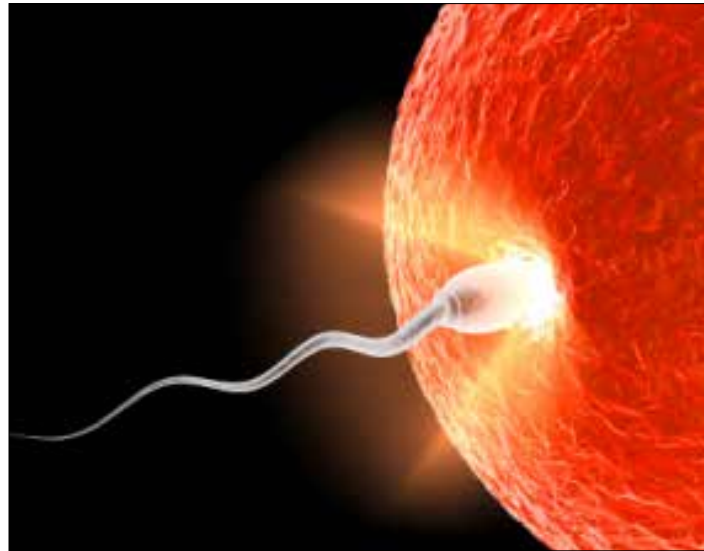
The assertion that “life begins at the bright line of conception,” Strauss writes, “is at odds with many ethical traditions.” For some religions, she explains, “when an embryo or fetus becomes a person remains a mystery, something that occurs not in a single moment but in a series of moments, none necessarily more important than the next.”

There is often an ambiguity when people talk about “when life begins”—a conflation of two separate issues. And Strauss falls headlong into that confusion. Clarity about this distinction is crucial.

First, there is the *science* question of when the life of an individual human organism begins. The answer (fertilization) has long been established by embryology. Human embryos and fetuses are living members of the species *Homo sapiens* at the embryonic and fetal stages of their lives. They are distinct organisms with human DNA who are growing and directing their own development toward maturity.

This is not in dispute. It is “simple.” It is empirical fact.

Second, there is the *justice* question of how we ought to treat human beings at their earliest developmental stages. When do they begin to matter morally? When do they acquire a right to life (or become a “person”) and deserve our respect and protection?



Regarding this second question, there is, as Strauss says, significant disagreement.

Strauss contends that the “beginning of life” is a “mysterious process” that is “grayscale” rather than black and white. She suggests that human beings *in utero* undergo a “gradual passage to personhood” and encourages us to “view life as evolving in stages.” Only with this view are

we free to “experience all these moments in all their fullness and complexity.”

The bottom line, she writes, is that “[t]he creation of babies, of life, is a long, complicated, and often messy experience.”

It’s true that human beings “evolve” in the sense that they

grow and develop and change over time. That’s the nature of living things. That’s biology.

But Strauss doesn’t say how any of these changes make a *moral* difference. She doesn’t tell us the characteristics she thinks are relevant to whether or not an individual may be killed.

Size? Big people aren’t more valuable than small people. Appearance? Looks have

nothing to do with worth. Function? Superior physical and cognitive capabilities don’t confer superior rights. If “personhood” is acquired through a gradual process, as Strauss claims, then why doesn’t the process continue after birth? Physiological change doesn’t stop at birth—it is continuous throughout the entirety of someone’s life. But teenagers don’t deserve greater respect than toddlers.

Human beings are different from each other in countless ways. We have different races, ethnicities, genders, and religions; we also have different ages, sizes, abilities, and appearances. Some of us are more dependent and some are less dependent. Some are more intelligent and some are less intelligent. Some are loved by many other people and some are neglected and resented and ignored.

But we are all human. And we all matter.

“When does life begin?” Unborn children (from the time they come into existence as zygotes) are human beings. That’s the scientific fact. And all human beings have a right not to be intentionally dismembered and killed. That’s the moral principle.

It’s pretty simple.

# Technology has become instrumental in the fight to protect unborn babies

By Dave Andrusko

Nothing but nothing more upsets the anti-life set than when we cut through the disinformation, bogus analogies, and rhetorical fog to get to the truth: that is no “clump of cells” whose life is being ended in an abortion but a flesh-and-blood, developing human being.

Our Movement is nothing if not creative in getting the truth out, including more and more technology.

of briefly outlining some of the major developmental stages for every unborn child long before the 20 week stage.

For example,

**In weeks 14 and 15, babies behave in a purposeful manner. Turns out they aren't unaware balls of tissue floating in amniotic fluid. The pregnancy app notes of this stage of development,**

is now readily available at any of hundreds of pregnancy apps:

**As any pregnant woman with a smartphone can attest, the information is out there. Simply download a popular**

**In this information age, expecting moms easily can — and should — fact check abortion activists' statements. If they do, they quickly will realize that their unborn child is not**



As one example, take the wonderful recent post by Bethany Mandel.

Mandel, who was at the time twenty weeks pregnant, was responding to a blizzard of hysterical pro-abortion posts. Her headline was perfect: “A Simple Pregnancy App Demonstrates the Humanity of Abortable Human Babies: Sorry, abortion advocates. An unborn baby that can grasp, suck its thumb, hiccup, smile, and frown is more than a lump of tissue.”

Mandel, a senior contributor and freelance writer, “tweet[ed] a missive from the train, the movement of which makes my own 20-week gestation baby do somersaults.”

Mandel does a wonderful job

**“simple facial gestures may now be visible on ultrasound, including grimacing and squinting.” Imagine how these babies behave when vacuum aspirators make an appearance.**

**When babies reach 17 weeks gestation, pregnant mothers using this iPhone app learn their babies begin to hear sounds. At 18 weeks, a baby's reflexes are more developed, and begins yawning and hiccups.**

But the overriding point is this is the kind of information



**pregnancy iPhone app and learn just how much humanity is in such a small “clump of cells.”**

Mandel ends by recalling how technology has become so instrumental in helping us protect unborn babies:

**the blob of tissue or clump of cells that the abortion industry claims. The unborn child is a unique, growing human being complete with his/her own individual DNA.**

## Justice Neil Gorsuch: “a man who is deeply faithful to the Constitution of the United States”

From page 2

Pro-lifers owe a huge debt to President Donald Trump. He promised unequivocally to nominate a justice in Scalia mold, and he did. In that vein (as I watched on television), I was struck by the President's observation that “Spring is really the perfect backdrop for this joyful gathering of friends because together we are in a process of reviewing and renewing and also rebuilding our country.”



**who will, likewise, be a devoted servant of the law. Over the past two months, the American people have gotten to know, respect and truly admire our newest member of the United States Supreme Court. In Justice Gorsuch, they see a man of great and unquestioned integrity. They see**

appoint another commitment conservative to succeed Justice Antonin Scalia, who died in February 2016.”

True. But his commitment to the cause of unborn children went beyond this. Candidate Trump also vowed to retain the life-saving Hyde Amendment, sign into law the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, which would end painful late-term abortions nationwide, defund

reduction of abortions as an American value?”

Read carefully Spicer's response:

**“The president has made it very clear that he is a pro-life president. He wants to stand up for all Americans, including the unborn, and I think the reinstatement of this policy is not just something that echoes that value but respects taxpayer funding as well and ensures that we're standing up not just up for life, the life of the unborn, for also for taxpayer funds that are being spent overseas to perform an action that is contrary to the values of this president and I think continue to further illustrate, not just to the folks here in this country but around the world, what a value we place on life.”**



The President then thanked a number of people for making Justice Gorsuch's confirmation possible. “I especially want to express our gratitude to Senator Mitch McConnell [the Senate Majority Leader] for all that he did to make this achievement possible.” So do we.

Mr. Trump then added, “I'd also like to give my appreciation to [Senate Judiciary Committee] Chairman [Chuck] Grassley for conducting such a fair and professional confirmation. Thank you. Thank you, Senator Grassley.” So do we.

Turning his remarks to the newest Justice, the President said

**Americans are blessed to have in Neil Gorsuch a man**

**a man of unmatched qualifications. And most of all, and most importantly, they see a man who is deeply faithful to the Constitution of the United States. He will decide cases based not on his personal preferences, but based on a fair and objective reading of the law.**

On April 4, the day the Senate narrowly confirmed Gorsuch, the *New York Times'* Adam Liptak and Matt Flegenheimer observed, “The development was a signal triumph for President Trump, whose campaign last year rested in large part on his pledge to

Planned Parenthood as long as they continue to perform abortions, and reallocate their funding to community health centers that provide comprehensive health care for women.

In addition, a day into his new administration, President Trump reinstated and broaden the Mexico City Policy. This was important for what it did and the unmistakable message it sent.

As we reported at the time, a reporter asked White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer, “Of all the actions that the President could have taken today, he chose to reinstate the Mexico City Policy. What message is he sending here? Does he see the elimination,

And as *NRL News Today* noted, earlier this month President Trump also announced that his administration will cut off U.S. funding for the United Nations Population Fund because UNFPA was in violation of the Kemp-Kasten anti-coercion law. That amendment prohibits giving U.S. “population assistance” funds to “any organization or program which, as determined by the President of the United States, supports or participates in the management of a program of coercive abortion or involuntary sterilization.”

For the pro-life community, the first twelve weeks of the Trump presidency remind us yet again that elections have profound consequences.



# Unseen, unknown, unborn—“Unborn Grace”

By Dave Andrusko

I don't recall exactly when (or how) I was made aware of the song, “Unborn Grace.” I'm guessing it appeared on an NRLC affiliate's webpage where right to lifers will often find gems.

“Unborn Grace” is taken from the album “Deeper Still.” I knew nothing about Faye Smith except that she has an absolutely beautiful, soulful voice put to exquisite use in this less than 4-minute-long video. You will be blessed.

We all have seen and heard videos in which a parent, usually but not always the mom, reflects back on what could have been—the child they did not welcome into this world and whose absence she now bitterly regrets. Often the mom visualizes her child as she would be today if she had not been.....

What makes “Unborn Grace” so amazing?

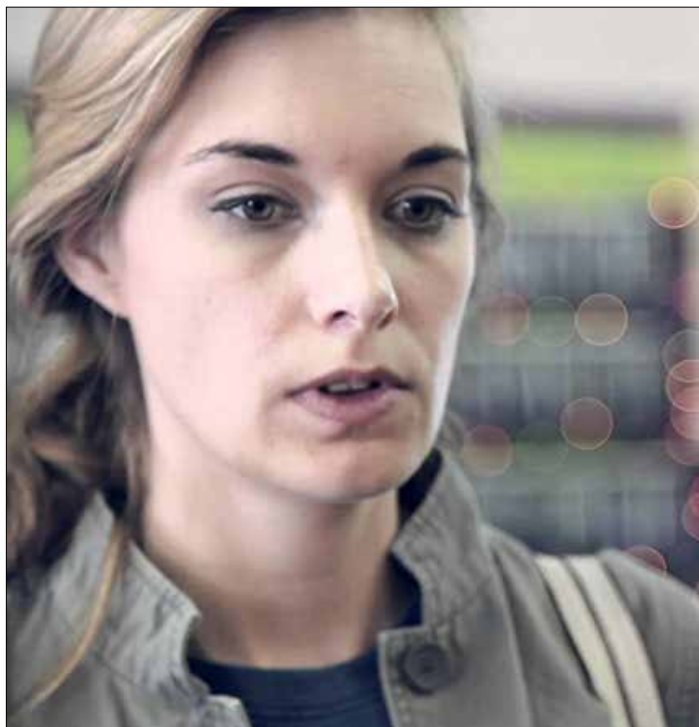
Smith's voice. I could listen to her sing for hours. Gentle, evocative, she taps into the listener's heart.

The sentiments. Smith has no interest in chastising the woman as she ponders about what could have been...what should have been.

I went to her website and read this from Smith:

**My intent through**

**the lyrics of “Unborn Grace” is not to shame this [post-abortive] woman, but to lament the person who was supposed to be known, who was supposed to**



**be loved. I miss that person. As the lyrics say, “Wish I had known you, how would I be changed; Wish you had known me, I'd teach you the narrow way; Wish you could**

**understand the meaning of your name...”**

“Grace” operates at many levels, beyond the baby's name. As the woman in the video “watches” her little girl on the

Later Smith offers words that are almost heart-breaking:

*I just want to meet you,  
I just want to see your face  
I just want to see through to all  
that made up Grace  
But there hasn't been enough  
Grace for today  
Baby girl Grace can never  
come out to play  
No, there hasn't been enough  
Grace for today  
Unseen, unknown, unborn...*

“Unborn Grace” ends with the price of “choice”:

*And there hasn't been enough  
Grace for today  
Baby girl Grace someone  
chose to throw away  
And there hasn't been enough  
Grace for today  
Unseen (the Father sees  
who you are)  
Unknown (the Father knows  
who you are)  
Unborn  
Unseen (you've got the right  
to your views)  
Unknown (and the right  
to choose)  
Unborn (and the right  
to lose...)  
Grace*

The right to choose...” and the right to lose.”

Take a few minutes and go to YouTube. You will be blessed.

swing, Smith sings about the might have been:

*You could have been a  
spaceman girl  
Win the Nobel Prize or  
Olympic gold  
The truest friend,  
the bluest eyes*

## Gorsuch confirmed as 113th justice of the Supreme Court

*From page 2*

confirm the Denver-based judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit.

However, note, “all three of those senators voted a day earlier to preserve the 60-vote hurdle, even after seeing that to do so would prevent Gorsuch – and presumably, any other nominee not blessed by the abortion lobby and other left-wing activist groups – from

being confirmed.”

However the far most interesting *Post* story was published late Thursday night by David Weigel who was already channeling grievances from pro-abortion Democrats (“With Gorsuch filibuster, Democrats look ahead to a ‘political’ Supreme Court”).

We’re told that “progressive groups and labor leaders” saw

the decision of Republicans not to play dead while Democrats filibustered Gorsuch as a “power grab.” This, of course, was preposterous and believable only to those whose historical memory goes back no further than this morning.

National Right to Life Senior Policy Advisor Douglas D. Johnson explained what had really happened. “For

decades, liberal senators and interest groups had attacked Republican judicial nominees with procedural and political weapons that Republicans were slow to match. This week, the Republicans took decisive action to restore parity to the judicial confirmation process, and we commend them for it.”

# WE ARE THE GRASSROOTS



# Pro-abortionist turns reality into myths and myths into reality

By Dave Andrusko

You would think pro-abortionists would at least concede that, like a broken clock, pro-lifers would be correct at least twice a day.

But you would be wrong. We are wrong, wrong, and wrong again.

A recent example—like today—runs at the pro-abortion site rewire news under the cutesy headline, “The Worst ‘Alternative Facts’ About Abortion.”

After a tedious and tendentious beginning, Sofia Resnick gives us her litany of “myths” and “the reality.” The “myths” include

- **Abortion Is Dangerous for Women’s Health**
- **Abortion Causes Breast Cancer**
- **Abortion Causes Mental Illness**
- **Abortion Causes Premature Birth**
- **Fetuses Can Feel Pain at 20 Weeks’ Gestation and**
- **Medical Abortions Can Be Reversed**

As Prof. Joel Brind has demonstrated in exhaustive detail, there is a biological imperative why an induced abortion increases the likelihood of a woman having breast cancer. Resnick chooses not to even hint that there is a bevy of more recent studies that have come out of Asia showing an even stronger association.

Resnick’s sophisticated, fair-minded, balanced response to

the likes of Brind and others? It’s an “unfounded claim” held to by a small cadre very much like “climate change deniers.”

Of course Resnick misrepresents (or doesn’t understand) the science that undergirds the “Abortion-Breast Cancer” link, so it’s much easier to debunk what Brind *et al.* are **not** saying.

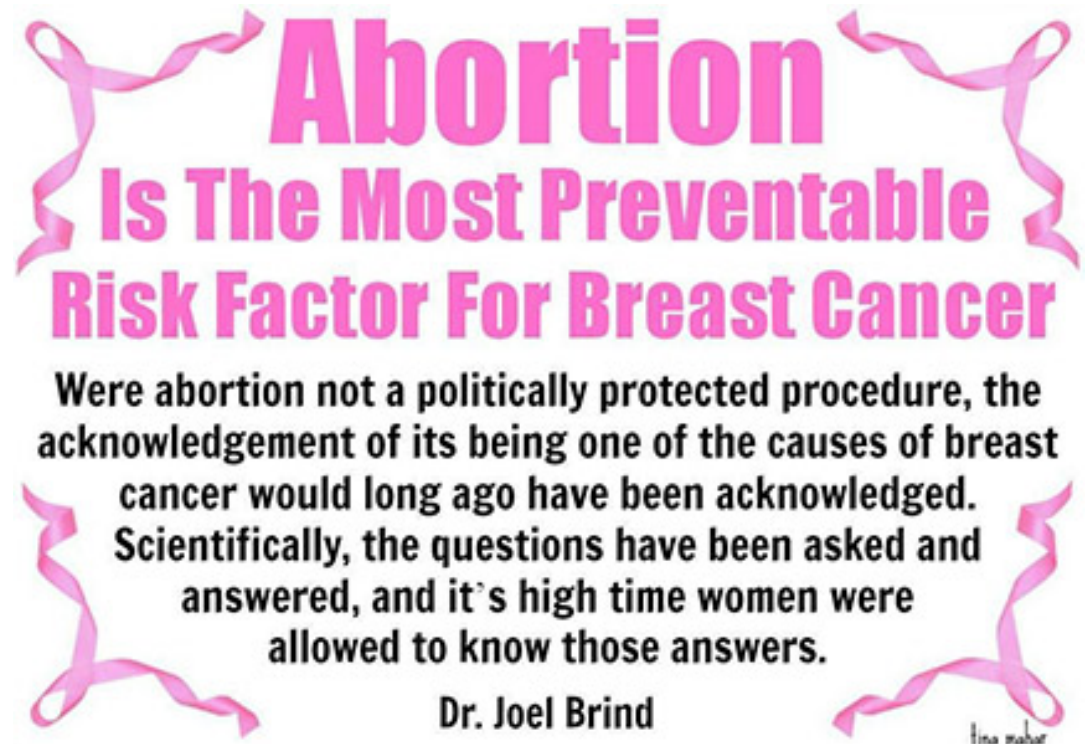
in truth, as NRLC explained in great detail in its rebuttal of this “trumped up ‘study’ on fetal pain,” the study was produced by pro-abortion activists.

There was “no new laboratory research reported in the article—it was merely a commentary on a selection of existing medical literature.” Their conclusion “is disputed by experts with far

if the woman simply does not take the second drug, misoprostol.

What they **are** saying is that odds of saving the baby greatly increase if after taking the first drug [Mifeprex], the woman is given large dosages of progesterone in order to counteract the first pill.

And so it goes. Name calling,



What about fetal pain? Very much like the deniers of the ABC link, Resnick acts as if the science behind fetal pain stopped a decade or more ago.

For example, she harkens back to a 2005 study that appeared in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* to buttress her argument. But

more extensive credentials in pain research than any of the authors.”

But about reversing (halting) a chemical abortion which involves two drugs? Again, she misunderstands what proponents are saying.

No one is denying that some pregnancies will continue

using out-of-date, biased studies to support her contentions and ignoring more recent evidence that supports the truth of what Resnick insists on calling “myths,” and either deliberately misrepresenting the case being made by pro-lifers or an inability to understand what they are asserting.

# The unceasingly vicious pro-abortion attack on CPCs

By Dave Andrusko

We've written many times about the pro-abortionist's irrational hatred of crisis pregnancy centers.

Of course, in one way, it makes perfect sense. Every child that escapes the clutches of your friendly Planned Parenthood abortion clinic is revenue lost. And even in a non-profit that rakes in over \$1 billion a year in revenue, you can't be too careful. A saved baby here, a saved baby there and, darn, Planned Parenthood's income might be down to a mere \$1 billion.

One example of take-no-prisoners, all-out assault was posted by Andrea Grimes. A "Senior Political Reporter," she is incensed about what is taking place in Texas. The first two paragraphs of her rant explain how the money was raised and where it is going:

**"Tens of thousands of dollars raised from sales of newly authorized 'Choose Life' license plates in Texas will go to 13 crisis pregnancy centers and adoption agencies, as**

**part of an effort 'to encourage adoption as an alternative to abortion.'**

**"The state attorney general's office will**

**to promote adoption,' 'material assistance for pregnant mothers considering adoption,' 'adoption training for staff,' and 'educational**

and convince them instead to relinquish their children to adoptive parents." And nothing—NOTHING—can be allowed to dissuade women in a crisis pregnancy to choose life. Better the baby be dead than "relinquished" to parents who will give him or her a home.

(2) The phony baloney assertion that CPCs are distributing "misinformation." By that Grimes and her cohorts mean anything that shows that abortion harms many women—emotionally, physically, and relationally—and can (and does) compound problems associated with their future pregnancies. There are a raft of impeccable studies that show the after-shocks of abortion, but none of this makes a difference to pro-abortion feminists like Grimes.

The irony, of course, is that publications that support abortion have themselves published accounts that are, at best, "harrowing," at worst, horrific.

Ever so slowly the truth is coming out—and from the most unlikely of sources: abortion proponents.



**award a total of \$46,100 to the recipients, including \$10,000 to the Gladney Center for Adoption and \$7,500 to the Houston Pregnancy Help Center, according to a press release. The grants are awarded for purposes that include [m]edia advertising**

**and training materials on adoption."**

So....what's the problem? What is always the two-fold problem for the pro-abortionist.

(1) It's part of "an increasing effort among state lawmakers and bureaucrats to dissuade abortion-seeking Texans from ending their pregnancies

# Arizona Gov. signs law requiring abortion survivors to be cared for

By Dave Andrusko

On March 31 Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey signed Senate Bill 1367, an important measure that requires abortionists to use all available means and medical skills to save an abortion survivor.

“The bill would require hospitals and clinics providing abortions at 20 weeks or beyond to have medical equipment on site to care for a fetus delivered alive,” the *Arizona Republic* reported. According to the pro-abortion blog *rewire.news*, “At least three Arizona clinics offer terminations at and beyond 20 weeks gestation.”

SB 1367 passed the Arizona Senate 18-12 and the Arizona House 34-22.

Reporting for the *Republic* Alia Beard Rau and Mary Jo Pitzl explained

**SB 1367 defines “delivered alive” as showing one or more of these signs of life: breathing, a heartbeat, umbilical cord pulsation or definite movement of voluntary muscles.**

**It requires the Arizona Department of Health Services to set policies that clinics, hospitals and physicians must follow to care for a baby delivered alive, including having neonatal emergency equipment and trained staff in the room for all abortions performed at or after 20 weeks of pregnancy.**

Earlier this month, in a passionate two-hour debate, the Arizona House Judiciary and Public Safety Committee advanced the bill described by its sponsor State Sen. Steve Smith as “the good Samaritan abortion bill.”

“This bill is not about Planned Parenthood, it’s not even really about abortions per se,” Smith said, according to *CourtHouse News*. “We’re just talking about a living baby in front of you with clear signs of life.”

*Courthouse News’* Jamie Ross included an extended set of quotes from Smith, explaining why he said the legislation is needed:

**During the hearing, Smith testified about two instances where he said a fetus was alive following an abortion but did not receive medical care.**

**“Here you have a woman who went in, had an abortion, baby survives, baby lives, baby is alive,” Smith told the panel of one incident. In that case, the fetus was alive for over an hour without medical care, he said.**

**“An hour and 18 minutes a living, human being child lay on effectively a cold steel table until it died with no medical attention given to it, with doctors nearby. That’s pretty disheartening to say the least,” Smith said.**

**In another incident, he told the panel an**

**abortion clinic called 911 when a fetus was reported to be breathing.**

**“By the time the paramedics got there**

**children born with anomalies incompatible with life and put medical professionals at risk. *Rewire* included the curious argument that SB1367 “is essentially a new form of**



Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey

**and got to the hospital, baby died,” Smith said. Both incidents are cited in the bill.**

**“The bill is simply saying when there is an abortion, if the baby lives we aren’t talking abortions anymore,” he continued. “Can we just exact a little bit of medical care to this child?”**

Opponents argued the bill would needless inflict pain on

targeted regulation of abortion providers, or TRAP laws.”

The pro-abortion site also said it had talked with state Rep. Smith earlier in March.

“All we’re saying is if this is happening, we want to make sure that the baby is taken care of,” Smith said. “We want the Department of Health Services to adopt some basic operating procedures for the minimum standards of care that these places will have to follow.”

## U.S. Senate Republicans disarm Democrats' filibuster, confirm Neil Gorsuch to U.S. Supreme Court

From page 13

However, Majority Leader McConnell immediately “went nuclear,” forcing a vote of the Senate on whether to change the rule, which prevailed on a party-line vote of 52-48.

With the 60-vote hurdle removed, the majority quickly curtailed the debate and, the next day, confirmed Gorsuch on a vote of 54-45. The united Republicans were joined by three Democrats on the confirmation vote – Joe Donnelly of Indiana, Joe Manchin of West Virginia, and Heidi Heitkamp of North Dakota. Sen. Johnny Isakson, R-Ga., a Gorsuch supporter, missed the confirmation vote for medical reasons.

(The roll call votes on abolishing the filibuster of Supreme Court nominees and on confirmation of Gorsuch appear on pages 14-15 of this issue.)

In a statement issued after the votes, National Right to Life Senior Policy Advisor Douglas D. Johnson said, “Senator McConnell’s successful ‘nuclear’ motion produced a historic victory for Senate Republicans, the President, and the country -- and a huge defeat for a coalition of left-wing groups, led by the abortion lobby, that had relentlessly pressured Democratic senators to filibuster the confirmation of Judge Gorsuch. For decades, liberal senators and interest groups had attacked Republican judicial nominees with procedural and political weapons that Republicans were slow to match. This week, the Republicans took decisive action to restore parity to the judicial confirmation process, and we commend them for it.”

Johnson, noting that

prominent Democrats such as Kaine and Reid had previously pledged that they would never allow Republicans to filibuster a Supreme Court nominee of a Democratic president, added, “When they voted on the McConnell nuclear option motion, Republican senators really were not deciding whether there should be a 60-vote hurdle for nominees to the Supreme Court -- rather, they were deciding whether there should be a 60-vote hurdle *only for the Supreme Court nominees of Republican presidents.*”

The “nuclear” rules change means that if another vacancy

occurs on the Supreme Court, President Trump’s nominee to fill it will be confirmed if he or she garners support from at least 50 senators – so long as the Republicans continue to hold majority control in the Senate. The change has no effect on the “legislative filibuster,” referring to the right of senators to filibuster bills and amendments, which is supported by most senators of both parties.

At age 49, Gorsuch is by far the youngest member of the current Supreme Court roster. The oldest justices are Ruth Bader Ginsburg, 84; Anthony

Kennedy, 80; and Stephen Breyer, 78. All three voted with the 5-3 pro-abortion majority in the Supreme Court’s most recent abortion ruling, *Whole Women’s Health v. Hellerstedt*, handed down in June 2016, which struck down two Texas laws regulating abortion clinics.

“The next one [vacancy], one way or another, can change the court pretty dramatically,” pro-life Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) told reporters following the April 6 “nuclear” vote. “For the life of me I don’t know why the Democrats made such a fuss about this one [Gorsuch] – they look stupid.”

**"Our Democrat colleagues have done something today that is unprecedented in the history of the Senate. Unfortunately, it has brought us to this point. We need to restore the norms and traditions of the Senate and get past this unprecedented partisan filibuster.**

**We will not allow their latest unprecedented act on judicial nominations to take hold. This will be the first, and last, partisan filibuster of a Supreme Court nomination."**

**Mitch McConnell, Majority Leader  
US Senate**