



national
RIGHT TO LIFE
NEWS

January 2019

The Consequences of Roe v. Wade?

Over 60 million lives have been destroyed since 1973, or the equivalent of the population of these 18 states.

60 MILLION PEOPLE



national **RIGHT TO LIFE** NEWS

As we roll into 2019, NRLC and its 50 state affiliates welcome the new legislative session

By Ingrid Duran, Director, NRLC Department of State Legislation

Right before New Year's, right on cue, two pro-abortion articles appeared announcing that, indeed, the sky is falling. Chicken Little had nothing on Catherine Pearson ("4 Devious Ways States Chipped Away At Abortion Rights In 2018") and the editorial board of the *Los Angeles Times* ("States needs to stop passing flagrantly unconstitutional antiabortion laws").

It's revealing how deadly afraid they are of the protective laws NRLC's State Legislation Department has been actively



pursuing through our 50 state affiliates. But we shouldn't be surprised at their response.

Whether it's a law requiring parental involvement in their minor daughter's life or death decision; or a law protecting unborn children who are capable of feeling pain from the agony of abortion; or any of a dozen other protective laws, the tiresome mantra remains the same.

By definition, as noted above, these laws must be "devious,"

See "Session," page 33

A look ahead at the 116th Congress

By Jennifer Popik, J.D., NRLC Director of Federal Legislation

As a hundred thousand or more people from across the country prepare to travel to Washington D.C. for the annual March for Life on January 18th, National Right to Life is gearing up for a busy year working with the U.S. Congress on federal legislation. Unlike the 115th Congress, we now face a divided congress. Pro-abortion Democrats control the House, but pro-life Republicans have extended their advantage in the Senate.

U.S. House of Representatives

The House of Representatives, now under the leadership of Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Cal.) has shown from day one, that expanding abortion, including taxpayer funding of abortion, are top priorities. On the first day of voting in the New Year, all House Democrats, joined by 7 Republicans voted to undue several international pro-life policies in legislation which they added to legislation dealing with the partial governmental shutdown.



See "Congress," page 32

Editorials

Why the January commemorative issue of National Right to Life News is must reading

Welcome to the January digital edition of **National Right to Life News**, for over 50 years the “pro-life newspaper of record.” Let me thank you in advance for reading the entire 48-page issue and for forwarding the stories you like best to pro-life family and friends.

We wanted this commemorative edition leading up to the 46th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* to address every topic of interest and relevance to pro-lifers around the world. (Thanks to the Internet, 10% of our readership is from overseas.)

Here are just a few highlights....

We begin with politics and the ensuing impact on legislation. What do the results of the November mid-term elections mean for advancing pro-life policies and fending off whatever blue print pro-abortion have in mind? Jennifer Popik, NRLC federal legislative director, and Karen Cross, NRLC’s Political Director, fill you in and bring readers up to speed. (See pages one and seven.)

In the second editorial which also begins on page two, we talk in depth about the upcoming 46th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*, the twin sisters of death. *Roe* provided the skeletal framework, as it were, of this judicial abomination while *Doe* fleshed out what *Roe* only hinted at: the High Court was unleashing abortion on demand on an unsuspecting public.

And since this entire issue is a commemoration of *Roe* and *Doe*, *NRL News* is offering multiple stories on the impact of decisions that had no foundation in the Constitution. Please also read the stories on pages 27-28, and 34 & 36.

NRLC President Carol Tobias addresses “2019: challenges and opportunities” on page three. Carol explains how returning Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi is up to her old pro-abortion tricks and how you can help NRLC to advance “*Operation 2K20*”:



Building a Pro-Life America (see page four).

Jacki Ragan, director of NRLC’s State Organizational Development Department, gives us an essential overview of what NRLC will be doing in 2019 to promote a Culture of Life. She answers an assortment of questions, including, “What are the three things any grassroots pro-lifer can and should do in 2019?” (See page five.)

See “*News*,” page 37

“With new tools at our finger tips, the technology we have, there is absolutely nothing that cannot be accomplished”

We are two days out from the annual March for Life which brings together in one place hundreds of thousands of pro-lifers from around the nation and the world. Remember that when the *Washington Post* and/or the *Associated Press* recycles their customary “thousands” attended gibberish. (The diminution used to be “tens of thousands” flooding the Mall on the way to the Supreme Court, but the *Post* and the *AP* couldn’t tolerate being off by “only” a 100,000+.)

The theme for the 2019 March is “Unique from Day One: Pro-Life is Pro-Science.” And science and technology (properly employed, of course) are magnificently pro-life.

The ultrasound that is misused to enable the abortionist to target his helpless little victim is the same technology that makes it possible for an unborn child’s first photo to be her ultrasound. (Technology is, as someone once wisely pointed out, “a useful servant but a dangerous master.”)

As we look ahead to 2019 and beyond, we understandably focus on Congress, the control of which is now split between Republicans (stronger in the Senate) and Democrats (who have the majority in the House of Representatives).

But there is much more going on that does not garner the headlines that makes pro-life spirits soar.

The aforementioned science/technology continues their unintentionally pro-life mission of making visible what not so long ago was largely invisible: the unborn child. I cannot tell you how many times “baby” makes its way into the discussion—in commercials, in movies, and in videos, to name just three example. While that will never soften the impenetrable heart of the committed abortion activist, it is a day-in, day-out message to

See “*Optimism*,” page 42

From the President Carol Tobias

2019: challenges and opportunities



2019. A new year. A new legislative session, at both the federal and state levels. Please read Jacki Ragan's story on page 5 which outlines what you can do to help turn back pro-abortion initiatives and enacted pro-life legislation.

The now-Democratically controlled House of Representatives quickly reinforced our belief that pro-abortion House Democrats will do whatever they can to promote and advance the killing of unborn children.

On their first day of running the House, under Speaker Nancy Pelosi's leadership, they voted to repeal the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance program, an updated and expanded version of the Mexico City Policy. They also voted to restore funding to the United Nations Population Fund. All this tacked onto a bill to deal with the governmental shutdown!

We can expect to see attempts to repeal the Hyde Amendment so that our tax dollars pay for abortion. Before its enactment, our tax dollars paid for at least 300,000 abortions a year. I will not be surprised to see efforts to remove any conscience protections for medical personnel who do not want to participate in abortions. And the Democrats will try to enshrine abortion as a fundamental right in new versions of the so-called Freedom of Choice Act. Whatever form FOCA takes, its goal is always to obliterate any and all protective legislation.

In a recent interview, I was asked if the Senate, controlled by pro-life Republicans, in conjunction with pro-life President Trump would be able to stop pro-abortion measures coming out of the House. My

immediate response was, "That is what helps me to sleep at night!"

We have more pro-life senators this year than we had prior to last November's elections, because of the extraordinary work of right-to-lifers around the country in this last election cycle, especially National Right to Life, its affiliates, chapters and volunteers. Under leadership of Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, I have no doubt these dedicated pro-life senators will stop any pro-death bill sent over from the House.

I also know the Senate will continue that most-critical task: confirming qualified, pro-Constitution judges to the federal bench, following their nomination by President Trump.

We will see real challenges at the state level as well.

Pro-abortion and would-be presidential aspirant New York Governor Andrew Cuomo wants to repeal state limits even on third trimester abortions; eliminate requirements that abortion survivors be treated; and allow non-physicians to perform abortions.

Virginia and Delaware each face a proposed Equal Rights Amendment to their state constitutions. Proponents argue that because only females seek abortions, any government policy that restricts access to abortion "discriminates" against women, and is, therefore, unconstitutional. It is daffy logic, but it "sounds" persuasive to the uninitiated.

New Mexico is facing one of the most radical pro-assisted suicide measures ever proposed. Non-physicians would be able to prescribe the lethal prescription. Moreover, as Wesley J. Smith notes, "The bill also stretches the 'terminal illness' definition to the breaking point." The only waiting time required before an individual kills himself/ herself is a 48-hour pause before the prescription is filled.

The pro-life movement has been in difficult circumstances before and we emerged stronger for the continuing battle for Life. We've been in times where the battle for life was fought on much more friendly, encouraging fields.

Right now, I think we have a blend of the

two, which means we need to take advantage of opportunities that are available and stop bad legislation wherever we can.

On the pro-active side, pro-lifers will continue to work to protect unborn children from the brutal, inhumane dismemberment abortion method. Currently 10 states ban the dismemberment of living unborn children. (See director of State Legislation Ingrid Duran's overview which begins on page one.)

We will work to inform women of the alternatives that are available, insisting that women be given relevant information before they make that final life or death decision. They need to know their baby has a beating heart. They need to know there is an increased risk between an induced abortion and the later development of breast cancer.

And we will work to redirect tax dollars away from Planned Parenthood to full service public health departments that do not perform abortions.

As we come upon the 46th anniversary of *Roe v Wade*, I re-read Justice Byron White's dissent in the *Roe v Wade* decision. His incredulity at what the Supreme Court was doing resonated with me.

He wrote, "I find nothing in the language or history of the Constitution to support the Court's judgment. The Court simply fashions and announces a new constitutional right for pregnant mothers and, with scarcely any reason or authority for its action, invests that right with sufficient substance to override most existing state abortion statutes.

"The upshot is that the people and the legislatures of the 50 States are constitutionally disentitled to weigh the relative importance of the continued existence and development of the fetus, on the one hand, against a spectrum of possible impacts on the mother, on the other hand."

The right to protect unborn children was taken away from the people and the 50 states. I think the late Justice White would be happy to know we have not given up the fight to reclaim that right.

And we never will.

Nearly 61 million. A staggering number.

That's how many unborn lives have been destroyed by abortion in the United States since 1973.

The abortion industry and their friends in the media want you to believe a lot of things about this tragic number that just aren't true.

*They want you to believe that the nearly 61 million precious children killed by abortion were not human beings. They want you to believe these unborn babies are "better off dead."

*They want you to believe unborn babies can't feel pain or that abortionists don't ply their deadly trade using a method that rips babies apart, limb by limb, until they bleed to death.

*They want you to believe that women are not hurt by abortion. They deny, or ignore, study after study showing physical and psychological dangers to women who've undergone abortions.

*Pro-abortionists want you to believe that in 1973 the Supreme Court found a previously undiscovered "right" to abortion in the Constitution.

I've read the Constitution. I can't find any such right. Even pro-abortion legal experts concede that the *Roe* decision was unfounded. What seven unelected justices had done, to quote Justice Byron White, was simply an "exercise of raw judicial power."

We start 2019 in a difficult position. Pro-abortion Democrats, led by Rep. Nancy Pelosi, now control the U.S. House of Representatives. Thankfully, we have pro-life President Trump and pro-life leaders such as Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell.

However, Pelosi and her abortion industry allies have already started their assault on pro-life policies, as you have read in **National Right to Life News Today** and in this January digital edition of **National Right to Life News** beginning on page one. For them 61 million dead babies is not enough.

They want your tax dollars to pay for even more dead babies. They want to eliminate policies that been absolutely vital to stopping the spread of abortion overseas, most especially in countries where unborn babies and their mothers are protected by law.

We cannot and we will not allow Nancy Pelosi, pro-abortion Democrats, and the abortion industry to succeed. We cannot and we will not allow taxpayer money to fill the coffers of the abortion industry.

We cannot and we will not allow the reversal of longstanding pro-life policies.

And that's why we need you. Now, more than ever

Shortly after the election, we launched **Operation 2K20: Building a Pro-Life America**. This two-year campaign is designed to educate, motivate, and activate those who identify as pro-life,

but may not have previous experience in sharing their pro-life witness with others.

I was overwhelmed by how many of you answered my call to provide the funding necessary to jump start the program and set us up for success moving into 2019.

With your help, I'm convinced that Operation 2K20 will succeed in identifying one million new pro-life activists, in educating America on the fundamental life issues, and ultimately in motivating pro-life Americans to take action.

As we start 2019, **I'm asking every current and former**

National Right to Life member to once again lend their voice, their talents, and their contributions to our efforts. Please help us prevent the tragedy of abortion by standing with National Right to Life with a generous contribution to our 2019 membership drive.

I hope you will consider a membership contribution of \$500, or even \$5,000. But a membership contribution of any size — \$250, \$100, \$35, or any amount — will make a difference and set us up for further success in 2019.

You are an inspiration to all of us in the National Right to Life Washington office. Thank you for all you do to advance the cause of life. Thank you for supporting National Right to Life and for inspiring us to never stop. **Thank you for being a voice for God's most defenseless children.**

Sincerely, FOR LIFE,

Carol Tobias
President
National Right to Life

Full-term Pregnancy
The *Beautiful*
Choice



MAKE A DONATION

“It is an exciting time to be involved in the RTL movement”

An interview with Jacki Ragan

By Dave Andrusko

As many NRL News readers know from personal experience, Jacki Ragan is not only the director of NRLC’s State Organizational Development Department but also directs the annual NRLC convention. It is always a delight to check in with her to see what National Right to Life has planned for the upcoming year.

Q: It’s now year 46 since the Supreme Court gave us *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*. You’ve been in this fight for many years. What are the top two lessons you’ve learned in combating the Culture of Death?

First and foremost, you never give up. Not optional. Second, never judge, never back down, and always be kind -- smiling doesn’t hurt either. You have no idea what is going on in another person’s life so start out with kindness and a calm even voice. Reach out and be inviting when you do.

Q: What are the three things any grassroots pro-lifer can and should do in 2019?

1. If you haven’t already, join a local chapter. This is a must and will give you back far more than you will put in. You don’t have to devote your entire life or even every minute of your spare time, but join a chapter. If there isn’t one, start one. We are happy to help.

2. Decide, and remain faithful, that you will: contribute to a pro-life group each month (doesn’t have to be a lot of money, but can

certainly equal 3 or 4 cups of coffee); do one public thing a week that stands out as pro-life (drop off diapers at your local Pregnancy Help Center, ask your Church if you could provide pro-life Church



Jacki Ragan

Bulletin Inserts for them on a particular Sunday, post something pro-life on social media, etc.).

3. Volunteer for 5 hours each month. If you joined that Chapter, you may already be there, but if not, contact your state right to life organization and just ask, if you had a spare set of hands today or tomorrow for a few hours, what would you need done. You can do this and I promise you will feel so much better once you have done it!

Q: What resources does NRLC’s State Organizational Development Department have that pro-lifers can utilize

and how/where do they find these assets?

Well, we have educational materials, fact sheets, church inserts, stop abortion signs, petitions, and we have us. We can help you with whatever you need, social media help, help in starting a chapter, help with an event, help with fundraising, we have seen a lot and we have learned a lot, and we are ready and willing to pass that knowledge along to you. Contact us at stateod@nrlc.org

Q: You’ve seen several pro-abortion presidents and several pro-life presidents, beginning with President Reagan. What difference does make that we have an aggressively pro-life President Trump in the White House?

President Trump is doing an amazing job for the unborn and pro-life movement. And he isn’t afraid of any political ramifications. It is sort of like you get what you see, nothing covered, nothing fake, just doing what he can to further the cause.

Obviously it is easier to work under a pro-life administration but it helps when you have the House and Senate. I am most thankful for the pro-life Senate we have. Not having the House in pro-life hands is a setback, but don’t forget a net gain of 18 seats in November 2020 means the return of pro-life leadership in the House.

Q: Finally, in 2019 are there challenges which, if not

unique, are very special?

Always. We have a hostile press (nothing new) and an ugly, hostile majority in the House. Both of those things make it more difficult and will be very time consuming.

In addition, we also have to raise the necessary funds and get the grassroots ready, able and fired up to make sure we do not lose the presidency in 2020, that we are able to retake the House and that we keep the Senate pro-life (see page four). We will be defending 22 seats in the senate to the Democrats’ 12 seats. It will be a tough road but I think we can make it happen. If we pull together as a team, we can do anything.

We can do anything...if we will just work as if everything depends on us and pray as if everything depends on God.

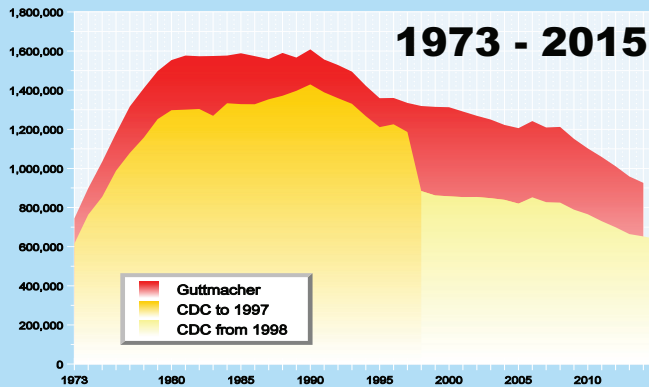
Q: Any last words of encouragement?

It is an exciting time to be involved in the RTL movement and to be a part of saving lives, educating people and, quite literally, making a difference. With new tools at our finger tips, the technology we have, there is absolutely nothing that cannot be accomplished.

That being said, it isn’t going to happen overnight and I understand that we have been working and waiting for almost 50 years. But we need to be patient just a little longer and while being patient, work like we have never worked before.

We’ve got this. Together, as a unified team, we’ve got this.

Reported Annual Abortions



1973	744,610	615,831
1974	898,570	763,476
1975	1,034,170	854,853
1976	1,179,300	988,267
1977	1,316,700	1,079,430
1978	1,409,600	1,157,776
1979	1,497,670	1,251,921
1980	1,553,890	1,297,606
1981	1,577,340	1,300,760
1982	1,573,920	1,303,980
1983	1,575,000	1,268,987
1984	1,577,180	1,333,521
1985	1,588,550	1,328,570
1986	1,574,000	1,328,112
1987	1,559,110	1,353,671
1988	1,590,750	1,371,285
1989	1,566,900	1,396,658
1990	1,608,600	1,429,247
1991	1,556,510	1,388,937
1992	1,528,930	1,359,146
1993	1,495,000	1,330,414
1994	1,423,000	1,267,415
1995	1,359,400	1,210,883
1996	1,360,160	1,225,937
1997	1,335,000	1,186,039
1998	1,319,000	884,273*
1999	1,314,800	861,789*
2000	1,312,990	857,475*
2001	1,291,000	853,485*
2002	1,269,000	854,122*
2003	1,250,000	848,163*
2004	1,222,100	839,226*
2005	1,206,200	820,151*
2006	1,242,200	846,181*
2007	1,209,640	827,609*
2008	1,212,350	825,564*
2009	1,151,600	789,116*
2010	1,102,670	765,651*
2011	1,058,490	730,322*
2012	1,011,000	699,202*
2013	958,700	664,435*
2014	926,190	652,639*
2015-18	906,308§	638,169*

*excludes NH, CA
and at least one
other state

§ NRLC projection
for calculation

ABORTION statistics

United States Data and Trends

Lowest Levels in Decades

There are two basic sources on abortion incidence in the United States:

- The U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) publishes yearly, but relies on voluntary reports from state health departments (and New York City, Washington, D.C.). It has been missing data from California, New Hampshire, and at least one other state since 1998.
- The Guttmacher Institute (GI) contacts abortion clinics directly for data but does not survey every year.
- Because it surveys clinics directly and includes data from all fifty states, most researchers believe Guttmacher's numbers to be more reliable, though Guttmacher still believes there may be as much as a 5% undercount in its most recent figures.

Both the CDC and Guttmacher show significant recent drops and even larger drops over the last 25 years.

- Total abortions dropped 27.8% from 1998 to 2015 with the CDC, and fell 42.4% from 1990 to 2014 with GI.
- Total abortions fell below 1 million for the first time in 38 years for Guttmacher when it reported 958,700 for 2013. That dropped further to 926,190 in 2014.
- The **abortion rate** for 2014 for GI was 14.6 abortions for every 1,000 women of reproductive age (15-44), half what it was in 1981 (29.3) and the lowest recorded since abortion was legalized in the U.S. in 1973.
- Guttmacher says there were 18.8 abortions for every 100 pregnancies ending in live birth or abortion in 2014, an **abortion ratio** lower than any since 1972.
- Guttmacher says that the number of abortion "providers" has dropped from a high of 2,918 in 1982 to 1,671 in 2014.
- Most of the reduction in abortions seen between 2008 and 2011 was in facilities performing a thousand or more abortions a year. A loss of 65 more such facilities from 2011 to 2014 was likely a big factor in the overall drop of 132,300 abortions seen in those three years.

The Consequences of *Roe v. Wade*

60,942,033

Total abortions since 1973

Based on numbers reported by the Guttmacher Institute 1973-2014, w/ projections of 906,308 for 2015-18, based on -2.05% drop seen by CDC from 2014 -15.

GI has estimated possible undercounts of 3-5%,

so an additional 3% is factored into the overall total.

1/19

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The impact of 2018 elections on the 116th Congress

By Karen Cross, National Right to Life Political Director

On January 3, 2019, the 116th Congress convened in Washington, D.C. with a split Congress: a Republican Senate and a Democratic House. Pro-life Senator Mitch McConnell continues to be the Republican Majority Leader, and pro-

Florida

Pro-life Governor Rick Scott defeated pro-abortion incumbent Senator Bill Nelson in an extremely close race: 50.1-49.9%.

Florida Right to Life is “beyond thrilled” that

demanded by the abortion lobby,” said Mike Fichter, Indiana Right to Life president and CEO. “Unlike Donnelly, Senator Mike Braun will stand for our pro-life values in Washington. Indiana is a pro-life state. We’re showing it by having two dependable pro-life voices, Mike Braun and Todd Young, represent us in the U.S. Senate. We look forward to working with Sen. Braun to protect children from abortion.”

hostile culture,” said Steve Rupp, president of Missouri Right to Life. “With his experience defending pro-life legislation and our religious freedoms, Hawley is perfectly suited to continue his life-affirming efforts in Washington, D.C.”

North Dakota

Pro-life Congressman Kevin Cramer defeated pro-abortion Senator Heidi Heitkamp, 55.4-44.6%.

“We are beyond excited to have pro-life Senator Kevin Cramer join pro-life Senator

Missouri

Missouri Attorney General Josh Hawley challenged and



Missouri Senator Josh Hawley with Karen Cross

abortion Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi was elected Speaker.

Following is an overview of the 116th Congress with a focus on the pro-life freshmen members of the U.S. House and Senate. There are 93 new U.S. House Representatives and nine new U.S. Senators.

U.S. Senate

Thankfully, after the 2018 elections, the U.S. Senate now has a pro-life majority. This means that pro-life President Donald Trump can nominate justices in the mold of Brett Kavanaugh and Neil Gorsuch to any vacancies that occur on the U.S. Supreme Court as well as judges of a similar judicial philosophy to the lower courts.

Following is an overview of the Senate election results.

“Governor Rick Scott took on long time pro-abortion incumbent Senator Bill Nelson and shocked the nation with his stunning victory,” said Lynda Bell, president of Florida Right to Life. “Nelson was extreme in his support for radical abortion procedures and opposed the confirmation of Supreme Court Justices Brett Kavanaugh and Neil Gorsuch. Scott is a pro-life stalwart and had the full support of Florida Right to Life.”

Indiana

Mike Braun resigned his seat as a state representative to run against incumbent Senator Joe Donnelly. Braun defeated Donnelly with 50.7% of the vote.

“The pro-life community felt betrayed by Donnelly, who frequently took positions

defeated pro-abortion Democrat Senator Claire McCaskill, 51.5-45.1%.

“Senator Josh Hawley is publicly committed to preserving the values of life and liberty in an increasingly

John Hoeven in Congress,” Medora Nagle, executive director for North Dakota Right



National Right to Life Legislative Director Jennifer Popik with Minnesota Congressman Pete Stauber

Roe v. Wade's disastrous impact on medical ethics

By Nancy Valko

Most people volunteer for the pro-life movement. I consider myself a draftee. For me, there was no “choice.” I became a conscript because of personal and professional experiences that followed in the wake of the *Roe v. Wade* decision.

I was a young intensive care unit nurse in 1973. Like most people I knew, I was shocked when abortion was legalized. As a medical professional, I couldn't imagine good doctors and nurses condoning — much less participating in — such a brutal act.

However, I quickly found that my medical colleagues were split on the issue. In a foreshadowing of what was to come, those supporting what was then said to be “only” early abortions were the most vocal and insistent. Our formerly cohesive unit began to fray.

However, I was professionally offended by the pro-life argument that legalizing abortion would lead to the legalization of infanticide and euthanasia. It was one thing to deny the truth with an early and unobserved unborn baby but it was quite another to imagine any doctor or nurse looking a born human being in the eye and killing him or her.

How wrong I was!

Infanticide and medical discrimination against people with disabilities

My eyes were opened with the 1982 “Baby Doe” case in Indiana. Baby Doe was a newborn baby boy with an easily correctable hole between his esophagus (food pipe) and trachea (windpipe). He was denied lifesaving surgery by his parents and a judge because he also had Down Syndrome.

He also was not fed. Six days later, even while his case was being appealed to the Supreme Court, Baby Doe starved and dehydrated to death.

When we read the story, my husband and I wanted to adopt

with pneumonia at 4 months, I was tipped off that my trusted pediatrician had made her a “do not resuscitate” without my knowledge or consent because “Nancy is too emotionally involved with that retarded



Marie Valko at age 3 with her newborn sister Karen

Baby Doe. But all offers of adoption were refused.

When our daughter Karen was born a few months after Baby Doe, we were stunned that she had both Down syndrome and a severe heart defect. I was determined that she would not become another Baby Doe.

The cardiologist told us that Karen had an 80-90% chance of survival with one open-heart surgery by age 6 months. He also gave us a “choice” --to let Karen die. I was outraged that he could even consider not treating my daughter like any other baby with the same heart defect.

Even worse, when my daughter was hospitalized

“choice” was just an empty slogan that had infected medical ethics.

Although Karen survived that incident, she unfortunately died at age 5 1/2 months, just before her scheduled surgery.

At last I finally joined the disability rights and the pro-life movements.

The “right to die” movement

A few years after Karen's death, I was shocked by the so-called “right to die” movement that pushed “living wills” to refuse even food and water by tube if or when a person became incapacitated. I became involved in the Nancy

Cruzan and Terri Schiavo cases.

Both involved seriously brain-injured, non-dying young women declared “vegetative,” a dehumanizing term invented in 1972. I wrote an op-ed for my local paper predicting that the potential pool of victims would expand if death by starvation and dehydration was allowed.

I was thinking about my own mother who had Alzheimer's and cancer. At one point I was asked if our family was going to feed her. I replied that my mother would die naturally from her condition, not starvation and dehydration.

How far we have descended! Now, prominent doctors and the American Nurses Association are promoting what Compassion and Choices calls voluntary stopping of eating and drinking by mouth (VSED) as a legal option to “speed up dying” for competent people with serious illnesses. “Living wills” to prevent even spoon-feeding for people with dementia are also being developed.

Why? To “speed up dying” for people with serious illnesses. “Living wills” to prevent even spoon feeding are being developed.

Physician-assisted suicide

The “right to die” movement ultimately morphed into the “Compassion and Choices” (formerly the Hemlock Society), the extremely well-funded organization that promotes physician-assisted suicide by lethal overdose. In the late 1990s, Oregon became the first state to legalize assisted suicide. Now a handful of states

See “Disastrous,” page 21

Why all Americans should want *Roe v. Wade* overturned—regardless of their views on abortion

A reversal of the Supreme Court's abortion ruling would be pro-Constitution and pro-democracy

By Paul Stark

In its *Roe v. Wade* decision, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the Constitution prohibits Americans from legally protecting human beings *in utero*. Killing those human beings, the Court said, must be allowed for any reason.

You don't have to be pro-life in order to want this decision overturned. That's because *Roe* was a flagrant judicial mistake that usurped authority belonging to the American people rather than to the Court.

John Hart Ely, the eminent legal scholar and Yale law professor, famously concluded that *Roe* "is a very bad decision," but "not because it conflicts with ... my idea of progress." Instead, he explained, "It is bad because it is bad constitutional law, or rather because it is *not* constitutional law and gives almost no sense of an obligation to try to be."

Here are three of *Roe*'s most egregious errors.

(1) *Roe* asserted a right to abortion that is actually just a *non sequitur*.

Roe said that the Fourteenth Amendment includes a right to abortion. The Fourteenth Amendment says nothing about abortion. The Court claimed, however, that the amendment's protection of "liberty" (states may not deny it without due process) implies a "right to privacy" that is "broad enough to encompass" a fundamental right to abortion.

Why think this? The Constitution does protect many freedoms, but countless

activities, including many activities done in "private," are not considered protected liberties under the Constitution. Why is the dismemberment and destruction of unborn human beings protected? *Roe* said that

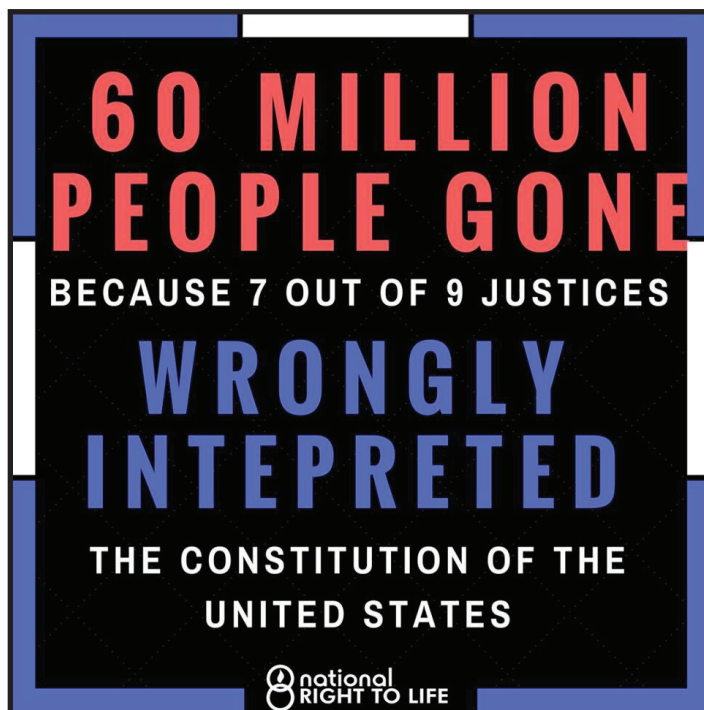
decision and tried to track its logic. *Roe* "provides essentially no reasoning in support of its holding," acknowledges Edward Lazarus, a supporter of legalized abortion who clerked for Justice Harry Blackmun

even worse than unfounded. It's flatly contradicted by the very people who agreed to the Fourteenth Amendment in the first place.

That amendment was adopted in 1868. During the same era, states enacted a wave of statutes banning elective abortion. The Ohio legislature, for example, ratified the Fourteenth Amendment in early 1867. A few months later, the same legislature voted to strengthen Ohio's abortion ban, with the committee overseeing the bill calling abortion "child murder."

These facts pose a fatal problem for *Roe*'s alleged abortion right. According to *Roe*, the Fourteenth Amendment prohibits doing exactly what the people who adopted the Fourteenth Amendment actually did. This is a ridiculous view. It's presumably why, among the decision's other debunked historical claims, *Roe* tried to suggest (on the basis of a tissue-paper-thin theory put forward by a lawyer for NARAL) that the anti-abortion laws weren't meant to protect unborn children. Overwhelming historical evidence shows otherwise.

"To reach its result, 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," noted Justice



abortion restrictions can be a "detriment" to people (raising a child, the Court observed, is taxing). But that's also true of other legal restrictions that are uncontroversially permissible (such as a ban on infanticide even when an infant's parents face economic hardship).

This was the Court's "argument" for a right to abortion. The conclusion is a *non sequitur*—it simply does not follow from anything the Court said.

That's no secret among those who have read the *Roe*

(the author of *Roe*). "As a constitutional argument," adds University of Pennsylvania law professor Kermit Roosevelt (another supporter of legalized abortion), "*Roe* is barely coherent. The Court pulled its fundamental right to choose more or less from the constitutional ether."

And that's putting a positive spin on it.

(2) *Roe* distorted history in order to seem less ridiculous.

Roe's claim of a Fourteenth Amendment abortion right is

See "Americans," page 29

Roe v. Wade: Through a Daughter's Eyes

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

We all look at life from different perspectives. This is also true when we consider *Roe v. Wade*, the abominable Supreme Court ruling which has led to the deaths of more than 60 million preborn babies.

my parents faced must have been tremendous.

If *Roe* had been the law of the land at that time, could I have been a statistic? Could my mother, in desperation, have turned to an abortionist during

When I went to a store in a mall to make a purchase, I felt that I was not being given the respect I deserved, even though I was very young.

The fact is, the reverberations of *Roe*, like a pebble in a

those times meant realizing that a terrible atrocity had been legalized and was taking place, perhaps thousands of times a year, in my hometown.

Thankfully, by the time I was blessed with my beautiful daughter, I had been volunteering in the pro-life movement for quite some time. So I knew the importance of raising her with a pro-life perspective.

When she was about six years old, she looked with wonder at a display of soft-touch fetal models at a pro-life educational display at a church festival. She lovingly held the realistic depictions of preborn babies at various stages of development. As we left the display, she insisted on running back a second time so she could catch another glimpse.

And that is when I was able to see *Roe v. Wade* through my own daughter's eyes. I felt teary-eyed, knowing that abortion was still part of her world. And yet, I felt joy knowing that she recognized the humanity of the preborn child—a deeply-held belief she clung to as she grew and matured.

Through my daughter's eyes, I view *Roe* as a monumentally unjust historic event which has decimated her generation. And yet, I hope, in the depths of my soul, that her generation will end the scourge and renew the face of America—one precious life at a time.



Maria and her daughter Gabby

I look at *Roe* from the viewpoint of a daughter and as a mother of a daughter. At the time that my mother became pregnant with me, she and my father were facing financial ruin. My father had lost his job and, during the course of her pregnancy, my mother would be fired for the “offense” of being pregnant. The pressures

the depths of her heartache?

Thankfully, back in those days, the law protected me.

As it turned out, I was too young to be aware of the High Court's cataclysmic decision back in 1973. And yet, perhaps, I saw the effects.

In my elementary school, it seemed the classes were smaller for the children younger than I.

pond, could be felt well beyond the initial point of impact. I felt it at school and in my neighborhood—even if I could not trace its cause.

By the time I reached high school, I faced an abortion-saturated society. Rumors flew through the corridors of our school of students who had had one. Growing up during

Nearly two years later, Kansas Supreme Court has not ruled whether there is a “right” to abortion in the state Constitution

By Dave Andrusko

It’s one of those stories that could have written pretty much anytime over, say, the last 18 months. The headline to *AP* reporter John Hanna’s story (as published last week in the *Washington Post*) is “Kansas abortion foes brace for state Supreme Court decision.”

Hanna is alluded to the mysterious inaction of the Kansas Supreme Court which heard a state challenge to a lower court injunction that enjoined Kansas’s ban on dismemberment abortions nearly two years ago.

The consensus across the board was that a majority of the justices seemed favorably disposed to the bizarre argument that 160 years after the state Constitution was drafted, a hitherto unknown right to privacy even broader than the Supreme Court found in its 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision, had been discovered.

Kansans for Life Executive Director Mary Kay Culp told *NRL News Today*, “If the Kansas Supreme Court’s seven members, a majority of which were appointed by pro-abortion former Gov. Kathleen Sebelius, rule the way we fear, our only choice will be to amend our 1859 state constitution to make it crystal that it does not contain a ‘right to abortion’ in any way, shape or form.”

At the March 16, 2017, oral arguments, Janet Crepps, an abortion attorney for the New York-based Center for Reproductive Rights (CRR), maintained that the

Unborn Child Protection from Dismemberment Abortion Act “victimized” women. She told the justices that second-



trimester non-dismemberment abortion methods were “experimental” and “painful” for women and an affront to their “privacy, autonomy, dignity and bodily integrity.”

Solicitor General Stephen McAllister countered, “If the people of Kansas want to create a constitutional right to abortion, they have a ready mechanism for doing so — the constitutional amendment process. Kansans have not been shy about utilizing it.”

SB 95, which Kansas enacted in 2015, prohibits abortions in which the fully-formed unborn child is torn apart with sharp metal tools, bit by bit, while still alive, inside her mother. Nine

states have subsequently passed laws banning dismemberment abortions of living unborn babies. They include Oklahoma

This is hardly the first time the abortion movement has turned to a state Constitution to create a protective wall around the “right” to abortion. For example, Hanna wrote,

California voters added a right to privacy to their state’s constitution in 1972, and courts there have struck down even restrictions on public funding for abortions. In 2000, Tennessee’s highest court declared that the state constitution protected abortion rights; abortion foes did not pass an amendment until 2014.

The Iowa Supreme Court ruled last year that the state constitution protected abortion rights.

(2015); West Virginia (2016); Mississippi (2016); Alabama (2016); Louisiana (2016); Arkansas (2017) ;. Texas (2017) ; Kentucky (2018); and Ohio (2018).

Back to Hanna’s story. Various theories are floated why the justices have not issued a decision. They include election politics (a decision that threatens to gut essentially all abortion laws –if not all– would have energized pro-lifers in the last election) to the idea that such a decision would be “a groundbreaking case of first impression,” Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt told Hanna, although he added, “but my goodness, two years?”

With respect to Tennessee, Hanna is talking about “Amendment 1,” the successful 2014 ballot measure that stated “Nothing in this [state] Constitution secures or protects a right to abortion or requires the funding of an abortion.”

Pro-abortionists contested that outcome all the up until last November when the United States Supreme Court agreed with a three judge panel of the Sixth Circuit which had unanimously concluded “... [I]t is time for uncertainty surrounding the people’s 2014 approval and ratification of Amendment 1 to be put to rest.”

New PPFA president adamant: Abortion is Job 1

By Dave Andrusko

Leana Wen is Planned Parenthood's new president so we shouldn't be (and aren't) surprised that Dr. Wen is the recipient of an endless stream of flattering profiles. The latest came this week and appeared last week in *Buzzfeed*.

But Wen was not happy with the story's headline. In a tweet she complained

I am always happy to do interviews, but these headlines completely misconstrue my vision for Planned Parenthood.

How did the headline read?
Planned Parenthood's New President Wants To Focus On Nonabortion Health Care.

I read both the story itself and Wen's lament carefully. PPFA's whole intent in choosing a physician to replace political operative Cecile Richards, it would seem obvious, was to reinforce its imaginary stance as a "non-partisan" political player and reinforce the meme that abortion is a drop in the bucket (a mere "3%" of its services).

So you might think Wen would thank reporter Ema O'Connor and whomever wrote the headline—and even more so the subhead:

The organization is still committed to providing abortions and reproductive care but Wen, the first female physician to run Planned Parenthood, is embarking on a cross-country listening tour to learn how

best add or expand nonabortion services.

Not so.

Wen tweets, "First, our core mission is providing, protecting and expanding access to

that the organization isn't backing away from politics. In fact, she said she plans to expand Planned Parenthood's political work to collaborate

which is far less confrontational than Richards' sloganeering.

Wen is trying to have it both ways: in theory, turn more Planned Parenthood affiliates into "one-stop shops," although "There are no concrete plans for this expansion just yet," Connor tells us; but never back down from the crazy notion that killing unborn babies is "health care."

Wouldn't you love to know Richards' response when she read this statement at the end of the *Buzzfeed* story. Referring to her "listening tour" (or "pilgrimage," in O'Connor's words, to the affiliates)

"Clinic visits through my eyes are different than the visits through her eyes," Wen told BuzzFeed News, getting up to leave her new office. While Richards visited clinic workers as a political organizer and abortion rights champion, Wen said she'll be talking to them medical worker to medical worker. "For me, I'm a frontlines health care fighter, I'm going back to my people. For her, she's a frontlines organizer, going back to her people, but in a different way."

Message received. Wen can do electoral politics just fine at the same time she repositions Planned Parenthood in the public's mind as seemingly less overtly political and more of a full-service health resource.

This is not the least bit true, but with a bevy of sympathetic reporters, Wen can float this false narrative indefinitely.



abortion and reproductive health care. We will never back down from that fight – it's a fundamental human right and women's lives are at stake."

Message received: Abortion is Job 1. Period.

But if you read the story, especially towards the end, you understand that Wen is trying to thread the needle. There are a couple of "Democratic strategists" who suggest her appointment was a sign of organizational "fatigue," that its political arms may not be as aggressive as they have been.

Wen is assuring them they will go after Republicans in general, President Trump in particular, with all guns blazing. Wen insisted

with the Democratic, pro-abortion rights candidates who won 2018 midterm elections on the state legislature and gubernatorial levels around the country. The organization will be heavily involved in the 2020 presidential elections, she said, and will continue to challenge the Trump administration's abortion and reproductive health care policies.

But she also wants to foster and reinforce PPFA's current slogan: "This Is Health Care"

How Do You Answer Your Teenage Daughter When She Tells You She's Pregnant?

By Bryan Kemper

How do you answer your teenage daughter when she tells you she's pregnant?

I have spent close to 30 years standing outside abortion mills talking to men and women about alternatives to abortion, pleading with them to know that their child is a gift from God and no matter what got them in this situation their child is a blessing. When I first started to have kids I would bring them with me to pro-life events and dress them in pro-life t-shirts. I was the proudest father on the planet when my kids would ask me if they could protest abortion with me or ask me to help them write a paper in school about abortion.

I often talk to my daughters about how we must love everyone and make sure young girls who are scared know there is help for them and people who love them in their darkest hours. I witnessed my kids talk to people at our booths about how wrong abortion is and how every single child is a wanted child and needs to be welcomed in love.

I can honestly say that when they were young I never imagined that one of my own

daughters would be that scared teenage girl who is terrified of telling her parents she's pregnant. I just assumed that they would grow up, fall in love, get married and then have kids.

The day I walked into the



Bryan Kemper

hallway and saw my precious angel crying and afraid to tell me what I already knew was a difficult day. Not because I had to face the reality that

my daughter is pregnant, but because I had to see that fear in her eyes and hear her say the words "Are you mad at me Dad?"

To be honest, anger was the last emotion I felt at that moment. I hugged my daughter tight and just told her I loved her. When she asked me if I was mad I said without hesitation, "NO! How can I be mad at you for blessing me with my first grandchild?"

Over the years I have talked to many kids from Christian homes, pastor's daughters and even pastors themselves who were walking into abortion mills because they were afraid of how people would react. I have heard pastors talk about how they feared what their church members would say to find out their child got pregnant out of wedlock. I have heard young girls tell me they were afraid if their parents found out that they would be kicked out of the house and disowned. An angry father once threw me to the ground as he pushed his crying daughter into the abortion mill to make her have an abortion she didn't want.

I am going to say something that may not sit well with many people; the abortion rate in churches is directly caused by those who forget the Mercy and Grace Christ shows us on a daily basis. It blows my mind that we would be more worried about hiding a sexual sin than accepting the gift of life. Instead of embracing the absolute grace of God we reject life itself destroy His image.

Pregnancy is not a sin; pregnancy is not a disease, and pregnancy is not something to ever be ashamed of. Every single child is a blessing from the Lord and should be welcomed and embraced with all the love in the world. When we react in anger and shame we reject grace and have forgotten the Divine Mercy Christ showed us when He gave His life for us. So many people choose to sacrifice the child to cover a sin that has already been paid for in full by the very God who gave created that child.

Editor's note. This appeared at Life News and is reposted with permission. Bryan Kemper is the youth director for Priests for Life.

3 Important Truths Revealed by the Latest Planned Parenthood Scandal

By Katie Franklin

For decades, the abortion lobby has attempted to deflect legitimate, nonpartisan criticisms against Big Abortion by attacking pro-life pregnancy help centers that empower women to choose life for their children. But the latest Planned Parenthood scandal demonstrates yet again why these attacks are—as Heartbeat International President Jor-El Godsey says—a “clear case of psychological projection.”

Just before the Christmas holiday, *The New York Times* dropped a story alleging the mistreatment of pregnant employees by the country’s largest abortion provider, Planned Parenthood. Although not exactly shocking, the article brings to light a few important points about the hypocrisy of the abortion industry and the lobbyists and politicians who defend them.

Specifically, it calls to mind three of the claims abortion activists have peddled about pregnancy centers, and demonstrates how each of those claims can more fittingly be applied to the abortion giant itself.

(1). Planned Parenthood endangers pregnancies, not pregnancy help centers.

One of the most outrageous claims abortion advocates have levied against pregnancy centers is that they “put women’s safety at risk and jeopardize wanted pregnancies.” So say the studied and enlightened scholars of *Teen Vogue*.

And yet, here stands Planned Parenthood—center-stage in the country’s most preeminent newspaper—accused by more

than a dozen current and former employees of pregnancy discrimination.

One of those former employees is Ta’Lisa Hairston, who gave birth via emergency c-section earlier this year after months of having her health concerns and requests for breaks ignored by managers.

From *The Times*:

Last winter, Ms. Hairston told the human-resources department for Planned



Parenthood’s clinic in White Plains, N.Y., that her high blood pressure was threatening her pregnancy. She sent the department multiple notes from her nurse recommending that she take frequent breaks.

Managers ignored the notes. They rarely gave her time to rest or to take a lunch break, Ms. Hairston said.

“I had to hold back tears talking to pregnant women, telling them to take care of their pregnancies when I couldn’t take care of mine,” she said. “It made me jealous.”

To anyone aware of Planned Parenthood’s massive abortion practice, their lack of empathy or care for yet another pregnant woman will surely come as no surprise. In America, the organization committed over 300,000 abortions last year—about one-third of the country’s abortions.

With abortions comprising approximately 96 percent of the group’s pregnancy-related services, Planned Parenthood certainly isn’t in the business

of seeing pregnancies to term. Nor are they in the business of providing emotional support to pregnant women. They are in the business of abortion.

Still, Hairston was one of their own. She believed in their mission and she thought she was safe in their hands when she found out she was pregnant. How very wrong she was.

(2). Planned Parenthood is dependent on taxpayer dollars, not pregnancy help centers.

One of the most grossly overstated complaints the abortion lobby has made about pregnancy centers is that they are taxpayer-funded.

As explained at PregnancyCenterTruth.com, 90 percent of funding for pro-life pregnancy centers comes via donations from local communities. The remaining 10 percent of public funding comes from two sources: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds and specialty “Choose Life” license plate sales.

Just 11 states allocate a portion of their TANF dollars to help pregnancy centers offset material costs of diapers, wipes, and pregnancy tests. Thirty-three states currently sell “Choose Life” license plates, with the proceeds going to pregnancy help organizations.

According to its own annual report, approximately half of Planned Parenthood’s funding comes from taxpayer dollars. This point is addressed in last week’s *Times* article as a way of explaining why the country’s largest abortion chain doesn’t offer paid maternity leave to its employees:

While Planned Parenthood’s clinics and regional offices brought in about \$1.5 billion in fiscal year 2016 — half from private donations and half from the government, to reimburse treatment provided to Medicaid patients—conservative lawmakers routinely threaten to kill its taxpayer funding. With their finances

See “Truths,” page 36

Ohio Gov. Kasich signs law banning the dismemberment of living unborn children

By Dave Andrusko

And now there are ten! Five days before the Christmas celebration, Ohio Gov. John Kasich signed the Dismemberment Abortion Ban (S.B. 145) into law. S.B. 145 will go into effect in March 2019.

The governor’s signature last raised to ten the number of states that ban a particularly hideous abortion technique.

“Ohio’s pro-life Legislature has taken a courageous stance today,” said Mike Gonidakis, president of Ohio Right to Life. “No longer will the barbaric abortion procedure of ripping a living child limb from limb be tolerated in Ohio. This practice is horrific and with today’s vote Ohioans through their elected representatives have saved countless unborn babies from this torture.”

S.B. 145 passed with large margins in the Ohio House (62-27) and the Ohio Senate (23-9).

“Ten years ago, the Supreme Court established the precedent for this legislation in *Gonzales v. Carhart*, when it upheld the federal Partial-Birth Abortion Ban,” Gonidakis said. “The precedent is there and we’re thrilled to see the Ohio Legislature follow the Court’s lead. We’re grateful for the sponsors, Senators Matt Huffman and Steve Wilson, and Senate President Larry Obhof and Speaker Ryan Smith for their leadership on this issue.”

Gonidakis added, “Ohioans can sleep easier, knowing that

the horrendous practice of dismemberment abortions is behind us.”

By contrast, Planned Parenthood was furious.

Iris Harvey, president of Planned Parenthood Advocates

medical science and will harm women,” she charged. Dr. Wen added, “Planned Parenthood will continue doing everything we can to ensure every person can continue accessing safe, legal abortion no matter what.”

slaughterhouse than a medical facility....

The other nine states with bans on the practice of dismembering living unborn children are (in order of passage) 1. Kansas (2015);



Jamieson Gordon, Sen. Steve Wilson, Jessica Warner, Katie Franklin, and Sen. Matt Huffman

of Ohio described the ban as “extreme legislation to turn medical decision-making into political ideology.”

Planned Parenthood’s new president, Leana Wen, went further. She posted, “The method bans goes against

No matter...
How gruesome.
How cruel.
How it dehumanizes the entire abortion clinic staff
How vicious.
How the practice has more in common with a

2. Oklahoma (2015); 3. West Virginia (2016); 4. Mississippi (2016); 5. Alabama (2016); 6. Louisiana (2016); 7. Arkansas (2017); 8. Texas (2017); and; 9. Kentucky (2018).

Pro-Life House Members denounce H.R. 21 that would reverse Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance policy

H.R. 21 passes House 241-190

By Dave Andrusko

Late in the evening of January 3, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 21, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 by a vote of 241 – 190.

A number of pro-life House members spoke out in opposition. (See below.)

National Right to Life had sent a letter to House Members in opposition to the measure, intended to address the partial government shutdown, because it added language to gut key pro-life provisions.

H.R. 21 reverses the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance policy, the Trump Administration's initiative that expanded and enhanced the "Mexico City Policy." Under the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance program, in order to be eligible for U.S. population assistance, a private organization must sign a contract promising not to perform abortions (except to save the mother's life or in cases of rape or incest), lobby to change the abortion laws of host countries, or otherwise "actively promote abortion as a method of family planning.

In addition, H.R. 21 appropriates no less than \$37.5 million for the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and no less than \$595 million for international family planning/reproductive health programs.

A number of pro-life House Members spoke on H.R. 21 itself or the motion to recommit the bill which failed by a vote of 199-232. They included Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC); Rep. Andy Harris (R-MD); Rep. Vicky Hartzler (R-MO); Rep.

Doug Lamborn (R-CO); Rep. Mike Johnson (R-LA); Rep. Jim Banks (R-IN); and Rep. Kay Granger (R-TX)

Pro-life Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ), chair of the Bipartisan Congressional Pro-Life Caucus, began his remarks by observing, "Madam Speaker,

Mexico City Policy, which was first announced back in 1984, and that policy was and is designed to ensure that U.S. taxpayer money is not funneled to foreign non-governmental

funds to weaken, undermine or reverse pro-life laws in other nations, and destroy precious lives of these children.

The Speaker earlier today admonished us to protect God's creation. These unborn children are God's creation. They cry out for our protection.

U.S. foreign policy, and the foreign entities that we fund with billions of dollars of grant money should consistently affirm, care for, and tangibly assist women and children, including the unborn child. Let's not forget: no one is expendable or a throwaway; every human life has eminent value; birth is merely an event, not the beginning of life, of a child; taxpayers should not be forced to fund the organizations that are promoting abortion overseas.

Rep. Smith concluded by reminding the House the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance policy

doesn't reduce global humanitarian aid, global health aid, by so much as a dollar. It just says who we give it to does matter. And if they have an agenda of taking the lives of these precious children, we would give it to someone else.



if reopening the government is the goal, if ending the shutdown is the goal, why does this appropriations package contain a brand-new poison pill rider, Section 71, that overturns a major, comprehensive, current-day pro-life policy?"

Let's be clear—the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance policy is eviscerated by this bill. The "Protecting Life" policy, Madam Speaker, is a significant reiteration and expansion of President Ronald Reagan's

organizations that perform or promote abortion as a method of family planning.

The policy done by Trump two years ago establishes pro-child safeguards that are benign and humane conditions—it's about protection of these innocent children who might otherwise die from chemical poisoning or by dismemberment. For years, pro-abortion organizations have used U.S. taxpayer

Why states will continue to pass protective legislation

By Dave Andrusko

It's not exactly comparing notes, but I am always, **always** fascinating by our benighted opposition's take on the lay of the land. Enter "New year brings altered landscape for abortion battle," by Jessica Ravitz that appeared at *CNN*.

And to her credit, Ravitz herded up the big pro-abortion hitters on a conference call: "the ACLU Reproductive Freedom Project, the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, the Center for Reproductive Rights and the National Network of Abortion Funds." The only pro-abortion giant missing was EMILY's List, the richly-endowed pro-abortion PAC that supports only militantly pro-abortion female Democrats.

So...what are the takeaways?

*"They spoke of the more than 400-and-counting restrictions to abortion access that have been enacted at the state level since 2010 and vowed that this is not a time to stop fighting. Even though *Roe v. Wade* remains on the books, they said, some states forge ahead as if it has been overturned."

Better put, states are continuing to push the envelope to see how much commonsense the Supreme Court has acquired over 46 years. Once upon a time, the justices were so hostile, it took great fortitude and persistence and faithfulness to carry on. But the environment has improved.

*"Court rulings that deny restrictions simply get ignored or appealed, said Julie Rikelman, senior director of litigation at the Center for Reproductive Rights. She said Louisiana, which has only three abortion clinics, is trying to

enact laws to close clinics that are identical to a Texas effort that was struck down by the Supreme Court two years ago in *Whole Women's Health v. Hellerstedt*."

Two things. The legislation is not identical, as the 5th Circuit



carefully explained when it upheld Louisiana's 2014 Unsafe Abortion Protection Act. Besides, as we have learned over the decades, the Supreme Court does change its mind—and not just on our issue but on a host of questions. Pro-abortionists, who couldn't wait to gut protective laws in the 1970s and 80s, now want time to stand still.

*"That [states "chipping away at what should be protected"] means the threat to *Roe v. Wade* remains strong, even as the support of it has grown, they said. Several mentioned a Gallup Poll from the summer that showed nearly two-thirds of Americans — or 64% — want to uphold the 1973 Supreme Court decision, including 41% of Republicans."

Okay, why would we ever expect context or a fair rendition of opinion polls from pro-abortionists? We wouldn't. We've explained countless times that asking people

whether they want to uphold *Roe* when for the most part they haven't a clue about *Roe*'s unbridled abortion license, is simply dishonest, not to mention hugely misleading.

So what is the pro-life take on the landscape going into 2019?

I asked Ingrid Duran, director of NRLC's Department of State Legislation.

She told me,

"They are right in the sense that clearly the landscape has been altered. But it's not because legislators are out of step with public opinion but because they are in step with public opinion!"

Duran then explained the breadth and depth of pro-life initiatives (for more, see story on page one):

National Right to Life has been the leader in passing meaningful legislation since the mid-1980's. NRLC has been successful in passing laws such as the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act which protects unborn children who are capable of feeling

pain from abortion, and the Unborn Child Protection from Dismemberment Act, which protects living unborn babies from being ripped apart limb from limb from a gruesome abortion procedure. Then there is requiring that information be made available to women that should they change their minds half-way through a chemical abortion, there is a realistic possibility of saving their baby. And don't forget "Prenatal Nondiscrimination Acts" which are intended to prevent eugenic abortions—abortions undertaken because a woman wants a boy rather than a girl.

But those are just the more high profile legislative accomplishments. There are many more. Just to name a few...

Then there are laws to prohibit abortion facilities from providing chemical abortions via telemedicine (web-cam abortions), and Woman's Right to Know Laws. Such laws give mothers information on abortion alternatives and risks, scientifically accurate information on the developing unborn baby, and provide ultrasounds and reflection periods

Pro-abortionists have good reason to fear 2019.

Complications: Abortion's Impact on Women

By Angela Lanfranchi, Ian Gentles and Elizabeth Ring-Cassidy

Since it first appeared in 2013 *Complications* has been internationally recognized as an encyclopedic and authoritative account of the physiological, psychological and spiritual consequences of induced abortion for women's health, and the health of their subsequent children. The authors have already published widely in their fields: Ring-Cassidy in psychology, Lanfranchi (a practicing breast surgeon) on the link with breast cancer, and Gentles, a bioethicist who has long taught courses on human population and bioethics at York University and Tyndale University College in Toronto.

Nearly 500 pages long, the book consists of 21 chapters. The topics range from the purely medical --- the abortion-breast-cancer link, infection, infertility, pain, maternal mortality, physical complications, premature births after abortion; the psychological -- depression, suicide, substance abuse, intimate partner violence; the social ramifications -- abortion and sex selection, informed consent, abortion and the crime rate, and a global perspective on the impact of abortion on maternal and infant mortality. It also deals with spiritual and psychological healing after abortion, and ends with 101 women's moving accounts of their own abortion experience.

The book's research is solidly grounded in 703 scientific and medical articles and books (35 more than the first edition). While almost all the data are derived from leading journals in the field, the findings are often surprising. For example, the chapter on maternal and

infant mortality, based heavily on U.N. statistics, documents that countries which deny or significantly limit accessibility to induced abortion enjoy significantly better rates of maternal and infant mortality than neighboring countries that allow abortion on demand. For the second edition two new



countries have been added to the study: Bangladesh and Mexico. Bangladesh, one of the world's poorest countries, also has one of the world's most restrictive abortion laws. Yet between 1990 and 2015 it succeeded in reducing its maternal mortality by well over two thirds. It achieved similar success in reducing infant mortality. The experience of Mexico is even more striking. Under its strict abortion law maternal mortality declined by almost 50 per cent between 1990 and 2005. Since 2007 each of the 32 Mexican states has had the power to pass its own abortion legislation. Most have stuck with the restrictive law. A recent study in the *British*

Medical Journal compares the experience in the states with strict abortion laws with those with permissive laws. Its astounding finding is that the states with more restrictive laws experienced *twenty-five percent lower maternal mortality* than the more permissive states. The death rate directly from

of breast cancer experienced by women who undergo those abortions. The second edition of *Complications* reports on twenty new international studies, sixteen of which document statistically significant increased odds ratios for breast cancer after induced abortion. We wonder how many more studies it will take before the NCI finally caves in and recognizes the abortion-breast-cancer link, which one of its own leading researchers has already documented!

For many years the American Psychological Association has officially denied that abortion has negative effects on women's mental health. Yet *Complications* reports on an authoritative study by Priscilla Coleman in the *British Journal of Psychiatry* which found that all mental health risks suffered by women increased by 81 per cent after abortion. It also found that almost ten per cent of all mental problems experienced by women are attributable to abortion alone, independent of any other factor. Yet Coleman and the editors of the journal were savagely attacked, amid a chorus of demands that the article be withdrawn. The editors rebuffed these demands, declaring that the article was based on sound research and had been subject to rigorous peer review. We wonder how long it will take before the APA finally caves in and admits that abortion does result in serious mental problems for women.

The new edition of *Complications* boasts many other features that make it indispensable reading for anyone seeking to deepen their knowledge of the abortion issue.

induced abortion was *almost fifty percent lower*. So much for the mantra that women's 'reproductive health' is only secure where there is abortion on demand.

For many years through the nineteen-fifties and -sixties the National Cancer Institute denied that there was any link between cigarette smoking and lung cancer. Only when the Surgeon-General publicly declared that there was such a link did the NCI change its tune. Angela Lanfranchi, Joel Brind and others have for many years documented the overwhelming evidence from around the world of a direct link between induced abortion, and the subsequently higher rate

A 21st Century Guide to *Roe v. Wade*

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

We have a new college intern who started last week at the National Right to Life affiliate where I work, the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation. Because of her youth, most of her memories are of this century. Therefore, I will need to explain to her one of the cruelest developments of the past century—the tragic 1973 U.S. Supreme Court ruling known as *Roe v. Wade*.

As one of the youngest

Nathanson performed tens of thousands of abortions and was one of the prime leaders in the battle to legalize abortion. He was so insistent on making abortion legal (as he later admitted) that he grossly inflated the number of deaths that were occurring from illegal abortions. He helped found the pro-abortion lobbying and political action group now known as NARAL.

her case. Also, she ended up giving birth to the baby, so the *Roe* of *Roe v. Wade* never had an abortion.

The High Court decided *Roe* along with a companion case known as *Doe v. Bolton*. Taken in tandem, the two cases brought us abortion on demand—for any reason or for no reason—during all nine months of pregnancy. Still, in subsequent years states were able to enact

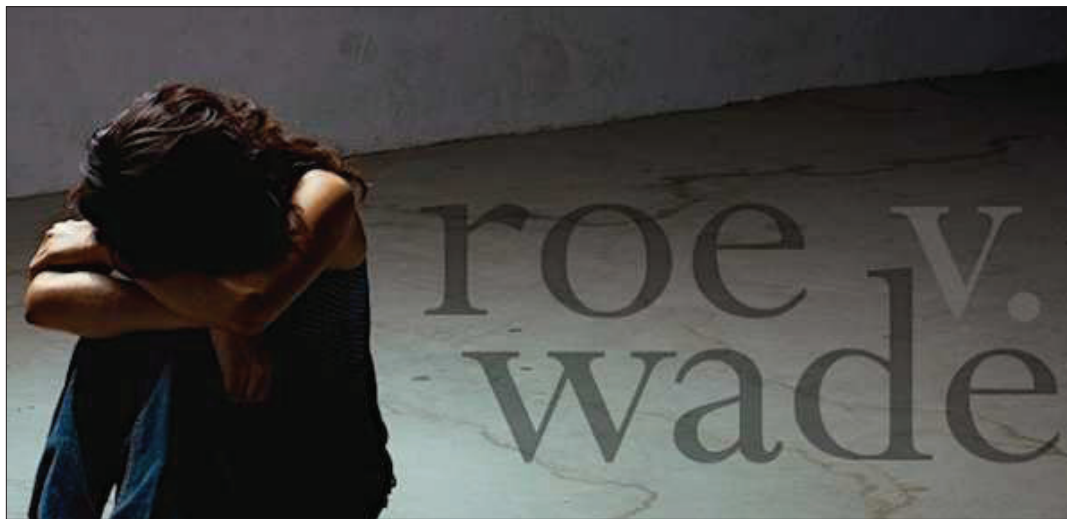
and yawning in their mothers' wombs.

Justices Blackmun, Berger, Marshall, Brennan, Powell, Stewart and Douglas thought, wrongly, that a so-called right to abortion would grant women more freedom. They were unfamiliar with the tear-filled testimonies of women who had abortions, and who regretted them. They were not exposed to the body of research that shows women suffering physical, emotional, psychological, and spiritual harm as a result of abortion.

Interestingly enough, both Dr. Nathanson and Norma McCorvey later renounced their roles in legalizing abortion and became staunch advocates for life. Although both are deceased now, their legacy for promoting life continues in the books they wrote and the people whose lives they touched.

Those people who have been born post-*Roe* have never known a world in which abortion was illegal. And yet, there are so many individuals, such as Katy, who are determined to restore legal protection for innocent human life. They may not have lived in an America without abortion, but they can envision it—and it is that vision which propels their marching, lobbying, and advocating.

The 21st century needs to be the century of a rebirth of a pro-life culture, where every human being is treasured as the gift that he or she is. With people such as Katy around, that cultural rebirth can happen sooner than we can imagine.



members of the Millennial Generation, Katy is hardly alone in her astonishment at *Roe*. She comes from a family which celebrates every birth and is especially smitten by their youngest member, a toddler cutie named Quinn. For Katy, it is inconceivable how an atrocity such as *Roe* could have come about.

So here are a few of the many people whose roles were influential in creating the right to abortion that culminated in *Roe*.

In the 1970s Dr. Bernard

In the early '70s a woman named Norma McCorvey found herself in the midst of a crisis. She was single and pregnant and in dire financial straits. Desperate, she turned to a lawyer, Sarah Weddington, who exploited her mercilessly. Weddington and another lawyer took the case, which challenged the Texas abortion law, all the way to the Supreme Court. The outcome was *Roe v. Wade*.

Norma admitted later that she had lied about being gang raped, which was one of the more sensational elements of

restrictions on abortion such as informed consent, 24-hour waiting periods, and parental consent, which helped to cut abortion rates (In Pennsylvania, for instance, the Abortion Control Act cut abortion totals in half.)

The U.S. Supreme Court Justices who ruled in favor of *Roe*, and in favor of legalizing abortion in all fifty states, were all men. They did not have access to the 4D Ultrasounds we have today—ultrasounds which can show babies smiling...crying...

On the eve of the 46th anniversary of *Roe*, the *New York Times* goes nuclear

By Dave Andrusko

I don't know how I missed it. But thanks to the good work of Bill Donohue, president of the Catholic League, I am now aware of what Donohue described as a "positively astonishing" eight-part series in the *New York Times* which is "clearly the most rabid defense of abortion ever published by the mainstream media. The first installment was published on December 30; it will end on January 20. The entire series is now available online," he adds.

Let's start today with the opening 803-word-long editorial, "A Woman's Rights."

If the editorial is any guide, I suspect that the *Times* will be most upset by the growing realization that as a culture, we can no longer pretend there is no one growing inside a pregnant woman. Technology, always a two-edged sword, allows the abortionist to hone in on his helpless victim but is also a "Window on the Womb." Ultrasound photos of unborn babies are ubiquitous.

This recognition of the unborn child's humanity is working its way into state and federal legislation. To the *Times* editorial page these changes

illuminate a deep shift in American society, away from a centuries-long tradition in Western law and

toward the embrace of a relatively new concept: that a fetus in the womb has the same rights as a fully formed person.

To the conspiracy-minded *Times*' editorial writers, the growing recognition of fetal rights

is a story of social reaction — to the Roe decision and, more broadly, to a perceived new permissiveness in the 1970s — combined with a determined, sophisticated campaign by the anti-abortion movement to affirm the notion of fetal personhood in law and to degrade Roe's protections.

They are half-right. *Roe* legitimized a search and destroy mission on unborn children, no matter how far along they are in their developmental journey, or how unjustified the reason for their extinction. The public NEVER accepted that carte blanche abortion liberty.

The "sophisticated campaign" (thank you for the backhanded compliment to NRLC's state and federal legislative departments) was and is built on that dual recognition. First, that

the unborn child is no longer "out of sight, out of mind." Second, that a majority of the public opposes the reasons that

Today, at least 38 states and the federal government have so-called fetal homicide

The New York Times

account for well more than 90% of all abortions are performed.

The editorial is awash in cynicism and utter lack of self-awareness. To these Planned Parenthood handmaidens, no officeholder (read Republican) can ever sincerely oppose the hideous destruction of defenseless unborn children.

It must be all about power, not principle, control of women's bodies, not compassion, and thinly-disguised racism, not a revolt against a money-grubbing Abortion Industry which targets women of color.

One other point about the *Times*' editorial. They write

laws, which treat the fetus as a potential crime victim separate and apart from the woman who carries it.

"So-called" fetal homicide laws? These laws recognize that when someone kills an unborn baby in his attack on a pregnant woman, there is a separate, second victim. This is a recognition of the obvious which is why it is so difficult for the Abortion Industry and its legion of media enablers to understand.

All in all, an illuminating look at the pro-abortion mind at its worst.

National Right to Life Praises Federal Bill to Defund Planned Parenthood

The National Right to Life Committee (NRLC) praised the introduction of legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives to defund abortion providers, including the nation's largest abortion provider, the Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA).

The Defund Planned Parenthood Act of 2019 was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives by Rep. Vicky Hartzler (R-Mo.) who leads the House Values Action Team.

“Most Democrats in Congress think Planned Parenthood can do no wrong,” said National Right to Life Legislative Director Jennifer

Popik, J.D. **“Congresswoman Hartzler knows better and we thank her for her leadership in**



Rep. Vicky Hartzler

working to defund America's largest abortion provider.”

Planned Parenthood continues to downplay abortion's significance to its bottom line, recycling the much-debunked statistic that abortion constitutes merely 3% of its services. As National Right to Life has analyzed previously, this is a statistical artifice that even Planned Parenthood's media allies are reluctant to defend.

The data show abortion still plays a huge role in Planned Parenthood's mission and policies, not to mention its bottom line. Planned Parenthood now performs more

than a third of all abortions in the United States and continuing to be its biggest defender in the legislature and the courts.

In fact, according to their own annual report, Planned Parenthood and its affiliates last year received \$543.7 million, or 37%, of its total in revenues funding from federal, state, and local grants and payments.

Under the newly introduced legislation, all funds that are no longer available to abortion providers, including Planned Parenthood, are explicitly made available to other eligible entities to provide women's health care services.

Roe v. Wade's disastrous impact on medical ethics

From page 8

and the District of Columbia have followed Oregon but the relentless effort to legalize physician-assisted suicide continues in the other states.

Over the years, I had cared for many suicidal people and I saw the seductive effect of people like Jack Kevorkian (the famous “Dr. Death”) had on them. As a nurse, I knew how dangerous it was to portray suicide as a “solution” to many at-risk people.

But it became personal when Marie, my 30 year old daughter, killed herself using an assisted suicide technique that she learned reading the pro-assisted suicide book *Final Exit*. My Marie had struggled with drug addiction for 16 years and in spite of our best efforts

and those of her therapists, she finally succumbed to despair. She was the only suicidal person I ever lost.

I was not surprised when two people close to Marie became suicidal after her death. Fortunately, they were saved.

“Suicide contagion” is not a figment of someone's imagination but a real phenomenon. It is no coincidence that the U.S. suicide rate has skyrocketed since Oregon first legalized physician-assisted suicide.

Euthanasia

I also discovered that it's only a very short step from “I wouldn't want to live like that” for assisted suicide to “No one should have to live like that” for euthanasia.

In 2003, Dr. Lloyd Thompson, then head of the Vermont Medical Society, escaped prosecution for intentionally giving a paralyzing, “life ending drug” to an elderly woman with terminal cancer whose breathing machine had been removed. The family had opposed prosecuting the doctor.

Ironically and around the same time, I was threatened with the loss of my job after I refused to increase a morphine drip “until he stops breathing” on an older man who did not stop breathing as expected after his ventilator was removed. The patient was presumed to have had a stroke when he did not wake up from sedation after 24 hours. I reported the situation up the chain of command at my

hospital but no one supported me. I escaped termination that time but I refused to back down.

An autopsy later showed that the man had no lethal condition or brain injury.

Conclusion

As the late Fr. Richard John Neuhaus wisely said, “I believe in the slippery slope the same way I believe in the Hudson River. It's there.”

But until and unless we are ready to recognize what we unlock when we legalize “just a little bit” of medical killing, we may find that the slippery slope has no bottom and that no one is safe.

And I saw it all start with the *Roe v. Wade* decision legalizing abortion.

Five moments from the Lord of the Rings to inspire pro-lifers

By Alithea Williams

Editor's note. This appeared on the website of SPUC—the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children.

How could this not inspire you?

I love the Lord of the Rings. I'm one of those people who not only has read the books multiple times, but who has read the *Silmarillion* and *The Children of Hurin*, and got ridiculously excited at the recent Tolkien exhibition at the Bodleian Library.

Far from being just escapism, the *Lord of the Rings* has much to tell us about the power of stories, the fight of good against evil, and how the deeds of ordinary people can have profound consequences. This being so, as well as using Middle Earth as a way to get away from the pressures of working in the pro-life movement, I also find great inspiration there. While as far as I know, JRR Tolkien never directly addressed the issue of abortion (after all, he died only a few years after the Abortion Act was introduced) it's a pretty safe bet that he would have been pro-life, and his work clearly shows his belief in the value of human life.

So, here are five moments from the *Lord of the Rings* (yes, I know all these quotes aren't quite the same in the books!) that could almost be made to inspire pro-lifers.

1) Even the smallest person...

This quote is often used in pro-life memes, and it is indeed a powerful reminder that even

the tiniest baby in the womb will grow up to change the world. Even if one never does great or famous things in a worldly sense, we all impact the people around us in ways that are impossible to predict – our parents, our siblings, the friends we will make, the person we marry, the children we have. The life or death of



every tiny baby will change the world forever.

However, this quote also applies more directly to pro-lifers. Frodo was a small, insignificant person in a world of great men and monsters, but it was his actions that brought down a great evil. Even the least among us can make a difference in the fight to end abortion.

2) All you have to decide...

There's so much in this little scene. When we see how much the Culture of Death has taken over our society, it's natural to

wish that we lived in happier times. But, as was the case for Frodo, that is not for us to decide. All we have to decide is what to do with the time given to us.

3) It is not this day!

However, sometimes we need a little more encouragement than "there are forces other than

wonderful example of how ordinary people can do extraordinary things, and his speech here is so good that I'm going to use it for two points. When we feel like we're facing an impossible battle, against much stronger enemies, these words are so inspiring: "Even darkness must pass. A new day will come. And when the sun shines it will shine out the clearer." We know that we have the truth on our side. If history tells us anything, it's that evil regimes eventually come crashing down, and abortion is no different. One day the darkness that feeds the culture of death will pass, and the light of the truth that all human life is precious and worthy of protection will shine out the clearer.

5) There's some good in the world

What are we in the pro-life movement holding on to? We are holding on to the dignity of every human person, from the smallest baby, to the oldest most disabled adult. We are holding onto the joy of mothers and families who have welcomed babies despite great hardships. We're holding on to the fact that hope and healing can be found after abortion. We are holding on to the hope that one day the truth and beauty of the pro-life message will be believed and upheld by all, and that all people will work together to find compassionate help to those in crisis pregnancies.

There's some good in the world, and it's worth fighting for.

evil at work in this world", and this speech from the *Return of the King* would inspire anyone. I remember watching this after one of the many setbacks we suffered this year and then shouting round the office "there may come a day when SPUC fails, BUT IT IS NOT THIS DAY!". So next time you're feeling discouraged, hold your ground! This day we fight! By all that you hold dear on this good earth, stand!

4) A new day will come

Samwise Gamgee is a

The welcome end of an era: daughter of famed abortionist is no longer performing abortions at office in South Minneapolis

By Dave Andrusko

Debra Braun is a wonderful woman who once worked for me. As Education Director for the St. Paul-based Pro-Life Action Ministries, Debra writes in the latest issue of PLAM's newsletter that Marilee Hanson is no longer doing abortions in South Minneapolis. Hanson's abortion clinic, as it happens, is located just a couple of miles away from where I grew up.

According to Debra, Hanson "is retiring from her private practice there, with the last babies killed in late November." While it is always great news

that an abortionist apparently is out of the baby-destruction business, there is a special significance to this decision.

Marilee Hanson is the daughter of the late Mildred Hanson, an abortionist whose death in 2015 was lamented by the abortion industry as the passing of a giant. "Dr. Hanson served as the Medical Director of Planned Parenthood of Minnesota and South Dakota for 30 years and ran her own clinic in Minneapolis, where she personally provided services far into her late 80s," read one obituary. "She was a pioneer in abortion care at a

time when women were seldom doctors, much less the person who terminated pregnancies."

If you go to her webpage, at the top you read, "Giving Gentle and Loving care on a personal basis." Underneath that you read these few words: "The office of Mildred S. Hanson, M.D., P.A. is closed."

I recall reading a post at the pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute, the abortion industry's think tank, titled, "Reflections of a Provider Before and Since Roe: From the Voices of Choice Archive." They interviewed Mildred Hanson who said memorably

"Abortion is a part of medical care, and people who seek abortions are every bit as ethical, as Christian—as godlike, if you will—as those who don't have abortions. And I really believe that with all my heart. And the people who do abortions are every bit as ethical and as kind and loving and godlike as those who think abortion is wrong. I say that with every conviction I have. Abortion clearly has improved women's health, no matter how you look at it."

"godlike." Now THAT is a revealing observation.

Besides Mildred Hanson and Marilee Hanson, I don't know if there are or have ever been another abortion team consisting of mother and daughter. What I do know is (in Debra's words) "Tens of thousands of babies have been killed in that building by this mother/daughter team."

What is going to happen with the building in South Minneapolis is as yet unknown. We can only hope (to paraphrase Mildred Hanson's webpage) that whatever takes it place, it offers Gentle and Loving Care on a life-affirming basis.



Great News: Pennsylvania Abortions Hit Record Low in 2017

By Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation

The annual total of abortions in Pennsylvania have reached a record low, according to figures released by the PA Department of Health.

The yearly report shows 30,011 abortions occurred in the Commonwealth in 2017—down from the 30,881 which took place in 2016, a decrease of nearly three percent.

Nearly 84 percent of the abortions occurred in five counties: Allegheny (6,140), Dauphin (1,152), Delaware (1,016), Northampton (2,772), and Philadelphia (13,999).

“The fact that abortions are now at a record low is good news for mothers and babies in Pennsylvania,” said Maria V. Gallagher, Legislative Director for the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation, an affiliate of National Right to Life. “While every abortion is a tragedy, this historic low number is an important milestone,” Gallagher added.

The decline in abortions can be attributed to a number of factors. “Technology has created a window to the womb, thanks to advancements in Ultrasound. Women are much more likely to choose life for their babies, if they view an Ultrasound in a supportive environment,” Gallagher said.

“In addition, abortion totals in Pennsylvania would be much higher were it not for the caring pregnancy resource centers administered by Real Alternatives and other groups,” Gallagher added “These life-

affirming organizations provide everything from diapers to day care referrals, along with comprehensive counseling to pregnant women.”



Still, looking deeper at the statistics, certain trends emerge that are of serious concern. For instance there is the disproportionate number of abortions performed on

African-American women and the rise in abortions among Latina women. A total of 12,865 African-American babies died from abortion in 2017, while

3,038 Hispanic babies were aborted the same year.

Then there are the number of, late-term abortions, abortions performed at 21-23 weeks, which rose to 436. Keep

in mind that Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf vetoed a bill that would have changed the abortion limit in PA from 24 weeks to 20 weeks gestation to reflect changes in viability. Thanks to medical breakthroughs, doctors and nurses are able to save babies at ever-earlier stages of development. The bill would have also banned the brutal practice of dismemberment abortion, where a baby is torn limb by limb from a mother’s womb.

Meanwhile, the abortion pill RU-486 accounts for an increasing number of abortions in Pennsylvania. These chemical abortions—also known as medical or medication abortions—account for 11,496 of the 30,011 abortions performed in the Commonwealth.

Also of concern is the number of repeat abortions in the Keystone State. Nearly half of the abortions—14,172—were performed on women who had anywhere from one to four or more previous abortions. This demonstrates the disturbing trend of abortions being used as a method of birth control.

Nevertheless, the downward dip in abortions in Pennsylvania is welcomed news. The closure of abortion facilities, advances in ultrasound technology, and the concrete support provided by pro-life pregnancy resource centers have all helped to make this miracle happen.

The fateful 19 months that culminated in *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*

By Dave Andrusko

Editor's note. As we approached the 46th anniversary of the awful Roe v. Wade decision, NRL News Today posted new and previously run stories. The following first ran in January 22, 2018.

As we reflect back today on *Roe v. Wade*'s and *Doe v. Bolton*'s 45 year reign, it's helpful to both veterans and newcomers to our Movement to talk about what took place the year and a half from the time the Supreme Court first agreed to hear the abortion cases until they were actually decided. It was by no means a straightforward journey that culminated on January 22, 1973, with Justice Harry Blackmun delivering a decision that, initially, he furiously tried to convince himself and others was "modest."

Way back in 2005, *Los Angeles Times* Supreme Court reporter David G. Savage wrote a very helpful piece headlined, "Roe Ruling: More Than Its Author Intended." It is by no means the last word—there has been a slew of books and a ton of popular and academic articles written since—but it's a very good place to start. Of the 20+ points that could be made, here are five.

#1. The *Roe* and *Doe* decisions ran a long, circuitous route, due to changes on the High Court. The justices first agreed to hear a challenge to Texas' and Georgia's abortion laws in June 1971. Interestingly enough, neither Blackmun nor Chief Justice Warren Burger did so. However, due to the sudden back to back retirements of the gravely ill Justices Hugo Black and John Harlan in September,

only seven Justices were seated. "Nixon-appointed successors – Lewis F. Powell Jr. and William H. Rehnquist – would not join the court until January and thus would not participate in abortion deliberations that term."

According to Savage there was a consensus among the seven for change of some sort. The starts and stops, the internal politicking on the Court, the



gradual radicalization of would finally be *Roe* and *Doe* is fascinating, But the overarching point is that from the time Blackmun wrote his initial 17 page draft in May of 1972 until the final decisions eight months later, the reach of *Roe* and *Doe* lethally metastasized.

#2. As many have noted, Justice Blackmun's pro-abortion militancy was a post-*Roe* development. Early on he believed "that doctors needed to have leeway to do medically necessary abortions," according to Savage's telling:

In mid-May, Blackmun wrote "a first and tentative draft" for *Roe vs. Wade* that stopped well short of declaring a constitutional right

to abortion. Instead, it said the Texas law did not give doctors enough guidance.

Criminal laws must be clear, the court had emphasized, so people don't unwittingly commit a crime. Blackmun said Texas physicians could not be sure whether they were committing a

crime by performing an abortion on a patient whose troubled pregnancy might risk her life.

"I come out on the theory that the Texas statute ... is unconstitutionally vague," he said in a memo to his colleagues on May 18, 1972. "I think that this [finding] would be all that is necessary for the disposition of the case, and that we need not get into the more complex" issues.

In retrospect, this proved to be a crucial time in the court's handling of the abortion issue. Blackmun had

proposed issuing a short opinion that would have struck down the Texas law and the 30 others like it. However, it would have also left the states ample room to revise their laws.

#3. Blackmun came back from a summer spent researching the history of abortion at the Mayo Clinic library [a history which was laughably incomplete, one-sided, and inaccurate]. "When Blackmun returned to Washington, he had a long draft. It was a thorough work of medical history, but short on constitutional law. It also was hazy on just when abortion would be permitted or prohibited," Savage wrote.

Different authors offer varying theories which Justice or combination of Justices pushed Blackmun to end with an "opinion for the court that struck down all of the nation's abortion laws," Savage wrote which, "Equally important...made virtually all abortions legal as a matter of a constitutional right." The primary culprits are usually Justices Thurgood Marshall, William Brennan, and to a lesser extent William Douglas. In Savage's history, a key player was Justice Powell, "the soft-spoken Virginian who was new to the court, [who] firmly supported a woman's right to abortion. He urged Blackmun to say it directly rather than attack the laws as vague." [Pro-abortion legal scholar and

See "Fateful," page 37

Challenges ahead in the state of New York

By Christina Fadden, Chair, New York State Right to Life

The 2019 Session of the newly seated New York State Legislature opened January 9. There was much fanfare and media accolades over an “historic” change of leadership in the state Senate from slim pro-life control to a new Democrat majority pledged to quickly enact a “progressive” agenda and “break down barriers.” Ever mindful of the new threats to the invisible and most vulnerable among us, pro-lifers are hunkering down under the dark clouds to try to hold the line.

While ongoing pro-abortion rhetoric from Gov. Andrew Cuomo has been searing and the battle difficult for years, prior to last November’s elections, the unborn had a friend in the state Senate Republican leadership. The Majority conference held the line against radical legislation continually sent its way time after time, often by just one vote, due also to undaunted efforts by pro-lifers. And the good sensibilities of the public remained uncomfortable with late term abortion expansion, even in New York, making the pro-abortion argument difficult to make once exposed.

But a sea change occurred with the nomination and

subsequent confirmation of Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court. Cuomo piled on the media hysteria during his re-election bid to again obfuscate the reality behind his radical abortion legislation, whipping up fear over supposed threats to women and the potential overturning of *Roe v. Wade*. In November, a “blue wave” culminated in pro-abortion Democrats now enjoying a 39-24 majority in the state Senate.

In 2019, Governor Cuomo is continuing his quest to erase protections for the unborn and their mothers and to expand late term abortion past 24 weeks.

The new one-party government in New York has a long to-do list. Discussion and debate are forming around a number of policy initiatives. But the one agenda item on which the Governor and new Legislature is monolithically focused to pass as soon as possible, without consideration, is the so-called Reproductive Health Act (S.240/A.21). They vow to pass RHA on the anniversary of *Roe*, on January 22.

RHA is being sold on outright lies by the abortion lobby and other promoters, parroted by

the media, that the bill merely “codifies *Roe*,” and “updates” New York’s “outdated” laws. Cuomo is calling it, “*Roe v. Wade for New York*.”

These claims are demonstrably false. RHA would mandate abortion-on-demand with no restrictions, up until birth, and even after birth, if a child is born during the course of an abortion (i.e., infanticide) by erasing born-alive protections already in New York law.

The Reproductive Health Act would establish abortion as a “fundamental right” in New York. If abortion is elevated to a fundamental right, expect pro-life viewpoint suppression, mandated participation by providers that object, and further restrictions on pro-life efforts to save children’s lives.

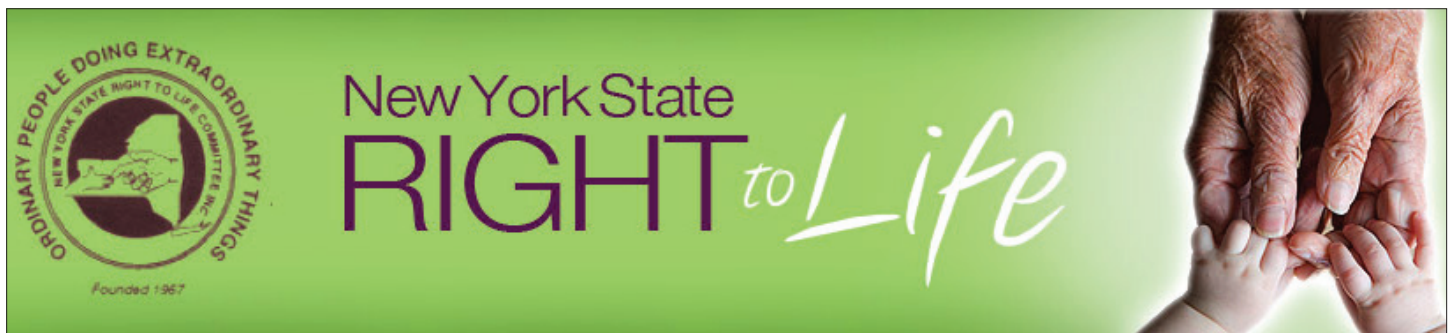
Also, even the most reasonable restriction on abortion – including laws the Supreme Court has already upheld under “*Roe*” as constitutional – will be prohibited. The bill declares, “[I]t is the intent of the legislature to prevent the enforcement of laws or regulations... that burden abortion access.”

RHA would also allow **any** health care

practitioner to perform an abortion if the practitioner acts in “good faith” (rather than an objective medical standard of care). RHA would remove protections for women and unborn children from illegal abortion. In short, the radical Reproductive Health Act is about enabling the abortion industry to operate without regulation, reservation or regard for human life, mother’s or child’s.

New York State Right to Life is continuing the fight as hard as we can, providing honest information about the bill to legislators, asking the grassroots for calls and visits, and more. Last week at the Capitol we stood holding signs to remind legislators of the people marginalized in this push: LATE TERM CHILDREN FEEL PAIN.

Just as the federal “Freedom of Choice Act” was defeated in the 1990’s despite Democrats holding both Congress and the presidency, this abortion expansion in New York can also be defeated. It is the 4th quarter of the game and the clock is ticking. If you can help, contact us at 518-434-1293 or admin@nysrighttolife.org. Thank you.



Cuomo and Clinton ratchet up pro-abortion rhetoric in New York

By Dave Andrusko

Reminding us yet again that elections do have consequences....

What a picture it was a week ago Monday when pro-abortion presidential aspirants New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo and Hillary Clinton got together in Albany, NY, to simultaneously bemoan the dangers posed to *Roe v. Wade* by recent appointments to the Supreme Court and state legislation and vow that the state will quickly “codify abortion rights” in New York.

The so-called Reproductive Health Act has been introduced before but ran into a brick wall in the state Senate which until last November’s elections, was controlled by Republicans. No longer.

“In the New York State Senate, which had really been the roadblock for that bill, now there are at least 39 ‘yes’ votes for that bill, and it has always passed in the Assembly, and it’s been championed by Andrew Cuomo,” Kathleen Gallagher, director of pro-life activities for the New York State Catholic Conference, told the *Catholic Courier*. “It’s the first thing on his agenda, because so many of the new Democrats campaigned on this issue,” Gallagher added.

Indeed, Cuomo promised to quickly introduce the bill and, to up the ante, vowed he wouldn’t sign the state budget without it. Cuomo, who has burnishing his pro-

abortion credentials, went one step further. He called on the legislature to begin the process of passing a constitutional amendment to enshrine an unlimited “right” to abortion in the State Constitution.



Youtube video screen shot

Even the *New York Times* acknowledged how much of the Cuomo/Clinton press conference was theatrics. “Mr. Cuomo’s vow was not exactly new,” wrote Vivian Wang. “But the pageantry of the occasion seemed to reflect the circumstances that had prompted it: a Legislature newly controlled by Democrats raring to broaden reproductive rights...”

As always, the proposal is packaged as a necessary update to “fill in some gaps” and serve as a bulwark if *Roe* is overturned.

But as Gallagher told the *Catholic Courier*, “That’s simply just not true.”

“One of the stark

differences is that *Roe v. Wade* never gave permission for nondoctors to perform abortions, and this bill specifically will allow nondoctors to perform

abortions. It also repeals protections that are currently in our law for babies that are accidentally born alive during an abortion.”

The Reproductive Health Act also would allow abortions for virtually any reason in the third trimester of pregnancy, Gallagher said.

Suzanne Stack, life-issues coordinator for the Diocese of Rochester, told the newspaper that “It also would remove abortion from the state’s penal code, which means there would no longer be a criminal avenue to pursue if a baby dies

in the womb through an act of domestic violence or another crime.”

“I doubt that almost any of us in New York state would be comfortable with these provisions, but we have not been offered the facts by most of the media or by many of our legislators,” Stack said

Lori Kehoe, of New York State Right to Life, said, “It is ridiculous that in 2019 we have to fight those who would legalize the dismemberment of unborn children for any reason throughout the third trimester.”

Kehoe challenged those senators who vote in favor of the Reproductive Health Act to explain “why they think dismemberment abortion in the ninth month for any reason is needed in New York State, or anywhere that deems itself a civilized society.”

Mrs. Clinton spoke only briefly, according to press accounts, but added her own warnings. “The struggle for women’s equality is not simply something to be read about in the pages of your history books,” adding, “It continues to be the fight of our lifetime.”

We can agree with Mrs. Clinton in this sense. There is a “fight of our lifetime” and it is to win equality for unborn children.

Justice White's dissent in *Roe*: "I find nothing in the language or history of the Constitution to support the Court's judgment."

"An exercise of raw judicial power"

Editor's note. The following is a long excerpt from Justice Byron White's famous dissent in Roe v. Wade.

and, with scarcely any reason or authority for its action, invests that right with sufficient substance to override most

are constitutionally disentitled to weigh the relative importance of the continued existence and development of the fetus, on the

of raw judicial power, the Court perhaps has authority to do what it does today; but, in my view, its judgment is an improvident and extravagant exercise of the power of judicial review that the Constitution extends to this Court.

WHITE, J., Dissenting Opinion

MR. JUSTICE WHITE, with whom MR. JUSTICE REHNQUIST joins, dissenting.

At the heart of the controversy in these cases are those recurring pregnancies that pose no danger whatsoever to the life or health of the mother but are, nevertheless, unwanted for any one or more of a variety of reasons — convenience, family planning, economics, dislike of children, the embarrassment of illegitimacy, etc. The common claim before us is that, for any one of such reasons, or for no reason at all, and without asserting or claiming any threat to life or health, any woman is entitled to an abortion at her request if she is able to find a medical advisor willing to undertake the procedure. ...

With all due respect, I dissent. I find nothing in the language or history of the Constitution to support the Court's judgment. The Court simply fashions and announces a new constitutional right for pregnant mothers



Supreme Court Justice Byron White

existing state abortion statutes. The upshot is that the people and the legislatures of the 50 States

one hand, against a spectrum of possible impacts on the mother, on the other hand. As an exercise

The Court apparently values the convenience of the pregnant mother more than the continued existence and development of the life or potential life that she carries. Whether or not I might agree with that marshaling of values, I can in no event join the Court's judgment because I find no constitutional warrant for imposing such an order of priorities on the people and legislatures of the States. In a sensitive area such as this, involving as it does issues over which reasonable men may easily and heatedly differ, I cannot accept the Court's exercise of its clear power of choice by interposing a constitutional barrier to state efforts to protect human life and by investing mothers and doctors with the constitutionally protected right to exterminate it. This issue, for the most part, should be left with the people and to the political processes the people have devised to govern their affairs. ...

Abortion by pill was “excruciating” says post-abortion woman

By Sarah Terzo

Maggie wrote about her experience of an abortion by pill:

“[T]he next day I crawled into bed with my boyfriend, put on my super cool adult diapers, inserted the pills, and put on some Game of Thrones. And let me f__ing tell you, it was excruciating, like... I honestly believed I could go into shock kind of pain. These cramps radiated throughout my whole body to the point where I could

barely breathe. I actually cut my palms on my nails from clenching my fists so hard. But once it was done, it was done.”

Casey Gueren, “Here’s What It’s Really Like To Have An Abortion” *Buzzfeed* January 21, 2017.

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



Why all Americans should want *Roe v. Wade* overturned—regardless of their views on abortion

From page 9

William Rehnquist in his *Roe* dissent. “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.”

The American people have never agreed to a constitutional right to abortion. That’s a fact, and it’s an obvious and undeniable fact.

(3) *Roe* offered a circular argument to justify its decision about who lives and who dies.

Which human beings may be legally protected from lethal violence and which human beings may not be? *Roe* drew the line at “viability”—when a child can survive (albeit with assistance) independently of her mother. (*Roe* also said, however, in conjunction with *Doe v. Bolton*, that any limit on post-viability abortion must include an exception so broad that it could effectively nullify the limit.)

What reasons did the Court give for this hugely significant decision, one with life-or-death consequences on a massive scale? Well, none. The Court had “no reason at all,” observes Harvard law professor Laurence Tribe (a strong abortion supporter). It chose viability arbitrarily. *Roe* merely offered this one-sentence circular explanation: “[Viability is the ‘compelling’ point] because the fetus then presumably has the capability of meaningful life outside the mother’s womb.”

Viability is important, that is, because viability is viability. “The Court’s defense,” quipped John Hart Ely, “seems to mistake a definition for a syllogism.”

If legislators crafting a law had no rationale whatsoever for a crucially important choice, that would be appalling. This is far worse. Supreme Court justices are not lawmakers. They are judges who are supposed to interpret and apply the law that already exists. And they didn’t even pretend that

their viability criterion had anything to do with it.

How *Roe* undermines democracy

So *Roe v. Wade* badly misapplied the Constitution—or just disregarded it altogether—in order to invent and impose a new nationwide abortion policy. Why is this such a big deal?

Justice Byron White, a dissenter in *Roe*, explained the problem in his dissent in *Thornburgh v. American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists*. “[T]he Constitution itself is ordained and established by the people of the United States,” he wrote. “[D]ecisions that find in the Constitution principles or values that cannot fairly be read into that document usurp the people’s authority, for such decisions represent choices that the people have never made, and that they cannot disavow through corrective legislation.”

Roe took the authority to determine abortion policy away

from the elected branches of government. It undermined our democracy and the separation of powers enshrined in our Constitution. And it continues to do so as courts decide the fate of even the most modest abortion-related laws enacted by our elected representatives. That’s why *Roe* must finally go.

Supporters of *Roe* aren’t in the habit of trying to defend it on its legal merits. “You will be hard-pressed to find a constitutional law professor ... who will embrace [*Roe*] itself rather than the result,” says Kermit Roosevelt. Those who defend *Roe* do so entirely because they like the policy it created. But this is America. The people should be allowed to have a say.

“[A] bad decision is a bad decision,” writes Richard Cohen, a supporter of abortion, in the *Washington Post*. “If the best we can say for [*Roe*] is that the end justifies the means, then we have not only lost the argument—but a bit of our soul as well.”

Abortion activists freak out as pro-life pregnancy centers apply for federal funds

By Calvin Freiburger

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

Amid cutting off some federal revenue streams to Planned Parenthood, the Trump administration has moved to redirect family planning aid to crisis pregnancy centers (CPCs) that provide abortion

estimated 2,750 CPCs in the United States, which provided care such as free ultrasounds, pregnancy tests, and post-abortion support for almost two million people in 2017.

Pro-abortion groups and commentators are crying foul. "Title X is meant to help people access quality reproductive care," NARAL tweeted, "NOT

CPCs' "core is as a 'fake' women's health center."

"Emboldened by an administration that wants to repeal *Roe v. Wade* and empower white evangelical extremists at the expense of basically everyone else, some rightwing anti-abortion crisis pregnancy centers are seeking federal funding," Prachi Gupta

about their services than Planned Parenthood, which has been accused of giving women a lack of options, poor health standards, false information, and pressuring them to choose abortion.

"The record reveals that there is nothing 'fake' about the vital resources provided by America's pro-life centers," National Institute of Family and Life Advocates Vice President of Legal Affairs, Anne O'Connor, J.D., says. She argues the abortion industry's attacks on CPCs are financially driven.

"In 1990 there were approximately 1.6 million abortions nationwide," O'Connor explains. "The latest statistics show that number has decreased to approximately 900,000. At an average cost of \$500 per abortion, that adds up to \$250,000,000 lost income to the abortion industry per year. America's pregnancy centers are decimating the abortion industry's bottom line."

"Title X funding should be granted to organizations dedicated to providing quality care, not abortion," March for Life Education & Defense Fund president Jeanne Mancini told the *Daily Caller*. "The majority of Americans oppose using taxpayer dollars to fund big abortion businesses like Planned Parenthood, and it is time we heed this consensus by granting pregnancy resource centers."



alternatives – something that has the abortion lobby up in arms.

The Department of Health and Human Services' move in May to withhold Title X funds from abortion companies and redirect them to health providers that "ensure a holistic and health-centered approach" has inspired CPCs to apply for Title X grants, the *Daily Caller* reports. There are an

increase the lies spread by anti-choice organizations that frequently provide NO actual healthcare services."

"Critics say these clinics can be confusing to women who seek care or advice about a pregnancy without realizing their religious and anti-abortion orientation," a *Politico* report says, going on to quote NARAL Pro-Choice California state director Amy Everitt as saying

declares at the far-left feminist website Jezebel. "Crisis pregnancy centers deceive vulnerable patients, spreading misinformation about abortion and healthcare under the guise of offering comprehensive family planning services."

For years CPCs have been the targets of such claims, which pro-lifers have addressed at length. Pro-lifers argue that CPCs are more transparent

China Forcibly Aborts Woman's Third Child. Forced Abortion Continues Under Two-Child Policy: Government Report

By Women's Rights Without Frontiers

XINJIANG, CHINA. The Chinese Government, operating under the Two-Child Policy, has forcibly aborted a woman's third child, according to NPR and Radio Free Europe reports.

The woman, an ethnic Kazakh, was a widow with two children, living in the Xinjiang region. She married a Kazakh citizen, living in Kazakhstan, across the border. She was told that, in order to cancel her Chinese citizenship to become a citizen of Kazakhstan, she would need to return to China.

On this return trip, Chinese cadres invited her to the hospital for a "health check-up." They discovered that she was pregnant and demanded an abortion, because this third pregnancy violated the Two-Child policy – even though she told them, "my husband is a Kazakh citizen and I am carrying a Kazakh citizen."

When she resisted the abortion, they threatened that her brother "would suffer the consequences." She knew this meant he would be detained in an internment camp. To protect her brother she agreed to the abortion.

After the abortion, the police took her brother to the internment camp anyway.

The fact that forced abortion continues under China's Two-Child Policy



Reggie Littlejohn (left) with NRLC President Carol Tobias

is further documented in the Population Control section of the 2018 Congressional-Executive Commission on China (CECC) Report, which states that regulations

"include provisions that require couples to be married to have children and limit them to bearing two children . . . Officials reportedly continued to enforce compliance with

family planning policies using methods including heavy fines, job termination, detention, and abortion."

"The forced abortion of this woman's third pregnancy is an

outrage," Reggie Littlejohn, President of Women's Rights Without Frontiers, stated:

It proves that the Chinese Communist Party still functions as womb police. When China instituted the Two-Child Policy, it announced that it had 'abandoned' the One-Child Policy, implying that the Chinese government had ceased all coercive population control. I immediately stated that single women and third pregnancies could still be aborted under the new rule."

"To avert demographic disaster," Littlejohn continued, "China has stated that it is considering letting all couples have as many children as they want. This would be a great step in the right direction, but it would still leave open the forcible abortion of single women. The new rule should state that all women can have as many children as they want."

Editor's note. This appeared at Womens Rights Without Frontiers and is reposted with permission.

A look ahead at the 116th Congress

From page 1

The recently-passed *Consolidated Appropriations Act* funds organizations that actively promote abortion overseas, undoes the Trump administration's Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance program, and adds additional funding for the United Nations Population Fund. There was

attempts to permit direct taxpayer funding of abortion including eliminating the Hyde Amendment, *which has saved over two million lives since 1976.*

We expect hearings and possible votes on some version of Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt) "Medicare for All" whose

state restriction on abortion.

And while a major overhaul of the abortion-expanding Obama Healthcare Law (Obamacare) is on hold, Congress is likely to consider tackling several items to prop up the law. National Right to Life **opposes** the authorizing money for Obamacare unless the funds

health plans that cover abortion on demand in all states that failed to pass laws to limit abortion coverage. The position we take on the pending proposals is identical to the position we took on the original Obamacare legislation.

While we have a pro-life President and Senate that we will have to count on to block the Democrats pro-abortion agenda, we will continue to be vigilant and highlight the extreme nature of the other side as the House moves ahead over the next two years.

U.S. Senate

No Taxpayer Funding of Abortion

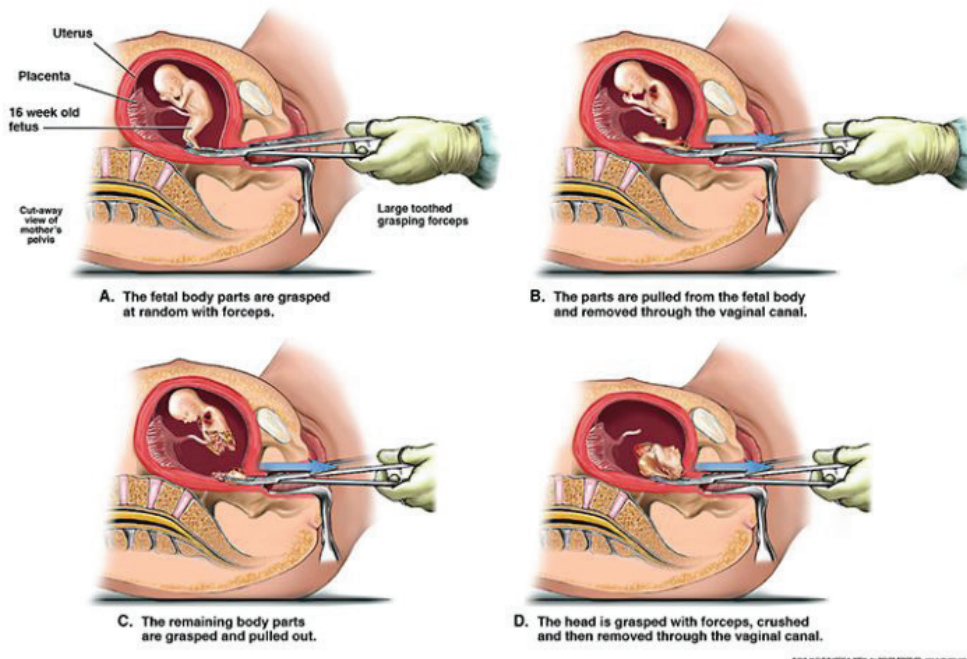
While the details of a potential pro-life vote and the timing are not set in stone, we are urging the Senate to take up the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion and Abortion Insurance Full Disclosure Act introduced by Senators Roger Wicker (R-Miss.) and Pat Roberts (R-KY).

The legislation would codify the principles of the Hyde Amendment on a permanent, government-wide basis, applicable to both longstanding federal health programs and to the new programs created by Obamacare. Under the bill, health plans that cover elective abortions would not qualify for federal subsidies, although such plans could still be sold to those who wish to purchase them with personal funds.

Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act

We are also urging the Senate to take up the Pain-Capable

Dilation and Evacuation Abortion (D&E) of a 16 Week Old Fetus



an effort by Rep. Kay Granger (R-Tx.) to strip out the pro-abortion language from the spending bill, but the motion was unsuccessful. Fortunately, because this legislation faces a veto threat from President Trump, it is stalled.

Going forward, we can expect a full assault on domestic pro-life protections. We are looking for pro-abortion House legislation to try to start rolling back long-standing pro-life riders as well as pro-life administrative gains. That would include

current versions fund abortion on demand. We also are keeping a keen eye on hearings and potential votes on extreme pro-abortion measures such as the "Equal Access to Abortion Coverage in Health Insurance (EACH Woman) Act" (137 cosponsors in the 115th House) which specifically undoes abortion coverage restriction in state exchanges and any public federal program. Additionally, the "Women's Health Protection Act" (169 cosponsors in the 115th House) targets virtually all federal and

contain true Hyde-like funding restrictions.

Prior to the enactment of Obamacare in 2010, there was a nearly uniform policy that federal programs did not subsidize health plans that included coverage of elective abortion. Over the strong objections of National Right to Life, Congress enacted Obamacare with provisions that sharply deviated from the longstanding Hyde policy. Although denied at the time, it authorized massive federal subsidies to purchase private

As we roll into 2019, NRLC and its 50 state affiliates welcome the new legislative session

From page 1

“flagrantly unconstitutional,” or worse. And, of course, pro-lifers stand accused of using “gruesome imprecise language,” as if there was a polite way to honestly describe dismembering a tiny human being.

Let’s take a look at what states were actively engaged in during the 2018 state legislative session.

Unborn Child Protection from Dismemberment Abortion Act

Kentucky and Ohio became the 9th and 10th states, respectively, to pass NRLC’s #1 priority bill, The Unborn Child Protection from Dismemberment Abortion Act. Under this law, abortionists cannot end the lives of living unborn babies by dismembering them piece by bloody piece.

Ms. Pearson article in *The Huffington Post* claims that pro-life legislators “used gruesome, imprecise language to paint a safe and common method of abortion as cruel and barbaric.” What irony.

The legal language used in these laws pales in comparison to the blunt way notorious late term abortionist Leroy Carhart describes this very “common” procedure. During hearings, Carhart testified how this barbaric “procedure” is performed:

“My normal course would be to dismember that appendage and then go back and try to take the fetus out whether foot or skull first, whatever end I can get to first....Just pulling and rotation, grasping the portion

that you can get hold of which would be usually somewhere up the shaft of the exposed portion of the fetus ...I know that the fetus is alive during the process most of the time because I can see fetal heartbeat on the ultrasound.”

As is required in pro-abortion articles, Pearson interviewed Elizabeth Nash, senior state issues manager at the Guttmacher Institute, Planned Parenthood’s one-time think tank. “The language is simply trying to paint the procedure as something dangerous, something terrible that no one would ever want to undergo,” she complained.

Well, yes, that is right Ms. Nash. We are responsible for lifting the veil and exposing what she and others of her ilk try so desperately to hide.

If you look at abortion textbooks, or even on the webpages of abortion facilities, they paint a distorted picture of a dismemberment abortion. Some don’t even include the baby, or a rendition of the baby, and none even hint at the gruesome manner in the way this baby’s limbs are pulled apart, then later reassembled together like a horrific jigsaw puzzle.

Then there is the highly misleading language. They sugarcoat the abortion by saying that it’s “emptying the contents of the uterus” or is using “gentle suction” to “end the pregnancy.” (“Pregnancies” are ended, never the lives of unborn babies.) All of these buzz words to downplay the

atrociousness that occurs when the life of a little human being is snatched away.

Why the dishonesty? Simply because if they were candid, let alone honest, about what actually happens to the baby during dismemberment abortion or a partial-birth abortion, the public might well be up in arms.

Abortion Pill reversal

Last session, Idaho became the 5th state to pass a law providing mothers with information about the possibility of abortion pill reversal. Note this law does not prevent women from getting abortions. It merely empowers

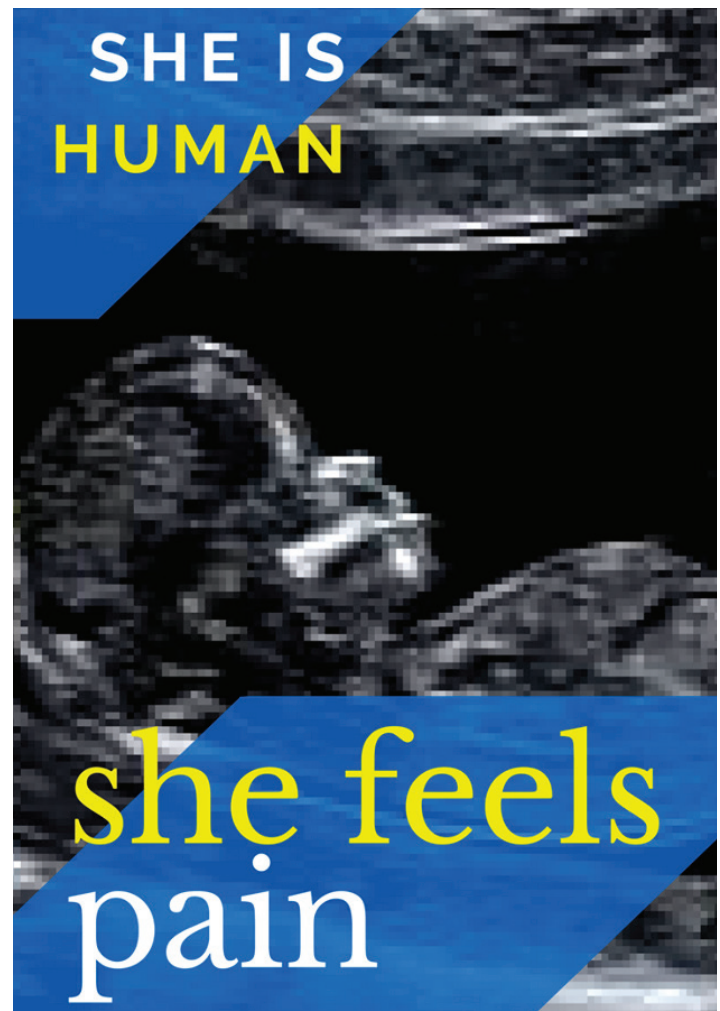
them with a lifesaving possibility.

Pro-abortionists are near panic at the idea that a woman who may have made a hasty decision to abort which she now regrets, will learn she may be able to save their baby.

Of course why would they want to let mothers know about the possibility of reversing a chemical abortion? They are not in the business of hope; they are in the business of selling a death built on a lie.

What lie? That this innocent baby isn’t a life after all; the lie

See “Session,” page 48



The power of an ultrasound to change a mind and to save a life should never be underestimated

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

It happened when I was scrolling through my Facebook feed one day.

In between posts about the latest football games, I saw it—and it melted my heart.

There was an Ultrasound of not one, but two babies—the

first time I have viewed an Ultrasound of twins. The precious preborn babies were clearly visible—and their official age was 14 weeks' gestation.

In that moment, gazing at that image, it was hard for me

aborted up to the moment of birth.

A picture is worth a thousand statistics. It is one thing to hear about nearly one million preborn children being aborted each year. It is quite another to see a prenatal portrait of a baby

supportive pregnancy resource centers, the vast majority will choose life for their children.

Thus it is abundantly obvious why abortion centers do their best to hide Ultrasounds from their abortion-minded clients. Once a woman sees that miraculous image, her tenuous bond to her child is highly likely to grow stronger. The Ultrasound literally puts a face—a distinctively human face—on what the abortion industry cavalierly refers to as the “choice.”

The experience of seeing that Facebook Ultrasound has also left me to wonder, “How many twins are aborted each year in our country? How many times is the tragedy of abortion actually doubled through the deaths of two preborn babies at one time?”

In the words of one clergyman, this could be considered a “two-for-one temptation.” Twice the tragedy. Twice the heartache for the mother left behind.

Never underestimate the power of an Ultrasound to change a mind and to save a life. And consider using your Facebook feed as a way to celebrate life at all its stages and at all phases of development.



latest additions to my Facebook friend's family.

I have seen my share of Ultrasounds over the years—my darling daughter's was the most memorable. Lying on the exam table, I looked up at the screen and saw my little one playing with her toes while in utero.

It was an incredible and unforgettable sight.

But I believe this was the

to fathom the idea that anyone would view them as unworthy of care and too young to be guaranteed the right to life. It was also hard to accept the fact that babies where I live, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, can be legally aborted up to 24 weeks' gestation—10 weeks past the age of the twins in question. It is even more alarming to think about the babies who are

who lacks protection under the law.

I wonder how many other minds and hearts that Ultrasound touched. From the comments below the photo, it was clear that Facebook friends were astounded at the amazing image.

And it is no wonder that studies show that, when pregnant women are shown an ultrasound of their babies inside

Abortion and the Breast Cancer Epidemic in India

By Angela Lanfranchi MD FACS

In February 2017, the *Asia-Pacific Journal of Clinical Oncology* published the “Epidemiology of breast cancer in Indian women.”

Malvia, et al. found that from 1982-2005, the incidence of breast cancer had almost doubled. Breast cancer is now the leading cause of cancer deaths in women in India. India’s burden of breast cancer is ever increasing and now impacting 1.5 million women a year.

Moreover women suffering from breast cancer were a **decade younger** than women in western countries. Most breast cancers in India occur in women in their 30s and 40s!

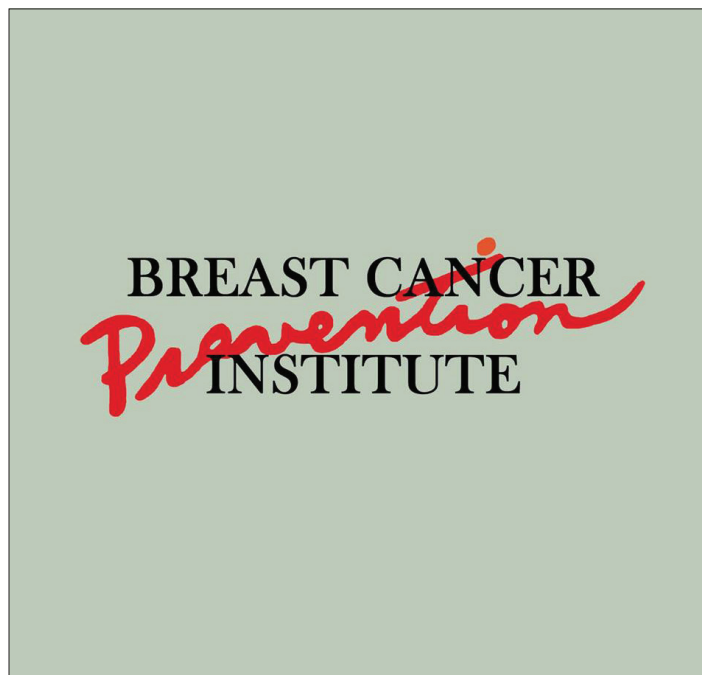
Link to abortion

In 2018, the Breast Cancer Prevention Institute funded and published “Induced Abortion as an Independent Risk Factor for Breast Cancer: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of Studies on South Asian Women” in *Issues in Law and Medicine*. (A meta-analysis looks at separate but similar studies in order to use the pooled data for statistical significance. It is regarded by scientists as

very strong evidence.)

Of the 20 studies analyzed, 16 were done on Indian

after an abortion. This analysis was consistent with the known biology of breast cancer. There



women. The meta-analysis found a **151%** increased risk of breast cancer after an induced abortion.

In 2014, “Breast Cancer and Induced Abortion,” an analysis also published in *Issues in Law and Medicine*, revealed that the incidence of breast cancers increased 10-14 years

was no statistically significant increase in breast cancer risk before 10 years and after 14 years of an abortion.

Induced abortion in India, referred to as “Medical Termination of Pregnancy,” was legalized in 1971. Sons are most highly prized and sex selection abortions, although

illegal, are not uncommon.

A study published in the *Lancet* 2006 and based on conservative assumptions, reported that the practice of sex-selection accounts for about a half million missing female births yearly. Over the past two decades this translates into the abortion of some 10 million female fetuses.

According to UNICEF, 27% of Indian women marry by the age of 18. Breast cancer in these young women cuts to the heart of the family leaving young children without mothers and husbands without wives.

In addition to the tragic loss of female unborn babies, sex selection abortion leads to abnormal male/female ratios, resulting in a disordered society of men without a spouse and many other regrettable social outcomes.

We can only hope and pray that education and changes of heart will lead to better outcomes for both women and men.

Editor’s note. Angela Lanfranchi, MD FACS, is President of the Breast Cancer Prevention Institute.

3 Important Truths Revealed by the Latest Planned Parenthood Scandal

From page 14

precarious, the clinics pay modest salaries to the employees who provide health care — abortions, cancer screenings, prenatal care, disease testing — to 2.4 million mostly low-income patients every year.

The operation's finances are so precarious that Christine Charbonneau, who runs the Planned Parenthood regional office in Seattle, told *The Times* she'd have to close facilities to actually implement a paid maternity leave plan.

But despite its unsustainable financial state, the abortion business is capable of raising millions to support the campaigns of pro-abortion politicians.

As Dr. Grazie Pozo Christie pointed out in a recent column at *The Hill*, "Although Planned Parenthood does not offer paid maternity leave to its modestly compensated employees, it does use its enormous revenues to influence elections. For the 2016 elections, the corporation spent over \$20 million to support the candidates committed to keeping tax monies coming to the company."

This window into the abortion provider's finances shows how

utterly dependent they are on taxpayer funding—and how we as taxpayers are keeping open the doors of abortion facilities across the country.

(3). Planned Parenthood is inaccurately named, not pregnancy help centers.

"Choice," "women," and "care" are just a few of the words that outrage abortion activists when included in the names of pro-life pregnancy help centers—supposedly, because pro-life service providers can't possibly be interested in choice, care, or the well-being of women.

The criticism is, of course, absurd to anyone who believes that abortion shouldn't be a woman's only "choice." Nevertheless, the claim that pregnancy centers are "deceptively named" continues to make the rounds—even though it's far more fitting for the likes of Planned Parenthood.

As countless pro-life advocates before me have pointed out, Planned Parenthood doesn't so much help women "plan parenthood" as it does to quash it. Again, with abortion making up 96 percent of Planned Parenthood's pregnancy services, the organization simply isn't in the business of "parenthood,"

planned or unplanned.

Not even for their own employees.

From *The Times*:

In Miami, one current and two former employees said that women at a Planned Parenthood office were scared to tell managers they were pregnant. One of them said that, in conversations with supervisors, colleagues would often volunteer that they were not planning on having children or were gay or single.

"It was looked down upon for you to get pregnant," said Carolina Delgado, who worked in the Miami office until 2012. "I don't think that any supervisor had to literally say it for us to feel it."

As revealed through another interview, this anti-life culture isn't unique to the Miami office:

A former hiring manager at a Planned Parenthood in California said that when internal promotions came up, supervisors openly

debated whether candidates were likely to get pregnant in the near future and preferred those who were not. They declined to hire one pregnant woman and to promote one new mother, the employee said. (Under the federal Pregnancy Discrimination Act, it is illegal to consider whether a job candidate is or will become pregnant.)

With that, what more needs said?

The contradictions and deceptions of the abortion industry seem too obvious to need pointing out. But to a public largely unfamiliar with the scale and brutality of the corporation's abortion business, these stories are tremendous and could be paradigm-shifting.

And as Big Abortion continues to hurl lies about pregnancy help centers into the ether, it's important to remember where these lies come from: their own first-hand knowledge of how to deceive and mislead women into the darkness of abortion.

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

Why the January commemorative issue of National Right to Life News is must reading

From page 2

As he does each year at this time, Dr. Randall K. O'Bannon, NRLC's director of Education & Research, has put together a succinct one-page summary of the latest abortion numbers and trends. For us the bottom line is that although 60,942,033 unborn babies have lost their lives since 1973, the yearly number has finally been reduced to under well under a million.

That is an absolutely

unacceptable number—any abortions are unacceptable—but we should never forget that pro-life education has decreased the loss of life by almost 700,000 from its high point of 1,608,600 in 1990! (See page six.)

There are so many other stories for you to read and to share. In particular I point you to pages 18 and 35 where the best scholarly evidence demonstrating abortions

devastating after-effects on women is explained in layman's terms.

No issue of *NRL News* would be complete without multiple stories about the unborn child's #1 enemy, Planned Parenthood. I found Dr. Leana Wen's candor amazing. PPFA's new President all but shouted, "Abortion is our #1 priority" in a recent interview with *Buzzfeed*. After decades of minimizing abortion's importance, this

honesty was refreshing. (See page 12, as well as stories that appear on pages 14 and 23.)

Thank you all you are doing on behalf of the little ones and the medically vulnerable elderly. And if you are not receiving our Monday through Saturday *NRL News Today* in your inbox, please sign up immediately at <http://www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/news/join-the-email-list>.

The fateful 19 months that culminated in *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*

From page 25

author David Garrow attributes much of the impetus to extend the "right" to abortion past the first trimester to Powell.]

#4. On November 21, 1972, "Blackmun sent around revised drafts of the majority opinions," Savage wrote. "The *Roe* opinion said that for the first three months of a pregnancy, states must 'leave the abortion decision to the best medical judgment of the pregnant woman's attending physician,'" although in a memo to Blackmun's colleagues, "he voiced uncertainty."

Then the fatal turn. Brennan, Marshall, and Powell "wrote back to say that allowing abortions until 'viability' – when a fetus has developed enough to live outside the womb – at six months made more sense," according to Savage. In Blackmun's final draft, "states were told they could not restrict abortions through the second trimester."

Which leads us to *Doe v. Bolton*, *Roe's* companion case. #5. "But the most important

psychological, familial and the woman's age – relevant to the well-being of the patient.'



sentence appears not in the Texas case of *Roe vs. Wade*, but in the Georgia case of *Doe vs. Bolton*, decided the same day," Savage wrote. "In deciding whether an abortion is necessary, Blackmun wrote, doctors may consider 'all factors – physical, emotional,

"It soon became clear that if a patient's 'emotional well-being' was reason enough to justify an abortion, then any abortion could be justified."

But Burger and Blackmun were determined to publicly minimize the impact, a strategy which the media dutifully

parroted. Savage wrote

On the day the ruling was announced, Burger said, "Plainly, the court today rejects any claim that the Constitution requires abortion on demand."

Blackmun proposed to issue a news release to accompany the decision, issued Jan. 22, 1973. "I fear what the headlines may be," he wrote in a memo. His statement, never issued, emphasized that the court was not giving women "an absolute right to abortion," nor was it saying that the "Constitution compels abortion on demand."

But, of course, that is exactly what the High Court did 45 years ago today.

WATCH: Abortion activist tells kids: Abortion is ‘part of God’s plan,’ like visiting dentist

By Jonathon VanMaren

By any definition, the video featuring a young woman chatting with children has now gone viral, racking up 822,00 hits by January 2. It is part of a series called “Kids Meet,” and prior episodes have included gimmicky setups like “Kids Meet A Bounty Hunter” as well as your typical progressive indoctrination sessions. Each of those videos earned around 40,000 hits.

Their latest release, however, is different. Featuring the founder of “Shout Your Abortion” Amelia Bonow, it is titled “Kids Meet Someone Who’s Had an Abortion” and has Bonow explaining to children why aborting children is not only okay, but could actually be “all part of God’s plan.”

Bonow, who has an extraordinarily hard-looking face, asks one young girl what she’s heard about abortion. “I don’t exactly know what happens, but you go and get rid of the baby,” the girl replied uncomfortably.

Bonow sets the record straight for them. “You go to the doctor, and they put this little straw inside of your cervix, and then inside of your uterus, and then they just suck the pregnancy out,” she replies. “And it was like a cr*ppy dentist appointment or something. It was just like, ‘This is a body thing that’s kind of uncomfortable,’ but then it was over, and I felt really just grateful that I wasn’t pregnant anymore.”

Bonow is the sort of activist who has never met an abortion she didn’t wholeheartedly support. Some of the older

kids asked her if she had been reckless. Whatever, was Bonow’s response. We did what we wanted to do, and then got rid of the baby afterwards, easy peasy. What’s the big deal?



*Abortion activist Amelia Bonow on Kids Meet.
Kids Meet / Facebook video screen grab*

Even when the kids—and we’re talking about kids here—seemed uncomfortable with it, she assured them that there might be situations you just go with, in the moment, that might lead to needing an abortion later.

One African American boy couldn’t quite get over her cavalier attitude. Although he thought abortion was moral in some circumstances, he felt that “if, like, you are being reckless” then perhaps abortion was wrong.

“Do we want people to just have all those babies?” Bonow asks, not mentioning that it is the babies that would be “sucked” out of the uterus.

“No,” the boy replied.

“So what do we do with them?” she questions.

“Put them up for adoption,” he stated. Bonow disagreed, stating that this scenario would force her to “create life” and

that it would mean she would have a child somewhere in the world. She also indicated that she doesn’t believe it is a life until the baby is actually born, although she referred

Shifting in obvious and understandable nervousness, one girl said uncertainly, “I think it’s up to you.” The other girl nodded: “Same.”

“I feel supported by that,” Bonow said approvingly, smiling creepily.

The entire video is a trainwreck of misinformation and abortion propaganda. Bonow makes fun of the fact that many people accurately highlight the scientific reality that life begins at conception, because she finds that fact very inconvenient to her ideology. She attempts to get a few kids chuckling about this, as well, hopeful that they have not, at this stage in their life, been exposed to embryology or a sonogram or ultrasound of a pre-born baby.

Even then, one of the kids accidentally refers to the life in the womb as a “baby” at one point while explaining why he agrees with her. The truth has a way of getting out.

Bonow does helpfully explain to a couple of kids that she doesn’t call pro-lifers “pro-life,” but prefers to refer to them as “anti-choice.” After all, Bonow says unsobly, “pro-life” is just a propaganda term because pro-lifers don’t want to take care of the poor, or help people who have given birth to their babies.

Bonow has either never heard of crisis pregnancy centers, or is lying, and very likely both. “You’re not pro-life, I’m pro-life,” she announced defensively, after explaining

to abortion throughout her brainwashing session as a solution to her unwanted baby. “I think it’s all part of God’s plan,” she asserted.

Bonow, of course, wasn’t forced to create life. She and her partner did that voluntarily. In fact, she reveals that they didn’t take any measures to prevent life from being created in the first place. It turns out that when you use your reproductive organs, reproduction can at times occur. That, unfortunately, is not the sort of thing that makes it into progressive sex education curriculums.

Bonow then turned her attention to the two young girls, one of whom identified as Catholic. The Catholic Church, the little girl noted, was opposed to abortion because it was “like, killing the baby.”

Bonow, an adult, asked them pointedly what they thought.

See “Activist,” page 44

“One after the other, they would get on the table, and kill their babies,” former clinic worker says

By Sarah Terzo

On January 22, 2012, a former clinic worker named Clarissa gave her testimony before a church congregation. Her speech appears on YouTube.

Clarissa became involved in abortion work almost by accident. She explains:

“I was just finishing my medical assisting courses and my internship was at a women’s health center. I was going to be taking vital signs, answering phones, checking patients in and drawing blood. I showed up to work and I was shocked to find out they did abortions there.

“When I asked to be assigned to a different location, they told me there was nowhere else to go.”

Clarissa soon discovered that the clinic was a place of pain and sorrow.

“In the weeks that followed, I was gradually introduced to the horrors of that place. The girls that came to the door were sometimes crying, they were sometimes quiet and sometimes they were laughing. But they all had sadness in their eyes.

“At the end of my internship, I was offered a job. As a single mother with bills to pay, I thought that I had no choice.”

Pro-lifers sometimes have a

hard time understanding why some clinic workers stay at their jobs even after they begin having doubts about abortion. Some might feel trapped. Often, clinic workers are single mothers, trying to support their children, for whom losing a job could be disastrous. In fact, according to former clinic



worker and single mother Joy Davis, some abortionists may go out of their way to hire single mothers, finding them easy to exploit.

Clarissa went on to talk more about conditions in the clinic:

“From there, it only got worse. The girls who were unsure were lied to and coerced into killing their babies. They were told it was safe, they were not informed of their options, and they were never told about

how they would feel afterwards. The girls that were only a month or two along would be given pills that would kill the baby and told they would have heavy bleeding. They were never told that they were going to be

If they were ever to change their minds, they were told that it was too late. When the medicine did work, the abortionist and his assistants would laugh, tell jokes, and even watch TV while they were killing the babies. Afterwards, the girls were ushered out the back door in varying conditions, some barely able to walk, vomiting, confused, high on their medications, and crying hysterically.”

Seeing the suffering that went on in the clinic took a heavy toll on Clarissa:

“One after the other, they would get on the table, and kill their babies. I hated going to work. I would get in the car every morning with a knot in my stomach, and go home every night, and get sick. It was an awful place to be. Many of the girls who work there did drugs in order to deal with the pain that they were experiencing from working there.”

Clarissa then described how a pro-lifer named Daniel reached out to her. He met her outside the clinic and asked her if she knew that what she was doing was wrong. She said she did, but she still had to support her children. Then Daniel asked

flushing their babies down the toilet. The girls who were farther along, they were given two medications, one so they wouldn’t feel anything, the other one so they wouldn’t remember. The medications did not always work. They were held down by the abortionist’s assistants, scream-ing in agony, as their babies were ripped apart and pulled out with a vacuum.

See “Former,” page 41

Dad responds to man who said his son should have been aborted: “A million times no”

By Texas Right to Life

Would someone kill a child in abortion for no other reason than a correctible birth defect? Sadly, there are people who advocate this inhumane position.

In April twins Jack and Cam were born. Their father, Matt Martin, described the moment for Love What Matters. When Jack was born, Martin says, the nurses cheered, and the room was filled with congratulations. However, when Cam was born just two minutes later the room went silent.

Martin says, “Something was different. The doctors were worried. My wife’s doctor leaned over to a nurse and asked her to call the NICU. ‘What’s wrong?’ my wife asked. ‘I don’t know,’ is all I could say.”

After an agonizing wait, Martin and his wife discovered that their second son was born with a bilateral cleft lip and soft palate. The condition prevents babies from breastfeeding and can cause other complications but is typically correctible through surgery.

Martin has shared his family’s journey through Cam’s first surgery and beyond raising awareness about this common birth defect. The *New York Post* featured a heartwarming video about Cam’s progress.

The care of newborns with cleft is difficult and the surgery can seem even more so. Martin writes, “I won’t lie to you, it’s hard. But it’s hard in the sense that you don’t want your baby to have to go through all of this.” Before Cam’s first surgery at four-months-old, the family had grown to know and love his face, and they were

fearful of what surgery would entail.

Martin says, “That first day was rough and he was on a lot of pain meds. My wife and I cried...a lot. He was so different. He was in so much pain. What had we done?”

The Martins’ experience is



not unique; Martin writes about how their nurse assured them that many cleft parents have a similar feeling of anxiety and grief as their children undergo surgery.

The family found support through an organization called Cuddles for Clefts, which sends care packages to cleft babies to help them and their families prepare for surgery. With that support and the support of their medical team, Cam has recovered and is growing and developing.

Martin writes, “After he was over the pain, and his personality was coming back, we saw our son. We REALLY saw our son. His huge smile was still there, and he was just as beautiful now.”

Despite this incredible story of love, Martin says he lost a

friend who could not see the value of his son’s precious life. In a political discussion with friends, the topic of abortion came up.

Martin brought up cases he found particularly unjust. He says, “For example, due to genetic testing, babies with

of seeing Martin’s son as a unique and unrepeatably human being, this supposed friend saw him as a burden and an inconvenience.

The discrimination and thoughtlessness that the Martins faced also reveals the challenges that so many parents face when bringing a child who is different into the world. The loophole allowing for the killing of disabled preborn babies, even up to birth, is gravely unjust.

Abortion activists often suggest that killing a child with a potentially severe, life-limiting condition is a best for the child. This is not true, and discriminatory abortions are not limited to these extreme and very rare cases. In many places, babies with any defect or disability, including cleft, can be targeted for death in the womb simply because of their potential disability.

Martin says about his experience with his son, “Do I wish he didn’t have to go through all of this? Of course. But do I wish we never had him? A million times no. This baby has changed me in so many ways. He really has changed my life.” Cam is just one of the many babies around the world born with cleft. Looking through the Instagram account of Cuddles for Clefts shows some of the many other precious lives affected by cleft. The Pro-Life community must affirm the Right to Life of each and every child. Abortion in the case of a disability does not take away the disability; abortion in every case ends a human Life.

clefts are being aborted three times more in some countries and even HIGHER in others. The people want a baby, just not that baby. Having a cleft baby of my own, I strongly feel that that isn’t right.”

Martin says in response to this, “My ‘friend’ said, ‘Come on, of all people, you should get why someone would want to abort a cleft baby.’”

Martin was stunned. He asks, “Why would he think that? Why would someone think I would agree that babies like my son shouldn’t have the opportunity to live, simply because they’re different?”

The insensitive comment from someone Martin thought was a friend shows how far-reaching anti-Life attitudes toward the most vulnerable are in our society. Instead

Choosing life and the human family

By Mark Davis Pickup

Editor's note. Mark, a good friend, is a Canadian disability rights activist who has spoken at National Right to Life's annual convention. The following is something he posted last week. Following that, I will offer a few thoughts on the music video Mark references, "Choose Life."

Close to 20 years ago, I wrote and narrated a documentary called "To be, or not to be — the Human Family."

My creative and talented daughter, Ronaele, and the late David Maise co-produced it. The documentary was aired across North America.

Later, Ronaele and I were being interviewed by the Canadian Christian talk show 100 Huntley Street.

Unbeknownst to me, they preceded the interview with the music video "Choose Life" by the band Big Tent Revival (I did not know the song).

At the end of the music video, I had a lump the size of a grapefruit in my throat. I was not sure I could get through the interview. Happily, my daughter knows her dad and took the lead.

Someone commented at Mark's blog that they were "not familiar with that powerful pro-

life song." Neither was I. The song was recorded in 1999 by Big Tent Revival, a Christian music group, which over the years has been nominated for 5 Grammys.

The accompanying 3:16 video (symbolism anyone?) is very simple yet very complex, leaving lots of room for us to



fill in the blanks.

It begins with a clearly distraught young woman, and although it is never said explicitly, clearly we are to understand she is pregnant. The first thing we see is her looking at a photo we assume to be of her as a youngster with her dad. She drops the photo on the ground.

Later as she is walking home with her groceries, she sees the guys in the band getting out of their car. When she arrives at her apartment, down the hall a couple of doors from where the guys are practicing, she hears

them singing... Choose Life.

She approaches the door... but can't work up the nerve to knock.

But when they leave their room she sneaks a peek at the lead singer hand-written notes (over which he has been struggling). She sees "Choose Life" repeated over and over

and over again.

The video ends with the band returning to their room and the lead singer looking down the hall at the young woman who has the pages in her hands. Her expression? For the first time there is hope in her face, but the video ends with the question left hanging...what happens next?

The first two stanzas are
*A choice is set before you now
 Living or dying, blessing or cursing
 You know, the time has come around
 To turn from your fighting and*

rest in his mercy

*Choose life, that you might live
 The life that He gives, He gives
 you forever*

*Choose life, the way that is
 true*

*From the One who chose you,
 your Father in heaven
 Choose life*

Two quick thoughts.

First, we often never know whom we influence, how, or why. We aren't songwriters, but living a life that sends the message we care for women and girls facing unplanned pregnancies can be incredibly powerful. Remember: many times they are under intense pressure to abort.

Second, at times like that, a woman or girl needs to know that she also has a Heavenly Father who cares for her and her baby. There is another stanza that I've listened to multiple times today:

*And the weight you're under
 Will be lifted away and the
 world will wonder
 What happened here today?
 Then you'll stand right there
 and say*

Choose life, that you might live

Take 3 minutes and 16 seconds out and watch "Choose Life" at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eX4fC4WFCIU>.

"One after the other, they would get on the table, and kill their babies," former clinic worker says

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her what she said was most important question of her life. "Do you have faith that God will take care of your children if you do the right thing and leave?"

Clarissa said she felt a strong sense of peace and found the courage to leave the clinic. She made friends with local

pro-lifers, who brought her to church and helped her look for new employment. Within two months, she had a new job. Clarissa concluded her testimony by saying that she felt that God would use her to do good in the world.

Clarissa's story shows that reaching out to clinic

workers can have a profound impact on them, if it is done compassionately. Some clinic workers may want to leave; they simply need encouragement and support. Pro-lifers have long known that simply telling women in crisis pregnancies that they shouldn't abort is not enough. Crisis pregnancy

centers offer women both emotional support and material help to carry their children to term. Clinic workers need the same emotional and material support. ...

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

“With new tools at our finger tips, the technology we have, there is absolutely nothing that cannot be accomplished”

From page 2

everyone else that “one of us” is bidding his or her time until they are in their mother’s arms.

And then there is the indisputable evidence that younger Americans do not buy into the more-abortion for less-reason paid-for-by-the public posture of the Democratic Party. According to Calvin Freiburger, a new survey conducted by the Polling Company Inc./WomanTrend released Monday of Americans aged 18-34 found that

Seventy percent of respondents favored some form of limits on abortion, with 42 percent directly against legal abortion and another 28 percent backing greater restrictions than are consistently on the books today, such as requiring parental notification and banning late-term abortion and taxpayer funding of abortion.

Fifty-six percent also opposed selling abortion pills online or administering them without a physical exam, and when informed that Federally Qualified Health Centers dramatically outnumber Planned Parenthood locations, 48 percent of millennials said they’d rather tax dollars go to the former (just 17 percent still preferred Planned Parenthood).

The importance of this latter point, in my opinion, cannot be exaggerated. Planned Parenthood receives as much puff coverage, as much unadulterated (and undeserved) praise, as any corporation in America. But...in the last month....

Of all publications, in December the *New York Times* ran a story which illustrated how terribly PPFA affiliates treat their pregnant employees. We learn from Natalie Kitroeff and Jessica Silver-Greenberg that “a dozen lawsuits filed against Planned Parenthood clinics in federal and state courts since 2013 accused managers of denying workers

pregnancy help centers.

(2). Planned Parenthood is dependent on taxpayer dollars, not pregnancy help centers.

(3). Planned Parenthood is inaccurately named, not pregnancy help centers.

Put another way, PPFA and the truth are like two ships passing in the night. Put still another way, Planned Parenthood

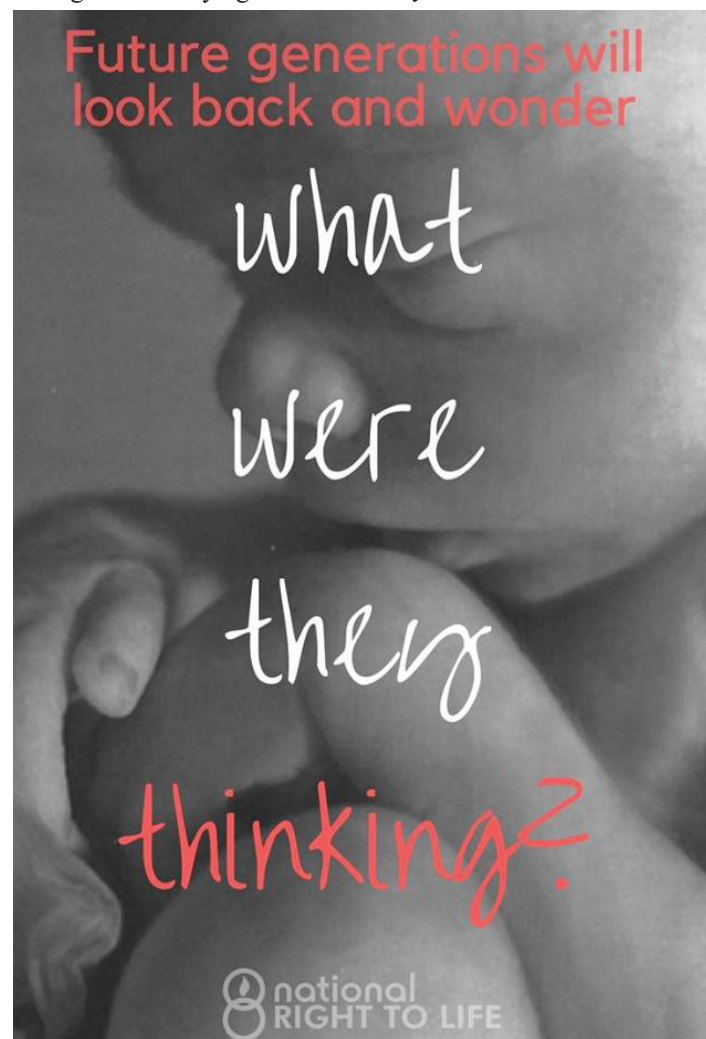
important asset our Movement and unborn children enjoy going forward: pro-life President Trump and a fortified pro-life majority in the United States Senate. As the headline to another *Times* story observed, “Trump’s New Judges Are Everything Conservatives Hoped For And Liberals Feared.”

The overarching point of Zoe Tillman’s piece is “The U.S. Supreme Court hears a relatively small proportion of cases each year. Putting judges on the federal appeals courts — courts that set precedent for federal district courts and can only be reversed by the Supreme Court — has been, and continues to be, a top priority for the White House and Senate Republicans.

In other words his subject is not the Supreme Court, where President Trump has already nominated and had confirmed two justices: Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh. That is hugely important, but not the only important judicial selections.

I hope you take a few moments to read Jacki Ragan’s inspiring answers to questions I asked her about what’s ahead in 2019 that appears on page five. NRLC’s State Organizational Development Department director reminds of a foundational truth about our Movement. We are only as strong as our grassroots proliferators make us and that each of us can, and must, make a difference.

“It is an exciting time to be involved in the RTL movement and to be a part of saving lives, educating people and, quite literally, making a difference,” Jacki told me. “With new tools at our finger tips, the technology we have, there is absolutely nothing that cannot be accomplished.”



rest periods, lunch breaks or overtime pay, or retaliating against them for taking medical leave.” That is independent of settlements settled **out** of court.

As Katie Franklin explained, this latest scandal highlights three important truths about the nation’s larger abortion “provider”:

(1). Planned Parenthood endangers pregnancies, not

specializes in attributing to others (in this case pregnancy help centers) what they, in fact, are guilty of.

“Although not exactly shocking,” Franklin wrote, the *Times* article “brings to light a few important points about the hypocrisy of the abortion industry and the lobbyists and politicians who defend them.”

One other incredibly

PLANNED PARENTHOOD: Abortion. Money. Politics. Scandal.

By Paul Stark

Editor's note. This is excerpted from a new Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life brochure about Planned Parenthood. You can find the full brochure online at mccl.org/resources.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD portrays itself as an

Federation of America (PPFA) performed 321,384 abortions in 2016, according to the group's 2016- 2017 annual report. That makes Planned Parenthood, by far, the leading practitioner of abortion in the United States.

In recent years, the annual abortion total at Planned

pregnancy-related services Planned Parenthood provides women who are already pregnant (abortion, adoption referral, prenatal services), abortion accounts for 97 percent.

For every one adoption referral, Planned Parenthood performs 83 abortions. The

South Dakota (PPMNS), the regional PPFA affiliate, operates Minnesota's largest abortion facility in St. Paul. (PPMNS recently joined with another affiliate to become Planned Parenthood North Central States.) The center performed a record-high 6,234 abortions in 2017, according to the Minnesota Department of Health—more than three times that of the state's next highest practitioner.

In the year ending June 30, 2017, PPMNS generated revenue of more than \$47 million, including more than \$5 million from the government. The group benefits from Minnesota's policy of Medicaid-funded abortion, which allows Planned Parenthood to offer "free" (state-funded) abortions to low-income women. PPMNS billed Minnesota taxpayers a record-high \$521,596 for a record-high 2,322 abortions in 2016, according to the Minnesota Department of Human Services. Planned Parenthood has increased its tax-funded abortions by 168 percent since 2011.

Planned Parenthood doesn't deserve our support

Planned Parenthood is in the business of ending the lives of human beings before they are born. And it is a profitable business.

But it does not deserve our support or our tax dollars.



indispensable provider of women's health care. But what do the facts tell us?

Year after year, Planned Parenthood makes hundreds of millions of dollars by performing hundreds of thousands of abortions while providing fewer and fewer non-abortion services. It vigorously seeks to defeat public policies that would limit abortion in any way. And it is heavily subsidized by American taxpayers.

Here's what everyone needs to know about Planned Parenthood.

Planned Parenthood nationwide

The Planned Parenthood

Parenthood has remained fairly stable (ranging from about 320,000 to 334,000) even as overall abortions in the country have dropped significantly.

Most of Planned Parenthood's other services, by contrast, have consistently declined. Contraceptive services have dropped 30 percent since 2009. Cancer screenings (mostly manual breast exams and pap tests) have dropped 64 percent. "Prenatal services" (which were always very rare) have plummeted 81 percent. "Total services" provided by Planned Parenthood are down 15 percent.

Among the three

group is 41 times more likely to perform an abortion than to provide any prenatal care.

Planned Parenthood took in a record \$1.46 billion in revenue during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017. That's an increase of more than \$100 million over the previous year and a 39 percent rise since 2009—even as the organization has provided fewer services to fewer clients. During just the last five years, Planned Parenthood's revenue has exceeded its expenses by \$420 million.

Planned Parenthood in Minnesota

Planned Parenthood Minnesota, North Dakota,

“My three Christmas miracles”: Triplets safely home after parents reject suggestion they abort one or more

By Dave Andrusko

It’s no secret to moms who’ve carried twins, let alone triplets, that there can be significant complications along the way.

And when Katie Johnson went in for her 12 week scan, the doctors gave her frightening news, as she told Lucy Laing of the *Daily Mail*. The triplets were not growing as rapidly as they should because the placenta was not being shared equally among Oliver, Aurelia, and Oscar.

“There was a risk to all of them,” Mrs. Johnson told Laing. “Oliver was 25 per cent smaller than his brother and the blood flow wasn’t getting to him properly. If Oliver died, Oscar could have died too.”

The doctors suggested aborting one, if not two, of the babies, rather than risk all three.

“But there was no way that we could terminate one or two babies,” Mrs. Johnson said. “We had to give them all a chance of survival.”

To their credit, once Katie and Patrick Johnson turned down the plan of action, doctors at King’s College Hospital carefully monitored the triplets

throughout the pregnancy.

“It was nerve-racking as they were scanned each week, and it wasn’t getting any better with Oliver,” Mrs. Johnson told the *Daily Mail*. “At 28 weeks



we were told he had stopped growing completely. But doctors said that as long as the blood flow carried on getting to

him, then they would leave him in the womb.”

However, three weeks later, a medical emergency forced a C-section. The blood flow to Oliver had stopped and without

Johnson told Laing. “Oliver was incredibly tiny.”

According to Laing, “Oliver weighed only 2lb 15oz, while his identical twin Oscar was 4lb. Non-identical Aurelia was 3lb 15oz.”

But there is a happy ending. The triplets, whom she describes as “My three Christmas miracles,” gained strength and were allowed to go home after just four weeks.

“They have done incredibly well; we are so proud of them,” Mrs. Johnson said of the triplets who are now 11 weeks old. “Oliver has put on some weight, so he’s catching up with his brother now. The doctors expect the difference to even out at some point.”

And she had nothing but praised for the staff.

“The staff at King’s College Hospital were fantastic, she said. “We couldn’t have got through it without them.

“We feel incredibly lucky that the triplets have all survived, and are here with us to celebrate their first Christmas. It’s an incredible gift.”

WATCH: Abortion activist tells kids: Abortion is ‘part of God’s plan,’ like visiting dentist

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why she had to abort her baby just because she didn’t want one.

At the end of the video, one tattooed teenage girl—who is apparently very supportive of abortion—asked Bonow if she had any tattoos. Bonow responded by peeling back her lower lip to reveal the word “abortion” tattooed inside. Both of them found this to be hilarious.

This video is a perfect example of our society’s schizophrenic approach to science—and almost everything else. Science is important, except when it comes to life in the womb, where it becomes inconvenient for those wishing to shout their abortions at little kids without judgment for killing littler kids.

Watching the video, it is hard to see Bonow as anything but a bully when she is talking

to the smallest girls, because obviously they are only allowed to voice one opinion or they’ll promptly find themselves arguing with an adult abortion activist who spends her life defending her irresponsibility and subsequent feticide in public.

Interestingly, pro-life activists could tell Bonow what children really think when they encounter the idea of abortion.

Most of them are instantly sad, and many of them ask a question that Bonow might have a hard time answering: “Who broke the baby?”

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

The impact of 2018 elections on the 116th Congress

From page 7

to Life told *National Right to Life News*. “Senator Cramer specifically mentioned in his acceptance speech that he only decided to run for Senate after Heidi Heitkamp’s vote against 20-week abortion ban and her high-five to Senator Schumer last January [following the vote]. We are confident that Senator Cramer will always put LIFE first when representing North Dakota in Washington, D.C.”

Tennessee

Pro-life Senator Marsha Blackburn and pro-abortion former Governor Phil Bredesen vied for Senator Bob Corker’s open seat. Blackburn won 54.7-43.9%.

Jennifer Popik, J.D., National Right to Life director of federal legislation, said, “We applaud Senator Blackburn for her long history of protecting unborn children while in the U.S. House and look forward to her continued leadership in the Senate.” Brian Harris, president of the NRLC affiliate in Tennessee, said, “Tennessee Right to Life is grateful for the defeat of pro-abortion Phil Bredesen in the race for the U.S. Senate.”

In addition to the new senators, two incumbent senators overcame daunting challenges: pro-life Senators Cindy Hyde-Smith (MS) and Ted Cruz (TX).

Mississippi

National Right to Life reached more than 60,000 pro-life Mississippians in the special runoff between pro-life Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith and pro-abortion former Congressman Mike Espy. NRL’s political entities ran radio ads statewide, mailed brochures, distributed literature, dropped flyers, made get-out-the-vote phone calls, and shared videos, memes, and articles on social media to ensure Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith’s defeat of pro-abortion Mike Espy, 54-46%.

“We are very excited about the win of Sen. Cindy Hyde-

Smith. In the Mississippi legislature she was a solid pro-life vote and we are thankful to have her in the U.S. Senate to continue with that record,” said Barbara Whitehead, president of Mississippi Right to Life.

Texas

Texas Right to Life summed up the hard-fought battle won by pro-life Senator Ted Cruz:

“All the celebrity endorsements, elite fundraisers, and cult-like fanfare could not secure pro-abortion Robert Francis “Beto” O’Rourke a win in the Lone Star State over pro-life champion Senator Ted Cruz in what proved to be the most expensive Senate race in U.S. history. Senator Cruz will return to Washington, D.C., to continue fighting for the pro-life movement on the influential Senate Judiciary Committee.”

Senator Cruz defeated Beto O’Rourke, 50.9-48.3%.

U.S. House of Representatives

Historically in mid-term elections, the president’s party loses seats and one or both houses of Congress flip to the opposing party.

In addition, in 2018, 34 Republican members of Congress decided not to run, making retaining the House a virtually impossible task. Because the House leadership shifted to Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Ca.), an avid abortion supporter, it was vitally important to elect solid pro-life freshmen Congressmen.

National Right to Life Legislative Director Jennifer Popik was encouraged by the new pro-life members of Congress. “This is a very committed pro-life class of freshmen,” she told *NRL News*. “We know that in the House of Representatives, we will be facing a pro-abortion majority intent on rolling back long-standing protections on Federal

funding of abortion. We can also expect hearings and votes on radical measures to undo Trump Administrative pro-life wins and to undo protective state legislation. We are looking forward to working hard with these new members to protect life.”

Following is a state-by-state breakdown of new pro-life members.

Florida

Florida Right to Life celebrated three new pro-life Congressmen in 2018: pro-life

first district, carrying 63% of the vote.

Kansas

Army veteran and engineer Steve Watkins defeated pro-abortion state House Minority Leader Paul Davis in a close race, 48-46%.

“In addition to voting 81 out of 84 times against life in his ten plus years as a Kansas state representative, Watkins’ opponent, Democrat Paul Davis, also co-hosted a fundraiser for late-term abortionist George Tiller’s



National Right to Life Legislative Director Jennifer Popik with Indiana Congressman Greg Pence

State Rep. Ross Spano (FL 15); state Senator Greg Steube (FL 17), and Michael Waltz (FL 6).

Lynda Bell, president of Florida Right to Life, touted the victories as a victory for the unborn, the elderly and the infirm. “FRTL worked hard towards the election of these pro-life candidates and the defeat of the pro-abortion radicals,” she told *NRL News*. “We believe the pro-life support helped push these candidates across the finish line.”

Idaho

Pro-life state Senator Russ Fulcher defeated Democrat Cristina McNeil in the open

political action committee, ProKanDo,” stated Mary Kay Culp, executive director for Kansans for Life.

Minnesota

Former U.S. Treasury official Jim Hagedorn narrowly defeated pro-abortion Obama administration official Dan Feehan in the open first district, 50.2-49.8%. Feehan was supported by Planned Parenthood and NARAL Pro-Choice America.

In the 8th district, St. Louis County Commissioner

The impact of 2018 elections on the 116th Congress

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Pete Stauber defeated pro-abortion former state Rep. Joe Radinovich winning 50.7% of the vote.

“Congressman Pete Stauber is a perfect fit for Minnesota’s 8th congressional district,” said Leo LaLonde, president of Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life. “He is pro-life and matches the priorities of the people of his district. That is so refreshing in this time of division.”

Mississippi

Congressman Michael Guest, the district attorney for Madison and Rankin Counties, bested state Rep. Michael Evans, 63-36%.

“Michael Guest, as the new 3rd district congressman, will be a solid pro-life vote. Mississippi RTL is very happy with these results to add to other pro-lifers: Sen. Roger Wicker, Rep. Steve Palazzo, and Rep. Trent Kelly,” added Barbara Whitehead.

North Dakota

Congressman Kelly Armstrong was a member of the North Dakota State Senate when he decided to run for Kevin Cramer’s open congressional seat. Armstrong soundly defeated pro-abortion Democrat Mac Schneider, 60.3-35.6%.

“We are very excited to have Congressman Kelly Armstrong join the U.S. House of Representatives, making North Dakota one of the few states that has all pro-life Congressman representing us,” said Medora Nagle.

Ohio

Ohio has a new pro-life member in the 16th district: pro-life former NFL Baltimore Colts’ wide receiver Anthony Gonzalez.

Gonzales defeated pro-abortion Democrat Susan Moran Palmer with 57% of the vote to replace outgoing Rep. Jim Renacci.

Oklahoma

Pro-life businessman Kevin Hern won the open first district seat with 59% of the vote.

“Kevin Hern is our newly elected, strongly pro-life congressman from the 1st District of Oklahoma,” said Tony Lauinger, state chairman of Oklahomans For Life. “He is a dedicated and steadfast supporter of the right to life who will admirably carry on Tulsa’s tradition of solid pro-life representation in Congress.”

Pennsylvania

Due to court-mandated redistricting, many of Pennsylvania’s voters found themselves voting for a new congressman. Three new pro-life congressmen were elected: businessman Dan Meuser (PA 9), former judge, state Senator Guy Reschenthaler (PA 14), and Dr. John Joyce (PA 13).

“We are delighted with the election of Congressmen Dan Meuser, Guy Reschenthaler, and John Joyce,” said Maria V. Gallagher, legislative director for the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation. “They will be dedicated defenders of the most vulnerable among us.”

South Carolina

“South Carolina Citizens for Life is pleased with the election of pro-life Republican William Timmons, SC-4, to the United States House of Representatives,” Holly Gatling, executive director of South Carolina Citizens for Life, told *National Right to Life News*. “We look forward to working with him on life-protecting legislation.”

South Dakota

Pro-life businessman Dusty Johnson handily defeated Tim Bjorkman, 60-36%, to win Kristi Noem’s open seat. Noem was elected governor.

Tennessee

Tennessee elected three new pro-life Congressmen in 2018: Knoxville Mayor Tim Burchett (TN 2); Tennessee’s former Agriculture Commissioner John Rose (TN 6), and state Senator Mark Green (TN 7).

“Tennessee Right to Life is grateful for the election of our endorsed congressional candidates,” said Brian Harris. “Congressmen Burchett and Green served the pro-life cause in the Tennessee legislature and will bring experience and demonstrated commitment to the U.S. House.”

Texas

Five new pro-life freshmen congressmen were elected in Texas. Dan Crenshaw (TX 2), Van Taylor (TX 3), Lance Gooden (TX 5), Ron Wright (TX 6), and Chip Roy (TX 21) will represent Texas’ values in the 116th Congress.

Virginia

“Virginia is very fortunate to have two new pro-life Congressmen,” said Olivia Gans Turner, president of Virginia Society for Human Life. “Cong. Ben Cline has served the pro-life cause steadfastly during his time in the Virginia General Assembly. He will bring that experience to Washington, D.C. Cong. Denver Riggleman comes to Congress with a clear understanding that pro-life issues matter to the people of Virginia and he will support those concerns.”

West Virginia

“Prior to her November 6 victory, Congresswoman Carol Miller amassed a 100% pro-life voting record in the West Virginia House of Delegates,” said Mary Anne Buchanan, West Virginians for Life communications director. “Among others, Miller’s 16 of 16 pro-life record includes votes on The Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, The Unborn Child Protection from Dismemberment Abortion Act and SJR 12, the No Constitutional Right to Abortion Amendment, which was historically ratified by West Virginia voters in the general election.”

Wisconsin

“We are thrilled that the 1st congressional district in Wisconsin remains with a congressman who is strongly pro-life,” said Heather Weininger, executive director of Wisconsin Right to Life. “Congressman Bryan Steil will serve the district well, and all of the citizens of Wisconsin.”

The loss of the U.S. House to pro-abortion leadership means pro-lifers will be on defense on many pro-life fronts. Democrats now hold 235 seats to 199 for Republicans. To regain control in 2020, Republicans need a net gain of 18 to 19 seats, depending on the outcome of NC 9, which is still pending.

There are now 53 Republican senators in the 116th Congress. In addition to making it easier for President Trump to have his nominations confirmed, this means we have a stopgap for pro-abortion efforts in the House.

And now we work hard to protect life during the 116th Congress as we prepare for new opportunities in 2020.

A look ahead at the 116th Congress

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Unborn Child Protection Act in this Congress. This legislation extends general protection to unborn children who are at least 20 weeks beyond fertilization (which is equivalent to 22 weeks of pregnancy — about the start of the sixth month). This vital legislation is similar to laws enacted in 16 states beginning in 2010, based on National Right to Life model legislation.

There is abundant medical evidence that by this point in development (and probably earlier), the unborn child has the capacity to experience excruciating pain during typical abortion procedures.

It is now commonplace to read about evidence that, by 20 weeks fetal age and even earlier, an unborn child responds to many forms of stimuli, including music and the mother's voice. Claims that the same child is nevertheless insensible to the violence done to her body during an abortion should engender strong skepticism.

Abortions at this stage typically are performed using a variety of techniques, including a method in which the unborn child's arms and legs are twisted off by brute manual force, using a long stainless-steel clamping tool. A medical illustration of this common method is posted here: www.nrlc.org/abortion/pba/deabortiongraphic/

Just some of the extensive scientific evidence that unborn children have the capacity to experience pain, at least by 20 weeks fetal age, is available at here: www.doctorsonfetalpain.com

A common pro-abortion response is that late abortions are "rare." That is not true.

At least 275 facilities offer abortions past 20 weeks fetal age.

The public is in our corner on this matter. In a nationwide poll of 1,623 registered voters, The Quinnipiac University Poll found that 60% would support a law such as the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act prohibiting abortion after 20 weeks, while only 33% opposed such legislation. Women voters split 59-35% in support of such a law, while independent voters supported it by 56-36%.

The Dismemberment Abortion Ban Act

This vital pro-life legislation would prohibit the performance

of dismemberment abortion. The act is based on a model state bill proposed by National Right to Life, which has been enacted in Alabama, Arkansas, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Ohio, Texas, and West Virginia. More states are expected to consider the legislation in 2019.

This legislation defines "dismemberment abortion" as "knowingly dismembering a living unborn child and extracting such unborn child one piece at a time from the uterus through the use of clamps, grasping forceps, tongs, scissors or similar instruments that, through the convergence of two rigid levers, slice, crush

or grasp a portion of the unborn child's body in order to cut or rip it off . . ."

The method is commonly used starting at about 14 weeks of pregnancy, extending into the third trimester. A medical illustration of a D&E dismemberment abortion is available at www.nrlc.org/abortion/pba/deabortiongraphic.

An unborn child should not be subjected to the cruel violence of having her arms and legs torn off by brute force, with steel tools that grasp, tear, and crush.

2019 promises to be an eventful year, one where we must remain vigilant!



The Title X Abortion Provider Prohibition Act, which is supported by National Right to Life, would prohibit funds under the federal Title X family planning program from going to entities (other than hospitals) that perform abortions. The entities covered by the bill include, but are not limited to, affiliates of Planned Parenthood. The bill also enhances funding for Community Health Centers.

As we roll into 2019, NRLC and its 50 state affiliates welcome the new legislative session *From page 33*

that dismemberment abortions aren't barbaric; that unborn babies, no matter how far along they are in their development, can't experience horrific pain.

Abortionists and their media enablers throw in words like "common abortion procedure" in an attempt to "normalize" the brutality that is taking place. But we will never allow that to happen.

Both Kansas and Kentucky passed a ban on "web cam abortion." This legislation prohibits the use of telemedicine in order to prescribe a chemical abortion. Webcam abortions means abortionists can prescribe abortifacients without ever seeing a woman in person. There are now 20 states which have banned webcam

abortions; the law is in effect in 17 of those states.

Nebraska passed a law that prioritized the use of Title X funds by redirecting this money to full service public health departments that do not perform abortions and away from abortion giants. Similarly, Tennessee codified into their statute a 2011 Governor's order that also prioritized Title X funding away from facilities that perform abortion.

Ultrasound/informed consent

Tennessee enacted a law that would offer pregnant mothers a chance to see an ultrasound, if ultrasounds are already being used prior to the abortion. There are now 28 states with some type of ultrasound viewing law. Utah

also amended their informed consent law to modernize how mothers receive information on abortion risks, their baby's development, and resources on alternatives to abortion.

The abortion industry vehemently opposes any informed consent law that provides mothers with accurate information about her baby's development, or information on alternate resources to abortion, and lately adding information about the abortion pill reversal to informed consent laws.

Why? Remember what Ms. Nash is protecting—abortion is a huge money maker for Planned Parenthood.

South Dakota also passed a law amending their informed consent law targeting inaccurate disclosures that

the local abortion facility was circulating.

Arizona, Idaho, and Indiana also passed laws that amended their reporting laws to include the reporting of complications resulting from the abortion.

This is just a snapshot of last year's legislative session, and there is still so much work to be done.

With a new legislation session just around the corner, it is not surprising that editorial boards and articles are popping up with increased frequency on the web. Because they are scared (and they ought to be), they want to frighten the public and intimidate legislators.

Roe was built on a foundation of lies. Those same lies, and many new ones, have been used to erect a protective wall around *Roe*.

But commonsense protective laws that NRLC has promoted for decades is slowly chipping away at those lies. Laws like the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, The Unborn Child Protection from Dismemberment Abortion Act, Ultrasound laws, Informed Consent laws, Parental Involvement laws, and Unborn Victims of Violence laws--among so many others.

What are these laws accomplishing? Protecting babies and their mothers, and also education the public.

And that might be the abortion industry's fear : that the public will finally learn the truth.

That's what our Movement has prompted since the 1960s: the truth about abortion.

As we roll into 2019, we welcome the new session and we are ready to continue to pass laws across all state legislatures that protect babies and their mothers.

