



**October 2016**

Three weeks before the elections,  
an overview of key Senate races





# national RIGHT TO LIFE NEWS

## Hillary Clinton and the Democrats want you to pay for abortions

By Karen Cross, National Right to Life Political Director

Hillary Clinton, Tim Kaine, and the Democratic party want to make you pay for abortion on demand. They want to repeal the law called the Hyde Amendment, which currently prevents your tax dollars from paying for abortion. If they succeed, you *will* pay for abortion, for any reason, with your tax dollars.

The latest research concludes that changing the law will mean that 60,000 more

unborn babies will die each year.

It is estimated that since 1976, the Hyde Amendment has

saved more than two million babies' lives.

Clinton, Kaine and their party allies think that's a bad thing.

Donald Trump and Mike Pence know better. Donald Trump and Mike Pence will keep your tax dollars from paying for abortion. Donald Trump and Mike Pence oppose partial-birth abortion, and will support common-sense laws to protect unborn babies from painful late dismemberment abortions.

**Hillary Clinton  
and the Democrats  
want you to pay  
for abortions.**



*See "Force," page 14*

## An update of key Senate races before the elections

By Joe Landrum

*Editor's note. There are many competitive House races as well, but too many to go into here. To read about the important races NRL PAC is involved in, see [www.nrlpac.org](http://www.nrlpac.org).*

As National Right to Life has explained in elaborate detail, the next president will nominate a successor for the late Justice Antonin Scalia, and probably have the opportunity to nominate successors to at least two more justices. The United States Senate will confirm or block these nominees. Pro-lifers across the nation must

remain focused on maintaining enough votes to confirm pro-life justices.

The next Senate will also decide whether to advance pro-life legislation, such as the *Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act* and the *Dismemberment Abortion Ban Act*.

So, yes, elections matter. Your vote matters.

Remember, even if you don't live in one of the key states we will be looking at, you may have family or friends

*See "Senate," page 23*



# Editorials

## In case anyone should ask.....

There will be one more digital edition of *National Right to Life News* that will be sent out the first week of November. But as I write this, with fewer than four weeks until the United States elects its 44<sup>th</sup> President, it's important that we do enough over the next three + weeks so that we are able to answer the following in a way that would make us (and our children) proud. (For some useful assistance, see, in particular, pages 3, 12, 31-32.)

**In case anyone should ask**, are you ready to vote? Do you know who the pro-life candidates are? Did you encourage your pro-life family and friends to vote for those pro-life candidates, whether for President, Senate, or House of Representatives?

**In case anyone should ask**, did you help National Right to Life's PAC or the NRL Victory Fund? Historically, no one has done more with less to help pro-life candidates than NRL PAC and the NRL Victory Fund.

**In case anyone should ask**, did you share the truth about Hillary Clinton's never-enough position on abortion? Did you lay out, chapter and verse, her long, **long** history of passionate abortion advocacy, a commitment to exponentially increasing the number of aborted babies overseas and to frisking your pockets for tax money to pay for slaughtering the innocents, both at home and abroad?

**In case anyone should ask**, did you contrast Donald Trump's position on the fate of the little ones with Hillary Clinton's? Did you make it crystal clear that while he is committed to protecting the life-saving Hyde Amendment, Clinton would eliminate a policy that has stood for 40 years? That he would nominate pro-life candidates to the Supreme Court while Clinton's litmus test is 100% support for *Roe v. Wade*, the 1973 Supreme Court decision whose tsunami like impact has resulted in the deaths of nearly 60



million unborn babies?

**In case anyone should ask**, yes, you can document how militantly pro-abortion Clinton is. In addition to the above, while a U.S. senator she opposed the ban on partial-birth abortions. For those new to the Movement or new to the issue, partial-birth abortions are usually performed in the fifth and sixth months of pregnancy and so grotesque even hard-core pro-abortionists blanch. But not Hillary Clinton.

*See "In case," page 34*

## Lessons from the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hyde Amendment and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Planned Parenthood

Planned Parenthood, the brainchild of eugenicist Margaret Sanger, celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday Sunday. Over the last month, *NRL News Today*, our Monday through Saturday format for distributing the best in pro-life information, wrote at length about the eerie confluence of the 40th anniversary of the life-affirming Hyde Amendment, on September 30, and the 100th anniversary of the life-denying Planned Parenthood Federation of America, on October 16.

We have two stories specifically about the Hyde Amendment in the October digital edition of *NRL News*. When you understand that at least two million people escaped with their lives because of the Hyde Amendment, you easily appreciate why PPFA so hates the now 40-year-old provision and why PPFA's candidate, Hillary Clinton, even more so.

No "unwanted" child should ever escape Planned Parenthood's maw, let alone two million. As Prof. Michael New explained in his study of the Hyde Amendment's impact, "This is roughly equal to

the entire population of Houston, the fourth largest city in America. It is also roughly equal to the population of the entire state of New Mexico, and to the combined populations of the states of Rhode Island and Delaware."

We have three other stories about PPFA in this edition. As always they are swimming in money (their CEO's salary just jumped to nearly \$1 million) and their political arms brag they can influence the outcomes of Senate races in multiple states.

In this editorial, rather than talk about the fawning press CEO Cecile Richards habitually receives, or the duplicitous ways PPFA hides its up-to-its-eyeballs involvement in abortion, or the arms-locked-together team of PPFA, Clinton, and the Democrat Party, let's look at Sanger.

*See "Lessons," page 34*



# From the President Carol Tobias Life Matters

Bizarre. Heart-rending. Sad. Mind-boggling. Select your own adjective. To put it mildly, this election season has been one of the most unusual our country has ever seen. With just a couple weeks to go before the election, it is still inevitable that our next president will be either Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump. We must remember that we're in this battle because LIFE MATTERS.

More than 59 million innocent babies are dead because of legal abortion. That's 59,000,000 lives, lives of boys and girls who are no more because the Supreme Court decided their lives have no value.

Planned Parenthood Federation of America, the nation's largest abortion provider, is responsible for the deaths of more than 6.7 million of those preborn babies. Why is that important? Because PPFA wants Hillary Clinton to be our next president. She wants to make sure PPFA continues to receive taxpayer funds. In addition, she wants to change the existing law so PPFA can be reimbursed by the taxpayers for killing the children of women on Medicaid.

We hear, of course, that other issues are important and we can't be "single-issue." Issues like poverty and child abuse. In 1978, NARAL (now NARAL-Pro-Choice America) said freely available abortion will "greatly reduce the number of unwanted children, and thereby curb the tragic rise of child abuse in our country." That hasn't happened. Approximately 700,000 kids are abused each year (and that doesn't even include the one million abortions each year). Not surprisingly, reducing the value of unborn children has also reduced the value of born children.

Poverty? The numbers are falling but we still have millions of people below

the official poverty line. Abortion hasn't suddenly made people rich -- unless they're in the abortion industry.

Respect for women, or abuse of women? Many claim that women can't be "free" until they can control their own bodies-- a woman should have the "right" to kill her unborn child, a child with a body separate from her own. And yet, read any issue of *National Right to Life News* and you will see evidence that more and more women every year are beaten and assaulted because she **won't** kill her child by abortion.

What about the untold number of women who are suffering because they regret killing their child? Depression, suicidal thoughts, drug and alcohol abuse, and self-condemnation are rampant. Abortion didn't help make their lives better.

I often think of the couple I met who got an abortion many years ago. That turned out to be their only child and they now regret having no grandchildren to enjoy. Abortion is not a cure-all for any problem. It is an end-all of the unborn child's life.

A lot of charges of racism have been bandied about during this election. What about the racism that exists among abortion purveyors? 79% of Planned Parenthood surgical abortion centers are within walking distance of African American or Hispanic/Latino neighborhoods. In New York City alone, 60% of viable black pregnancies are aborted. That should certainly be part of the discussion about racism.

There are many issues, no doubt. But as Mother Teresa stated, "'We must not be surprised when we hear of murders, of killings, of wars, of hatred. If a mother can kill her own child, what is left but for us to kill each other.'

### **Sadly, the media matters, too**

For years the media has shown bias in its reporting on pro-life issues, as well as pro-life candidates. When we hear that NBC News had the "Trump tape" for a couple of months but decided to wait until one month before the election and just prior to a debate to release it, that's kind of a "there they go again" moment.

Pro-lifers have a natural, justified skepticism of anything they hear or read in the "mainstream" media. Why do the accusations matter when made against a Republican candidate but it wasn't an issue when the candidate was Bill Clinton?

Media Research Center found that, over a four-day period, the major news outlets spent 198 minutes on Donald Trump's now-famous tape but only 13 minutes on the WikiLeaks release of Clinton campaign emails.

How many people have learned that Donna Brazile, then a CNN contributor and now head of the DNC, had the exact wording of a town hall question and passed it on to the Clinton campaign prior to a debate with Bernie Sanders? How many have heard that Clinton campaign officials showed anti-Catholic bigotry or that John Podesta, chairman of Clinton's campaign, helped to create a "Catholic" group to foment disagreement in the Catholic Church on moral issues?

The media bias continues. Last November, Hillary Clinton tweeted that "Every survivor of sexual assault deserves to be heard, believed, and supported." Yet, there was very little coverage and certainly no outcry of indignation when Joy Behar, co-host of ABC's "The View," called the women claiming assault by Bill Clinton "tramps." I guess only women who fit the mold of a pro-abortion liberal have a right to be offended and defended.

### **Again, LIFE matters**

Are all social ills caused by abortion? No. Will all social ills be cured when unborn children are again protected? No. But when a society decides to value and protect the lives of innocent, defenseless children, we will be taking a gigantic step forward in understanding that all human life is precious.

Never forget that without the right to Life, we have no other rights. There are many issues in a campaign, but when we vote, one "issue" must take precedence.

LIFE matters!

## Please Help NRLC fight pro-abortion extremists

I think every pro-life American knows what is at stake on November 8th.

The Democratic party has thrown out any pretense of defending Americans' conscience rights, declaring in their party platform this summer that they intend to force each of us to pay for abortions with our tax dollars.

That could result in as many as 60,000 additional abortions of innocent unborn babies each year!

If a pro-abortion Congress and president are elected, we

could also see the overturning of the ban on partial-birth abortion that we worked so hard to pass.

As Indiana governor and vice presidential candidate Mike Pence said so eloquently in his recent debate:

**". . .what I can't understand is with Hillary Clinton, and now Senator Kaine at her side, is to support a practice like partial-birth abortion. The very idea that a child**

**that is almost born into the world could still have their life taken from them is just anathema to me."**

The lesson is that the real extremists are on the pro-abortion side. All of us should tell people that every chance we get!

I hope all of us will support National Right to Life now as it shares these truths through media, through outreach,

through advertising, and through our nationwide grassroots network.

Extreme policies like late abortions or taxpayer funding of abortion should never be supported!

That's why we ask you to support National Right to Life now with a generous contribution. We can still get the word out to thousands of additional citizens - if we have the resources!

Thank you for all you do for the unborn!



# How can you be pro-life but not vote pro-life?

By Jean Garton

Columnists and late-night comedians are having a field day with the way political candidates bob and weave on issues. A popular cartoon strip even featured one candidate in the shape of a waffle.

dichotomy between who they say they are and how they vote, they give a variety of reasons. “Out of party loyalty,” say some or because they agree with a pro-choice candidate on other issues. “I don’t believe

issue, an essential issue, a life and death issue.

Would we vote for someone who is “good” on issues like crime but who also condones child abuse? Isn’t that what abortion is - the first

A current TV commercial includes pictures with captions that read: “If you say you’re a cook, but don’t cook, you’re not a cook.” “If you say you’re a fire-fighter, but don’t fight fires, you’re not a fire-fighter.” “If you say you’re a coach, but don’t coach, then you’re not a coach.”

What if the next photo featured a line of people holding pro-life signs, but the caption says: “If you say you’re pro-life, but don’t vote pro-life, you’re not pro-life.” Is it even possible to be pro-life in name only?

Candidates who are pro-life have a respect and compassion for the most defenseless in our midst. Whatever other political and social issues they might embrace, they have the reasoning ability to cut through deceptive rhetoric that hides what abortion is and does.

Pro-life candidates at all levels are concerned with the future rather than with a quick fix to difficult problems. They are willing to stand for what is right rather than for what is politically expedient or politically correct.

How can a candidate who condones the violent, painful destruction of helpless unborn children be trusted to protect *our* rights and interests when it comes to other issues?

“I’m pro-life, but I’m not a single issue voter?” That just doesn’t pass the “smell test.” It doesn’t even pass the “straight-face” test.



Yet many Americans themselves are inconsistent and “waffle” on issues. Some of them, for instance, who hold a pro-life view, repeatedly vote against that conviction.

When asked why the

in being a single-issue voter,” state many.

Sorry, but that won’t pass the “smell” test, and it’s no excuse for having misplaced priorities. Certainly abortion is just one issue, but it is a fundamental

and worst abuse any child can suffer at the hands of an adult.

Would we vote for someone who is “good” on issues like job creation but who also affirms the “job” of being an abortionist? How pro-life is that?

# Planned Parenthood Turns 100 . . . Saddest Birthday Ever

By Jacki Ragan, Director, State Organizational Development Department

October 16, 2016 marked the 100th birthday of Planned Parenthood. National Right to Life has put together a packet of materials for your use in publicizing the REAL work that Planned Parenthood does, primarily killing babies.

We have prepared a packet of materials as well as a website to help you call attention to The Saddest Birthday Ever. You may visit the website [saddestbirthdayever.com](http://saddestbirthdayever.com) to get all materials, documentation links, etc., or you may email [stateod@nrlc.org](mailto:stateod@nrlc.org) and we will email you the PDF packet of materials.

Among the items in the packet are

- Access to the website which will have links to all documents contained in this packet. The website, [saddestbirthdayever.com](http://saddestbirthdayever.com) will be live by early next week.
- Sharable Memes for your use to publicize the real work of Planned Parenthood on Social Media.
- Ad Slicks and Church Bulletin Inserts
- 2 new Fact Sheets ~ one on politics and money, and one on the 3% myth
- Various articles on Planned Parenthood previously published in the *NRL News*
- MP3's of Pro-Life Perspectives
- Recordings of various sessions on Planned Parenthood from the

National Right to Life Convention

- Both a print petition and a sharable, online petition
- Sample letters to the editor on various topics regarding

Please use these items and help us publicize what Planned Parenthood really does. What they really stand for. More than 6.7 million lives have been lost at Planned Parenthood clinics.

Visit [saddestbirthdayever.com](http://saddestbirthdayever.com) to obtain the materials or email

get to expose the real Planned Parenthood.

Make a plan that will last all through October. Do something every day during the month of October to expose Planned Parenthood. Make your effort count. Help save lives. Help

6.7 million children  
can't celebrate  
Planned Parenthood's 100th Birthday.

**Planned Parenthood  
didn't invite them...  
they aborted them.**

**SADDEST  
BIRTHDAY ever.**

Planned Parenthood

- Two Op-Ed pieces ready to go regarding Planned Parenthood
- Floor speeches given by pro-life members of Congress exposing Planned Parenthood

[stateod@nrlc.org](mailto:stateod@nrlc.org) and we will email you the PDF packet.

Read through this information and develop a plan for your group, your chapter, your church, your neighborhood, your Sunday School class, your family or any gathering you can

expose Planned Parenthood for who they really are. 6.7 million lives lost at the hands of Planned Parenthood.

Thank you for your help with this important project.

# Lighting the children's road to freedom

By Dave Andrusko

In the run up to the very important November 8 elections, understandably we pay a great deal of attention to the political process. But whoever is President, pro-life Donald Trump or pro-abortion Hillary Clinton, an overarching question will remain unchanged: how do those who affirm the value of all human life most propitiously dialogue with the American people?

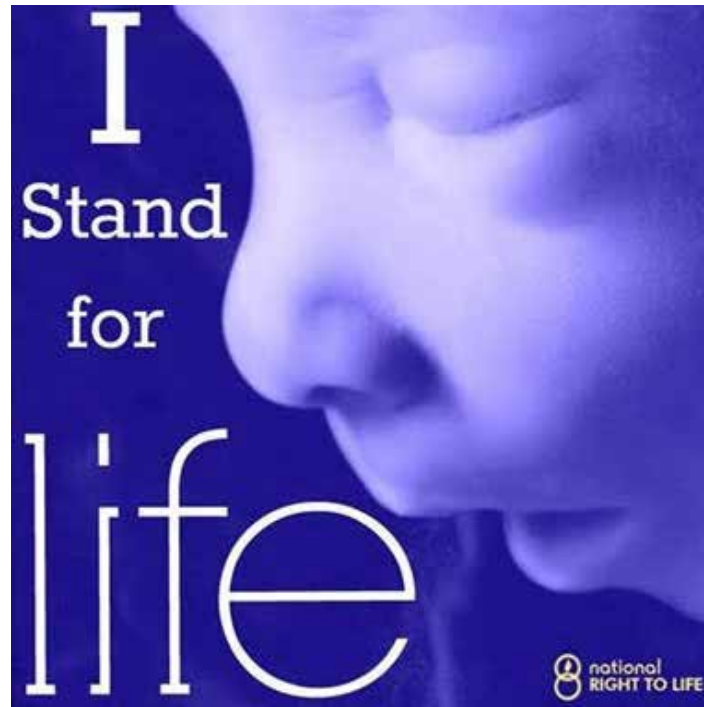
The historian W.E. Lecky somewhere observes that the spread of any idea depends not only on the intrinsic power of that idea but also on the predisposition of the age to which it is presented. Taking that as our cue, clearly our task is to create in modern America an overriding receptivity—a predisposition—to the idea that the unborn child is “one of us,” deserving of justice and loving care.

Since pro-lifers believe that virtually every heart, no matter how calloused, can be touched, we have a challenging job ahead of us. But before we can devise a winning strategy for seriously influencing the hearts and minds of people, we must figure out what are today's principal stumbling blocks, the primary obstacles that impede this receptivity to the message that the unborn are our brothers and sisters.

Surely the absence of sufficient information is not the problem. The wealth of information generated by our Movement is one of our greatest accomplishments. We believe in education. Whether it be popularizing the discoveries of fetology, displaying the pictures of the victims of abortion, or producing extraordinary videos

The Right to Life Movement seemingly has made it almost impossible for those with eyes to see and ears to hear to deny that abortion is a grievous offense against the individual

Barclay, who had an extraordinary understanding of the human capacity for self-deception, taught about three inexcusable forms of ignorance. The first he pictured



child and our collective humanity.

Does moral obtuseness stem from misunderstanding? The New Testament scholar William Barclay once distinguished between two kinds of misunderstanding. The first is of a man or woman who has not yet reached the stage of knowledge and experience which would allow him to grasp the truth.

There is also the misunderstanding of those who are unwilling to see. Can there be any doubt that, for most people the real explanation is not lack of information or experience, but their resolve to remain ignorant of the facts and relevant ethical issues?

as ignorance arising from neglect of knowledge. Here we are guilty because we neglect to know what is always open to us to know.

The second type was ignorance which is the result of willful blindness. We stubbornly refuse to look at the facts.

Finally, there is what Barclay termed ignorance that is in essence a lie. Borrowing from Barclay, we must ask ourselves why so many millions of people neglect the enormous body of pro-life information and lie to themselves by pretending that the deaths of nearly 60 million unborn babies is not of incalculable importance to every citizen of this Republic.

I don't pretend to have anywhere near a complete answer. Part of the reason, surely, is the human tendency to take what appears to be “the easy way out.” Part of it, no doubt, has to do with the desensitization that accompanies mass killing. And part of it is, of course, that evil hates the light lest its deeds be exposed.

Thus millions of people shield their eyes from the light—the light for which the Pro-Life Movement stands—indeed, would sooner extinguish the light than search their souls for the darkness within.

All of which brings us full-circle to our original question: how can we increase our nation's receptivity to our message of equality and mercy? How do we engage the consciences of Americans in a manner which allows the truth to enter in?

Let me say first, I hope what follows is not misunderstood. No one who makes his livelihood writing is likely to diminish the value of the content of what we say.

But if we ponder why people resist the pro-life message, I suggest that what we may learn is that it is at least as important, if not more so, how we convey our message—the spirit in which we communicate—than it is which particulars we include in the message itself.

This is to say it is not mere information that we must offer if we are to overcome the “ignorance” (in the sense Barclay meant) of Americans to abortion's cruelty and injustice.

*See “Lighting,” page 42*



# The vice presidential debate and abortion, Pence carries the day for unborn children

By Dave Andrusko

At the one and only vice presidential debate, held October 5, pro-life Indiana Gov. Mike Pence made the case for life eloquently, sincerely, and with conviction. Tim Kaine played the “don’t you trust women?” card—the pro-abortionist’s ultimate ace in the hole—but cleverly segued into another separate set of issues at the end of his answer to muddy the waters.

Here’s the setting. Kaine and Pence were asked by moderator Elaine Quijano of *CBS News*, “You have both been open about the role that faith has played in your lives. Can you discuss in detail a time when you struggled to balance your personal faith and a public policy position?”

Kaine used the occasion to opine

**I don’t believe in this nation, a First Amendment nation, where we don’t raise any religion over the other, and we allow people to worship as they please, that the doctrines of any one religion should be mandated for everyone.**

(As if any of the candidates wants to “raise any religion over the other.”)

Pence used the question to discuss the sanctity of life which had not been addressed:

**But for me, I would tell you that for me the sanctity of life proceeds out of the belief that — that ancient principle that — where God says before you were**

**formed in the womb, I knew you, and so from my first time in public life, I sought to stand with great compassion for the sanctity of life.**

**The state of Indiana has also sought to make sure that we expand alternatives in health care counseling for women, non-abortion alternatives. I’m also very pleased at the fact**



**we’re well on our way in Indiana to becoming the most pro-adoption state in America. I think if you’re going to be pro-life, you should — you should be pro-adoption.**

**But what I can’t understand is with Hillary Clinton and now Senator Kaine at her side is to support a practice like partial-birth abortion. I mean, to hold to the view — and I know Senator Kaine, you hold pro-life views personally — but the very idea that a child that is almost born into the world could still have their**

**life taken from them is just anathema to me.**

**And I cannot — I can’t conscience about — about a party that supports that. Or that — I know you’ve historically opposed taxpayer funding of abortion. But Hillary Clinton wants to — wants to repeal the longstanding provision in the law where we**

**said we wouldn’t use taxpayer dollars to fund abortion.**

**So for me, my faith informs my life. I try and spend a little time on my knees every day. But it all for me begins with cherishing the dignity, the worth, the value of every human life.**

Kaine responded by bringing up Donald Trump’s initial answer (to a typically loaded question from MSNBC’s pro-abortion Chris Matthews) about “punishing” women who had aborted, which Trump quickly took back. Not only that, Trump has pledged to appoint only pro-lifers to the Supreme Court,

sign a series of measures such as the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, and protect the Hyde Amendment.

Although interrupted by Kaine, Pence fleshed out his answer:

**But here’s — there is a choice, and it is a choice on life. I couldn’t be more proud to be standing with Donald Trump, who’s standing for the right to life. It’s a principle that — Senator Kaine — and I’m very gentle about this, because I really do respect you — it’s a principle that you embrace.**

**And I have appreciated the fact that you’ve supported the Hyde amendment, which bans the use of taxpayer funding for abortion, in the past, but that’s not Hillary Clinton’s view. People need to understand, we can come together as a nation. We can create a culture of life. More and more young people today are embracing life because we know we are — we’re better for it. We can — like Mother Teresa said at that famous national prayer breakfast... [Kaine interruption]**

**PENCE: ... bring the — let’s welcome the children into our world. There are so many families around**

*See “Pence,” page ??*

# Wanted not dead but alive

By Kurt Kondrich

*Editor's note. October is Down Syndrome Awareness Month. We will be posting stories, just like this one, all month at National Right to Life News Today (www.nationalrighttolifenews.org).*

As a former police officer I have always been fascinated by “Wanted Dead or Alive” posters that sought to track down dangerous villains who had committed heinous crimes. Many of these criminals had committed murder and were considered armed and dangerous. The lawmen who pursued these violent offenders were very brave and on occasion had to use deadly force to subdue the lawbreakers so that the public could be safe and justice could be served.

Currently there is a group of human beings who receive death sentence for the “crime” of being identified prenatally with a Down syndrome diagnosis.

These remarkable individuals are wholly innocent and have hurt nobody. Yet as many as 90% are convicted without a trial.

What is the faulty “evidence” that results in a death sentence? That individuals with Down syndrome are a “burden.” Truth is studies show that almost 100% of families—parents and

siblings—love their children with Down syndrome and are proud of them.

Likewise when asked, 99% of people with Down syndrome, ages 12 and older, indicated that

they were happy with their lives, 97% liked who they were, and 96% liked how they looked.

This lethal prenatal discrimination represents a total miscarriage of justice. Once a death verdict is rendered there is no chance for an appeal, commuted sentence, or pardon.

My beautiful daughter Chloe was born with a diagnosis of Down syndrome. In her 13 years, she has never posed a risk, a threat, or a danger to anyone. She has filled her community with more love, purity, joy and kindness than the majority of people do in a lifetime, and she teaches all people LIFE lessons that are desperately needed.

Children diagnosed prenatally with Down syndrome are literally dying for a LIFE sentence so they can shine their amazing lights.

In our misguided culture they should all be “Wanted not dead but alive.”

The reward for society is a group of priceless human beings this lost world cannot afford to lose.

Proverbs 31:8 *“Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves”*

**WANTED**

NOT dead but

**ALIVE**



**REWARD - Priceless Human Beings**  
Children diagnosed prenatally with Down syndrome are dying  
for a LIFE Sentence!  
#DOWNSYNDROMELIVESMATTER  
*Proverbs 31:8 "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves"*

# Social media has opened a world of possibility to promote the pro-life message

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

Lighting a candle rather than cursing the darkness has taken on a whole new and exciting meaning in our current age of social media.

Rather than condemn biased news media coverage of a pro-life candidate, you can take to your Facebook page and post a link to an informative piece at [www.nationalrighttolifenews.org](http://www.nationalrighttolifenews.org) or [www.nrlc.org](http://www.nrlc.org) which lays out the differences between candidates on the life issues.

Instead of grumbling about a television commentator who praises Planned Parenthood, the nation's largest abortion operation, you can log on to Twitter to tweet out statistics showing that the abortion giant took the lives of more than 327,000 children according to its 2014-2015 annual report (See <http://www.nrlc.org/abortion/plannedparenthood/>).

Upset that cable television networks ignore the authentic "reality show" of an unborn child's development? Go to the NRLC account on Pinterest and save the images from Rose's First Photo Album, a fantastic educational resource which shows the stunning images and milestones of a preborn child's development. Then encourage your fellow Pinterest enthusiasts to follow your board...in other words—spread the love—and the information!

A teenage family member of mine recently opened an Instagram account. I was pleasantly surprised when she clicked the "heart" button underneath a photo of me with a fashionably red "Stop Abortion

Now!" sign, which I had posted earlier in the day.

I was even more surprised by the motto she had typed beneath the picture of herself and her dog which serves as her "profile" picture. The motto reads, "Because life is worth

statistics show that as many as 90 percent of unborn children who are diagnosed with Down syndrome are victims of abortion.)

Not only can you influence your friends and family members with your pro-

shows, and scrolling through news websites can be downright depressing these days. But pro-life people are a people of hope and, through social media, we can communicate as never before the truths about human



living no matter what, even in a desert or under a bridge." She is sending out a pro-life message every time her 164 followers access her Instagram feed.

Social media has opened a world of possibility when it comes to promoting the pro-life message. You can post everything from Ultrasound pictures to March for Life video...from songs with a life-affirming message to YouTube videos showing the drive and determination of Special Olympians (Tragically,

life posts, you can also have an impact on your elected officials. A Pennsylvania state lawmaker recently responded enthusiastically to my Twitter post about a woman who had saved a number of preborn lives with her sign offering to adopt children in danger of being aborted. That legislator may, in fact, remember that post, the next time pro-life legislation is up for a vote in the General Assembly.

Yes, reading the newspaper, watching television news

development, the preciousness of the gift of life, and the triumphant stories of women who have chosen life for their preborn babies and been incredibly blessed as a result.

Through the stories and images that inspire us, we can encourage any one of our Facebook friends, along with our followers on Twitter, Pinterest, and Instagram, to brighten social media with the encouraging message that life is good and should be protected, treasured, and celebrated!

# Former President Bill Clinton calls ObamaCare “craziest thing in the world,” while Hillary Clinton promotes even more government control of healthcare

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

Former President Bill Clinton is turning heads after a surprise attack on the Obama Health Care law (Obamacare). Clinton told a crowd at a campaign rally in Michigan October 5

**You’ve got this crazy system where all of a sudden 25 million more people have health care, and then the people who are out there busting it,**

**use that. Something that won’t undermine your quality of life, won’t interfere with your ability to make expenses and save money, and let people buy into Medicare or Medicaid.**

While many of those who have seen undesirable changes to their healthcare over the past

healthcare and, contrary to her husband’s claim, takes aim at those perceived as having a low “quality of life.”

Bill Clinton is correct that the Obama healthcare law has not lived up to its many promises. You do not have to look far to see a staggering number of problems piling up.

Insurers are leaving the exchange markets all across the country, and people are seeing

**fourth annual open enrollment season, which starts on Nov. 1, a week before Election Day. In many counties, consumers will see higher premiums and fewer insurers, as Aetna, Humana and UnitedHealth have curtailed their participation in the exchanges, and many of the nonprofit insurance cooperatives, created with federal money, have shut down.**



**sometimes 60 hours a week, wind up with their premiums doubled and their coverage cut in half and it’s the craziest thing in the world...Figure out an affordable rate and let people**

few years under the Obama Health Care Law might see this as a welcome statement, something potentially worse is lurking under a Hillary Clinton presidency.

Secretary Clinton has promised a plan that expands government control of

plans that cover less and less every year.

Robert Pear’s *New York Times* October 2, 2016, article entitled, “Ailing Obama Health Care Act May Have to Change to Survive” notes

**The marketplace faces a major test in the**

This comes as no surprise to the many legal observers, National Right to Life included, who warned that the Obama health care law over-promised, under-funded, and contained multiple provisions meant to reduce American’s health care usage.

The dramatic flight of insurers from the state exchanges made national headlines this past August. While many are quick to blame insurers, the real culprit is likely an Obamacare provision: exchange bureaucrats must exclude insurers who offer policies deemed to allow “excessive or unjustified” health care spending by their policyholders.

Insurers are quoted as having their eye on managing rates hikes, in spite of the fact that these rate hikes are often

*See “Obamacare,” page 39*

“I set before you life and death . . .” -Deuteronomy 30:19

# Hillary Clinton and the Democrats want you to pay for abortions.



**Hillary Clinton has pledged to change the law so that your tax dollars will pay for abortion on demand. Compare the differences between the presidential candidates on Life.**

## Donald Trump

- **Donald Trump** has pledged to appoint only pro-life justices to the U.S. Supreme Court.
- **Donald Trump** opposes using your tax dollars to pay for abortion.
- **Donald Trump** is pro-life. He supports the bill to ban abortion after 20 weeks, when the unborn child can feel pain. He opposes dismemberment abortion and partial-birth abortion.
- **Mike Pence** is pro-life and has a strong pro-life voting record.

## Hillary Clinton

- **Hillary Clinton** has pledged to appoint only pro-abortion justices to the U.S. Supreme Court.
- **Hillary Clinton** would use your tax dollars to pay for abortion on demand.
- **Hillary Clinton** supports late abortion after 20 weeks, when the unborn child can feel pain, and dismemberment abortion. She voted to keep partial-birth abortion legal.
- **Tim Kaine** supports abortion on demand, paid for with your tax dollars.

**Compare the differences between the parties on Life.**

## Party Platforms

The Republican Party Platform affirms “that the unborn child has a fundamental right to life,” opposes using government funds to perform or promote abortion, and supports legislation to assist babies who survive abortion.

The Democratic Party Platform supports abortion on demand, and calls for repeal of the Hyde Amendment (which restricts the use of federal funds for abortion).

**COMPARE. DECIDE. VOTE NOVEMBER 8**

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# Advised repeatedly to abort, parents celebrate healthy baby's first birthday

By Dave Andrusko

Jo Scott says of her young daughter, who just celebrated her first birthday, "She's feisty, she's cheeky, she's independent and she is amazing." Sounds pretty typical, right?

But only a little over a year ago, doctors advised Jo and Chris Scott "four or five times" to abort Emie. Why? Because they were persuaded Emie's conditions were "incompatible with life."

First at the 12 week scan and then at the 20 week scan, the Scotts were advised of major

should be," Jo told the *Swindon Advertiser*. "They thought she had a condition called triploidy, which means they are incompatible with life."

Mrs. Scott told the *Mirror*

**"I felt like my whole world was ending but my gut instinct was telling me she was going to be alright.**

**"Every time I went to [Oxford's John Radcliffe Hospital] they said to me, 'You should have a termination.' It**

her in the eye and told her: 'She will not make it.'"

But Mrs. Scott could feel Emie wriggling around in her



*Emie pictured less than two weeks old*

stomach, "and she and husband Chris had a gut feeling that it was going to be OK – so they refused."

Jo Scott told the *Mirror*, "I said, 'I would rather she died on her own than me let somebody physically kill her.'"

What explains the prenatal problems? Further scans discovered that her stunted growth was because Jo's placenta was not attached properly.

Emie's delivery on October 5, 2015, was by no means an easy one. Jo developed a rare liver and blood clotting disorder and Emie was delivered via C-Section at 31 weeks. "Emie was put on a ventilator and rushed into intensive care, where she stayed for two-and-a-half months." Mrs. Scott lost four liters of blood, but both were okay.

The Scotts brought Emie

home December 17.

Now, a little over a year after her birth, Emie, who was born weighing 1lb, 11oz, "is growing fit and strong." She went to a petting zoo on her birthday because "Emie loves animals."



*Emie, Ava and mom Jo Scott*



*Emie Scott with sister Ava, 4*

chromosomal problems. At 12 weeks, *The Mirror* reported, the couple were told there was a high chance their baby would have Down syndrome.

"It was at our 20 week scan they told us that Emie was really small for what she

**must have been four or five times.**

**"They told me there was an 85 per cent chance she would die."**

Indeed, Mrs. Scott claims that a doctor the hospital "looked

"It was amazing to think that a year ago we didn't know what we whether we would be celebrating or not," Mrs. Scott said. "There is absolutely nothing wrong with her other than the fact she is tiny. I can't believe she is a year old already," she added.

## Hillary Clinton and the Democrats want you to pay for abortions

*From page 1*

In contrast, Hillary Clinton and Tim Kaine have pledged to change the law so that your tax dollars pay for abortion on demand. They support late abortions after 20 weeks when

the baby can feel pain. Clinton even voted in favor of partial-birth abortion!

The party platforms reflect these stark differences on taxpayer funding of abortion.

The Republican Party Platform opposes using government funds to perform or promote abortion, while the Democratic Party Platform calls for repeal of the Hyde Amendment. (See

page 12.)

The Hyde Amendment has been saving lives one baby at a time since 1976. Now that's a good thing!

## The vice presidential debate and abortion, Pence carries the day for unborn children

*From page 2*

**the country who can't have children. We could improve adoption... [Kaine interruption]**

**Because there is — a society can be judged by how it deals with its most vulnerable, the aged, the infirm, the disabled, and the unborn. I believe it with all my heart. And I couldn't be more proud to be standing with a pro-life candidate in Donald Trump.**

On the one hand, Pence offered a vision of creating a life-affirming culture, providing assistance to women with crisis pregnancies, fostering adoption, and building on the next generation which is increasingly pro-life.

On the other hand, Kaine reduces the deaths of over one million unborn babies every year to "trusting women." But as *National Review's* Ramesh Ponnuru observed the morning after the debate

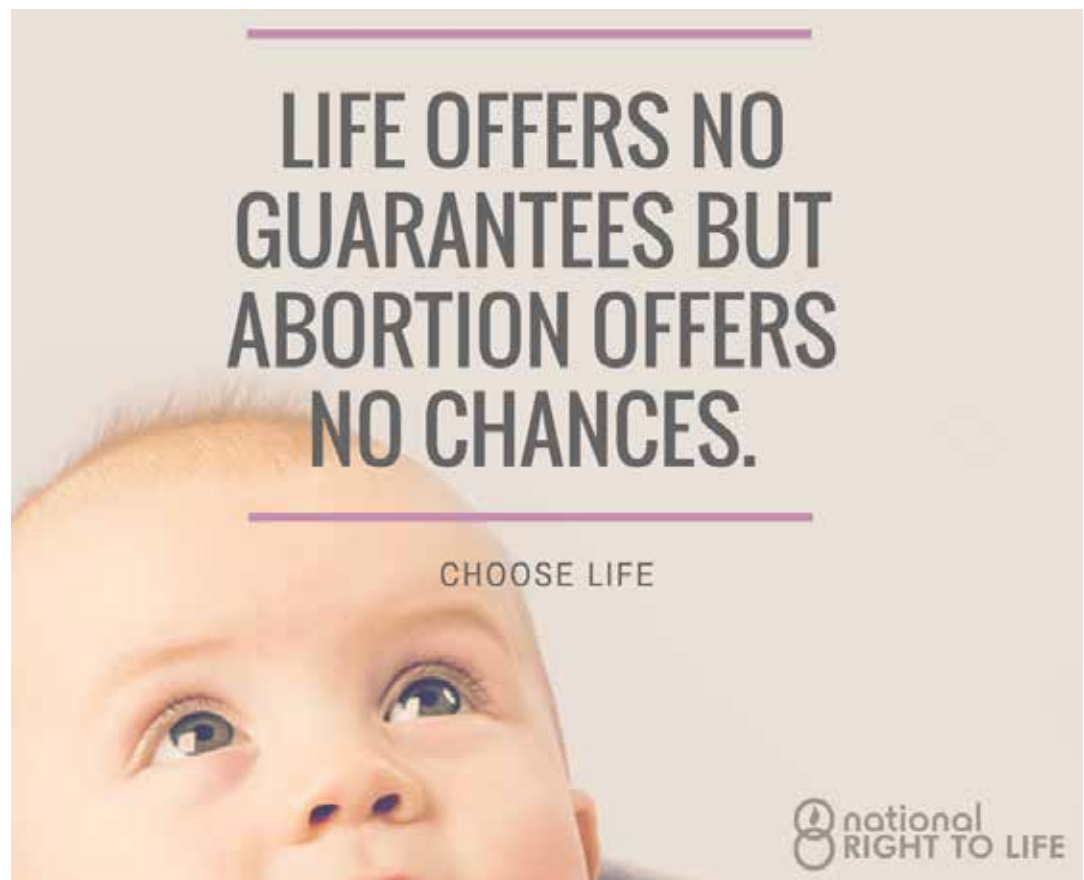
**"Why don't you trust women to make this choice for themselves?" Because they're not just making it for themselves; they're making it for an innocent third**

**party. We don't "trust women" to make this choice for the same reason we don't trust parents with the power to kill their newborns, or their teenagers: because those children have a fundamental right to life. (Why doesn't Kaine trust women to decide about**

**infanticide?) Kaine is perfectly capable of understanding why pro-lifers don't trust anyone with the power to kill unborn children. But he doesn't want to engage their argument. He doesn't want to explicitly deny that unborn children have legitimate claims to our protection: That**

**would be too callous, and too obviously at odds with Catholic teaching. Instead he hides behind a useful but empty bit of rhetoric, even though it slanders millions of his fellow citizens and the Church to which he belongs.**

On abortion, game, set, match to Mike Pence.



# Grandparents credit the power of prayer for successful births of daughter's endangered triplets

By Dave Andrusko

"The Witness" is the official publication of the Archdiocese of Dubuque, Iowa, and Jill Kruse is an editorial assistant. Ms. Kruse just wrote a beautiful profile of a family whose "Triplet 'miracle' shows the power of prayer, beauty of life."

Kruse begins her story with a recent letter sent to the Cathedral of St. Raphael in Dubuque from Michael and Diane Conneely of Aurora, Illinois. It was by no means the first letter—the family had been updating them periodically about three of their grandsons (triplets in fact) whose healthy delivery eight years ago they believe cathedral's prayers contributed to.

I don't wish to rob you of the joy of reading the story, so let me just offer a few highlights.

"We were in great despair," in late 2007, Mr. Conneely told Kruse, "frantic." Expecting triplets, their daughter Jennifer's pregnancy had taken a serious turn for the worse.

Kruse writes

**Doctors discovered one of the triplets — referred to medically as "Baby A" — had partially separated from Jennifer's uterus. It was feared the couple might lose not just one baby, but all three. Doctors presented the option of "selective reduction," aborting one or even two of the babies in an effort to increase the likelihood of at least one live birth.**

**"Abortion wasn't something they would ever consider," Conneely said of his daughter and son-in-law. "They told doctors it was out of the**

**question. They decided to let God figure it all out instead.**

When Jennifer was hospitalized at 21 ½ weeks, "It was not looking good for the babies," Conneely remembered. "In fact, it looked terrible."

At that juncture, Conneely called a church to ask for a Mass to be said for Jennifer and their three unborn children—

**perfect strangers. "I was stopping people in the bank line asking for prayers," he remembered.**

"It gave me so much comfort knowing that people I didn't know, people from all around the world, were praying to God for my babies," Jennifer told Kruse. "I was so grateful."

When Jennifer entered the

There is so much more to this remarkable story, beginning with another daughter who 14 years ago also successfully carried triplets to a healthy conclusion. Let me conclude with the final three paragraphs of Kruse's great story:

**As the church celebrates Respect Life Month during October, Msgr. Toale reflected,**



*Triplets Liam, Aidan and Connor Schmidt on their first Communion at Holy Spirit Catholic Community in Naperville, Ill. in May 2016. (Contributed photo)*

and then another and another until eventually a Mass was said in all 50 states. (He chose the Cathedral of St. Raphael because Jennifer had attended college in Dubuque.)

But Conneely didn't stop with the United States, Kruse explains.

**He reached out to Catholic churches in five other countries too — Canada, Mexico, Italy, France and Ireland — to have Masses said on behalf of his family.**

**He also asked for prayers from individuals, sometimes**

**hospital in December 2007 doctors thought she would deliver any day. But days turned to weeks and the weeks to months, and Schmidt didn't go into labor until she was 35 weeks along, resulting in a nearly full-term pregnancy.**

When the three boys were born on March 5, 2008, all three were healthy, including Baby A — Liam — who ended up being the biggest of the trio at nearly six pounds.

**"The picture of the boys is a great testimony to our commitment of respect for life."**

Conneely said he would always be grateful for the prayers the people at the cathedral offered. "It was so kind of them to offer prayers for people they didn't even know," he said.

"They contributed toward the miracle we received. I'm not sure why we were given this miracle. I don't know. But we were," he said. "We are blessed."



# Positive Ruling in Baltimore Could Set “Persuasive Precedent” for countering attacks against Free Speech Elsewhere

By Jay Hobbs

A summary judgment ruling in late September in favor of a pro-life pregnancy center in Baltimore could set the stage for eventual victories in Illinois and California. That’s the hope, at least, of Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF) senior legal counsel Matt Bowman.

Bowman, the lead counsel in *Greater Baltimore Center for Pregnancy Concerns v. Mayor and City Council of Baltimore*, celebrated a ruling by U.S. District Judge Marvin J. Garbis, denying the mayor and city council’s play to make another run at forcing pregnancy centers throughout the city to post signage against their pro-life beliefs.

While the mayor and city council can still appeal the summary judgment, it seems clear the area’s pregnancy centers are about to come out on top of a battle that has dragged on since 2010.

“No American should be forced to promote activities or speak messages that violate their deepest convictions, as Baltimore’s ordinance required,” Bowman said in a press release Monday.

The city ordinance, adopted in 2010, was established to force pro-life pregnancy centers to post signage to their front doors stating they do not provide abortions or birth control referrals. A federal court ruled as far back as 2011 that the law was an

unconstitutional infringement on the First Amendment rights of the Baltimore centers.

A law is currently in effect in California—where ADF is awaiting a decision on its



challenge before the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals—that forces pro-life pregnancy centers and medical clinics providing free ultrasound services to post similar language or, in the case of medical clinics, refer clients to taxpayer-funded abortion and birth control services via county social services agencies.

In Illinois, ADF filed its second suit against the state and Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner on Thursday—the same day as the Baltimore ruling—in response to the state’s gutting of the Healthcare Right of Conscience Act. The act would force pro-life medical professionals, including those

at pregnancy help medical clinics, to refer for abortions in violation of their deeply held religious convictions.

The ruling in Baltimore, Bowman says, could go a

long way to challenging the respective states’ actions.

“That law [in Baltimore] is very similar to ones in other places of the country, such as California and Illinois, where ADF is currently seeking to protect the constitutionally protected freedoms of other pregnancy resource centers that are being threatened by the government,” Bowman said. “The court’s decision in this case will provide persuasive precedent to defend free speech there and in other states.”

In addition to the Baltimore case, Montgomery County—just north of Washington, D.C.—along with New York City, and Austin, Texas, launched similar attacks on

pregnancy help organizations, all of which were eventually turned away in the courts.

The Montgomery County ordinance ended up costing taxpayers an excess of \$330,000 in lawyers’ fees awarded to the plaintiffs. It was later revealed through a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request by then-LifeSiteNews correspondent Dustin Siggins that government officials had conspired with a local NARAL Pro-Choice America chapter throughout the county’s prolonged assault on life-affirming help.

In Baltimore, it took district and federal court rulings in the winter of 2014 and summer of 2015 to turn away wide-reaching subpoenas the courts ruled as “grossly excessive.”

“We congratulate our friends at ADF and in Baltimore for standing strong during a long and difficult time,” Heartbeat International president Jor-El Godsey, whose organization was one of those originally subpoenaed by Baltimore. “We know we have a long way to go in Maryland and in other states like California and Illinois, but we can certainly see God’s hand at work on behalf of those who champion life and life everlasting.”

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

# Planned Parenthood 2010-2016: Fewer centers, but more abortion clinics, and later abortions

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

There have been a great many stories in *NRL News*, the pro-life media in general, and elsewhere about the clinic closings at Planned Parenthood, the mergers, the scandalous videos that reveal that the organs of children are harvested from late abortions. On a Monday through Saturday basis, *NRL News Today* has run many, many stories about these and other developments at the "largest abortion provider" in the United States.

But sometimes, in focusing on a clinic closing here, a merger there, a new megaclinic taking the place of dilapidated old building in one community, one can lose track of the big picture of some of the larger systemic changes that Planned Parenthood is undergoing across the country.

They are not random, and they are not inconsequential. They are the product of a business model which maximizes revenues by closing smaller clinics (often ones that do not perform abortions); adding chemical abortions; and by constructing megaclinics which allow PPFA to perform massive numbers of abortion at a central site.

## Little versus Big Picture

Long-term, we know that there are perhaps a couple of hundred fewer clinics than there were at Planned Parenthood's peak--and that the number of Planned Parenthood's affiliates are perhaps a third what they were in the early 1980s.

With record revenues and a consistently high number of abortions performed, however, this is anything but a corporation teetering on the edge of collapse. So what is going on?

Let's look at Planned

Parenthood's website. By examining the clinics and services that each affiliate was offering in the U.S. in 2016 and then comparing them with similar data from just six years earlier, we see that in that



even in just that short window of time there have been significant, even profound changes.

## Comparing 2010 and 2016 Data

In 2010, there were just about a hundred affiliates listed. Today, just six years later, there are only around 60. [1]

Merger mania, which has gripped Planned Parenthood for a few decades, has hardly abated in recent years. Larger, more powerful, more aggressive affiliates have gobbled up smaller ones that were often unprofitable and poorly managed. Often the new team closes down the non-abortion performing centers and invests in those larger, more professionally staffed clinics that can handle higher abortion volumes.

The overall number of clinics went from 872 in 2010 to 649 in 2016, a drop of 223 in just six years' time. But during that same time period the number of abortion-performing clinics

went **up**, from 302 to 361. This means that nearly 35% of Planned Parenthood's clinics advertised abortion in 2010, but nearly 56% (well over half) did so in 2016.

Though we do not have

later abortions, with 93 now advertising surgical or "in clinic" abortions of babies greater than 14 weeks. In 2010, there were just 80.

There also appears to have been more than 50% increase in the number of clinics advertising abortions at 18 weeks and beyond. Thirty two clinics now advertise that they will perform abortions at these very advanced stages of pregnancy. In 2010, there were only twenty advertising at that gestational age.

Even after undercover videos that showed Planned Parenthood employees haggling over compensation for the body parts of babies well into their second trimester, fifteen clinics were still advertising that they would perform abortions at 20 weeks or more. (The number would be higher if we included those seven who indicate they will go all the way up to 19 weeks and 6 days.)

Only eleven clinics said they would do abortions at 20 weeks or more in 2010, and none were saying that they would tiptoe up to that line by performing abortions at 19 weeks and 6 days.

## Similar Patterns at the State Level

There are a handful of states which currently have no Planned Parenthood abortion clinic [2] but many of the other state Planned Parenthood affiliates mirror the national group in their evolution.

Colorado, run by the Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains affiliate, lost five clinics from 2010 to 2016 (26 down to 21). At the same time they experienced an increase of 50% in the number offering abortion (from 8 to 12).

"service" numbers for last year yet, this large increase in the number of PPFA clinics performing abortions does explain how the number of abortions at Planned Parenthood held relatively steady (around 320,000 to 330,000) for 2010 to 2014, even while national abortion figures have been in a tailspin, dropping around 250,000 since 2000 and some 150,000 from just 2008 to 2011.

For Planned Parenthood, a lot of the stability in their numbers comes from adding chemical abortions to clinics which previously did not offer them. In 2010, 292 of its clinics advertised chemical abortions. Today, the number is 361. Some of these locations offer both surgical and chemical abortions, but many do not.

There are slightly fewer clinics performing surgical abortions now than there were six years ago – 166 against 175. But more Planned Parenthood clinics are offering

## Planned Parenthood 2010-2016: Fewer centers, but more abortion clinics, and later abortions

From page 17

Each of those four new clinics not only added chemical abortions, they also added a week to their surgical abortion offerings-- from 17 weeks, 6 days to 18 weeks, 6 days.

Florida had one fewer clinic in 2016, 22 versus 23, but more than doubled those offering abortion, from seven to 15. And while none of the five clinics performing surgical abortions performed abortions at more than 14 weeks in 2010, five of the ten surgical centers did in 2016; two performing abortions at up to 22 weeks, 6 days, and three at 15 weeks, 6 days.

Only two of Florida's clinics offered chemical abortions in 2010, but 15 did by 2016.

New Jersey had three fewer clinics in 2016 than 2010, but the number offering abortions jumped from two to 23. That increase was totally in new clinics offering chemical abortions.

Interesting things happened in Michigan. In 2010, there were four different affiliates in the state, with only one clinic among them all offering abortions. Since then, the four affiliates have merged into one statewide affiliate, Planned Parenthood of Michigan, and the number of abortion clinics has risen to six. Two offer surgical abortions at 18 weeks or later.

### Final Impact of Funding Cuts Unclear

Several states tried to reprioritize or cut funding for Planned Parenthood after the release of the Center for Medical Progress videos in 2015, but it is a little early to pick up patterns in the data just yet.

Many of the larger states attempting these cuts only passed legislation to that effect

earlier this year (e.g., Arizona, Florida, Ohio, Missouri) and some of these are currently tied up in the courts. And states that passed cuts last year did not necessarily have many Planned Parenthood clinics in the beginning (e.g., Alabama, Arkansas, Kansas).

Despite dire predictions from Planned Parenthood, the few clinics that operate in those states have generally remained open, just without funding from the state's taxpayers.

Texas, much in the news of late with the Supreme Court's recent *Hellerstedt* case, took action a few years before the video scandal, and has seen a significant drop in both Planned Parenthood's abortion clinics and clinics overall since the state initiated a series of legislative moves in 2011 to redirect family planning funding to entities that did not perform abortion.

Planned Parenthood's 93 clinics in 2010 shrunk to 34 in 2016. The number of abortion clinics in Texas decreased from 15 to 5.

Clinics in Texas shut down for a number of reasons, as we have pointed out elsewhere. Funding probably played a significant role, as did other clinic and abortion regulations later passed by state. But as we have explained in detail, clinics also close because they get old, the abortionists retire, there is financial mismanagement, or just because there is a reduced demand.

One thing that has happened in Texas, like many other places, is that smaller, older clinics in smaller towns are closing and sending their abortion business to giant new metropolitan mega-clinics set up to handle higher volume and perform later surgical abortions.

In 2010, there was just one

clinic, in Austin, performing abortions after 20 weeks. In 2016, there were two, the one in Austin, at 21 weeks, 6 days, and now one in Houston that offers surgical abortions up to 23 weeks, 6 days.

A big new clinic in Dallas performs abortions up to 17 weeks and one in Fort Worth offers second-trimester surgical abortions up to 15 weeks, 6 days.

Abortion numbers in Texas did indeed fall with the reduction in the number of clinics. The clinics that remain seem more than capable of handling the state's current caseload. With the court handing abortion advocates a victory in *Hellerstedt* in June, however, there is talk that some clinics could reopen. Thus neither the analysis or the story is complete.

### The Killings, not the Closings, are the Issue

Clinics have been closing at a significant rate at Planned Parenthood, closing by more than 25% over the past six years. But the number of Planned Parenthood clinics offering abortion is actually up. As noted above, this explains how abortion numbers and overall revenues at Planned Parenthood have managed to remain stable in time when abortion in the U.S. have been falling.

Planned Parenthood has adapted its strategy to fit the times. It has broadened its reach by adding chemical abortions to many of its smaller centers, building larger surgical centers so that they can handle more referrals from smaller clinics, and beefing up their ability to offer second-trimester abortions.

What is clear from the numbers is that while it is

pruning operations, Planned Parenthood is maneuvering nevertheless to strengthen its core abortion business.

And that is why, though we might note the latest clinic closing, we are saving our celebration for the day the killing stops.

### Footnotes

[1] Though we will provide the numbers that we have, the reader should understand that these are constantly fluctuating and often fuzzy. Some affiliates appear to have set up separate organizations, sometimes with identical addresses, to handle their abortion business. It is unclear whether Planned Parenthood or the law treats these as different affiliates or not.

Also, clinics disappear all the time, sometimes staying listed as "temporarily closed" with no clear indication of future relocation or reopening, while others we know are being built are not yet listed. Our own count for both years, therefore, is at best merely a snapshot of what the Planned Parenthood website was publishing at a couple of given moments in time.

[2] These include Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Dakota, Oklahoma, West Virginia, and Wyoming, though it should be noted that unborn babies are not as safe from Planned Parenthood as it might seem. The Planned Parenthood clinic in Louisville, for example, got authorization from Kentucky's previous governor to begin performing abortions there last year (since stopped by the present pro-life governor), and a giant new megaclinics has recently opened in New Orleans and is expected to attempt to get a license to perform abortions.

# Two million Americans are alive today because of the Hyde Amendment

By Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ)

September 30, 2016 marked 40 years since the life-saving Hyde Amendment was first enacted. This annual appropriations amendment stops taxpayer dollars from being used to fund most abortions and abortion coverage through government programs like Medicaid.

Thanks to new analysis by the Charlotte Lozier Institute we now know that as many as two million children — some much older now — are alive today because of the Hyde amendment.

Prior to enactment of Hyde, the Medicaid program paid for about 300,000 abortions annually. Research, including by the pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute, has long shown that stopping taxpayer-funded abortion reduces the abortion rate. In an analysis released just this week, the Charlotte Lozier Institute estimates that the Hyde amendment saves as many as 60,000 lives each year.

I remember the day several years ago when my friend and author of the amendment, Henry Hyde of Illinois, first learned that about one million children were alive because of his amendment. He was overcome with joy knowing that a million mothers were spared the agony of post abortion pain, a million children were alive and well, growing up, going to school, playing sports, dating, marrying and having kids of their own. Today that number is estimated at two million — all because abortion subsidies have been prohibited by this law.

Since the first bitter and protracted battles over this policy, the Hyde amendment

has generally, if begrudgingly, been accepted as the status quo. President Bill Clinton — who supported partial-birth abortion



*Cong. Chris Smith (R-NJ)*

— and President Barack Obama — who pledged to veto a bill protecting children born alive after abortion, both consistently signed the Hyde amendment into law.

Yet Hillary Clinton represents a new era of pro-abortion extremism.

Not only does she fall in party line with her opposition to the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, the ban on sex selection abortion, and the Born Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, she will have an abortion litmus-test for every judge and justice. And in a new assault on innocent human life, she has vowed to decimate the Hyde Amendment and fund abortion on demand using taxpayer dollars.

In 1980 the Hyde Amendment narrowly overcame a constitutional challenge in a 5-4 Supreme Court decision. If Hillary Clinton appoints just one justice, the Hyde

amendment will be nullified.

Hillary Clinton is outside of the mainstream. Today, more Americans support the sanctity

awarded the Margaret Sanger award by Planned Parenthood in 2009, she said she was “in awe” of Margaret Sanger, the infamous founder of Planned Parenthood. Shockingly, its American affiliate alone claims responsibility for the death of over seven million babies.

In her 2009 speech Mrs. Clinton also said she admired Sanger for her vision and that Sanger’s work here in the United States and across the globe was not done. “Not done” means more abortions, paid for by the taxpayer, and an end to conscience rights for those who don’t agree.

If we lose the Hyde Amendment our country will be carrying out Sanger’s eugenic legacy — incentivizing the destruction of the poor and vulnerable by paying for their death.

There are nearly 60 million Americans missing from 43 years of legal abortion. That’s 60 million lives with potential that have been snuffed out by state-sanctioned killing.

Hillary Clinton poses an existential threat to the welfare and well-being of unborn children and their mothers in the United States and around the world.

Rather than expand the culture of death and shred the Hyde amendment — as Hillary Clinton promises — women and men of conscience have a duty to protect the weakest and most vulnerable from the violence of abortion.

*Editor’s note. Rep. Smith is co-chair of the House Pro-Life Caucus. This first appeared in the Washington Times.*

of life and oppose taxpayer funding for abortions than ever.

America has an ever-growing majority that believes our government should not fund abortion. A July 2016 Marist poll found that nearly two-thirds of Americans oppose taxpayer funding for abortion — including 45 percent of those who identify as “pro-choice.”

The Hyde Amendment is not extreme. Hillary Clinton is.

Hillary Clinton is so extreme and outside the mainstream that when MSNBC’s Chuck Todd asked her in an April 3 interview: “When, and if, does an unborn child have constitutional rights?” Hillary Clinton fired back: “unborn persons don’t have constitutional rights.” Mrs. Clinton acknowledges that unborn children are persons, but denies them their right to life and wants taxpayers to pay for their destruction.

When Hillary Clinton was

# Baby's first heartbeat is at 16 days, not 21 days, British research finds

By Dave Andrusko

All these years, through all of the fetal development presentations I've witnessed, read, watched, or delivered, the accepted beginning point for a baby's first heartbeat was around day 21.

Now a new study published in *eLife*, a peer-reviewed open access scientific journal, concludes a baby's first heartbeat is at 16 days.

Our friends at the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children [SPUC] have a very brief, very succinct description of what was found:

**A study has demonstrated the earlier beating of the heart in mouse embryos than has previously been thought. When extrapolated to humans, the study suggests that the heart starts beating at 16 days rather than 21.**

A team funded by the British Heart Foundation [BHF] at the University of Oxford published their results in the journal *eLife*. They found that in mice, the heart muscle started to contract as soon as it formed the cardiac crescent—an early stage in heart development—rather than the later stage when the heart appears as a linear tube.

**In mice, this crescent appears at 7.5 days after conception, which is equivalent to day 16 in an unborn baby. Scientists hope that this discovery will help in**

who led the research at the University of Oxford, told Mark Prigg of *The Daily Mail*

**'By finding out how the heart first starts to beat and how problems can arise in**

Professor Sir Nilesh Samani, Medical Director at the British Heart Foundation, which funded the research, added

**'This study describes some of the very first stages in the**



**the understanding and treating of congenital heart disease.**

Here are some additional details about a discovery that reminds us how very, very early in fetal development milestones occur.

To begin with researchers hope the work will assist both unborn babies and the rest of us.

BHF Professor Paul Riley,

heart development, we are one step closer to being able to prevent heart conditions from arising during pregnancy.

'We also hope that this new research will help us to learn how the beating of new heart muscle cells might be triggered in replaced muscle after a heart attack.'

development of a beating heart, identifies some of the key molecules involved and shows that the initiation of the beat itself has a bearing on the further development of the heart.

'Such fundamental research is vital in understanding and ultimately preventing diseases that affect the heart.'

# “Death Control” and the bioethics peril

By Wesley J. Smith

*Thousands of medical ethicists and bioethicists, as they are called, professionally guide the unthinkable on its passage through the debatable on its way to becoming the justifiable until it is finally established as the unexceptionable.*

—Richard John Neuhaus

If you want to see what is likely to go awry in medical ethics and public healthcare policy, pay attention to the advocacy of bioethicists—at least of those who don’t identify themselves as

ethic as our moral cornerstone. Instead, most favor invidious and systemic medical discrimination predicated on a patient’s “quality of life,” which would endow the young, healthy, and able-bodied with the highest moral value—and, hence, with the greatest claim to medical resources.

Thanks to the work of bioethics, life-taking policies that a few decades ago were “unthinkable” now are unremarkable. Withholding tube-supplied food and water from the cognitively

injections cannot be legally provided, some of our most notable bioethicists urge that doctors be permitted to help the elderly and others commit suicide by self-starvation—a process known in euthanasia advocacy circles as VSED (Voluntary Stopping of Eating and Drinking).

Promoters of the culture of death never rest on their laurels. Listed below are a few of the more dangerous “advances” being promoted in bioethics.

**Infanticide:** When German doctors were hanged at Nuremberg for committing infanticide, it was thought that killing disabled babies was an unrepeatable historical evil. But human memory is short. Today, some of the most notable bioethics and medical journals have published articles promoting infanticide. Such articles are growing more acceptable by the year.

When the *Journal of Medical Ethics* published an article extolling “after-birth abortion” in 2011, there was a popular uproar. But on September 4 of this year, *Newsweek* published an article promoting late-term abortion and infanticide in response to the Zika outbreak—and in terms disturbingly close to the old eugenics trope of the “life unworthy of life”—there was nary a peep. From “Is Terminating a Late-Term Zika Fetus Euthanasia?” by Cornell Law Professor Sherry F. Colb:

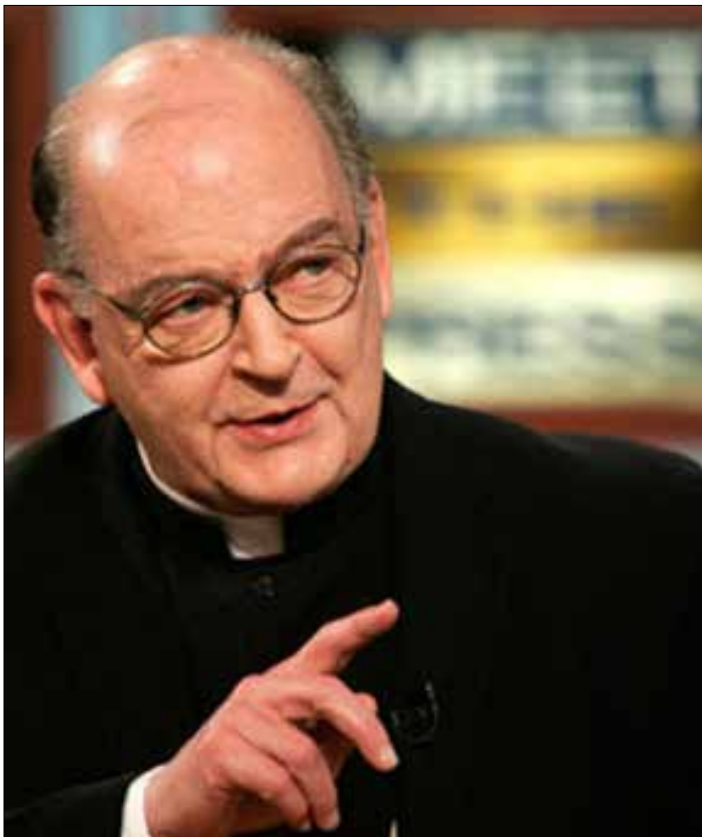
Because bodily integrity may no longer be a plausible driver of the abortion right [at the late stage of pregnancy], the choice to terminate the life of the fetus or child truly becomes a form of euthanasia rather than abortion.

In other words, because we can no longer say that terminating the pregnancy will necessarily terminate the life of the fetus or baby, the choice to have an abortion (one that kills the fetus or baby) is really a choice to take the life of the fetus or baby because it is not considered a life worth living.

Colb includes some hedging language in her piece, such as discussing why late-term abortion would usually be morally problematic. But her conclusion makes her infanticide advocacy clear:

**. . . the issue of euthanasia nonetheless lurks and beckons to us to answer the question: might some lives be better off ended than permitted to continue, given what is in store for them? The woman who terminates at 32 weeks for Zika-caused birth defects may thus have indirectly made a case for euthanasia, while allowing us to pretend that what she has had was just another abortion.**

This isn’t just theoretical. In the Netherlands, doctors can kill disabled and dying babies, using a bureaucratic checklist known as the Groningen Protocol to determine which infants are eligible. (This protocol has been published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.) In our current bioethical climate, infanticide



*The late Richard John Neuhaus*

“conservative” or “Catholic.” In their many journal articles and presentations at academic symposia, they unabashedly advocate for discarding the sanctity- and equality-of-life

disabled until they die—Terri Schiavo’s fate—is now legal and popularly accepted. The legalization of assisted suicide is a constant threat. Even where lethal prescriptions or

*See “Bioethics,” page 40*

# Cognitive Dissonance and the upcoming presidential election

By Dave Andrusko

Last week, in *National Right to Life News Today*, we reposted a piece that appeared in *Secular Pro-Life* on the question of cognitive dissonance [CD], specifically how that is so often misunderstood. CD is not simply holding contradictory beliefs. All of us (for a boatload of reasons) do that all the time.

Rather (to quote Clinton Wilcox) CD

**is the psychological stress one feels at realizing that two views they hold, or new information presented to them, are contradictory and cannot both be true. This can result in different outcomes, such as: selectively exposing themselves to information that only favors their view, selectively retaining information that pertains to their view and losing information that conflicts with it, devaluing the new information and keeping their old view, or devaluing the old information and changing their views (which is the desired outcome, if you're attempting to persuade someone).**

(The underline is mine.)

We may feel a tug when we hold contradictory beliefs but

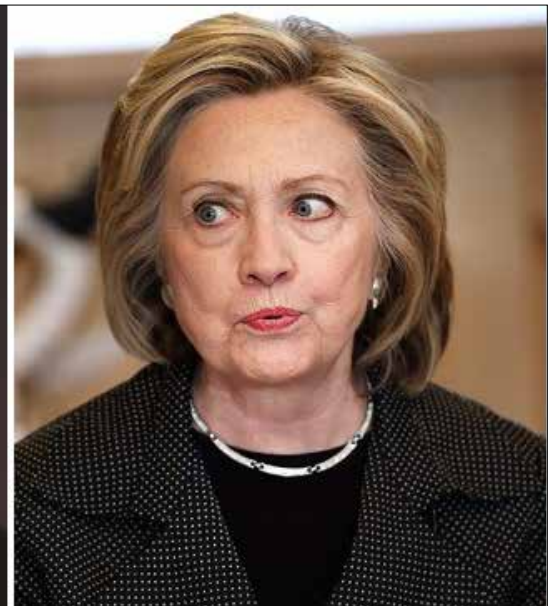
it is not until it moves from the back of our mind to the front that it qualifies as CD. Why? Because we **know** the competing beliefs cannot both be true.

For example, Donald Trump has pledged to nominate pro-life justices to the U.S. Supreme

which her party adopted as part of its platform, is to open the federal spigot (by derailing the Hyde Amendment) and make you and me pay for abortions.

Please remember before the Hyde Amendment was enacted and upheld by the Supreme

Hyde Amendment (which is an provision attached to the **annual** appropriations bill that covers many federal health programs, including Medicaid), hundreds and hundreds of thousands of additional babies will die.



*Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton*

Court, sign into law the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, and defund Planned Parenthood as long as they continue to perform abortions, and reallocate their funding to community health centers that provide comprehensive health care for women.

Hillary Clinton is committed with every fiber in her body to spreading the abortion plague worldwide. Her big abortion “initiative” this campaign,

Court, the federal Medicaid program was paying for about 300,000 elective abortions annually, and the number was increasing rapidly. A recent study concludes that over two million people are alive today who wouldn't be, had the Hyde Amendment not taken force.

Even if Hillary Clinton were only a one-term president, if she and her pro-abortion friends could waylay the

But if you say you want to defeat Hillary Clinton with all your might—she just **can't** be President—but, for whatever set of reasons, you feel you can't vote for Donald Trump, you are holding contradictory beliefs. Each person who fails to vote for Trump is detracting from his vote total—which increases the chances that Clinton is elected, the very outcome you oppose with all your might.

# An update of key Senate races before the elections

*From page 1*

(or friends of friends – that’s how social media works!) in these states. So please direct your contacts to [www.nrlpac.org](http://www.nrlpac.org) early and often for voting information.

Given the level of misinformation, some things bear repeating to anyone you discuss elections, voting, or the pro-life cause with.

Many people who share your views on abortion may not have taken the time to learn where the candidates stand on our issues, and have only briefly heard about what pro-abortion organizations are undertaking to elect their preferred candidates. Planned Parenthood is the national largest abortion provider. Its political arms and EMILY’s List, the extreme pro-abortion PAC that only works for Democrat women who support abortion for any reason, are spending many tens of millions of dollars.

If you’re sharing pro-life information on FaceBook or Twitter and mention “Planned Parenthood” clarify that they are “the nation’s largest abortion provider.” And whenever you mention the name EMILY’s List, you should follow it with “the extreme pro-abortion PAC.”

## OVERVIEW

This year, there are 34 U.S. Senate seats up for election: 10 Democrat seats and 24 Republican. All of the Democrats up for re-election are pro-abortion. According to Cook Political Report, only one Democrat seat is currently rated a “toss-up.”

Sadly, 6 Republican seats are listed as “toss-ups,” while two more are leaning toward the Democrats! Democrats need a net gain of five seats to regain control of the Senate, or four if they win the White House.

If they hold their one toss-up seat, win the two Republican seats currently rated “lean Democrat” and pick up two or three Republican toss-ups, pro-lifers will be hard-pressed to block pro-abortion policies, much less advance any pro-life legislation.

So, yes, elections matter. Your vote matters.

## NRLC’s MOST WATCHED RACES

Among the toss-ups, there is one (only one) bright spot. In Nevada, the retirement of Harry Reid (D), the leader of the Senate Democrats, creates a chance for pro-lifers to pick up a seat. Pro-life Congressman Joe Heck (R) will face pro-abortion former Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto (D) for this Senate seat.

Congressman Heck voted for the *Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act* and he voted for the *No Taxpayer Funding of Abortion Act*. In contrast, Cortez Masto is supported by NARAL Pro-Choice America and EMILY’s List. She supports abortion on demand, and using your tax dollars to pay for abortions.

One seat currently held by a pro-life Republican is now rated “leans Democrat.” In Wisconsin, pro-life Senator Ron Johnson (R) faces pro-abortion former Senator Russ Feingold (D). Senator Johnson has a strong pro-life voting record. In contrast, Feingold supports the current policy of abortion on demand, and voted against the partial-birth abortion ban every chance he got. Feingold is also endorsed by Planned Parenthood, the nation’s leading abortion provider. (See how I worked that in? I won’t do it every time in this article, but put it in when sharing a new

FaceBook post or Tweet.)

Pro-life Florida Senator Marco Rubio (R) faces a tough re-election campaign against pro-abortion Rep. Patrick Murphy (D). Senator Rubio has voted pro-life on every occasion. Murphy is a pro-abortion extremist who even voted against the bill to require care for babies who are born alive during an abortion. He voted against protecting babies capable of feeling pain from abortion, and co-sponsored a measure to invalidate nearly every state and federal limitation on abortion.

In New Hampshire, pro-life Senator Kelly Ayotte (R), who has a strong pro-life voting record, faces a tough challenge from pro-abortion Governor Maggie Hassan (D), who is supported by the radical pro-abortion group, EMILY’S List. Hassan supports using your tax dollars to pay for abortion, and as a state senator even opposed notifying parents before an abortion is done on their minor daughter.

In Pennsylvania, pro-life Senator Pat Toomey (R) faces a challenge by Katie McGinty (D), a pro-abortion candidate supported by EMILY’s List. McGinty opposes efforts to ban the brutal dismemberment abortion method.

In North Carolina, pro-life Senator Richard Burr (R) faces a challenge by former Assemblywoman Deborah Ross (D), a candidate supported by EMILY’s List. In the State legislature, Ross supported using tax funding for abortions, and when she was Executive Director of the ACLU’s North Carolina chapter, Ross even tried to take away a parent’s right to prevent an abortion from being done on their minor daughter.

Pro-life Congressman Todd

Young (R) will face former Senator Evan Bayh (D) for Indiana’s open Senate seat. Todd Young has a strong pro-life voting record, but Evan Bayh, has voted to endorse *Roe v. Wade*, the radical Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion on demand.

In Missouri, Senator Roy Blunt (R), a pro-life leader in the U.S. Senate with a strong pro-life voting record, faces a challenge from pro-abortion Secretary of State Jason Kander (D), who had an extreme pro-abortion voting record in the Missouri House of Representatives. He even voted against preventing abortions on babies who can feel pain (Missouri’s *Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act*).

Among races where the re-election of a pro-life Republican is rated safer but by no means certain, Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick (D), another pro-abortion candidate supported by EMILY’s List, is challenging pro-life Senator John McCain (R) in Arizona. Senator McCain’s pro-life record contrasts greatly with Kirkpatrick’s. She voted against the *Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act*, against the *Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act*, and supports a bill that would invalidate nearly every state and federal limitation on abortion.

In Ohio, pro-life Senator Rob Portman (R) faces a challenge from pro-abortion Ted Strickland (D), a former member of the U.S. House and a former governor. Portman has a strong pro-life voting record, while Strickland had a pro-abortion voting record in Congress, voting against the

*See “Senate,” page 40*



# “Misguided” changes weakening Virginia’s regulations of abortion clinics likely to be adopted October 24

By Dave Andrusko

So long as pro-abortion (and Hillary Clinton confidante) Terry McAuliffe is governor, you know there would never be a let-up in his campaign to gut regulations that upgraded safety requirement for abortion clinics in Virginia.



*Pro-abortion Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe*

Thus, while the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* told us last month there were “mistakes in the regulatory process of putting those potential amendments,” the conclusion was and is inevitable: two weeks from yesterday a special session of a stacked State of Health Board is “likely to vote in favor of rolling back abortion facility restrictions,” to quote NBC 29.

As *NRL News Today* reported previously, while running for governor, McAuliffe made no bones about his intentions. He was determined to change the regulations which were passed in light of a 2011 law that required abortion clinics be treated like outpatient surgical centers, if they

provide five or more first-trimester abortions a month. The regulations addressed such issues as building standards, staff training, sanitation, and equipment standards.

Last month’s “error” was in acting as if the changes had

already been approved. A vote was schedule to take place Thursday September 15 but was put off until a date (prior to December 1) was settled on.

According to Katie Demeria of the *Richmond-Times-Dispatch*, on September 14, the Department of Health recommended the delay after the Virginia Assembly’s Joint Commission of Administrative Rules found “mistakes” in the regulatory process.

**“As Marissa J. Levine, state health commissioner acknowledged to the Joint Commission of Administrative Rules yesterday in in their**

**meeting, some mistakes were made at the staff level within the department,” said Joe Hilbert, director of governmental and regulatory affairs with the Department of Health, during a break in Thursday’s [September 15] meeting.**

The mistakes included a failure to include all public comments in what is supposed to be a complete summary of comments made publicly available and distributed to board members five days before the scheduled meeting at which a vote is expected.

**The department also filed a Final Regulation Agency Background document that referred to Thursday’s meeting in the past tense, as though the board members already had voted to approve the amendments to abortion clinic regulations.** The Department of Health since has updated its document, correcting its language about the vote and including summaries of comments it received both for and against the proposed amendments.

[Emphasis added.]

The September 15 meeting

was packed with pro-abortionists who supported the changes. But there were critics who did not attend. Demeria wrote

According to the board’s updated Final Regulation Agency Background document, it received several comments asking the board to keep the current guidelines in place, or to further restrict abortion access in the state.

House Majority Leader Del. M. Kirkland Cox, R-Colonial Heights, released a statement after the decision to postpone the vote, applauding the joint commission for informing the board “on the proper application of Virginia law.”

“These regulatory changes are misguided,” Cox said in his statement. “In the rare and undoubtedly scary moments when a mother feels that abortion is her only choice, she should be assured that the abortion will be completed in a safe environment capable of meeting all of her medical needs.”

# Treat Hippocratic Doctors Like Draft Dodgers?!

By Wesley J. Smith

Not only does the culture of death brook no dissent, but it seeks to force medical dissenters to kill. That is tyranny.

Now that euthanasia is becoming more widely practiced, the groundwork is being laid to force doctors to kill legally qualified patients and conduct abortions.

A bit ago in this space, I discussed a “consensus statement” issued by ten notable bioethicists, published in *Practical Ethics*, published by Oxford University. These notables proclaimed from their ivory tower that doctors must euthanize, and if they have conscientious objections, they should be subjected to tribunals, community service requirements, and reeducation efforts.

Now, in the *Journal of Medical Ethics*, a similar proposal is voiced—using the analogy that doctors should be treated like military conscripts in the great killing of the sick to come!

From “Conscientious Objection in Healthcare: Referral and the Military Analogy,” by Steve Clark:

**Many doctors and medical students seem to have acquired the view that they are entitled to conscientiously object to**

**any and every aspect of healthcare; and that they do not have to justify their objection to anyone other than themselves. Because, in many parts of the world, all healthcare professionals have to do, to authorise a conscientious refusal, is to sign a form declaring that they have a conscientious ob-**

**consequence of the 1970 Supreme Court decision *Welsh v. USA*, 398 US 333, conscientious objectors need to satisfy a tribunal that they have a sincere objection to war and that their objection is based on ‘moral, ethical, or religious beliefs about what is right or wrong.’**

**If the conscientious**

**particular conscientious objections that were judged to be insincere, or not sufficiently deeply held, could also be judged to fail to outweigh this duty in importance.** [Underlining added].

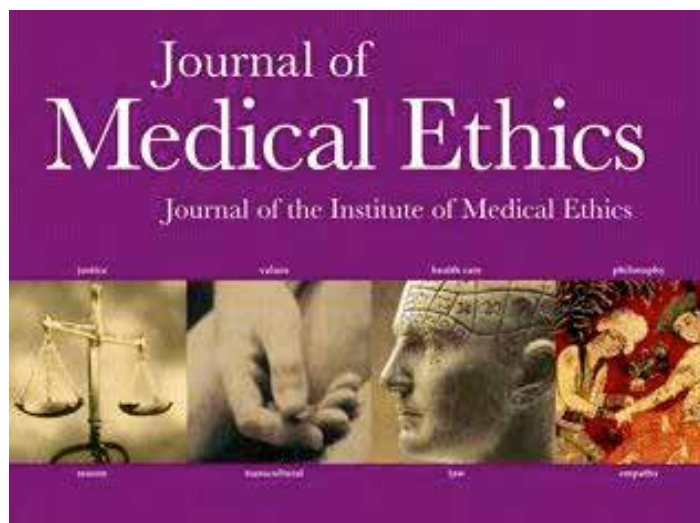
What is really rich is that bioethicists come from the port side of politics, and I am sure, would mostly object vehemently to the draft. But they want to force doctors to kill.

Moreover, euthanasia and non-therapeutic abortion aren’t medical necessities, but “choice” and “preference” requests. I would submit they are not, properly understood, medical treatments.

We have come to a pretty pass when doctors who believe in the Hippocratic Oath’s proscription against killing patients and fetuses are treated like draft dodgers. And believe me, these bioethicist-authoritarians aren’t kidding.

But, like I always say, if you want to know the next evil that this way comes, read the professional journals.

*Editor’s note. This appeared on Wesley’s great blog and is reprinted with permission.*



**jection, the right to conscientious objection is ‘unlimited in practice’.**

**Tribunals have been used to adjudicate over the legitimacy of conscientious objections in many countries which have conscripted citizens to perform military service. In the USA, as a**

**objections of healthcare professionals were to be examined by tribunals, then, it can be reasonably expected, some would be rejected.**

**Healthcare professionals have a prima facie duty to conduct legal, efficient and beneficial medical procedures and**

# The Danger of Assumptions about Down Syndrome and the Importance of Awareness

By Adam Morris

When Jude was given a probable diagnosis of Down syndrome about half-way through Nicole's pregnancy (we didn't confirm it until he was born), she and I began doing research. We didn't know much about it, so learning quickly became a top priority for us. Much to our relief, there is no shortage of educational information when it comes to Down syndrome.

What surprised me was the number of websites dedicated to not only educating people on what it is, but also on raising awareness of it. As one who was mostly uneducated and unaware, I (rather ironically) wondered why there was such a concern for "raising awareness." Aren't people already aware that Down syndrome is a thing?

What I did not realize is that being aware that Down syndrome is a thing is quite different from understanding it. And even if someone understands the genetic ins and outs of Trisomy 21, they may not understand what it means to have Down syndrome, or how important individuals with it are to the world. I realized the difference following a conversation several months later.

After Jude's birth, I was walking my dog when I ran into some neighbors. I shared with them that he had arrived and they expressed their excitement for us. As we talked, I revealed that he has Down syndrome. I was surprised by what was expressed next.

"Oh no. He's Down's? I'm sorry."

The statement came with a tone of sincere sympathy. He was truly sorry.

But sorry for what? At the time, I took it to mean that he was sorry we had this kind of

what I expected to hear, I was totally unprepared to respond.

I don't really remember exactly what I said in response. I think it was something like, "Oh, no, we are thankful for

When the possibility of a Down syndrome diagnosis first came up, I had a brief period of denial. Why? Because I apparently assumed it was something that is undesirable.



*Photo credit: AK Photography*

baby. He was sorry that we didn't get a better one. He had just congratulated me, but now it was as if congratulations were no longer in order. We were pitied.

It was one of those moments that I feel like I've seen on TV shows. You know, when a character says or does something out of line and is about to learn a valuable lesson? You know the moments I mean. The moments that you kind of roll your eyes at because they never happen in real life.

But it turns out that people really do say such things on occasion. And because it wasn't

him." And we were. And we certainly still are. And in fairness to my neighbor, I don't think he had any hurtful intent. I certainly don't think he intended for me to take it the way that I did.

But as I have thought over that conversation since that day, I have had several different feelings. At first, I felt shocked. Then I was angry. More recently, the anger has disappeared and been replaced with empathy. I have come to see that for the better part of my life, I might have felt a little of what my neighbor seemed to express that day.

It was the same assumption that my neighbor apparently had. And whether or not I would have actually said something like that to a new parent, I now realize how ignorance about Down syndrome can lead people to think all kinds of unfortunate things. And I was certainly not immune.

That is why I think it is so important that we raise awareness.

Awareness that people are not "Down's people", but first and

# Truth is the first casualty when fawning press interviews Cecile Richards

By Dave Andrusko

It'd be interesting to do a Lexus Nexus search and see if any publication that is not a pro-life outlet (such as *NRL News* or *NRL News Today*) has ever had a cross word, a slightly quizzical take, let alone criticism of Planned Parenthood CEO Cecile Richards. I'm guessing they are as rare as hen's teeth.

But when Richards shows up in Texas, her home state, the media (which is overwhelmingly pro-abortion and makes no effort to hide its loathing for prominent pro-life Republicans) makes the usual adulatory press accounts seem like mere apple polishing.

Enter Peggy Fikac of the *San Antonio Express-News*. She recently interviewed Richards and to say it was fawning would be like saying Hillary Clinton is a pro-abortion heroine.

Fikac's first paragraph clobbers pro-life Texas Sen. Ted Cruz. Why? So as to contrast him with Richards' "progressive" saintliness. (The headline is "Cecile Richards shows alternative to Ted Cruz's Texas.")

Indeed, running through Fikac's gee whiz account (which includes only one throwaway line from a pro-lifer) is a portrait of Richards not as head of the largest abortion provider in the galaxy with a salary over a half-million a year who rubs elbows with the power elite, but as a humble martyr ("a lightning rod for the right,") who modestly sent a correction to the *Washington Post* protesting a typically unctuous story that featured her at the expense of the folks.

The fact that her mother, in the 1990s, was the last Democrat to win a state-wide election, of course, doesn't suggest that Texans do not vote for

pro-abortion candidate. No, "the long GOP reign that she says doesn't represent Texans' desires, despite elections to the contrary."



PPFA President Cecile Richards

Despite many, many, **many** elections to the contrary.

The operative paragraphs for pro-lifers come about 2/3rds of the way into the story:

**She has been a target of the right, memorably in 2014 when she wrote an essay for Elle magazine about having an abortion, saying she wanted to dispel the abortion stigma. The mother of three wrote simply, "It was the right decision for me and my husband, and it wasn't a difficult decision."**

**Asked about the criticism, she was steely: "That's because people like to judge women about the decisions they make. I didn't really know what the reaction would be, and honestly I didn't really care. ... Almost one in three women in this country will have an abortion. And they**

**make these decisions for a whole host of reasons. ... Women are the best people to know what's the right decision for them."**

We've written on several occasions about the *ELLE* essay and the follow up interviews she gave and essays Richards wrote.

Two quick points.

First, I didn't "target" her, and without reading every pro-lifer's comment, I would guess neither did they. What I discussed was how Richards decided, after many years of not talking about having an abortion, to go public in a huge way in late 2014 and early 2015. I argued the timing was likely in response to the especially zany wing of the Pro-Abortion Movement which was growing (and continues to grow) larger and more vocal by the day.

These are the militants who really do believe that "telling your abortion story" will open the door to wider public acceptance just as saying "Open Sesame" opened the entrance to the cave filled with treasure. And, also, the not-so-subtle hint that if you are not with them (by failing to tell your story), you are against them.

Not to be outflanked, Richards "told her story."

Second, I do not believe for a nanosecond that her children were as nonchalant as she says they were when she told them they were short a sibling.

Of that conversation, she told *Cosmopolitan*

**It was really awesome. It's interesting, I just talked to my kids the other day, and they knew I'd had an abortion, and they were**

**sort of like, "Mom, it was no big deal," but I could also tell it was important to them that we talked about it.**

"Sort of like" it was "no big deal." You don't have to be a parent to know this is blatant self-justification, which actually comes through at the end of the same sentence when Richards casually says "but I could also tell it was important to them that we talked about it."

Indeed how could that possibly **not** be a "big deal"? You know your mom is a big shot in the "pro-choice" movement, runs in powerful circles, and is joined at the hip to pro-abortion President of the United States.

But while your mom has talked about being non-judgmental; about how having an abortion is as easy as pie; about "freeing women," you didn't know until that awkward moment that she non-judgmentally freed herself by having an easy-as-pie abortion of your brother or sister.

On a tear, Richards wrote an essay for *TIME* magazine in its April 28, 2015, edition. She concludes, "Women are increasingly feeling supported to share stories that have, in some cases, been kept silent for years."

True.

But they are not stories that celebrate their abortions. Overwhelmingly they are confessionals in which a woman says she would do anything if she could just go back in time and save her baby.

But those are not the kind of stories that *TIME* magazine gives space to or *ELLE* and *Cosmopolitan* tout to its readers.

# Touch of Life fetal models illustrate how we are fearfully and wonderfully made

By Lynette Auch

*Editor's note. "Owen's Mission" refers to the goal of placing a set of "Touch of Life" fetal models into every Lutheran elementary and high school in the country. This story appeared in "Life Date," a quarterly produced by Lutherans for Life, and is reprinted with permission.*

Any who have helped work a Lutherans For Life or other life-affirming display booth can feel the excitement—especially if your display includes the Touch of Life fetal models. It can be fun and quite rewarding to share with anyone who will listen about fetal development. Children are exceptionally fun! Their eyes become as big as saucers when they are shown a pencil point and told that they were once that small! They are amazed at what they looked like as they grew. Fetal development education can also benefit adults, as it did for one young couple.

The newly married couple was anticipating a long honeymoon period in their marriage. They were absolutely not ready for the news: "you're pregnant." The thought was shocking and terrifying! As the young bride tried to come to grips with reality, her mind raced. She knew all the pro-life terminology, and she knew it was a baby, but she also knew that a baby meant a lot of change and responsibility—change and responsibility that overwhelmed her. Being a newlywed wife was challenging enough. The more

she thought about a baby, the more frightened she became. As fear gripped her heart, she lost sight of the truth of God's Word that she knew so well and loved so dearly, and she toyed with the unthinkable thought of "abortion."

As she unwillingly shared these fears and thoughts with her husband, he was horrified that

searched me and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar... Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens you are there, if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea,

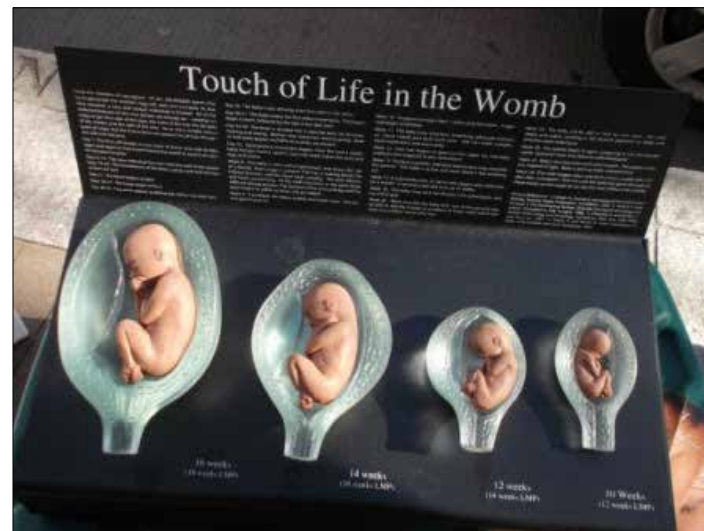
is held in His hands.)

As they continued to read, the young parents imagined God knitting their tiny baby together. They knew that baby, their baby, conceived in love, was "fearfully and wonderfully made" (vs 13-14) by God. They also knew their baby was someone for whom Jesus suffered, bled, died, and rose to life to give eternal life.

"When I am afraid, I will trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I will not be afraid" (Psalm 56:3-4a).

Trusting in God's sovereignty, and with the Sword of God's Word tightly back in her hand, the once fear-filled bride trusted in her Lord Jesus to help her through this new adventure in her life's journey. She and her husband now went forward with great anticipation and excitement about the new life growing inside of her!

This newly-wed couple had the tools that they needed to make a decision for life thanks to the tireless efforts of life-affirming friends like you. I hope this true story encourages and inspires you to continue hosting display booths at conferences and fairs everywhere, teaching about fetal development and supporting Lutherans For Life, that all may come to know that they are someone for whom Jesus gave His life. I also invite you to participate in Owen's Mission! Thank you for being "Gospel-motivated voices For Life."



his bride could even entertain such an idea. He quickly found the fetal development pamphlet and the "young one" 10-week fetal model obtained from a pro-life display booth they had visited earlier that year. The young husband pointed out where their baby most likely was in its development and reminded her that another part of her life's dream, to be a wife and a mother, had become a reality with this pregnancy.

The couple gathered around one of the young bride's favorite chapters of Scripture speaking to God's sovereignty, Psalm 139: "O Lord, you have

even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast" (vs 1-2, 7-10).

(The concept of God's sovereignty is beautifully set to music in the song "Sovereign" by Chris Tomlin. Here is my paraphrase of the lyrics: God is with us wherever we are—in life's calm or storms, in our greatest joy or deepest cry, in the dark or in the dawn. He has all the pieces of our life from beginning to end in His everlasting arms. We can trust His unfailing love to work everything for good. We can trust God with all our hopes, needs, and dreams. All our life

# Gone is even the pretense that pro-abortion Democrats believe in “safe, legal and rare” abortion

By Dave Andrusko

A friend of 30 years dropped me an intriguing email, after watching the vice presidential debate between pro-life Indiana Gov. Mike Pence and pro-abortion Virginia Senator Tim Kaine.

He was making a keen point about the evolution (or devolution) of Democrats on abortion.

As *NRL News Today* has discussed in excruciating detail, the old hedges, the old qualifiers,

Kaine) want you and me to pay for abortions.

And as a reflection of Clinton’s extremism, here is the Democrat Party’s platform plank on abortion:

**We will continue to oppose — and seek to overturn — federal and state laws and policies that impede a woman’s access to abortion, including by repealing the Hyde Amendment**

McCain in 2008, he at least pretended to be searching for “common ground.” In the third debate Obama said

**The last point I want to make on the issue of abortion. This is an issue that — look, it divides us. And in some ways, it may be difficult to — to reconcile the two views.**

**But there surely is some common ground when**

**Democratic platform for the first time this year, and I think that’s where we can find some common ground, because nobody’s pro-abortion. I think it’s always a tragic situation.”**

In fact, today virtually everyone in the Democrat Party is pro-abortion—for any reason or no reason, at home and aboard, with your and my tax dollars.

Consider: Who spoke about adoption at the vice presidential debate?

Gov. Pence:

**I’m also very pleased at the fact we’re well on our way in Indiana to becoming the most pro-adoption state in America.**

Who spoke about helping single mothers?

Gov. Pence:

**The state of Indiana has also sought to make sure that we expand alternatives in health care counseling for women, non-abortion alternatives.**

But, to be fair, how could Kaine say anything positive about adoption or abortion alternatives—those mean fewer dead unborn babies and there can never, ever be enough abortions for Hillary Clinton.

Not ever.

The 2008 Democrat Party and its presidential candidate were terrible on abortion.

Hard as it is to believe, the 2016 Democrat Party and its presidential candidate are far worse.



*Tim Kaine says he supports all of Hillary Clinton’s political agenda.*

the old “in sorrow and sadness” dodges that pro-abortionists used to obfuscate their support for abortion on demand with are gone. G-O-N-E.

Gone as well is the “safe, legal and rare” mantra Bill and Hillary Clinton formerly used as a shield against criticism they supported abortion on demand. Now Mrs. Clinton walks arm in arm with the most extreme elements of an already extremist abortion movement.

To wit, there is absolutely no abortion that should be banned—no matter how old the unborn baby is or how flimsy the excuse for slaughtering her. Indeed, Clinton (and now

**... we support the repeal of harmful restrictions that obstruct women’s access to health care information and services, including the “global gag rule” and the Helms Amendment that bars U.S. assistance to provide safe, legal abortion throughout the developing world.**

Taxpayer funding of abortion and spreading the plague of abortion worldwide—again on your dime.

My friend’s point was when then candidate Obama was running against Sen. John

**both those who believe in choice and those who are opposed to abortion can come together and say, “We should try to prevent unintended pregnancies by providing appropriate education to our youth, communicating that sexuality is sacred and that they should not be engaged in cavalier activity, and providing options for adoption, and helping single mothers if they want to choose to keep the baby.”**

**Those are all things that we put in the**

# The insidious way Team Obama is funneling money to Planned Parenthood

By Rep. Diane Black (R-Tn.)

*Editor's note. This first ran on Fox News.com.*

As President Obama runs out the clock on the last months of his Administration, promulgating sweeping rules and acting by executive fiat wherever possible, perhaps he should use his pen and phone to make another unilateral move: putting Planned Parenthood Federation of America President Cecile Richards on the White House payroll.

I am by no means a fan (watch our exchange from last year here), but as much control as she wields over this administration's decisions, they might as well give her a title and some office space.

After all, on her watch President Obama became the first sitting President to address Planned Parenthood's annual fundraising gala; closing his remarks by asking God's blessing over the big-abortion enterprise – apparently not realizing the sad irony at any point in his remarks.

Last year, the White House praised Planned Parenthood's "high ethical standard" even as it was implicated in the heinous trafficking of baby body parts. And more recently, we learned from Planned Parenthood's own annual report that the organization saw an increase of \$25 million in taxpayer funding, while the total number of medical services provided dropped by more than 10 percent during the same timeframe.

Now, in what may be Richards' final act as shadow White House abortion czar, the Obama administration has quietly issued a proposed rule that would strip states of the right to steer federal dollars away from Planned Parenthood and towards more trusted

community health centers that provide a broader range of services to women.

It is a transparently political ploy that, if enacted, promises to be a boon for the scandal-ridden abortion provider and a blow to the conscience rights of millions of pro-life American



taxpayers.

First established in 1970, HHS administers a grant program known as "Title X" that provides funding to states for family planning services. In recent years, my home state of Tennessee adopted a system whereby these dollars would be doled out by the state to county health departments who would then determine appropriate subrecipients.

All 95 counties in my state have identified community health centers and other providers aside from Planned Parenthood who meet all applicable eligibility criteria to receive this funding, effectively cutting off Planned Parenthood's access to Title X funds in Tennessee while protecting the needs of underserved women and families.

In recent years, other states

have enacted or tried to enact similar measures. This proposed rule from HHS would undermine such state laws, dictating exactly how states must choose recipients for these grants.

You'd be right to ask – surely the administration has factual

of Congress regarding this government overreach, but we can't stop there. We must use the full force of Congress and the grassroots strength of the national pro-life movement to defeat this rule.

We must also finally do the work of reforming our regulatory system to stop government bureaucracies from circumventing Congress to legislate in the form of a "rule." That is why House Republicans' recently unveiled "Better Way" agenda calls for giving Congress the power to take an up-or-down vote on rules lame-duck administrations try to force through on their way out the door.

The Obama administration's actions to protect its political allies at Planned Parenthood are personally appalling, but they also point to the pro-life movement's growing strength. The president used this backdoor maneuver because Congress and state legislatures across the country have held the line, voting to prioritize true women's health over abortion and to provide funding to health care providers that will meet the needs of women and families while protecting the existence of our unborn.

As hearts and minds are reached with the truth about the brutality of abortion and Planned Parenthood's disregard for the most innocent among us, laws will continue to change and lives will be saved – a last-ditch administrative edict notwithstanding.

*Republican Diane Black represents Tennessee's 6th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. She has been a registered nurse for more than 40 years and serves on the House Ways and Means and Budget Committees.*

evidence from neutral sources to warrant such an action, right? But take a closer look: The HHS rule cites "research" from the Guttmacher Institute six different times throughout its 31 pages. If the name sounds familiar, that's because Guttmacher was formerly an entity housed within Planned Parenthood Federation of America and is even named after a former Planned Parenthood President.

Don't take my word for it, read the details on their website here. The Obama administration should be embarrassed by this attempt to pass off the work of a pro-abortion think-tank as nonpartisan research in an attempt to push its agenda.

I am working with Senator Joni Ernst to gather co-signers on a letter to the Obama administration expressing the deep concerns of Members

# Want to Elect a Pro-Life President? Here's what NOT to do.

Do you want to elect a pro-life president?

On November 8, either Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump will be elected President. One of them will decide abortion policies for many years to come.

Nearly eight years of Obama's presidency has already been devastating. The Obama presidency brought us two new pro-abortion Supreme Court justices, a healthcare law that expands abortion and threatens the vulnerable, and vows to veto pro-life legislation, including a bill that would protect unborn babies 20 weeks and older from painful late abortions, and a bill that would defund abortion providers.

We cannot afford four – let alone eight – more years of a president that does not value the right to life.

Hillary Clinton supports unlimited abortion, and she wants to force Americans to pay for it. In contrast, Donald Trump opposes abortion, and he opposes using your tax dollars to pay for abortion.

As pro-lifers, our goal must be to elect a president who will protect lives.

To achieve our goal, we have to be strategic. There are a number of ways we can actually defeat a pro-life candidate. For the sake of the babies, we cannot afford to make these mistakes in 2016.

Here's what NOT to do:

## **Fall in love with your candidate.**

Pro-life advocates should get involved in political campaigns. Their active participation and volunteer activities can help

a pro-life candidate build a strong campaign.

With so many candidates in the race, your preferred candidate may not have won the presidential nomination. Too often pro-life advocates get so excited about their preferred primary candidate that if he

candidate, claiming to be the "real" pro-lifer in the race.

This is a sure strategy to elect the pro-abortion candidate.

Sometimes they attack the pro-life candidate who has a real chance of winning and get other pro-lifers to do the same. Even though they can't

there are certain words that will be interpreted differently by the pro-life community than he intended.

Just because the wrong word comes out of his mouth doesn't necessarily make the candidate a phony. Sometimes a truly pro-life candidate can be tripped



or she loses to another pro-life candidate in the primary the grassroots person doesn't support the pro-life candidate who won – and won't volunteer in the campaign or work to get others to vote for that candidate.

Pro-life candidates need the active support of all pro-lifers and, all too often, without that full support, a pro-abortion candidate wins.

## **Support a really nice candidate who is pro-life but has no chance of winning.**

Millions of unborn children's lives are at stake. That's why the viability of a candidate must be considered when we go to the polls. There may be a wonderful pro-life candidate who decides to run for office as a third-party or independent

gain enough support to be a viable candidate, and will not appear on most ballots across the country, they can pull votes from the pro-life candidate who could win, and help the pro-abortion candidate to win instead.

## **Expect the candidate to sound like a Right to Life chapter chairman.**

People who are not directly involved in the pro-life movement are not going to be as articulate or well-versed on all the pro-life issues. They may not know every detail of unborn development or understand the ins and outs of the Mexico City Policy. Unless there has been some prior discussion with active pro-life advocates, some candidates may not realize that

up by the media, be confused, ill-informed, misquoted, or quoted out of context. Give them a chance to explain what they really believe, or educate them on the issue. They will do what's right when they're elected.

Words are nice, action is better.

## **Expect the candidate to always make abortion the major issue in the campaign.**

A 2014 post-election poll by The Polling Company/Woman Trend found that 23% of voters said abortion affected their vote and chose the pro-life candidate. Just 16% said abortion affected their vote



# Where do the Presidential Candidates Stand on Abortion?

By Karen Cross, National Right to Life Political Director

Every presidential election year, National Right to Life publishes a downloadable comparison flyer about the presidential candidates. This year's flyer is entitled "Where Do the Candidates Stand on Abortion?" The downloadable version of "Where Do the Candidates Stand on Abortion?" is available at: [www.nrlc.org/uploads/2016POTUScomparison.pdf](http://www.nrlc.org/uploads/2016POTUScomparison.pdf)

Not surprisingly, the candidates have very different views on abortion. Here is an overview of their positions on abortion-related issues.

## Abortion on Demand

Donald Trump said, "Let me be clear – I am pro-life," adding, "I did not always hold this position, but I had a significant personal experience that brought the precious gift of life into perspective for me."

In contrast, in the U.S. Senate Hillary Clinton voted to endorse *Roe v. Wade*, the Supreme Court decision which allows abortion for any reason. She says, "The unborn person doesn't have constitutional rights," later adding she believed this to be true even on the unborn child's due date.

## Partial-Birth Abortion

The partial-birth abortion procedure – used from the fifth month on – involves pulling a living baby feet-first out of the womb, except for the head, puncturing the skull and suctioning out the brain. The Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act was upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court in 2007, in a 5-4 decision.

In 2000, in his book *The America We Deserve*, Donald


Trump wrote that after consulting with doctors about the partial-birth abortion procedure he concluded that he would support a ban on that method.

would consider for a Supreme Court vacancy, saying, "By the way, these judges are all pro-life."


Hillary Clinton has said that she would only nominate

**For President**

**Where Do the Candidates Stand on Abortion?**



**Donald Trump**



**Hillary Clinton**

**Abortion on Demand**

*The 1973 Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton Supreme Court decisions legalized abortion on demand throughout the United States. There have been more than 59 million abortions since then.*

*"Let me be clear – I am pro-life... I did not always hold this position, but I had a significant personal experience that brought the precious gift of life into perspective for me."*

*In 2003, Hillary Clinton voted to endorse Roe v. Wade, which allows abortion for any reason. In 2016, Clinton said, "The unborn person doesn't have constitutional rights," later adding she believed this to be true even on the unborn child's due date.*

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*In 2003, Hillary Clinton voted against the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act (voted to allow partial-birth abortions to continue) every chance she got.*

**Nominations to the U.S. Supreme Court**

*The next president may have the opportunity to appoint three or four justices to the U.S. Supreme Court.*

*In May 2016, Donald Trump released a list of eleven conservative judges whom he would consider for a Supreme Court vacancy, saying, "By the way, these judges are all pro-life."*

*Hillary Clinton has said that she would only nominate Supreme Court justices who would uphold the decision that legalized abortion on demand. "I would not appoint someone who didn't think Roe v. Wade is settled law."*

**Vice Presidential Candidates**

**Mike Pence**

*Mike Pence had a solid pro-life voting record on abortion during 12 years in the U.S. House, including votes for passage of the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act. As governor of Indiana, Mike Pence championed many pro-life measures.*

**Tim Kaine**

*Tim Kaine voted against the pro-life position in the U.S. Senate every chance he got. He voted against the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act. Tim Kaine co-sponsored a bill (S. 217) that would nullify virtually all state limits on abortion, including late abortions.*

**Party Platforms**

*The Republican Party Platform affirms "that the unborn child has a fundamental right to life," opposes using government funds to perform or promote abortion or to fund abortion providers, and supports legislation to assist babies who survive abortion.*

*The Democratic Party Platform supports abortion on demand, and calls for repeal of the Hyde Amendment (which restricts the use of federal funds for abortion). The platform also supports government funding of abortion providers, including Planned Parenthood, the nation's largest abortion provider.*

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Supreme Court justices who would uphold the decision that legalized abortion on demand, saying, "I would not appoint someone who didn't think *Roe v. Wade* is settled law."

## Vice Presidential Candidates

The contrasting positions of the vice presidential candidates are listed.

Donald Trump chose Indiana Governor Mike Pence to be his running mate. Mike Pence had a solid pro-life voting

record on abortion during 12 years in the U.S. House, including votes for passage of the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act. As governor of Indiana, Mike Pence champions pro-life measures.

Hillary Clinton chose U.S. Senator Tim Kaine as her running mate. Tim Kaine voted against the pro-life position in the U.S. Senate every chance he got, even voting against the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act. Tim Kaine co-sponsored a bill (S.217) that would nullify virtually all state limits on abortion, including late abortions.

## Party Platforms

The party platforms reveal a great contrast on abortion.

The Republican Party Platform affirms "that the unborn child has a fundamental right to life," opposes using government funds to perform or promote abortion or to fund abortion providers, and supports legislation to assist babies who survive abortion.

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Feel free to download and share the flyer. A downloadable version of the flyer, "Where do the Candidates stand on Abortion?" may be found here: [www.nrlc.org/uploads/2016POTUScomparison.pdf](http://www.nrlc.org/uploads/2016POTUScomparison.pdf)  
Look for updates in future *National Right to Life News*.

# The Hyde Amendment initiated the incremental strategy which has saved millions and millions of lives

By Dave Andrusko

More than two million people are alive today, thanks to the tireless efforts of pro-lifers, lead by the late, great pro-life champion Rep. Henry Hyde. Thus, as we discuss elsewhere in this issue (and many times previously), gutting the Hyde Amendment is a top priority for pro-abortion Hillary Clinton.

Her position as her party's nominee for President has afforded the campaign to force taxpayer funding of abortion much greater visibility.

When Rep. Hyde, for whom the amendment is named, passed away in 2007, the entire Movement, led by NRLC, praised his enormous contributions. For example we explained

**Henry Hyde will be remembered by history as the father of the modern pro-life movement for his introduction and sponsorship of the amendment that bears his name, prohibiting federal funding of abortion. Hyde first offered the amendment as a freshman member of Congress in 1976, and it remains in place to this day. The editors of National Review said the Hyde Amendment "is without question the most important piece of pro-life legislation ever to pass Congress."**

**The Hyde Amendment also charted a new course for the pro-life movement after 1976 by implementing a strategy to pass protective pro-life measures that**

**would incrementally reduce the number of abortions, while continually seeking the eventual overturn of *Roe v. Wade*. That strategy has been successful in saving millions of lives from abortion.**

**In his 1985 book, "For Every Idle Silence," Congressman Hyde wrote, "It is becoming culturally fashionable to protect**

**that better illustrated, perhaps, than during the House floor debate of the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act in 2000.**

Hyde said

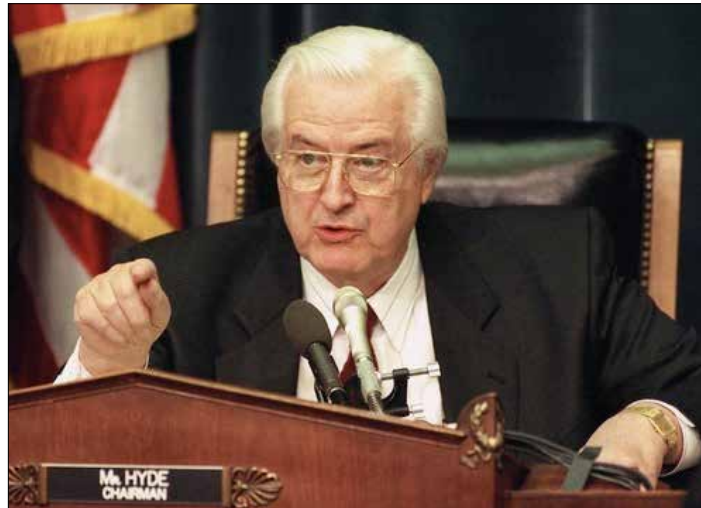
**This is not a debate about religious doctrine or even about public policy options. It is a debate about our understanding of human dignity, what it means to be a member of the human family, even though tiny, powerless and**

**love and to cherish our fellow human beings, not to destroy them. Today we must choose sides.**

In honoring Rep. Hyde with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, President George W. Bush said that Rep. Hyde "was a gallant champion of the weak and forgotten, and a fearless defender of life in all its seasons."

Perhaps Hyde's best-remembered commentary on abortion is this passage, familiar to millions of pro-lifers:

**When the time comes as it surely will, when we face that awesome moment, the final judgment, I've often thought, as Fulton Sheen wrote, that it is a terrible moment of loneliness. You have no advocates, you are there alone standing before God and a terror will rip through your soul like nothing you can imagine. But I really think that those in the pro-life movement will not be alone. I think there will be a chorus of voices that have never been heard in this world but are heard beautifully and clearly in the next world and they will plead for everyone who has been in this movement. They will say to God, "Spare him because he loved us," and God will look at you and say not, "Did you succeed?" but "Did you try?"**



*More than two million people are alive today thanks to the tireless efforts led by Rep. Henry Hyde*

**the defenseless unborn." Those words hold true today as polling continually shows the majority of Americans oppose the vast majority of abortions.**

*Congressional Quarterly* once described Hyde as "one of the premier orators in the House. ... He speaks with wit, passion, and deep convictions about the conservative causes he holds dear. Nowhere was

**unwanted. ... We are knee deep in a culture of death. ... Look, in this advanced democracy, in the year 2000, is it our crowning achievement that we have learned to treat people as things? Our moment in history is marked by a mortal conflict between a culture of life and a culture of death. God put us in the world to do noble things, to**

## In case anyone should ask.....

From page 2

Before the ban was enacted, signed into law by President George W. Bush, and upheld by the Supreme Court, thousands of times a year, an abortionist deliberately delivered, feet first, a premature, healthy infant until only the baby's head remains lodged just inside the mother's womb. Then he punctured the base of the baby's skull with 7-inch surgical scissors and suctions out the brain.

Hillary Clinton can live with that. Huge, highly developed babies can not.

And as if to prove her support for partial-birth abortions was no fluke, Clinton opposes the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act. The bill accomplishes what the title suggests: it protects unborn babies who are capable of experiencing excruciating pain when they are aborted beginning at 20 weeks after fertilization, which is 22 "weeks of pregnancy," or about the beginning of the sixth month, a point by which – if not earlier – there is substantial medical

evidence that the unborn child can feel pain. Public opinion polls show that by lopsided margins, Americans support prohibiting abortion at least by this stage in development, with most polls showing women even more supportive than men.

But not Hillary Clinton.

**In case anyone should ask,** you are working as hard as you are because you know the stakes: the future for decades to come of the Supreme Court; the Hyde Amendment whom only a radical like Clinton would target

for extinction; the abortion-enhancing, and rationing-inducing, ObamaCare; and the countless appointees who will make policy--for good or for evil--behind the scenes.

**In case anyone should ask,** having tried with everything at your disposal to help the babies and their mothers, you will quote Mother Teresa who once said, "God doesn't require us to succeed, he only requires that you try."

## Lessons from the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hyde Amendment and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Planned Parenthood

From page 2

Sanger wrote countless outrageous things. The following two examples are (1) taken from a 1925 book to which she contributed an essay and (2) a recent tone-deaf "debunking" of criticism of Sanger, the results of which, inadvertently, were very harsh on Sanger.

Both focus on Sanger's habit of referring to people whom she didn't approve of as "weeds" which must be cleared away.

Here's a passage from, "The Need for Birth Control in America," which appeared in *Birth Control: Facts and Responsibilities*, ed. Adolf Meyer, M.D., 1925.

**"In his last book, Mr. [H. G.] Wells speaks of the meaningless, aimless lives which cram this world of ours, hordes of people who are born, who live, who die, yet who have done absolutely nothing to advance the race one iota. Their lives are hopeless repetitions. All that they have said has been said before; all that they have done has been done better before. Such human**

**weeds clog up the path, drain up the energies and the resources of this little earth. We must clear the way for a better world; we must cultivate our garden."**

"Hopeless repetitions" that are "clog[ging] up the path" that "we must clear away" so as to "cultivate our garden"?

Yikes!

Sources sympathetic to Sanger delight in making tortuous distinctions without differences. (By the way, our friends at Wikipedia note, "It is particularly used when a word or phrase has connotations associated with it that one party to an argument prefers to avoid.")

Snopes tried to defang Sanger's frequent use of "weeds" by "debunking" an assertion that Sanger specified a "particular race or ethnicity." In other words, if she wrote something really, really ugly but did not mention a particular people, well, no harm, no foul.

Really? Here's a quote from an April 8, 1923 *New York Times* article "attributed" to Sanger that Snopes thinks

makes it all right. The quote ends thusly:

**Succinctly and with telling brevity and precision "Birth Control" summed up our whole philosophy. Birth Control is not contraception and thoughtlessly practiced. It means the release and cultivation of the better racial elements in our society, and the gradual suppression, elimination and eventual extirpation of defective stocks—those human weeds which threaten the blooming of the finest flowers of American civilization.**

This is supposed to make us look at Sanger more favorably, to see her as a woman unfairly picked upon?!

It is eugenics on steroids--eliminating and eventually extirpating "defective stocks" while we "release" and "cultivate" what Sanger believed were "the better racial elements in our society."

It is telling that one definition

of extirpate is "to pull up as if by the roots" which is what you must do if you are to totally eliminate all those human "weeds."

One final thought. Even with the power of its praetorian guard--virtually the entirety of the media elite--warding off a true assessment, PPFA's approval ratings have come down.

This despite PPFA and its legion of media apologists having persuaded large swathes of the public that it is a non-partisan dispenser of women's "health services," rather than what it is--the largest abortion provider in the world wholly invested in politics.

Politifact is one of those self-appointed media truth-detectors which almost invariably just happen to come down on the side of the Left. But in late 2015, even Politifact Texas acknowledged that there are late 2015 polls showing PPFA's favorability ratings as high as 50% and 53% but also as low as 44% and 40%.

Keep the faith. The wheels of justice grind slowly but grind fine.

# We cannot remain silent as unborn babies with Down Syndrome are aborted

By Leticia Velasquez, Co-founder of KIDS (Keep Infants with Down Syndrome)

*Editor's note. October is Down Syndrome Awareness Month.*

Monsignor Charles Pope's blogs are full of Christ's wisdom about the most pressing subjects in modern life and his latest "Accepting Disability in a World Obsessed with Perfection" is no exception.

This blog is in response to Pope Francis' comments while meeting with a group of disabled individuals, that "Love, not some idea of perfection, leads to Happiness."

"In an age when care for one's body has become an obsession and a big business, anything imperfect has to be hidden away, since it threatens the happiness and serenity of the privileged few and endangers the dominant model," the Pope said. "In some cases, we are even told that it is better to eliminate them as soon as possible, because they become an unacceptable economic burden in time of crisis."

People with such attitudes, he said, "fail to understand the real meaning of life, which also has to do with accepting suffering and limitations."

And for Jesus, he said, the sick and the weak, those cast aside by society — like the woman in the Gospel story — are precisely the ones he loves most.

The only path to happiness is love, Pope Francis said. "How many disabled and suffering persons open their hearts to life again as soon as they realize they are loved! How much love can well up in a heart simply with a smile!"

Monsignor Pope then asks: Is there such a thing as a life not worth living?

**Many in our culture seem to believe that there is. There has arisen the tragically ironic idea that death is a form of therapy, that an appropriate treatment for disabled unborn children is to kill them.**

**Of course death is neither a treatment nor a therapy; it cannot be considered an acceptable solution for the one who loses his or her life. Yet this is often the advice that parents in this situation are given.**

**All of this "advice" and pressure goes a long way toward explaining why more than 90% of unborn children with a poor prenatal diagnosis are aborted. We cannot remain silent in the face of this; we must reach out compassionately to families experiencing such a crisis.**

**Many of them are devastated by the news that their baby may have serious disabilities. Often they descend into shock and are overwhelmed by fear, conflicting feelings, and even anger towards God or others. Sometimes the greatest gifts we can give them are time,**

**information, and the framework of faith.**

I just finished reading the book *Imbeciles: The Supreme Court, American Eugenics, and the Sterilization of Carrie Buck*, by Adam Cohen.

In the early 1900's, in the wake of Darwin's theory of evolution, a wave of what came

of those the state deemed 'feeble-minded, saying, "Three generations of imbeciles are enough!"

As bioethicist Wesley J. Smith has written, "Eugenics lost its popular attraction after the Nazis took our eugenic laws and really turned them into a culture of death." But has it?



to be called Social Darwinism gave birth the ideology of eugenics, the idea that some humans were genetically superior to others and we ought to suppress the birth or end the lives of the inferior.

Eugenics pervaded society and inspired Margaret Sanger to champion birth control for the 'inferior races' and disabled whom she called "human weeds."

The Supreme Court codified this horrible idea in the infamous 1927 *Buck V Bell* decision. In the 8-1 decision, Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes approved of the sterilization

We congratulate ourselves on having progressed since then; yet we have merely shifted the 'responsibility' of killing those deemed "inferior" to their mothers.

I interviewed many mothers of special needs children for my book, *A Special Mother is Born*. Some women claimed the pressure to abort from their doctors was so great, they even tried to make them feel guilty about "imposing" a disabled sibling on their children.

All of these moms said they can't imagine life without the love of their child.

# Pro-abortion legislator wants to undo protective measures enacted in wake of the murder convictions of abortionist Kermit Gosnell

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

Serial killer Kermit Gosnell left a path of unprecedented destruction in his wake. A Pennsylvania jury convicted Gosnell of killing three full-term babies and causing the death of one female patient in an abortion facility Philadelphia District Attorney Seth Williams described as a “House of Horrors.”

Gosnell is now serving three consecutive life sentences for his crimes. The grand jury in the case estimated that Gosnell had “snipped” the necks of hundreds of babies after he had delivered them alive and hurt countless numbers of women. Prosecutors could bring only a handful of criminal charges against him, because, prosecutors said, Gosnell had destroyed so many records.

In response to the Gosnell catastrophe, Pennsylvania’s legislature passed a measure ensuring that abortion facilities would have to meet basic health and safety standards. The bill, signed into law as Act 122 of 2011 by then Governor Tom Corbett, also required regular, unannounced inspections of abortion operations.

Prosecutors noted with exasperation that hair and nail salons had been more strictly regulated than abortion centers in the Keystone State over the years. For 17 years, in fact, abortion facilities in Pennsylvania went uninspected.

As the grand jury stated, “... the Pennsylvania Department of Health abruptly decided, for political reasons, to stop inspecting abortion clinics at all. The politics in question were not

anti-abortion, but pro. With the change of administration from Governor Casey to Governor Ridge, officials concluded that inspections would be ‘putting a barrier up to women’ seeking abortions. Better to leave clinics to do as they pleased, even though, as Gosnell proved, that meant both women and babies would pay.”

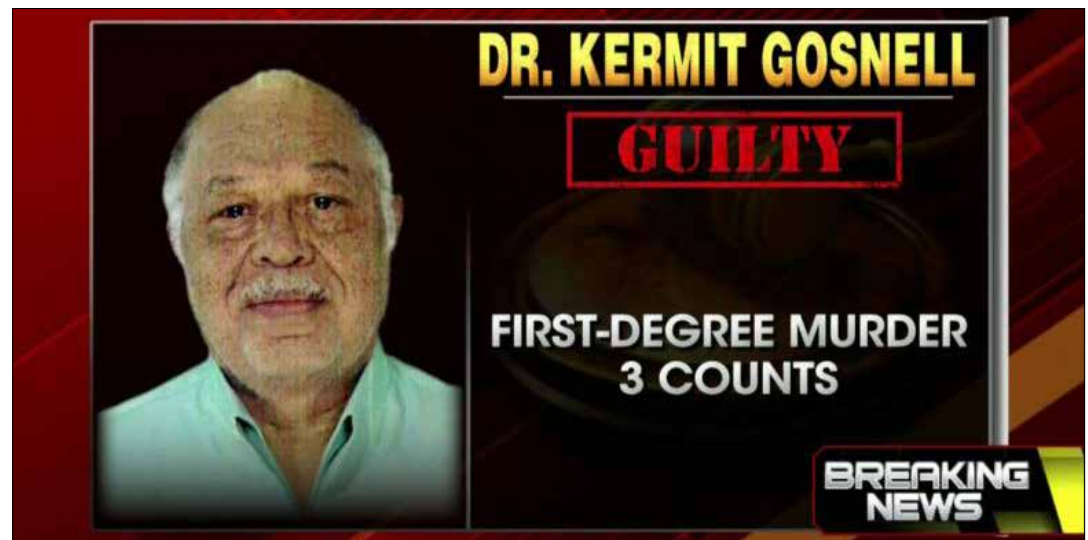
The grand jury clearly and emphatically wanted Pennsylvania law to be changed to prevent future Gosnells from setting up shop in the Commonwealth. Now, a Pennsylvania state representative wants to undo all the progress the state has made in regulating abortion centers through his introduction of House Bill 2332, which would repeal Act 122—a measure which might be better described as “Gosnell’s Law.”

Representative Steven Santarsiero, a Democrat who represents some of Philadelphia’s suburbs, is a staunch defender of the abortion

industry and of Planned Parenthood, the nation’s largest abortion operation. He has introduced HB 2332 under the mantle of the recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling known as *Whole Women’s Health v. Hellerstedt*, which struck down portions of a Texas law regulating abortionists and abortion facilities.

occupies the Governor’s Office at that particular moment. Pennsylvania lawmakers were addressing a real tragedy—the horrors of Gosnell—not dealing with hypothetical situations. The dangers displayed in the Gosnell case were all too real—and all too terribly tragic.

Keep in mind that the emergency personnel who



Still, as a top Pennsylvania attorney pointed out there have been no massive closings of abortion centers in Pennsylvania in the wake of the law, so abortion promoters would be hard-pressed to claim that the law “limited access” to abortion. Pennsylvania’s law, furthermore, does not treat abortion centers differently than [other?] surgical centers, so abortion center operators cannot claim they are being unfairly targeted.

Act 122 has been so important in Pennsylvania because it makes inspections of abortion facilities a matter of law, rather than subject to the whim of the individual who

tried to revive Gosnell patient Karnamaya Mongar might have been successful in saving her life—were it not for the fact that it took them 20 minutes to get her out of the building because of the cramped hallways and padlocked emergency exit. Act 122 was a prudent way to prevent this kind of tragedy from re-occurring.

Any effort to repeal Pennsylvania’s common sense, women-protecting abortion center regulation law is an effort to turn back the clock on women’s health and safety—and to leave the state once again vulnerable to the Gosnells of the abortion industry.

# How to do well on that Pro-Life Research Paper

## *The Secret? Use Materials from the National Right to Life Educational Trust Fund*

By Randall K. O'Bannon, Ph.D. and Joseph Landrum

It seems as if you're barely back from summer vacation and your teacher asks you to do a report or a research paper on a current event. You're pro-life, you'd like to write a paper on some aspect of the abortion issue, but how do you get started and what signposts do you need to observe?

Begin by accessing the National Right to Life Educational Trust Fund. The Trust Fund conducts first-rate research, digs through newspapers and government reports and medical journals, and assembles it all in an easily accessible, easy to understand format. And any reader can rely on our accuracy. You can find our materials on the NRLC web page: [www.nrlc.org](http://www.nrlc.org). The factsheets, which are indispensable, can be found at [www.nrlc.org/factsheets/](http://www.nrlc.org/factsheets/).

Of course you'll still have the responsibility to write the paper, watch your grammar, and turn in your paper in a timely fashion. But the factsheets and brochures from the Trust Fund will provide you with the kind of accurate information and arguments you need to prepare a top-notch paper.

Here's some practical advice and examples of materials available from the Trust Fund and suggestions how to think through the way you assemble your paper.

### Some Hints on Choosing a Topic

**\*Deep or Wide?** Do you want to give your reader a general background on the topic or do you want to write on one aspect of the debate in depth?

If you choose to go general, you'll basically just be introducing the topic and outlining some of its broad ramifications. But you can still show why the issue is important and address some of the most



salient facts such as the number of abortions, the significance of that number, the reasons why women have abortions, who has abortions, the profits that drive the abortion industry, and a sense of the humanity of the fetus. Trust Fund factsheets like *The Basics* and *Abortion Statistics* are great resources here.

**\*Life has many facets.** If you decide you want to look at the abortion issue in depth, there are many possible topic areas on which the Trust Fund has done extensive research.

Do you want to focus on the humanity of the unborn child? The full color, fully documented "a baby's first months" brochure will give you the facts you need to make a compelling case. You can study stem cells, partial-birth abortion, to name just two.

Examine "Abortion's Economic Impact" or "Abortion's Impact on Minorities."

**\*Focus, Focus.** If you're not careful, your topic on, say, stem cell research will overlap into fetal pain and next thing

you know you're discussing abortion in the Roman Empire. Once you decide on a topic, make sure you don't stray into other side arguments, however interesting they may be.

### Doing Your Research

**\*Whom can you trust?** Information on the Internet is plentiful but not always reliable. Make sure some scientific journal, medical text, respected research institute, or established news outlet ultimately backs up your source.

Factsheets and other Trust Fund materials such as "Abortion: Some Medical Facts" which can be found on our web page, are well footnoted from solid original sources you can feel comfortable citing.

**\*Write it down.** When you find some information relevant to the topic you've chosen,

write down exactly what your source says and fully document the original source. That means saying no more and no less than what the source says (if the source says the baby swims at seven weeks, don't say the baby does the breast stroke) and indicating the author, the name of the article, the publication, the date, and any further publication data (e.g., journal volume and number, name of editor, etc.).

If you cite *Roe v. Wade* or any of the other Supreme Court abortion cases, make sure you characterize these correctly by checking the Trust Fund's "Supreme Court Decisions: Abortion factsheet."

**\*See what the other side says.** The Trust Fund's "Abortion Reasons & Arguments" factsheet offers responses to the most relevant arguments of the other side. Sometimes those on the other side will even give you information that will help you make your case. For instance, the strongest material on the Trust Fund's factsheet on Planned Parenthood exposing the organization's abortion agenda comes from PPFA itself.

**\*Speaking of Planned Parenthood,** did you know that PPFA is about to "celebrate" its 100th birthday? That the "largest abortion provider" is responsible for 6.7 million abortions? If you are researching Planned Parenthood, there is no better place to start than [www.saddestbirthdayever.com](http://www.saddestbirthdayever.com).

**\*NRLC prides itself on its comprehensiveness and**

## How to do well on that Pro-Life Research Paper

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accuracy. There are impeccable sources you can look to in addition to the information available at the NRLC Trust Fund. For example, on a daily basis there is *National Right to Life News Today*.

And don't forget NRLC's "Abortion in America."

### Assembling Your Information

\*Assemble Your Sources. Get all your notes and resources together. Take a look at what you've got. Are there any gaps in your research?

\*Think through your arguments. What are the points you need to emphasize to best make your case? What is the logical order of your arguments? Do you have evidence for the arguments you intend to make?

\*Outline your Paper. Your teacher is your best guide here and he or she probably has a specific format in mind. It's often as simple as identifying your thesis, lining up the main points of your argument, supplying the evidence you need to make those points, and then summing up your research in a conclusion.

Factsheets such as the "Teens & Abortion: Why Parents Should Know" and

"The Pain of the Unborn" not only supply you with the facts, but also provide good examples of how a topic can



be organized and can help you spotlight the strongest and most relevant arguments.

### Writing Your Paper

\*Pay attention to the basics. You may have a great argument and possess the most compelling evidence. But if you can't express it in a clear and concise way, you'll impress no one. Follow standard rules of grammar so that subjects and verbs agree, sentences don't run on, proper nouns are capitalized, etc. Check your spelling. Have someone else read your paper or read it out loud to see if any phrases or sentences are jarring or confusing.

\*Know your audience. Quotes from Scripture, Pope John Paul II's "Gospel of Life," etc. may fit nicely into your paper if you are encouraging people of faith to take up the pro-life cause. In a public school, however, it may be more effective to argue

the pro-life cause from a human rights or civil rights perspective. Not everyone recognizes the same religious authority, but

your teachers will take note of material from medical texts and journals about the development of the unborn child or abortion's physical and psychological effects on women.

\*Stick to the Facts. If you don't have a source for some statement you want to make, don't make it. If you have conflicting sets of data, get the sources for each one and see which one holds up best.

Know the difference between an "assertion" and an "argument." "Abortion hurts women" is an assertion. It may be true enough, but once you make this assertion, you must back up your point with argument and evidence. In this case, the facts and documentation needed to back up such a claim can be found in Trust Fund's "Abortion's Physical Complications" or "Deaths Associated with RU-486" factsheets.

Resist the temptation to relate personal anecdotes unless they are absolutely relevant and be careful about unwarranted extrapolations.

\*Keep your cool. Never personally attack and avoid hyperbole. Give opposing arguments their due both because that is being intellectually honest and because it tells your teacher he or she does not need to view your solid counter-evidence with suspicion.

Can we guarantee you'll get an A+ on your research paper? Sorry, no. A great deal of that is still up to you.

But with brochures and factsheets from the National Right to Life Educational Trust Fund, you'll have the ideas and information you need to address some of the hottest topics in America today. You'll be better and smarter for it.

And that's what education is all about.

*Dr. O'Bannon is NRL-ETF director of education and research. Joe Landrum was the Trust Fund's long-time administrative assistant for public information.*

## Former President Bill Clinton calls ObamaCare “craziest thing in the world,” while Hillary Clinton promotes even more government control of healthcare

*From page 11*

necessary to maintain access to the best doctors and hospitals. This has been particularly difficult, or impossible, due to the fact that people who signed up had previously gone without insurance and tend to be less healthy than average.

To borrow the words of Bill Clinton, the ‘craziest thing in the world’ is not the failing health care law, but that candidate Hillary Clinton and many of her allies are calling for **even more** government control of health care in order to deal with the ongoing problems.

While Secretary Clinton is often accused of pandering to whatever audience she hopes to cull for votes, government control of healthcare is one example where she does not need to be persuaded.

While on the campaign trail, Mrs. Clinton has issued repeated calls to resurrect the defunct “public option” and to allow people to buy into Medicare and Medicaid. In addition, on her campaign website she writes, “Hillary believes that workers should share in slower growth of

national health care spending through lower costs.”

While this certainly sounds appealing (who wants higher costs?), the sort of mechanisms that will be used can and will lead to the rationing of life-saving health care.

Looking back to 1993, then-first lady Hillary Clinton played an integral role in developing “Health Security: The President’s Report to the American People.”

Testifying about the plan, Mrs. Clinton told the Senate Finance Committee on Sept. 30, 1993, that under the proposal, “[P]eople will know that they are not being denied treatment for any reason **other than it is not appropriate—will not enhance or save the quality of life.**” [emphasis added]

In short, she admits that poor “quality of life” will be a basis for treatment denial. Based on Clinton’s current proposals, we can expect that this will still be a guiding principle.

From the pro-life standpoint, arbitrarily denying treatment is especially troubling because of the tendency of health care

providers to allocate health care based on assumptions about various individuals’ so-called “quality of life” — which usually amounts to discrimination based on age, disability, or condition of dependency.

While Mrs. Clinton’s plan had many obvious sinister elements at the time, such as numerous unaccountable health care boards that would decide what treatments Americans would and would not be denied, her plan today is suffused with softer talking points but many of the same ideas.

Put another way, it is simply a wolf in sheep’s clothing and we can expect those perceived as having a low “quality of life” to suffer the worst.

Look at one example from her current plan—Secretary Clinton’s call for premium caps. But premium caps will rise far less than health care cost inflation. The resulting cost squeeze will force rationing.

Each year the health plan you select (be it a private plan or a public option) will have less money in “real” dollars (the

value of the dollar adjusted for health cost inflation). Something will have to give: the health plan will have to cut down more and more each year on the treatment and access to specialists it makes available.

With one of the most hotly contested elections looming, many Democrat members of Congress are calling for changes to the Obama health care law and nearly all Republican members are calling for repeal and replacement of most of the law.

Secretary Clinton’s desire to **expand** the government’s role in health care is clear.

Donald Trump has a dramatically different plan to return much of the control of health care choices to the public. Details of his plan can be found at [donaldjtrump.com/positions/healthcare-reform](http://donaldjtrump.com/positions/healthcare-reform)

We cannot allow four more years in which the Obama health care law, or a potential expansion of it, chokes out American’s access to insurance and life-saving medical care.



## “Death Control” and the bioethics peril

*From page 21*

falls somewhere between “debatable” and “justifiable.”

**Killing for Organs:** The “dead donor rule,” which says that vital organs can only be taken from the certifiably deceased, has been under steady attack for years. The latest example was just published in the *Journal of Medical Ethics* by bioethicist Zoe Fritz:

Where it is inevitable that an incapacitous patient is going to die—and specifically when it has been agreed through the courts that a patient in a PVS is going to have CANH [tube-supplied sustenance] withdrawn, it could be in a patient’s best interests to have a drug that would stop their heart and to have vital organs donated to a family member. ... By extension, it could also be in the patient’s best interests to

donate their organs to someone else, if that was consistent with their previously expressed wishes.

I can think of no faster way to destroy people’s confidence in organ donation than to kill people for their organs. Not only that, but if this were permitted, decisions about withdrawing care would quickly become intertwined with the issue of organ harvesting, transforming patients into organ farms. Killing for organs—which is not yet happening—is currently considered “debatable.”

**“Futile Care”:** Medical futility, or “futile care,” permits a doctor to withdraw wanted life-sustaining treatment from a patient based on the doctor’s perception of the patient’s quality of life—and,

less mentioned, based on the cost of the patient’s care. Texas has a law that allows hospital bioethics committees to refuse service or discontinue treatment—even against a patient’s written advance directive. Many a patient has died after such forced removal of treatment. There has been abundant litigation surrounding the issue, with the bioethics movement leading the charge to allow bioethicists and doctors to decide when a patient should die. Despite this contentiousness, I believe that futile care is at this point considered “justifiable.”

These and other policies that view imposed or chosen death as the answer to human suffering and medical-resource concerns are the products of careful planning

and promotion. In 1970, an editorial in *California Medicine* celebrated the “inevitability of death selection and death control” in a project that would culminate in the “fulfillment and betterment of mankind in what is almost certain to be a biologically oriented world society.” Back then, the very idea of death control was unthinkable. A mere forty-six years later—intellectually gestated by the bioethics movement—it is quickly becoming unexceptionable.

*Editor’s note. Wesley J. Smith is a senior fellow at the Discovery Institute’s Center on Human Exceptionalism. This appeared at First Things (<https://www.firstthings.com/web-exclusives/2016/09/death-control-and-the-bioethics-peril>).*

## An update of key Senate races before the elections

*From page 23*

pro-life position nearly 80% of the time in a 10-year span. Strickland has been endorsed by Planned Parenthood, and supports the use of tax dollars for abortion.

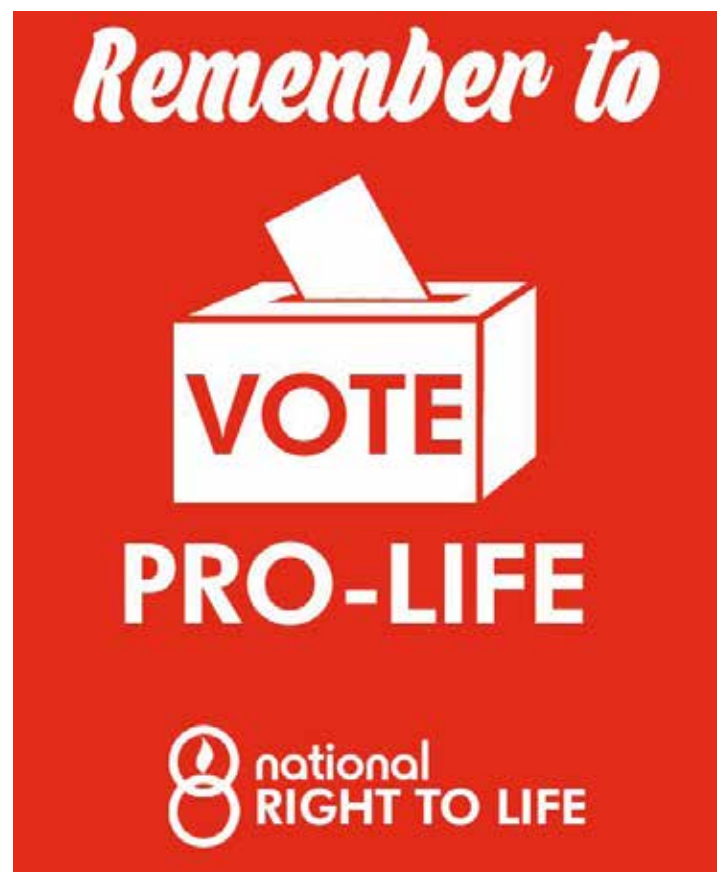
And finally, in Iowa, pro-life Senator Chuck Grassley (R), chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, faces a challenge by pro-abortion former Lt. Governor Patty Judge (D). Senator Grassley has a strong pro-life voting record, while EMILY’s List and Planned Parenthood support Patty Judge. She would like to overturn the Hyde Amendment and force taxpayers to fund abortions.

Among the new pro-life challengers running for the U.S. Senate this year is pro-life

El Paso County Commissioner Darryl Glenn (R) who is challenging pro-abortion Colorado Senator Michael Bennet (D). Michael Bennet voted against the *Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act*, for taxpayer funding of abortions, and has been awarded a strong pro-abortion lifetime rating by Planned Parenthood.

With so many tight races, pro-lifers have their work cut out for them. Look for updates in future *National Right to Life News* and *NRL News Today*.

Remember, elections matter. Your vote matters.



## The Danger of Assumptions about Down Syndrome and the Importance of Awareness

*From page 26*

foremost people who happen to have Down syndrome.

Awareness that the unique challenges that Down syndrome may present are not the only side of the coin.

Awareness that Down syndrome is not a disease or some kind of devastating affliction.

Awareness of the accomplishments of people with Down syndrome (driver's licenses, degrees, jobs, marriages, etc.).

Awareness that people with Down syndrome bear the image of God along with the rest of humanity and are masterfully crafted by a good and wise Creator.

And on a personal level, awareness that, on most days, I don't spend most of my time thinking about the fact that my son has Down syndrome. Not because I am still in denial, but because, as many have already pointed out, he and I are more alike than we are different.

October is Down Syndrome Awareness Month. You will probably see a lot about it come across your social media accounts and elsewhere. When you do, please take a few minutes to read up on it and share what you learn with others. You may find out that some of your assumptions about Down Syndrome are misguided or even totally wrong.

I know I found that to be the nature of many of my own assumptions. My son is a gift,

and there is nothing about him I would desire to change. When I first found out that he might have Down syndrome, that was not the case.

I thank God that I am more aware now.

*Editor's note. Mr. Morris was kind enough to share this with me in advance of Down Syndrome Awareness Month.*

## Want to Elect a Pro-Life President? Here's what NOT to do.

*From page 31*

and picked the pro-abortion candidate. While it is a distinct advantage for candidates to be pro-life and does make a difference in the outcome of an election, it also means that a large majority of the voters had other issues that were more important to them.

In order to win, a candidate has to focus on many issues that will appeal to a broad variety of voters. It is the job of the right-to-life movement to inform the pro-life community about the candidate's position on abortion. It is the candidate's job to reach a cross-section of voters on a broad range of issues. When abortion is discussed in the campaign,

the candidate must clearly and directly articulate his pro-life position. However, to expect the candidate to always make abortion the major issue in the campaign can be a sure way to lose an election.

### **Vote for a third-party or independent candidate who has no chance of winning.**

Some pro-lifers talk about voting for Libertarian Gary Johnson or even Green Party candidate Jill Stein for President, not knowing that both have pro-abortion positions. In fact, Gary Johnson supports abortion until viability, and he wants to keep abortion legal.

Pro-lifers who support the

third-party or independent candidate, to the detriment of the pro-life candidate who could win, may feel like they have not compromised their principles. But if they succeed in indirectly helping to elect a candidate who will allow the killing of unborn babies to continue, they have compromised away something far more important – children's lives.

### **Again, on November 8, either Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump will be elected President.**

Hillary Clinton voted in favor of partial-birth abortion, supports dismemberment abortions, and has pledged

to only appoint pro-abortion justices to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Even as long as 15 years ago, Donald Trump wrote that he supports a ban on partial-birth abortion. When he learned about the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, he said he would sign it into law. Most importantly, Donald Trump has pledged to only appoint pro-life justices to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The 2016 presidential election is an important moment for our movement. Let's not squander this opportunity. The lives of unborn babies and their mothers hang in the balance.

# Lighting the children's road to freedom

*From page 7*

Facts we have aplenty, many of which the pro-abortion forces no longer bother to contest.

Rather what we must conquer is the “blame the messenger” mentality which now plays

more uneasy with abortion, we must be transparently filled with compassion in everything we do. That is why it is so important that when any of us attempts to reach

In telling our story, we are under a moral obligation to be absolutely accurate. Unlike our opponents, we need not manicure the truth for the truth is all on our side. But far more

offer, no film we can show, no discussion we can conduct that can ever compare with the impression we will leave with doubters when we compassionately help a young woman through her crisis pregnancy.

Finally, compare our situation with that of the anti-life forces. They have no choice but to hurl epithets, distort and manipulate public opinion, and attempt to fill the ethical void with breathtakingly brazen attacks on the motives of pro-lifers and the humanity of unborn children.

Alas, no one ever said life is fair. Rare it is that the anti-life forces are ever taken to task for their conduct while we are expected to be purer than Caesar's wife.

Yet, we should be proud that so much is demanded of us before people will ever lend an ear. It is a tacit admission that they understand that we live by a set of decent and humane values. Also, such expectations are, in another way, only fair: of those who are given much, much is demanded.

And, truly, pro-lifers have been given a marvelous gift: the privilege of shielding our collective humanity against the ferocious onslaught of the anti-life forces who would wrest it away. In the face of such formidable opposition, we must and will endure.

Then, one day, perhaps when we least expect it, the clouds that darken our moral horizons will be rolled away. And when they are, the truth, so long obscured, will light the children's road to freedom.



such a major role in propping up the Abortion Culture. As much as is humanly possible, we must compel Americans to confront the message not the much-maligned messenger—you and me—about whom they constantly hear bad (and unjust) things.

Now I am not so foolish as to suggest there is some pat solution that we can trot out and our problems will be over. All we can say with confidence is that if we are ever to have a chance with those who grow

people on the abortion issue that we remind ourselves of two truths.

First, the sobering fact that this one opportunity may be the only exposure this individual will ever have to the Pro-Life Movement. In that time and space, the Movement is you, you are the Movement.

Second, because of this, how we conduct ourselves may well leave an indelible impression—positive or negative—which no subsequent actions can ever erase.

important, those we seek to persuade must see in us men and women who are wholly dedicated to assisting both mother and child.

We freely and joyfully choose to lovingly help these women who need our assistance both because it is our obligation (because of the kind of people we are), and because it ennobles us and everything we stand for when we open our hearts to women facing very difficult times.

There is no book we can