



national

RIGHT TO LIFE

NEWS

January 2017

January 20, 2017

**PRESIDENTIAL
INAUGURATION DAY**

The Swearing-in of the 45th President of the United States



national RIGHT TO LIFE NEWS

House joins Senate in taking first step to repeal and replace Obamacare

By Dave Andrusko

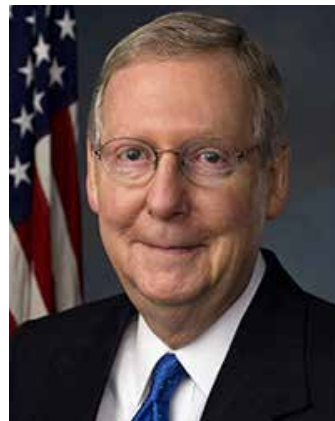
Last Friday, just one day after the Senate took a similar action, the House of Representatives passed a budget resolution which established a framework for repealing and replacing the “Affordable Health Care Act”-- Obamacare.

The House vote was 227-198. The Senate vote, which occurred early Thursday morning, was 51-48.

The House action took place exactly one week before the inauguration of pro-life



*Pro-life Speaker of the House
Paul Ryan*



*Pro-life Senate Majority Leader
Mitch McConnell*

Donald Trump who has called Obamacare the “unaffordable care act.”

For pro-lifers, there are multiple highly objectionable provisions in Obamacare including provisions for tax-based subsidies to about 1,000 health plans that cover elective abortions and which impose government-imposed rationing of lifesaving medical care.

See “House,” page 15

It’s Over, It’s Over, It’s Over

What Hillary Clinton’s defeat means for unborn babies

By Karen Cross, National Right to Life Political Director

The first time Hillary Clinton lost, on November 8, 2016, her defeat was so unexpected many in the media could hardly contain their disbelief. The second time she lost was on December 19, when 304 electors voted for pro-life Donald J. Trump, while only 227 voted for pro-abortion Clinton. Finally, on January 6, Vice President Joe Biden declared, “It’s over,” when Congress certified the electoral results.

The third time proved to be the charm.

What does this mean for unborn babies and the pro-life movement?

First and foremost, it means a complete shift in the direction of the U.S. Supreme Court. Rather than a pro-abortion justice being nominated by Clinton to replace the late Justice Antonin Scalia, President-elect Trump, as he promised, will nominate a pro-life justice.

See “It’s Over,” page 22



Editorials

President-elect Trump says he will make decision about Supreme Court nominee “within two weeks” of his inauguration

If you have 48 minutes to spare, a very good use of your time would be to go to YouTube and watch pro-life President-elect Donald Trump spar with reporters January 11 at his first formal press conference since he was elected. It no doubt foreshadows what we will see for the next 4-8 years.

Here’s what the President-elect said when asked about making an appointment to the Supreme Court. (The High Court is currently short one member due to the untimely death of Justice Antonin Scalia.)

I’ll be making the decision on who we will put for justice of the United States Supreme Court, a replacement for the great, great justice Scalia, that will probably be within two weeks of the 20th. ... I’ll be making that decision, and it’ll be a decision which I very strongly believe in, I think it’s one of the reasons I got elected, I think the people of this country did not want to see what was happening with the Supreme Court, so I think it was a very, very big decision as to why I was elected.

The importance of the Supreme Court to his victory is hard to exaggerate. As *NRL News Today* has discussed on numerous occasions, the electorate knew where Mr. Trump and pro-abortion Hillary Clinton stood on abortion, particularly because of what Mr. Trump said at the third debate and his pledges to the pro-



President-elect Donald Trump will offer a nominee to replace the “great, great” Justice Antonin Scalia within two weeks of his inauguration.

life community, and because the political arms of the Abortion Movement trumpeted Clinton’s absolutist position.

One of the exit poll question asked how important the Supreme Court was in people’s vote. The graph below is startlingly revealing.

56% of those who voted for Trump said it was **the** most important factor, compared to 41% for Hillary Clinton--a whopping 15 point advantage for Trump.

See “Trump,” page 35

Cheer and optimism reign in 2017

We are now just days away from the inauguration of pro-life President-elect Donald Trump. He had “no chance” to win, remember? I remember like it was yesterday (it was actually October 24) when *Washington Post* columnist Chris Cillizza co-wrote a piece headlined, “Donald Trump’s chances of winning are approaching zero.”

There are many reasons virtually the entire Media Establishment hates Mr. Trump. Near the top is he made fools of them and is using Twitter to circumvent the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times*, and the rest of the usual suspects who wish him nothing but ill.

Contrast the consensus view that pro-abortion Hillary Clinton was a lock with a headline that recently appeared over a story in the *Hill* newspaper. “New year, same dedication — 2017 is bright for the pro-life movement,” written by Ashley McGuire.

Ms. McGuire offers a checklist of reasons for optimism in 2017. All are thoughtful. We’d use her fine op-ed as a jumping off point and add a few reasons of our own.

While pro-lifers knew otherwise, it would be fair to say that many in the Establishment Media saw last summer’s Supreme

Court’s *Whole Women’s Health v. Hellerstedt* decision as a kind of death knell for the pro-life Movement. (Never mind that they are always writing our obituary.)

In truth, while very discouraging, what the decision told us was **as currently constituted**, the Supreme Court would strike down state provisions that require abortion clinics to meet more than the absolute, bare minimum safety requirements. A more balanced High Court, one that does not swoon whenever pro-abortionists make their case, will easily see the importance of these commonsense requirements.

There were two worldviews on display throughout the presidential campaign but most particularly in the third and final debate between Mr. Trump and Mrs. Clinton.

And because they only see what they want to see, as always, most media outlets missed the forest for the trees.

What the American public saw with their own eyes and heard with their own ears was as straightforward a pro-life/pro-abortion contrast as ever witnessed in a presidential debate.

See “Cheer,” page 28



From the President Carol Tobias

Eight Years Later, Real Hope and Change for Unborn Babies

Eight years ago, we were told that newly elected pro-abortion President Barack Obama would bring "Hope and Change" to America. On November 8, America resoundingly rejected his policies.

By electing pro-life Donald Trump, voters obviously weren't interested in continuing Obama's legacy which, as right-to-lifers know, was disastrous for unborn children. President-elect Trump's victory signaled the country wished to move in the opposite direction of where Obama was taking us, a direction Hillary Clinton promised to continue.

President Obama was active on the campaign trail for Clinton, asking voters to support her as a way to continue his legacy. In an interview with radio host Tom Joyner, Obama stated, "Everything we've done is dependent on me being able to pass the baton to someone who believes in the same things I believe in. So if you really care about my presidency and what we've accomplished, then you are going to go and vote." (For Clinton, of course.)

We recently found out how frightful a Clinton presidency (essentially Obama's third term) would have been. Mike Allen, founder of *axios.com* and former reporter for Washington DC-based newspaper *Politico*, secured a list of the "ghost cabinet" Hillary Clinton's campaign team had started to assemble so she would be ready to go once she "won" the election.

Allen wrote, "...Hillary staffers and supporters had astonishingly specific, widely known/accepted roles planned for her administration. 'Measuring the drapes' is a cliché; a notional [hypothetical] org chart is real life. ...By Election Day, her roster was so refined that **most jobs just had one name.**"

Who was slated for her administration? According to Allen, John Podesta was the

leading candidate for Secretary of State; Loretta Lynch would likely have remained as Attorney General; and Neera Tanden would be Secretary of Health and Human Services. Ann O'Leary would head up the Domestic Policy Council and Maya Harris would have been Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations. Quite condescending was the notation by EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) that the appointee would be "likely an African American (and/or at Education)."

Who are these people? John Podesta was the Hillary Clinton campaign chairman whose emails were leaked by Wikileaks. Those emails showed him corresponding with an advisor who shared plans to overturn the Hyde Amendment. They also exposed Podesta, a Catholic, as having "transparent contempt for the teachings of the Church," with "the intention of creating dissident 'Catholic' organizations bent on defeating (and if possible, changing) those teachings," as described by Matthew J Frank in the magazine *First Things*.

Neera Tanden is President of the Center for American Progress (CAP), a liberal think tank in Washington, DC. In an August 2015 Op-Ed for *MSNBC*, she attacked Congress for its efforts to defund Planned Parenthood. Last summer, she cheered the Supreme Court decision striking the Texas abortion law. There is absolutely no doubt, had she become Secretary of HHS, that she would have aggressively sought increased government help for Planned Parenthood and promoted abortion funding in Obamacare.

Ann O'Leary was a Senior Fellow at CAP and a senior policy advisor on Hillary Clinton's campaign. From September 1999 until he left office in 2001, O'Leary served as Special Assistant for Domestic Policy to

President Bill Clinton. Her records at the Clinton Presidential Library show her work on various issues and are labeled: Abortion Safety, abortion Clinic Violence, Partial Abortion (sic partial-birth abortion), and Women's Choice. Again, there is no doubt that she would have helped to promote a pro-abortion agenda in another Clinton White House.

Maya Harris is an attorney, also a former senior fellow at CAP, and former Executive Director of ACLU of Northern California. She is the sister of Kamala Harris, the new EMILY's List-endorsed senator from California. Kamala Harris was the California attorney general who raided the home of the Center for Medical Progress' David Daleiden after he released undercover videos of Planned Parenthood officials haggling over pricing for body parts harvested from aborted babies.

Contrast that with the men and women Trump wants in his cabinet. I breathe a huge sigh of relief when I think of the pro-life people who will be serving in the Trump administration-- Jeff Sessions as Attorney General, Tom Price as Secretary of HHS, Nikki Haley as Ambassador to the United Nations, Reince Priebus as Chief of Staff, Kellyanne Conway as Senior Advisor to the President, and many more. Unborn children will have staunch defenders and advocates at critical positions in the new administration.

And, of course, we can't forget President-elect Trump's promise to appoint pro-life justices to the Supreme Court and defend the life-saving Hyde Amendment.

Our battle is a long way from being over. Proponents of abortion will fight harder than they ever have to keep the barbarity legal and available. But for the first time in eight years, there is real change with real hope for unborn babies.

Big or little, Everything you do helps save a life

Legendary basketball coach John Wooden once said, "It's the little details that are vital. Little things make big things happen." For grassroots pro-lifers, the heart and soul of our Movement, this means actions that may seem small, added together over time, build momentum to saves lives. They hasten the day when our culture once again respects all human life, not just the planned and the perfect!

For example, you might not think your one vote makes much of a difference. But together this "little" thing made a "big" thing happen in Kentucky. The state just elected a pro-life House of Representatives. In its first days, the Legislature enacted the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, a law protecting the precious lives of unborn babies who can feel horrific pain as they are aborted.

Just weeks before, Ohio's Legislature passed a similar protective law. Thanks to the work of pro-lifers just like

you, 16 states now have laws to protect these babies' lives!

Here is more evidence of momentum. Last week, voters in a special election in Virginia elected a pro-lifer over a

law that already protects pain-capable unborn babies in states like Kentucky and Ohio.

A few people are making a huge difference in the lives of unborn children.



pro-abortionist. This victory maintained the single-seat pro-life majority in the state Senate. And because there is a pro-life majority in both houses, it keeps alive the opportunity to pass the

That is happening all around the country and not in state legislatures alone.

This life-saving difference begins anywhere a Right to Life chapter is started.

Any time someone speaks up for life.

Any time someone donates to empower National Right to Life to save lives.

You might think it is a "little" thing if you donate \$5 or \$10, or even \$50 or \$100. That it will not make a lot of difference.

But it will!

With our nationwide network of 3,000 chapters and 50 state Right to Life affiliates, National Right to Life has the infrastructure in place to get the pro-life message out to thousands of people with just a handful of dollars.

And it works!

So please know that any amount of your support might help change a mind, or open a heart, or literally save a life.

Please help today!

Thank you!

Carol Tobias, President
National Right to Life
Committee



Pro-life Kentucky Governor Matt Bevin signs two pro-life bills

Kentucky 16th to enact Pain-Capable bill

By Dave Andrusko

Still another reminder that elections have consequences. On January 9 Pro-life Kentucky Gov. Matt Bevin signed two pro-life bills into law: the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act (SB5) and a bill that offers an abortion-minded woman the opportunity to see an ultrasound of her unborn child (HB2).

The bills passed both houses than a week from the time they were introduced. Naturally the ACLU has already challenged HB2.

Swift passage of SB5 and HB2 came after pro-life Republicans won control in

November of the state House where pro-life measures had previously been bottled up by Democrats under the leadership of outgoing Speaker of the House Greg Stumbo. Pro-life Republicans retained control of the state Senate.

On January 6, the House approved SB5 by an overwhelming vote of 79-15. The bill allows exceptions if an abortion is necessary to save a woman's life or prevent substantial, irreversible harm to any of her major bodily functions.

SB5, like the laws in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia,

Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, West Virginia, and Wisconsin, says you cannot abort a child capable of experiencing pain, a capacity that medical science has demonstrated takes place no later than at 20 weeks.

Ingrid Duran, NRLC's director of state legislation, told *NRL News Today*, "For Kentucky to soon become the 16th state within the first week of the new year sets a tone for the 2017 session in all states: that the unborn child deserves protection."

Sen. Brandon Smith, the sponsor of SB 5, told the House "Senate Bill 5 is an attempt to try and protect the children."

Speaking to the committee, Smith graphically described what he said was the procedure used to rip apart babies during late-term abortions.

In addition, the Senate also voted 32-5 to pass House Bill 2.

The *Lexington Herald Leader* reported both laws contain language that made them effective immediately.

A third bill under consideration would defund organizations which perform abortion.

BREAKING:

KENTUCKY

passes

**PAIN-CAPABLE
UNBORN CHILD
PROTECTION ACT**



One fact of history shows why *Roe v. Wade* is unbelievably ridiculous

By Paul Stark

In its 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the Constitution requires states to permit abortion for any reason. The American people, the Court decided, are not allowed to legally protect human beings in utero from acts of violence that kill them (as long as the mother gives her permission).

Of course, the Constitution doesn't say anything about abortion policy. So the Court attempted to extrapolate a constitutional right to abortion from the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, which was adopted in 1868 to protect the rights of former slaves. The Clause says that no state shall "deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law."

The Court's claim that those words require abortion-on-demand is not very plausible. "As a constitutional argument," notes University of Pennsylvania law professor Kermit Roosevelt (who personally supports legalized abortion), "*Roe* is barely coherent. The Court pulled its fundamental right to choose more or less from the constitutional ether."

One fact of history, however, makes the Court's decision especially egregious: *The American people adopted the Fourteenth Amendment during an era in which those same American people enacted a wave of state laws to protect unborn children from abortion.*

Justice Harry Blackmun, who wrote the majority opinion in *Roe*, seemed to realize that this fact posed an obstacle to the conclusion the Court wanted to reach. So Blackmun, citing two since-debunked articles written

by Cyril Means (a lawyer for the National Association for the Repeal of Abortion Laws), put forward Means's novel theory that the 19th century abortion laws weren't really about protecting the unborn. They were, instead, about protecting women from a dangerous

others campaigned to replace insufficient common-law protections (or earlier statutory protections) with laws that protected all unborn children from abortion.

"Physicians have now arrived at the unanimous opinion that the foetus in utero is alive

decided to adopt the Fourteenth Amendment. Then, a century later, the Court ruled that *the Fourteenth Amendment somehow precludes doing what the ratifiers of the Fourteenth Amendment actually did.*

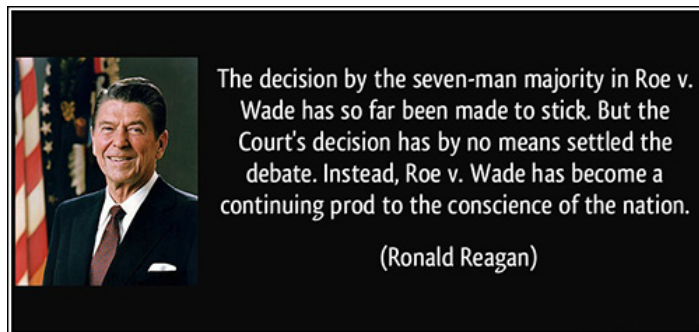
Justice William Rehnquist made this point in his dissenting opinion in *Roe*. "To reach its result," he wrote, "the Court necessarily has had to find within the scope of the Fourteenth Amendment a right that was apparently completely unknown to the drafters of the Amendment."

Rehnquist continued: "There apparently was no question concerning the validity of [laws against abortion] when the Fourteenth Amendment was adopted. The only conclusion possible from this history is that the drafters did not intend to have the Fourteenth Amendment withdraw from the States the power to legislate with respect to this matter."

Indeed, in order to hold that the Fourteenth Amendment prevents Americans from protecting unborn children, as the Court ruled in *Roe*, one has to hold that (magically?) the Fourteenth Amendment means something other than what the American people actually agreed to when they ratified the Amendment.

That is ridiculous. The Court's claim that there is a constitutional right to abortion isn't just wrong. It is *obviously* wrong. It is nonsense.

Regardless of one's position on the ethics of abortion—and regardless of one's position on whether abortion should be legal—*Roe v. Wade* is not a decision that can be defended seriously.



procedure—a concern that is no longer relevant, Blackmun reasoned, given the relative safety of modern abortion techniques.

Even if Blackmun and Means were right about the purpose of the abortion laws, though, it wouldn't follow that measures to protect the unborn are impermissible or that they do not advance a compelling state interest. But Blackmun and Means demonstrably were not right.

Definitive and overwhelming historical evidence shows that 19th century state legislatures were motivated (in large part) to prevent killing that they regarded as unjust. They had learned from scientific advancements that abortion at any stage, even before quickening, took the life of a developing member of the species *Homo sapiens*, and newer abortion methods were turning the practice into a larger problem in American society. So the American Medical Association and

from the very moment of conception," wrote Dr. Horatio Storer, who spearheaded the AMA's effort, in 1866. "[T]he willful killing of a human being at any stage of its existence is murder."

States responded by enacting laws prohibiting all elective abortions. Consider, in particular, legislation to strengthen Ohio's abortion ban that was enacted in April 1867. That's just a few months after the same lawmakers, during the same legislative session, voted to ratify the Fourteenth Amendment. A report prepared by the Ohio Senate Committee on Criminal Abortion called abortion "child-murder" and grounded its position in the scientific fact that unborn children are human beings and the moral principle that intentionally killing people is wrong.

Why does all this matter? Because the Americans who decided to ban abortions are the same Americans who, during the same time period,

Thanks to YOU, Lives are Being Saved at Unprecedented Numbers in Pennsylvania

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

When I first saw the figures, I could hardly believe my eyes. The number of abortions in Pennsylvania had dropped to the lowest level ever recorded since the Pennsylvania Department of Health first began releasing statistics in the aftermath of the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court ruling *Roe v. Wade*.

This is a milestone in the history of our Commonwealth.

At one point in Pennsylvania, back in 1980, 65,777 preborn babies lost their lives to abortion—the highest number on record. The most recent statistics show that 31,818 abortions occurred in the Keystone State in 2015. Our annual abortion totals **are less than half** what they used to be, an indication that the culture of life is being rebuilt in Pennsylvania—one life at a time.

This is consistent with the national trend demonstrating that abortion totals have been on the decline. Such progress would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of so many: Armchair lobbyists who contact their lawmakers when pro-life legislation is up for a vote.

Teachers who volunteer their time and talent to educate members of their communities about the incredible development of the preborn child.

Caring souls who offer emotional support and material aid to pregnant women during a challenging time in their lives.

Cyberspace wonders who use social media to proclaim the inconvenient, disturbing truth about abortion.

It is an undeniable scientific fact that abortion ends an innocent, irreplaceable human life, and therefore every single abortion is an epic tragedy. The power of one person to change the world...be it Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Susan B. Anthony, or Steve Jobs... has been proven time and time again since the birth of our nation.

Yet, generations of heroes and champions have lost their lives before they even had a chance to touch their mothers' hands—all because of a single court decision. And, despite

the astounding advances in technology we have seen this century, nothing has ever been invented that can replace a newborn daughter or son.

Thanks to your passion and perseverance, lives are being saved at unprecedented rates in Pennsylvania and across the Country. The direction of our nation is turning increasingly toward embracing life rather than throwing it away.

Yet, still, there are those 31,818 nameless Pennsylvanians whose life stories will never be written, whose obituaries are missing

from newspapers and news websites. It is for them, and for those whose lives are similarly threatened, that we continue working, educating, blogging, and marching.

The milestone we have just achieved in reducing abortions is just a stepping stone toward the day when all lives are protected under the law—and all mothers are spared the unfathomable pain of losing a child to the tragedy of *Roe*.

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



Nailed it: Paul Ryan's perfect answer to why Planned Parenthood should be defunded

By Claire Chretien

House Speaker Rep. Paul Ryan succinctly and calmly laid out the case for redirecting taxpayer dollars from abortion goliath Planned Parenthood to federal community health centers at a *CNN* townhall Thursday night.

Ryan, R-WI, explained what pro-lifers have long said about Planned Parenthood: giving it money that doesn't specifically fund abortions still helps the abortion-centered

George Washington University graduate student who asked where women would go if Planned Parenthood lost its federal funding. "We believe that this can better be done by putting that money in federal community health centers. Federal community health centers, I have a lot of experience with them myself. They're all throughout Wisconsin; they're in virtually every community."

bigger in network, there are so many more of them, and they provide these kinds of services without all the controversies surrounding this issue."

Moderator Jake Tapper interjected, accusing Ryan of "[believing] in providing more choice for people when it comes to health insurance — except for Planned Parenthood."

"Well, there's a longstanding principle that we've all believed in — and by the way,

want to make sure that people get their coverage."

"That's why there's no conflict by making sure that these dollars go to federal community health centers, which provide these services and have a vast, larger network than these Planned Parenthood clinics, which are surrounded by a lot of controversy," continued Ryan. "And we don't want to commit people's taxpayer to effectively funding something that they believe is morally unconscionable. Not everybody believes that — I understand that. But that's a longstanding principle we've had in this country that we wanna maintain."

"Of course, taxpayer dollars don't fund abortions, right now, right, because of the Hyde Amendment?" Tapper asked.

"Right, but they get a lot of money and, you know, money's fungible and it effectively floats these organizations which then use other money," said Ryan. "You know, money's fungible. You don't have this controversy by funding health centers."

Ryan also promised that repealing Obamacare is a top priority for Republicans. "We're working on this as fast as possible," he said. The goal is to repeal and replace Obamacare "at the same time, and in some cases in the same bill."

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



organization, allowing it to spend taxpayer money on other things that strengthen its business model.

"First of all, I want to make sure you get the care you need. We want to make sure that all women get the kind of care they need, like preventative screening," Ryan told a

Congress will ensure women will still be able to get healthcare "by putting these dollars in the federal community health centers, which provide the same kinds of services," Ryan explained. "For every Planned Parenthood... there are 20 federal community health centers. They are vastly

this is for pro-choice/pro-life people — that we don't want to commit taxpayer funding for abortion and Planned Parenthood is the largest abortion provider," responded Ryan. "So we don't want to effectively commit taxpayer money to an organization providing abortions but we

“It is the Lord’s story to write, not mine”: Rest in Peace Jean Garton

By Dave Andrusko

When Dr. Jean Garton, a genuine pro-life heroine, passed away, I lost a friend I’ve known for more than 30 years. Fifty tributes wouldn’t do justice to her contribution to our Movement.

Along with Jack and Barbara Willke’s *Handbook on Abortion*, Jean Garton’s masterpiece, *Who Broke the Baby?* was required reading for pro-lifers of my generation. To younger people, who live in a world of Instagram, Twitter, Pinterest, and Snapchat, it is close to impossible to understand the impact of the printed page (and the “Willke slides”) on that early pro-life Movement which was gradually coming together, first to contest abortion “reform,” later to battle abortion repeal.

I first learned of the murder of Dean, Jean’s and her husband Chic’s first son and second child, when she appeared many years ago on the “Focus on the Family” program when it was hosted by Dr. James Dobson. I mention that radio program because Jean wrote about Dean’s death in what I consider the finest piece she ever wrote, aside from her classic book: her essay, “A Celebration of Life,” which appeared in 2007 in the *Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly*.

Few people knew that Jean was a genuine pro-life convert, a Saul-on-the-road-to-Damascus conversion even if it took six months. Here is the background.

The 1963 assassination of President John F. Kennedy

made Chic take another look at his career as a successful businessman. A year later, at age 40, he entered the seminary.

Jean and their three children followed with what seemed like a “healthy bank account” which was soon depleted by the many hospital stays and medicines

when it is engaged in self-justification.”

(We talked last summer over coffee about how she had felt. As passionately and as honestly as she wrote about her inner turmoil in the *Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly* essay, it was not until we talked at great



“To say a child is unwanted says nothing about the child, but it says much about the person who does not want [him or her].” -- Jean Staker Garton

needed to treat their oldest daughter’s severe rheumatoid arthritis. Some days they subsisted on oatmeal, some days on nothing. But thanks to God’s providence and the help of local churches, they made it through Chic’s four years in seminary.

No sooner were they ready to begin their “service as full-time church workers” in Pennsylvania than Jean found herself pregnant at 40. “This fourth child wasn’t wanted,” Jean wrote, “so the obvious solution was to abort the pregnancy. Our course, the human mind is never more clever or resourceful than

length that I fully grasped just how much she had not wanted to be pregnant.)

But this was prior to *Roe v. Wade* and she could not find a doctor to “terminate” her pregnancy. In her essay Jean went on to explain how she joined an activist group “seeking to promote abortion-on-demand.”

I spent six months studying the abortion issue from numerous perspectives in an attempt to find confirmation that abortion, as its advocates claimed, helps women, doesn’t

take a human life, and is a choice God allows us to make. I came out the other end of that exhaustive research with a changed heart and mind and with a commitment to be a voice in defense of the unseen, unheard, unborn child.

In 1969 Donn was born, the same Donn who would be riding with them in 1979 when police tracked them down to tell them Dean had been murdered...in Dallas. Jean wrote

He had just completed four years in the Air Force during the Vietnam War and was beginning a management training program. Dean, our first son, our planned son, our wanted son, dead, while seated between us bringing great comfort was Donn, our second son, our unplanned son, our unwanted son, whom I had wanted dead.

Over the many decades that followed her pro-life transformation, Jean wrote and testified and spoke on behalf of that “unseen, unheard, unborn child.” Few were as articulate, fewer still who could write as well, fewer yet who could move an audience to “see” abortion in a new light.

See “Garton,” page 17

Majority of Americans want Supreme Court justices to interpret Constitution the way Justice Antonin Scalia did

By Dave Andrusko

The surveys conducted for the Knights of Columbus by The Marist Poll are always helpful, because they tend to ask good questions in a thoughtful manner. The latest KOC poll addresses the question of what kind of Supreme Court justice does the public want to replace the late Justice Antonin Scalia and how important is that to them.

Answer? A justice just like Justice Scalia—and it is very important!

We learn from the KOC that this survey of 2,729 adults, conducted December 12 through December 19, found **8 in 10 Americans (80 percent) say it is an “immediate priority” or an “important” one to appoint Supreme Court justices that will interpret the constitution as it was originally written. This includes 56 percent who say such an appointment is an “immediate priority.” Fifty-three percent of Independents, 80 percent of Republicans and more than four in 10 Democrats (42 percent) also say it**

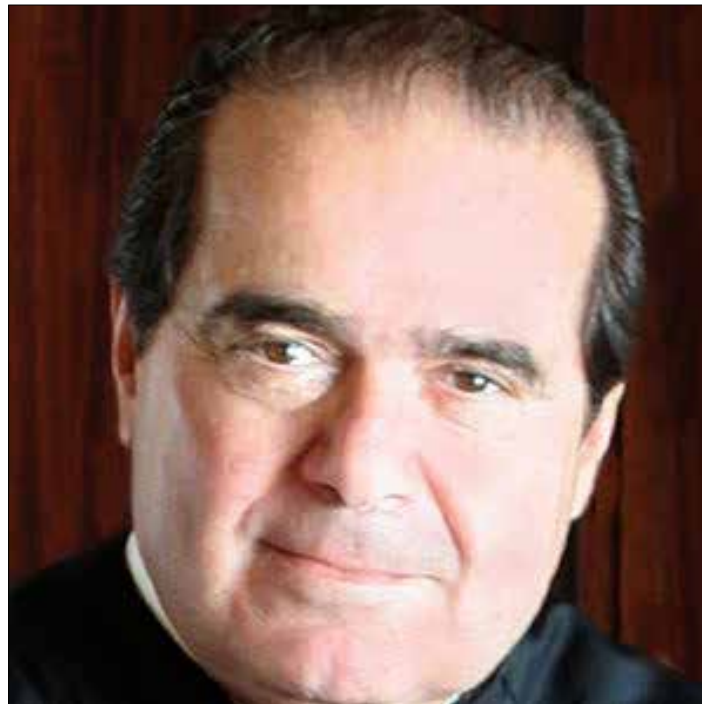
is an “immediate priority.”

Let’s dig a little deeper. Respondents were asked to choose between wanting the High Court justices to interpret

(40%)—a 12 point difference.

Even 31% of Democrats agree with the former, joining 50% of Independents and 78% of Republicans.

One other survey result is very important in light



Justice Antonin Scalia

the Constitution “as it was originally written” (52%) versus those who want the justices to interpret based on what the justices think the “Constitution means now”

of the outgoing Obama Administration’s ceaseless attacks on religious liberties.

89 percent of Americans also see protecting religious freedom as a

priority, including 57 percent who describe it as an “immediate priority” and 32 percent who consider it an “important” one. The issue is embraced in a completely bipartisan manner. Fifty-one percent of Independents, 55 percent of Democrats and 66 percent of Republicans concur that this is an “immediate priority.”

And, by a 40 point margin—65% to 25%—Americans **also believe religious freedom should be protected even when it conflicts with government laws.Strong majorities of Republicans (74 percent), Independents (63%) and Democrats (60 percent) agree.**

President-elect Trump said in his first formal news conference since his election that he will nominate a replacement within two weeks of his January 20 inauguration.

This girl's mom was about to abort her. Then someone showed up at her door.

By Women's Rights Without Frontiers

As 2016 drew to an end, Women's Rights Without Frontiers was celebrating the saving of another precious girl

she discovered she was pregnant with Ai Jia. Her first child is a daughter, now five years old. With her next two

a second granddaughter.

Then, Ai Jia's mother found out that she was pregnant with yet another girl. Her mother-in-law began to pressure Ai Jia's mother again, insisting that at least she give this baby to a childless couple living 300 miles away from their remove village. Ai Jia's mother would never see her daughter again. She did not know what to do.

An undercover fieldworker from Women's Rights Without Frontiers [WRWF] arrived at her door just in time with a message of hope and the resources to back it up. She offered Ai Jia's mother a monthly stipend for a year to help her keep Ai Jia.

Ai Jia's mother had already had two sex-selective abortions. Because of emotional encouragement from WRWF's fieldworker and financial support from donors worldwide, this distraught mother is joyfully raising her beloved daughter. She said that she is grateful that people from a faraway land have protected her and her daughter from mistreatment by their own family.

"When I feel discouraged by continued reports of coercive population control in China, I turn to the faces of the hundreds of baby girls we have saved," said Reggie Littlejohn, president of Women's Rights Without Frontiers.

Each of these lives is infinitely precious. We are not only saving the girls themselves, but we are saving their mothers from the trauma of being pressured into aborting or abandoning their daughters against their wills. Not only that, we are saving the future children, grandchildren and all future generations that will be born because these girls were allowed to live. Saving just one girl is worth all the effort I've put into my work in China over the years.

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



from sex-selective abortion or abandonment through its "Save a Girl" Campaign.

"Ai Jia's" mother was pregnant three times before

pregnancies, when she found out she was pregnant with girls, she aborted them. Her husband's parents wanted a grandson and could not accept

“The Redemption has Begun”: Pregnancy Center Opens Next to Infamous Abortion Clinic

By Jay Hobbs

Beginning this month, a woman seeking help in an unexpected pregnancy can go right next door to what investigators once tabbed a “House of Horrors” to find free life-affirming help, including an ultrasound, baby supplies, peer counseling and more in Philadelphia.

The clinic is operated by AlphaCare, a pro-life organization that has served women in the area since 1981, and marks a substantial milestone for a long-term vision held by the group’s leadership since the arrest and murder trial of abortion practitioner Kermit Gosnell starting in 2011.

For over 30 years leading up to his arrest, Gosnell operated a late-term abortion clinic at 3801 Lancaster Avenue in Philadelphia. His clinic was originally investigated as part of a pill mill probe, but authorities quickly realized the dilapidated and unsanitary conditions of his practice, which led to the botched abortion and death of at least one patient, Karnamaya Mongar.

Additionally, it was discovered that Gosnell had routinely delivered babies alive at his clinic and snipped their spinal cords with scissors, leading to three murder convictions in addition to an involuntary manslaughter conviction in Ms. Mongar’s death.

As Gosnell was arrested and tried, Karen Hess and Kim Bennett—AlphaCare’s executive director and nurse manager, respectively—were drawn to the idea of relocating their services from a mile away to, eventually, reclaiming and repurposing the building itself.



*AlphaCare’s new ultrasound exam room opened its doors to patients on Jan. 3, 2017
Photo Courtesy: AlphaCare*

In June of 2015, that dream came one major step closer to fulfillment when a friend of AlphaCare purchased the two addresses adjacent to Gosnell’s former flat-iron location, setting the stage for the January grand opening.

With an estimated 40,000 babies having lost their lives through Gosnell’s abortion practice from 1979 to 2011, one of AlphaCare’s main hopes in relocating has been to offer badly needed post-abortive services to the very women Gosnell exploited.

While Hess and Bennett have pitched the idea to donors and partners over the years, they’ve rallied around Isaiah 61—God’s promise to transform “ashes” into “beauty.” Hess and Bennett hope to one day purchase and renovate Gosnell’s former clinic just a wall away.

Texas, that now houses both 40 Days for Life and a pregnancy help medical clinic.

Along the way, Hess and Bennett have led the way for AlphaCare’s rebranding (it was formerly called “Alpha Pregnancy Services”), as well as the addition of a mobile ultrasound unit in partnership with “Save the Storks.”

In an email to donors at the close of 2016, AlphaCare called the ultrasound exam room the “heart of the center” and invited supporters to attend an open house Sunday, Jan. 22—the 44th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* and Sanctity of Human Life Sunday.

“Gosnell’s property is still mired in legal issues and not yet for sale. Nevertheless, the redemption has begun,” AlphaCare wrote in a Dec. 27 email. “Thanks to a tremendous outpouring of support and an incredible team of tradesmen, two row homes have been transformed into a brand new office space complete with a state of the art computer network, burglar alarm, new furnishings and more.

“The AlphaCare staff rejoices and praises the Lord for His provision.”

Editor’s note. This appeared at Pregnancy Help News and is reposted with permission.

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

Former abortion clinics turned into life-affirming pregnancy centers in recent years include two in Iowa—including one former Planned Parenthood clinic—two in Miami, one in Toledo, Ohio, and a former flagship Planned Parenthood building in Bryan,

The life of a baby, no less sacred before birth than after birth

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

Recently, a friend of mine, ever-sunny Robin, was all set to serve as a volunteer on a women's retreat weekend. Then she learned that her beloved grandchild in utero, Quinn, had to be delivered by C-section the next morning.

She left the retreat, bound for her daughter-in-law's side. And she left behind a group of faithful women who were praying fervently that Quinn would journey safely into the world.

The retreat was jam-packed with talks and activities, but when we had a few moments to pause, we, the team members, prayed again for the young lady's blessed arrival.

A few hours later, a team member glanced at her phone and quietly informed those around her "We have a baby."

We logged onto Facebook and there, in all her five-pound glory, was the girl we had been praying for—stunningly beautiful, preciously pink, uniquely lovely, and unashamedly and completely loved by the grandmother who held Quinn in her arms.

While I was filled with joy and wonder at seeing Quinn's breathtaking face, I couldn't help but think

of some politicians—most notably Hillary Clinton and Sen. Bernie Sanders during the last presidential campaign—

were callously defending the brutal practice of late-term abortion.

It's entirely possible that these



and what they'd said at a Fox NewsTown Hall in Detroit: they support abortion even at the latest stages of pregnancy.

While Quinn's remarkable family members were greeting her with open, loving hearts, two candidates for President

unborn child. There is purpose and reason for her life. And perhaps her worth is all the more apparent, given the struggle her mother faced in giving birth to her.

Quinn was no less sacred before birth as after birth. Sure, we can see her sunlit face now, when before, with the ultrasound, she would demurely turn her face away.

But she is no more human now than she was when snugly living inside her mother's body. She is the same person—only older and more exposed to the world—a world that she will forever change, just through her very being.

When pro-abortion politicians talk about "women's rights," they forget about the rights of those little women in the womb, who are every bit as deserving of respect as a President, a premier, or a king.

I am convinced that someday women will be able to look at a baby picture and not have to think about the babies who never got a chance to see their grandmother's faces—the babies that *Roe v. Wade* cast away.

Roe v. Wade will be no more.

The next generation will guarantee it.

same politicians would ooh and ahh if they saw Quinn's photo on Facebook. And yet, they remain committed to a political agenda which allows abortion up to the moment of birth.

Quinn's life is no accident—and neither is the life of any

Pro-Life Rep. Paul Ryan Re-elected Speaker of the House

Pro-life work in 2016 elections paying dividends for unborn babies

By Karen Cross, National Right to Life Political Director

On January 3, pro-life Rep. Paul Ryan (R-Wis.) was overwhelmingly reelected as Speaker of the House. Pro-life Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) was unanimously reelected

Reelecting Speaker Ryan is a first step in the right direction.

Soon there will be announcements of pro-life legislation making its way through the legislative process

elections. In a November 8 poll taken by the polling company/ Women Trend, **49% of all voters said that abortion affected their vote.** Of those, 39% “voted for the candidates who oppose abortion (pro-life),” while only 18% “voted for the candidates who favor abortion (pro-choice).” **This was a 13% advantage for the pro-life candidate.**

In 2016 National Right to Life and its political entities, National Right to Life Political Action Committee and National Right to Life Victory Fund, were actively focused on 60 of

The consequence of 2016’s historic election means many lives will be saved. Your pro-life efforts changed the course of history.

Thanks to your work, we will be able to pass protective pro-life legislation and place it on President Trump’s desk.

According to published account, Trump is expected to nominate a replacement for the late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia before Trump’s January 20 inauguration.

For more about the importance of abortion in the 2016 election, see “A National



Speaker of the House Pro-life Rep. Paul Ryan (R-Wis.) and National Right to Life President Carol Tobias

Senate Majority Leader on November 16.

The final vote count for the Speaker position was 239 votes for Ryan and 189 votes for pro-abortion Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.).

Pelosi, who supports abortion on demand, will continue to serve as the minority leader – a clear indication that the Democrats still don’t understand what happened two months ago.

and eventually to the desk of pro-life President Donald Trump.

Three areas of major focus will be protecting pain-capable unborn babies from abortion, making the Hyde Amendment a permanent law under the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act, and defunding Planned Parenthood, the largest abortion provider in the world.

There was a clear referendum on abortion in the 2016



Pro-life Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) and National Right to Life President Carol Tobias

the most competitive federal races overall: the Presidential race, twelve U.S. Senate races, and 47 races for the U.S. House of Representatives.

Our pro-life efforts paid off. In the most competitive pro-life/pro-abortion federal races, National Right to Life political entities won 50 of the 60 closest races in the country, or 83%.

Referendum on Abortion,” (www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/news/2016/12/a-national-referendum-on-abortion/) by Dr. David N. O’Steen, executive director of National Right to Life.

Obamacare Attempt to Force Abortion Coverage enjoined by federal judge

By Wesley J. Smith

A primary reason Donald Trump won the election, in my amateur's opinion, was because members of faith communities voted for him as a means of self-defense.



U.S. District Judge
Reed O'Connor

Most particularly, making Trump president was seen by these communities as the

only way to prevent Hillary Clinton continuing the Obama administration's unremitting war against faith-based institutions practicing what their churches preach.

Obamacare was used by rampaging bureaucrats as the assault troops in that effort, such as attempting to force Catholic nuns to cover contraceptives.

Here's another one which I hadn't heard about. Apparently a regulation was promulgated that would have required abortion (and transgender issues) coverage as a means of preventing "sex discrimination."

Now a judge has enjoined enforcement under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

From the *Reuters* story:

A federal judge in Texas on Saturday

issued a court order barring enforcement of an Obama administration policy seeking to extend anti-discrimination protections under the Affordable Care Act to transgender health and abortion-related services. The decision sides with Texas, seven other states and three Christian-affiliated healthcare groups challenging a rule that, according to the judge, defines sex bias to include "discrimination on the basis of gender identity and termination of pregnancy."

Denying abortion coverage is sex discrimination? That kind

of blatant term redefinitionism (if you will) is one of the Left's favorite weapons in the culture war they never cease waging.

Had Clinton become POTUS, these efforts to force faith communities to embrace liberal secular values in the operation of their community institutions would have been pursued even more energetically. And once the Supreme Court was in their hands, the cultural hegemons would have prevailed.

That self-defense vote will work, I think.

Whatever policies Donald Trump pursues as POTUS, he won't wage political war against religious institutions.

Editor's note. This appeared on Wesley's great blog.

House joins Senate in taking first step to repeal and replace Obamacare

From page 1

In a floor speech, House Speaker Paul D. Ryan (R-Wis.) said that the measure would launch a "thoughtful, step-by-step process" toward replacing Obamacare. "This is a critical first step toward delivering relief to Americans who are struggling under this law," he said. "In the weeks ahead, several steps will be taken to provide relief — some steps will be taken by this body; some steps

will be taken ... by the new administration."

The actions taken by the House and Senate are essentially procedural, setting the stage for a special kind of legislation, which cannot be filibustered, called a "reconciliation bill." This allows for repeal of significant parts of Obamacare having to do with fiscal measures, such as tax credits.

Following seven hours

of contentious debate, the Senate voted 51-48 in favor of the budget blueprint. With one exception, the vote was strictly along party lines with all Republicans in support, all Democrats in opposition.

Pro-life Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) said, "The Senate took an important step toward repealing and replacing Obamacare by passing the resolution that provides the legislative tools

necessary to actually repeal this failed law while we move ahead with smarter health care policies,"

"This is our opportunity to keep our campaign promise," added pro-life Mississippi Senator Roger Wicker. "This is our opportunity to help the president-elect and the vice president-elect keep their campaign promises and show to the American people that elections have consequences."

NRLC Urges Swift Congressional Action to fight dangerous assisted suicide measure

By Jennifer Popik, JD, Director, Robert Powell Center for Medical Ethics

On January 12, 2017, Congressman Brad Wenstrup (R-Oh.) and Senator James Lankford (R-Ok.) introduced a joint measure aimed at protecting the residents of the District of Columbia from becoming the 6th jurisdiction to legalize the dangerous practice of assisted suicide.

But to nullify the District of Columbia assisted suicide law, H.J. Res. 27/ S. J. Res. 4 will have to be acted on soon. While Congress has taken the first steps to prevent the assisted suicide law from taking effect, the clock is running.

In late 2016, the District of Columbia Council passed the deceptively titled “Death With Dignity Act,” which legalizes assisted suicide in the federal district.

Under the U.S. Constitution, Congress has exclusive legislative authority over the District of Columbia. But Congress has a mere 30 legislative days to review actions, introduce resolutions, vote in both houses of Congress, and have the measure signed by the President.

Pro-lifers have long

vigorously opposed legalizing assisted suicide. Five states (California, Colorado, Oregon, Washington, and Vermont) permit the dangerous practice of allowing physicians to write

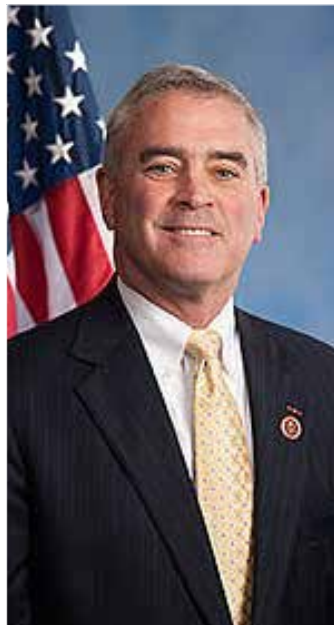


*Senator
James Lankford (R-Ok.)*

lethal prescriptions to certain groups of persons living with serious illness.

Where legal, as is the case with the D.C. Council action, assisted suicide laws permit

insurance companies to pay for the lethal doses. Moreover, nothing in the law prevents insurance companies from promoting the relatively inexpensive drugs.



*Congressman
Brad Wenstrup (R-Ohio)*

Apart from the danger of permitting insurers to recommend suicide drugs to seriously ill patients, the Assisted Suicide Funding Restriction Act of 1997, Pub.

L. No. 105-12 (Apr. 30, 1997), which was signed into law by President Bill Clinton, strictly forbids the District from using funds for purposes related to assisted suicide.

While the D.C. Council bill was promoted as “merely” providing another end of life “option,” this law can become a vehicle to push the medically vulnerable into an early death.

The legal definition of terminal illness used in D.C. will sweep in vast groups of people who could otherwise live for many years with continued treatment. Additionally, there is no requirement that patients be screened for depression or other treatable mental illness.

National Right to Life strongly encourages you to reach out to your Members of Congress and urge them to vote in favor of H.J. Res. 27/ S. J. Res. 4 to nullify District of Columbia assisted suicide law.

More detailed discussion of the threat to life that assisted suicide poses can be found at www.nrlc.org/medethics/directkilling.

Dismemberment Abortion Ban Filed as Texas Right to Life's Top Legislative Priority for 2017

By Texas Right to Life

Editor's note. The following is excerpted from a post that ran January 5.

Austin, Texas—State Senator Charles Perry (R-Lubbock) and Representative Stephanie Klick (R-Fort Worth) filed the major Pro-Life bill for the 85th Session of the Texas Legislature, the Dismemberment Abortion Ban. Senator Perry and Representative Klick have both achieved high rankings as Pro-Life legislators and are capable bill authors. The legislation will ban the torturous practice of dismemberment abortion, a procedure that ends the life of an unborn child by removing his or her limbs while his or her heart is still beating.

Texas Right to Life, the oldest and largest statewide

Pro-Life organization in Texas, stands with Senator Perry and Representative Klick in prioritizing the Dismemberment Abortion Ban. Elizabeth Graham, Director of



Texas Right to Life, insists that the Dismemberment Abortion Ban must reach the governor's desk this year. ...

In *Stenberg v. Carhart*, Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy recognized the inhumaneness of dismembering the unborn: "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."

Six other states have already banned this practice, which is never medically necessary: Alabama, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, and West Virginia.

Texas Right to Life commends Senator Perry and Representative Klick for again leading the effort to protect the most vulnerable Texans—born and unborn. ...

"It is the Lord's story to write, not mine": Rest in Peace Jean Garton

From page 9

We talked a few years back about co-authoring a book. It would have been like Shakespeare working with Mickey Spillane. But had we put that book together, the world would have been blessed with one last book from a master craftsman.

When Jean wrote "A Celebration of Life," she was already joking about being a "Genuine Antique Lutheran—Been There, Done That, Still Praying." But anyone who heard her speak at the Prayer

Breakfast at the 2016 National Right to Life Convention knew that although she was in her 80s, Jean was as sharp as ever, as persuasive as ever, and as inspirational as ever.

In light of her death, I believe it is appropriate to close this tribute to my friend with the conclusion of her *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* essay. She had just finished telling us about her extended family: her children and her grandchildren and her great-great grandchildren.

"My cup truly runneth over?" she wrote. Then

I don't know what is ahead in this journey, but I know that Jesus is ahead. I don't know what chapter will follow this one, because it is the Lord's story to write, not mine. All I have is today. He hasn't given me tomorrow yet, and maybe He won't, but I have His promise that even if He doesn't, I will still be alive and

in His presence but then face to face. That means the best is yet to come! As the children's hymn says:

*"Who so happy as I am,
even now the Shepherd's lamb?"*

*"And when my short life is ended,
by His angel host attended,*

*"He shall fold me to his breast,
there within his arms to rest."*

An abortion survivor's story: "You Carried Me: A Daughter's Memoir"

By Dave Andrusko

Many, if not most, pro-lifers know the name Melissa Ohden. In addition to everything else she's accomplished, Melissa has graciously written stories for *NRL News Today* and *NRL News* and has been a regular at National Right to Life's annual conventions.

If so, you probably know the *Cliffs Notes* version of her utterly amazing story, one that amazes me to this day. In 1977 she survived a saline infusion abortion, a technique that was so dangerous (to the mother) that it is virtually no longer used anywhere. But until you read *You Carried Me: A Daughter's Memoir*, you don't know (as Paul Harvey used to say), the "rest of the story."

The following is a Q & A we conducted with Melissa. *NRL News Today* will revisit the book a second time after it is formally released in January. It is, in a word, must reading.

NRL News Today: After all these years, why did you write this book and what is the significance of the title, *You Carried Me: A Daughter's Memoir*?

Melissa: The title is very significant, as readers will likely gather before even reading it. My adoptive parents carried me in their hearts long before they held me in their arms.

My birthmother carried me in the womb, and also in her heart, for many years. Of course, God has carried and will continue to carry me through it all.

Why did I write this book now? Truly, it's been a work in progress for close to ten years.

After being connected with my birthmother a few years ago, the importance of this book became clear. This story was meant to

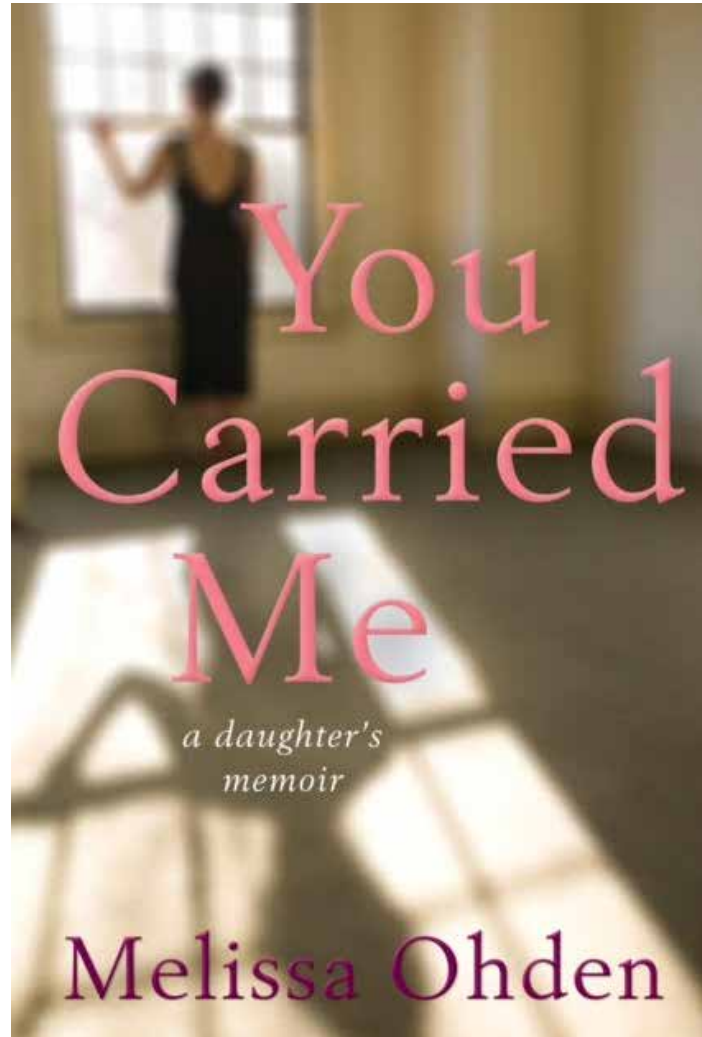
Melissa: Not to sound like a cliché, but I've learned that love really is what this life is all about. Love transformed

is such a strong example to me of this. Of course, she wishes that things could have been different for her and for me, but she is thankful that I'm alive, that we're in each other's lives. We can't rewrite the story of our past, but we are currently writing out our future.

NRL News Today: You knew you were adopted, but not until your sister had an unplanned pregnancy did you learn that you had survived a 5-day prostaglandin abortion. The impact on you must have been almost beyond words.

Melissa: I think this part of the book is probably the most difficult for me to have people read. But it's such a huge piece of my life story and I haven't spoken much about. It was absolutely devastating to find out that I survived an abortion. The depth of my pain and the lengths that I went to avoid that pain—to try and distance myself from who I am—was very difficult to write about. But I think needed to be shared. Not many people can understand what it's like to be me, but I suspect many people can understand what it's like to grapple with pain, your self-worth.

NRL News Today: Many people have heard about your story or heard you in person. But, of course, you are hoping to reach a much wider audience. Who is that audience?



be shared much further than speaking at events or blogging in the pro-life arena.

NRL News Today: What are the most valuable lessons you learned about yourself, your extraordinary birth, and both families, the one that gave you birth and the one that nurtured and cared for you?

my life when I survived, love allowed me to thrive, love for the unborn and their parents brought me forward to share my story with the world, and love brought my birthmother and me together. My life story really is a love story.

I've learned that we have to live out the story that's been written for us. My birthmother

See "Survivor," page 22

Fake News: Pew Poll on abortion once again absurdly inaccurate

By Dave Andrusko

There has been approximately one gazillion stories of late about “fake news.” There are almost as many ways to define it as there are accounts lamenting it.

But whatever the newest iterations of false news may be, a constant over the years is that fake news blatantly misrepresents the truth or

means totally, not whether the respondent agrees with a host of limitations this side of complete reversal.

#2. But was this the actual question asked? I could not find the exact wording at Pew Research, so I went elsewhere and found it: “In 1973 the *Roe versus Wade* decision established a woman’s

three months of pregnancy.” I thought that canard had finally been laid to rest at least a decade or two ago, if not more.

#3. Everything else is filler. For example, that opinions haven’t changed much, which is true on overturning *Roe* “completely.” However that is decidedly not true about what may someday in the not so distant future be before the Supreme Court. The Pain-Capable Unborn Child Act (which we talk about elsewhere today) is the law in 16 states and says you can’t abort kids capable of experiencing unfathomable amounts of pain as they are executed.

A national poll taken the day of the election found widespread support that extended across all demographic and geographic boundaries. For example

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

#4. While there has not been much change in the public’s response to this erroneously-posed question, much of the public still doesn’t know what *Roe v. Wade* was about (an ignorance that’s obviously not been remedied by groups such as Pew Research).

I couldn’t find the breakout

this time around, but a couple of years back we were told that only 62% of the respondents knew *Roe* dealt with abortion, 20% didn’t know, period, and 7% thought *Roe* was about school desegregation! And finally

#5. Pew Research’s Hanna Fingerhut tells us

Support for maintaining *Roe v. Wade* is somewhat higher than broader measures of public support for legal abortion, but the overall patterns of opinion are similar. In October, 59% of the public said abortion should be legal in all or most cases, compared with 37% who said abortion should be illegal in all or most cases.

We don’t need to rehash this in depth. Let me just say this.

First Pew feeds its respondents a drastically untrue portrait of the breadth, depth, and width of *Roe*’s license to kill.

Then it mangles (yet again) a truth that is crystal clear in Gallup’s more recent polling. That when you ask a follow up question to generalized responses, you find that in a typical Gallup poll, there will be a total of 55% who say abortion should be illegal in all circumstances (19%) or only a few circumstances (36%).

Shame on you, again, Pew Research.



deliberately wraps what is going on in such an overwhelmingly misleading fashion as to lead the discussion to a preordained conclusion.

Enter the latest Pew poll on overturning *Roe v. Wade*. Here are a few thoughts about how they are recycling misleading conclusions.

#1. Headline: “About seven-in-ten Americans oppose overturning *Roe v. Wade*.” The question asked of respondents, we are told, was “Would you like to see the Supreme Court completely overturn its *Roe versus Wade* decision, or not?”

“Completely,” of course,

constitutional right to an abortion, at least in the first three months of pregnancy. Would you like to see the Supreme Court completely overturn its *Roe versus Wade* decision, or not?”

Here we are days away from the 44th anniversary of *Roe* and still the public is told by reputable pollsters not the truth—that *Roe* and its companion case *Doe v. Bolton* essentially established a regime of abortion on demand throughout pregnancy—but that the *Roe* decision “established a woman’s constitutional right to an abortion, at least in the first

Nat Hentoff, Rest in Peace

By Dave Andrusko

Editor's note. Pro-life columnist and author Nat Hentoff passed away on January 7. This is a personal farewell to a great champion of unborn children and little ones born with major anomalies.

"This is Nat." Such were the opening three words to every phone conversation I ever had over a 25-year span with the great Nat Hentoff. I would respond with some pleasantries and then Nat would cut to the chase.

He was writing on topic "A" and (1) Nat knew he had read something in *NRL News* about the matter, and (2) could I provide him with further background material? And don't email the information; mail it to him at his New York City address. A kindred soul.

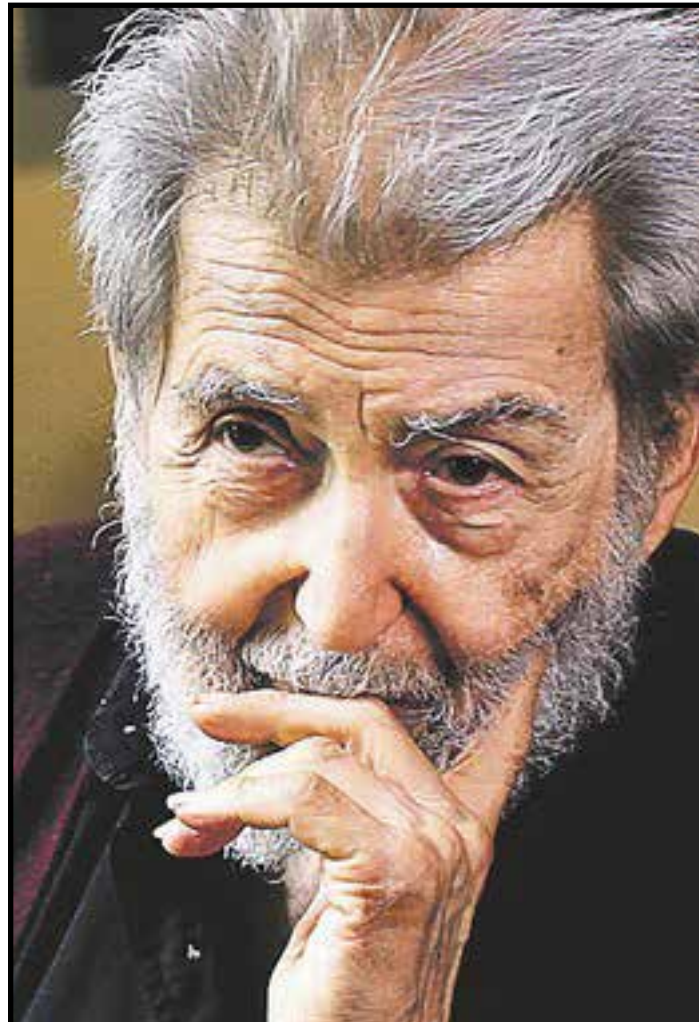
I was always flattered and did my best to be of assistance to a man whose breadth of interest ranged from jazz legends Duke Ellington, Fats Waller, and Louis Armstrong; to the First Amendment (his book, "Free Speech for Me — But Not for Thee," encapsulated his views); to "Baby Jane Doe," whose real name was Keri Lynn. She was born with spina bifida and was the subject of a titanic legal battle when her parents refused to allow her to have corrective spinal surgery after birth. The

last I read about Keri Lynn was a story in 2013 headlined, "'Baby Jane Doe' at 30: Happy, joking, learning."

Nat died Saturday at 91 years of age.

In its obituary, the *New York Times* observed that

"While his sympathies were usually libertarian, he often infuriated leftist friends with his opposition to abortion, his attacks on political correctness...and others he accused of trying to censor opponents."



Nat Hentoff

Many obituaries mention what they saw as an anomaly. A man of no professed faith, a civil libertarian's civil libertarian, an unabashed liberal who was also pro-life.

But Nat saw no incongruity. Treating the unborn and babies born with disabilities with respect and affording them the same legal protection everyone else enjoys was as natural to Nat as his inherent contrarianism.

Few remember that Nat entered the pro-life tent through the flap of resistance to infanticide. His six-part *Village Voice* series on Keri Lynn is investigative reporting at its finest. (With Nat's permission, we reprinted them in *NRL News*.) Only after seeing the logic of abortion extended to newborns did Nat go back and examine the underlying injustice of abortion.

In a span of less than two weeks, we have lost two of my pro-life heroes—Nat and Jean Garton. One a self-described Jewish atheist, the other a devout Lutheran married to a Lutheran pastor. Such is the breadth, depth, and width of our Movement whose borders expand everyday into new territory.

Rest in peace, Nat. I hope I was 1/1,000 as helpful to you as you were to the greatest movement for social justice of our time.

Woman who tried to self-abort baby at 24 weeks released after one year in jail

Pleads guilty to attempted procurement of a miscarriage

By Dave Andrusko

Anna Yocca, the Tennessee woman who used a coat hanger in 2015 in an attempt to self-abort her 24-week-old unborn child, was released January 9 after pleading guilty to attempted procurement of a miscarriage in exchange for her release from jail.

Yocca, who had been in jail for a year, was sentenced to one year in prison and was granted time served, according to *NBC News*.

Although grievously injured, the baby boy survived Yocca's attack. He weighed 1 pound, five ounces at birth. The child, initially placed in foster care, has since been adopted.

In December 2015 Yocca was charged with attempted first-degree murder, a charge was dropped. In November 2016, she was charged with three felonies: aggravated assault with a weapon, attempted criminal abortion,

and attempted procurement of a miscarriage.

In a plea bargain, the first two felony charges were dropped,



Anna Yocca
Photo: Murfreesboro
Police Department

and Yocca was convicted only of the third.

"She was released from the Rutherford County Adult Detention Center on Monday at 9:10 p.m. local time (10:10 p.m. ET), according to the Rutherford County Sheriff's

Office," according to reporter Daniel Silva.

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

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

Stockard reported

Even though the baby survived the

trauma. physicians said the boy's quality of life "will be forever harmed." He will need a medically-experienced foster parent, remain on oxygen and take medication daily because of problems with his eyes, lungs and heart stemming from damage caused by the coat hanger. Medical staff also said other physical problems will arise when the child grows older.

Emblematic of the pro-abortion mindset, Lynn Paltrow, the executive director of National Advocates for Pregnant Women, told *NBC News* "many of those ailments could have been caused by the baby's premature birth," not the brutality of the assault.

It's Over, It's Over, It's Over

From page 1

At his first formal news conference since he was elected, Trump said he would nominate a replacement within two weeks of his January 20 inauguration.

Trump's victory/Clinton's defeat also means that pro-life Speaker Paul Ryan (R-Wis.) and pro-life Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), who were both overwhelmingly reelected to their respective posts, will be

able to put pro-life legislation on the agenda without fear of a presidential veto.

Trump's victory means that the myriad of bills that pro-life senators and representatives work to pass, including the "No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act" and the "Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act," will not be blocked by veto threats, as they have been under Obama, and would have certainly faced

under a Clinton presidency.

Likewise, when Congress places a reconciliation bill to defund Planned Parenthood, the nation's largest abortion provider, on the President's desk, it will be signed, not vetoed.

When Vice President Biden announced "It's over" for Clinton, it meant it's **not** over for unborn babies who now have a fighting chance to live. 2016's historic election means

many more lives will be saved. Your pro-life efforts changed the course of history.

For more about the importance of abortion in the 2016 election, see "A National Referendum on Abortion," by Dr. David N. O'Steen, executive director of National Right to Life [www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/news/2016/12/a-national-referendum-on-abortion/#.WGwPBdQrJko].

An abortion survivor's story: "You Carried Me: A Daughter's Memoir"

From page 18

Melissa: I would love to see people who identify themselves as 'pro-choice' pick up this book and allow themselves to see life and the issue of life for all through the lens of my experiences and my birthmother's. There is a human element that too often gets lost, one that we all need to remember when we consider the impact of abortion. Abortion not only takes the life of an unborn child but can also be devastating to those who survive—the baby's mother, the baby's siblings, the mother's extended family, and the baby's father.

NRL News Today: Tell me what the relationship with your birth mother has meant to you.

Melissa: In reality, even though I had longed for such

an opportunity to simply just meet her, I had long given up hope of that ever happening. And here we are, now a part of one another's lives. It's an incredible gift. Almost indescribable. What I can say, though, is that our relationship has given me renewed strength in this battle to protect children and women. It's also impressed on me the importance of reconciliation in all relationships. I want everyone to experience the love and strength that my birth mother and I are experiencing.

NRL News Today: As you reflect on all your life, do you have conflicting thoughts about God's role?

Melissa: I don't have conflicting thoughts on God's role, but I certainly have

questioned Him more times than I can count about what He's doing, or where He was at a certain point in time. I'm quite sure I'm not alone in that.

What I've come to accept is that He's always there. He doesn't cause suffering (living in the broken world that we do causes that), but He is always there to comfort us, guide us, and yes, as my title relates, even carry us.

NRL News Today: If you will allow me, we will talk further about *You Carried Me: A Daughter's Memoir* after the book is officially released. For now, if you had one take-away for the reader, what would it be?

Melissa: This is a deep question and the first time I've been asked it!

If there's one take away for the reader, it would be that even when something that we experience doesn't make sense, even when we experience hardship and suffering, there will come a point in time that it will make sense.

There's an old proverb—"God writes straight with crooked lines." All of the crooked lines in the story of my life have been straightened, and it really is an amazing thing to read.

NRL News Today: How can *NRL News Today* readers preorder *You Carried Me: A Daughter's Memoir*?

Melissa: The readers of *NRL News Today* can visit: youcarriedmebook.com for more information about the January 9th release and pre-orders.

Sen. Sessions reaffirms his belief that Roe was “one of the worst, colossally erroneous Supreme Court decisions of all time”

By Dave Andrusko

The first of President-elect Donald Trump’s many pro-life selections to lead major departments reaffirmed his 100% negative opinion of the disastrous 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision in confirmation hearings that began January 10.

Senator Jeff Sessions, Mr. Trump’s choice to be the next Attorney General, was asked if he stood by a previous characterization of *Roe*. At hearings before the Senate Judiciary Committee, pro-abortion Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Cal.) said to Sessions, “You have referred to *Roe v. Wade* as, ‘one of the worst, colossally erroneous Supreme Court decisions of all time.’ Is that still your view?”

“It is,” Sessions replied. “It violated the Constitution, and really attempted to set policy and not follow law.”

Sen. Feinstein was alluding to a previous statement where Sessions said, “I firmly believe that *Roe v. Wade* and its descendants represent one of the worse, colossally erroneous

Supreme Court decisions of all time. It was an activist decision...it was a Court that decided to politically impose their will.”



Attorney General nominee, Sen. Jeff Sessions

Throughout his tenure in the United States Senate, which began in 1997, Jeff Sessions had a 100% pro-life voting record. He has co-sponsored pro-life legislation including the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, which would

protect from abortion unborn children at 20 weeks or later, who are capable of feeling pain, and the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, which

would ensure a baby born alive during an abortion is given the same care that would apply to any other child born alive at the same gestational age.

He has opposed all of President Obama’s nominees to the U.S. Supreme Court.

“Jeff Sessions will bring to the Justice Department a strong record in defense of innocent human life, and consistent opposition to the imposition of social legislation by the judiciary,” said Douglas Johnson, Legislative Director of National Right to Life.

Sen. Sessions is only one of many pro-life nominations by President-elect Trump. They include Kellyanne Conway, who will be counselor to the President; Chief of Staff Reince Priebus; Georgia Rep. Tom Price, secretary of Health and Human Services; Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos; HUD secretary Dr. Ben Carson; Secretary of Labor Andrew Puzder; former Texas Gov. Rick Perry to lead the Department of Energy; Rep. Mike Pompeo to be director of the CIA; Scott Pruitt who will be director of the Environmental Protection Agency; and South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, who will be our nation’s ambassador to the U.N.

The Prescience of the Pro-Life Movement

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

Dictionary.com defines “prescience” as “knowledge of things before they exist or happen; foreknowledge; foresight.”

An apt visual to accompany that definition would be a video from the March for Life, for, if ever there were an entity that embodied prescience, it is our Movement. See what has come to pass, see how proliferers knew how it was inevitable.

On the night of January 22, 1973, *CBS Evening News* anchor Walter Cronkite led off his newscast with a report on *Roe v. Wade*, the U.S. Supreme Court decision that had been issued earlier that day. (You can see the YouTube clip

by visiting www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zv1bmY4Wd34 .)

The report included a comment from Monsignor James McHugh, who was identified as a representative of the U.S. Catholic Conference. Msgr. McHugh stated, “In this instance the Supreme Court has withdrawn protection for the human rights of unborn children and it is teaching people that abortion is a rather innocuous procedure, provided that there are proper legal safeguards. I think that the judgment of the court will do a great deal to tear down the respect previously accorded human life in our culture.”

An estimated 59 million aborted children later, how right he was. Prescience. Foresight. Foreknowledge

In the same *CBS* broadcast, Cronkite said that Cardinal John Krol of Philadelphia termed *Roe* “an unspeakable tragedy.” “An unspeakable tragedy,” indeed.

Prescience.

In the past 44 years, millions of mothers have been left to grieve children lost to abortion--often silently, as the abortion industry fails to



recognize the pain and suffering of its dissatisfied “customers.” Research has shown that in as many as 60 percent of cases, women are coerced into abortion--meaning that a boyfriend, husband, parent, grandparent, or someone else is pressuring them to end their baby’s life.

Fathers? They often wordlessly grapple with their role in the decision to end the lives of their offspring.

The major media are virtually silent on the death toll from abortion. They are equally mute about the physical and emotional toll it can take on women.

Too often, alas, parishioners observe they rarely hear the subject of abortion addressed from the pulpit.

Five years after *Roe* a Pennsylvania Pro-Life Convention featured a workshop entitled, “Abortion Doublespeak,” which delved into such deceptive and dishonest pro-abortion slogans as the “fetus (is) not (a) person,” and a woman’s “right to choose.”

Decades after *Roe*, promoters of abortion continue to deny

intentionally delivered alive and then “snipped” their spinal cords.

“Abortion Doublespeak” on full display.

“Women’s Viewpoint”-- ignored, unless it follows the talking points of Planned Parenthood, the nation’s largest abortion operation, which takes the lives of an astonishing number of baby boys and girls each year--more than 320,000, by its own count.

The fore-knowledge of the pro-life movement can be evaded but not denied. The predictions that *Roe* would undermine respect for life in our culture...give rise to an unspeakable

tragedy...result in abortion double-speak...and cause the exploitation of women...all have all come to pass.

Thankfully, a significant number of the children who survived *Roe*, who are now adults often with children of their own, are dedicating their lives to exposing the tragic fall-out from that 1973 Supreme Court decision. They have both the benefit of the lessons of history and the blessing of foresight to know that our nation will be stronger...women will be empowered...and millions of children will be saved once *Roe* is reversed.

Truth and goodness and justice will win in the end. That is the prescient promise of the pro-life movement.

The National Right to Life 2017 Pro-Life Essay Contest Deadline Approaching

By Jacki Ragan

Each year, National Right to Life sponsors a Pro-Life Essay Contest for students in grades 7-12. Minnesota state Senator Michelle Fischbach oversees and directs the contest.

For 2017 the essay should address the question, “**Why are you pro-life?**” All essays should be postmarked no later than Saturday, January 21, 2017.

This is an excellent way to educate young people to the true meaning of abortion and how many lives are lost each year. With more than 3,300 abortions a day, many of their peers are not in their class room today because of abortion. It can help each individual pro-life student learn and understand not only what is at stake in abortion but how they can help.

There are two separate competitions. There is a Senior Essay Contest for grades 10 – 12; and a Junior Essay Contest for grades 7 – 9.

Essays will be read and judged on originality, content, and accuracy. The announcement of winners will be as soon

as possible, but judging time depends on the numbers of entries received.

What follows is a brief “how-to” so that you know how to

submit your essay properly.

The essay should be double spaced with pages numbered, between 300 to 500 words in

length. The font must be no smaller than 12 pt.

Use a cover sheet that includes: full name, full address, phone number, grade

level, student date of birth, parents’ name, and word count. All sources used must be cited and please do not include any artwork, pictures, or plastic covers.

All essays must be mailed to Michelle Fischbach, 14722 Old Lake Road, Paynesville, MN 56362.

Again, essays must be postmarked no later than January 21, 2017.

First place winners will receive \$200, Second place winners will receive \$150, and Third place winners will receive \$100. Prizes are awarded for both the Junior and Senior contests.

The two first-place essays will appear in the National Right to Life Committee Yearbook and in *National Right to Life News Today*.

If you need additional information on the National Right to Life 2017 Pro-Life Essay Contest, visit www.nrlc.org/students/essay-contest/.



Threads in a larger tapestry: a Journalist's Journey into the Pro-Life Movement

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

Five months after I graduated from the University of South Carolina with my degree in journalism, the U.S. Supreme Court issued its landscape altering 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision. I wasn't paying attention, even as a young journalist. I had other things on my mind, my all-important career being one thing. Besides I didn't know anyone who'd had an abortion. It didn't seem important to me because I thought *Roe v. Wade* was about legalizing abortion for rape victims.

Very soon, however, I became roommates with a young woman my age and as we got to know each other better she told me that she'd gotten pregnant in high school and that her mother took her to New York to have an abortion. That was before 1973. What troubled me about the conversation was her revelation that she didn't want to have an abortion. It had nothing to do with rape. I tucked that information away to think about for another day. I did not know it at the time, but after the fact I now see that this would prove to be the first step in my pro-life journey.

Fast forward into my career. As I became aware of more and more young women my age who had had an abortion – some more than one – the issue began to bother me. But I was busy writing about the most gut-wrenching ghastly crimes imaginable in South Carolina. Mass murder, dismembered homicide victims—grisly, horribly shocking stories.

And then there was Jesse Floyd, M.D., the most infamous abortionist in South Carolina history.

The case I covered involved a murder charge against Floyd who aborted a little boy who lived 21 days. The issue wound up in the U.S. 4th Circuit Court of Appeals

which was on my beat.

The decision was in Floyd's favor. Why? It was not illegal to abort a baby who could survive outside the womb; therefore the killer could not be charged with murder, the 4th Circuit decision held.

While disturbing, it was just another story of the day. Again I tucked the information away for "later."

But the Floyd trial was only one thread in a larger tapestry. The abortion issue was heating up in the national news, and more and more horror stories of late abortions were being exposed. In some ways they remind you of what took place in abortionist Kermit Gosnell's House of Horrors. It was bothering me more and more.

As the crime reporter – the "if it bleeds it ledes" star of the newsroom – I personally witnessed the results of innumerable savage acts of inhumanity – murder, rape, child abuse, animal abuse. I saw it all and while it is hardly a badge of honor, I had the stomach to investigate these acts of savagery.

Then one day someone showed me a photograph of an aborted child. My knees buckled. I was sickened by the fact that what I was looking at looked like a crime – but it wasn't. It was legal to butcher a baby in this country.

Finally, I got it.

That was my turning point. I could no longer store that away for "later" consideration. I went from being bothered by abortion to being determined to do something to stop it.

Naively I thought that all it would take to stop this scourge on our society was the news media exposing this holocaust. I had no idea that the root of the problem was the institutional news media itself until I went to my editor and said I wanted

to cover the right-to-life issue because I didn't think the paper was being fair.

With gentle sanctimony, my editor informed me that the editorial position of the paper was in keeping with the corporate position which was "pro-choice."



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

I knew that day I would not retire from the corporate media world. I would have to quit. And I did.

I'm skipping a lot of details here – a book full in fact. But the sagas of all pro-lifers are complex and lengthy.

The bottom line is I never thought I'd be working full time in the pro-life movement. Never. But when God asks you to do something – and it's always an ask, never an order – you have a choice.

On December 23, 2016, I marked my 23rd year as executive director of South Carolina Citizens for Life. I have now been in the pro-life movement three years longer than I was a reporter. Our General Assembly has passed 15 right to life laws since 1990 and abortions occurring in our state have declined by 59 percent. In 2016 South Carolina passed

the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act that ends abortion on demand in our state when a baby can feel pain, scientifically documented at 20 weeks.

My career as a reporter was exciting and at times fulfilling. Working in the pro-life movement, however, has exceeded my wildest expectations for living a fulfilling life. In a way it is like marriage for me – something the news business never was.

I'm in it for the long haul. I'm in it for life 'til the end of the deaths of unborn babies do us part.

As a postscript to this whirlwind autobiography, there is an ironic twist. I call it the irony of ironies. The office of South Carolina Citizens for Life is now located in the former abortion office of Jesse Floyd who died in 1995 in an automobile accident.

In another ironic twist, South Carolina Citizens for Life exposed his hideous unsanitary practice. Floyd was grinding up aborted babies in a common kitchen sink disposal. We used this information and other abortion atrocities in South Carolina to spur the State Legislature to pass the Abortion Clinic Regulation Act.

Of course the abortion industry fought us all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court by way of the U.S. 4th Circuit Court of Appeals. This time the court ruled in favor of regulating filthy unborn child-killing centers. All but three abortion businesses closed in South Carolina. At one time there were 14. The number of abortions has declined by 57 percent. If you are interested in seeing the correlation between passing prolife laws and the decline in abortions, go to our webpage www.sclife.org and click open the graph on the home page.

You Can Help Save Lives in 2017!

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

Editor's note. Although this was written for pro-lifers in Pennsylvania, its advice is applicable to any and all states.

2017 could prove to be a breakthrough year for protecting innocent human life in the U.S. We have a new pro-life Administration assuming leadership in the Executive Branch...a pro-life Congress...and the prospect of judges who will uphold our life-affirming Constitution. Pre-born children and their mothers, the frail elderly, and people with disabilities could receive greater legal protection in the new year.

Still, 2017 will not achieve its pro-life potential without your help! Here are five things you can do in the new year to help save lives:

1. Use your cell phone as a life-saving device. Whenever you receive an email alerting you to an important pro-life vote in Congress or in the state



legislature, call and email your lawmaker and urge him or her to support vital pro-life bills—and to defeat dangerous anti-life legislation. You can find contact info for both state and federal officials at the National Right to Life Legislative Action Center.

2. Harness the power of social media to spread the pro-life message. Whether you are a Facebook fanatic, a Twitter trendsetter, an Instagram idol,



or a prince or princess of Pinterest, use your electronic social skills to post videos, photos, articles, and memes that celebrate the inherent value and dignity of every human life. You never know when that ultrasound video you posted will end up in the news feed of someone who, at that very moment, is wondering about the development of the child in the womb.

3. Find out the name, phone number, and address of the pregnancy resource center or centers in your area. If you have a smartphone, add the center(s) to your contact list. That way, if you encounter a pregnant woman in need of comprehensive support, you have the information at your fingertips.

4. Help ensure that the 2017 March for Life is the biggest, most impactful ever by making it your New Year's Resolution to attend. Because of the Inaugural festivities, this year's March will take place later than usual—January 27th.

For complete details, visit www.MarchforLife.org. If you

cannot make it to the March in person, be a virtual participant by posting updates about this awe-inspiring demonstration in support of life—and in opposition to the tragic 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision known as *Roe v. Wade*—or participate in your state commemorative activities. Show your solidarity with pregnant mothers, women and men who have been wounded by abortion, and the nearly 60 million preborn Americans who have died as a result of *Roe*.

5. Volunteer your unique talents to enhance respect for the most vulnerable among



us. Love to crochet? Consider crocheting stylish hats for newborns. Enchanted by words? Dedicate your blog posts to pro-life topics, write letters to your public officials about pressing pro-life issues, craft well-researched letters to the editor to submit to local newspapers or digital news outlets.



Consider volunteering your time and talent to a chapter of the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation—or the National Right to Life affiliate in your state.

A few minutes of your time could mean a lifetime of opportunity—for someone you don't even know!

MARCH FOR LIFE | 2017

JANUARY 27, 2017 | WASHINGTON, D.C.

JOIN US!

Our vision is a world where every human life is valued and protected.

MARCH FOR LIFE
www.MarchForLife.org | #WhyWeMarch

Cheer and optimism reign in 2017

From page 2

Clinton's position? She would bar no abortion; it's all a woman's decision—whenever, wherever, however. Case closed.

By contrast Mr. Trump composed a vivid word picture of what late term abortions really consist of. Not the tepid, watercolor version provided by the *Washington Post* and the *New York Times* but a bold portrait painted in dramatic brush strokes. The more than seventy million people who watched the debate heard the sheer horror of late abortion explained in straightforward language.

What did the pundits miss? Everything. What Trump was asking Americans was as simple as it was monumental: do you want to be a party to ripping unborn babies out of their mother's womb? Does that not trouble your soul?

Trump's accomplishment was to contrast his own position on abortion with Clinton's. In the process he demonstrated beyond doubt just how far from the mainstream the Hillary Clintons of this world are in guaranteeing abortion on demand until birth—and paid for with your tax dollars.

McGuire offers other examples of why pro-lifers should be optimistic in 2017, including Mr. Trump's promise to nominate only pro-life jurists to the Supreme Court. Let me offer one more of my own, beyond the wonderful precedent Mr. Trump established by nominating pro-lifers to hold key positions in his administration.

Pro-abortionists have bitterly complained that there wasn't enough talk about abortion in 2016. What they mean, of course, is there wasn't enough

of the right kind of spin in which every moral and ethical component is obliterated simply by invoking the incantation, "It's a woman's choice."

In fact, as NRLC's executive director, Dr. David N. O'Steen wrote after the election, the public knew precisely where the candidates stood, which is why the 2016 elections were

Pennsylvania and other states which determined the election, it is clear that abortion made a clear difference in the election.

The poll results also clearly reflected the heavy involvement of National Right to

calls, sent 3 million e-mails and reached 9.2 million through social media, many of whom undoubtedly shared, reposted and retweeted National Right to Life's information.

All in all National Right to Life's PACs were actively



a referendum on abortion. Dr. O'Steen wrote

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

Life and its political action committees, the National Right to Life PAC and the National Right to Life Victory Fund. Fully 29% of voters recalled hearing, seeing or receiving information from National Right to Life and 17% recalled hearing, seeing or receiving information from a state right to life group such as an NRLC affiliate.

National Right to Life and its political action committees mailed 3.3 million pieces of literature, made 5 million phone

involved in 58 federal campaigns, winning 48 (83%) of them.

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

There are many, many reasons for us to be upbeat about 2017. And all of those reasons, directly or indirectly, are a reflection of your faithfulness, your hard work, and your commitment to the cause of unborn children.

Thank you!

Euthanasia: it's a long, long, long way down

One way to get rid of slippery slopes is to deny that they exist

By Margaret Somerville

For a long time, it's puzzled me how proponents of the legalization of euthanasia can confidently claim, as they do, that in the Netherlands and Belgium, the two jurisdictions with the longest experience of legalized euthanasia, there have been no slippery slopes, when the evidence is clearly otherwise.

The "logical slippery slope" occurs when the legalization of euthanasia for a very limited group of people in very limited circumstances is expanded to include more people in more situations. This has been described as "scope creep."

The "practical slippery slope" occurs when euthanasia is carried out in breach of the legal requirements as to either who may have access or the situations in which they must find themselves for euthanasia to be permissible.

The logical slippery slope is inevitable once euthanasia is legalized and becomes commonplace, as we can see in what has happened in the Benelux countries. It's been rapidly expanded to more and more people in more and more situations. This is entirely foreseeable and to be expected.

As we become familiar with interventions which we once regarded as unethical, our moral intuitions and ethical "yuck" factor responses become blunted and we move from rejection to neutrality often even to approval of the action involved.

Legalizing euthanasia means that the rule that we must not intentionally kill another human being – this line in the sand which we must not cross, this most ancient ethical and legal barrier – is breached, indeed annihilated, and beyond

it there is no other obvious stopping line which we must not violate, perhaps not even that euthanasia is only acceptable with the consent of the person on whom death is inflicted. People with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias have been euthanized in the Netherlands and Belgium.



There could also be a further explanation for the denial of a logical slippery slope by pro-euthanasia advocates, such as Oxford University bioethicist Professor Julian Savulescu and Andrew Denton, which is less obvious at first glance. This is that no potential slippery slope exists.

The basis for the pro-euthanasia case is that we must have respect for an individual's autonomy – their right to self-determination – including with regard to a decision that they prefer death to continued life and want help in terminating their life. Once that rationale is accepted and applied in its fullest sense, it's difficult to justify restrictions on access to euthanasia.

Consequently, the diminishment or repeal of existing restrictions is not recognized as

a slippery slope. Rather, it's seen simply as more fully implementing respect for individual autonomy and the right to self-determination—the rationale used to justify euthanasia in the first place.

Consequently, it should not be surprising that the Dutch are now considering a special

despite clear evidence to the contrary, might also be able to be explained on a related basis.

If one believes there should be more or less open access to euthanasia, then legal requirements are annoying impediments and their breach is a trivial matter and as the old saying goes "de minimis non curat lex" – the law does not concern itself with trifles.

Another element in this denial might be acceptance of the "non-deprivation justification" of euthanasia, which was considered approvingly by Canadian courts in ruling that an absolute prohibition of euthanasia was unconstitutional.

The rationale of this argument is that a person's quality of life can be so bad, that the bad in continuing to live outweighs any good experienced in doing so, such that nothing good is lost if one is euthanized – there is no deprivation of anything worthwhile or valuable. Indeed, death can be seen as a benefit.

A breach of the law which is seen as trivial and as conferring a benefit is unlikely to be characterized as an abuse by those supporting euthanasia and so, like the logical slippery slope, the practical slippery slope is defined out of existence.

form of access to intentionally inflicted death for those who believe they have a "completed life," which they do not want to call or treat as euthanasia, although it involves the same type of death-inflicting intervention.

The movement to legalize such an intervention started with a petition to the Dutch Parliament that those who were "over 70 and tired of life" should be able to have assistance in terminating their lives. The age requirement can be questioned as being inconsistent with the right to self-determination rationale for allowing the intentional infliction of death.

Pro-euthanasia advocates' denial of a practical slippery slope – administration of euthanasia other than in compliance with the law –

Editor's note. Margaret Somerville is Professor of Bioethics in the School of Medicine at the University of Notre Dame Australia. Until recently, she was Samuel Gale Professor of Law, Professor in the Faculty of Medicine, and Founding Director of the Centre for Medicine, Ethics and Law at McGill University, Montreal. This appeared at Mercatornet and is reposted with permission.

Alberta judge bans pro-life bus ads because they're not 'safe and welcoming'

By Steve Weatherbe

GRANDE PRAIRIE, Alberta -- The City of Grande Prairie was "proportionate and reasonable" in banning a pro-life banner from the sides of its buses because they were "likely to cause psychological harm to women who have had an abortion," an Alberta judge ruled.

According to Justice C.S. Anderson, the northern Alberta city "reasonably" balanced the free speech rights of the advertiser, the Calgary-based Canadian Centre for Bioethical Reform, with the city's own policy of providing a "safe

to free speech like a bludgeon against the public."

Not every pro-life ad would be banned, noted the judge, to buttress her finding that the city was being "reasonable" in its suppression of free speech. But the city was justified in banning the ad in question because it was reasonable to believe it would upset women and children.

The ad showed unborn babies at seven weeks' and 16 weeks' gestation followed by an empty circular frame filled in red to represent an aborted baby. Beneath these images were the

other vehicles are a "captive audience" who cannot help but see and read the ads. By comparison, reasoned the judge, one confronted in a park or a newspaper with disturbing opinions can walk away or look away (disregarding the fact that the ads were outside the buses where people not only were free to ignore them but actually obliged to do so by the demands of traffic safety.)

Anderson also finds in previous rulings by the Supreme Court of Canada the idea that the "Charter guarantee of freedom of expression is

speech provision, and on the other it said bus operators could limit free speech to make the buses "safe and welcoming."

"You might as well not have free speech at all," Carpay said. "Free speech doesn't mean anything if it doesn't mean the right to say things that are offensive and outrageous. If it just means you can spout platitudes acceptable to the majority, it is worth nothing."

Carpay took some consolation in the protection the ruling seemed to extend to free speech on sidewalks, and parks and squares in front of city halls and parliaments. He noted that in the United States "governments bear a much higher burden for justifying infringements on free speech than in Canada."

Crosson said the *Grande Prairie* decision "flies in the face of all previous jurisprudence on free speech," including the Supreme Court's *Greater Vancouver* decision. "Free speech is for the message that upsets people," Crosson said. "Courts use language such as 'caustic,' and 'vitriolic' to describe the speech that needs protection."

Crosson argued that Anderson's judgment leaves virtually all free speech unprotected.

"This idea that where you cannot restrict the audience you may restrict the content — well, what is the public space where you can restrict the audience — it is the definition of a public space that you cannot keep anybody out of it," he said.

Crosson said CCBR "was looking at an appeal."



and welcoming" space for bus passengers and passersby with its advertising.

But Carol Crosson, legal counsel for the CCBR, told *LifeSiteNews*, "If government can tell its citizens what's upsetting and what isn't upsetting in their speech, then democracy is threatened and, indeed, progress is threatened."

However, Joyce Arthur of the Abortion Rights Coalition of Canada applauds the decision. She told *LifeSiteNews*, "The right to free speech depends on respect for your audience and their right to avoid your message. The decision is significant, and shows that anti-choice groups like the CCBR are wrong to wield their right

captions: "growing," "growing" and "gone." Beside the images, the ad read: "Abortion kills children" and provides CCBR's web address.

Anderson noted that CCBR website included messaging such as "Now is the time to put an end to the slaughter. Now is the time to look evil in the face and say, enough. Now is the time to join together, and lend our voices to those who had their brutally taken from them."

Commented the judge, "These are strong statements that vilify women who have chosen, for their own reasons, to have an abortion; they are not merely informative and educational."

Anderson accepts the city's remorse that bus passengers and even drivers and passengers of

meant to protect not only those who wish to express themselves but also those who are the recipients of the expression."

John Carpay of the Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms based in Calgary told *LifeSiteNews* that a previous but regrettable ruling by the Supreme Court of Canada in another bus advertising case makes Anderson's judgment "unsurprising."

Carpay called the SCC's 2009 ruling on *Greater Vancouver Transportation Authority v. Canadian Federation of Students* completely "ambiguous" because on the one hand it declared that advertising on public buses was protected by the Charter of Rights and Freedoms' free

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

Man whose mother abandoned him in a dumpster as a newborn: “I forgive you”

By Texas Right to Life

On Christmas Day, the *New York Post* ran an incredible story of pain and redemption.

Susan Edelman covered the story of Marcus Wallace, a man who didn't learn the shocking story of his birth until he was 20-years-old. He saw a name

seemingly insurmountable tragedy of abandonment was the beginning of a wonderful Life.

After he was miraculously rescued from the dumpster, Wallace was raised by his father's family in Trinidad. He

Edelman writes, temperatures were below freezing, and Wallace would have soon died from exposure if he had not been found. A passerby, the attendant at the gas station where the dumpster was, and a police officer worked together

She's still my mother. She carried me full term. I have nothing but love for the woman. I'm very grateful that I'm able to be a loving father to my own little girl. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to be alive.



he had never heard listed as his mother on his birth certificate. A search for answers uncovered the horrifying truth: his mother was a young college student, who gave birth to Wallace in secret and abandoned him in a dumpster shortly after his birth.

Wallace, who is now 31, tells Edelman about the tremendous pain of uncovering this shocking truth. However, the core of the story is not despair. The story is life-affirming. Unexpectedly, Wallace's

says of the grandmother who raised him, “I still love her as a mother. She took care of me as if I were her own.”

Wallace returned to the United States to live with his father and excelled in track and field. Today he lives in Brooklyn and has a three-year-old daughter, Addison.

Of course, Wallace's full Life would not be possible without the courageous men who rescued him.

The night he was abandoned,

after they thought they heard a “crying noise.”

Wallace's mother has refused his repeated attempts to get in touch with her, but the three men who rescued him traveled to the place they found him 31 years ago. They were all deeply moved by the event, and Wallace has had a lasting impression on their lives.

Marcus Wallace still feels a void because he does not know his mother, but he said:

Wallace's story illustrates the tremendous importance of Baby Moses [Safe Haven] laws.

Unfortunately, Wallace's ordeal is not unique, as recent stories show. With Safe Haven or Baby Moses laws, women in crisis can surrender their newborns to any fire house or police station without fear of any repercussions. The baby will receive immediate medical care and mothers in crisis do not ever need to reach the point of desperation that they abandon their helpless children.

The Post story also reminds us that the mother in crisis is not the only person who is affected by her decision to abandon the infant or seek an abortion. Wallace's father gladly took the child after he was rescued and wanted to give him a family. Marcus Wallace himself is grateful for his Life.

His only message to the mother who abandoned him: “I forgive you.”

New play about “Roe” opens in D.C. on eve of inauguration of pro-life President Donald Trump

By Dave Andrusko

When playwright Lisa Loomer’s play “Roe” moved to Washington, D.C. from where it premiered at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival last April, she changed the last line of the play.

“Right now, with the Supreme Court behind us, Roe still stands” became “Right now, with the Supreme Court behind us, well, as of this moment, Roe still stands,” the *Washington Post’s* Lori McCue tells us in today’s newspaper.

As that might suggest, everyone associated with the play which tells the story of lawyer Sarah Weddington and Norma McCorvey (the “Jane Roe” of *Roe v. Wade*) apparently is ‘pro-choice.’

“I remember thinking that our play was going to be part of Hillary Clinton’s history, that we were a part of that story with our play, showing up [in D.C.] at the same time,” Sara Bruner, who plays McCorvey, told McCue. “I don’t know how it will feel doing the play now. I don’t know how people will respond.”

But if we are to believe McCue, the play takes a real pass at “balance.” She quotes Sarah Jane Agnew, who plays Weddington

Despite their victory, the play doesn’t end with “My Body, My Choice” signs hoisted high, or with “girl power!” on any character’s lips.

“[The play] is not pro-choice,” Agnew says. “It’s about the divisive issue of reproductive rights. And it presents both

sides very respectfully. It reminds us to be compassionate and look at another side and be considerate in a room with 500 other people for two hours — two-fifteen maybe, with pauses for laughter.”

What clues (from various reviews) suggest that, in fact, it won’t be the usual pro-abortion rant?



McCorvey (Bruner), left, and Weddington (Agnew) tell it like it was.

(Jenny Graham photo)

For one, according to McCue, the play takes great pains to “humanize” everyone involved; no stick figures need apply.

For another, we see that Weddington “blatantly uses McCorvey as a poster child to push her interest in reproductive rights.” To put it politely. They unconscionably exploited the very vulnerable McCorvey.

What could further not only balance but historical accuracy? To mention just two. How about (1) Norma never had an abortion; (2) her doctor “referred her to an adoption lawyer who, in turn, sent her to another lawyer who was on the lookout for a

plaintiff,” according to Keri Blankinger. “Linda Coffee — along with colleague Sarah Weddington — met up with McCorvey in a Dallas diner and decided she’d be the perfect centerpiece for a class action suit.”

Evidently, the play—which takes the form of the two women looking back to these many years later—does acknowledge what very, very few January 22 stories ever

Weddington’s politics. We could determine this from the applause some lines received and the hissing that other text got. I guess I’m hoping for a more politically diverse audience in DC, and I welcome a bit more audience hissing on some of my lines. I should probably be cautious of what I wish for.

OT: How do you want the audience to leave the theater? Do you want to change minds? Do you want to find a way to connect opposing points of views? What’s the dialogue once the curtain goes down?

Sarah Jane Agnew: I don’t think the play sets out to win anyone over to any one side. The success of the piece is that it so very clearly and respectfully presents both sides of a very complicated and contentious issue, and asks the audience to spend two hours in consideration of a belief that is not their own. I do hope that people leave with a deeper understanding of how much jeopardy *Roe v. Wade* is in at this time.

Indeed. Let’s hope they do! The play opened last week at the Arena Theatre.

mention: that Norma became a staunch pro-life advocate. Year after year, story after story will include a picture of Norma and Weddington celebrating Roe without mentioning that they are now on opposite sides and have been for decades.

Here’s how an interview with Ontap magazine concluded:

OT: How do you think audiences will connect with your character?

Sarah Jane Agnew: In Ashland, [Oregon], the audiences tended to be very liberal, so they appeared to identify themselves with Sarah

Accurate numbers? Not when inaccuracy serves the pro-abortion cause

By Dave Andrusko

If I was on the other side, and I was on the receiving end of a “flood of anti-choice restrictions,” I would also shout to the high heavens (or wherever it is they shout). So, when rewire.com’s headline reads, “2016 Brought a Flood of Abortion Restrictions,” it was hardly a surprise. (The rest

2011, pro-lifers have not passed many, many pro-life measures? Of course not. What I am saying is that pro-abortionists use various accounting gimmicks to exaggerate the number of “anti-abortion restrictions,” the better to gin up their supporters and receive even more sympathetic press from reporters already

of that in our experience. When a bill reaches a conference committee (to reconcile difference in the bills passed in the House and in the Senate), it gets its own number.

And what about omnibus bills (as opposed to single subject)? Do pro-abortionists itemize each clause in a bill as a separate “assault”?

abortion services to every other service that it provides. The organization treats each service — pregnancy test, STD test, abortion, birth control — equally. Yet there are obvious differences between a surgical (or even medical) abortion, and offering a urine (or even blood) pregnancy test. These services are not all comparable in how much they cost or how extensive the service or procedure is.

As I read Kathy’s response, it reminded me of a different way pro-abortionists manipulate numbers. Only instead of exaggerating the numbers, they minimize them.

Dr. Randall K. O’Bannon, NRLC’s director of education, has explained the absurd method PPFA uses to tell us that abortion constitutes only “3% of its services.” He has so well that sources outside the pro-life community, including a Factchecker for the Washington Post, have exposed PPFA’s mendacious approach.

In 2015 Michelle Ye Hee Lee deconstructed PPFA’s talking point. She wrote

The 3 percent figure that Planned Parenthood uses is misleading, comparing



of the headline—“But Also a Surge of Proactive Measures”—refers largely to bills outside our single-issue purview.)

The “source” is the same source the mainstream media treats with reverence: the Guttmacher Institute, the one-time research arm of Planned Parenthood, whose relentlessly pro-abortion interpretations rest on the most complete data.

But it is a measure of their determination to inflate (from their perspective) the damage that when you read the numbers from Guttmacher dutifully trotted out by Lauryn Gutierrez, you have to understand they bear only a passing resemblance to the truth.

Am I suggesting that since

bound to them hand and foot.

So I asked Kathy Ostrowski, legislative director for Kansans for Life, how it works in her state. She wrote back with a couple of examples:

Guttmacher never, ever itemizes their annual “count” of what they call “anti-abortion bills/laws.” In Kansas, an identical measure that gets introduced in both the House and the Senate under separate numbering and then gets redrafted as an amendment to a final bill, counts for three laws, not one.

It gets worse—there are more permutations

Lee gave the 3% claim “three Pinocchios.” Pinocchios refer to how deceptive an assertion is, with four Pinocchios representing the highest degree of distortion. Three Pinocchios means (according to the Post) that a statement has “Significant factual error and/or obvious contradictions.”

So my point is a simple one. When it serves the pro-abortion agenda, they will exaggerate the “damage.” But when it comes to the truth that abortion is a core component of PPFA’s “services,” they will attempt to minimize the damage by the use of flat-out distortion.

Pro-lifers commemorate 33rd anniversary of “Sanctity of Human Life Sunday”

“Abortion has denied them the first and most basic of human rights, and we are infinitely poorer for their loss” — Ronald Reagan

By Dave Andrusko

My great admiration for pro-life President Ronald Reagan’s eloquence and powers of persuasion is no secret to even casual readers of *NRL News Today*. I have written about those qualities dozens of times, often in the context of his extraordinary essay turned into a small book, “The Conscience of a Nation,” but also in his proclamation of the national “Sanctity of Human Life Sunday.”

President Reagan’s genius was an uncanny capacity for cutting through superficialities to get to the core issues. Mr. Reagan demonstrated that the abortion fight is not over when life begins—that was old hat even in the early 1980s; everyone understood that human life begins at conception. The divide was over what value we place on that vulnerable life.

President Reagan understood fully that in the final analysis we either accept or ascribe. That is, as a nation we either accept that our equality before the law is an endowment to all of us from our Creator, or we hold that we can ascribe worth/value/protection of the law to whomever we please, based on some arbitrary criteria we dream up.

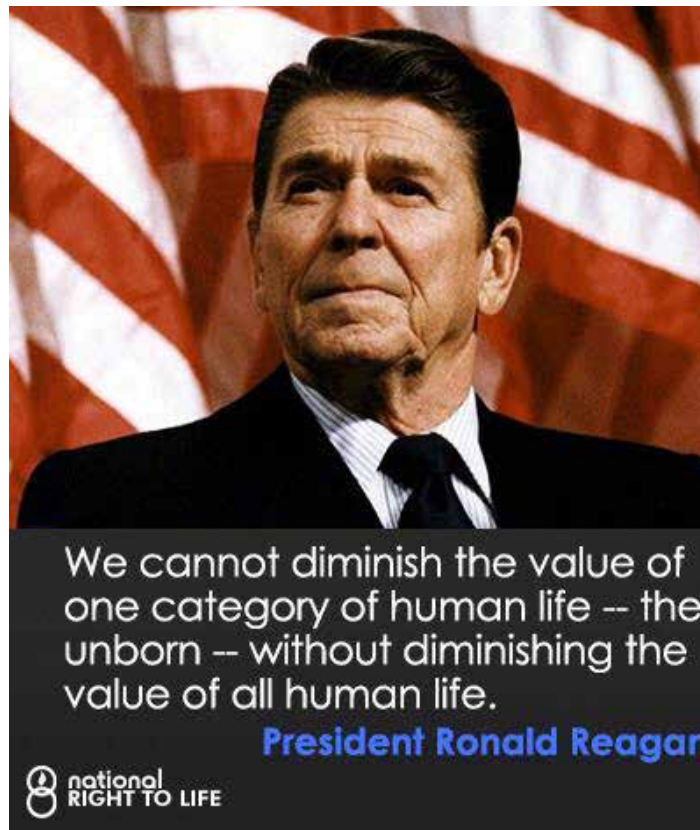
Another way of saying this is that President Reagan believed fervently in the equality of life ethic while pro-abortionists subscribe to the quality of life ethic.

In 1984, President Ronald Reagan designated Sunday, January 22, as Sanctity of Human Life Day. We commemorated the 33rd anniversary on January 15.

This proclamation was another example of his ability to prod our conscience, of how he could gently offer reminders that we are in this together.

The opening paragraph captures the distilled essence of

Independence is the right to life itself, a right the Declaration states has been endowed by our Creator on all human beings — whether young or old,



the pro-life commitment to the equality of all life, not just to the planned and the perfect:

The values and freedoms we cherish as Americans rest on our fundamental commitment to the sanctity of human life. The first of the “unalienable rights” affirmed by our Declaration of

weak or strong, healthy or handicapped.

To Reagan, as it was/is to all pro-lifers, legal protection is not doled out, based on power rankings. Every single one of us comes before the bar of justice as equals (there’s that word again).

Rather than paraphrase President Reagan’s 1984

message, and rob it of its power, let me quote his remarks in their entirety:

Since 1973, however, more than 15 million [now over 59 million] unborn children have died in legalized abortions — a tragedy of stunning dimensions that stands in sad contrast to our belief that each life is sacred. These children, over tenfold the number of Americans lost in all our Nation’s wars, will never laugh, never sing, never experience the joy of human love; nor will they strive to heal the sick, or feed the poor, or make peace among nations. Abortion has denied them the first and most basic of human rights, and we are infinitely poorer for their loss.

We are poorer not simply for lives not led and for contributions not made, but also for the erosion of our sense of the worth and dignity of every individual. To diminish the value of one category of human life is to diminish us all. Slavery, which treated Blacks as something less than human, to be bought and sold if

See “Anniversary,” page 35

President-elect Trump says he will make decision about Supreme Court nominee “within two weeks” of his inauguration

From page 2

One of the exit poll questions asked how important the Supreme Court was in people's vote. The graph below is startlingly revealing.

56% of those who voted for Trump said it was **the** most important factor, compared to 41% for Hillary Clinton—a whopping 15 point advantage for Trump.

In addition to pledging to nominate only pro-life justices to the Supreme Court and filling his cabinet and White House staff with pro-lifers, Mr. Trump also vowed to retain the life-saving Hyde Amendment, sign into law the Pain-Capable Unborn Child

Protection Act, which would end painful late-term abortions nationwide, defund Planned

Parenthood as long as they continue to perform abortions, and reallocate their funding to

community health centers that provide comprehensive health care for women.



Pro-lifers commemorate 33rd anniversary of “Sanctity of Human Life Sunday”

From page 22

convenient, cheapened human life and mocked our dedication to the freedom and equality of all men and women. Can we say that abortion — which treats the unborn as something less than human, to be destroyed if convenient — will be less corrosive to the values we hold dear?

We have been given the precious gift of human life, made more precious still by our

births in or pilgrimages to a land of freedom. It is fitting, then, on the anniversary of the Supreme Court decision in *Roe v. Wade* that struck down State anti-abortion laws, that we reflect anew on these blessings, and on our corresponding responsibility to guard with care the lives and freedoms of even the weakest of our fellow human beings.

Now, Therefore, I, Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Sunday, January 22, 1984, as National Sanctity of Human Life Day. I call upon the citizens of this blessed land to gather on that day in homes and places of worship to give thanks for the gift of life, and to reaffirm our commitment to the

dignity of every human being and the sanctity of each human life.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 13th day of January, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighth.

— Ronald Reagan