national RIGHT TO LIFE NEWS

December 2016

President-Elect Trump putting together strongly pro-life cabinet

Pro-life President-elect Donald Trump and his pro-life campaign manager Kellyanne Conway

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A National Referendum on Abortion

By David N. O'Steen, Ph.D., National Right to Life Executive Director

A National Referendum on Abortion - that's how Ernest Ohlhoff, National Right to Life's Director of Outreach, described the 2016 election in a recent article published by Maryland Right to Life. He's right - -and post -election polling shows how the right to life side won.

Abortion has never before been such an integral part of a presidential campaign. President - elect Donald Trump, who was nothing if not forthright with the American

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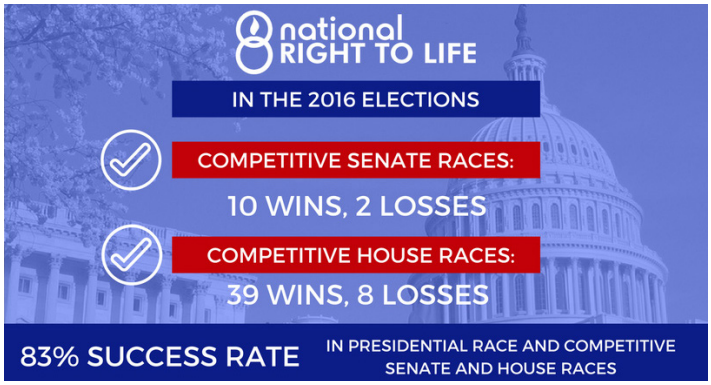
Members of NRLC's executive committee and NRLC staff met with Donald Trump this summer. NRLC congratulates President-elect Donald Trump and Vice President-elect Mike Pence and looks forward to working with them in the coming years

2016 Election Overview: NRLC triumphant against radical pro-abortion movement

By Karen Cross, National Right to Life Political Director

A fitting end to this unexpectedly remarkable election year came last Saturday when three pro-life Republicans won the runoffs in Louisiana. National Right to Life-endorsed State Treasurer John Kennedy (R) bested Public Service Commissioner Foster Campbell (D), 61%-39%, in the open Senate seat.

In addition Capt. Clay Higgins (R) beat Public Service Commissioner Scott Angelle (R), 56%-44%, in the 3rd congressional district to replace pro-life Rep. Charles Boustany. (Both Higgins and Angelle are pro-life.) National Right to Life-endorsed State Rep. Mike Johnson (R) defeated Marshall Jones (D), 65%-35%, in the 4th congressional district to replace pro-life Rep. John Fleming.



This brings to 50 the number of NRL-supported candidates who won their elections, in spite of dismal warnings from major media and most political pundits.

To be fair, prior to the 2016 general election, prospects to

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Editorials

Counting our pro-life blessings at Christmas

Just my two cents worth, but I strongly suspect there were an awful lot of pro-lifers who do not fully grasp that our Movement--and the unborn babies for whom we fight --just avoided a major catastrophe. So unsure were they of Donald Trump that they took their eye off of a dead-mortal certainty.

Which was? That if Hillary Clinton became President, not only would the International Abortion Industry have a patron in the most powerful office in the world, she would do her best to extinguish the Right to Life Movement.

I'm exaggerating for effect, right? No, I'm not. Let me explain why before I return to why NRLC's support for Trump, along with that of other pro-life organizations, was right, proper, and desperately needed.

It was no accident--Clinton's comment about the "deplorables," that is. She knew her comments were public, but Clinton unabashedly (and to loud applause) announced that at least half of Trump's supporters were the worst kind of people you could imagine.

Watch that speech sometime. She meant people **exactly** like you and me, people who do not have hundreds of millions in the bank and access to whatever they want like the Clintons do.

Please don't forget that the people around her were anti-Catholic to the core. As *Washington Post* columnist Marc Thiessen wrote a few months ago, a then—recently released trove of emails — which, according to WikiLeaks, come from the accounts of Clinton staff — showed "the rampant anti-Catholic bigotry that permeates Clinton World," including creating and/or nurturing front groups to destabilize the Catholic Church.

Consider her comment to the 2015 Women in the World Summit about how "deep-seated cultural codes, religious beliefs and structural biases have to be changed." Hillary Clinton and the kinds of people she associates with are militant pro-abortion radicals, elitists who can't wait to re-educate "your standard redneck," Bill Clinton's description of Donald Trump's base.

Mrs. Clinton and those around here have no respect for you and have only contempt for your religious liberties. You and I must be re-habilitated.

Mr. Trump was not conversant with the abortion issue, something that is not uncommon. He stumbled coming out of the block. He brought on pro-life Kellyanne Conway to run his campaign, met with members of the NRLC executive committee, and began to make his position clear.

See "Counting," page 10

How Trump won

There will be a flood of books and a tidal wave of Ph.D. theses explaining--or trying to explain--why a political novice defeated a veteran politician with endless financial and organizational resources, a super-helpful media, and the promise of breaking the ultimate "glass ceiling."

Three weeks before the election, the *Washington Post's* Chris Cillizza co-authored a story titled, "Donald Trump's chances of winning are approaching zero." Zero.

But win he did. Pro-life President-elect Donald Trump secured 306 electoral votes and, in the process, made serious inroads into the "Blue Wall" of Midwestern states Democrats have carried for many presidential elections.

While the media mocked him and derided his organizational prowess, it was Donald Trump who in the end pulled off one of the biggest upsets in American political history. There is even talk of "realignment."

How did Trump prevail? If you believe Democrats and their willing cohorts in the Establishment Media it was for all the wrong reasons propelled by all the wrong people--the now famous "deplorables."

In fact, Trump is about to be our 45th President because every cliché going in proved to be flat-out wrong or at least exaggerated. Let's start with women.

True, Clinton beat Trump by 12 points among all women, but Trump won 53% of white women. If you break it down further, what Clinton would probably call "deplorables"–white women who were not college graduates– voted for Trump 62% to 34%.

Trump carried men (53% to 41% for Clinton) and White men in particular (63% to 31%). Moreover among White men without a college degree, Trump's advantage was almost three to one: 72% to 23%

One surprising outcome–based on the narrative going in– Trump also carried white college-educated men by 15 points, 54% to 39%.

What about white Evangelical Christians? The *Atlantic's* Olga Khazan wrote, "81 percent of white evangelical Christians voted for Trump, as did the majority of people who attend religious services once a week or more."

So, why did 4 out of 5 White Evangelicals vote for Trump?

See "Trump," page 32

From the President
Carol Tobias

Unborn children and Infinite Possibilities

25 years ago, we heard a new song that would instantly become a Christmas Classic. "Mary Did You Know?" has been recorded and played and sung by many artists in many styles.

You're probably familiar with the tune but take a minute to read and reflect on the lyrics:

Mary, did you know that your baby boy
will some day walk on water?
Mary did you know that your baby boy
will save our sons and daughters?
Did you know that your baby boy
has come to make you new?
This child that you've delivered,
will soon deliver you.

Mary, did you know that your baby boy
will give sight to a blind man?
Mary, did you know that your baby boy
will calm a storm with his hand?
Did you know that your baby boy
has walked where angels trod?
And when you kiss your little baby,
you've kissed the face of God.

Mary, did you know that your baby boy
is Lord of all creation?
Mary, did you know that your baby boy
would one day rule the nations?
Did you know that your baby boy
is heaven's perfect Lamb?
This sleeping child you're holding
is the great I AM.

When I heard this song recently on the radio, it reminded me of *Infinite Possibilities*, a flyer NRLC published a few years ago. Of course only God who became man fulfills the lyrics in this song.

But the question could be asked of any mother or father whose child is yet to be born.

Did you know that your child could be a musician whose music can help energize the weary or soothe the troubled? **Did you know** that your child could be an astronaut, finding new planets or stars? **Did you know** that your child could be a teacher, encouraging and motivating children to want to learn?

Did you know that your child could be a nurse or doctor, helping to treat the sick and heal the injured? **Did you know** that your child could be a comedian, reminding people of the adage, "laughter is the best medicine"?

Your child could be a photographer, capturing some moment in history that will never come around again. Your child could be a firefighter or policeman, giving of himself/herself to protect others. Your child could become an advocate for children, helping to find caring foster homes or helping them get adopted into loving, permanent homes.

The possibilities are endless--"infinite."

But many women considering abortion are looking not at their baby's possibilities but at the next year of two of their lives with a newborn baby to take care of. Pro-lifers are as realistic as we are idealistic. We know that life can sometimes be very difficult. Pregnancy resource centers do an amazing job in helping women through difficult times but we, as a society, can always look for ways to do more.

We also know our culture can be very unwelcoming to "imperfect" people. But a deeper reflection reminds us that there are no perfect people, perfect jobs, or perfect circumstances. We shouldn't expect to have perfect children.

Whether a disability develops in the womb or occurs many years after birth, we love and care for all members of the human family. This gives us all, as a society and as individuals, the opportunity to show love, care, and compassion—characteristics that are good and beneficial.

I have met many women who thought a pregnancy was the worst thing to ever happen to them. This unborn child was an embarrassment to their parents and/or an unacceptable burden to boyfriends. They wondered if they could get through the coming difficult times. But they soon came to realize that this baby was truly a blessing and they now can't believe they had ever considered abortion.

During this Christmas season, as we remember the Child who came to make us new, let us also remember that every child has infinite possibilities and re-dedicate ourselves to making sure the coming years make those possibilities possible.

May you know the blessings of God's love in this special season. Merry Christmas to all!

National Right to Life Made an Enormous Difference - Now You Can, Too!

National Right to Life's political action committees made a major impact on our nation in 2016.

Post-election polling we conducted shows the strategies and hard work of our PACs helped win enough additional votes for pro-life candidates that it turned the election in our favor in some tight Senate races--and probably in the presidential race as well! (See stories, page one.)

History will now be very different for the rights of the unborn because of National Right to Life! Imagine where we'd be without the power of NRL's PACs to get out the pro-life vote.

But these great victories came at a great cost. Most of our fundraising efforts in 2016 understandably had to be conducted for those PACs, so they would have the resources to reach out to millions and millions of Americans and persuade them to vote for Life.

That means National Right to Life could do very little fundraising for our general work, or educational work.

And it would be a terrible irony for the unborn if we won all these elections, set up a situation where we now have the ability to pass more significant life-saving legislation, and do important educational campaigns, but didn't have the money to do it.

That's why National Right to Life is asking you to please consider making an extra-special gift for the unborn at the close of this year as we prepare for the great opportunities ahead in 2017. This is so important at this critical time in the history of our movement for unborn lives!

The link below gives you the opportunity to give to save unborn babies' lives in two ways: Donations to the **National Right to Life Committee** strengthen our grass-roots work for life, our three thousand local Right to Life chapter, and our work in Congress and in state legislatures to pass life-saving laws. Because of that work to pass laws, donations to the NRL Committee are not tax-deductible.

Or you can give to the **National Right to Life Educational Foundation**, which does pro-life educational and outreach work to women, young people, teachers and other professionals to build a Culture of Life. **Donations to the NRL Educational Foundation** are fully deductible.

If you prefer to give by mail or phone instead of online, you may do so by mailing National Right to Life at its offices at 512 10th Street NW in Washington D.C. 20004, or by phoning 202-626-8813.

Our wonderful supporters have already done so much this year to make these pro-life victories possible. Many lives can and will be saved. It is our hope that we can all continue that support to see this through to even greater victories for the unborn in the months and years ahead!

For all you do, and for your deep love and concern for God's most vulnerable ones, may you and your family and loved ones have a very blessed Christmas and New Year. Thank you so much for all you did to make 2016 a year of successes for the unborn!

44 Years after Roe: are you committed to making a difference?

By Jacki Ragan, Director, NRLC State Organizational Development Department

On January 22, 2017, and the weeks preceding and following that tragic date, the right to life movement will mark the anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* with sadness at the loss of life but also with a sense of victory. We **know** we have the truth and that we are gaining ground and growing closer to the day when we will be able to legally protect innocent human life.

Over 59,000,000 innocent unborn babies have lost their lives to abortion. I don't believe that we can begin to understand how many 59,000,000 really is…

There will be activities to commemorate the 44th anniversary of the legalization of abortion all across the nation and you are encouraged to participate, attend, and promote. Coming together to mourn the lost lives, the maimed lives is something we do every year. We will not stop until the killing is stopped.

If this is your first year to March for Life (locally or in our nation's capital), or participate in a memorial service, or attend a prayer breakfast, that is wonderful. You are making a statement of faithfulness that cannot be ignored!

Note that because the 22nd falls on a Sunday, the annual March for Life will take place Friday, January 27.

But the question is, what are you going to do **afterwards**?

After you leave the March or the Rally or the Prayer Breakfast, what are your plans? How are you going to make a pro-life difference in the coming year?

There are many, **many** reasons to be encouraged, as you've read about in *National Right to Life News Today*. But make no mistake: 2017 will be a long, and in many ways, challenging year. We need every voice possible, including yours.

So after you attend the pro-life events of your choosing, contact your local chapter or state affiliate and get involved. If there is not a local chapter in your area, then we will work with you to help you get one started!

You can email us at stateod@nrlc.org, or call 202.378.8843.

The important immediate thing is to do is attend the National March for Life or your local commemoration. Once that is accomplished, it is imperative that each one of us continues to make a difference.

Be a voice for the unborn. Get involved and **stay** involved. We are here to help you and support you in all ways possible. It is in working together as a team that we will continue to make THE difference. Welcome aboard!

2017 will "definitely" be a busy state legislative session, NRLC says

By Dave Andrusko

It is a **most** welcome annual occurrence. As the next state legislative session approaches, national publications will write about how (as *The Hill* put it recently) "Abortion foes plot wave of legislation in the states."

Reid Wilson begins this way

> **Opponents of abortion rights are planning to push a raft of new rules and restrictions after their allies scored big wins in state legislative chambers and gubernatorial races.**

While we pay most attention to federal elections—to Congress and to the presidency—it is at the state level where in recent years wave after wave of pro-life laws have come rushing in. And as we have posted previously, pro-lifers made huge gains in the November 8 elections.

Wilson begins his story where he should: by quoting Ingrid Duran, director of state legislation for the National Right to Life Committee (and a great help to *NRL News Today*).

"It's definitely going to be a busy session," Duran told *The Hill*. "Right now is the time that our affiliates are shaping their legislative agendas and what they'd like to see passed."

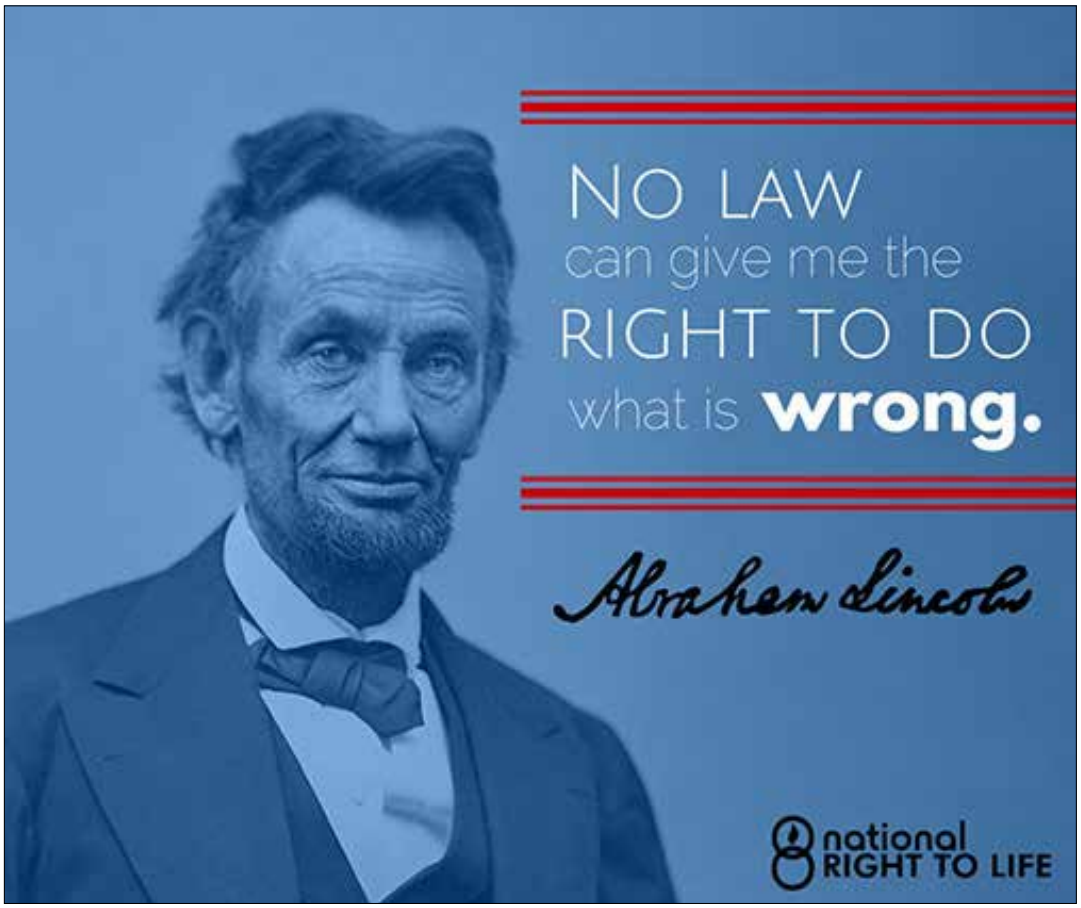
At the top of the list for National Right to Life affiliates is passage of the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act (already the law in 14 states) and the Unborn Child Protection from Dismemberment Act (on the books in Kansas, Oklahoma, West Virginia, Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana).

Both are based on NRLC model legislation.

Wilson observes, "[A]s Republicans have made steady gains in legislatures across the country, the anti-abortion rights movement has notched a series of victories. Since 2011, the year Republicans took over scores of state legislative seats after the 2010 midterms, 334 measures restricting abortion rights have passed in 32 states across the country. Forty-four were enacted in 2016 alone, according to a tally by the Guttmacher Institute." (Pro-abortion to the core, the Guttmacher Institute was formerly Planned Parenthood's think tank.)

"I think conservatives have been emboldened by the election," said Elizabeth Nash, a state-level policy analyst at the Guttmacher Institute."

You think?



The significance of the election of pro-life President Donald Trump has not escaped pro-abortionists working in state legislatures. Wilson notes

> **There are fewer opportunities for Democratic-led states to advance abortion rights, and most activists who favor those rights say their focus is likely to be dominated by the fight over President-elect [Trump who] told CBS's "60 Minutes" earlier this month that he would appoint anti-abortion rights judges who would then send the question of whether abortion should be legal back to the states.**

To be clear what Mr. Trump said was he would nominate pro-life justices in the mold of the late Antonin Scalia and if *Roe v. Wade* was overturned, the states would write their own abortion statutes, exactly what was the case prior to *Roe* and its 1973 companion decision, *Doe v. Bolton*.

Saying "Adoption – Not Abortion" and Really Meaning It

By Joleigh Little , Teens for Life Director, Wisconsin Right to Life

Adoption — not abortion. Those three words are easy to say. So easy, in fact, that I said them, almost as a matter of rote, for decades. But it's far easier to say than to do.

I'd like to ask you to think a little bit about that with me.

We know that abortion takes the life of a living, growing, developing, fully alive human child. It should not be an option to brutally kill a defenseless person because their existence is inconvenient. So because of that reality, any other option stands out as a better choice.

But that doesn't make the other options easy ones. And that's where I want to ask your indulgence. I want to ask you to spend a few minutes with me really, really thinking about adoption.

I share all of what follows –ask you to consider these things –for a very specific reason. My goal is not to talk you out of adopting if you have considered it but to help you understand that adoption is a lot like anything else you will do in life that is worth your time– and that includes commitment, courage, and sacrifice.

Let's begin at the beginning. Yes, there are the happy ever after stories. The loving married couple who has waited their entire lives to be parents is finally united with the child for whom they have longed for years.

A beautiful little orphaned girl is placed in the arms of her new parents for the first time. A little boy, about to age out of a broken system, meets his dad for the first time.

These beautiful moments do happen every day. They are to be celebrated because they mean life for these children. They represent families built out of brokenness.

However, behind those snapshots, those vignettes, there are other moments– tougher moments– that need to be recognized. We need to really see them if we are going to keep saying "adoption – not abortion" and own it.

Adoption means that someone has lost something. That is always true. Whether the separation happens in an instant after birth in a hospital where loving adoptive parents are waiting to receive a child or whether the separation happens in a more brutal manner – the child abandoned in a bus station, wrapped in a plastic bag, for example – every child who is available for adoption has suffered a loss.

The older a child is the more loss he or she has suffered. There is always a birth mother in the adoption equation, and sometimes a father as well. These are people who, for whatever reason, cannot raise their children to adulthood. Sometimes they agonize to make the perfect and most loving plan possible, and other times they are forced by circumstances to abandon a child and hope for the best. Other times, a child is left without parents through death. Whatever way the separation happens, there is loss.

Adoption requires courage. While it is very easy to look at and grow attached to a photograph of a child who lives a world away, it is another thing entirely to meet that child, who may be a grief-stricken, terrified, traumatized tiny human who just now has been ripped away from everything he or she knows.

It is brutal and raw to witness that level of brokenness. It is more difficult still to sign on the dotted line of a form, written in any one of a dozen languages, and agree to absorb into your family, that wounded child.

Sometimes that courage takes the form of facing your fears while standing under the stream of a lukewarm shower 5,000 miles away from everything you know, and reminding yourself that the child screaming angry words at you in a language you cannot understand is NOT the child you will have a year from now.

Adoption is hard. Sometimes it means repeating the same directive hundreds of times, day after day, for years on end and realizing that complying may always be out of your child's reach due to the alcohol poisoning they suffered in utero.

Other times it means waking up a dozen times during the night to comfort a tiny person who is living her worst nightmare, surrounded by unfamiliar sights, sounds, smells and people. For many it means sitting for days and weeks on end in a hospital room while medical professionals work to correct a physical issue that threatens the very life of this child you've grown to love.

Adoption is expensive. It is utter madness that we live in a world where you can take the life of a child for a tiny fraction

See "Adoption," page 35

The Best Christmas Gift of All

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

Each year when the coldness of winter is just about to settle in, I return to Bedford Falls, NY, where the town streets are wrapped in a blanket of snow and the ivory lights glistening in the trees signal the celebration of Christmas.

It is my December destination because I want to spend some time with George Bailey, the town dreamer, who mapped out plans of seeing Italy, Greece, and the Parthenon, but ended up sacrificing it all to stay in his little corner of America and help his family.

I want to journey with George, who is contemplating suicide, as his guardian angel named Clarence shows him what the world would have been like, had he never been born. George's brother Harry would not have grown up to be a military hero, saving the lives of his fellow servicemen. Instead, Harry would have died at the age of nine, the victim of a tragic accident–drowning after falling through a layer of ice–because George wasn't around to rescue him.

So it was not just one brother that George had saved–but a band of brothers. As Clarence tells him, "Every man on that transport died. Harry wasn't there to save them, because you weren't there to save Harry."

Clarence introduces George to a surreal world in which his first employer ends up in jail… his uncle forever emotionally broken…his wife alone and without children…and his hometown a Hell hole…all because he had never been born.

Clarence says, "Strange, isn't it? Each man's life touches so many other lives. When he isn't around he leaves an awful hole, doesn't he?"

George's daughter Zuzu had prayed, "Please bring Daddy back."

And after seeing Bedford Falls through the eyes of a stranger…and viewing the devastation of a world without his presence, George recognizes the immeasurable value of one life–his one life.

George:

"Clarence! Clarence! Help me, Clarence. Get me back. Get me back. I don't care what happens to me. Only get me back to my wife and kids. Help me, Clarence, please. Please! I want to live again. I want to live again. I want to live again…..Please, God, let me live again."

And in all its cinematic splendor, the film "It's a Wonderful Life" concludes with George being reunited with the many who love him, whose lives have been touched and transformed by his.

Though it was released on Christmas Day 70 years ago, the movie communicates a transcendent truth which so many in the U.S. need to hear today, amidst the tragic push for doctor-prescribed suicide and the traumatic ordeal of mothers pressured to give up–just as their babies are growing inside them.

Clarence:

"You see, George, you've really had a wonderful life. Don't you see what a mistake it would be to throw it away?"

Anna Yocca pleads not guilty to three felony charges in attempted self-induced abortion

By Dave Andrusko

Anna Yocca, who used a coathanger in 2015 to try to self-abort her 24-week-old unborn child, has plead not guilty to three felony charges: aggravated assault, an attempt to procure a miscarriage and an attempted criminal abortion.

The baby survived Yocca's attack, although grievously injured, and weighed 1 pound, five ounces at birth.

Daily News Journal reporter Michelle Willard wrote that the child is no longer in foster care and that

> **Last week Rob Johnson, a spokesman for the Tennessee Department of Children's Services, said by telephone that the child was "safe" but no longer in state custody. Citing confidentiality, he declined to answer further questions.**

The baby was born two weeks after Yocca's attack in September 2015.

Yocca was originally charged with attempted first-degree murder in December 2015, a charge later reduced to aggravated assault.

As *NRL News Today* reported, last month Gerald Melton, Yocca's court-appointed attorney, asked that all charges be dropped. The three new felony charges replace the original charge.

In September 2015, Yocca, 32, filled a bathtub with a few inches of water, then used a coat hanger to repeatedly stab her baby. "That's when officials said the amount of blood alarmed her, and her boyfriend took her to the emergency room at St. Thomas Rutherford hospital," according to Sam Stockard of the *Murfreesboro Post*. "From there, she was transported to St. Thomas Mid-Town in Nashville where staff members saved 'Baby Yocca.'"

Anna Yocca with her attorney, Gerald Melton

News Channel 5's Jesse Knutson reported that at the time Yocca was arrested, "Police said the coat hanger caused significant damage to the child's eyes, lungs, and heart."

Ohio Dept. of Health Revokes License of Dayton Abortion Facility

Abortion Facility Fails to Secure Sufficient Emergency Back-up Care

COLUMBUS, Ohio – The *Associated Press* reported that the Ohio Department of Health has revoked the license of a Dayton-area abortion facility, Women's Medical Center, for failure to meet the department's health and safety standards. The decision follows a recommendation made by a hearing examiner in early September.

"Ohio Right to Life thanks Director Rick Hodges for holding this abortion facility accountable to basic health and safety standards," said Devin Scribner, executive director of Ohio Right to Life. "This is the same facility that, according to the Ohio Department of Health, violated a woman's right to refuse an abortion last June. We're grateful to see action being taken on this facility and are hopeful that it will spare thousands of lives in Dayton."

Ohio Department of Health Director Rick Hodges

Ohio law requires that all ambulatory surgical facilities, including abortion facilities, secure a written transfer agreement with a local hospital. If unable to obtain an agreement, the facility may seek a variance from the law. In October, the Department of Health denied the facility a variance for the fifth year in a row.

"For years, this abortion facility has operated without sufficient emergency back-up care for the thousands of pregnant women who come through their doors," said Scribner. "The whole state of Ohio should be alarmed by this facility's consecutive failures to either secure an agreement with a local hospital, or meet the department's rules for alternative back-up care. The traditional medical community has rejected doing business with this facility, and the state of Ohio is doing the same."

Women's Med Center of Dayton is operated by abortionist Martin Haskell who is known for popularizing the now-banned partial-birth abortion technique.

Editor's note. Women's Medical Center of Dayton has 15 days to appeal the order, signed November 30.

Counting our pro-life blessings at Christmas

From page 2

I understand, as it is with any president, that actions speak louder than words. (Clinton had both words **and** actions to prove her unswervable commitment to abortion on demand.) But Trump was very, very specific in his avowals and is off to a great start in his cabinet appointments.

Trump said he would nominate only pro-lifers to the Supreme Court in the mold of the late Justice Antonin Scalia. Trump also promised to make "the Hyde Amendment permanent law to protect taxpayers from having to pay for abortions."

He pledged to sign into law the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, which would end painful late-term abortions nationwide. And Trump vowed to defund Planned Parenthood as long as they continue to perform abortions, and reallocating their funding to community health centers that provide comprehensive health care for women.

After the election, he reaffirmed to *60 Minutes'* Leslie Stahl that he is pro-life and would nominate only pro-life justices to the Supreme Court.

In addition to having pro-life Gov. Mike Pence as the vice president, over the last three weeks Trump's appointments have already included Sen. Jeff Sessions as Attorney General; Rep. Tom Price to be Secretary of Health and Human Services; Republican National Chairman Reince Priebus to be chief of staff; South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley as ambassador to the United Nations; Dr. Ben Carson as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; Rep. Mike Pompeo to be director of the CIA; and Betsy DeVos as Secretary of Education; Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers as Interior Secretary; Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad, who will be the ambassador to China, and Andy Puzder, who will head the Department of Labor.

As we discuss in the second editorial, the abortion issue in the context of the future of the Supreme Court, was a huge advantage for President-elect Trump, including (especially?) in making the breaches he did in the "Blue Wall," Midwestern states Democrats just don't lose.

Until November 8.

From a single-issue pro-life perspective, we know we contributed to Mr. Trump's victory. Like President-elect Trump, we have much to celebrate this Christmas season.

New national poll shows overwhelming support for Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act

By Dave Andrusko

A nationwide telephone poll take Election Day by The polling company, inc./ WomanTrend for the Susan B. Anthony List found almost two-thirds support for the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act—well more than double those who opposed.

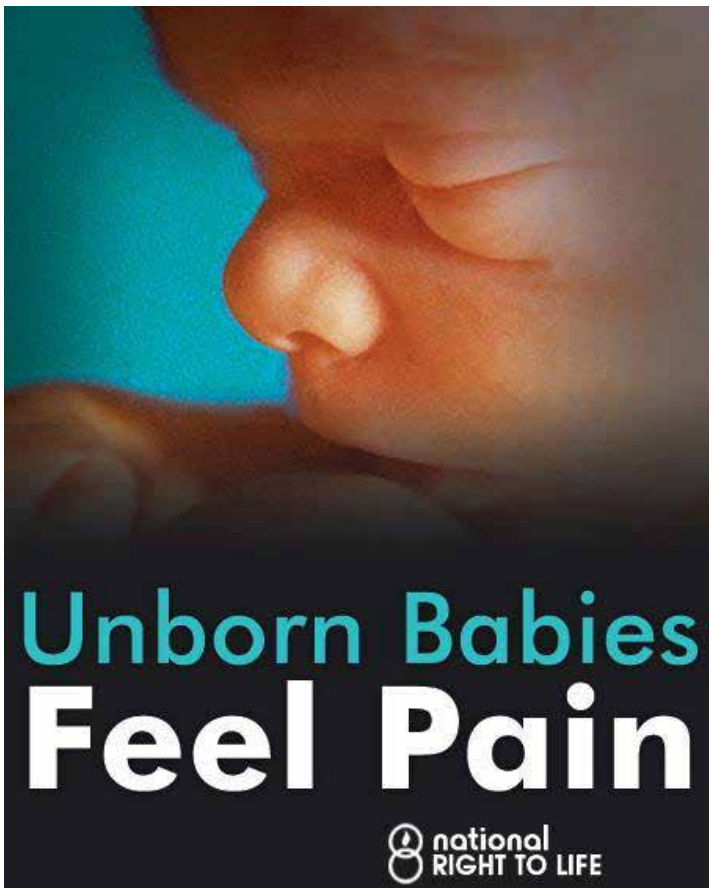
Sixty-four percent were in favor to only 28% who were opposed.

Among his commitments to pro-lifers, President-elect Donald Trump has promised to sign the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act.

The House of Representatives passed the measure on May 13, 2015, by a vote of 242-184.

This legislation is based on a model bill originated by NRLC in 2010, which has since been enacted in 14 states.

The Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act extends general protection to unborn children who are at least 20 weeks beyond fertilization (which is equivalent to 22 weeks of pregnancy — about the start of the sixth month).



And no matter how many deniers there are on the Democratic side of the aisle, there is abundant evidence that by this point in development (and probably earlier), the unborn child has the capacity to experience excruciating pain during typical abortion procedures.

Support for the bill in the new poll extended across all demographic and geographic boundaries. For example

- Millennial voters
  78% support
- Women voters
  67% support
- African Americans
  70% support
- Hispanics
  57 % support

Latest Rasmussen Report find highest percentage since 2014 who say abortion is morally wrong

By Dave Andrusko

Rasmussen Reports rarely, if ever, finds the same level of pro-life support as, say, Gallup. So it is not surprising that the results of a new Rasmussen survey, released in early December, "finds that 52% of Likely U.S. Voters consider themselves pro-choice on the issue of abortion, while 42% say they are pro-life," a gap of 10 points.

Gallup's latest (2015) found self-identified pro-choicers ahead by 50% to 44%–a six point difference. However a nationwide poll taken November 8 by the Polling Company found 47% self-identified as pro-life and 47% self-identified as pro-choice.

Three points to keep in mind.

First, support for abortion. As we have explained many, many times, when you combined those who say abortion should be "legal only in a few circumstances" (37%) with illegal in all circumstances (19%), you have 56% who say abortion should not be legal at all or (to quote Gallup) "should generally be rare, occurring in only a few circumstances."

Second, the morality question. According to Rasmussen, 50% believe abortion is morally wrong most of the time, up four points from April 2015. This is the highest finding since mid-2014. Thirty-four percent consider abortion morally acceptable in most instances, unchanged from the previous survey. Seventeen percent are undecided.

Third, as a voting issue. In 2016, the advantage remained with the pro-life candidate. Note that in exit polls, 56% of those who voted for Trump said it was the most important factor, compared to 41% for Hillary Clinton–a huge difference and indicative of how significant the next appointments to the Supreme Court are to the pro-life community.

Here's a different way to approach the significance of the abortion issue. In May of this year, Gallup asked, "Thinking about how the abortion issue might affect your vote for major offices, would you …

	U.S. adults %	"Pro-choice" %	"Pro-life" %
Only vote for a candidate who shares your views on abortion	20	17	23
Consider a candidate's position on abortion as just one of many important factors when voting	49	48	51
Not see abortion as a major issue	28	32	22
No opinion	4	2	4

May 4-8, 2016

GALLUP POLL

23% of pro-lifers would vote only for a pro-lifer compared to 17% of pro-choicers who would only vote for a pro-choice candidate. Note also that only 22% of pro-lifers do not see abortion "as a major issue" compared to 32% of pro-choicers.

The media collectively huffed and puffed that the election of pro-life Trump would be awful. The irony is this only help solidify pro-life support behind Trump.

Exposing the soft jurisprudential underbelly of *Roe v. Wade*

By Dave Andrusko

In just over five weeks, we will commemorate the 44th anniversary of one of the bleakest days in American history–January 22, 1973–when seven justices blissfully embraced judicial activism to eliminate the abortion statutes of all 50 states, from the most protective to the most permissive.

One of pro-life President-elect Donald Trump's first tasks will be to nominate a replacement for the late Justice Antonin Scalia. Mr. Trump has repeatedly vowed to nominate only pro-life jurists to the High Court.

Over at ***NRL News Today****, we've begun a countdown to the 44th anniversary. Our first story was one I wrote a few years ago about an interview Justice Scalia gave* ***CNN****. He was, as always, brilliant. The link to You Tube that shows the exchange still works but not the link to Lopez's transcript.*

There I was, peacefully switching back and forth between three sporting events when I happened upon Piers Morgan's show on *CNN*. He was interviewing Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. While I thoroughly enjoyed the portion that remained, I knew Morgan must have asked Justice Scalia about *Roe v. Wade*.

Kudos to Kathleen Jean Lopez, editor-at-large of *National Review Online*, who put the entire *Roe*/abortion exchange up online. You can read the discussion at your leisure and watch some of the video.

Let's talk about just three of many fascinating points. First, in only a few sentences, Justice Scalia exposes the soft jurisprudential underbelly of *Roe*. As he put it, "[T]he theory that was expounded to impose that decision [*Roe*] was a theory that does not make any sense." Ah, yes!

Second, Morgan asks Scalia if thinks abortion should be illegal. Justice Scalia responds with the first of several important distinctions: "I don't have public views on what should be illegal and what shouldn't. I have public views on what the Constitution prohibits and what it doesn't prohibit."

It would be amusing (if the subject weren't so important) to watch Morgan try to "shame" Scalia into agreeing that abortion ought to be legal. After an incoherent foray into what the rights of women were when the Constitution was written, Morgan takes a second swing:

> **"But when women began to take charge in the last century, of their lives and their rights and so on, and began to fight for these, everybody believed that was the right thing to do, didn't they? I mean, why would you be instinctively against that?"**

Get it? "Everybody" agrees that people like Morgan either cannot understand or refuse to understand. Scalia says

> **"My view is regardless of whether you think prohibiting abortion is good or whether you think prohibiting abortion is bad, regardless of how you come out on that, my only point is the Constitution does not say anything about it. It leaves it up to democratic choice.**
>
> **"Some states prohibited it, some states didn't. What Roe v. Wade said was that no state can prohibit it. That is simply not in the Constitution. It was one of those many things — most things in the world — left to democratic choice. And — and the court does — does not do democracy a favor when it takes an issue out of democratic choice [Morgan interrupts, but the rest of Scalia's answer is] simply because it thinks it should not be there."**

Third, Morgan, as is his annoying custom, frontloads his question about the impact of Scalia's Catholic faith on his jurisprudence by attempting to presuppose/preempt Scalia's answer.

> **[Morgan]: "But how — how do you, as a conservative Catholic, how do you not bring your personal sense of what is right and wrong to that kind of decision? Because clearly, as a conservative Catholic, you're going to be fundamentally against abortion.**
>
> **"[Scalia]: Just as the pro-choice people say the Constitution prohibits the banning of abortion, so, also, the pro-life people say the opposite. They say that the Constitution requires the banning of abortion, because you're depriving someone of life without due process of law.**
>
> **"I reject that argument just as I reject the other one. The Constitution, in fact, says nothing at all about the subject. It is left to democratic choice.**
>
> **"Now, regardless of what my views as a Catholic are, the Constitution says nothing about it."**

As noted above you can watch the discussion about abortion at cnn.com.

Refusing to learn anything from November 8

By Dave Andrusko

In the space of three days, I heard two statements so tone-deaf, so evident of learning absolutely nothing from the November 8 elections that I had to share them with you.

Margaret Sullivan, a pro-abortionist who scribbles for the *Washington Post*, was on the *Diane Rehm Show*, a popular *NPR* talk show. Along with her cohorts, she was lamenting that voters just are too dumb–okay, it wasn't quite that blunt, but close.

When Rehm hinted that readers may not want the kind of "context" reporters gave coverage this last election cycle–whole-heartedly and without fail supportive of pro-abortion Hillary Clinton–Sullivan couldn't believe her ears. Here's the exchange:

> **Rehm:** We've got a number of callers who are all saying what they want is just the facts. And then they'll decide. They don't want opinions from journalists. But if journalists are confronted with falsehoods, don't you have to weigh in, Margaret?
>
> **Sullivan:** I don't think that the listeners really would want, let's say, the *Washington Post* to be filled with *AP* style journalism that is nothing but the raw facts. I think there is a need to interpret, analyze, provide context.

What is Rehm saying? Reporters will decide what is false–the voters/listeners can't figure that out for themselves. Sullivan agrees: that who/what/why/what/how stuff is for the birds. The *Washington Post* and the *New York Times* will "interpret, analyze, provide context" for us!

Then, out-to-lunch but once again the House Minority Leader, Nancy Pelosi (D-Ca.) had this exchange with John Dickerson, host of CBS's *Face the Nation*:

> **DICKERSON:** "Here's my question, though, Democrats since 2008, the numbers are ghastly for Democrats. Democrats are down 10 percent, in the House down 19.3 percent and in governors 35 percent. The Democrats are getting clobbered at every level over multiple elections. That seems like a real crisis for the party?"

(Not to mention t the defeat of can't-lose Hillary Clinton.)

Pelosi's response?

(1) "Well, I don't think people want a new direction."

Pro-life President-elect Donald Trump

(2) "You're forgetting that we went up so high in 2006 and 2008."

Amazing!

Doctors' Association refuses to back euthanasia in Australia

By Michael Cook

After surveying its members the Australian Medical Association [AMA] has reaffirmed its opposition to euthanasia and assisted suicide. "Doctors should not be involved in interventions that have as their primary intention the ending of a person's life," says the latest version of its end-of-life care policy.

But doctors do "have an ethical duty to care for dying patients so that death is allowed to occur in comfort and with dignity".

The statement comes at a time when some state legislatures are debating euthanasia. A bill failed earlier this month in South Australia but supporters are pushing for bills in Victoria and Tasmania.

Euthanasia campaigners detected a shift in the AMA's stance. Dr. Rodney Syme, a urologist who says that he has helped about 100 patients to die, said that the AMA's position that "laws in relation to euthanasia and physician assisted suicide are ultimately a matter for society and government" verged on neutrality rather than opposition.

AMA President Michael Gannon

But the AMA also demands that both patients and doctors need to be protected if euthanasia becomes legal – patients against abuse and doctors against coercion.

AMA President, Michael Gannon, said that 50% of the 4,000 doctors who responded to the survey said doctors should not be involved in euthanasia or physician-assisted suicide, 38% said they should be and 12% neither agreed or disagreed. Most respondents did not want to provide a euthanasia service themselves, although they agreed that giving lethal injections was a job for doctors.

Against the background of the failure of pollsters to capture the views of voters in the recent U.S. presidential election, it is hard to tell whether this survey reflects the views of Australian doctors. There are 103,000 doctors in Australia; only 30,000 of them belong to the AMA; and only 4,000 responded to the survey.

Editor's note. This appeared at BioEdge.

Abortion, the 2016 elections, and pro-life grit

By Dave Andrusko

The Abortion Community has a soft spot in what passes for its heart for itinerant abortionist Willie Parker. He parachutes into locales where killing unborn babies is not popular (Alabama and Mississippi) where he flashes the badge of his Christian faith. To the gullible, the latter is supposed to absolve the former.

So what better post-election source for wisdom than a man who, according to stories in places such as *Esquire* aborts as many as 45 babies a day?

Parker recently published his political insights in something called Broadly.com under the headline, "'We Must Take Action': An Abortion Doctor in the South on the Future Under Trump."

To establish his religious bona fides he begins with his "Christian mind" which "remembered the words of Job as his trials unfolded: 'That which I have feared greatly has come upon me.'"

[No reason for Parker to know this but the following verse (Job 3:26) in The Message translation reads, "My repose is shattered, my peace destroyed. No rest for me, ever—death has invaded life."

[Only it is not pro-life President-elect Donald Trump but Parker who has invaded life with death.]

Then, Parker writes, his "cultural bluesy, soulful music-loving brain remembered the opening line from an Amy Winehouse song," which of course includes the ultimate obscenity. But that's better than okay to the bluesy, hipster Willie Parker because it establishes the definitive contrast:

> **Winehouse's term is impolite, but the reversal of laws to make abortion unsafe once again is profane.**

It's important to understand that for Parker, like all his cohorts in the killing trade, it's not just that Trump has promised to nominate only pro-life justices to the Supreme Court. That, of course, is (in his framework) the ultimate profanity.

When your objective is killing as many unborn babies as fast as you can, **anything** that slows the abortion train–waiting periods, parental involvement, not using your tax dollars and mine to pay for abortions–is a kind of obscenity

Like the recently defeated Hillary Clinton, Parker believes in abortion for any reason or no reason, as late in pregnancy as a woman wants, underwritten by our tax dollars.

There is much to-ing and fro-ing in Parker's op-ed, bemoaning that the election results do not really reflect the public's disposition on abortion. In fact, the positions of President-elect Trump and Secretary Clinton were crystal-clear. And the American people chose life, an inconvenient fact for the pro-death crowd.

Parker ends his op-ed with this call to action:

> **I urge you to turn your fears into action. <u>Call your elected officials, donate to organizations that are gearing up</u> for the fight ahead, and be a loud voice for the health and dignity for women. Be dejected but not defeated. The difference? Effort. We cannot surmount failure without trying. Experience is not what happens to you—it's what you do with what happens to you.** [Emphasis Parker's.]

Pro-lifers would agree that "Experience is not what happens to you—it's what you do with what happens to you," although that does not do full justice to the trait that infuses all pro-lifers: grit.

On November 8, we were blessed with the best kind of experience we could have hoped for. We defeated a woman with an unquenchable thirst for expanding abortion at home and abroad who would have been the public face of the worldwide Sisterhood of Death.

In her place we elected a man who beyond making the right appointments to the High Court has 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 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.

Beginning with the appointments he has already made, President-elect Trump is demonstrating he intends to keep his commitment to the Pro-Life community.

Merging ultrasound and MRI researchers shows unborn babies in 3-D Virtual Reality

By Dave Andrusko

Over the years I have written many times about the "old days"–back in the 1980s–and the primitive black and white ultrasounds whose fuzziness was exceeded only by the parents' determination to "see" arms and legs amidst a fog of blurriness.

Now their successors–3-D and 4-D color ultrasounds–are about to be themselves replaced. A group of Brazilian researchers at Rio's Clínica de Diagnóstico Por Images have combined ultrasound and MRI technologies to allow parents to see their unborn child in 3-D virtual reality. It truly is astonishing. (A rendition can be viewed at smithsonianmag.com)

Here's how it works, according to Alexandra Ossola:

> **First, technicians take a scan of the fetus as usual with ultrasound. But if a second, higher-resolution scan is needed, they might turn to MRI for more detail, which uses powerful magnets and bursts of radio waves to distinguish different types of tissues within the body. …**
>
> **Once they have the scan, the researchers can use the data to make a 3D rendering of the fetus, which takes 22 seconds. Then that can then be converted to virtual reality.**
>
> **The researchers have been testing their virtual reality renderings on Oculus Rift 2 headsets, which has been "wonderful"—not only is the VR image sharper and crisper than previous imaging techniques, it's cheaper than commonly-used 3D renderings because it doesn't have to be printed out, says Werner. Parents can see renderings of their baby anytime after the 12th week of pregnancy.**

In other words, as Science Editor Sarah Knapton put it, "The 3D images are brought to life using Oculus Rift headsets." But that's not all.

The headsets "also play the sound of the baby's heartbeat. Parents are able to look around their unborn child in virtual reality by moving their head."

But the goal is not only to help parents bond earlier with their unborn child or to educate them to the intricacies of the growing unborn child (the technology recreates the entire structure of the baby). Prof. Simon Fishel, the president of Care Fertility, told Knapton, "Anything that improves the opportunity to observe fetal health accurately is important, especially with advancing surgical technology that is now being used successfully on the fetus in the womb , where applicable."

Reporting for *StatNews*, Rebecca Robbins noted that co-author Heron Werner

> **an OB/GYN specializing in fetal medicine at Rio's Clínica de Diagnóstico Por Imagem, said the technology's greatest potential lies in helping guide medical decisions for fetuses with potential health problems.**
>
> **He said the visualizations did a remarkable job capturing abnormalities like cleft lips, tumors, and hernias in utero.**

As is always the case with potential breakthroughs, there are many questions to be resolved. This is expensive and would not normally be used in pregnancies thought to be progressing smoothly.

But Prof. Charles Kingsland, of the Hewitt Fertility Centre in Liverpool, may have put it best when he said, "This clearly is an exciting piece of work with potential benefits for diagnosing more accurately, abnormalities in unborn babies with the added potential of correcting them earlier."

Baby could have been aborted, but fetal surgery corrects rare heart condition

By Dave Andrusko

We've carried many stories of fetal surgery in which surgeons most typically correct spina bifida or remove lung tumors.

But a report that came out recently in the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology* documented a medical first. Three years ago surgeons at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia [CHOP] opened up Katie Rice's uterus, removed a fast-growing tumor that was pressing on her 24-week unborn baby's heart, and then sewed her up to continue the pregnancy.

Tucker Roussin is now a healthy, happy three-year-old.

But not until undergoing a perilous journey which at one point might have resulted in an abortion, according to Philly.com.

It started when Rice, already the mother of one, came in for a 20 week ultrasound. Happily, she learned her child was a boy. Unhappily, "The tech left the room and the doctor came in and did a scan and then another doctor came in and did a scan, and they weren't really saying much," Rice told CBS News.

"All together, three doctors came in and did scans and then they told us they saw a mass on his heart and they weren't really sure what it was," Rice said.

Philly.com's Tom Avril added that they told Rice and her partner Mike Roussin, Justin "probably would not survive. Rice's own health was at risk, and she might have to terminate the pregnancy."

Katie Rice's son Tucker underwent fetal heart surgery when she was 24 weeks pregnant with him.

The very rare tumor forms in the sac around the heart. The condition is lethal if left untreated. Draining the fluid and waiting until the child is born to remove the tumor "carries serious risks, and the child might not survive."

They were then told there were experts at CHOP who might be able to help. Surgeons there saw how fast the tumor was growing and "knew the fetus would not have survived if we hadn't operated," Dr. Jack Rychik told *CBS News*.

A multidisciplinary team –including experts from cardiology, surgery, imaging and obstetrics – performed the three-hour surgery just a few weeks after the intrapericardial teratoma was first discovered.

The operation was a success but everyone anxiously waited to see what would happen over the course of the remainder of the pregnancy. (Rice stayed at a nearby hotel in case there was an emergency.)

Tucker Roussin was born on May 9, 2013.

"Now 3, he loves monster trucks, sandboxes, riding his bike, and water parks," Avil wrote.

"Look at me now!" he says in a family video.

The right side of his heart is a bit smaller than average, a residual effect of the tumor, but the doctors say he is perfectly healthy.

"He is full of energy," his mother said. "He is a typical boy."

Except that he has a scar on his chest, which he will happily show anyone, on request.

CDC Report on 2013 Abortion data show big declines in National and State Figures: Part One

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

On the eve of Thanksgiving, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) released its latest abortion surveillance report, with figures from 2013. Abortion numbers, rates, and ratios all dropped by about 5%, leading to numbers not seen since Roe v. Wade took away legal protections for unborn children in 1973. Pro-lifers have much for which to be thankful.

With such significant and broad based declines, the analysis of trends is (happily) complicated. Abortions were down in nearly every state, among women in nearly every category, and have been trending this way for some time.

A closer look tells us more about why this is the case. It also reveals a few areas of concern, making it clear that our efforts count and that no gain can ever be taken for granted.

Hard Data and Soft Numbers

The number of abortions is considerably down in the U.S. That much is abundantly clear. Numbers from the CDC are regular, the format is consistent year to year, and nearly every indicator points the same direction.

The CDC received reports of 664,435 abortions from state health departments (and the District of Columbia) in 2013, nearly 35,000 fewer than it reported just a year ago (699,202).

However this number comes with a huge caveat. The CDC has been missing abortions from California, the nation's most populous state, since 1998, as well as any abortion data from Maryland and New Hampshire.

The nation's other major data source, the private Guttmacher Institute, does have data for the missing states. Guttmacher recorded just over a million abortions (1,058,490) in 2011, its most recent study.

Guttmacher's numbers are considered more accurate because it surveys abortion clinics directly, rather than merely accept numbers from state health departments, but it often goes years between surveys. The next one, presumably covering 2014, is expected to come out next January.

Still, the CDC does receive numbers from the vast majority of states and these can be compared from year to year to see the unfolding of national trends. Looked at over the past decade and a half, 2013 was clearly not a statistical blip, but the continuation of a positive long term downward trend.

Not only does the CDC show abortions plunging 22.8% over the previous 15 years, but even more remarkably dropping 15.8% over just the last five recorded years.

Abortion rates and ratios confirm that this is not merely some function of population or migration.

The CDC's definition of the **abortion rate** is the number of abortions per thousand women of reproductive age (ages 15-44). In 2013, it was 12.5 , lower than any other rate recorded since Roe was decided in 1973, when the CDC recorded a rate of 14.

Again, this does not include abortions from California, New Hampshire, and Maryland. So rates adjusted with data from those states might be somewhat higher, although no one expects to be anywhere near what they were in the 1980s and 1990s .

The highest abortion rate the CDC ever recorded was 25/1,000 in 1980. (Abortion rates first hit 21/1,00 in 1976 and stayed at 20/1,000 or above through 1997.) Note that the recent figure is half that.

The **abortion ratio** for the CDC measures the number of abortions for every 1,000 live births. In 2013 it was 200, also approaching a record low. The only year since Roe the CDC recorded a lower abortion ratio was in 1973 itself, when it recorded 196.3 abortions for every 1,000 live births.

Ratios in California and the other two states may well be higher than the national average, but would not push this anywhere near the 364.1 recorded in 1984. (Historically CDC abortion ratios reached the 300 level in 1976 and remained above 300 until 1997.)

Evidence in the states

Recorded abortions were down in 40 out of 47 states (again, the CDC has had no numbers for California, Maryland, and New Hampshire since 1998) and in the District of Columbia. Rates and ratios moved largely in the same downward direction (abortion rates down in 39 of 47 states, ratios down in 37 of 47), with only six states showing increased rates, 8 showing increased ratios.

In a couple of states where changes in abortion totals were very small, the rates and/or ratios stayed the same (e.g., there were six fewer abortions in 2013 in Mississippi than in 2012, so abortion rates and ratios were not significantly affected).

In the few states where abortions did appear to increase, this was generally not by much. A couple of states increased only by a few dozen, others by less than a thousand.

Michigan was the state that reported the most sudden and significant increase, from 23,230 in 2012 to 26,120 in 2013, an increase of 2,890 in just a year's time. However nearly all of that increase occurred in three counties in

See "CDC Report," page 20

CDC Report on 2013 Abortion data show big declines in National and State Figures: Part One

From page 19

and around Detroit – Macomb, Oakland, and Wayne.

Michigan's case can be instructive when trying to determine the reason for statistical outliers.

Sometimes a new megaclinic opens in an area, spurring sudden increases. Planned Parenthood bought a non-abortion performing clinic in Oakland County and began offering chemical abortion at its Detroit location. But its plans for a new megaclinic in the area fell through, making it unlikely this was a main cause.

But Chris Gast, director of communications and education for Right to Life of Michigan, says the more likely reason was simply "better reporting after our Prolife Omnibus Act of 2012 went into effect." That bill increased state scrutiny on abortion clinics, requiring that they were properly inspected and licensed.

Inspections resulted in the closure of several clinics in those counties around Detroit in 2013. These closures may have moved abortions from clinics that did not report to those that did.

In other words, while more abortions were thus reported, it may not actually be the case that 2,890 more abortions were performed.

Dramatic drops were more the norm in 2013. There were 3,424 fewer abortions in Florida, 2,453 fewer in Illinois, and 6,324 fewer abortions in New York. There were 2,428 fewer abortions in Pennsylvania, 2,257 fewer in Ohio, 2,064 fewer in Virginia, and 1,643 fewer in Tennessee.

The media has made much of clinic closings in Texas, where abortions dropped 4,449 from 2012 to 2013. While some of those clinics may have closed due to the state's redirection of family planning funds away from abortion performing centers, the trend in Texas has been down for some time, pointing to a generally reduced demand.

The number of abortions dropped by nearly 14,000 from 2006 to 2012 , and more than 24,000 from the all time peak of 92,681 in 1990.

Some of these were bigger states, so their drops, in numbers, were bigger to start with. But some smaller states that did not have the huge abortion totals to begin with still saw drops that were, for them, quite significant. These decreases were reflected in big drops in their abortion rates and ratios.

While Delaware had just 781 fewer abortions in 2013 than 2012, because of the population, this represented a large drop in the abortion rate of 4.4 abortions per 1,000 women of reproductive age (from 21.3 to 16.9). Delaware's abortion ratio, measuring the number of abortions per 1,000 live births, took a dive as well. It decreased by 46 –from 327/1,000 in 2012 to 281/1,000 in 2013.

Delaware was perhaps the most dramatic drop, but it was not the only one. Hawaii's abortion rate dropped 3.3 and its ratio dropped 45. Nevada's abortion rate went from 13 to 10.9, and its abortion ratio from 207 to 173. Connecticut's rate dropped by 2/1,000 for women of child-bearing age and its abortion ratio dropped by 34.

Why the Falling Numbers?

Determining why these drops happened in a particular state is complicated. Some of the states seeing big drops passed legislation, others did not. Perhaps some have better pro-life outreach than others. A big clinic may have closed or a high volume abortionist may have retired.

Several states passed laws protecting pain-capable unborn children from abortion in 2012 and 2013. Others passed bans on sex-selection abortion. States have attempted to redirect funding from Planned Parenthood, the nation's largest abortion performer.

Some of the state declines may have been in direct response to some of this legislation and the debate surrounding its passage, some may have been the cumulative effect of pro-life laws such as parental involvement and right to know legislation passed years earlier.

Something important to keep in mind that is often overlooked: The impact of legislation, however, is not necessarily limited to the state where the law is debated and passed. In many states, the nearest clinic is just across the border in a neighboring state, and the radio, television, and newspapers may be centered there as well.

Given modern social media, even a story from a state halfway across the country may show up in one's news feed, provoking thought and research about the skills, motives, and integrity of the local abortion "provider" (think of convicted murderer Kermit Gosnell, who plied his sick trade in Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Louisiana). The same internet that gives women information about the filthy conditions at their local abortion clinic may also expose them to positive life-affirming alternatives to abortion.

The closure of one large abortion mill can have a huge impact on a multi-state area. In Guttmacher's last abortion report, nearly all of the drop of the approximately 150,000 abortions that occurred between 2008 and 2011 was recorded in clinics that performed a thousand or more abortions a year. About half of that occurred at clinics performing 5,000 or more abortions a year.

Whether a clinic closed due to scandal (like Gosnell's), government funding cuts or clinic safety regulations, decreased demand, or simply the retirement of an old abortionist may not be as relevant as the fact that the clinic closed and stopped its marketing and performance of abortion.

Some of these factors likely played a role in several of these states, but the broad-based nature of the decline is an indicator of continued movement in the pro-life direction. The "product" simply isn't selling as well any more. Even with the new packaging of the abortion pill, many women are rejecting the abortion "solution," and either taking steps to prevent pregnancy (abstinence or birth control) or choosing to have their babies if they become pregnant.

These latest numbers from the CDC are confirmation that America is moving, perhaps even accelerating, towards a culture more hospitable to unborn life.

That is encouraging news for which we can all be thankful.

The Demographics behind the CDC's 5% decline in abortions in 2013

CDC Report on 2013 Part 2

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

Editor's note. On page 19 Dr. O'Bannon looked at the latest decline in the number of abortions, abortion rates, and abortion ratios from the CDC. The overall 5% national decline showed up in dropping state figures all across the country. In Part Two, we'll examine demographic details from the 2013 report and see what they can tell us about how abortion has changed in the last 15 years.

When looking at abortion statistics in the aggregate, it is easy to miss the trees for the forest. We know from the CDC's reporting that there was a 5% drop in the total number of abortions, abortion rates, and abortion ratios from 2012. But other data released by CDC breaks out those numbers, telling us about the age, race, ethnicity, marital status of aborting women, as well as the timing of their abortions and the method they used.

This yields an illuminating profile. The contrast between these demographics and the CDC's abortion demographics from 15 years ago gives us not just a sense of how that profile has been changing, but also some idea of where pro-lifers have had their most effective impact and where there is more work to be done.

Age: from younger to older women

More than half of the abortions recorded by the CDC by age in 2013 were to women in their 20s. Almost exactly a third (32.7%) were performed on women 20-24, while another quarter (25.9%) went to women 25-29.

In 1998 the CDC reported more abortions (884,273) than in 2013 (664,435). But the distribution percentages for this group of women in 1998 is about the same as in this more recent report – 31.4% for women 20-24, 23.2% for those 25-29.

It is a different story with other age groups. When looked at over the long term, there is strong evidence abortion is shifting from younger women to older age groups.

For example, in 1973, Roe's first year, the CDC found teens (those 19 and under) responsible for 32.7% of all abortions. Twenty-five years later, in 1998, the CDC figure for teens 15-19 was 18.9%.

By 2013, teen abortions (ages 15-19) had fallen to 11.4%. These drops are even more significant when one considers how the overall number of abortions has dropped from about 1.5-1.6 million a year in the 1980s to just over a million as recently as 2011(Guttmacher).

At the same time, however, the share of abortions procured by women aged 30 and older has increased. Responsible for 16.5% of abortions in 1975, their percentage had increased to 24.6% in 1998 and approached a third (29.6%) in 2013. [1]

Marital Status

The vast majority of abortions in the U.S. are performed on single women as they always have been. In 2013, 85.2% of aborting women were unmarried. This figure for unmarried women is only a little higher than it was fifteen years earlier in the CDC's 1998 study, when 78.9% were unmarried, 18.4% married, and 2.7% unknown. That was similar to what the CDC found in 1984, when 78% were unmarried. Even as far back as 1975, more than seven in 10 (72.7%) were unmarried.

These figures show us that while the abortion demographic is increasingly older (but smaller – numbers shrink for all groups when there are huge overall drops), unmarried women still overwhelmingly have most of the abortions.

Gestational Age and Abortion Method

Increasingly, abortions are occurring on babies earlier in gestation. According to the CDC's 2013 report, 66% were performed at 8 weeks gestation or earlier. This is specified in many states as being calculated from the woman's last menstrual period (LMP), though in some states it is based on the clinician's estimate.

An additional 25.6% of the abortions occurred between weeks 9 and 13, meaning about nine in 10 were performed in the first trimester.

8.4% of abortions were performed at 14 weeks or more, and 1.3% were at 21 weeks or more.

However 1.3% means 5,770.

Average gestational ages were considerably higher in 1998, and there were also more late abortions. In1998, 54.6% of abortions were performed at 8 weeks, or earlier, with another 31.7% performed at weeks 9-12 (the breakdowns were different, but comparable).

In 1998, 21% of the abortions were performed at 13 weeks or later. Abortions performed at week 21 and beyond accounted for 4.1% that year.

Leading the trend towards earlier abortions has been the growth of chemical abortions (or "medical abortions," as abortionists like to call them). There were not many chemical abortions in 1998; RU-486 did not receive U.S. marketing approval until September of 2000.

So called "medical" abortions accounted for just 0.7% of all abortions in 1998, with almost all of the rest (96%) being "suction curettage" and "dilation and evacuation."

The latest CDC figures for 2013 now show curettage representing 76.5% of abortions. However "medical" abortions now account for

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23.4% of the total, with about 95% of these chemical abortions performed at 8 weeks gestation or less.

Race and Ethnicity

Race and ethnicity are tricky elements for the CDC. This is so, not simply because of the political implications, but because racial and ethnic makeup varies greatly from state to state and not every state counts these, counts them the same way, or reports them at all to the CDC.

This makes calculating and tracking the trends of abortion rates and ratios for these groups challenging. So it is not surprising to see race and ethnicity addressed in three different tables in the 2013 study. Each uses slightly different criteria, each presents data from a different number of states, and so each reports slightly different totals, rates, and ratios. [2]

Tables that look at race may not fully synchronize with those that look at ethnicity. Tables sorted by race may include significant numbers of Hispanics mixed in with white, black, and "other" populations, and vice versa with those that look at ethnic heritage but do not account for race. What we can say is that women in minority communities continue to have a disproportionate number of abortions.

Table 12 from 2013 helpfully breaks down figures for both race and ethnicity, but is missing data from nearly half the states. Using data from just 27 states, New York City, and the District of Columbia, the CDC reports 37.3% of abortions going to non-Hispanic whites, 35.6% to non-Hispanic blacks, 8.1% to non-Hispanic "other," and finally 19% to Hispanics.

In terms of abortion rates, we see the following:

> Non-Hispanic whites: 7.2/1,000 women of reproductive age
>
> Hispanics: 13.8/1,000
>
> Non-Hispanic "others": 15/1,000 (presumably Asian, Native American, Hawaiian islanders, etc.)
>
> Non-Hispanic Blacks: 27/1,000

Abortion ratios break down this way:

> 121 abortions for every thousand live births for non-Hispanic whites; 242 per thousand for non-Hispanic others;
>
> 178 per thousand for Hispanics;
>
> 420 per thousand for blacks.

Though their numbers have decreased greatly, blacks continue to have the highest abortion rates and ratios and to account for the most abortions as a minority group.

Hispanics now account for a greater percentage of the nation's abortions that they did 15 years ago, but this is likely a function of their growing population rather than increased rates. Comparing data from 1998 with 2013 is difficult because of the shifting number of states and different ways of recording race and ethnicity. That said, abortion rates and ratios were down more than 30% for Hispanics even while the overall number of abortions stayed about even.

This sort of odd statistical aberration can happen when your ethnic group's population increases by nearly 50% in just 16 years – Hispanics were 11.4% of the population in 1998, but were estimated to be 17% as of 2014.

The take home message is that pro-life work has been generally effective, but there is a greater need for it in minority areas, that is, where years of abortion have devastated the black community, and among the rapidly growing Hispanic community. The abortion industry has recognized this and aimed its marketing campaigns at these communities, and pro-lifers need to be prepared to provide counter programming.

Previous Abortions

As has been the case for many years, close to half (45%) of all women having abortions in 2013 reported having at least one prior abortion. More than 20% reported at least two. Nearly one in every 11 (8.8%) reported having three previous abortions or more.

Tragically, this is hardly a new development. The percentage repeat abortions had already climbed to around 37.6% in 1984 and hit 45% by 1998.

Previous Births

Six in 10 (59.7%) women in the CDC's survey reported having already given birth to at least one child. Already at 42.9% by 1984, the percentage of aborting women who had already given birth rose to 57.2% by 1998. The figure has hovered around 60% from 2000 forward.

Given what we know about declining teen abortions, this information tells us that the dominant image of the young, frightened teen turning to abortion to conceal her first pregnancy may be somewhat dated. While not married, many of these women are older and already have children. And many have aborted before.

Maternal Mortality

Women in America still die from legal abortion–something you are not likely to hear from the mainstream media and surely not information you're likely to hear advertised at your local Planned Parenthood clinic.

Though the CDC's data on abortion mortality (maternal mortality, strictly speaking, since the mortality rate for abortion is nearly 100% for the unborn child) is always an extra year behind, the latest report shows four women dying from legal abortions in 2012.

It is interesting to note that while the abortion industry continually defends the safety of abortion, case fatality rates have actually gone up and the number of maternal deaths have now gone over a hundred since RU486 went on the market in the U.S. in 2000.

Given the many reasons an abortion may not show up on a woman's death certificate (there may be no place to note it, the immediate cause may be an infection brought on by the abortion, families may not wish such information to be public, etc.), that even this many have been noted is both surprising and concerning.

If anything, it may be an indication that the "new" methods of abortion are even more dangerous than the old ones.

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NY Times bemoans what a pro-life administration can do

By Dave Andrusko

The editorial on December 7 in the New York Times –"What's at Stake: Protecting Reproductive Rights Under Donald Trump"– is a very important reminder of what a presidential administration can do short of making nominations to the Supreme Court, to substantial alter the contours of the abortion landscape.

The editorial begins by reminding us of the old adage "personnel is policy." President-elect Trump's "appointees and their actions" can roll back many of the pro-abortion moves the administration of outgoing pro-abortion Barack Obama undertook.

That's why it is so important that in addition to having pro-life Gov. Mike Pence at his side, over the last three weeks, President-elect Trump's initial appointments have included a bevy of strong pro-lifers, such as Sen. Jeff Sessions as Attorney General; Rep. Tom Price to be Secretary of Health and Human Services; Republican National Chairman Reince Priebus to be chief of staff; South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley as ambassador to the United Nations; Dr. Ben Carson as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; Rep. Mike Pompeo to be director of the CIA; and Betsy DeVos as Secretary of Education; Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers as Interior Secretary; Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad, who will be the ambassador to China, and Andy Puzder, who will head the Department of Labor.

This is not to ignore the overwhelming important of the Supreme Court. Mr. Trump has made it crystal-clear that he will soon name a nominee to replace the late Justice Antonin Scalia. That nominee, like all nominees to the High Court, will be pro-life, Mr. Trump has said on numerous occasions.

But it is true, as the Times points out, that changes on the High Court can be a "long process." In the shorter term we celebrate what the editorial bemoans–the changes that take place, including regulations that can be dropped and ending the unconscionable assaults on the right of conscience.

Once again: elections have consequences.

The Demographics behind the CDC's 5% decline in abortions in 2013

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Conclusion:
An Emerging Portrait

The latest CDC demographic data tell us that the woman who aborts today is more likely to be an unmarried minority, a twenty-something who already has at least one child. Chances are she will have her abortion at 8 weeks gestation or less and she is increasingly likely to turn to a chemical method.

These are critical factors to keep in mind when developing a legislative, educational, or outreach strategy. Other surveys have told us that women often turn to abortion because they simply don't see any other options. Measures that not only make women aware of but help create and provide realistic alternatives to abortion may be one very effective means of saving lives.

It is not just individuals, but whole families and entire communities that have been corrupted and destroyed by abortion. We have made a dent in the juggernaut by years of standing for life, but there is still a long ways to go.

[1] The 24.6% share of 1998's abortions to women comes from 13.7% going to women 30-34, 8.2 % to women 35-39, and 2.7% to those 40 and up. The 29.6% figure for 2013 adds the 16.8% of abortions to women 30-34, the 9.2% to women 35-39, and the 3.6% to women 40 and older.

[2] The absence of a large number of states, or large states in particular, presents a problem with any data set, whether it involves the age of aborting women, their marital status, the method of abortion they use, etc. But with race and ethnicity, the particular states included and excluded matter greatly, as these populations vary greatly from state to state.

The absence of Florida or Illinois or Arizona from a data set (missing from all three tables) doesn't simply reduce the amount of data available, but can throw things off simply because of their sizes and their unique racial and ethnic compositions.

This is without even considering the case of California, already problematic for the CDC because it does not report any abortion data to the agency. Here that matters enormously as California has a Hispanic population itself larger than the entire population of 90% of the individual states, seriously threatening to distort calculations of race and ethnicity by its absence.

Arkansas lawmaker introduces measure to ban dismemberment abortions

By Dave Andrusko

Arkansas, which has been very aggressive in its pro-life outreach, has filed a bill in the state House that would ban the grisly practice of dismemberment abortions. Six states currently forbid an abortion "technique" that uses sharp metal clamps and scissors to crush, tear and pulverize living unborn human beings, to rip heads and legs off of tiny torsos until the defenseless child bleeds to death.

"NRLC is delighted that Arkansas will soon join Kansas and Oklahoma, West Virginia, Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana as states that have said no to dismemberment abortions," said Ingrid Duran, NRLC's director of State Legislation. "This extremely gruesome and barbaric procedure physically dismembers living unborn babies and is abhorrent."

Arkansas is also one of 14 states that have passed the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act which protects unborn babies who are pain-capable and would suffer excruciating deaths as they are killed.

House Bill 1032 was filed by state Rep. Andy Mayberry. According to Arkansas Online, Mayberry "crafted" the bill that became the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act in 2013.

Arkansas State Rep. Andy Mayberry

"The bill became law after the General Assembly overrode a veto by Gov. Mike Beebe, a Democrat," reporter John Moritz wrote.

Mayberry told Moritiz that HB1032, is based on model legislation provided by National Right to Life.

Pro-abortionists, as always, were in high dudgeon. Laura McQuade is president of Planned Parenthood Great Plains, one of PPFA's largest affiliates. Planned Parenthood Great Plains conducts abortions at clinics in Fayetteville and Little Rock.

"Make no mistake, House Bill 1032 is an ideological attack designed to shame and stigmatize safe and legal abortion," McQuade said in a statement. "Planned Parenthood Great Plains provides high-quality abortion care and will fight all attempts by politicians to intervene in private medical decisions where patients believe only licensed medical providers should be advising them."

Rita Sklar, the executive director of the Arkansas chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, huffed and puffed and said Mayberry's proposed ban "would fly in the face of [U.S.] Supreme Court precedent."

"Declining to threaten a legal challenge should the bill pass, Sklar said her group would focus on opposing the bill during the next session of the General Assembly, which begins in January," according to Moritz.

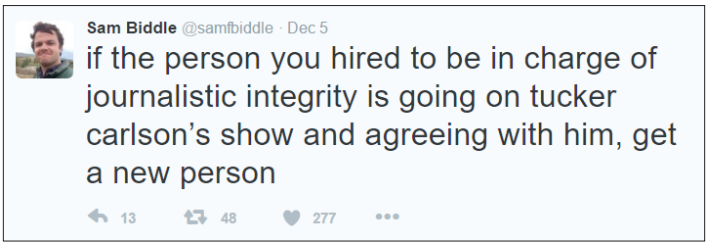
"Public Editor" pays the price for telling the truth about the *New York Times* rampant bias

By Dave Andrusko

You didn't need to be a media insider to anticipate that the usual suspects would target the *New York Times* "Public Editor" for being candid enough to admit that the Times' 2016 campaign coverage was awful. Her point was that even many "liberals" were unhappy that the newspaper told them how to think.

But then Liz Spayd went on Tucker Carlson's new program on *Fox News* and was intellectually honest enough to admit (in response to Carlson's gentlemanly questioning) that just maybe the newspaper's liberal bias was even worse than she had written about under the headline, "One Thing Voters Agree On: Better Campaign Coverage Was Needed."

I saw the Tucker/Spayd exchange and, to be honest, I cringed for her.



(It is one thing for journalists to pat themselves on the back– as they do incessantly– when they "speak truth to power." But it is another when the big wigs are the *New York Times* and not a pro-life Republican. Suddenly the Public Editor's candor and intellectually integrity earns her a black eye.)

Why did Spayd ratchet up her criticism (at the same time praising the vast majority of *Times* reporters)? Carlson read a handful of tweets from *Times* political reporters–not columnists or editors– in which their hostility to pro-life President-elect Donald Trump practically dripped off the page. Not even a pretense at objectivity.

"These are news reporters saying this stuff?" Carlson asked rhetorically. "Yeah, I think that's outrageous," Spayd replied, adding, "I think that that should not be."

Spayd continued, "They shouldn't be tweeted and they shouldn't…and it does concern me that that would be, that that'd be…I mean everybody is going to have their personal political views, we all do, but they ought to be personal. And if you sign up to be a journalist than that's what you ought to be."

For breaking the pledge of omerta (admitting the family's secrets to a conservative, pro-life outsider like Carlson), Spayd was hammered.

John Sexton wrote a piece at *Hot Air* in which he posted some of the many unhappy responses to her appearance on *Fox News*.

If you are of a certain age, Eugene McCarthy's quip comes instantly to mind. He compared Washington's political press to crows on a high wire. "When one lands," he said, "they all land. And when one takes off, they all take off."

Only this time the consensus is not against a politician but against one of their own, a woman who dares to speak the truth.

Talk about a herd of independent minds!

You can watch the full interview at youtube.com.

Abortions in Utah remain near historic lows

By Dave Andrusko

The Utah Department of Health is reporting that for 2015 the state's already very low abortion rate continues to be just over a third of the national average, more evidence the state is strongly pro-life. The abortion rate is the number of abortions per 1,000 women of child-bearing ages defined as 15-44.

The national average, as explained in the CDC in its most recent report is 12.5/1,000 women. Utah's was only 4.6/1,000.

According to the Utah Department of Health Center for Health Data, the total number of abortions in Utah increased slightly from 2014 to 2015–from 2,948 to 3,176.

Just how much things have changed–for the better–is that the abortion rate for 1980 was 11.1/1,000 women. The rate has steadily decreased with occasional exceptions such as 2015, for the last 35 years.

The 2015 numbers include the following breakdown :

- More than two-thirds of the abortions performed involved unmarried women.
- For about 23% of the women it was their second abortion
- About half the women had at least one child previously
- Women 20-29 accounted for 57% of all abortions and had the highest abortion rate. The abortion rate for teens was just 3/1,000.
- "Six in 10 abortions occurred in Salt Lake County — the most urban and most populated county in the state."

Hollywood Loves Abortion Films, But Rejected This One. Here's Why

By Katie Yoder

The producers of a record-breaking abortion movie are calling out Hollywood for a "politically-motivated double-standard" after distributors dismissed their film as "too controversial."

Billed as a film about "one of America's biggest serial killers," *Gosnell* is a crime drama telling what the liberal media refused to: the story of convicted Philadelphia abortionist Kermit Gosnell. While Hollywood and the media have gushed over abortion films in the past, they're shying away from this story that "asks difficult questions about abortion."

But then, the story of Gosnell has been censored from the very beginning.

Directed by Nick Searcy and produced by Hat Tip Films' husband-and-wife team Phelim McAleer and Ann McElhinney along with Magdalena Segieda, *Gosnell* was filmed in Oklahoma last year and stars Dean Cain (Lois & Clark).

Among other things, Gosnell was convicted May 2013 of first-degree murder of three babies (while the Grand Jury report, *The Hollywood Reporter* has noted, "alleges Gosnell killed hundreds of infants by sticking scissors into their necks").

But the trial, in which witnesses described baby abortion survivors "swimming" in toilets "to get out," attracted a mere 12 – 15 reporters. Only after 56 days, multiple letters from members of the House of Representatives and a public outcry, did all three broadcast networks report on Gosnell.

The filming of the movie itself, sponsored by a crowd-funding campaign, faced censorship. But after raising more than $2.2 million, *Gosnell* became the most successful crowdfunded movie on Indiegogo.

According to the filmmakers, "mainstream Hollywood is continuing the coverup" on *Gosnell*. In a press release, they revealed multiple studios and distributors have rejected the film of the abortionist's trial and conviction because it's "too controversial." Because of non-disclosure agreements, the producers didn't name names.

But that isn't because Hollywood believes abortion as a topic is "too controversial." Now more than ever, Hollywood is churning out movies and documentaries about abortion.

"*Obvious Child* was a romantic comedy where a likeable couple bond over her aborting their child," McElhinney pointed out. "*Grandma* – starred veteran actor Lily Tomlin – as a grandmother on a road trip trying to gather together enough money for her granddaughter's abortion."

And the liberal media loved them, lauding *Grandma* as a "funny" abortion film and praising *Obvious Child* as an "abortion romantic comedy."

Seen in that light, Hollywood's labeling of *Gosnell* as "too controversial" was "laughable," McElhinney said. "This is continuing the media cover-up – they don't want anything that asks difficult questions about abortion."

And that's what makes *Gosnell* different. What makes destroying a baby in the womb versus killing a newborn so distinct? When does life begin? Why do the media shy away from what abortion is? Those are just a few of the dangerous – but vital – questions that Gosnell's case (and the movie) prompt Americans to ask.

Regardless of Hollywood's hypocrisy, the American public is applauding the film.

"*Gosnell* has scored off the charts at test screenings," McAleer said. "It has been overwhelmingly popular with audiences." McElhinney added that, "Test audiences in their feedback have cried and praised the storytelling but also praised the movie Gosnell for its accessibility."

Filmmaker John Sullivan, who co-directed 2016: Obama's America and serves as the line producer on *Gosnell*, noted that, "Studios would typically kill for this type of positive audience reaction and press but it's clear there is a different agenda at work."

McElhinney compared Hollywood's dismissal of *Gosnell* and its audience to the mainstream media overlooking the election of Donald Trump.

"They seem to have learned nothing and don't seem to understand who their audience is," she said. "Almost 30,0000 people have approved of this film in advance – they have paid for it to be made and now Hollywood is slapping them in the face and saying they don't want them as an audience."

"Donald Trump was elected on a strong anti-abortion platform," she added. "The mainstream media missed the 60 million who supported him – now mainstream Hollywood also wants to ignore this massive audience."

The producers are planning an independent release now to overcome the Hollywood agenda.

McElhinney and McAleer have followed Gosnell's case closely from the beginning and are also publishing a book of his story. Regnery Publishing will release the book for sale on January 24th, although it is already available for pre-order on Amazon, Barnes & Noble and Books-A-Million.

"This is one of the biggest crime sprees in American history," McAleer urged. "It's a fascinating story that needs to be known. The book and movie will ensure that the coverup is ended and the truth will be known."

Despite – or in spite of – the liberal media's best efforts.

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

86-year-old man gifts hundreds of preemies with hand-knitted hats

By Lauren Enriquez

Ed Moseley is an 86-year-old who resides at Dogwood Forest Assisted Living in Acworth, Georgia. According to a recent report by *ABC News*, Moseley recently retired from a career in engineering, but he stays busy at his assisted living home with an unlikely hobby: knitting hats.

Moseley's interest in knitting was sparked when the corporate office overseeing his community and seven others challenged all of the residents to collectively knit 200 hats for premature babies cared for in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Northside Hospital in Atlanta. The hospital's NICU cares for about 2,000 premature babies each year.

Moseley told *ABC News* that he didn't know how to knit before the community challenge:

I prevailed on my daughter to get a kit, and it comes with the right size loom and the right tools to help you knit one. I just followed the instructions. It was easy. Somehow I had never knitted, and I always associated knitting with a bunch of needles but this looked pretty doable for me. I went through two or three before I came out with a good finished product.

Ed Moseley

Having a child in the NICU can be incredibly stressful. Babies born prematurely or with complications often require extensive and invasive treatment, leaving parents to wonder if their child will grow up healthy, or sometimes, if he or she will come home at all.

The knitted hat, though small, can be a deeply touching gift for parents. Linda Kelly, clinical manager of the special care nursery, told *ABC* that the gift "makes it all seem less like a hospital." Kelly said the gifts can help families to "see their baby as a baby and not as a patient."

Moseley knitted 55 of the hats by himself and rallied staff and his fellow residents to bring the grand total to more than 300 baby hats. Moseley said he is now knitting larger hats for his own grandchildren.

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

French Senate Passes Pro-Life Website Ban

Bill could be used to restrict churches from teaching about abortion

By Bill McMorris

Last Wednesday the French Senate adopted a bill that will make it a crime to post pro-life information on the internet.

The Senate voted 173-126 to approve legislation that will make it a crime for any website to publish material at odds with the nation's abortion regime. The legislation, which passed the French National Assembly on Dec. 1, will prosecute pro-life activists for "exercising, by any mean, moral and psychological pressures, threats or any act of intimidation against people seeking information on a voluntarily termination of pregnancy."

Sen. Francoise Laborde, a member of France's Radical Party of the Left, said during debate that pro-life websites constituted "horrors and lies" and should be prevented from operating. The bill targets those who operate pro-life websites or provide information about abortion alternatives.

Violators will face up to two years in prison and $30,000 in fines.

The Senate approved an amendment that appears to soften the ban by removing "in a dissuasive aim" from the text of the Assembly bill. On paper, that amendment will punish "misinformation," while allowing pro-life activists to attempt to persuade women against abortion.

Grégor Puppinck, director of the European Centre Of Law And Justice, said the Senate bill "is better writing, but not better substance." It will do little to protect the free speech rights of pro-life activists because the amended language continues to bar "moral and psychological pressure," a vague term that leaves pro-lifers vulnerable to accusations from pro-abortion activists.

"Publishing the Christian teaching that abortion is a crime could be seen as putting pressure on people," he said. "The simple sharing of information that might upset moral conscience could be sufficient to constitute a crime."

The French Senate

Puppinck said that the wording of the law could extend from explicitly pro-life activist groups and websites and eventually include entire religions. The Catechism of the Catholic Church, the guiding document for France's largest religion, calls abortion a "moral evil," adding that "this teaching has not changed and remains unchangeable." Since the Catholic clergy in France cannot change the teaching, they would have to remain silent on the subject or face penalties for communicating its position that abortion is "gravely contrary to the moral law."

"This law may prohibit the church from publishing its position on abortion. If you teach that it is a sin then teaching itself would be sufficient for prosecution," he said.

The Senate and National Assembly will now enter a process to reconcile the original and amended bills. The National Assembly will have the final decision on which bill to advance to Socialist President François Hollande—a vote that is expected to occur in the coming weeks.

Pro-life activists intend to take the matter to France and the European Union's highest courts if necessary. A coalition of 60 lawmakers who voted against the bill can ask France's Constitutional Council to rule on the matter before Hollande, whose party championed the bill, can sign it. If that effort is not successful, Puppinck says that the European Centre for Law and Justice will take the case to the European Court of Human Rights.

He said that the court should follow in the footsteps of the United States Supreme Court, which unanimously struck down a law that prevented pro-lifers demonstrating outside of abortion clinic sidewalks in 2014.

"It's a real limitation on free speech aimed at mainstreaming abortion," Puppinck said. "We expect that this court, like the U.S. Supreme Court, will support freedom of speech and recognize that abortion is a public issue that has to be debated freely."

Dr. Joseph Meaney, director of international coordination for the pro-life Human Life International, has been working in France over the course of the debate. He said that the Assembly and the Senate are attempting to limit the information that women debating abortion receive. The criminal penalties associated with espousing pro-life views, he said, were some of the most extreme actions taken by the abortion lobby.

"The main concern expressed was that women seeking abortion not be confronted with any pro-life information," he said. "They are willing to make it a crime to have a pro-life website that seeks to help women not to abort."

Editor's note. This appeared at the Washington Free Beacon and is reposted with permission.

A very good day for pro-life President-elect Trump, a very bad day for pro-abortion Democrats

By Dave Andrusko

If you've been around as long as I have, you don't make mountains out of molehills. But you also have to be careful not to make what may be mountains into molehills.

What do I mean? Put succinctly, regardless of what you will hear from the "mainstream media," pro-life President-elect Trump is on a roll, and pro-abortion Democrats are desperately attempting to find toeholds.

For example, if you happened to have watch (and then read about) President-elect Donald Trump's visit to Indiana as part of his "Thank You" tour, you would have quickly realize two things. First, it is very difficult to overstate how Mr. Trump can galvanize crowds. He is really good on the stump.

Second, the mainstream media, which long ago dedicated itself to defeating Mr. Trump, has not skipped a beat: they are even more determined to write off any success he may have even before he is inaugurated in January.

Then there is the POLITCO story, headlined, "Democratic Ranks Crack." It is not referring to the serious fractures in the House Democratic Caucus, although it could have. Nancy Pelosi is House Minority Leader again, but the final tally of 134 for Pelosi and 63 for her fellow pro-abortionist Rep. Tim Ryan is proof positive there are major fissures.

Instead Jackie Calmes, Jonathan Martin, and Jennifer Steinhauer were alluded to two major developments. First

Senator Heidi Heitkamp, Democrat of North Dakota, is paying a visit to Trump Tower on Friday, and Senator Chuck Schumer of New York, the incoming minority leader, is having heart palpitations.

"I appreciate the president-elect inviting me for a meeting. … Whatever job I do, I hope to work with the president-elect and all of my colleagues in Congress on both sides of the aisle to best support my state" [said Heitkamp].

To Democrats, that last line can mean two things, neither of them good. If she is in line for an administration job, her Senate seat would turn Republican. If not, she seems to be indicating she is a possible vote for the Trump agenda.

And no matter what, her seat is up in 2018 — in a state that went to Mr. Trump with 62 percent of the vote.

President-elect Donald Trump and Vice President-elect Mike Pence talk with factory workers at the Carrier factory in Indianapolis

Second, pro-abortion Rep. Keith Ellison (D-Mn.), who is the frontrunner to be the next chair of the Democratic National Committee, has enough baggage to sink an ocean liner. While common knowledge, it is only now beginning to get attention from anti-Trump networks, in this case, CNN.

A very good day for President-elect Trump, a very bad day for Democrats.

2016 Election Overview: NRLC triumphant against radical pro-abortion movement

From page 1

maintain pro-life leadership in the U.S. Senate looked grim. To begin with there were many more pro-life Republicans up for re-election than pro-abortion Democrats.

Moreover, millions upon millions of dollars would be spent by pro-abortion groups to defeat our pro-life candidates. EMILY's List, the extreme pro-abortion PAC that only works for Democrat women who support abortion for any reason, claimed to raise more than $60 million for the 2016 election cycle.

Planned Parenthood, the nation's largest abortion provider, announced its political action committee would spend nearly $30 million targeting pro-life candidates. NARAL Pro-Choice America spent hundreds of thousands of dollars in digital ads targeting pro-life senate candidates in highly competitive races during the last weeks of the campaign.

Larry Sabato, a prominent political analyst, predicted a net gain of four Democratic seats in the U.S. Senate, thus leaving a 50-50 tie. The tie-breaking vote would be cast by the vice president, who (we were all told to expect) would be pro-abortion Sen. Tim Kaine. Others predicted the U.S. Senate would flip to pro-abortion Democratic leadership.

It looked impossible. But with your assistance, we proved otherwise.

National Right to Life and its political entities, National Right to Life Political Action Committee and National Right to Life Victory Fund, were actively focused on 60 of the most competitive federal races overall: the Presidential race, twelve U.S. Senate races, and 47 races for the U.S. House of Representatives.

Despite the dire predictions and huge financial disparity, National Right to Life's political entities won 10 of the 12 closely contested Senate races, or 83%.

In the most competitive pro-life/pro-abortion U.S. House races, National Right to Life political entities won 39 of the 47 races, again 83%. Overall, we won 50 of the 60 closest races in the country, once more, 83%.

Although you didn't read this other than places such as *NRL News Today*, in a post-election poll taken by the polling company/Women Trend on November 8, 49% of all voters said that abortion affected their vote. How did they vote?

31% of those "voted for the candidates who oppose abortion (pro-life)," while only 18% "voted for the candidates who favor abortion (pro-choice)." This was a 13% advantage for the pro-life candidate.

EMILY's List, Planned Parenthood, and NARAL Pro-choice America candidates had a huge financial advantage this election, but fortunately, the babies and their pro-life candidates had YOU.

For more about the impact of abortion on the 2016 elections, see "A National Referendum on Abortion" by Dr. David O'Steen, executive director of National Right to Life, which appears on page one.

How Trump won

From page 2

According to Khazan. … Abortion. [Her evidence does not include the educational and get out the vote work of groups such as National Right to Life whichwould make her case more solid. See page one.]

She shrewdly observed, "Trump's embrace by these groups might signal the importance of abortion—an issue on which at least a fifth of Americans say they will not compromise when voting. In 2015, 21 percent of Americans said they would only vote for a candidate who shared their abortion views, up from 13 percent in 2008."

Khazan continued with her examples: "Then, [Trump's] remarks about abortion during the final presidential debate—he said, 'you can take a baby and rip the baby out of the womb of the mother just prior to the birth of the baby'"—and then concluded, "It seems, though, that pro-life voters might have been persuaded by some of Trump's other comments in the final debate. He said he'd like to see the Supreme Court overturn *Roe v. Wade* and for abortion rights to be left up to the states. Hillary Clinton, meanwhile, said, "I strongly support *Roe v. Wade.*"

You think?

Then there was the impact of the rationing-enhancing Obamacare. In a post titled, "The 13 most amazing findings in the 2016 exit poll," Cillizza listed #9 as "Obamacare," a "wind beneath Trump's wings." The late October announcement that the average premium for people in the federal insurance exchange of the Affordable Care Act would rise by an average of 25 percent landed like a lead balloon on a not-insignificant portion of the electorate. Almost half of the electorate (47 percent) said they thought Obamacare "went too far."

Trump beat Clinton 83 percent to 13 percent among that group.

How many times were we told that unless almost all Republicans voted for Trump he couldn't win? That was true. What wasn't true were all the stories that flatly stated that **could not possibly happen**.

In fact 90% of self-identified Republicans said they voted for Trump, compared to 89% of self-identified Democrats who voted for Clinton

What about late-deciders, voters whom AOL's Christina Gregg called "apathetic"? This was the nearly one in five voters who were genuinely conflicted, not having a favorable opinion of either Donald Trump or Hillary Clinton.

According to Gregg's reading of Edison Research exit poll data, "This 1-in-5 voter is the demographic that broke strongly for Trump, 49 percent to 29 percent." In fact they broke considerably more so in several key swing states.

States	"Neithers "	Trump	Clinton
Wisconsin	22%	60%	23%
PA	17%	56%	31%
Michigan	20%	50%	29%
Florida	14%	61%	24%
NC	15%	63%	28%

Then there is Trump's comparatively better standing among Latino and African-American voters.

* 29% of Latino voters cast their ballots for Trump. In 2012, Mitt Romney carried 27%.

African-Americans? Eight percent for Trump in 2016, 6% for Romney.

What conclusions might we draw?

Trump did better among virtually every demographic than we were assured he would: He soundly beat expectations. He carried more White Evangelicals, more women, including more women with a college education, more late-deciders, more Republicans, and more white working class voters than the "experts" confidently assured us he would.

One other category: pro-lifers. In the exit poll, 21% said Supreme Court appointments was the most important issue for them. 56% of those voted for Trump, compared to 41% for Hillary Clinton.

Hot Air's "Allahpundit" noted, of course, we can't know how many of those people would have voted for their respective candidates anyway.

But you could say that about **any** issue. So it is important that we not dismiss a 15 point differential on the issue of the Supreme Court. That was huge.

For all those reasons, including all the work National Right to Life's political action committees did throughout the campaign and in the waning hours in key states, Donald Trump is President-elect.

Silver Screen is Rejecting "Gosnell," But Here's a Silver Lining

By Jay Hobbs

Editor's note. National Right to Life News Today posted a story about how the makers of "Gosnell" cannot find a distributor for their forthcoming movie about the West Philadelphia abortionist who was convicted of three counts of first degree murder. What follows gives more detail and provides a happier side development.

Hollywood may be too afraid to tell the truth about abortion, but the same doesn't go for AlphaCare, a pro-life medical clinic set to relocate its services just a wall away from Gosnell's former office this December.

AlphaCare's move, slated for Dec. 19, will mark a significant step for the pregnancy center and two of its leaders—Karen Hess and Kim Bennett—who have been praying and planning to bring hope and healing to the neighborhood since 2011.

Having served women since 1981 within just a few miles of the Lancaster Ave. site it will now call home, AlphaCare is bringing its free ultrasounds, free pregnancy testing, options counseling, post-abortive healing, parenting education and more to many of the same women on whom Gosnell preyed for three decades.

A major impetus for Hess and Bennett—herself post-abortive—is to help women and families in the immediate area heal after so many years of oppression, and an estimated 40,000 lives lost through abortion.

"There is a darkness in what took place in that neighborhood and the impact of that business in that corner of the city," Bennett told Pregnancy Help News in January. "To be able to go in there and begin to redeem it, even from our two row homes, is huge. It's huge to be able to be a light in an area where there was so much darkness."

Suppressing the "Controversial" Truths of Abortion and Murder

For over 30 years prior to his arrest and ensuing convictions in 2013—which included three guilty verdicts of murder in the first degree—Gosnell operated what one government investigator famously called a "House of Horrors."

At Gosnell's clinic, babies were not only routinely killed after they were born alive, but conditions were so unsanitary and medical attention so derelict that at least one woman, Karnamaya Mongar, died after a botched procedure at his clinic.

While media coverage of the trial and gruesome details uncovered in the investigation of Gosnell's practice has been scant to say the least—a trend famously called out during the trial by syndicated columnist Kirsten Powers—Wednesday marked another milestone in the media's ongoing blackout of the story.

As Mollie Hemingway pointed out this summer at The Federalist, one of the few reporters who covered the case from the courtroom tweeted, "Sat through a full day of testimony at the Kermitt (sic) Gosnell trial today. It is beyond the most morbid Hollywood horror. It will change you."

In an email to supporters Wednesday, producers Phelim McAleer and Ann McElhinney announced that, after having shown their film to "every major distributor in Hollywood," not one of those companies would agree to move forward on a deal, citing the "controversial" nature of the movie.

Starring Nick Searcy and Dean Cain, a record-breaking 30,000 individual supporters sponsored the entirety of the film's $2.3 million-plus budget at Indiegogo.com. The producers had originally started a KickStarter.com campaign to raise the money, before that site censored their project.

While McAleer told Breitbart News' Daniel Nussbaum he is kept by non-disclosure agreements from telling which distributors refused to move forward with the film, test screenings "scored off the charts."

Pro-life advocate David Daleiden, whose three-year undercover research revealed the abortion industry's illegal underground market in the body parts of aborted babies in 2015, said it "is the best film about abortion ever made."

Intentionally lacking any graphic scenes or unnecessary depictions, the film is rated PG-13, accomplishing a major goal of the production team to remove any legitimate obstacles to its release, per Nussbaum's report.

"Hollywood's refusal to distribute the Gosnell movie is a politically-motivated double standard because the Gosnell

See "Silver," page 36

The Civil War, The French Revolution, Segregation: no parallel too ridiculous to describe a Post-*Roe v. Wade* world

By Dave Andrusko

To old-timers, the name Linda Greenhouse is instantly familiar. As the Supreme Court reporter for the *New York Times* for nearly three decades, Greenhouse held enormous sway over how legal decisions were interpreted. So influential was her coverage that critics attributed at least part of the Supreme Court's shift to port to her incessant lobbying thinly disguised as analysis—-"the Greenhouse effect."

A couple of years ago, in analyzing one of Greenhouse's hysterical critiques of the Roberts' Court (her insistence that "politics drives the court's decisions" which is code for they came down with decisions she disapproved of), *National Review's* Ramesh Ponnuru astutely observed, "This critique of the court is itself pretty ideological and not very self-aware."

With regard to abortion, Ponnuru observed

> **Greenhouse has long been an influential voice. In 1970, she publicized the claims of an academic that American law had never been concerned with protecting the lives of unborn children. Those claims have long been discredited. They nonetheless left an enduring mark, having made their way into *Roe v. Wade*, the court's landmark abortion case.**

In her 1,500-word-long "Chasing Abortion Rights Across the State Line,"

President-elect Donald Trump

Greenhouse says of her opening paragraph (which reads)

> **Half slave and half free. The last time the United States split into two countries, it didn't work out at all well**

"If that sounds like a hyperbolic reaction to the yawning red state, blue state divide, so be it." So at least she is self-aware that what will follow may seem to the unenlightened to be a tad overboard.

But, if you understand what's **really** going on, you'll concur that were abortion jurisprudence returned to the 50 states, we'd be in a situation equivalent to the pre-Civil War United States. (Get it? Half slave, half free–Abraham Lincoln's famous "House Divided" speech?)

Greenberg's launching pad is the *60 Minutes* program where a hostile, grim-faced Leslie Stahl asked President-elect Donald Trump what would happen if *Roe v. Wade* were overturned. He said, quite accurately, "if it ever were overturned, it would go back to the states."

That is to say, each state would formulate its own abortion statutes, which was the case before *Roe* (and the companion case of *Doe v. Bolton*) overturned the existing abortion laws of all 50 states.

Equally accurate, Trump said,

Linda Greenhouse

"It's got a long way to go, just so you understand. That has a long, long way to go."

But Greenhouse was just getting warmed up. By the fourth paragraph, Greenhouse has hit her stride. She talks of a new kind of "a new underground railroad from red to blue [states]."

By the sixth paragraph, she is analogizing what would ensue to "separate but equal"–segregation.

By the fourteenth paragraph, Greenhouse has moved on to the French Revolution and Marie Antoinette (bride of King Louis XVI):

> **While President-elect Trump's "let them go somewhere else" was at odds with the country's deep seated constitutional culture, it also conveyed a "let them eat cake" cynicism.**

(By the way, historians agree Marie Antoinette said nothing of the sort. But fact-checking never was Greenhouse's strong suit nor would mere accuracy ever be allowed to get in the way of an outlandish, over-the-top parallel.)

And so it goes…and will go for the media elite of whom Greenhouse remains a star, although she is no longer Supreme Court correspondent but a contributor to the *Times'* op-ed page.

Nothing but nothing is too ridiculous to predict, nothing but nothing too vicious to be said about President-elect Trump.

Unfortunately, rather than cooling off, the Media Establishment which did everything in its power to elect Hillary Clinton President, will only grow more and more deranged.

The inhumanity of euthanasia in Belgium

This brilliant short documentary explains why euthanasia abandons patients.

By Michael Cook

Euthanasia is billed as a humane practice. But after watching this brief documentary about Belgium it's hard to believe that. Euthanasia was legalised there in 2002 and since then about 8,000 cases have been officially registered. Experience shows that demand grows with availability. Now children and the mentally ill can be given a lethal injection.

As one doctor remarks, "If someone thinks that it is intolerable to have bad eyesight, and that it is incurable because they don't want to wear glasses, then we are in a situation within the criteria of the law. They ask for it repeatedly, so what is the problem?"

The video was made by ADF International, a global partner of the US lobby group Alliance Defending Freedom, an alliance-building legal organization that advocates for the right of people to freely live out their faith. It features several Belgians who have an intimate knowledge of their country's euthanasia culture.

Editor's note. You can watch the video at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r7ME2HKsUd4. This post appeared at MercatorNet and is reposted with permission.

Saying "Adoption – Not Abortion" and Really Meaning It

From page 7

of what it requires to save the life of the same child. Having walked the adoption path twice, I will tell you that every penny is worth it, and that (at least in my experience) every dollar went to pay for services rendered with the utmost care and dedication. No one, at least in Hague countries with proper oversight, is getting rich in the process. But people's time and expertise, plane tickets, attorney's fees, orphanage donations, hotel costs and other things add up fast.

As I mentioned in the beginning, adoption is a lot like anything else you will do in life that is worth your time. Marriage takes commitment. Parenting takes work. Making a difference in the world takes sacrifice. Most among us do these things every day without thinking twice. So don't let the challenges deter you.

I am asking you to consider all of this for two reasons. First of all, I don't ever want you to say "adoption – not abortion" again without understanding the reality behind those three words. (Don't stop saying it. It is absolutely true. Just realize that there is more to the picture than most of us ever sees.)

Secondly, I very much hope that you will look at the realities of adoption and do one of three things: adopt, reach out to help a family who has adopted, or be in serious and fervent prayer for families who are releasing children for adoption, or making a child their own through adoption.

Our Movement is comprised of amazing people with vast resources. Some have money to give, others give of their time and talents, while still others support in other ways. Together we are an amazing force. On this last day of National Adoption Month for 2016, as we move into one of the most celebrated seasons in our culture, I'm asking you – ALL of you – to find a way you can make the adoption equation easier for someone.

If you know of a family who is fundraising to adopt, contribute – as much as you can. If you know of a family who has adopted, please find a way to help. Offer to bring a meal in the early days. Stay in touch as they've had their child home for a longer time. Offer to babysit so the parents can get some much-needed time to breathe. Pray that their family would thrive.

And you. If you've ever considered adoption, please – ADOPT. I don't have words to explain what it means, so I will just leave you with this.

It may seem a paradox but it is not: Adoption is the hardest thing you will ever do but it will bring you more joy than you can imagine.

Adoption will reveal things in you that you didn't realize were there. It will stretch you. It will try you.

But, and please hear this from the deepest places of my heart, it will change you in the best way possible. Adoption filled my home and my heart with two little girls, each of whom faces her own struggles in life.

Separately we are broken and imperfect people. Together we are a family – one that, like yours, still has flaws – but one that loves just as deeply as any created by biology.

A National Referendum on Abortion

From page 1

people, made it clear that the Supreme Court was on the line for a generation and that he would appoint only pro-life justices. Hillary Clinton made it just as clear that she would appoint only justices who would uphold, and undoubtedly expand, abortion on demand paid for with taxpayer dollars.

Donald Trump gave 100% pro-life answers to National Right to Life's questions, met with pro-life leaders of National Right to Life and made campaign manager Kellyanne Conway, a strong, well known pro-life advocate, a public face of his campaign. At the same time Hillary Clinton made seemingly countless appearances at Planned Parenthood events pledging over and over her fealty to their abortion agenda.

In the their third debate President - elect Trump made what were perhaps the strongest pro-life statements ever made by a candidate to a national audience and called out Hillary Clinton on her past Senate vote in favor of partial - birth abortion. Hillary Clinton countered by continuing to defend her support for legal partial-birth abortion, undoubtedly thinking that was a winning ticket. How wrong she was.

A national poll of voters taken on election day, November 8, by the polling company Inc./Woman Trend found that essentially half of all voters (49%) said that abortion affected their vote. **How did they vote – 31% said they voted for candidates who opposed abortion while only 18% said they voted for candidates who favored abortion – a 13% advantage for the pro-life side.** When you think how close the vote was in Pennsylvania and the other states which determined the election, it is clear that abortion made a clear difference in the election.

How did they vote? 31% said they voted for candidates who opposed abortion while only 18% said they voted for candidates who favored abortion – a 13% advantage for the pro-life side. When you think how close the vote was in the states like Florida, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania which determined the election, it is clear that abortion made a clear difference in the election.

The poll results also clearly reflected the heavy involvement of National Right to Life and its political action committees, the National Right to Life PAC and the National Right to Life Victory Fund.

Fully 29% of voters recalled hearing, seeing or receiving information from National Right to Life and 17% recalled hearing, seeing or receiving information from a state right to life group such as an NRLC affiliate.

National Right to Life and its political action committees mailed 3.3 million pieces of literature, made 5 million phone calls, sent 3 million e-mails and reached 9.2 million through social media, many of whom undoubtedly shared, reposted and retweeted National Right to Life's information.

All in all National Right to Life's PACs were actively involved in 58 federal campaigns, winning 48 (83%) of them.

Yes, there was a referendum on abortion on November 8. Hillary Clinton lost and Donald Trump won – but unborn children won also.

Silver Screen is Rejecting "Gosnell," But Here's a Silver Lining

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movie is a true story and it shines a negative spotlight on abortion," the producers wrote in Wednesday morning's email.

"But we are not going to give up. At every point in the story of Dr. Kermit Gosnell the establishment have tried to suppress the truth. They suppressed the truth when he was operating his house of horrors and killing women and children."

McAleer and McElhinney are planning to release the film independently, and have released a book, "Gosnell: The Untold Story of America's Most Prolific Serial Killer," which available for pre-order at Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble and Books a Million.

In the meantime—and for the long run—AlphaCare, which recently added a mobile ultrasound unit to its suite of services, is ready to write a new story in Philadelphia.

This August, a Christian social services agency that works closely with a local pregnancy center bought and converted an abortion clinic formerly owned by notorious abortionist James Pendergraft in Ocala, Fla.

Former abortion clinics turned into life-affirming pregnancy centers in recent years include two in Iowa—including one former Planned Parenthood clinic—two in Miami, one in Toledo, Ohio, and a former flagship Planned Parenthood building in Bryan, Texas, that now houses both 40 Days for Life and a pregnancy help medical clinic.

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