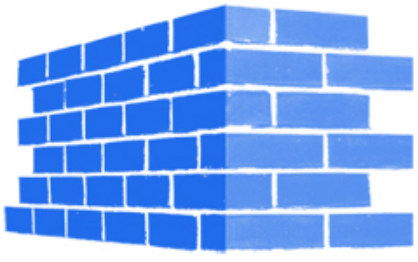
# national RIGHT TO LIFE NEWS

**February 2016**



BUILDING A PRO-LIFE FUTURE

NATIONAL RIGHT TO LIFE CONVENTION 2016
HERNDON, VA // JULY 7-9, 2016 //

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national RIGHT TO LIFE NEWS

# Why the U.S. Senate must refuse to cooperate in President Obama's plan to make the U.S. Supreme Court into a pro-abortion super-legislature

By Carol Tobias, President, National Right to Life Committee

**February 19, 2016** -- At the U.S. Supreme Court, a vacant chair is draped in black. In filling the vacant seat, the stakes could not be higher.

The vacancy should be filled by the president who is elected on November 8, 2016.

Certainly, the Constitution gives President Obama the authority to nominate a replacement for the late Justice Antonin Scalia – but the Constitution also makes it clear

that the vacancy will endure until the U.S. Senate gives "consent" to a nominee. There are various ways that the Senate may refuse to consent, including inaction on a nomination, which is what should occur in this case.

That is because this is not *primarily* about the professional credentials of a particular nominee – it is about *who decides* whether unborn children will be protected,

*See "Senate," page 18*

# Trump wins in South Carolina with Rubio second; Clinton overcomes Sanders' challenge in Nevada

By Dave Andrusko

Such is the accelerated pace of the nominating process that no sooner had Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton prevailed in the South Carolina primary and Nevada caucuses, respectively, than all eyes turned to "Super Tuesday."

To be sure Republicans held their Nevada caucuses last night with Mr. Trump carrying nearly 50% of the vote and Florida Senator Marco Rubio finishing second. Democrats will have their South Carolina primary Saturday, February 27, but for now Mr. Trump and Mrs. Clinton seem to have such commanding leads most attention is focusing on March 1.

On Super Tuesday, 11 states (12 for the GOP) hold their nominating contests (mostly primaries). It's also called the "SEC" primary [for Southern Eastern Conference] because seven of the 11 states are in the South.

Everyone has their takeaways–few or many–from the recently concluded battle in South Carolina.

*Donald Trump*

First there are the two winners. Although he received fewer votes than predicted by a slew of polls, Mr. Trump did carry the day in the Palmetto state, winning 32.5%.

By contrast, in a photo-finish, Sen. Rubio, who had not done well in the pre-election polls until the final few days, edged Texas Sen. Ted Cruz by 2/10ths of a percentage point for second place.

*See "Trump," page 40*

# Editorials

## Antonin Scalia: Rest in Peace

Many people have rightly commented admiringly about the grace with which the son of Justice Antonin Scalia, Fr. Paul Scalia, conducted his father's funeral. What incredible pressure: millions of people watching on *C-SPAN* as Fr. Scalia delivered a moving and (as his father would have wanted) amusing homily.

Early on he said

> **We are gathered here because of one man. A man known personally to many of us, known only by reputation to even more. A man loved by many, scorned by others. A man known for great controversy, and for great compassion. That man, of course, is Jesus of Nazareth.**

Of course, this was misunderstood (deliberately by some, inadvertently by the biblically illiterate) by the many haters who were trolling online, using a *Washington Post* story that was being composed as the service was conducted as a place to vent their spleen. Fr. Scalia's next paragraph explained what he meant, why it was such a reassurance to the family, and how it was central to his father's life as a devout Catholic:

> **It is He whom we proclaim. Jesus Christ, son of the father, born of the Virgin Mary, crucified, buried, risen, seated at the right hand of the Father. It is because of him. Because of his life, death and resurrection that we do not mourn as those who have no hope, but in confidence we commend Antonin Scalia to the mercy of God.**

When Justice Scalia passed away February 13, National Right to Life issued a brief but poignant statement. "We are deeply saddened by the death of Justice Antonin Scalia. Justice Scalia steadfastly defended the right of elected lawmakers to enact laws that protect unborn children and their mothers and he often issued powerful critiques of the judicially manufactured barriers that limited such legislative efforts. Our thoughts and prayers are with Justice Scalia's widow and family."


In this editorial, I will add a few additional thoughts to NRLC's heart-felt tribute.

*See "Scalia," page 29*

## NRL News: packed with timely information, powerful inspiration, and mountains of encouragement

By the time the March digital edition of *National Right to Life News* is published electronically, we will know a great deal more than we do today about who will be the presidential nominees of the Republican and the Democratic parties. March 1--"Super Tuesday"--received that title for a reason: 11 states (12 for the GOP) hold their nominating contests (mostly primaries).

For Republicans, there are 595 delegates at stake in a little less than two weeks, 1,004 for Democrats. GOP candidates need 1,237 delegates to win the nomination. Democrats need 2,383. So back- of-the-envelope calculations tell us almost half of the number of delegates each party's candidate needs to secure the nomination is on the table.

We've covered the Iowa and Nevada caucuses, the New Hampshire and South Carolina primaries at *National Right to Life News Today.* We will cover the nominating process in detail all the way through August at *NRL News Today*. This invaluable Monday through Saturday resource is available free. Just take 40 seconds out and sign up at www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/news/join-the-email-list/#.Vsuj6H0rJko.

The February edition of *NRL News* is filled with stories on various political races. To cite just four examples, see pages 5, 10, 23, and 31. What are we trying to convey?

Obviously, that every American has a huge investment in the outcomes not just of the presidency, but also in the outcome in the United States Senate and House. President Obama has caused damage to the cause of life. Perhaps the longest-term impact will linger long after he's gone to lecture the world about his magnificence: his two appointments to the Supreme Court.

In addition to the vacancy caused by the death of Justice Scalia, it is reasonable to expect that the next President will nominate at least two more justices. We want them to have a respect for the text and the meaning of the Constitution and a Senate that shares that commitment.

*See "NRL News," page 32*

## From the President
## Carol Tobias

# Shaping the Future

In my column for the January issue of NRL News, I offered several reasons why we need to elect a pro-life president this year and encouraged you to share my thoughts with family and friends.

We need a pro-life president to help us change the course of this nation to promote a culture where innocent human life is valued, treasured, and protected. Of course one person in the oval office is not able to do the job alone, but he or she can help to create a framework for the generations who follow us.

This column is about how we at National Right to Life have been at the forefront of rearing up the next generation of pro-life leaders. In season and out, NRLC educates, trains, and motivates young people. Who will keep this human rights battle moving forward if not they? If you aren't personally familiar with some of these great young people, I hope you will look for ways here to help promote pro-life advocacy among out nation's youth.

One of our most successful programs is the National Right to Life Academy. This program for college students is a five-week course with in-depth training on pro-life issues.

The curriculum covers a wide variety of subjects, including the history of the pro-life movement, ethics, parliamentary procedure, lessons learned from other social movements and specific legislation. The students don't learn just about abortion. Also included is an in-depth look at the various arguments for other pro-death proposals, such as assisted suicide, health-care rationing, and embryonic stem cell research.

Each day, the students participate in what is called a practicum, debating each other and NRLC staff members on key life issues. These daily sessions, which simulate real-world experiences, form the cohesive structure that ties the course together. Each practicum brings each student closer to being an effective activist for protecting innocent human life.

Supplementing the course work are lectures by NRLC staff. Veterans of many years in the trenches, they share their expertise on topics such as media strategy, outreach to churches, fundraising, and public speaking tips.

College students also have the opportunity to serve as interns in the NRLC office. Our summer program, typically lasting 8 weeks, selects interns to join one of our departments and become an integral part of day-to-day activities. In addition to the daily work, interns attend weekly seminars held by the leaders of the movement, educating and encouraging the next generation of activists. Our National Right to Life interns get one-on-one time to learn first-hand from leading experts in the movement, and learn the history of where our movement has come from, and how we've ended up where we are today. These seminars, beyond the invaluable pro-life education they provide, offer opportunities for the interns to get to know one another and make life-long friendships.

In 1985, recognizing the need to educate and motivate young people, National Right to Life started National Teens for Life. After 30 years, many of the teens from those early years are making a difference, working with NRLC or our state affiliates, or they have become strong voices for the voiceless in their chosen profession and daily lives. The National Teens for Life convention will be held in conjunction with the NRLC convention in Washington DC on July 7-9. Join us at the convention and bring as many teens with you as possible.

The NRLC convention is also the focal point of several contests for young people. The annual oratory contest for high school students will be held on Saturday as judges listen to speeches from students who have won their state contest, giving them the opportunity to compete against students from around the country.

Amateur filmmakers from ages 15-25 are invited to submit a short video. This year's topic is "Why laws need to protect innocent human life." The winning video will be shown at the convention.

Our annual essay contest, for grades 7-9 and 10-12, is already underway as judges are reading the many essays that have been received from around the country.

In addition to all this, some of our state affiliates host Life and Leadership camps, tailored to different age groups, from middle school to college.

For information on any of these outreach activities, please check out the Student Center on our website.

The brightest light for the future of the pro-life movement is young people. They/you are not just future leaders; they/you are leaders today.

Leaders in the abortion industry recognize the fact that the passion among young people in the abortion debate is much stronger among pro-life youth. Frances Kissling, former president of Catholics for a Free Choice, observed that "the anti-abortion camp is getting younger." Nancy Keenan, former president of NARAL, told Sarah Kliff, then of the Washington Post, that the organization's research found there is an intensity gap among millennials – more pro-life than pro-abortion voters under the age of 30 consider abortion to be a "very important" issue.

In greater and greater numbers, the post-Roe generations are rejecting the idea of abortion on demand. They know that 1/4 to 1/3 of their generation is gone, having been killed before birth. They have also likely seen an ultrasound image of themselves as a preborn child.

After working with young people for many years, I have every confidence in saying that the future of the pro-life movement is in good hands.

# Dismemberment Ban Passes West Virginia's Senate

Despite treacherous weather, hundreds of pro-life West Virginians gathered at the state capitol February 15 to rally in support of Senate Bill 10, the Unborn Child Protection from Dismemberment Abortion Act.

SB 10 will ban a particularly gruesome abortion procedure in which a live, fully formed unborn child is torn limb by limb using a sharp instrument. Senators Robert Plymale and Ron Stollings offered an amendment that would have allowed ACOG (American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology) to determine whether a doctor who performs this procedure on a live baby used the "standard of care." However, ACOG has already expressed opposition to this bill saying it is the "standard of care," therefore pro-life Health Committee Chair Ryan Ferns spoke against the amendment saying that it would render the bill "null and void." The amendment failed and SB 10 passed in the Senate by a 24-9 vote Wednesday and will now move on to the House of Delegates.

A number of West Virginia's obstetrician-gynecologists have said that in their decades of practice this procedure has never been necessary.

Those who spoke at the Rally in support of SB 10 included Senate President Bill Cole, Speaker Tim Armstead, Attorney General Patrick Morrisey and Majority Leader Mitch Carmichael. Dozens of state Senators and Delegates also spoke in favor of the bill.

Said Pro-life Senate President Bill Cole, "As I look forward to West Virginia's future, I am encouraged knowing we are doing all we can to protect future generations. I believe every life is a gift, and every life has the potential to accomplish great things. We must defend those who cannot defend themselves, and give them every chance at life."


*Mary Anne Buchanan, communications director for West Virginians for Life, presented petitions in support of the dismemberment ban to pro-life Speaker Tim Armstead and pro-life Senate President Bill Cole during the pro-life rally at the capitol.*

Pro-life Speaker Tim Armstead spoke in favor of the bill and was pleased to see the pro-life faithful turn out as they always do.

Mary Anne Buchanan, communications director for West Virginians for Life, said, "When bad wintry weather plays a role and yet the number of people who show up are this good, it demonstrates just how committed pro-life West Virginians are to seeing the unborn in our state protected from this horrid method of abortion."

The crowd joined Frank Tettenburn as he closed the rally with his inspiring rendition of "God Bless America".

*Editor's note. On February 23, the House Health Committee passed the Unborn Child Protection from Dismemberment Abortion Act. It now goes to House Judiciary Committee.*

# A Word of Caution to Pro-Life Voters: Don't Undermine Our Ability to Protect Life

By Karen Cross, National Right to Life Political Director

Following the Iowa and Nevada caucuses and the New Hampshire and South Carolina primaries, the election season is in full swing. The process of choosing the presidential candidate for both parties will continue through June 7. Congressional primary elections begin March 1, and will run through September 16, except in Louisiana, which holds their primary on November 8. Here are some thoughts to keep in mind.

**Presidential Election**

At times, passion runs high; there is a lot at stake in this election. The next president will likely have an opportunity to sign a reconciliation bill to defund Planned Parenthood, the nation's largest abortion provider. Will it be vetoed, as it was by President Obama on January 8, or will it be signed? If Hillary Clinton or Sen. Bernie Sanders (Vt.) is the president, it will surely be vetoed.

Even the Hyde Amendment, a law which since 1976 prevents taxpayer funding of elective abortions through federal programs, could be at risk depending on who voters elect as the next president. (The Hyde Amendment has been attributed to saving at least one million lives.)

Finally, during the next four-year presidential term, it is quite possible that about four seats may open up on the U.S. Supreme Court, which are lifetime appointments. This has lifelong implications – for our children and our grandchildren.

**Congressional Elections**

Some pro-life incumbent congressmen are being challenged by candidates who claim that their votes in favor of the Omnibus Appropriations bill (H.R. 2029) means they are "not really pro-life." This is being said of some of the most stalwart defenders of life on the Hill!


Committed pro-life House members, who have 100% voting scores from National Right to Life, are being inaccurately, unfairly described as "not pro-life enough" by some critics, who in some cases may merely be poorly informed and in other cases may have exterior political motives.

In fact, National Right to Life took no position on H.R. 2029, which passed the House of Representatives on December 18 by a vote of 316-113.

"No House member did anything contrary to pro-life interests by voting in favor of the omnibus appropriations bill on December 18, 2015," said Carol Tobias, president of National Right to Life. "The bill preserved existing pro-life laws such as the Hyde Amendment, and contrary to some claims, it contained no earmark, line item, or specific appropriation for Planned Parenthood."

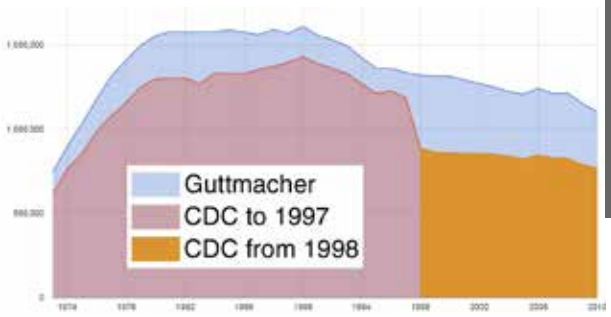
"We need a new law to prevent Planned Parenthood from tapping into federal health programs such as Medicaid – but that effort was best advanced by approval of a separate bill, the budget reconciliation bill (H.R. 3762), which was immune from a pro-abortion filibuster," Tobias continued. "Although the reconciliation bill was vetoed, the filibuster-avoiding path blazed by H.R. 3762 can be employed to enact a block on funding to Planned Parenthood, once there is a president willing to sign it."

**A Word of Caution**

A word of caution to pro-life voters. As you support your preferred pro-life candidate in the primaries, it is important that you don't bash other pro-life candidates. It weakens support for the candidate who eventually wins and undermines the very goal of saving countless lives.

And, if "your" candidate does not win the primary, it is crucial that you stay engaged.

Bottom line: when pro-life voters stay home, babies die.




# ABORTION STATISTICS

## United States Data & Trends

After reaching a high of over 1.6 million in 1990, the number of abortions performed annually in the U.S. have dropped to around 1.06 million a year.

Two independent sources confirm a downward trend: the government's Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Guttmacher Institute (GI), which was once a special research affiliate of abortion chain Planned Parenthood.

The CDC ordinarily develops its annual report on the basis of data received from central health agencies (the 50 states plus New York City and the District of Columbia).GI gets its numbers from direct surveys of abortionists conducted every few years.

Because of its different data collection method, GI consistently obtains higher counts than the CDC. CDC researchers have admitted it probably undercounts the total because reporting laws vary from state to state and some abortionists may not report or under-report. Increases and decreases for the CDC and GI usually roughly track each other, though, so both sources provide useful information on abortion trends and statistics. The CDC also stopped reporting estimates for some states in 1998, making the discrepancy larger.

Abortions from CA and NH have not been counted by the CDC since 1998, and other states have been missing from the totals during that time frame: OK in 1998, AK from 1998 to 2002, WV in 2003 and 2004, LA in 2005, MD from 2007 to 2012. For areas that did report, overall declines were seen from 1998 through 2012. The CDC showed a decline of nearly 125,000 abortions from 2007 to 2012.

Guttmacher's latest report also shows a significant recent decline, seeing abortions fall 13% from 2008 to 2011. Most all of this decline appears to have occurred at clinics with annual case loads of a thousand abortions a year or more. The number of abortions with RU-486 and other chemical abortifacients were up despite the overall decline.

Cumulative abortions since 1973 were generated using GI figures through 2011 and then using the 2011 number as a projection for 2012 through 2015. Then a 3% undercount GI estimates for its own figures was added, yielding the total below.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1973 | 744,610 | 615,831 |
| 1974 | 898,570 | 763,476 |
| 1975 | 1,034,170 | 854,853 |
| 1976 | 1,179,300 | 988,267 |
| 1977 | 1,316,700 | 1,079,430 |
| 1978 | 1,409,600 | 1,157,776 |
| 1979 | 1,497,670 | 1,251,921 |
| 1980 | 1,553,890 | 1,297,606 |
| 1981 | 1,577,340 | 1,300,760 |
| 1982 | 1,573,920 | 1,303,980 |
| 1983 | 1,575,000 | 1,268,987 |
| 1984 | 1,577,180 | 1,333,521 |
| 1985 | 1,588,550 | 1,328,570 |
| 1986 | 1,574,000 | 1,328,112 |
| 1987 | 1,559,110 | 1,353,671 |
| 1988 | 1,590,750 | 1,371,285 |
| 1989 | 1,566,900 | 1,396,658 |
| 1990 | 1,608,600 | 1,429,247 |
| 1991 | 1,556,510 | 1,388,937 |
| 1992 | 1,528,930 | 1,359,146 |
| 1993 | 1,495,000 | 1,330,414 |
| 1994 | 1,423,000 | 1,267,415 |
| 1995 | 1,359,400 | 1,210,883 |
| 1996 | 1,360,160 | 1,225,937 |
| 1997 | 1,335,000 | 1,186,039 |
| 1998 | 1,319,000 | 884,273* |
| 1999 | 1,314,800 | 861,789* |
| 2000 | 1,312,990 | 857,475* |
| 2001 | 1,291,000 | 853,485* |
| 2002 | 1,269,000 | 854,122* |
| 2003 | 1,250,000 | 848,163* |
| 2004 | 1,222,100 | 839,226* |
| 2005 | 1,206,200 | 820,151* |
| 2006 | 1,242,200 | 852,385* |
| 2007 | 1,209,640 | 827,609* |
| 2008 | 1,212,350 | 825,564* |
| 2009 | 1,151,600 | 789,217* |
| 2010 | 1,102,670 | 765,651* |
| 2011 | 1,058,490 | 730,322* |
| 2012 | 1,058,490 § | 699,202* |
| 2013-15 | 1,058,490 § | |

*Excludes NH, CA and often at least one other state.
§ NRLC projection for calculation

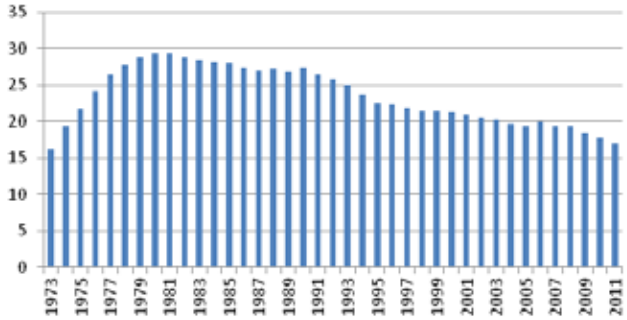
### THE CONSEQUENCES OF *ROE V. WADE*

# 58,586,256

### TOTAL ABORTIONS SINCE 1973

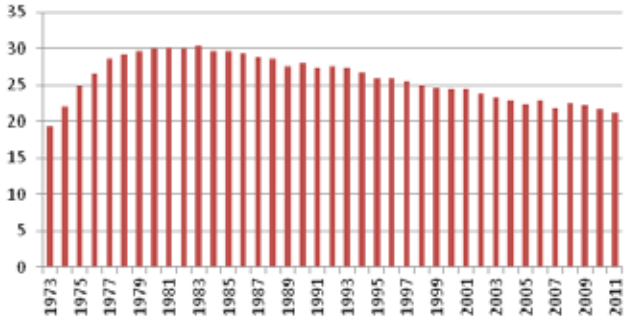
## U.S. Abortion Rate

abortions per 1,000 women ages 15-44 (as of July 1 each year)




## U.S. Abortion Ratio

abortions per 100 pregnancies ending in live birth or abortion




Not surprisingly, abortions surged when they were first legalized in states like Colorado, California, and North Carolina in the late 1960s, and then in the nation as a whole in 1973 under Roe v. Wade. They continued to climb throughout the 1970s as the number of abortionists grew and many in society began to acclimate themselves to the idea of abortion on demand.

A large segment of the public, though, saw abortion for what it was – the destruction of innocent human life – and undertook legislative, educational, organizational, and practical steps to protect the lives of unborn children and their mothers. Over the years, this began to have an impact.

Abortions as a whole first reached around 1.55 million in 1980 and hovered at this level for about ten years. After peaking at 1.6 million in 1990, they fell by about 34%, reaching an annual level of about 1.06 million in 2011.

Several factors can impact the numbers of abortions. If there are fewer women of reproductive age (15-44) in one year rather than another, and if that group skews older, from population shifts or bubbles, that will reduce the numbers of abortions even if the likelihood of abortion for any given woman stays the same.

In theory, anything that impacts female fertility, such as a successful national teen abstinence campaign, the large scale use of birth control, or even high rates of reproductive injuries or diseases, can reduce the likelihood of pregnancy and hence abortion.

Economic factors may play a role as well, but their impact is unclear. Many women cite a sense of inability to afford the care of a child in their decisions to abort, but this may also affect their willingness to risk pregnancy.

Abortion rates and ratios, which measure the prevalence of abortion in a society and the choices made by pregnant women, give a little clearer idea of what may be going on.

Guttmacher measures the abortion rate as the number of abortions per 1,000 women aged 15-44 as of July 1 in a given year. This gives us an idea of how common abortion is in our culture at a particular time.

Looked at in this way, abortion reached its highest prominence around 1980, when there were about 29.3 abortions for every thousand women of reproductive age. Though, owing to population, the raw number of abortions stayed the same or even rose during the decade, the prevalence of abortion, with a higher population, began to decline from around 1982 on.

By 2011, the rate had dropped to 16.9, nearly half the peak rate, meaning abortion was a significantly less common feature in women's lives in 2011 than it was in 1980. Population changes don't tell the whole story, however.

**The abortion ratio**, for Guttmacher, is the number of abortions per 100 pregnancies that end in either abortion or live birth (miscarriages and stillbirths are not counted). This number is significant, since it tells us the likelihood that any given pregnant woman will choose to abort or give birth to her baby.

Like the rate and the raw numbers, the abortion ratio rose swiftly after Roe, reaching 30 by 1980. Though estimated to have gone as high as 30.4 in 1983, it trended down after that point, dropping to 21.2 in 2011.

This is an indicator that real changes in attitudes and behaviors are involved, as a higher proportion of pregnant women are choosing life, rather than death, for their babies.

What accounts for this? There were fewer abortionists, but a correlation between them and the number of abortions may say as much about demand as supply. Economic conditions?– mixed throughout the long decline.

It is notable that during the time of these changes, pro-life legislation has been passed in many states. Since 1989, 26 states have passed right to know legislation, making sure women know not only the risk and realities of abortion, but also of alternatives better for them and their unborn children. Caring volunteers at pregnancy care centers all around the country make these alternatives realistic.

Twenty-nine states now have substantive parental involvement laws in place, protecting teens from adolescent fears and exploitation by the abortion industry. Waiting periods, limits on taxpayer funding, and ultrasound viewing laws have surely played significant roles. Partial-birth abortion laws and laws protecting pain-capable unborn children have also brought awareness of the child's humanity to a broader public.

Millions of pieces of pro-life literature illustrating fetal development have been distributed, confirming what so many women have seen for themselves in sonograms and heard on fetal heartbeat stethoscopes, that abortion stops a beating heart and ends the lives of children with hands, feet, and faces.

The abortion industry has not abandoned the market, however, building glamorous new mega-clinics and pushing pills like RU-486 with false promises of easy, safe chemical abortions.

# Huge Victory in Northern Ireland

By Dave Andrusko

These kinds of battles never end, but for now, pro-lifers have an important victory: they have thwarted an attempt to change Northern Ireland's very protective abortion law to include exceptions for fatal fetal anomaly, rape, and incest.

A proposal to allow abortions in cases of fatal fetal anomaly went down to defeat by a vote of 59-40. An amendment relating to pregnancies which are the result of rape or incest was defeated by 64 votes to 30. Members of the Alliance party were responsible for introducing both.

*Northern Ireland's attorney general, John Larkin*
*Photograph: Press Association*

Unlike other parts of the United Kingdom, the 1967 Abortion Act does not extend to Northern Ireland.

The results followed a passionate debate. The vote followed a carefully crafted campaign by pro-abortionists.

"This is a wise decision," said Dr Peter Saunders of Christian Medical Fellowship. "The acceptance of these amendments would have left the law badly misshapen and open to further erosion. As is clear from our experience elsewhere in Britain, once we legislate for exceptions we discriminate against some preborn babies and leave them without full legal protection. The current law is clear and right and fit for purpose and does not need changing."

"It is heartening that the majority of MLAs [Members of the Legislative Assembly] have voted to uphold the sanctity of life today in Stormont," said Callum Webster of the Christian Institute . [Stormont is the seat of the Northern Ireland Assembly.] "There has been a media campaign to undermine the legal protections afforded to our unborn children, but thankfully politicians have resisted that co-ordinated pressure."

Social Democratic and Labour Party member Dolores Kelly raised concerns that the change could pave the way for "abortion on demand," according to the *Belfast Telegraph*.

She said: "This proposed amendment, what legislators may believe is a discreet and minor development of existing law, has also introduced a critical difference to the underlying philosophy of abortion legislation which will undoubtedly be focused upon by those who seek greater change."

Proponents said opponents lacked compassion.

Prior to the debate, Attorney General John Larkin QC, sent a letter to a member of the legislative assembly and "raised concerns that changing the law on fatal foetal abnormality could breach obligations under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities," The *Belfast Telegraph* reported.

Mr Larkin wrote, "Providing for a criminal law exception for 'fatal foetal abnormality', as proposed by this amendment, provides unborn children diagnosed with such a disability with much less protection under the law of Northern Ireland than those without such a disability."

Last November Mr. Justice Mark Horner largely agreed with The Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission that Northern Ireland's abortion legislation breached Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights by not allowing for abortions in cases of fatal fetal anomaly, rape, and incest.

*Dr. Peter Saunders*

When he read his final conclusion, delivered over the course of two hours, Justice Horner had two options. First, he could essentially change the law himself (it's called to "read down" current law to include these exceptions) or, second, make a "declaration of incompatibility," meaning that the matter of introducing new legislation would be "for the Northern Ireland Assembly to decide," as Lesley-Anne McKeown explained for *The Mirror*.

Horner told a packed hearing at Belfast High Court it would be "a step too far" for him to interpret sections 58 and 59 of the Offences Against the Person Act 1861 to allow for abortion in these three instances.

"Having given due consideration to all submissions and the arguments raised therein, I conclude that such a view is correct," he said. "Accordingly, as indicated in my judgment, and for the reasons set out in that judgment and as a matter of last resort, I make a declaration of incompatibility."

Thus while the MLA was not specifically compelled to address the issues, the "onus" (as so many publications put it) was now on members.

Hence the February 10 vote, which ran past midnight.

Ahead of the debate the Democratic Unionists Party said it wanted the health minister to convene a commission to examine the issue of abortion and report back in six months. According to the BBC, a spokesman said, "We believe that this issue should best be dealt with in a measured way rather than in haste and without the benefit of appropriate scrutiny. Rushed law can often turn out to be bad law."

# BUILDING A PRO-LIFE FUTURE

## NATIONAL RIGHT TO LIFE CONVENTION 2016

HERNDON, VA // JULY 7-9, 2016 //

## Some of our confirmed speakers:

**Kathryn Jean Lopez**
National Review Online

**Guy Benson**
Townhall.com Political Editor
& Radio Personality

**Carol Tobias**
National Right to Life
President

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# House fails to override Obama veto, setting the stage for fall elections

By Dave Andrusko

Repeat after me: elections have consequences. In spite of a valiant effort by the prolife Republican congressional leadership, on February 2 we were unable to override pro-abortion President Barack Obama's veto of HR 3762. Currently while we do not have two-thirds to override a presidential veto, the vote accomplished many critically important objectives.At the top, every voter knows there are 186 members of the House who, rain or shine, scandal or no scandal, will vote to keep hundreds of millions of dollars of federal funds going to Planned Parenthood and protect many parts of Obamacare, including the program that provides tax-based subsidies for about 1,000 health plans that cover elective abortions.

The vote also reminded us of what happens when the occupant of the White House walks arm-in-arm with the abortion industry.

The tally was 241-186, a vote that came down almost entirely along party lines. All but three Republicans– John Katko and Richard Hanna of New York, and Bob Dold of Illinois–voted to override Obama's veto of "The Restoring Americans' Healthcare Freedom Reconciliation Act."


By contrast all Democrats, except for Colin Peterson of Minnesota, voted to sustain the president's veto.

As National Right to Life explained,

**The vote was an important historical step occurred on our road to returning protection to the unborn. It won't lead to a new law – not yet – but it is an important victory nonetheless.**

**Pro-lifers got as close as we've come to eliminating virtually all federal funding of Planned Parenthood, and also to repealing major anti-life provisions of Obamacare. Working strategically with pro-life leaders in Congress, we won important votes on the floors of the House and Senate, employing a rarely used procedural technique called Budget Reconciliation to get the bill that we call the "pro-life budget reconciliation bill" to the president's desk.**

**That Barack Obama chose to veto the bill, and got enough of his Democratic House members to vote to uphold his veto, doesn't end the issue. Not at all.**

**What it does is to show America what we need to advance from this important step to ultimate enactment: a pro-life president in 2017 who will not veto the bill.**

**It's that simple.**

# Pro-life Kentucky Gov. Bevin grateful for chance "to sign meaningful legislation"

By Dave Andrusko

Not only was Senate Bill 4, a measure that tightens up the state's informed consent law, the first bill the legislature sent to Gov. Matt Bevin this session, it was the first bill the new governor signed into law.

"We have worked for over a decade to correct the obviously flawed interpretation and enforcement of the original bill that we passed in 1998," said Margie Montgomery, executive director of Kentucky Right to Life Association. "We are grateful for the thousands of pro-life citizens across the commonwealth who, for years, have been active in the legislative and political process. We thank pro-life Republican Leadership in both the House and Senate for working with us and, of course, our new Pro-life Governor! Elections do matter for women and their unborn babies."

Since 1998, Kentucky's 24-hour informed consent for abortion law has been enforced by a court order and the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure allowing a recorded telephone message which meant no interaction with the abortionist.

SB4 offers women the options of meetings in person or by real-time video consultation.


*Pro-life Kentucky Gov. Matt Bevin*

According to the *Associated Press*, the bill

**won final legislative passage Monday, representing a rare compromise on abortion legislation in Kentucky's politically divided legislature. Then in an unusual move, the Senate took a break from its business Tuesday to allow several lawmakers to accompany the bill's delivery to the governor's office. Bevin emerged from his inner office a few minutes later to greet the legislators.**

**"This is an extraordinary day," Bevin said in signing his first bill into law since taking office.**

In an interview, Bevin said, "I'm grateful for the chance to be able to sign meaningful legislation, and today was a day when a meaningful piece of legislation was put in front of me." The law goes into effect in July.

The decision was made to sign the law yesterday rather than wait for a pro-life rally that will assemble at the Capitol February 11.

The *AP's* Bruce Schreiner wrote

**Senate President Robert Stivers said the impromptu signing reflected the bill's significance.**

**"We wanted to make that type of a statement with the (bill) sponsor delivering to the new governor his first bill for signature," Stivers, R-Manchester, told reporters.**

# Florida board moves against infamous late-term abortionist James Pendergraft

By Dave Andrusko

The next time pro-abortionists assert that convicted murderer abortionist Kermit Gosnell was an "exception," a "renegade," or an "outlier," remind them of the likes of James Pendergraft IV.

His sordid story is almost beyond belief. Here's the latest on a man perpetually in trouble.

On February 19, Florida

*Abortionist James Pendergraft*

newspapers reported that after Pendergraft was arrested in South Carolina last month, four abortion clinics, including two in Orlando, now face the loss of their licenses.

*The Orlando Sentinel's* Margie Menzel reported

> **The Florida Agency for Health Care Administration filed administrative complaints last month against EPOC Clinic LLC in Orlando, Orlando Women's Center LLC, Ocala Women's Center LLC and Fort Lauderdale Women's Center LLC.**
>
> **"This is an administrative action to revoke the respondent's licenses to operate a clinical laboratory and an abortion clinic," the complaints said. …**
>
> **All four clinics are associated with physician James Pendergraft, who performs abortions. Pendergraft was arrested in South Carolina in October for what the state described in the administrative complaints as "drug related offenses."**
>
> **The Agency for Health Care Administration delivered the complaints to the clinics on Jan. 19 and 20. They did not give details of Pendergraft's arrest, and an AHCA spokeswoman said the arrest records were confidential.**

Menzel noted that the clinics filed cases last week in the state Division of Administrative Hearings, changing the agency's findings. Online dockets say administrative law judges have scheduled hearings in April in three of the cases.

So what were these "drug related offenses?"

*World Magazine* reported last month that Pendergraft was arrested October 5 by Spartanburg County Sheriff deputies. He and the woman passenger, identified as his wife, were pulled over for a traffic violation.

According to Bob Brown

> **A search of Pendergraft's car turned up illicit drugs and forceps covered in blood and human tissue, leading Sheriff Chuck Wright to speculate that Pendergraft was operating an illegal mobile abortion business in the state.**
>
> **"He traveled around the state of South Carolina without a medical license, with drugs and with medical tools performing in-home abortions," Wright said at an Oct. 9 press conference. "So basically we've got an illegal baby killer and his wife was charged with possession with intent to distribute marijuana"**

Menzel reported that The Agency for Health Care Administration "also has been embroiled in recent months in legal battles with other abortion clinics over allegations that the clinics performed second-trimester abortions without having proper licenses. Four challenges filed by clinics remain pending in the Division of Administrative Hearings, while another case was settled."

Pendergraft's license has been suspended multiple times by the Florida Board of Medicine. His most infamous case was a 2001 lawsuit in which "A jury found the doctor and woman's center negligent, and awarded the family more than $36 million in damages," according to *Channel 13 News*. But there were plenty of other run-ins with the law.

Pendergraft and an associate, Michael Spielvogel, were convicted February 1, 2001, for fraudulently accusing a Marion County official of threatening them and later demanding millions of dollars from the county, the Star-Banner reported. They were sentenced to 46 and 41 months in prison, respectively. Pendergraft was released after serving only seven months of his sentence.

Pendergraft runs a website where he advertises that he performs abortions "after 24 weeks."

# He lived for four hours after birth – but had a million followers on Facebook

## *Shane Haley's parents speak in Dublin*

Although he lived outside the womb for just four hours, baby Shane Haley gained almost one million followers on Facebook and garnered the attention of the world's media due the innovative "bucket list" of fun activities or significant locations his parents took him to while he was still in the womb.

Baby Shane had been prenatally diagnosed with anencephaly, a diagnosis his parents described as "devastating."

Shane's parents, Dan Haley and Jenna Gassew, came to Dublin to speak to the International Perinatal and Hospice Care Conference organized by Every Life Counts and others at the Royal College of Surgeons. At the conference they made a powerful and profoundly moving presentation about their son Shane and the important of perinatal care at a medical conference and they also made several media appearances which allowed them to share their son's beautiful story with the rest of Ireland.

On *Ireland AM* they spoke movingly about Shane and the importance and value of even a short life. "We wanted to make the most of his life," they said. "He was our son, and we were his parents and we wanted to take care of him as long as we could."

"He was our little boy and even though he was given such a short life expectancy because of anencephaly, we wanted to make sure that we gave him a lifetime worth of adventures and love while he was with us," they said. Dan and Jenna was given the option to abort but decided firmly against termination.


Interviewed by *Newstalk's* Colette Fitzpatrick they said that they both knew that they would always keep the baby, "we were just parents and when you become parents you do everything you can for your child."

"We said, he is still our son and the diagnosis didn't change that he is our son," said Dan Haley in a moving and poignant interview.

The Haleys said that completing the Bucket List for baby Shane was a comforting process and that they would remember the time they had together for the rest of their lives. They shared how his birth was a celebration: "We told him how much we loved him. I just kept saying 'you're so handsome, I love you so much'," his mother Jenna said.

The Haley family's bucket list included going to a Phillies baseball game, the Zoo, Carnival rides, visiting the Statue of Liberty. They posted their bucket list photos to Facebook where their story quickly went viral and Baby Shane soon had a huge and supportive following from all across the globe.

On *Ireland AM*, presenter Mark Cagney said that the love Dan and Jenna showed for their son was 'extraordinary and uplifting' and expressed his admiration for their courage, dignity and grace.

The TV presenter also asked if a view might exist amongst some medical professionals who thought parents were best to opt for abortion where a baby was diagnosed with a condition like anencephaly.

Jenna pointed to the parents who she had met in support groups online who had felt that there was no other option than abortion – because perinatal care had not been offered to them – and who now experienced feelings of loss and pain. They urged doctors to do more to support parents so that they might have time with their sick babies.

*Editor's note. This appeared in LifeZone.*

# END DISMEMBERMENT ABORTION!

## Brutal method is used to harvest baby body parts.

**Recent undercover videos have exposed one of the ugliest sides of the abortion industry--the trafficking in baby body parts (tiny livers, hearts, brains, lungs, limbs, etc.). Many of these baby body parts are obtained by dismemberment abortions.**

**Whereas,** dismemberment abortion is a common and brutal method of killing unborn children by tearing them limb from limb;

**Whereas,** these abortions are performed on developing unborn children who have beating hearts, detectable brain waves, legs, arms, eyelids, toes, fingerprints, and every organ system in place;

**Whereas,** this procedure involves using forceps or similar instruments to grasp parts of a living, developing unborn child (many of whom can feel pain), and using these tools to twist and tear away pieces from the child until her entire body is removed from the womb;

## Therefore, we the undersigned support legislation that would protect unborn children from barbaric dismemberment abortions.

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# Justice Scalia on the Constitution, abortion, and assisted suicide

By Paul Stark

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, who passed away February 13, believed that the role of the Court is to faithfully interpret and apply the law as it actually is—not as the Court wants it to be. Making law and policy is the job of the elected branches of government. Judges should not be legislators.

That's why Scalia took the position he did on abortion and the Constitution. The Constitution simply does not require, as the Court mistakenly ruled in *Roe v. Wade* (1973), a nationwide policy of abortion on demand. In his dissenting opinion in Planned Parenthood v. Casey (1992), which upheld the "central holding" of *Roe*, Scalia explained:

> **The issue is whether [abortion] is a liberty protected by the Constitution of the United States. I am sure it is not. I reach that conclusion … for the same reason I reach the conclusion that bigamy is not constitutionally protected—because of two simple facts: (1) the Constitution says absolutely nothing about it, and (2) the long-standing traditions of American society have permitted it to be legally proscribed.**

*Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia*

Therefore, Scalia concluded,

> **"The permissibility of abortion, and the limitations upon it, are to be resolved like most important questions in our democracy: by citizens trying to persuade one another and then voting."**

Dissenting in *Stenberg v. Carhart* (2000), which struck down a state law banning partial-birth abortion, Scalia wrote:

> **The notion that the Constitution of the United States, designed, among other things, "to establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility … and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity," prohibits the States from simply banning this visibly brutal means of eliminating our half-born posterity is quite simply absurd.**

*Hodgson v. Minnesota* (1990) dealt with the details of Minnesota's parental notification law. In a complicated and divided outcome, the Court upheld the law as long as there is a judicial bypass option (Scalia would have upheld the law regardless). Scalia noted:

> **One will search in vain the document we are supposed to be construing for text that provides the basis for the argument over these distinctions; and will find in our society's tradition regarding abortion no hint that the distinctions are constitutionally relevant, much less any indication how a constitutional argument about them ought to be resolved. The random and unpredictable results of our consequently unchanneled individual views make it increasingly evident, Term after Term, that the tools for this job are not to be found in the lawyer's—and hence not in the judge's—workbox. I continue to dissent from this enterprise of devising an Abortion Code, and from the illusion that we have authority to do so.**

Nor does anything in the Constitution prevent states from prohibiting assisted suicide or protecting against the dehydration and starvation of medically vulnerable patients. In *Cruzan v. Missouri* Department of Health (1990), Scalia wrote:

> **American law has always accorded the State the power to prevent, by force if necessary, suicide … [T]he point at which life becomes "worthless," and the point at which the means necessary**

*See "Scalia," page 20*

# "Pro-love" Pregnancy Center Takes Over ex-Planned Parenthood Building

By Jay Hobbs

It's difficult to imagine a more stark contrast between successive tenants at the same location than those who have called 1109 South Sumner home in Creston, Iowa, over the past year.

The previous occupant, Planned Parenthood, had seen business slow to a trickle of patients. Too little income to keep a staff on hand, it could only open its doors by appointment. Even then, one of the few services it did provide was abortion via telemedicine, consisting of a video conference call with remote clinician who prescribed each patient a medication [chemical] abortion.

The building's new owners, Lc Clinic, couldn't be more thrilled.

"We have had so many people coming in, and just to see these people's lives being changed, to be a part of that, is a huge honor for me," Hannah Shady, the clinic's manager, said. "To be able to see some of the children, and to be able to share in their lives, the sadness, but also the joys and the triumphs is amazing."

Lc Clinic's suite of free, community-supported services includes pregnancy testing, limited ultrasounds, STI testing, options counseling, parenting classes, material assistance and more.

The clinic, which opened in July, is Lc Clinic's second location, along with the original site in Stuart—40 minutes to the north. A five-minute walk from a Wal-Mart Supercenter, the building wasn't necessarily on Lc Clinic's wish list, even though the board and leadership staff was scouting out potential sites in Creston in early 2015.

This was all on the tail end of a 40 Days For Life campaign where a local pastor remembered joking with friends about the possibility of converting the Planned Parenthood building into a pro-life outpost.


*Lc Clinic expanded into a new location, purchasing a building had belonged to Planned Parenthood.Photo Courtesy: Lc Clinic*

"We had no intentions of ever moving into that Planned Parenthood building," Fennessey said. "It's so many different crazy pieces. Obviously, it's 100 percent God. There is no humanly way possible that this could ever have worked out."

Fennessey, a registered nurse, started Lc Clinic in Stuart back in March 2012. With one of her board members a doctor who serves as medical director, Fennessey was able to add ultrasound services in December 2013.

Even as they went through two years of planning and working to launch the effort in Stuart, the group's vision always went beyond her town, starting with Creston.

The gift of an upgraded—and mobile—ultrasound unit from Knights of Columbus this summer arrived just in time to use it in both locations.

"Even five years ago, six years ago, when there was no clinic yet, we were hoping and praying to start a pregnancy center in Creston," Fennessey, who has seen her clinic's budget double through fundraising in the past five years, said. "God just opened the doors to allow us to do crazy things through our tiny town of Stuart."

Shady, who grew up in Creston, was part of the 40 Days For Life campaign outside what has now become her office. Her desire to see pregnancy help take root in her hometown had brought her into contact with Fennessey.

With a background in owning and operating small businesses and serving on boards, Shady—a self-described "organizational freak"—was a natural choice to as the Creston manager.

Her fitness for the position came into focus even before the site opened, when the Planned Parenthood clinic's outgoing manager penned a fiery op-ed in the local paper, aimed at Lc Clinic

"People were very, very quickly jumping on one side or the other," Shady said. "I'm what I like to call 'pro-love.' I love everyone, regardless of their opinions. I just told everyone, 'Just take it easy and we'll keep doing our thing. We know what we're here for. We're here to help people. We're here to love people.'"

The move into a former Planned Parenthood is one of only two known instances where a pro-life pregnancy center has repurposed a property once belonging to the abortion giant. Hope Pregnancy Centers of Brazos Valley (TX) is the other, having cut the ribbon on a former Planned Parenthood flagship in November of 2015.

Heartbeat of Miami (FL) recently repurposed its second shuttered abortion facility, while the building at 72 Ransom Ave. in Grand Rapids, Mich., that once housed an abortion facility is now home to LIFE International. The National Memorial for the Unborn in Chattanooga, Tenn., is also a converted abortion clinic.

"This is really what I want to do for the rest of my life," Shady said. "We care about our clients. We love them and love to show them real help."

Along with free services such as limited ultrasound and material aid, Lc Clinic offers free STI testing, options counseling, parenting classes and more.

*Editor's note. This appeared at pregnancyhelpnews.com.*

# Sex-Selective abortion in New York: an open secret

By Dave Andrusko

The headline in the *New York Press* is "Sex-Selective Abortion in New York." Written by Rui Miao and Virginia Gunawan, the story alternates between minimizing the occurrence and more candid comments clearly indicating the values of the "old country" endure.

A subhead captures the it's-there-but-getting-better theme: "While the practice appears to be diminishing, it remains an open secret within some communities."

Here's what we know from this highly informative story. For starters

> **Pregnant women, most of them Chinese and Indian, often go to abortion clinics for early stage fetal gender tests. If the fetus is found to be female, another procedure — abortion — sometimes also takes place, according to interviews with dozens of physicians, community leaders and Asian immigrants in Manhattan's Chinatown, Queens' Flushing and Jackson Heights and Brooklyn's Sunset Park.**
>
> **Like many of her friends, Zhou tested her baby's sex each time she conceived. Unlike others she knows, she said, Zhou never had an abortion. She now has three girls and a 1-year-old son, her youngest child.**

What else tells us how pervasive sex-selection abortion is in these communities? That while an unscientific survey of younger women in these communities finds they believe there is less preference for males in Chinese immigrant culture

> **many said older relatives and close friends continue to favor boys over girls, and sex-selective abortion remains an open secret within the city's Chinese immigrant communities.**

Of course it is extremely difficult to pin down a figure, which is why anecdotal evidence can be suggestive. Miao and Gunawan observe

> **The number of sex-selective abortions performed in this country is difficult to determine. The reasons women have abortions are not officially tabulated. Major abortion clinics, such as Planned Parenthood, do not ask for reasons on consent forms. The city's Department of Health does not list reasons in a summary of vital statistics and they do not keep statistics on numbers of females and males that are aborted. …**
>
> **"It is not a subject to be talked about in the open," said Arpita Appanagarri, the women's health initiative coordinator at Sakhi for South Asian women, a non-governmental organization focusing on domestic violence victims among South Asian Women. "Let alone collect data about it."**

*Chinese language newspapers sold in New York City carry a prolific selection of abortion ads, some of them also offering early gender tests. Photo: Rui Miao*

Two concluding thoughts.

First, the story wastes the last quarter of its word count by rehashing complaints that trying to stop sex-selective abortion is some sort of plot against Asian cultures rather than an effort to save female babies from lethal discrimination.

Second, it is no accident the story begins with this:

> **"It's a girl," said the doctor. "You want to get rid of it? It'll take just three minutes."**
>
> **Lily Zhou trembled — her motherly instincts tinged with lament. "It's my daughter, it's a life," she recalled thinking. "I can't do this."**

Tragically, the first response in these communities to the realization that the unborn child is a girl is too often—way too often—gendercide.

# Indiana Senate passes bill banning abortions based solely on sex or disability

By Dave Andrusko

On February 2, a bill to ban abortions based on gender or disability passed the Indiana Senate by a strong vote of 35-14. The measure moved onto the Indiana House.

Senate Bill 313 would ban abortions if the reason a woman seeks one is "solely" because of the baby's sex or because she is diagnosed, or potentially diagnosed, with Down syndrome or another genetically-inherited disease.

"We have in here a very, very clear mandate that we do not want to discriminate and really that's what we're doing here today if we don't pass this bill," the author of the bill, state Sen. Liz Brown, said during a committee meeting the week before. "We're saying there are certain classes and

*Katie Shaw*

categories of individuals in the state of Indiana who have less value," Rachel Hoffmeyer of *TheStatehouseFile.com* reported.

Katie Shaw was one of the witnesses who testified before a meeting of the Health and Provider Services Committee.

"Five months into pregnancy, my mom found out I had Down syndrome. The doctors never mentioned abortion," Shaw said. "My parents, with the help of doctors, focused on what would help me have a wonderful life. I'm grateful my parents gave me a chance to live a wonderful life and they did not abort me."

Why is the bill needed? According to Sen. Brown because doctors are "pressuring women to have these abortions."

"What we hear from doctors is — it would really be better off if you were not born," Brown said, according to the Indianapolis Star. "If you are born, we will love you, and we think you have equal rights and should be a member of society. In fact, we have the Americans with Disabilities Act and have to make accommodations. But we don't want to make the accommodation before you're born, and in fact, it would really be easier if you were not born."

# Why the U.S. Senate must refuse to cooperate in President Obama's plan

*From page 1*

whether religious liberty will be protected, and whether the free-speech rights of groups out of favor with the liberal elites will be protected (among other things).

In July 2007, a prominent member of the then-majority party in the Senate, Charles Schumer (D-NY) – who is now the heir-apparent Democratic Senate leader – gave a speech urging Democratic senators to reject virtually *any* nominee to the Supreme Court during the remaining 18 months of the administration of President George W. Bush. ("I will recommend to my colleagues that we should not confirm a Supreme Court nominee EXCEPT in extraordinary circumstances," Schumer said.) In 2016, Republican senators should now adopt as their byword the doctrine enunciated in 2007 by Schumer: *"We should reverse the presumption of confirmation."*

Statements in recent days by President Obama, Hillary Clinton, and Senators Bernie Sanders, Harry Reid, Patrick Leahy, and Schumer, suggesting that blocking an Obama nominee would be outrageous or unprecedented, are laughably hypocritical. In 2006, then-Senator Obama himself voted for an unsuccessful filibuster against Samuel Alito, as did Clinton, Reid, Leahy, and Schumer. (Sanders was not yet a senator.) Moreover, the successful liberal campaign to defeat the nomination of Robert Bork in 1987, which was purely ideological, undoubtedly determined the outcome of many subsequent Supreme Court decisions, including the 1992 ruling (*Casey v. Planned Parenthood*) that reaffirmed the "core holdings" of *Roe v. Wade* on a 5-4 vote.

Regardless of what they said during their confirmation hearings, every justice appointed by President Clinton and President Obama has repeatedly demonstrated a willingness to use raw judicial power to remove authority from elected legislators, in order to advance the liberal policy agenda, even where no constitutional provision remotely justified such anti-democratic decrees. Likewise, where a clear constitutional command conflicted with the liberal agenda – for example, with respect to free exercise of religion, or political free speech – the Democrat-appointed justices have often ignored the constitutional commands and voted instead to impose the liberal agenda.

There is little doubt that the next Obama nominee would provide the fifth vote to strip elected legislators of all meaningful authority to protect unborn children and regulate abortion. The result would be invalidation not only of recently enacted state abortion laws, such as the abortion clinic regulations currently before the Court, but also of a host of longstanding state and federal pro-life policies, including the federal Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act and the Hyde Amendment.

In addition, there is little doubt that another Obama nominee would be the fifth vote to effectively nullify statutory and constitutional protections against mandatory participation in paying for or providing abortions, and the fifth vote to strip away the First Amendment protections that the Court has recognized for independent speech about those who hold or seek political office.

Each and every pro-life senator has the constitutional authority, and indeed the duty, to prevent these catastrophic results, by *withholding consent*. Any senator who fails to recognize what is at stake, any senator who wilts under the coming onslaught from the mainstream media and the liberal elites, will forfeit any claim to pro-life support.

# With your help "Autos for Life" will roar into spring!

By David N. O'Steen, Jr.

Yes, even though winter has its icy grip on most of us, this is a GREAT time to start thinking about spring cleaning! While you are busy cleaning your attic and closets, don't forget about what's in your driveway or garage. Maybe you've got a project car that you just don't have time to finish, a minivan that is no longer needed because the kids are all grown, or an extra car that is rarely being used but you're still paying insurance on it!

We'll take it!

By donating your vehicle to the National Right to Life Foundation, you can help save the lives of unborn babies, and you receive a tax deduction for the FULL SALE AMOUNT! "Autos for Life" has received strong support, and a great variety of vehicles from pro-lifers all across the country, however donations do tend to slow this time of year. This is where you can help!

Your donated vehicles can be of **any** age, and can be located **anywhere** in the country! All that we need from you is a description of the vehicle (miles, vehicle identification number (VIN#), condition, features, the good, the bad, etc.) along with several pictures (the more the better), and we'll take care of the rest. Digital photos preferred, but other formats work as well. You don't have to bring the vehicle anywhere, or do anything with it, and there is no additional paperwork to complete. The buyer picks the vehicle up directly from you at your convenience! All vehicle information can be emailed to us directly at dojr@nrlc, or sent by regular mail to:

**"Autos for Life"**
**c/o National Right to Life**
**512 10th St. N.W.**
**Washington, D.C. 20004**

As all of us in the pro-life movement know, we now face great challenges in 2016. With our educational efforts we will continue to see a dramatic reduction in the number of abortions each year. We know these numbers decline even more as we teach the truth about how abortion hurts unborn babies and their mothers.

"Autos for Life" needs your continued support in making 2016 a great year for the pro-life movement! If you or someone you know has a vehicle to donate, please contact David O'Steen Jr. at (202) 626-8823 or dojr@nrlc.org. The National Right to Life Foundation wishes to thank all of the dedicated pro-lifers that have donated their vehicles to this great program, and we are looking to make 2016 our best year ever! Please join us in helping to defend the most defenseless in our society!

# NARAL President tells her "Abortion Story"

By Dave Andrusko

What exactly do you think NARAL president Ilyse Hogue means when she tells us, "I always say my abortion story is boring"?

Before you answer, here's the entire paragraph as seen in the YouTube (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LYiHJrWrRv4) video:

> **I always say my abortion story is boring. I got pregnant, I wasn't ready to be a parent, I wasn't with the person I wanted to be with for the rest of my life, we weren't financially secure, we both had dreams that we wanted to go on and achieve.**

Presumably, Hogue means by this no "obstacles," that is– once she'd decided at age 26 to have an abortion, it was smooth sailing. Not like today!

Let's think about this paragraph and a few others.

To her credit, Hogue doesn't conjure up a story intended to appeal to those undecided about abortion. She aborted because, and only because, of "contraceptive failure."

So, here are the tradeoffs. On the one hand, she's not with the guy she wants to be with indefinitely, and she's not ready to be a parent (note to self: you already **were** a parent), and both she and the guy had dreams to achieve.

*NARAL president Ilyse Hogue*

Versus, on the other hand, protecting a defenseless baby that Hogue could have released for adoption. (At least she didn't tell us she preferred taking the child's life to "giving her baby up for adoption.")

That's surely a "boring" choice, a no-brainer. At least for Hogue.

Consider where the video was shot: in front of the Supreme Court. Like many of the briefs submitted to the Supreme Court in the challenge to Texas' pro-life HB2, Hogue is telling us nobody should give a second thought to what happened to the baby because her/his demise allowed the woman's career to flourish.

The abortion, we're told, allowed Hogue to go on "and do work that I think was incredible impactful on international rights and [the] environment, before I came home to dedicate my life to women's equality."

Lesson? An unplanned pregnancy is not only a bummer for someone like Hogue, if allowed to continue it would have squelched her capacity to do meaningful work for the global community.

Moreover, "If we can't decide that we're not ready to be parents then everything else we aspire to fades from view." Really? In an era of unprecedented opportunity for women, **that's** the message of 21st century feminism?

For coherence and a statement on contemporary life, that ranks right up there with Madeline Albright antiquated pitch for Hillary Clinton: "There's a special place in hell for women who don't help each other."

Take two minutes and watch Hogue tell her "abortion story." It is truly unpersuasive.

# Justice Scalia on the Constitution, abortion, and assisted suicide

*From page 15*

> **to preserve it become "extraordinary" or "inappropriate," are neither set forth in the Constitution nor known to the nine Justices of this Court any better than they are known to nine people picked at random from the Kansas City telephone directory.**

Scalia was part of the unanimous decisions in *Vacco v. Quill* and *Washington v. Glucksberg* (1997), which held that there is no right to assisted suicide. In his dissenting opinion in *Gonzales v. Oregon* (2006), Scalia argued that the Attorney General is allowed, under federal law, to prevent the use of drugs in Oregon for assisted suicide:

> **Unless we are to repudiate a long and well-established principle of our jurisprudence, using the federal commerce power to prevent assisted suicide is unquestionably permissible. … If the term "legitimate medical purpose" has any meaning, it surely excludes the prescription of drugs to produce death.**

In *Roe v. Wade* and subsequent decisions, the Court usurped the authority of the American people and their elected representatives to determine abortion policy—and 58 million abortions have been the result. Some people want the Court to do the same with assisted suicide.

To prevent that from happening—and to reverse *Roe*, allowing for greater protection for unborn children and their mothers—we desperately need more Supreme Court justices like Antonin Scalia.

*Editor's note. Paul Stark is Communications Associate for Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life, NRLC's state affiliate.*

# Pro-abortionists and the Zika virus: never let a crisis, real or unproven, go to waste

By Dave Andrusko

You could almost feel the surge of exhilaration in the story that ran in the *Washington Post* under the headline, "Zika prompts urgent debate about abortion in Latin America."

There you have it. All those stubborn Latin American countries with their antiquated (protective) abortion laws now in the cross-hairs of the international abortion industry, thanks to the Zika virus outbreak.

We've posted many stories at *NRL News Today* and will post many others in the days and weeks to come. Remember what the bottom line is for pro-abortionists: the possible link between the virus and an increase in reports of babies born with microcephaly is a golden opportunity.

To quote Chicago mayor and former Obama Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel:

> **You never let a serious crisis go to waste. And what I mean by that it's an opportunity to do things you think you could not do before.**

One of the very first examples I read of someone following Emanuel's advice was a piece running in *Newsweek* written by Zoe Schlanger: "ZIKA COULD CHANGE THE ABORTION CONVERSATION IN LATIN AMERICA.

She wrote

> **Others have wondered whether Zika could become for Latin America what a rubella scare was for the United States in the 1960s. … [W]omen who contracted the disease began giving birth to permanently disabled babies. That began to change the conversation about abortion. Life magazine ran a cover story in 1965 focusing on white, middle-class women who were choosing to terminate pregnancies after contracting rubella and on their doctors who agreed to perform the procedures, noting the severe and lifelong health complications a baby born in that condition would face. It was presented as a sober decision and an obvious choice, backed by "reputable" and "brave" doctors.**

Many critics of the rush to judgment (which is to abort, abort, abort children who might be born with a smaller head) make a point of clarifying what we do–and particularly don't–know.

For example, Thomas D. Williams observes, "Though the Brazil Ministry of Health has registered an unusually high number of babies born with microcephaly, 96% of these cases occurred without the mothers having been infected with the Zika virus at all, which means that the cause must be sought elsewhere."

Dr. Williams quotes extensively from the *Washington Post* article, written by Dom Phillips, Nick Miroff, and Julia Symmes. For instance:

"Brazilian activists want women who have been diagnosed with Zika to be able to terminate a pregnancy on that basis alone," the Post notes. Yet the article also concedes that in Colombia, "3,100 pregnant women in the country have tested positive for Zika," yet not one case of "Zika-related microcephaly" has been found.

I'm not a doctor and don't pretend to understand all the medical intricacies. What is fascinating, as Williams keenly observes, is that "Zika has been around for decades, yet up to now has never been found to correlate to birth defects in children. Its effects are so mild and short-lived that 4 out of 5 people infected with the virus do not even realize they are sick. Symptoms include low-grade fever, maybe a rash, possible conjunctivitis (pink eye), and some joint pain."

Yet, even in the absence of a clear connection between the Zika virus and microcephaly, abortion advocates are already ginning up the propaganda machine. Williams writes

> **Joining in spreading hysteria over [the] "possible" effect of Zika to unborn babies, the Post says that a growing concern among pediatricians is that Zika could inflict harm to developing brain tissue in other, less obvious ways than microcephaly.**
>
> **"That condition could be the 'tip of the**

*See "Zika Virus," page 32*

# Mother loses wrongful birth suit over daughter with cystic fibrosis

By Nancy Flanders

Kerrie Evans, a woman who was suing for millions of dollars in damages over the successful birth of her daughter, has lost her case. The 12 person jury ruled that nurse Peggy Scanson and OBGYN Dr. William Peters did not violate the standard of care with Evans, The *Bozeman Daily Chronicle* has reported.

Evans' daughter, now five years old, was born in 2011 and diagnosed with cystic fibrosis [CF] after her birth–a genetic health condition that leaves people susceptible to life-threatening lung infections as well as other health complications. The median age of survival is currently age 40.

Evans' lawyers E. Casey Magan and Russ Waddell argued that Evans was never given any information on cystic fibrosis screening during her pregnancy and that if she had known her daughter had the condition she would have aborted her. The attorneys claimed that this failure on the part of the doctors meant Evans lost the opportunity to abort her daughter before birth.

Evans was seeking $2.2 million in damages to cover medical expenses; however her daughter is covered by health insurance and has never had to go without proper medical treatments and care. In addition, Evans wanted $250,000 for her own emotional stress, which her lawyers said would continue beyond the potential death of the child.

*Kerrie Evans*

Attorneys for the nurse and doctor told the court that Evans was given information on cystic fibrosis, which Evans has admitted she received but did not read. The attorneys also argued that recent advancements in medical care for cystic fibrosis are improving both length and quality of life for patients.

"(Evans) can't say, 'I'm so glad (my daughter) was born,' and in the same breath say, 'I need money because I would have terminated,'" said Lisa Speare, attorney for Peters. "The future is bright for the scientific advances made toward cystic fibrosis."

"We all know how fast treatments and cures happen in our world," said John Scully, lawyer for Dr. Scanson. "(The girl) has a life very, very much worth living."

*NBC Montana* reported that a teenager living with cystic fibrosis was in the courtroom to show that life with the disease is a life worth living.

"Just because you have CF, it doesn't mean it holds you back," said Carsten Manring. "I'm a fifteen-year-old who hunts, who skis and who is very active. I don't let CF hold me back. There were doctors in the trial that said you can do anything you want, (that) CF can't hold you back and that's absolutely true."

*Editor's note. This appeared at liveactionnews.org and is reprinted with permission.*

# 10 Times Hillary Clinton Revealed How Extreme She is on Abortion

By Andrew Bair

Hillary Clinton's support for abortion is longstanding and unwavering. But many Americans may be surprised to learn just how extreme her position is.

Here are 10 times so far in the 2016 campaign that Hillary Clinton has showed her extremism on abortion.

**1) "Religious beliefs and structural biases have to be changed" to expand abortion.**

At a speech to the Women in the World Conference in April 2015, Hillary Clinton argued, "Far too many women are denied access to reproductive health care (aka. abortion) and safe childbirth, and laws don't count for much if they're not enforced," In order to expand worldwide access to abortion, she suggested that "deep-seated cultural codes, religious beliefs and structural biases have to be changed."

**2) Clinton attacks bill to protect unborn babies from painful late abortions.**

In May 2015, the U.S. House passed the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act to protect unborn babies 20 weeks and older from excruciating late abortions. In addition to a statement slamming House lawmakers for advancing the bill, Clinton tweeted, "When it comes to women's health, there are two kinds of experts: women and their doctors. True 40+ years ago, true today." Poll after poll shows a majority of Americans support such legislation, including a majority of women.

Clinton even denies the science of fetal pain.

Substantial medical and scientific evidence shows unborn babies are capable of feeling pain by 20 weeks after fertilization, if not earlier. It is well-documented here: www.doctorsonfetalpain.com. This developmental milestone forms the basis for the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act.


*Pro-abortion Hillary Clinton*

Yet Clinton chooses to ignore these facts of human biology, claiming the bill is "not based on sound science" per a statement by her campaign.

**3) Clinton calls abortion a "fundamental human right."**

At a presidential forum at Drake University, Clinton called ending the life of another human being a "fundamental human right." In abortion, unborn babies suffer deaths by dismemberment, suction, poisoning or other methods. That is not a human right. That's a violation of the fundamental right of every human person to life.

**4) Clinton receives endorsement of radically pro-abortion EMILY's List**

As an example of how extreme they are, for a candidate to be supported by EMILY's List, they must take a hard-line stance in opposition to any and all limitations on abortion and support full tax funding of abortion. Former Sen. Mary Landrieu (D-LA) had been backed by EMILY's List in her first election but after supporting a ban on partial-birth abortion, the group withdrew their support for future elections.

**5) Clinton receives endorsement of the nation's largest abortion provider, Planned Parenthood.**

Hillary Clinton became the first presidential candidate in Planned Parenthood's history to receive a primary endorsement. In an interview with PP CEO Cecile Richards, Hillary Clinton vowed to stand lockstep with the abortion provider in opposing pro-life efforts, "I want to be that president that will say, 'Forget about it. Don't waste your time; you know you're not getting past me.'" She received a last-minute six-figure media buy from the abortion provider just days ahead of the Iowa caucuses, which she narrowly eked out a win.

**6) Clinton even defends Planned Parenthood after videos expose the organization's trafficking of aborted baby body parts.**

After the stomach-churning undercover videos of Planned Parenthood officials discussing the harvesting and pricing of aborted baby body parts, Clinton stood firm in support of the abortion provider. She

*See "10 Times," page 39*

# Joshua Woodward sentenced to nine years for slipping abortifacient to pregnant girlfriend

By Dave Andrusko

Joshua Woodward, a one-time high flying Manhattan restaurateur, was sentenced this month to nine years in jail for three times slipping his girlfriend an abortifacient. Woodward "succeeded" the third time in October 2009 when Gail Greaves aborted her baby at 13 weeks.

Last November Woodward pleaded "no contest" to attempted murder.

The *New York Daily News*, which had covered the case closely, wrote of the impassioned victim impact statement Greaves, now 45, delivered in court. According to Nancy Dillon

> **"Do you not understand that you are a textbook psychopath?" Greaves said at the sentencing in Los Angeles County Superior Court.**
>
> **"Do you really not understand what you've done to me, yourself, your family? You took my choice away."**
>
> **"I get to see you sitting there right now with no remorse. You are a sick, sick individual, and you are disgusting," she added. "You don't care who you hurt as long as you get what you want."**

As *NRL News Today* reported, Woodward "begged" Greaves to abort. She refused, and said she would raise the baby on her own. Following a bitter breakup, Woodward pretended he wanted to reconcile by moving out to Hollywood where Greaves was living.

In fact he was planning to induce Greaves to abort

*Joshua Woodward*
*BARBARA DAVIDSON/LA TIMES VIA GETTY IMAGES*

against her will and without her knowledge. Dillon wrote that, according to documents

> **Unbeknownst to her at the time, Woodward secretly began researching misoprostol online, authorities said in court documents obtained by *The News*.**
>
> **He typed the phrases, "Ways men have forced abortions" and "Evil ways to terminate a pregnancy" into his Web search engine…**

In her victim impact statement, Greaves also said

> **"While I was Googling, 'Should I vaccinate my child?' 'What are the good schools?' 'What are the best strollers?' 'What are the best cribs?'… You were Googling 'Evil ways to force an abortion,' and how to use chloroform to knock me out and different ways to drug me" …**
>
> **"And I was one of your closest friends and have never done anything to you ever," she added, raising her voice with emotion.**

After the third use of misoprostol, Greaves suffered severe cramping and miscarried about 15 hours later. She grew suspicions and called police who set up a sting operation, Dillon reported.

> **Investigators told her to keep the miscarriage a secret and invite Woodward back over. A week later, police arrested Woodward outside her Los Angeles apartment with more misoprostol, they said.**
>
> **"With his right hand he pulled out a small piece of clear plastic with a white powdery substance from his right front pocket and started grinding the item on his pants just below the pocket," the detective wrote in the 2009 court paperwork.**

Dillon reported that Woodward is expected to serve at least 85% of the sentence in state prison.

# Powerful testimony in Missouri on bill to protect unborn children from dismemberment abortions

By Dave Andrusko

On February 2, Missouri began debate on a bill to ban a particularly hideous abortion technique when a House committee heard testimony about the Unborn Child Protection from Dismemberment Abortion Act (HB 1714). Included was testimony from Missouri Right to Life, NRLC's state affiliate. On February 9, a similar bill was introduced into the Mississippi House of Representatives.

In a dismemberment abortion, the abortionist repeatedly reaches into the mother's womb and using a variety of sharp-edged metal clamps and tools yanks off parts of the child, pulling them out, piece by piece.

Such bills are the law in Kansas and Oklahoma, although pro-abortion lawyers have been able, for now, to prevent the laws from going into effect. The Unborn Child Protection from Dismemberment Abortion Act been introduced in West Virginia and we expect more to follow.

Pro-abortionists, represented by the New York-based Center for Reproductive Rights, typically insist this is the safest and most common abortion technique in the second trimester and that to ban them would constitute an "undue burden" on a woman's right to abortion.

But the Supreme Court has already upheld a ban on a particular abortion technique–partial-birth abortions–ruling in *Gonzales* that abortionists do not have any right to demand certain procedures: "Physicians are not entitled to ignore regulations that direct them to use reasonable alternative procedures. The law need not give abortion doctors unfettered choice in the course of their medical practice."

The abortionists' argument that the ban restricts a "common" method is actually a plea that they be allowed to keep methods that are more expeditious and profitable for them.

Below are excerpts from Missouri Right to Life's testimony in support of (HB 1714):

**The focus of this bill is the small, living, human unborn child facing a brutal and inhumane dismemberment abortion. …**

**In a dismemberment abortion, the abortionist uses "clamps, grasping forceps, tongs, scissors or similar instruments," to repeatedly enter the mother's womb and tear off and remove parts of a living unborn child's body, piece by piece, including crushing and extracting the skull.**

**In Stenberg v. Carhart [2000] , Justice Anthony Kennedy observed that in D&E/dismemberment abortions, "The fetus, in many cases, dies just as a human adult or child would: It bleeds to death as it is torn limb from limb." Defendant Carhart [a prominent late-term abortionist] admitted, "I know that the fetus is alive during the process most of the time because I can see the fetal heartbeat on the ultrasound."**

**The contemplation of just one such act of dismembering a living human being is breath-taking, especially in a society that criminalizes cruelty to animals.**

**The United States Supreme Court in *Gonzales v. Carhart* [2007] described dismemberment abortions as a procedure that is "laden with the power to devalue human life," and abortion supporter, Justice Ruth Bader-Ginsburg [who voted against upholding the ban] pointed out, "the standard D&E is in some respects as brutal, if not more," than the partial-birth abortion method.**

**The Court in *Gonzales* said, "the State may use its regulatory power to bar certain procedures and substitute others, all in furtherance of its legitimate interests in regulating the medical profession in order to**


*See "Missouri," page 39*

# For abortion advocates, more babies are a reason for 'sad face' emojis

By Rebecca Downs

The U.S. Supreme Court will hear *Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt* on March 2, which will examine if Texas's law (HB2) requiring abortion centers to be held to the same standards as surgical outpatient centers and requiring abortionists to have admitting privileges at hospitals places an "undue burden" on women seeking an abortion. While HB2 has been in effect, an estimated 10,000 lives have been saved in Texas from abortion. Many would forget that these children are living, breathing human beings.

Abortion advocates claim that women dangerously self-abort when they can't access abortion or birth control (ignoring the dangers of even legal abortions performed at abortion centers). They even came up with a faulted study to support these claims.

But now, seemingly overnight, they've changed the argument – they've decided that Texas women have actually just been having a whole lot of children they can't support.

Lamented are the results from a study claiming that births increased by 27 percent (only they actually didn't), which were paid for by Medicaid. These living, breathing human beings were allowed to be born and might even go on to be blessings in their parents' lives and in the world around them. Apparently, that's horrible news.

Planned Parenthood Action linked to an article from the *Los Angeles Times*: "After Texas stopped funding Planned Parenthood, low-income women had more babies." And *News Republic* shared an article from *The Guardian*: "Aggressive Planned Parenthood cuts hurt poor women the most, study finds," written by pro-abortion columnist Molly Redden.

Pro-abortion media outlets have also been making the rounds on Twitter. Cosmopolitan has taken a lot of heat for using a 'sad face' emoji in their post about Texas women having more babies:

> Texas women are having more babies since Planned Parenthood was defunded — *Cosmopolitan* (@Cosmopolitan) February 4, 2016

Why is it that Planned Parenthood and their friends in the pro-abortion media portray having children as what "hurt[s] poor women the most"? If anything, what's hurting women is the mindset that poor women shouldn't have children simply because they are poor – arguably, it's a eugenic mindset to say that poor women shouldn't reproduce.

Planned Parenthood should know. Their organization was founded by Margaret Sanger, known for having held eugenic and racist views. Why should we be surprised, then, that the organization providing one-third of abortions in the country (along with their media friends) would see more births as a bad thing?

We can talk about the "cost" until the cows come home, but pro-lifers would always prefer that money is directed towards life and not death.

*Editor's note. This appeared at liveactionnews.org and is reprinted with permission.*

# What does the public think about appointing Barack Obama to the Supreme Court?

By Dave Andrusko

A few weeks ago we posted a story on *NRL News Today* about the response Hillary Clinton gave to an inquiry whether (given that the next president could easily have several nominations to the Supreme Court) she'd consider President Obama.

According to Tony Leys of the *Des Moines Register*:

> **"Wow! What a great idea!" Clinton exclaimed as the crowd of 450 people roared approval and applauded.**
>
> **"I'll be sure to take that under advisement," she said. "I mean, he's brilliant. He can set forth an argument, and he was a law professor, so he's got all the credentials. Now, we do have to get a Democratic Senate to get him confirmed."**
>
> **She laughingly added that she wasn't sure if he would be interested. "He may have other things to do."**

Leys wrote that in 2014 Obama was asked about such a possibility. He told Jeffrey Toobin of *The New Yorker* that (as Toobin put it) while Obama "sounded tempted by the idea" of being the second President in history to sit on the Supreme Court, Obama responded, "But

I think being a justice is a little bit too monastic for me."

Was Clinton floating a trial balloon or just cozying up to Democrats in Iowa who still faun over the President? Well, either way, Rasmussen Report, decided to poll on the issue.

In summary, nope, voters don't want Obama appointed to the Supreme Court, and (contrary to Mr. Obama's own opinion expressed last July that he would win a third term) neither are they keen on the idea of a third term. Here's what we read :

> **A new Rasmussen Reports national telephone survey finds that only 21% of Likely U.S. Voters think the next president of the United States should name Obama to the U.S. Supreme Court. Fifty-nine percent (59%) oppose such a nomination. Twenty percent (20%) are undecided.**
>
> **Even among his fellow Democrats, just 40% think an Obama nomination to the Supreme Court is a good idea. Eighty-two percent (82%) of Republicans and 65% of voters not affiliated with either major party are opposed.**

What about a third term?

> **31% say they would vote for Obama if he legally could seek a third term, but twice as many (62%) say they would not support him.**

# Appeals court ponders whether injunction on Florida's 24-hour waiting period law should be lifted

By Dave Andrusko

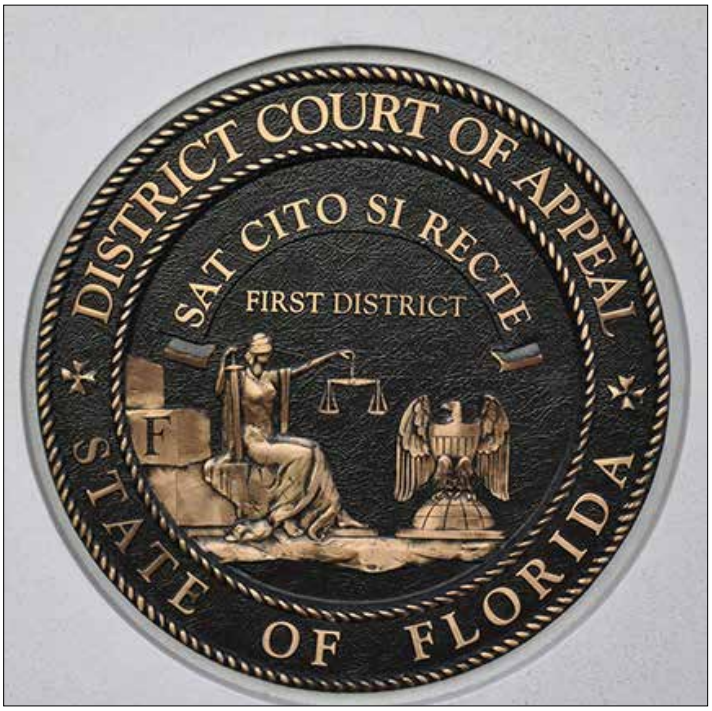
On February 9, a three-judge panel for the 1st District Court of Appeals heard arguments on whether an injunction issued last summer on Florida's 24-hour waiting period will stay in effect or if it can be lifted.

"The people of Florida did not intend to prevent the Legislature from passing a reasonable law, one that ensures that pregnant women have a reasonable amount of time to make the decision whether to have an abortion," Denise Harle, deputy solicitor general, told the judges.

American Civil Liberties Union of Florida argued the law "blatantly" violates the state Constitution. "The people of Florida care deeply about preventing unwarranted governmental interference with their private decisions, and that is exactly what this law does," said ACLU attorney Julia Kaye.

According to the *Miami Herald's* Michael Auslen

> **The judges will decide only whether the injunction can stay in place. The ultimate validity of the waiting period law is tied up in a lawsuit still in circuit court in Tallahassee.**
>
> **The appellate judges — Bradford Thomas, Susan Kelsey and William Stone — indicated they may send the injunction back to the lower court. They raised concerns that the original order by Judge Charles Dodson of the 2nd Circuit Court might not spell out enough evidence to warrant an injunction and said its arguments aren't as clear as they could be.**
>
> **If the judges order Dodson to reconsider or throw out the injunction, the waiting period could be enforced for the first time since July 2, the day after it went into effect.**




After Gov. Rick Scott signed HB 633, the ACLU challenged the law on behalf of the Gainesville-based abortion clinic Bread and Roses Women's Health Center. What followed was a flurry of legal maneuvers, as *NRL News Today* explained in detail.

The key issue is the ACLU's argument that the law is in conflict with the state Constitution's right to privacy.

First a distinction. According to NRLC's Department of State Legislation, 31 states have waiting periods. They include 18 hours (in one state), 24 hours (in 23 states), 48 hours (in three states), while four states have a 72 hour waiting period, with one more scheduled to go into effect this fall.

So Florida's 24-hour period of reflection is typical, with a slight wrinkle. As Elizabeth Nash of the pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute told *WGCU's* Nick Evans, Florida's law requires that the abortionist provide the woman with information at least 24 hours before the abortion to ensure an informed consent. In other words there are two trips, which, again according to Guttmacher, is the case in the laws of 13 states.

It's this second trip that pro-abortionists, such as ACLU lawyer Rene Paradis, argue violates the right to privacy in Florida's state constitution.

In arguing before Leon County Circuit Judge Charles Francis, Blaine Winship, special counsel to the attorney general, offered a number of reasons why HB 633 does not violate the right of privacy. To begin with, he noted that there was nothing in the law that removed or deprived a woman of her right to have an abortion.

"The state wields the police power to protect the health and safety of the people," he told Judge Francis. "The question of whether there is a 24-hour wait for her to contemplate the full impact and ramifications of her decision is obviously what we've been talking about."

He added, according to *WGCU's* Evans, "It's what the Legislature aimed to try to protect, and in that regard, women will still have their privacy, they'll still have the opportunity to have an abortion if they want to, the only question is whether there will be a twenty four hour waiting period or not."

Moreover, "Winship pointed to a 2006 Florida Supreme ruling that upheld the informed-consent provision in a 1997 law, the 'Women's Right to Know' Act, which required doctors to explain the medical risks of abortion and to obtain consent from women seeking them," Evans reported.

# Antonin Scalia: Rest in Peace

*From page 2*

So many Supreme Court decisions on abortion are weighed down with an almost palpable contempt for state legislatures which was matched only by the justices' indifference to the fate of 58 million unborn children. But pro-lifers--and lovers of the Constitution-- could always depend on Justice Scalia to cut through the dithering and the deception and the duplicity.

As President Obama maneuvers to nominate someone to replace Justice Scalia, we know it will be a third clone of himself. Should such a person sit on the High Court, it would be disaster on a hundred different grounds.

For starters, unlike many of his colleagues, Justice Scalia really **did** understand there are three branches of government and that the Supreme Court ought to pay appropriate deference to the judgment of men and women elected by the people. Justice Scalia's withering critiques of untethered judicial activism will be read by law students for generations to come. That sense of judicial modesty could not possibly be a characteristic of **any** Obama nominee.

In addition, as it relates to our issues, it's important to remember that Justice Scalia warned decades ago that a kind of judicial mission creep might lead a future Supreme Court to declare that lurking in the penumbras and emanations of the Constitution is a "right" to physician-assisted suicide. Which is why the kind of jurist who will be Justice Scalia's eventual replacement is so important.

When I read the editorial on his passing that appeared in the *Washington Post*, it included a paragraph that explains why he was so ahead of his time and why journalistic heavyweights—for all their professed "progressivism"—are so behind the times, not ahead.

The *Post* editorial board tells us condescendingly, "But on the issues that most animated him and the conservative activists who cheered him" (abortion was one of three cited), Scalia "did not, over time carry the day." Why? Because his "Originalism, however cogent, could not sway more pragmatic justices," who, we were assured, "understood, better than Scalia did, the risks of setting the court against contemporary culture."

Really? "Contemporary culture" is the lens through which legislation should be seen to determine its constitutionality. Maybe Obama will nominate a Kardashian.

More importantly, what the *Post* meant is that whatever currents are running heaviest and highest **right now** ought to determine the direction the judiciary's decisions will flow in the culture.

Never mind that "currents" are often not only figments of the Court's imagination but when real, come and go. Never mind if that be your lodestar, legal breakthroughs that everyone agrees are to be congratulated would never have occurred in the first place. Never mind, as Scalia said so often, "Words have meaning. And that meaning doesn't change."

And never mind that "contemporary culture" didn't give us *Roe v. Wade*. Were we burdened by *Roe* and abortion on demand because it was irresistible? Not at all. One could make a plausible case that abortion "reform" had reached its high water mark by 1972 and the tide was already receding.

Rather we live under the reign of *Roe* (and its legal progeny) because seven unelected justices were unmoored by the truth "that the Constitution has meaning, that that meaning does not change, and that judges are duty-bound to determine and give effect to that meaning" (as one sympathetic critic of Scalia put it.).

Again our hearts and prayers go out to Justice Scalia's family. They lost a great husband, father, and grandfather.

Unborn children lost a great champion.

# SPUC launches "Lives Worth Living" campaign to counter physician-assisted suicide

*Editor's note. This appeared on the webpage of SPUC–the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children–and is reprinted with permission.*

To counter the torrent of assisted suicide propaganda which is driving demand for changes to the law in Britain, SPUC has launched its Lives Worth Living campaign

Lives Worth Living is helping to give some balance to a very one-sided debate by spelling out why assisted suicide must be opposed.

The campaign warns the public, politicians and mainstream media about the dire consequences which lie in store for the sick, disabled and dying should the pro-euthanasia lobby get its way. …

The Assisted Dying Bill ("Marris Bill") was defeated in September 2015 thanks to a concerted pro-life campaign and thousands of people who contacted their MPs. But anti-life forces continue to undermine the lives of vulnerable people. Last year in Germany, France, Canada and other places, euthanasia campaigners made advances.

And despite the Bill's defeat, the clamor for euthanasia legislation is gathering pace with TV soap operas and news bulletins routinely pushing the case for assisted suicide. Today it seems you cannot turn on a TV or open a newspaper without someone pressing the case for legalising assisted suicide. Calls for assisted suicide send out a message that some lives are unworthy of living, and make people who are suffering feel a burden on others, especially friends and relatives.

**1961 Suicide Act**

Under the 1961 Suicide Act, committing suicide ceased to be a crime in the UK, but assisting or encouraging a person to commit suicide is a serious offence.

By forbidding assistance in suicide, the current law protects the right to life. Society expresses solidarity with people who may feel suicidal affirming that their lives are valued.

The 1961 Act did not create a 'right' to commit suicide, and there is no right to die in any of the major human rights documents such as the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the 2006 Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

These and many other such internationally agreed documents recognise and protect the right to life, but give no status to any so-called right to die.

**Suicide is a tragedy, not a political football**

In recent years, "right to die" campaigners have exploited the media to use the suicides of a small number of disabled people as an argument that the law should recognise a right to die by suicide and euthanasia.

Proponents of euthanasia are seeking to use assisted suicide as a route to legalise the killing of sick people and people with disabilities. Efforts have been made to introduce a law that permits doctors to authorise and provide assisted suicide. This is modeled on the way the [1967] Abortion Act enlists doctors to both authorise and perform abortions.

There are many strong reasons for opposing assisted suicide, among them:

**Doctors are against assisted suicide**

Many GPs in the UK have said that they do not want assisted suicide to be legal. In 2013, the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) consulted its members on assisted dying. 77 percent said the RCGP should oppose a change in the law to allow assisted dying. GPs who responded to the consultation gave a number of reasons for their opposition to assisted dying.


*See "SPUC," page 40*

# AEI Analysis Shows Growing Importance of Sanctity of Life Issues

By Michael J. New

In late January the American Enterprise Institute (AEI) released an analysis of abortion as an election issue. The analysis and the corresponding *Forbes* editorial, authored by AEI senior fellow Karlyn Bowman, attempts to argue that abortion is a relatively unimportant issue. In her op-ed Bowman states that when voters are asked to rank the importance of various issues, abortion usually comes in near the bottom. She also notes that relatively low percentage of voters cast their vote solely on the issue of abortion. But a closer look at AEI's analysis indicates that abortion has actually increased in importance over the past 20 years. The AEI analysis also provides robust evidence that there are political benefits for candidates who take a pro-life position.

Over 20 years of polling data finds that less than one-fifth of voters identify as single-issue voters on the abortion issue. However, what is considerably more telling is how Americans actually vote. According to the AEI study, opinion on abortion is becoming a better predictor of voting behavior. In 1992 only 63 percent of Americans who thought abortion should be "illegal in all cases" voted for George H.W. Bush. But by 2012, 79 percent of Americans who thought abortion should be illegal in all circumstances voted for Mitt Romney. Similarly, over the past 20 years Democratic presidential candidates have won a progressively larger share of voters who think abortion should be "legal in all cases."


The analysis also nicely demonstrates that there are political benefits to holding a pro-life position. It presents the results of series of Gallup surveys which show that there has been a fairly consistent increase in pro-life sentiment since the early 1990s. Additionally, it presents the results of eight Gallup polls, taken since 2001, on the importance of abortion as a voting issue. In all eight of these polls, single issue "pro-life" voters, outnumbered single issue "pro-choice" voters. This was even true in 2012 when Democrats invested heavily in a "war on women" strategy to mobilize feminist and pro-choice voters.

During the coming election season, there will doubtless be an endless parade of editorials encouraging Republicans to moderate their stance on abortion and other social issues. However, this AEI analysis nicely adds to a body of political-science research which shows that values issues are becoming increasingly salient and important to U.S. voters. It also adds to an impressive body of survey research which shows that single-issue abortion voters are more likely to be pro-life. This year, every major Republican presidential candidate has identified as pro-life. They would all do well to stay the course.

*Editor's note. This appeared at nationalreview.com and is reprinted with the author's permission.*

# NRL News: packed with timely information, powerful inspiration, and mountains of encouragement

To that end, we are reminding our readers just how far out of the mainstream former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton really is on abortion. She is a lifelong membership of the pro-abortion feminist Sisterhood which believes not only that abortion is a positive good to be celebrated here at home, but is so wonderful it should be exported all around the world.

Obama was/is bad. Mrs. Clinton is a True Believer.

By contrast all of the remaining Republican candidates have taken a pro-life position. This is enormously reassuring. As an example, at the February 4 GOP debate, Sen. Marco Rubio (Fla.) said, "I would rather lose an election than be wrong on the issue of life."

As is always the case with the "pro-life newspaper of record," this edition of *NRL News* is packed with timely information, powerful inspiration, and mountains of encouragement.

I guarantee you will be fired up when you read stories about mothers who refuse to "selectively reduce" the number of babies they are carrying; about the vice being squeezed on abortionists whose contempt for their patients goes back decades; about the passage of pro-life legislation; and about crisis pregnancy centers taking over what were formerly abortion clinics--life literally replacing death.

Please read every page of this edition and do yourself, NRLC, and the cause of life a huge favor by passing along stories using your social media contacts.

And don't forget to follow our daily stream of pro-life stories at www.nationalrighttolifenews.org.

# Pro-abortionists and the Zika virus: never let a crisis, real or unproven, go to waste

*From page 21*

**iceberg' of a series of neurological problems, some of which might not show up in the brain scans used to spot microcephaly," the Post says, despite the fact that there is no scientific proof of such a connection, which is pure speculation.**

Remember the tried-and-true villain for pro-abortionists: the Catholic Church. Phillips, Miroff, and Symmes begin their story in the *Washington Post* with

**Across Latin America, calls to loosen some of the most restrictive abortion laws in the world in the face of the Zika virus outbreak are gaining momentum but encountering strong and entrenched opposition.**

Who is that "entrenched opposition"? We learn that in the third paragraph:

**In Colombia, an organized movement to lift restrictions on abortion has gained allies in the government but has run into determined opposition from religious authorities.**

We will end this post by quoting Dr. Williams' conclusion:

**The fact that established ties between Zika and microcephaly are circumstantial at this point has not deterred abortion activists like Planned Parenthood from stirring up panic among pregnant women and exploiting the situation to push for relaxing abortion legislation in Latin American countries where it is restricted.**

**Instead of promoting research into remedies to treat or counteract the virus, the abortion industry has shamelessly played into people's worst fears to push for abortion-on-demand in countries like El Salvador that currently restrict or prohibit abortion.**

# A 21st Century Trojan Horse

By Jean Garton

I recently invited an audience of senior citizens to share a lesson they remembered from their grade school years. The first person to respond brought laughter from the others when he said what he most remembers is his mother saying, "Pick up your room!"

That wasn't what I had in mind, but it certainly is a universal memory. A woman then said she can still recite the names of all the Grecian columns. Another could still identify the different types of clouds he learned in seventh grade. My own favorite lesson from early years is about the Trojan Horse.

For 10 years the mighty Greek fleet and thousands of its warriors lay siege to the city of Troy. Then, in a seeming admission of defeat, the Greeks built a huge wooden horse and presented it to Troy as a parting gift of "surrender." The trusting Trojans dragged the gift through a demolished section of the city wall only to discover, hidden inside, Greek soldiers who, having once gained entrance, captured the city, sacked and burned it.

Troy fell; not because of the superiority of its enemy but because of a deception that has made it a famous ever since. Everyone in the group that evening remembered that ancient story from 3,000 years ago and remembered its famous warning: "Beware of Greeks Bearing Gifts."

The Twenty-First century, in a real sense, has its own Trojan Horse--- the pervasive practice of abortion which has been promoted by many as a "gift" to women.

Most recently, for instance, the reports of the damage done to children in the womb thought to be caused by the Zika virus--microcephaly--has spurred pro-abortionists to assert that abortion is a great gift to such mothers. Even Brazil, which has been strongly pro-life, is being urged to loosen its protective abortion laws. Fortunately, in such countries, parents of children with microcephaly, and people with microcephaly are fighting back. They understand that this is no "gift" but the latest example of the pro-abortion response to everything: kill.

Like the Trojan Horse, contained within this "gift" is a stealthy enemy. The price that we all pay for the deaths of 58 million unborn babies is incalculable. Let me more specific about this bogus "gift":

**What happens to a medical profession** that engages in killing defenseless children both impersonally and with detachment, yet very, very lucratively? What happens to Western medicine, the most compassionate, humane medicine in history, when it reverts to the pagan practice in which the doctor becomes both healer and executioner at the same time? This is no "gift" to our country.

**What happens to attitudes toward all children**, born and unborn? Women have always sensed that in pregnancy the child is theirs to protect, but abortion teaches that the child is theirs to accept **or** reject. Abortion engenders a view of unborn children as "property," a mentality that is often carried over to born children. This is no "gift" to children whether in or out of the womb.

**What happens to men** who have no legal way to prevent the death of their child by abortion? Many men whose partners had an abortion, themselves grieve over the loss of their child, are angry at the woman involved, and/or have a feeling of impotence about their lives in general. Abortion is no "gift" to these men.

**What happens to fundamental relationships** following an abortion such as relationships with parents or even other children in the family? Teenagers can have abortions without parental consent or knowledge. How is that a "gift" to family unity and well-being?

Girls who have had an abortion are four times more likely to commit suicide than are women who do not. Children already existing in the family often experience a deep, subtle but permanent fracture of a trusting relationship with their mother. Their unspoken question is, "If I become unwanted, imperfect, or inconvenient, will mother do that at to me?" A "gift"? Not for children already born or for girls who lack family support.

**What happens to women** who have an abortion? When they abort, women are waging war with their own nurturing nature. While they can have an ex-lover or an ex-husband, they can never have an ex-child - only a living child or a dead child - but a child, nevertheless, who is written forever on a woman's biological consciousness.

While responses to an abortion vary from woman to woman, the most common response is guilt. Sadly, much "counseling" often plays down the reality of guilt, telling the woman it is her right, her choice, her body, a "gift" to solve a problem. In other words, she is made to feel guilty about feeling guilty.

At a recent March for Life, I saw a poster that said, "We're not opposing your right; we're opposing a so-called 'right' that is wrong." Through our God, even abortion can be forgiven. Our biggest mistakes, our greatest failures can be forgiven. That is the real gift, to sustain and protect life, not end it!

Unlike the destructive gift of the Greeks to Troy, unlike the "gift" of abortion that has damaged our country, our families, and our people, the Gift of God brings healing to the broken spirit and peace to the grieving heart.

# Fourth Court Motion to Curb California "Bully Bill" Denied

By Jay Hobbs

California pregnancy help centers and medical clinics will need to wait until the state finds them in violation of its new compelled speech law to challenge it in court, a federal judge ruled February 12.

The ruling by U.S. District Judge John A. Houston marks the fourth motion for preliminary injunction to be denied since AB 775, the so-called "Reproductive FACT Act" was signed into law in October and enacted Jan. 1.

Pro-life opponents to the law have referred to the legislation as the "Bully Bill" since its inception last April, arguing that the law tilts the playing field in favor of the abortion industry.

Noting that, "public policy favors denial of the motion for preliminary injunction," Judge Houston refused a motion brought by Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF), which represented National Institutes of Family and Life Advocates (NIFLA) and two community supported pregnancy centers in the San Diego area.

Carolyn Koole, executive Director of Fallbrook Pregnancy Resource Center—one of the two centers represented—called the decision disappointing, noting that the law's forcing a pro-life pregnancy center to give a client a phone number where she can call to schedule an abortion is "the last thing we want to be compelled to do."

"We want to be assured that our referral services offer the same life-affirming love, care, compassion, respect, time and education that we do, allowing our clients to make their own uninfluenced, unpressured, but informed choices," Koole said. "There are no silent referrals… We know that we are not only referring the mother, but we are also referring a preborn child.

"What we wish those in the media and the public so greatly influenced by them would understand is that posting a sign at FPRC or providing a referral phone number on documentation from our center to another service provider is verbalizing it."

The law will force 150 local pregnancy help non-profits, including the 74 state-licensed free ultrasound facilities, to give each of its clients the following disclaimer, which includes the phone number of a county social services office where a client could obtain an abortion covered by Medi-Cal.

The notice, which the law specifies must either be posted as a public notice in "22-point type," "distributed to all clients in no less than 14-point font" or distributed digitally "at the time of check-in or arrival," applies to all of the entities—even those licensed by the state.

> **California has public programs that provide immediate free or low-cost access to comprehensive family planning services (including all FDA-approved methods of contraception), prenatal care, and abortion for eligible women. To determine whether you qualify, contact the county social services office at [insert the telephone number].**

Meanwhile, pregnancy help centers that do not offer medical services will be required to post the following signage in two "clear and conspicuous" places—"in the entrance of the facility and at least one additional area where clients wait to receive services," as well as in "any print and digital advertising materials including Internet Web sites."

The font required is to be "in no less than 48-point type" and will read as follows:

> **This facility is not licensed as a medical facility by the State of California and has no licensed medical provider who provides or directly supervises the provision of services.**

If a pro-life pregnancy center or state-licensed pro-life pregnancy medical center is found to be in violation of the new state mandate by refusing to post the notice, the organization will be given 30 days to comply with the law, or face a $500 for the first offense and $1,000 for each subsequent offense.

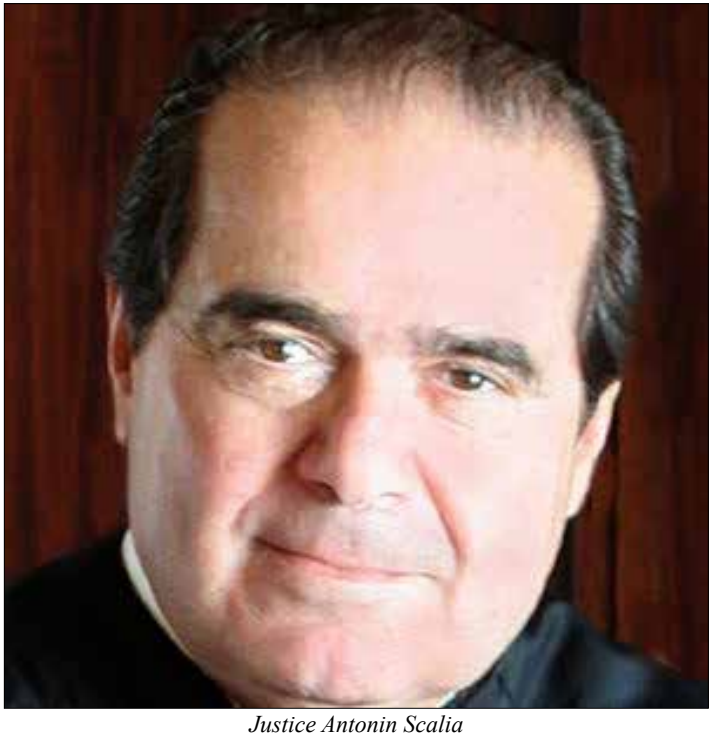
While the state has been mum about how it intends to enforce the law, abortion industry advocacy group NARAL Pro-Choice California told New York Times' Erick Eckholm it plans to visit centers throughout the state and push state officials to penalize pregnancy centers for refusing to post the signage.

*Editor's note. This appeared at pregnancyhelpnews.com/adf-nifla-ca*

# "Today's decision, that the Constitution of the United States prevents the prohibition of a horrible mode of abortion, will be greeted by a firestorm of criticism–as well it should."

*Editor's note. We are including several stories in the February* ***NRL News*** *about Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, who passed away February 13. The following are excerpts from the dissent authored by Justice Scalia in the 2000 Supreme Court's* ***Stenberg v. Carhart*** *decision in which the Court struck down Nebraska's ban on partial-birth abortion. Seven years later, in* ***Gonzales v. Carhart****, the High Court upheld the federal ban on partial-birth abortion. Internal cross-references have been omitted.*

I am optimistic enough to believe that, one day, *Stenberg v. Carhart* will be assigned its rightful place in the history of this Court's jurisprudence beside *Korematsu* [which upheld the wartime internment of American citizens of Japanese descent] and *Dred Scott*. The method of killing a human child…proscribed by this statute is so horrible that the most clinical description of it evokes a shudder of revulsion. And the Court must know (as most state legislatures banning this procedure have concluded) that demanding a "health exception"–which requires the abortionist to assure himself that, in his expert medical judgment, this method is, in the case at hand, marginally safer than others (how can one prove the contrary beyond a reasonable doubt?) –is to give live-birth abortion free rein. …



*Justice Antonin Scalia*

While I am in an I-told-you-so mood, I must recall my bemusement, in [the 1992 case of *Planned Parenthood v.Casey*], at the joint opinion's expressed belief that *Roe v. Wade* had "call[ed] the contending sides of a national controversy to end their national division by accepting a common mandate rooted in the Constitution," and that the decision in *Casey* would ratify that happy truce. It seemed to me, quite to the contrary … and that, "by keeping us in the abortion-umpiring business, it is the perpetuation of that disruption, rather than of any Pax Roeana, that the Court's new majority decrees."

Today's decision, that the Constitution of the United States prevents the prohibition of a horrible mode of abortion, will be greeted by a firestorm of criticism–as well it should. I cannot understand why those who acknowledge that, in the opening words of Justice O'Connor's concurrence, "[t]he issue of abortion is one of the most contentious and controversial in contemporary American society," persist in the belief that this Court, armed with neither constitutional text nor accepted tradition, can resolve that contention and controversy rather than be consumed by it. If only for the sake of its own preservation, the Court should return this matter to the people–where the Constitution, by its silence on the subject, left it–and let them decide, State by State, whether this practice should be allowed. …

# The crime of the 21st Century?

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

"The People v. O.J. Simpson" is a five-part television mini-series which has engaged a segment of the American public. The series is about the two people brutally murdered in 1994 and the trial that ensued in 1995. It was described as the trial of the (20th) century.

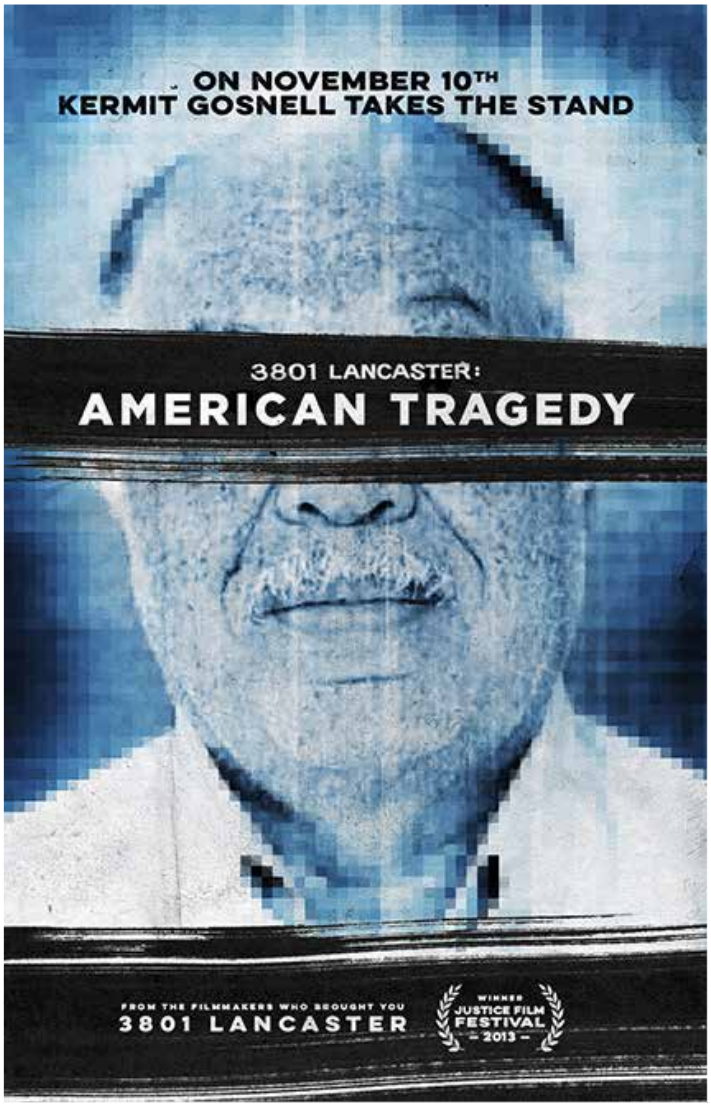
Meanwhile, in theaters, churches, and other venues across the nation, other Americans are drawn to a documentary which depicts what by rights should be described as the crime of this century—the murder of innocent babies and the maiming and killing of women by Philadelphia abortionist Kermit Gosnell.

I have to confess that I approached the film "3801 Lancaster: American Tragedy" with some trepidation. The last and only horror movie I saw filled me with such fear I could never approach the genre again.

And make no mistake, Gosnell's sordid tale is a horror story—a story of delivering huge babies alive and then murdering them by cutting their spinal cords while others were left struggling in toilets gasping for air; and inexplicably severing feet and keeping them in jars for posterity.

For me, one of the most poignant moments in the film is when a young woman discovers that one of those severed babies' feet belongs to her own baby—the child she lost in Gosnell's House of Horrors.

Despite my own squeamishness, I would encourage every pro-life activist—indeed, every American adult—to see "3801 Lancaster." The significance of the film might best be summarized by Pennsylvania state Senator John Rafferty, who is quoted as saying, "We've allowed a man to butcher babies…butcher women, and nobody did a damn thing about it."




Thanks to an exhaustive investigation by a grand jury, we know that the Pennsylvania Department of State **knew** that at least one woman had died in Gosnell's facility, but did nothing. The Philadelphia Department of Health failed to act, and the Pennsylvania Health Department refused to inspect the abortion center for 17 years.

As the grand jury stated, pro-abortion politics kept inspectors away—if health regulators had found evidence of lax care, it could, in their view, threaten "access" to abortion—a practice more sacred in their opinion than innocent human life.

One of the eerie aspects of "3801 Lancaster" is hearing Gosnell calmly attempt to justify his actions, steadfastly maintaining his innocence. He sounds erudite, even affable—a sharp juxtaposition from the abortionist who dealt so coldly with his patients. The question is asked: What happened to change him from a legitimate doctor to a symbol of evil?

I would argue that what happened to him was abortion. Routinely taking innocent life—the most defenseless, the most vulnerable lives—has to have an effect on a person. If power corrupts, the power to kill through abortion corrupts absolutely.

Gosnell might have set out to help poor women--he fancies himself a man of the people--but he ended up butchering them, and, in the view of the grand jury, killed hundreds of full-term babies. If Gosnell is a monster, and there is little doubt of that, he is the monster that the abortion industry created.

Perhaps the scene in the movie that haunts me the most is a young African-American woman describing her experience at the hands of Gosnell. She appears as if when the life of her unborn child was sucked out of her, so was a part of her life removed.

She said she thought she could trust this man because he was a doctor—she had been taught to trust doctors, in fact. But that trust was horribly violated, a violation she lives with everyday.

Not all of Gosnell's victims died. Some walk among us, haunted by the crimes he committed against their families, brutalized not only by a man, but the industry that gave rise to the brute.

# Australian mother carrying five babies rejected suggestion to "reduce" 5 babies to 2

By Dave Andrusko

When I read a story that appeared in the *Sydney Morning Herald*, you might think the most amazing thing about Kim Tucci is that the mom of two daughters who is carrying five unborn babies is that she is in the habit of "going to the toilet 12 times a night and having to eat 6000 calories a day."

Then you take a few minutes out and go to her "Surprised by Five" Facebook page and you get a real sense for how difficult it is to carry five babies—and much those babies are valued by Tucci and her husband.

On September 26, she wrote about the physical demands and being "scared of the unknown" and how "Yesterday wasn't a good day." But then she writes

**After my initial ultrasound I was told I could consider the selection method to give 2 babies the best chance in life… I watched a YouTube video on the procedure and I cried, I could never do that! Was I selfish for not giving two the chance of 100% survival?? All I knew is that I already love them and that every heart beat I heard I connect with them more.**

**For me life starts when a heart starts beating and all I know for sure is that I will do whatever it takes to bring them into this world healthy.**

Reporter Heather McNeill wrote

**Ms. Tucci, who has received support from thousands of well-wishers following her journey online, thanked her fans on her blog and credited her husband for helping her get through the pregnancy.**

**"My skin on my belly is so stretched it's painful and hot to touch, it literally feels like I have hives!! No amount of cream helps relieve the discomfort," she said.**

**"I have a lot of stretch marks now, dealing with such a huge change in my body is hard.**

A bit of an irony is that after having two girls, the couple wanted a boy. Well, they did get their boy—and four more girls!


Post after post tells her 147,000 followers that her babies' health and wellbeing comes first.

McNeil ends her story with an update:

**It is not clear when the babies will be born, but a post on Ms. Hoskins' Facebook page hinted they may be here sooner than expected.**

**"Kim has carried her babies all the way into the third trimester and five healthy babies are expected to arrive any day now," she posted on January 19.**

**"She could not be more beautiful… her strength just shines through in every image. A true goddess, indeed."**

**The odds of naturally conceiving quintuplets is one in 60 million.**

**Since 1980, there have been two other sets of quintuplets born in Western Australia.**

*Editor's note. An update on this story. The five beautiful babies were born on the 28th of January at just shy of 30 weeks.*

# A peek behind Belgium's euthanasia curtain

By Michael Cook

Another euthanasia scandal in Belgium. Two sisters have complained on a television program, Terzake, about the euthanasia of their sister. Tine Nys was 38 at the time and had broken up with her live-in boyfriend. On Christmas Eve 2009 she announced that she was going to be euthanased.

After interviews with doctors, she was given a lethal injection on April 24, 2010, with her mother and father and her two sisters, Lotte and Sophie, at her bedside.

*Tine Nys [center] and her sisters*

Belgium allows people to request euthanasia if they have unbearable psychological suffering, not just a terminal illness. Tine was obviously a troubled woman and 15 years before she had been seeing a psychiatrist regularly. But she was recovering from a love affair, not suffering unbearable mental anguish.

Three doctors were supposed to concur that she met all requirements: a psychiatrist and two other doctors. This time a psychiatrist casually made a diagnosis of "autism". The sickness from which euthanasia candidates are suffering is supposed to be incurable. Autism may not be curable, but Tine was functioning adequately. None of the doctors made an effort to treat her – but they were willing to kill her.

What horrified her sisters was their callousness and how little interest they took in persuading her to live.

The day of her death was immensely distressing for the family. The doctor was so incompetent that he failed to bring bandages to hold fast the needle for the lethal injection. Instead, he asked Tine's father to hold it on her arm. There was no place to hang the infusion bag with the toxic drug so the doctor placed it on the arm of Tine's armchair. To the dismay of her grieving family, it plopped onto her face as she died. Then the doctor asked her parents to use his stethoscope to see that she was well and truly dead.

The doctor even described Tine's death as "a lethal injection administered to a favourite pet to end its suffering".

Even though defenders of Belgian euthanasia claim that safeguards are an integral part of the system, none of them seem to have worked. Tine had shopped around for compliant doctors and the three who ticked [checked]the boxes had not communicated with each other. The paperwork was not done within the legally required time. However, the government's euthanasia commission still approved the doctor's handiwork.

Lotte and Sophie described the death to the Terzake journalist as an act of "perverse" cruelty.

"I hope this was bad luck, but I fear that this is not an isolated case," said Joris Vandenberghe, a Flemish psychiatrist, told Terzake. "This is really very worrying. "The bar for euthanasia should be higher."

The teary television interview has succeeded in getting some politicians to express misgivings about euthanasia. A former finance minister and he head of the Flemish Christian Democrats in the Belgian Senate, Steven Vanackere, now says that there are many shortcomings in the law, that the definition of mental suffering is too loose and that in 13 years only one case had been forwarded to the police.

On the other hand, it seems clear that most Belgian politicians and voters support the law. Tine Nys's sisters have said that they don't oppose the principle of euthanasia. So even if they investigate the appalling treatment she received, the euthanasia juggernaut will roll on.

But what if the complaint of these women is the tip of an iceberg of unresolved grief over euthanasia? It took them more than five years to bring their story before the public. What if euthanasia is so painful a topic for families that they cannot bring themselves to complain until many years afterwards, as happens with cases of childhood sexual abuse?

Euthanasia was only legalised in Belgium in 2002. Eventually Belgium could be buried under an avalanche of pent-up sorrow. A single death touches an entire family – and the doctor as well. If only a small proportion of cases were as incompetent and callous as Tine's, there could be scores, if not hundreds of patients whose loved ones are suffering from repressed grief and anger. Who knows? Sooner or later, however, Belgians will find out.

*Editor's note. Michael Cook is editor of MercatorNet. This appeared at mercatornet.com*

# 10 Times Hillary Clinton Revealed How Extreme She is on Abortion

*From page 23*

went as far as to say, "I'm proud to stand with Planned Parenthood." At a campaign event in South Carolina, she lamented, "I think it is unfortunate that Planned Parenthood has been the object of such a concerted attack for so many years."

**7) StemExpress CEO Cate Dyer has endorsed Clinton for president.**

The CEO of StemExpress, the company featured in several undercover videos for its participation with Planned Parenthood in trafficking baby body parts, has voiced her support for Hillary Clinton. "I'm a huge Hillary fan … she's getting elected this time. It's a done deal as far as I'm concerned," she said.

**8) Hillary Clinton calls for ending the Hyde Amendment.**

The pro-life Hyde Amendment, first enacted in 1976, prevents taxpayer funding of elective abortions through federal programs like Medicaid. By conservative estimates, the statute has saved over one million lives. Make no mistake about it: Clinton would make expanding federal funding for abortion a major priority in the White House. Clinton's own website states "there is no more important issue than defending reproductive rights (aka. abortion)."

**9) Clinton attacked state-level efforts to enact commonsense protections for unborn children and their mothers.**

Clinton's campaign called the flurry of pro-life bills introduced in state legislatures "a dangerous trend." Her campaign lamented, "In just the first three months of 2015, more than 300 bills have been introduced in state legislatures — on top of the nearly 30 measures introduced in Congress — that restrict access to abortion." Among the measures being discussed on the state level are bills dealing with unborn pain, dismemberment abortions, informed consent, parental involvement, and webcam abortions.

**10) Clinton likened pro-life Americans to terrorists**

"Now, extreme views about women, we expect that from some of the terrorist groups, we expect that from people who don't want to live in the modern world, but it's a little hard to take from Republicans who want to be the president of the United States," Clinton said at a campaign event in Ohio on August 27, 2015.

According to the latest numbers from Gallup, a total of 55% of Americans think abortion should be illegal in all circumstances or legal in only a few circumstances. Significantly, only 29% support abortion under any circumstances. That's Hillary Clinton's position.

# Initial testimony in Missouri on bill to protect unborn children from dismemberment abortions

*From page 25*

**promote respect for life, including life of the unborn."**

***Gonzales*** **upheld the ban on partial-birth abortions citing the findings of Congress that "not to prohibit it will further coarsen society to the humanity of not only newborns, but all vulnerable and innocent human life, making it increasingly difficult to protect such life."**

**In essence, the Supreme Court ruled that a method of abortion could be banned if other methods were available. Other abortion methods are available for second-trimester abortions.**

**Abortion by dismemberment is currently the dominant method for second-trimester abortion in Missouri, but perhaps that is because it offers, "more predictable timing" and "greater cost savings" according to the 2009 National Abortion Federation Abortion Training Textbook's chapter on D&E. …**

**We are not suggesting that some methods of abortion are morally acceptable. We are asking for accountability and action be taken in Missouri where the dehumanizing, and excruciatingly painful, method of killing unborn children through D&E abortions is a daily activity.**

**Missouri Right to Life is recommending that Missouri follow the signals given by the** ***Gonzales Court*** **and apply the rationale they used in their discussion of "devaluing human life" by enacting HB 1714.**

# Trump wins in South Carolina with Rubio second; Clinton overcomes Sanders' challenge in Nevada

*From page 1*

After finishing a disappointing (and distant fourth), former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush dropped out. As of today both Ohio Gov. John Kasich and retired

*Sen. Marco Rubio*

neurosurgeon Ben Carson, who finished fifth and sixth, say they are on to Super Tuesday.

Politically, Sen. Rubio, as many commentators ruefully acknowledged Saturday, had been given up for dead after a hugely disappointing fifth place finish in New Hampshire. Instead he roared back, assisted by endorsements from the state's hugely popular junior Senator Tim Scott and equally popular Gov. Nikki Haley.

Mrs. Clinton prevailed in Nevada over Democratic Socialist Sen. Bernie Sanders, 53% to 47%. She was carried along by a tidal wave of support from African Americans and by essentially splitting the Hispanic vote with Mr. Sanders. But there was more to it.

In a story first broke by the *New York Times*, we learned that Nevada Sen. Harry Reid, the Senate Minority Leader, placed a call to the head of the parent of the Culinary Workers Union local in Las Vegas which had not endorsed either candidate. Employee turnout at six casino sites on the Las Vegas Strip had been expected to be minimal but that quickly changed after the call to D. Taylor. But there's more.

According to Jon Ralston of the *Reno Gazette -Journal*

**But Reid did not stop there. He also called casino executives, Democratic insiders confirm, with a simple**

*Hillary Clinton*

**message: "Let your people go."**

**That is, he wanted to ensure the workers would be allowed time off from work to caucus. No one said no to Prince Harry.**

What else? Mr. Trump, as is his wont, mixed it up with everyone from his Republican rivals to the Pope. He won by ten points anyway.

Everyone is guessing where Gov. Bush's supporters will migrate. *The New York Times* did an interesting breakdown, comparing the self-identified characteristics of Bush supporters with the characteristics of those who support Sens. Rubio and Cruz, Gov. Kasich, Dr. Carson, and Mr. Trump.

We'll know a lot more come March 1.

In the meanwhile we can be sure of one thing. The political picture will change like a kaleidoscope with each unexpected turn of fortunes.

# SPUC launches "Lives Worth Living" campaign to counter physician-assisted suicide

*From page 30*

Assisted suicide is not a genuine 'choice' when:

* Vulnerable people feel pressured to choose death.

Saying to elderly, vulnerable people: "Would you like us to help you die now?" immediately makes them feel that their life has no worth.

* "Vulnerable people are killed without their explicit consent."

In Belgium, where euthanasia is legal, in 2013 the deaths of 1.7 people in every 100 people were hastened without the explicit request of the patient. The author of a 2015 report on euthanasia in Belgium, Professor Raphael Cohen-Almagor of Hull University, said: "The decision as to which life is no longer 'worth living' is not in the hands of the patient but in the hands of the doctor."

**Assisted suicide is not the answer to pain**

Good palliative care should ensure that pain is controlled well, and pain can be well controlled in the vast majority of cases. Legalising assisted suicide risks less investment in palliative care.

Additionally, lack of pain control is not usually the deciding factor for those who choose assisted suicide. In Oregon, USA, where assisted suicide is legal, 93 per cent said that 'loss of autonomy' was a reason they wanted to die prematurely.

**Assisted suicide kills those who are not dying**

Recent assisted suicide proposals have stipulated that assisted suicide should only be offered to people with terminal illnesses, and who are not expected to live longer than 6 months. However, this type of 'safeguard' is often ignored:

- In Oregon, where the Death with Dignity Act 1997 has this type of clause in it, one-in-six people killing themselves under the act did not have a terminal illness.

In Holland, there have been campaigns to extend euthanasia laws to include those with dementia, mental illness and who are old and tired of life but not ill. Killing people in these categories is not legal under Dutch law, yet in 2013:

- 42 people with psychiatric problems were killed by euthanasia, and
- 97 people with dementia were killed.