national RIGHT TO LIFE NEWS

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Pro-life House Republicans hold hearing: "End Infanticide: Examining the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act."

From left to right are: Republican Whip Steve Scalise (LA-1), and Reps Chris Smith (NJ-04), Michael Burgess (TX-26) and Jackie Walorski (IN-02).

national RIGHT TO LIFE NEWS

Pro-life candidates continue to win in special elections

By Dave Andrusko

No two ways around it, September 3 was a banner day for the cause of unborn children in North Carolina.

Pro-Life Republicans Dan Bishop and Greg Murphy carried the day in two special elections—the 9th and the 3rd, respectively. Both winners were endorsed by National Right to Life.

The Dan Bishop versus Dan McCready(D) contest was touted as a harbinger of 2020.

The National Right to Life Victory Fund reached more than 45,000 identified pro-life registered voters by mail, phone, flyers, and through social media. All provided invaluable information about the differences between Bishop and pro-abortion Democrat Dan McCready. Bishop prevailed 51% to 49%.

Bishop's and Murphy's victories were lauded by Barbara Holt, North Carolina Right to Life President. "Having worked with both of them in the North Carolina General Assembly as we worked to pass pro-life legislation, I know them as pro-life advocates who will

See "Elections," page 26

Powerful testimony at House Minority Hearing on Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act

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

Washington, D.C.– House Republican Whip Steve Scalise (R-La.), Rep. Ann Wagner (R-Mo.), and Pro-Life Caucus Chair Chris Smith (R-N.J.) hosted a hearing September 3 examining H.R. 962, the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act and how it is designed to protect innocent human life left vulnerable following an attempted abortion.

Democrat leadership has, for months, repeatedly refused to allow a vote on this measure, and had denied Republicans the opportunity to even hold a hearing on the legislation. Republicans instead held a minority hearing, with over 43 members of Congress in attendance as well as a standing-room only audience.

Four witnesses testified for the need for this legislation. H.R. 962 simply provides that born-alive abortion survivors would be afforded the care given to a baby spontaneously

See "Powerful," page 22

Editorials

2,246 "medically preserved fetal remains" discovered following the death of an Indiana abortionist

The *Associated Press'* lead sentence was as antiseptic as it was understated: "JOLIET, Ill. — More than 2,000 medically preserved fetal remains have been found at the Illinois home of a former Indiana abortion clinic doctor who died last week, authorities said."

In English "medically preserved fetal remains" are the bodies of hapless unborn babies whom Dr. Ulrich Klopfer ghoulishly stashed away. No telling if those "medically preserved fetal remains" are more recent victims or lost their lives further back in Klopfer's long and highly controversial 43-year-long career.

Local pro-lifers in Indiana estimate that Klopfer aborted 50,000 unborn babies. Klopfer, who died September 3 and who ran three abortion clinics in Indiana, in Fort Wayne, Gary and South Bend at the Women's Pavilion, finally had his medical license suspended in 2016.

The instant comparison, of course, is to Kermit Gosnell, now serving three consecutive life sentences at the Huntingdon State Correctional Institution. Gosnell was convicted in the murders of three babies whom he deliberately aborted alive and then "snipped" their spinal cords. Two women also died at his clinic, although Gosnell was convicted of involuntary manslaughter in only one. To call Gosnell's West Philadelphia abortion clinic pit squalid would be to give his Women's Medical Society too much credit.

But perhaps what shocked authorities who raid the abortion clinic in 2010 the most was the discovery of water jugs, pet food containers, and a freezer packed with containers holding severed feet. What kind of demented creature stores away human trophies commemorating his kills?

Gosnell and Klopfer are not, no matter what you hear from the Abortion Industry and its enablers in the media, outliers. You can read stories about "fetal tissue" being found in the trunk of a long-time abortionist in Michigan, to take just one example. Their handling of the bodies of their victims accurately reflects the contempt they have for them.

And what is one of the primary overarching takeaways from the Center for Medical Progress's undercover investigation? That those

See "Remains," page 30

What if even the *Washington Post* tacitly admits Democrats are extremists on abortion?

One of the truly under-reported stories of the last month is how the Major Media, pro-abortion and pro-Democrat with rare exceptions, are sending distress signals to the current crop of presidential wannabes.

Like Robby the Robot, they warn there is "Danger" in choosing "to support — and in some cases emphasize — a few policies that are deeply unpopular" (to quote David Leonhardt of the *New York Times*).

In his opinion piece, Leonhardt did not mention abortion as an example of Democrats' overreach, but abortion is the perfect example of how out of whack Democrats are with the public. By contrast, Aaron Blake explicitly did address "Democrats' leftward shift on third-trimester abortion" in a piece that ran in the *Washington Post* on September 11.

Forget the lame and wholly inaccurate parallel at the end. Blake understands that "Hillary Clinton's answer at a 2016 debate trended toward what [Bernie] Sanders, [Peter] Buttigieg and [Beto] O'Rourke are saying today." Or, put another way, Clinton's response was a prelude, a dry run, for the utterly-out-of-control position which is now orthodoxy among Democrats running for president.

In her debate with then candidate Donald Trump, Clinton initially did her best to evade her extremism on abortion. Then, as Blake notes,

But when Donald Trump accused her of supporting abortions in the ninth month, she added: "This is one of the worst possible choices that any woman and her family has to make. And I do not believe the government should be making it."

Blake bends over backwards to emphasize that neither Sanders, Buttigieg, nor O'Rourke

is explicitly saying, "I support allowing third-trimester abortions" — and, in fact, they seem to be trying hard

See "Extremists," page 35

From the President

Carol Tobias

At Least the Democratic Presidential Candidates Are Honest

Thanks to social media and out-of-the-mainstream media outlets, we hear more about what's happening with candidates as they campaign across the country. But the irony is, no longer are Democrats trying to cover their genuinely radical anti-life positions. Quite frankly, whereas pro-abortion Democrats used to wrap their advocacy in (meaningless) qualifications, I'm amazed at how forthcoming this crop of presidential candidates is about their position on abortion.

Other than Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard (D-HI), who now says she would support some limits on third-trimester abortions, the other candidates support unlimited abortion on demand (for any reason) throughout pregnancy. Some have even voted against the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act which would offer protection to babies who survive an attempted abortion.

What have some the candidates said?

Former Congressman Beto O'Rourke, campaigning at a college in South Carolina, was asked, "Someone asked you specifically—specifically-- about third-trimester abortions and you said, 'That's a decision left up to the mother' so my question is this, I was born September 8, 1989, and I want to know if you think, on September 7, 1989, my life had no value."

O'Rourke responded, "Of course I don't think that and of course I'm glad that you're here. But you referenced my answer in Ohio and it remains the same. This is a decision that neither you, nor I, nor the United States government should be making. That's a decision for the woman to make."

CNN recently held a seven-hour-long marathon town hall, giving each of the top ten candidates an opportunity to talk about climate change. Sen. Bernie Sanders (Independent-Vt.) was asked if he would discuss population control and would he make it a key feature of a plan to address "climate catastrophe."

Sanders responded, "Well, Martha, the answer is yes. And the answer has everything to do with the fact that women in the United States of America, by the way, have a right to control their own bodies and make reproductive decisions.

"And the Mexico City agreement, which denies American aid to those organizations around the world that are — that allow women to have abortions or even get involved in birth control, to me is totally absurd. So I think, especially in poor countries around the world where women do not necessarily want to have large numbers of babies, and where they can have the opportunity through birth control to control the number of kids they have, it's something I very, very strongly support."

So, Beto O'Rourke can look a college student in the face and tell him that his mother had the right to kill him the day before he was born. Bernie Sanders can look into the camera and say, in the context of population control, that the lives of unborn babies of women in third-world countries may have to be sacrificed so the rest of the world can sleep peacefully at night. (Please note my heavy sarcasm here!)

During an interview with the "Breakfast Club" radio show, South Bend, IN, Mayor Pete Buttigieg said pro-lifers "hold everybody in line with this one piece of doctrine about abortion…" He continued, "Then again there's a lot of parts of the Bible that talk about how life begins with breath."

It's logical to assume Buttigieg was trying to defend his support for abortion up to the moment of birth, or even until that baby has taken her first breath. But, if he is going to use the Bible as a reference point, I would encourage him to read more than his select few verses.

Julian Castro, former Secretary of Housing and Urban Development in the Obama administration, was more "inclusive," as one reporter described it. "I believe in reproductive justice, and what that means is just because a woman — or, let's not forget someone in the trans community, a trans female…" This is the same man who has called for an end to euthanizing dogs and cats in animal shelters.

Apparently, the life of a dog or cat is more valuable to him than a preborn human being.

Back in May, in a town hall meeting, Senator Kamala Harris (D-CA) offered a proposal that "would give the Department of Justice final say over abortion laws passed by states or localities that have enacted unconstitutional abortion restrictions in the past 25 years," according to the Los Angeles Times. The idea is so preposterous, only the most hard-core pro-abortionists could applaud it with a straight face.

Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) is calling on Congress to repeal the Hyde amendment so that federal dollars may be used to pay for hundreds of thousands of abortions, and to pass federal laws to preempt state legislation so that our state affiliates, working with legislators, are not able to pass legislation to protect unborn children.

Sens. Harris, Warren, and Sanders, along with senators and fellow presidential candidates Amy Klobuchar (D-Mn) and Cory Booker (D-NJ), have all co-sponsored the "Equal Access to Abortion Coverage in Health Insurance Act." The bill would repeal the Hyde Amendment and would allow health plans funded by public programs to cover abortions. It would also prevent state and local governments from limiting insurance coverage of abortion by private health care plans.

In previous election cycles, pro-lifers often had to search very thoroughly in order to find out how rabidly pro-abortion some candidates were because they tried to hide their true position. We see that no more.

The candidates now are at least being honest. They proudly wear their fanatical anti-life positions on their sleeves and almost shout it from the rooftops.

We just need to make sure that America is listening.

Late-term abortionist LeRoy Carhart's soothing description of aborting huge unborn babies in second and third trimesters

By Dave Andrusko

Tip of the cap to Micaiah Bilger for providing pro-lifers with another reminder of the notorious—and I do mean **notorious**—late term abortionist, LeRoy Carhart.

Veteran pro-lifers recall that Carhart was at the heart of two abortion cases that reached the Supreme Court: *Stenberg v. Carhart*, in which the Supreme Court overturned a Nebraska ban on partial-birth abortions, and *Gonzales v. Carhart*, in which the Supreme Court upheld the federal ban on partial-birth abortions.

Carhart fled Nebraska for Germantown, Maryland (and subsequently Bethesda, Maryland) which has infinitely less protective laws and set up his grisly trade in which he aborts unborn babies up to and well beyond 28 weeks.

Bilger went to Carhart's webpage and what she found was shocking, even by Carhart's standards.*

The brochure informs the woman (or perhaps the abortionist who is looking for someone who will abort a baby well into the third trimester) that at and after 28 weeks, killing the baby ["an induction abortion"] takes place "over a four day period." Here's the explanatory paragraph—

> **This process generally starts with a medication [poison] that is given by a needle, through the abdomen, into the pregnancy. This is done to stop the heart of the fetus and end the pregnancy. Then your cervix is numbed and dilated using mechanical dilators, and laminaria. The laminaria are placed into your cervix and left there to expand slowly overnight. This laminaria process will be repeated each day. On the final day of the abortion the doctor will give you medicine called Misoprostol over the course of a few hours to soften and dilate your cervix more. All of these steps combined will induce labor of a typically intact stillborn.**

Late-term abortionist, LeRoy Carhart

As part of "Caring for women with kindness, courtesy, justice, love & respect," Carhart remarks that "Many patients request a remembrance of their baby to take home with them."

We read that "Services after your delivery" [of your dead baby] include

- **Viewing your baby after the delivery**
- **Holding your baby after the delivery**
- **Photographs of your baby**
- **Cremation services referral**
- **Funeral arrangements referral**
- **Footprints**
- **Spiritual and ceremonial accommodations**
- **Remembrance certificate**

Every time I read about Carhart, I ask myself is he more bent on fooling women or deluding himself?

We're frequently told that Carhart is one of a mere handful of abortionists willing to take the lives of babies late into the third trimester. Thank goodness they are few and far between.

*Well, on second thought, perhaps not so shocking. When pressed by a British journalist how late he would perform abortions, Carhart

> **said he was not comfortable saying but added: "To the fetus it makes no difference whether it's born or not born."**
>
> **He told a stunned [Hilary] Andersson: "The baby has no input in this as far as I'm concerned."**
>
> **The presenter [Andersson] commented on his use of the word 'baby', which she pointed out is uncommon for abortionists, as "they'll use the word 'fetus' because they don't want to acknowledge that there's a life".**
>
> **She asked: "And you don't have a problem with killing a baby?"**
>
> **Dr. Carhart responded: "Absolutely not. I have no problem if it's in the mother's uterus."**

Neonatologist tells hearings the "wantedness" of a baby does not determine whether she is treated before or after birth

By Dave Andrusko

Editor's note. Dr. Robin Pierucci, MD, neonatologist and medical director of a 50-bed neonatal intensive-care unit, was one of four witnesses to testify at a September 3 hearing entitled "End Infanticide: Examining the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act."

As NRL Federal Legislative Director Jennifer Popik, JD, wrote (see page one) House Republican Whip Steve Scalise (R-La.), Rep. Ann Wagner (R-Mo.), and Pro-Life Caucus Chair Chris Smith (R-N.J.) hosted the hearing which examined H.R. 962, and how it is designed to protect innocent human life left vulnerable following an attempted abortion.

Over 43 members of Congress were in attendance and there was a standing-room only audience.

The following are excerpts from Dr. Pierucci's testimony which took the form of "a series of responses to relevant questions." (Internal citations are omitted for clarity.)

1.) What is the medical standard of care for tending to all newborn babies? At birth, all babies are to be evaluated and receive the necessary degree of intervention that is outlined by the Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP).This guideline is based on the evidence compiled by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the American Heart Association Guidelines for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular Care of the Neonate. This program was devised to help the medical personnel "learn the cognitive, technical, and teamwork skills…to resuscitate and stabilize newborns." This is

Robin Pierucci, MD

the medical standard of care all newborn infants are to receive. This is the standard of care medical staff are expected to provide.

2.) Is NRP applicable to premature babies? Absolutely. In fact, because premature babies will encounter greater/more frequent challenges than term babies in transitioning from intra-uterine to extra-uterine life, the NRP program specifically addresses how to resuscitate our sickest, most immature babies.

3.) How immature can a baby be, and the staff attempt to resuscitate? The current edge of viability is approximately 22 to 23 weeks gestation; however, (while there is no guarantee of our success), overall our ability to resuscitate these young lives, continues to improve. There is now published evidence of resuscitation and survival of very premature infants as young as 21 weeks 4 days gestation. Let me be clear, I personally have cared for babies at 22 weeks, but not at 21 weeks. At the edge of viability, it is with the utmost humility that we must evaluate the specific nuances of each individual case—ethical medical decision making is complex, and given the risks involved, just because we can does not automatically mean that we should.

4.) Which babies are not automatically resuscitated? The babies with the issues stated by the NRP guidelines whose diagnoses have been confirmed beyond a reasonable doubt, and the family as well as the members of the health care team agree that initiating resuscitation will cause greater harm than good. If this is not the case, then consistent with the standard of care for all other human beings, we always attempt to resuscitate the baby, and then sort out any underlying pathology. In cases where our technology is insufficient to help the baby, it is appropriate to provide "comfort" or palliative care. The goal of this kind of care is to help the baby and their family live well with what we do not have the ability to "fix". In such cases we not only try to avoid uncomfortable tests and procedures that will either solve nothing or prolong suffering, we also strive to minimize IV tubing and monitors that may interfere with a family's ability to simply hold their little one. It is paramount to remember: the baby' s first and primary diagnosis is, it's a baby. All the other diagnoses are secondary and do not ever negate the first one. Because of diagnosis number one, (it is a baby), we are always obligated to care, whether or not we have the ability to heal.

5.) Have I ever intentionally ended the life of a baby? No. I do not ever intentionally end anyone's life.

6.) What about the babies whose parents don't want them? In ethics there is something called the Principle of Double Effect. This principle explains that reaching a good goal (helping a woman who is also pregnant), can never be ethically accomplished by a bad means (intentionally killing someone—the woman who has a problem, someone who may have harmed her, or the baby). None of these deaths are ethical ways to solve the mother's problems. Likewise, the "wantedness" of the baby also does not determine if it is ethically permissible to intentionally kill him or her, either before or after birth. Yes, there are instances of fetal demise which occur as a consequence of keeping the mother safe. This is ethically and medically very different from the intentional destruction of another person's life. Whether or not she wants the baby to live, murder is always intrinsically wrong.

A PETITION TO MY GOVERNOR & STATE LEGISLATORS

Gov. Cuomo and the NY State Legislature have promoted and applauded legislation in the Empire State that will guarantee unrestricted abortion for any reason up until the moment of the birth. Shame on them. Under the so-called "Reproductive Health Act," they have put the lives of New York women in jeopardy by allowing non-physicians to perform abortions. They have opened the door to unrestricted abortions throughout pregnancy. And they have allowed infanticide by removing protections for babies born alive during an abortion. They have even removed penalties for illegal abortion. There is now no more dangerous place for unborn children than New York state. Please do not let this happen in our state.

We the undersigned demand that you reject New York's deadly path and instead encourage laws to protect children and their mothers from the tragedy of abortion and infanticide. Our children and mothers deserve much, much better. They deserve the warmth of life, not the cold embrace of death.

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Congressman tells the truth about the reality of attempted abortions and infanticide

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

In any other context, it would be huge news. But because the story came up at a Congressional hearing held by the pro-life Republican House minority, it did not lead the evening news broadcasts or even get mentioned.

Congressman Roger Marshall (R-Kansas) was among the 43 GOP members who attended a September 3 hearing titled "End Infanticide: Examining the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act." He recalled a shocking experience he had his first month of residency.

Marshall said he heard the call for an ob-gyn resident to come to the emergency room. He raced to the ER where he found a woman in shock, with no pulse, lying in her own blood. Marshall knew only that she was pregnant and that he had 30 seconds, a minute at the most, to get the placenta out, to stop the bleeding.

Marshall said, "I looked beside us and in the next room there's another baby probably 27 weeks along, and (the baby's) arm is just hanging there. And the baby otherwise is doing well…And they said this is a failed abortion they reached up and grabbed his arm, pulled it through the cervix, dislocated the arm and they said 'Oh my gosh, this baby is further along than we thought (he) would be.'"

Rep. Marshall is among those lawmakers pleading with the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, pro-abortion Democrat Nancy Pelosi, to move forward on the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Act. That critical piece of legislation would ensure that babies who are born as a result of "botched" abortions receive the same level of care as any other baby.

But the Speaker and her Democrat colleagues have denied the request for unanimous consent to go forward to hold committee hearings and then eventually

Rep. Roger Marshall

a vote—not once, not twice, but 80 times! Repeatedly, the Speaker has turned a blind eye to infanticide.

As Congressman Marshall's story illustrates, the issue of infanticide is not hypothetical. It is an actual tragedy that has occurred time and time again at medical facilities that refuse to provide proper treatment and care to newborns who survived an abortion.

America is better than this. We have a fundamental duty to defend infant lives—even when it may be inconvenient.

Federal law should provide a lifeline to these helpless children. Every denial of a vote on this crucial legislation is a denial of the guarantee of life-saving care for innocent babies who deserve our utmost respect.

Each day that goes by that Congress fails to act is another day when the grim reality of infanticide can continue unabated—in stark contrast to the principles of life and liberty that our founders held dear.

‘Who gets to draw the line?’ Pete Buttigieg’s abortion nonsense

By Paul Stark, Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life

A lot of the rhetoric surrounding abortion turns out to be nonsense.

Consider an example from South Bend, Indiana, Mayor Pete Buttigieg, who is currently running for president. When asked if there should be any limits on abortion, Buttigieg responded: “No, I think the dialogue has gotten so caught up on where you draw the line, that we’ve gotten away from the fundamental question of who gets to draw the line, and I trust women to draw the line when it’s their life.”

In another interview, he expressed the same idea: “No matter what you think about the cosmic question of how life begins, most Americans can get on board with the idea of, ‘I might draw the here. You might draw the line there.’ The most important thing is the person who should be drawing the line is the woman making the decision.”

This kind of language has some surface-level rhetorical appeal. But think carefully about these remarks. What exactly is Buttigieg saying?

He could mean that women should get to “draw the line” regarding when human beings *in utero* matter and when they don’t. But no one really thinks that human rights are bestowed by the decision of another person. We don’t get to decide, for example, that it’s okay to kill people who are inconvenient to us because they don’t count. That’s not how rights work.

Buttigieg could mean, more generally, that women should get to “draw the line” regarding what is and is not ethically permissible. But Buttigieg knows well that right and wrong don’t depend on what someone thinks, or feels, or decides. They aren’t a matter of personal preference. That’s why child abuse, for example, is wrong even if the child abuser thinks that it’s right.

Pete Buttigieg

Finally, Buttigieg could simply mean that government shouldn’t get involved in this area—the law should allow women to decide (“draw the line”) whether or not to have abortions. This might be the most charitable interpretation. But while government should allow people to decide to do all sorts of things, there are some things people shouldn’t be allowed to do—like things that are unjust.

Is abortion one of those unjust things? Buttigieg doesn’t want to deal with this question. Indeed, he says the “fundamental question” isn’t “where you draw the line” but rather “who gets to draw the line.” The “most important thing,” that is, isn’t the justice of abortion—it’s simply that abortion should be allowed. We should “trust” women, Buttigieg says.

This is pretty obviously backwards. Abortion should only be allowed if it’s not unjust. Are there other unjust acts whose legality we advocate by saying that we need to trust people?

No one wants to legalize spousal abuse on the grounds that we should “trust men.” No one wants to abolish child support requirements on the grounds that we should “trust dads.”

The reason for laws pertaining to spousal abuse and child support, of course, is not that we don’t think men or fathers are capable of making their own decisions. It’s that certain acts harm innocent people and ought to be guarded against in a just and compassionate society.

The question in the abortion debate is whether abortion is that kind of act. Do unborn human beings have human rights just like all other members of the human family? Does it therefore violate human rights to tear off their arms and legs, crush their skulls, and end their lives?

That’s the question that most rhetoric in support of abortion is designed to avoid.

Where do the Presidential Candidates Stand on Abortion? An updated comparison.

By Karen Cross, National Right to Life Political Director

While abortion was not a topic of discussion during last Thursday's Democratic Presidential debate, *abortion will most certainly be an issue in the 2020 presidential election.* In 2016, 49% of all voters considered the issue of abortion when they voted.

The updated presidential candidate comparison *"Where do the Candidates Stand on Life?"* can be found on National Right to Life's website at: nrlc.org/uploads/records/2020POTUScomparison.pdf

The candidates listed in the comparison are listed in order of their polling in the 9/4/2019 Real Clear Politics average. They have at least a 1% average in the polls.

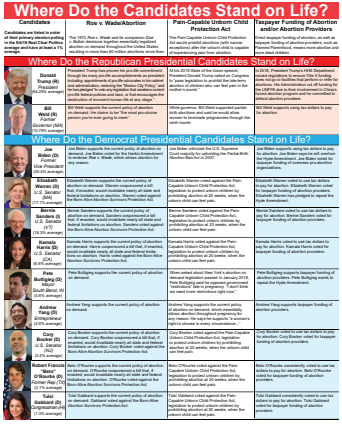
So where do the presidential candidates stand on abortion?

All of the top-tier candidates have made clear their abortion positions.

Following is an overview of their positions on abortion-related issues.

Roe v. Wade and Abortion on Demand

Donald Trump has proven his pro-life commitment through his many pro-life accomplishments as president including: appointments of pro-life advocates in his administration and cabinet; restoring and expanding the "Mexico City Policy," appointing two Supreme Court justices who respect the text and history of the Constitution; and pledging "to veto any legislation that weakens current pro-life federal policies and laws, or that encourages the destruction of innocent human life an any state."

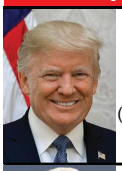
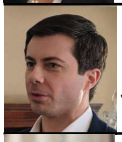
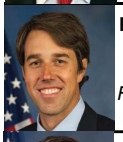
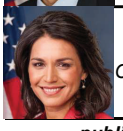


Although only nine of the top 20 Democrat presidential candidates are listed, every one of them supports New York-style abortion on demand throughout pregnancy policies: Michael Bennet, Joe Biden, Cory Booker, Steve Bullock, Pete Buttigieg, Julian Castro, Bill de Blasio, John Delaney, Tulsi Gabbard, Kamala Harris, Amy Klobuchar, Wayne Messam, Robert Francis "Beto" O'Rourke, Tim Ryan, Bernie Sanders, Joe Sestak, Tim Steyer, Elizabeth Warren, Marianne Williamson, and Andrew Yang.

The updated presidential candidate comparison *"Where do the Candidates Stand on Life?"* can be found on National Right to Life's website at: nrlc.org/uploads/records/2020POTUScomparison.pdf and on page 10 of the September issue of **NRL News**.

Look for updates in future *National Right to Life News Today*.

Where Do the Candidates Stand on Life?

Candidates	Roe v. Wade/Abortion	Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act	Taxpayer Funding of Abortion and/or Abortion Providers
Candidates are listed in order of their primary election polling in the 9/4/19 Real Clear Politics average and have at least a 1% average.	The 1973 *Roe v. Wade* and its companion *Doe v. Bolton* decisions together essentially legalized abortion on demand throughout the United States, resulting in more than 60 million abortions since then.	The Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act would prohibit abortions (with narrow exceptions) after the unborn child is capable of experiencing pain from abortion.	Direct taxpayer funding of abortion, as well as taxpayer funding of abortion providers, such as Planned Parenthood, means more abortion and more dead children.
Where Do the Republican Presidential Candidates Stand on Life?			
 **Donald Trump (R)** *President* (84.25% average)	President Trump has proven his pro-life commitment through his many pro-life accomplishments as president including: appointments of pro-life advocates in his cabinet and administration, restoring the "Mexico City Policy," and he has pledged "to veto any legislation that weakens current pro-life federal policies and laws, or that encourages the destruction of innocent human life at any stage."	At his 2019 State of the Union speech, President Donald Trump called on Congress to "pass legislation to prohibit the late-term abortion of children who can feel pain in the mother's womb."	In 2018, President Trump's HHS Department issued regulations to ensure Title X funding does not go to facilities that perform or refer for abortions. His Administration cut off funding for the UNFPA due to their involvement in China's forced abortion program and he committed to defund abortion providers.
 **Bill Weld (R)** *Former Governor (MA)* (10.75% average)	Bill Weld supports the current policy of abortion on demand. He claims to be "the most pro-choice person you're ever going to meet."	While governor, Bill Weld supported partial-birth abortions and said he would allow women to terminate pregnancies through the ninth month.	Bill Weld supports using tax dollars to pay for abortion.
Where Do the Democrat Presidential Candidates Stand on Life?			
 **Joe Biden (D)** *Former Vice President* (30.4% average)	Joe Biden supports the current policy of abortion on demand. Joe Biden voted for the Harkin Amendment to endorse *Roe v. Wade*, which allows abortion for any reason.	Joe Biden criticized the U.S. Supreme Court majority for upholding the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act in 2007.	Joe Biden supports using tax dollars to pay for abortion. Joe Biden says he will overturn the Hyde Amendment. Joe Biden voted for taxpayer funding of overseas pro-abortion organizations.
 **Elizabeth Warren (D)** *U.S. Senator (MA)* (17.1% average)	Elizabeth Warren supports the current policy of abortion on demand. Warren cosponsored a bill that, if enacted, would invalidate nearly all state and federal limitations on abortion. Warren voted against the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act.	Elizabeth Warren voted against the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, legislation to protect unborn children by prohibiting abortion at 20 weeks, when the unborn child can feel pain.	Elizabeth Warren voted to use tax dollars to pay for abortion. Elizabeth Warren voted for taxpayer funding of abortion providers. Elizabeth Warren has pledged to repeal the Hyde Amendment.
 **Bernie Sanders (I)** *U.S. Senator (VT)* (16.3% average)	Bernie Sanders supports the current policy of abortion on demand. Sanders cosponsored a bill that, if enacted, would invalidate nearly all state and federal limitations on abortion. Sanders voted against the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act.	Bernie Sanders voted against the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, legislation to protect unborn children by prohibiting abortion at 20 weeks, when the unborn child can feel pain.	Bernie Sanders voted to use tax dollars to pay for abortion. Bernie Sanders voted for taxpayer funding of abortion providers.
 **Kamala Harris (D)** *U.S. Senator (CA)* (6.6% average)	Kamala Harris supports the current policy of abortion on demand. Harris cosponsored a bill that, if enacted, would invalidate nearly all state and federal limitations on abortion. Harris voted against the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act.	Kamala Harris voted against the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, legislation to protect unborn children by prohibiting abortion at 20 weeks, when the unborn child can feel pain.	Kamala Harris voted to use tax dollars to pay for abortion. Kamala Harris voted for taxpayer funding of abortion providers.
 **Pete Buttigieg (D)** *Mayor South Bend, IN* (4.6% average)	Pete Buttigieg supports the current policy of abortion on demand.	When asked about New York's abortion on demand legislation passed in January 2019, Pete Buttigieg said he opposes government "restrictions" late in pregnancy. "I don't think we need more restrictions right now."	Pete Buttigieg supports taxpayer funding of abortion providers. Pete Buttigieg wants to repeal the Hyde Amendment.
 **Andrew Yang (D)** *Entrepreneur* (2.6% average)	Andrew Yang supports the current policy of abortion on demand.	Andrew Yang supports the current policy of abortion on demand, which essentially allows abortion throughout pregnancy for any reason. He says he supports "a woman's right to choose in every circumstance..."	Andrew Yang supports taxpayer funding of abortion providers.
 **Cory Booker (D)** *U.S. Senator (NJ)* (2.4% average)	Cory Booker supports the current policy of abortion on demand. Cory Booker cosponsored a bill that, if enacted, would invalidate nearly all state and federal limitations on abortion. Cory Booker voted against the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act.	Cory Booker voted against the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, legislation to protect unborn children by prohibiting abortion at 20 weeks, when the unborn child can feel pain.	Cory Booker voted to use tax dollars to pay for abortion. Cory Booker voted for taxpayer funding of abortion providers.
 **Robert Francis "Beto" O'Rourke (D)** *Former Rep (TX)* (2.1% average)	Beto O'Rourke supports the current policy of abortion on demand. O'Rourke cosponsored a bill that, if enacted, would invalidate nearly all state and federal limitations on abortion. O'Rourke voted against the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act.	Beto O'Rourke voted against the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, legislation to protect unborn children by prohibiting abortion at 20 weeks, when the unborn child can feel pain.	Beto O'Rourke consistently voted to use tax dollars to pay for abortion. Beto O'Rourke voted for taxpayer funding of abortion providers.
 **Tulsi Gabbard (D)** *Congressman (HI)* (1.3% average)	Tulsi Gabbard supports the current policy of abortion on demand. Gabbard voted against the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act.	Tulsi Gabbard voted against the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, legislation to protect unborn children by prohibiting abortion at 20 weeks, when the unborn child can feel pain.	Tulsi Gabbard consistently voted to use tax dollars to pay for abortion. Tulsi Gabbard voted for taxpayer funding of abortion providers.

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Timely medical care is of the utmost importance for a child who survives an abortion. It should not depend on which doctor is on call.

Editor's note. The following testimony was submitted by Melissa Ohden to a special House Committee that conducted a hearing September 3 on "End Infanticide: Examining the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act." Mrs. Ohden is herself an abortion survivor.

Thank you so much for your continued commitment to the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act. I wish that I could be there in person today to thank each of you personally for fighting for survivors like me and for all children who will continue to survive abortions in our country, but I had prior engagements. Please know that I sincerely appreciate each and every one of you.

This bill is vitally important because not only are we learning more and more about the incidence of this happening, as more states begin to collect data on children surviving, but also because the more late-term abortion is aggressively expanded throughout our nation through all nine months of pregnancy, the greater the likelihood will be that a child survives.

As if the number of children surviving abortions wasn't enough, as if the reality of the lack of consequence for failing to provide timely medical care to survivors or even killing them post-birth wasn't enough to convince me of the importance of this bill, my own life story most certainly does.

I'm an abortion survivor, myself. In August of 1977, my birthmother, as a 19-year-old college student, had a saline infusion abortion forced upon her against her will by her mother, my maternal grandmother.

The saline infusion abortion was the most common abortion procedure performed at the time, which involved injecting a toxic salt solution into the amniotic fluid surrounding me in the womb. The intent of that toxic salt solution was to poison and scald me to death. Typically, that procedure lasted about 72 hours—the child soaked in that toxic solution until their life was effectively ended by it, and then premature labor was induced, expelling the deceased child from the womb. My medical records indicate that I didn't soak in that saline solution for just three days, but actually five, while they tried numerous times to induce my birthmother's labor.

No matter what people believe about abortion in our society, most people agree that what happened to me was horrific. But I also hope that people recognize that what happened to my birth mother during those five days was also horrific. Abortion ends the life of its primary victim—most of the time, and dramatically impacts the life of the secondary victim—the woman.

Her labor was finally successfully induced on the fifth day, and I was delivered in the final step of that abortion procedure at St, Luke's Hospital in Sioux City, Iowa. However, instead of being delivered as a "successful" abortion—a deceased child, I was miraculously born alive.

My medical records actually state "a saline infusion for an abortion was done but was unsuccessful." They also list out a complication of pregnancy as a "saline infusion."

I weighed a little less than three pounds, which indicated to the medical professionals that my birth mother was much further along in her pregnancy than the 18-20 weeks pregnant that was estimated in medical records. In fact, a neonatologist remarked that he estimated me to be about 31 weeks' gestational age.

Whether the abortionist simply estimated the gestation wrong based on my birthmother's self-reporting, or he was lying in order to proceed with the abortion, we'll probably never know. What we do know is that when I was delivered alive that day, there was argument about whether I would be provided medical care. My adoptive parents were told that I was "laid aside," and that a nurse intervened to save my life.

I am one of the lucky ones—to not only survive an abortion, but to have someone fight to save me.

But no one should have had to fight for me. They should have been expected and mandated to do so.

Despite the miracle of my survival, my prognosis was initially very guarded. I suffered from severe respiratory and liver problems, seizures…the doctors actually thought I had a fatal heart defect initially because of the amount of distress that my body was under. They indicated they didn't know how long I might live, and if I continued to live, that I would suffer from multiple disabilities.

Yet here I am today, overall healthy.

Timely medical care is of the utmost importance for a child like me who survives an abortion. I truly believe I'm alive today not only because I was miraculously saved from death in the abortion, but also because life-saving medical care was right down the hallway

See "Survives," page 26

Saving life through in-utero surgery

The option of in-utero surgery is proving to be a more positive prospect for parents

By SPUC—the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children

A remarkable, cutting age medical intervention has given joy to a family and life to their baby boy who was threatened by a rare illness in the womb.

Baby Edward, also known as Teddy, developed anemia while inside the womb. In response, Dr. Amarnath Bhide used an ultrasound sensor to insert a needle through the uterus and into the umbilical cord which injected Teddy with donated blood.

Teddy received five blood transfusions before he was born; these were some of the earliest in-utero interventions to ever be performed.

SPUC Scotland, Director of Communications, Michael Robinson, described the interventions as "extraordinary."

Saving life through in-utero surgery

Whilst the life-saving intervention performed on unborn baby, Teddy, is indeed 'extraordinary,' the option of in utero surgery, which can save and improve the life expectancy of unborn children, is becoming a far more positive prospect.

Currently, in utero surgery can treat a number of foetal health conditions including Spina Bifida, fetal tumors, Cerebral Palsy, fetal cardiac conditions, and Hyperthyroidism.

In May of this year, the UK witnessed the astonishing account of doctors who performed key-hole surgery* on an unborn baby with Spina Bifida, which was the first operation of its kind in the United Kingdom. Unborn baby, Jaxson, received the operation at just 27 weeks gestation [to successfully close a hole in his spine] and as a result, had the ability to move his legs after being born six weeks later.

Similarly, unborn child, Ethan Leibbrandt, underwent in utero surgery to remove the benign tumour which consumed 50% of his lung space. The in utero surgery was successful and life saving as without it, Ethan would have died of cardiac failure.

Human beings worth protecting

"The early interventions that can now be used to treat and save unborn children are truly astonishing," SPUC Scotland, Director of Communications, Michael Robinson, said. "The story of Edward once again proves that science is on the side of the pro-life movement. Indeed, scientific developments and new technology is now instilling a sense of awe that society never really had before, about the beauty and dignity of every unborn child."

Mr. Robinson continued: "This case illustrates the terrible irony that medical teams spend enormous effort, time, and money to deliver babies safely and nurse premature infants back to health. Yet, in the UK we routinely and deliberately end the lives of 600 babies a day. Whilst pro-abortion campaigners insistently refer to unborn children as 'blobs of cells' or 'parasites', the use of in utero surgery, highlights that unborn children are human and worth saving and protecting."

*"Keyhole surgery" refers to "minimally invasive surgery carried out through a very small incision, with special instruments and techniques including fiber optics."

Huge award for wrongfully terminating a 17-year-veteran only the latest bad news for Planned Parenthood

By Dave Andrusko

On August 16 an Arizona jury awarded former Planned Parenthood facility director Mayra Rodriguez $3 million in a wrongful termination case.

It is only the latest in a string of hugely negative publicity for PPFA still reeling from its abrupt decision to fire its new president after only eight months on the job (see below).

"It took the jury a mere three hours of deliberation before they ruled in favor of Rodriguez," Samatha Kamman reported. "Even though her attorney had not asked for a specific amount, the jury ruled that Planned Parenthood must pay Rodriguez $3 million in damages."

According to *LifeSiteNews*, Rodriquez "was fired after reporting an abortionist's illegal conduct and high complication rates, falsification of affidavits and patient records, incomplete abortions, and failure to report statutory rape."

Rodriguez, "who ran three Planned Parenthood clinics in Arizona and worked for the organization for 17 years, sued the non-profit after being wrongfully terminated from her position in October 2017 after repeatedly making claims that Planned Parenthood was endangering the health and safety of its patients," Claire Chretien reported.

"And Then There Were None" (ATTWN), a non-profit that helps former abortion workers leave the industry, "said Planned Parenthood tried to use Rodriguez's immigration status against her."

Matt Hadro of *Catholic News Agency* wrote that following Rodriquez's complaints, "she was terminated from her position in October of 2017, at which time she filed suit."

Rodriguez, former director of three Planned Parenthood facilities in Arizona, told CNA, "I feel very, very happy, very, very blessed. It has been a very hard two years since we started this process." She also told Hadro

> **"It has been a very rough two years. A lot of deception, and a lot of pain. I lost a lot of friends throughout these two years, especially since I lost my job. People just stopped talking to me the moment they hear I submitted a lawsuit. Some of them still work there, so I understand. But there were others, formerly that used to work there, and 'oh, I don't want to be involved.'"**
>
> **"It hurts, because there were some moments where you feel like you're standing there alone," she said**

Rodriguez documented a lengthy series of abuses, Chretien explained in her story. "Complications from abortions can result in serious, permanent health problems for women — even death. Incomplete abortions can similarly cause serious health problems for the mothers in whose uteruses parts of their aborted unborn babies are left. ATTWN didn't specify how old the minor was whose sexual relationship with an adult Planned Parenthood covered up, but the age of consent in Arizona is 18."

As *NRL News Today* wrote in "Connecting the dots to expose and explain the crisis at Planned Parenthood," Planned Parenthood is suffering from a flood of bad news of its own making. It is only the latest in a string ….

*The ouster of Dr. Leana Wen as president after only eight months—and her refusal to go quietly into the night.

*A story in *Verily* explaining, "Why Are So Many Employees Leaving Planned Parenthood? Pulling back the curtain on this trend."

*The expose at the heart of the book and later movie "Unplanned," in which a former PPFA employee of the year had a complete change of heart, spurred on by being called into participate in an abortion where she saw an ultrasound of a 13-week-old baby being killed, and reacted in horror.

*A lengthy story in (of all places *The New York Times*) detailing how Planned Parenthood discriminated against its own pregnant employees! Gabriel Hayes explained, "*The Times* cited the firsthand accounts from several Planned Parenthood employees, including medical assistant Ta'Lisa Hairston, who complained the 'reproductive rights provider ignored her doctor's requests that she be allowed to take breaks for the sake of her and her baby's health."

Add to this that Planned Parenthood refuses to abide by the rules of the "Protect Life" Title X Family Planning Program. As *NRL News Today* has reported on multiple occasions, HHS issued a rule, finalized in February, which restored Title X family planning regulations to prohibit grantees from co-locating with abortion clinics, or from referring clients for abortion.

No money was cut, but the rule ensures that health facilities receiving Title X funds do not perform or promote abortion as a method of family planning. Of the $287 million Title X program, Planned Parenthood is the beneficiary of around $50 to $60 million.

And this is independent of a number of states which are prioritizing their family planning dollars to go to full-service Community Health Centers.

See "Award," page 29

State expected to appeal decision enjoining Indiana's 2017 parental involvement law

By Dave Andrusko

A divided three-judge panel of the Chicago-based 7th U.S. Court of Appeals affirmed the decision of a lower court judge blocking Indiana's Senate Bill 404, a 2017 law designed to give parents more rights if their minor daughter seeks an abortion. The *Associated Press* reported that the August 22 decision by the majority says the law's notification requirement "puts an 'undue burden' on the minor and so runs afoul of Supreme Court precedent."

The dissent by Judge Michael Stephen Kanne demonstrated this is not true. (See below.)

On June 28, 2017, federal judge Sarah Evans Barker issued a preliminary injunction against portions of Senate Bill 404 in a case brought by Planned Parenthood and the American Civil Liberties Union. The state of Indiana appealed the following month.

As Indiana Right to Life explained, Senate Bill 404

> **protects minor girls, increases parental rights when a minor girl seeks abortion, and helps victims of sex trafficking. The law protects young girls by changing abortion reporting requirements. Currently the abortionist must send the required form to both the Indiana State Department of Health and the Department of Child Services if the minor is 14 or younger. SB404 raises the age for the reporting requirement to under 16 years of age.**

The law increases parental rights by providing civil recourse if a parent or guardian discovers someone fraudulently posed as them to help their minor daughter get an abortion.

Prior to appealing Judge Parker's preliminary injunction, Indiana Attorney General Curtis Hill said

> **"The challenge of this law is nothing more than an attempt to give courts rather than parents the legal guardianship of children. When an unemancipated minor undergoes even the most basic medical procedures, the involvement of a parent or legal guardian is typically required. However, for the time being, Wednesday's injunction essentially encourages a minor to go it alone through the emotionally and physically overwhelming procedure of aborting a human being. We will always support the authority of parents to know what is going on with their children and continue to defend Hoosier parents."**

None of that moved Judges Ilana Kara Rovner and David Hamilton. But Judge Kanne began his dissent by noting that the

> **The question presented in this case is straightforward and narrow: does the Constitution prohibit Indiana from requiring a mature minor to notify her parents of an impending abortion when she cannot show that avoiding notification is in her best interest.**
>
> **The Supreme Court has confirmed that both parental consent and parental notification laws are constitutional.**

Judge Kanne's conclusion in his 15-page-long dissent was as concise as it was brilliant:

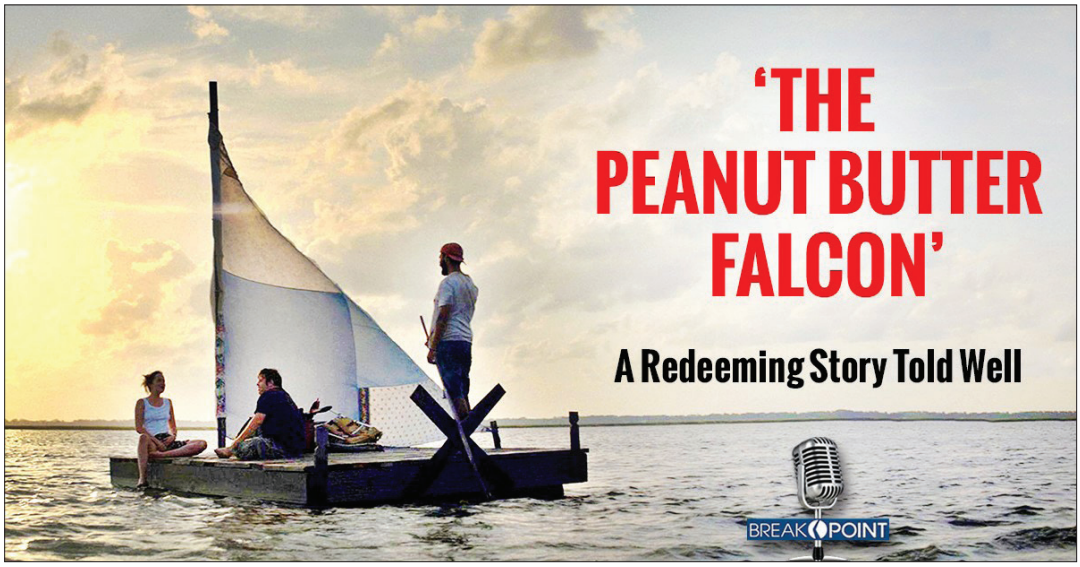
> **The challenged Indiana statute requires parental notification but allows for judicial bypass of that requirement when it would be in the minor's best interests. …**
>
> **The operative question is whether, given the State's manifest interest in involving parents in consequential decisions by their children, the notification requirement constitutes a substantial obstacle for mature minors. The record provides no clarity on that point, and so—because the law was enjoined pre-enforcement—we can only speculate. As the majority recognizes, "evidence matters."**
>
> **The district court abused its discretion by enjoining the law pre-enforcement, and its decision should be reversed.**

'The Peanut Butter Falcon'

A Redeeming Story Told Well

By John Stonestreet with G. Shane Morris

Imagine Mark Twain's "Huckleberry Finn," only with a crab-pot thief and a young man with Down syndrome, instead of Tom and Huck. And instead of the mighty Mississippi, imagine the estuaries of North Carolina. And instead of skipping school to run away, imagine running away to attend school (well, wrestling school).



That's the plot of a new indie film, directed by Tyler Nilson and Michael Schwartz, and starring no less than Shia LaBeouf and Dakota Johnson. "The Peanut Butter Falcon" is not only beautifully shot and set, its message is badly needed in a culture like ours.

The film stars newcomer Zack Gottsagen, who plays the role of a 22-year-old man with Down syndrome, who escapes a nursing home to chase his dream of becoming a professional wrestler named, you guessed it, "The Peanut Butter Falcon." Along the way, he gets mixed up with Shia LaBeouf's character, a guy on the run from a pair of revenge-hungry fishermen

Against all odds, these two "fugitives" forge a brotherly bond and eventually come to understand that their journey is more of a pilgrimage than an escape.

Dakota Johnson's character is Eleanor, an educated caregiver bent on chasing Zak down and returning him to state supervision. When she finally catches up with him and his new friend, she's surprised to learn that Zak's not only happy, he's a pretty good fisherman.

And so, just as Zak forces Tyler to question his identity as a bad guy, he also forces Eleanor to question her well-meaning but stifling, overly-clinical approach to Zak's condition, one that leads her to miss something important: Zak, himself.

Ultimately, she joins in on this pilgrimage to find "the Saltwater Redneck's" wrestling school. Through hijinks and scrapes, they learn that human beings can't be defined by their guilty consciences, or their college degrees, or even their chromosomal disorders.

That's a lot to get across in a single movie, which "The Peanut Butter Falcon" does beautifully, without being in-your-face or preachy. The story and characters bring the message, while everything else from the camera work, to the directing, to the music creates the space necessary for the message to be heard.

At the same time, the reality of life with disability is brought to life here too. Zack Gottsagen not only plays a title character who has Down syndrome, he really does have Down syndrome. When his character faces rejection and ridicule, and is relegated to a facility, he's portraying what is, for far too many people, reality. It's this down-to-earth portrayal that makes this a movie worth seeing.

As is the story behind the film. In a compelling interview on a website called the Playlist, the writer-directors describe how they met and worked with Zak on a short film they made for a camp with people with disabilities. Zak became a friend and told them he wanted to be a movie star. Knowing how hard it is for anyone to make it in Hollywood, much less someone with disabilities, they tried to dissuade him. But Zak simply replied, "Cool. Sounds like we've got to do it together. You [guys] can write and direct, and I can be the movie star."

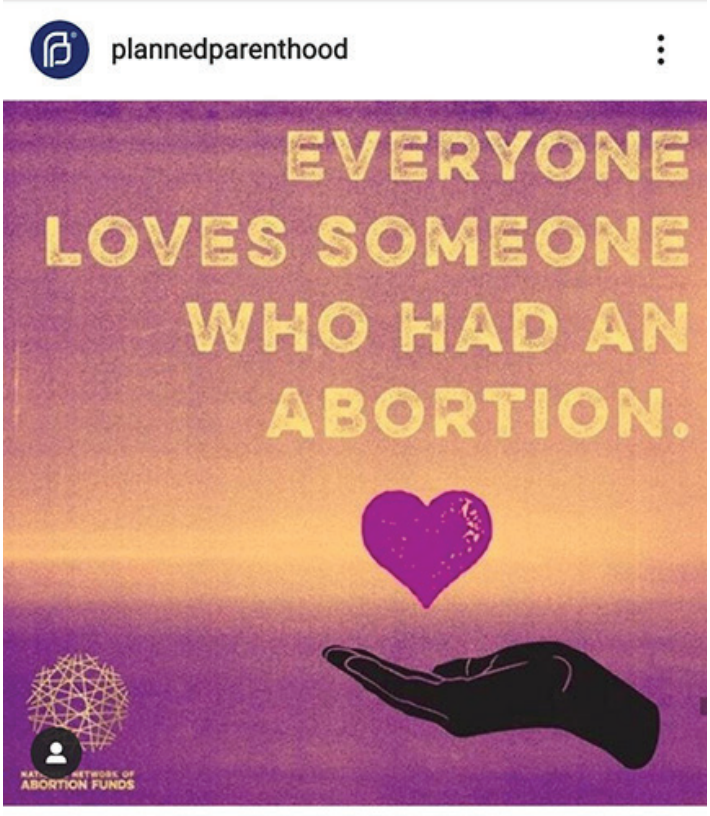
So, they wrote "The Peanut Butter Falcon" to make Zak a movie star. It's cool enough that such a crazy idea actually worked, but the fact that this film was produced on such a tiny budget offers a lesson that all Hollywood, and especially Christian filmmakers, should embrace: Budget constraints are no excuse for telling bad stories or churning out bad art.

Now, I'll warn you that this film does include some salty language, including a word that would have earned an R-rating once upon a time. It's definitely not a movie for younger kids.

Still, in a culture like ours in which the overwhelming majority of children diagnosed with Down syndrome in the womb are targeted for abortion, a film that affirms the value we all share as image-bearers, and the needs we all share as people who are created for community, is especially timely and especially important.

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

Battle of the Memes



Listen to post-aborted women and they will tell you the agonizing truth about their decision to end unborn life

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

"Listen to women." It is a common refrain among pro-abortion advocates, signaling that resistance to abortion at any time, for any reason is evidence of patriarchy gone wild.

But the fact of the matter is that apologists for the abortion industry, along with pro-abortion politicians, regularly ignore the heartfelt testimony of women who have had abortions and who now regret them.

A perusal of the Silent No More website (www.silentnomoreawareness.org) shows woman after woman talking about the immense emotional pain she has suffered as a result of her abortion.

Consider this statement from Joi from North Carolina:

"I received no empathy or comfort. No hug, no nothing! I was confused, angry, and lonely…I felt low-down, and I couldn't tell anyone. I asked God to forgive me, but I couldn't forgive myself because, to me, it was unforgivable."

Meanwhile, Emily from Colorado wishes that she had seen an ultrasound of her baby prior to her decision to abort:

"Once I was in the actual room, they gave me the opportunity to do an ultrasound. I declined, because I was afraid I wouldn't go through with it if I saw my baby. I regret that decision. I should have said yes."

For Noella from New Hampshire, the emotional scars of the abortion run deep.

"Tears and deep sadness well up, as I view an image of what was the gateway to dark experiences, which I have blocked out for decades."

Tracy from Ohio shares the utter desolation she experienced following her abortion:

"I contemplated suicide off and on. I was promiscuous and non-committal. I ran away emotionally from everything and was pretty afraid of everything and everyone. At one point I moved to Arizona in order to find a miracle to fix me. Problem was I had left everything and everyone I knew, and all I had left was me. And I hated me."

It is true that healing can be found following abortion, and hope for a brighter tomorrow can be renewed. But why would anyone want a woman to go through such pain to begin with?

The pro-life movement has heard the cries of women who have been deeply wounded by abortion. Pro-life advocates have responded with compassion and care. They have proven, time and time again, that they are listening to women.

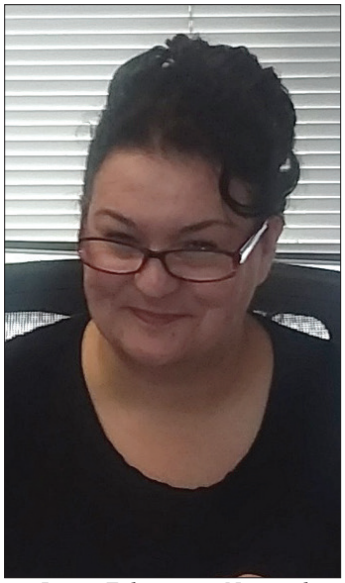
But the abortion industry and its allies in government remain tone-deaf to the difficulties that arise from legalized abortion. For them, profit and politics trump women's well-being. Their determination to not only support but to expand abortion represents a great disservice to the women of the 21st century.

Working with Today's Media

By Laura Echevarria

It's wonderful to be back at NRLC.

After 15 years away from dealing with the press on a daily basis, as the Director of Media Relations and a spokesperson for NRLC from 1997-2004,



Laura Echevarria, National Right to Life Director of Communications and Press Secretary

I returned to my role here at National Right to Life as the Director of Communications and Press Secretary, last July.

After my years away raising three children, I am looking forward to again having the opportunity to impact how our society—and the major media—view the right to life.

In some ways, things haven't changed much in the last 15 years but in other ways they have.

First, in this day of immediate gratification and instant answers, press deadlines truly have become "immediate." Not that we didn't get those types of time-sensitive requests in 2004. But back then there was a real news cycle. Today, news is published in more of a how-fast-can-it-be-posted manner which means that I am checking e-mail constantly in case a reporter is trying to get an interview with a NRL spokesperson.

This leads me to my second point.

Fast, race-to-be-first reporting in this day and age often means poorly researched or, worse, not-even-remotely-fact-checked stories and articles. Again, not unique to 2019, but what was once the exception seems now to be the norm.

People trust who they know or agree with and, sadly, this means many reporters trust Planned Parenthood more readily than a local or even national pro-life organization, such as National Right to Life. This can mean that a reporter won't look beyond Planned Parenthood's talking points and check their sources.

For example, a simple check with the Centers for Disease Control could confirm the numbers NRLC uses when we talk about babies born alive after an attempted abortion. Instead, reporters will uncritically accept the talking points sent out by NARAL, Planned Parenthood, or EMILY's List, the leading pro-abortion political action committee.

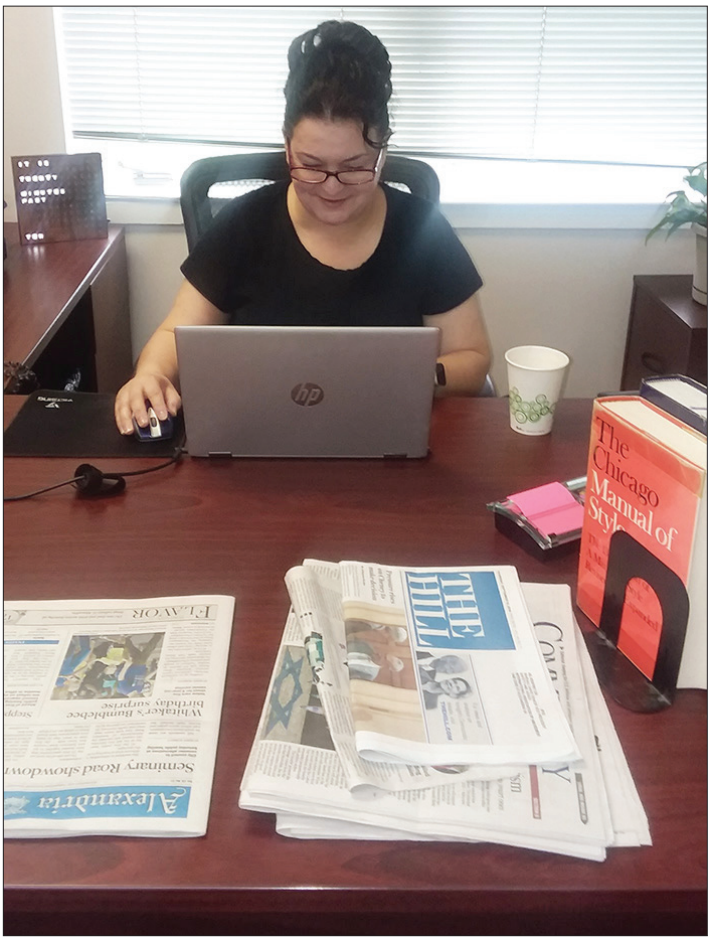
In addition, in an age of diminished resources, reporters are furiously multitasking. Gone are the publications and news outlets that could afford to have reporters covering specific beats. Now, reporters have to be a Jack-or-Jill of all trades, topics, and subjects. Some do it well. Congratulations to them. But others, caught in a time crunch or a desire to be the first to report a story, tend to only touch on the surface of an issue.

It is a simple fact of life at NRLC that rarely do we meet a reporter who questions the abortion lobby's talking points. But some do.

Recently, a reporter e-mailed the communications department asking for an interview and commented, "I am working on a story about the Title X issue and it appears to be more nuanced than what I have seen so far…" Requests like these are exciting because they mean that these reporters are questioning what they've been given by NARAL, Planned Parenthood, and (most often) the Guttmacher Institute, formerly Planned Parenthood's "special affiliate."

Third, traditional media outlets still exist but now there are new kinds of media. Bloggers and podcasters also think of themselves as reporters. We try to accommodate every request we can but we also have to be judicious. Questions we have to ask are: Are they an influencer (in a good way)? Are they friendly?

See "Media," page 33



At Climate Change townhall, pro-abortion Sen. Sanders favors using U.S. aid to "control" population growth by abortion

By Dave Andrusko

Give the candor/brutally consistency award to pro-abortion Sen. Bernie Sanders for linking climate change, "curbing" population growth, and taxpayer funding of abortions overseas in one answer.

In participating in a September 4 *CNN* Town Hall on Climate Change, Sanders heard an audience member state that "Empowering women and educating everyone on the need to curb population growth seems a reasonable campaign to enact" and then be asked, "Would you be courageous enough to discuss this issue and make it a key feature of a plan to address climate catastrophe?"

"Yes," indeedy, responded Sanders, currently one of the top three candidates running to the Democrats' 2020 presidential nominee. "And the answer has everything to do with the fact that women in the United States of America, by the way, have a right to control their own bodies, and make reproductive decisions."

After this non-sequitur, Sanders riffed on the Mexico City policy, which the Trump Administration reinstated and then amplified in its 2017 Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance Policy. The objective is to ensure that no U.S. taxpayer money is funneled to foreign non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that perform or promote abortion as a method of family planning. To Sanders, this is horrible.

"And the Mexico City agreement, which denies American aid to those organizations around the world that are — that allow women to have abortions or even get involved in birth control to me is totally absurd.

"So I think, especially in poor countries around the world where women do not necessarily want to have large numbers of babies, and where they can have the opportunity through birth control to control the number of kids they have, it's something I very, very strongly support."

Pro-abortion Sen. Bernie Sanders
Photo: Gage Skidmore

Rep. Steve Scalise, the Minority Whip in the House of Representatives, tweeted his strong objection:

> **During CNN's #ClimateTownHall, Bernie Sanders said YOUR tax dollars should be used to fund abortions in foreign countries to reduce population size.**
>
> **Are you kidding?? That's horrifying, and tells you just how little regard radical liberals have for innocent life.**

Conservative *CNN* host S.E. Cupp tweeted

> **Let's just state for the record: talking about needing "population control" through ABORTION for the sake of CLIMATE is talking about EUGENICS. The fact that @BernieSanders is willing to entertain this vile idea is not only disgusting, it should be disqualifying.**

It was, of course, no accident that Sanders talked about birth control and abortion in the same sentence.

Many proponents see abortion as just another form of birth control. Also, the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance Policy says nothing about banning birth control (it's about U.S. tax dollars and abortion). But by meshing the two, Sanders can imply that the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance Policy doesn't allow U.S. aid money to be used for birth control, which is not true.

UK man with Down syndrome celebrates 77th birthday: 'He is such a miracle'

By Lianne Laurence

NOTTINGHAM, United Kingdom, August 29, 2019 — Georgie Wildgust wasn't expected to live past age 10, but the Nottingham man celebrated his 77th birthday last Saturday in good health and in the company of family and friends.

Born with Down syndrome, Wildgust is a retired gardener and described as "very independent" by his niece, Nikki Wright, who visits him every week at Watcombe Circus, a disability care home in Carrington where he lives with 11 other residents, reported the *Nottingham Post.*

"He is so happy all of the time. He is amazing. His mum was told he wouldn't live past 10 when he was born but look at him now!" Wright said.

"He was always told by his mum that he can do anything and because of that, he has always been very independent. He doesn't like being told what to do really but I do think that is why he has reached 77," she told the *Nottingham Post*.

Wright also credits her uncle's longevity to his "active social life" at the centre, where he moved in 1993 after his mother died.

Wildgust loves to dance and sing karaoke, and "used to do drama classes every week, which he loved. He does less of that now but he does keep busy," she said.

"I think being kept busy and socialising here has really helped him. The staff are amazing and it is such a family here."

Care assistant Javine Lacey told the *Nottingham Post* that Wildgust will spend hours drawing and colouring.

"He absolutely loves it. He also only watches *BBC1* on TV. He will know if it isn't on the right channel straight away," she said.

"He is such a miracle. He has been through some medical issues this year and he was put on end-of-life care but he bounced right back," added Lacey.

"When he came back from hospital, he just said 'y'all right darling?' like nothing had happened."

Wildgust is one of three children. His older brother, Colin, died three years ago, and his younger sister, Jean, keeps in touch with him by Skype from Australia, the *Nottingham Post* reported.

The local Down's Syndrome Association lauded the milestone on Twitter:

"Everyone at the Down's Syndrome Association wishes Georgie a very happy birthday and all the best for the future," the association told the *Nottingham Post*.

"Thanks to medical advances and the care and love of those around them, the average life expectancy for people with Down's syndrome is now between 50 and 60 years, with a small number of people living into their seventies and beyond," it stated.

Wildgust is thought to be one of the oldest people in the world with Down syndrome, but his countryman Kenney Cridge of Tintinhull, Somerset, was officially named the world's oldest living man with Downs by Guinness World Records officials in 2008. Such records are no longer kept because Down syndrome is a disability.

Cridge, who was known for his humor, love of sweets, and harmonica playing, died April 16, 2019 at the age of 79.

According to *U.K. Metro*, the oldest man with Down syndrome was American Bert Holbrook, who died in 2012 at age 83.

But such landmarks come in the midst of what Lauren Bell of Pregnancy Help News described in 2017 as a global "holocaust of Down syndrome babies."

Iceland boasts of being a Down syndrome–free country, but that's because 100 percent of babies diagnosed in utero with the condition are aborted, she noted.

In 2009, only three babies in Iceland were born with the genetic condition. By 2017, no Down Syndrome baby had been born there in five years.

Denmark is following suit, predicting that it will be a "Down syndrome–free" nation in the next 10 years, Bell wrote.

And 90 percent of babies diagnosed with Down syndrome in the womb are aborted in Great Britain and the United States.

"It is never easy for a parent to receive devastating news during a pregnancy. But the overwhelming majority of parents who have a child with Down syndrome report their outlook on life is much more positive because of their child," observed Bell.

"The value of a child born with any disability cannot be eradicated by any nation. They are created in the image of God."

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

Pence tells CWA that President Trump will stand strong against abortion and infanticide

By Dave Andrusko

Pro-life President Donald Trump and Pro-life Vice President Mike Pence

Speaking Thursday night at the 40th anniversary of the pro-life Concerned Women for America, Vice President Mike Pence proudly listed the many accomplishment of the first two and one-half years of the Trump Administration.

Mr. Pence began by congratulation pro-life Sen. Joni Ernst (R-Iowa) chosen as CWA's 2019 Statesman of the Year. Sen. Ernst has a 100% pro-life voting record.

Here are some of the highlights from the September 12 address at the Trump International Hotel in Washington, D.C.

"This President promised to fight judicial activism and appoint conservative judges to our courts at every level. And with last night's confirmation of Steven Seeger, President Trump has already seen 150 federal judges confirmed to our courts."

"This is a historic milestone," Judiciary Chairman Lindsey Graham said following the final floor vote. "These conservative judicial appointments will impact our nation for years to come."

Bloomberg Law's Nancy Ognanovich wrote, "So far, the Senate has confirmed 105 Trump district court selections, and 43 circuit court nominees to go with Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court."

"I'm also proud to serve an administration that has stood so strongly for our first freedom — the freedom of religion. And I promise you, this is an administration that will always defend the freedom of religion of every American of every faith. You know, back in 2016, the President promised, as he said, to, quote, "defend your…right to fully and freely practice your religion, as individuals, [as] business owners and [as] academic institutions." And that's exactly what we've done.

"We've taken action to protect the conscience rights of doctors and nurses. And after years of neglect, we've restored federal enforcement of our nation's conscience laws. And we ended the last administration's assault on the Little Sisters of the Poor."

The Vice President continued

"And as we've stood for liberty and the liberties of every American at a time when leading Democrats advocate late-term abortion and infanticide, I couldn't be more proud to serve as Vice President to a — for a President who stands without apology for the sanctity of human life.

"You know, Karen [Pence] and I have long believed that a society can be judged by how it deals with its most vulnerable: the aged, the infirmed, the disabled, and the unborn."

Pro-life President Donald Trump and pro-life Vice President Mike Pence

The Vice President then talked about how President Trump "reinstituted the Mexico City Policy to make sure that taxpayer dollars wouldn't be used to promote or provide abortion around the world. And we've expanded it since we started" [the "Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance "program].

And in addition, Mr. Pence told the audience that he had twice addressing the March for Life, and so, too, had President Trump by video message. "And if you hadn't heard about it, just last month, thanks to the President's leadership, it was announced that tens of millions of dollars of federal family planning funding are no longer going to flow to the largest abortion provider in America."

(Vice President Pence was alluding to the refusal of Planned Parenthood to accept the provision that recipients of Title X monies not promote or perform abortions and nor co-house abortion and family planning services.)

"And let me say, with so many in Washington standing for late-term abortion and even defending infanticide, I'll make you a promise. I see it in his eyes every time the topic comes up. This President, just like this movement, will always stand for the unalienable right to life."

Powerful testimony at House Minority Hearing on Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act

From page 1

born at the same gestation age. No more, but no less.

The witnesses included moving testimony from Jill Stanek, RN, a nurse who in 1999 discovered a baby with Down syndrome born alive after a late-term abortion who was left in a dirty utility room to die; Dr. Robin Pierucci, MD, neonatologist and medical director of a 50-bed neonatal intensive care unit; Dr. Kathi Aultman, M.D., a retired Ob/Gyn and former abortion provider, and Tessa Longbons, an abortion statistics researcher.

At the conclusion of the robust and informative hearing, Rep. Ann Wagner (R-MO) fought back tears at the end of her statement remarking,

> **This concludes our business for this minute. The very next minute we need everyone across this country to demand that House leadership bring H.R. 962, the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Act, to the floor, as we did in the 115th Congress, to reaffirm life. Now, I live for the day when abortion is not just illegal, but unthinkable and what is happening to these babies that are born, because they're not wanted is unconscionable in this country and anywhere, so I thank you from the bottom of my heart.**

Introduced by Rep. Wagner on February 5, 2019, H.R. 962 would provide a standard of care that currently does not exist in federal law. The Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act would require that any health care practitioner provide the same degree of professional care that they would to any child born alive at the same gestational age.

Republicans have also filed a discharge petition designed to force the legislation to the floor of the house for a vote. Currently, there are 201 signatures, but seventeen more signatures are needed.

Background

In 2002 Congress enacted the Born-Alive Infants Protection Act. This legislation said that babies who are born alive, whether before or after "viability," are recognized as full legal persons for all federal law purposes.

The law was enacted in response to troubling indications that some abortion providers and pro-abortion activists did not regard infants born alive during abortion procedures as legal persons – especially if the infants were deemed to be "pre-viable."

The Born-Alive Infants Protection Act became law without even one single dissenting vote. Not one.

Unfortunately, in the time between 2002 and 2019, the landscape has entirely changed.

In the years since, evidences have multiplied that in spite of the clear language of the statute, some abortion providers do not regard babies born alive during abortions as persons, and that they do not provide them with the types of care that would be provided to premature infants who are born spontaneously.

Even with incomplete information, we know that there are numerous instances of babies born alive during abortions.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) estimates that between 2003 and 2014, at least 143 babies died after being born alive during abortions. The number is likely far higher due to the fact that the CDC relies on state health departments which vary in their thoroughness. Additionally, California, the nation's most populous state, along with Maryland and New Hampshire has not reported any abortion figures to the CDC since 1998.

Only five states independently report cases of infants born alive (Arizona, Florida, Michigan, Minnesota, and Oklahoma). Even in that small sample, at least 25 children were born alive during attempted abortions in 2017.

The attitude that babies born alive during an attempted abortion do not merit equal medical treatment is manifested in such recently-passed legislation as New York's so-called "Reproductive Health Act." Among other provisions, the law repealed state-level protections for infants born alive during an attempted abortion.

Several other states have proposed and/or passed similar legislation.

In the wake of this controversy, although pro-abortion Democrats controlled the U.S. House, Republicans sprang into action by proposing the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act.

The legislation would enact an **explicit** requirement that a baby born alive during an abortion must be afforded "the same degree" of care that would apply "to any other child born alive at the same gestational age," including transportation to a hospital. But Democrats do not want to have to vote and no committees have taken up the bill, until the Republicans held their own hearing.

You can find the recording of the entire hearing at youtube.com/watch?v=koIAHN2rnNY&feature=youtu.be

All of the hearing documents and information including the hearing memo, witness testimonies, full recording statements for the record, born-alive abortion survivor statements, and the discharge petition tracker are available at www.republicanwhip.gov/endinfanticide/

Appeals panel receptive to allowing legislators to intervene to defend pro-life laws

By Dave Andrusko

So you're a solidly pro-life legislature which passes commonsense legislation which inevitably Planned Parenthood or the ACLU or both take to court. What happens if the office whose job it is to defend your legislation is occupied by a pro-abortionist?

Welcome to Wisconsin whose AG is Josh Kaul, a Democrat, from whom Republicans understandably do not expect his best work. In March, after Planned Parenthood filed a lawsuit challenging laws that say only physicians can perform abortions and that women undergoing chemical abortions have physical exam and an in-person administration of chemical abortion—inducing drugs such as RU-486, Republican legislators asked to be allowed to intervene.

Why did they not trust Kaul? Here's what the pro-abortion *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel* wrote

> **GOP lawmakers said they didn't believe Kaul would defend the laws as ardently as possible because he had been endorsed by an arm of Planned Parenthood; had joined other states in challenging federal regulations barring family planning clinics that receive government funding from referring patients to abortion clinics; and had withdrawn friend-of-the-court briefs filed by his Republican predecessor in two cases challenging abortion restrictions in other states.**

Is it just me, or does that seem like ample evidence?

However, the Republicans' petition was turned down by U.S. District Judge William Conley,

But, undaunted, Republicans appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh District. On Friday, according to *Courthouse News*, the judges on the appellate court panel "were sympathetic."

Jeffrey Harris, the legislator's attorney "insisted that GOP lawmakers needed 'a proactive seat at the table,' especially in the event that the attorney general might consider settling the case," according to reporter Lorraine Bailey. "We think the Legislature has a right to be there," Harris said.

Bailey explained that Judge Conley wrote that to allow the legislators to intervene "would likely infuse additional politics into an already politically divisive area of the law and needlessly complicate this case." The panel saw it otherwise.

> **"The statute itself is a policy statement," U.S. Circuit Judge Diane Sykes told Assistant Attorney General Brian Keenan, referring to a law passed in December permitting the Legislature's intervention at any time in any action as a matter of right. "It establishes as a matter of Wisconsin policy that the attorney general cannot adequately represent Wisconsin in this class of cases."**

Judge Sykes was joined by Judge Joel Flaum and Judge Amy St. Eve.

Pro-life Canadians want clear answers this election

By We Need a Law

Editor's note. In a parliamentary system of government, a "private member's bill" is a bill introduced by a legislator who is not acting on behalf of the executive branch.

Because of pro-life Canadians, we have seen a growing debate about abortion. You've used your voice to talk about pre-born human rights. Whether it's sending an email to your MP, putting a decal on your car, going to a March for Life, participating in SignsUp, or writing letters to the editor of your local paper, you've used your voice to speak for those who cannot speak for themselves.

Recent events are a testament to this growing discussion: the backlash to the Canada Summer Jobs attestation, Prime Minister Trudeau's disallowing of pro-life views in the Liberal party, the Canadian funding of abortions overseas, the movie Unplanned, and the tragedy that a pre-born child cannot be recognized as a victim of crime. Canadians, including the media, politicians, and the general public, are talking about abortion. **The debate is happening, and as voters this October we should expect MPs to represent us by engaging in this ongoing debate.**

We are seeing this impact already in the lead up to the October 2019 federal election, including last week when Conservative leader Andrew Scheer held a press conference to deal with questions about his socially conservative views, including his view on abortion.

During his run for leadership of the Conservative party, Scheer went on record saying that while a Conservative government would not bring forward abortion legislation, private member's bills could be introduced, and would be handled by a free vote.

Since then, Scheer has not said much. In the press conference, he spoke again about recognizing MP's freedom of conscience, but said he will "oppose any measures or attempts to open this debate."

Scheer blames the Liberals for bringing up the abortion issue. But, it's not only the Liberals who are talking about it; there are a growing number of Canadians who are looking to their elected officials to do something about the lack of abortion legislation. In fact, the case could be made that Scheer is the leader of the Conservatives as a direct result of Canadians who want legislative action on pre-born human rights. Scheer only has himself to blame if he's wondering why abortion continues to be part of the election narrative.

Canadians are looking for a clear response. The question is, if an MP under a Conservative government puts forward a private member's bill on abortion, what will Scheer do? Will he recognize that the MP is representing their constituents' desire to see abortion debated in Parliament?

We applaud his commitment to freedom of conscience and his party's policy reinforcing this. But what does it mean, then, that he will "oppose any measure or attempt to open this debate"? Especially as the leader of a party, Scheer has a lot of influence even beyond government bills.

We have plenty of reasons to believe he will allow the debate, despite some of Scheer's vague statements. He does still give strong acknowledgement to the freedom of conscience of MPs. Another indication comes from pro-life MP Arnold Viersen's recent Facebook post:

What should you do?

Politicians are commenting on this because Canadians are talking about pre-born human rights. Keep that conversation going! Use this election period to ask your local candidate where they stand on this issue. Use the questions on our doorhanger to begin the conversation and ask any candidate how they will engage in the ongoing debate on abortion. Let them know that you expect your representative to participate in that debate in Parliament even after this election.

If you find a good pro-life candidate, consider volunteering for them. Continue to build the relationship and have that discussion about the importance of passing laws that recognize pre-born human rights.

As we have said before, the federal election provides a unique abundance of opportunities to talk to candidates about issues that matter to you. Candidates are listening. Let them hear from those who cannot speak for themselves.

Twitter, Planned Parenthood Work Together to Censor Pro-Life Org

By Corinne Weaver

Twitter has taken a side in favor of the killing of the unborn.

David Daleiden, the undercover journalist for the Center for Medical Progress, reported that the organization had 19 tweets blocked on Twitter, at the advice of Planned Parenthood. Daleiden and Sandra Merritt face 15 felony charges for an invasion of privacy after releasing 14 videos showing the sale of aborted baby parts within Planned Parenthood in 2015.

The tweets that were blocked reported on the public testimony of Planned Parenthood in the court proceedings. Planned Parenthood's attorneys told Twitter that the Center was live-streaming the hearing. Twitter reinstated the tweets after the appeal explained that Planned Parenthood had falsely described the tweets as a "live-stream."

The charges that were brought against Daleiden and Merritt came from Democratic presidential candidate Senator Kamala Harris, when she was the California attorney general. Harris has herself received thousands of dollars from Planned Parenthood. She was clearly acting in her donor's interest in pressing charges.

Live Action founder Lila Rose tweeted "If I contacted @Twitter & asked them to block @PPFA's tweets, they wouldn't even acknowledge my request. But they rush to buy PP's lies & block @CtrMedProgress tweets."

This is not the first time Twitter has acted against the Center for Medical Progress in the interest of Planned Parenthood. National Review reported that Pro-Life San Francisco and Eric Cochran's accounts were suspended on February 13, after they shared already public information about the legal case against the CMP.

Twitter has been censoring pro-life statements and accounts for some time. Live Action was banned from advertising on Twitter indefinitely. Even pro-life politicians have suffered. Senator Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) had her pro-life advertisements pulled from Twitter, as well as her announcement that she was running for Senate.

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

Pro-life candidates continue to win in special elections

From page 1

help pass pro-life legislation in the U,S. House," she said. Holt added, "Thankfully, North Carolina congressional districts 3 and 9 will continue to be represented by pro-lifers."

The strongly pro-abortion *News &Observer* editorial page lamented McCready's loss. It attributed the unwelcomed results to Bishop running a smart campaign and McCready (although "well-moneyed") running "a campaign that hewed to the Democratic playbook" which scared off more moderate voters."

This is the real harbinger coming out of yesterday's closely-watched race: Democrats, pro-abortion with virtually no exceptions in Congress, are completely out of step with the public.

It is to the credit of the *News & Observer* that they recognized Bishop was running against a strong headwind. Although it had nothing to do with Bishop, any Republican running would be "tainted by Republican election fraud."

Bishop prevailed, in spite of a non-stop media attack against him by the likes of the *News & Observer* editorial page, the investment by national Democrats of millions of dollars on behalf of McCready, and a divisive 2018 Republican primary where the long-time Republican incumbent was defeated.

One other thing in the harbinger/bellwether category. As NRLC noted, "The win marks the third of three 2019 special elections in which the pro-life candidate endorsed by National Right to Life won." It is only to state the obvious that National Right to Life's assistance at the grassroots level was important to Bishop's victory.

As was the help of President Trump, who twice campaigned for Bishop, the second time the day before the election. The President provided a massive last-minute campaign boost.

Timely medical care is of the utmost importance for a child who survives an abortion.

From page 11

for me, once someone decided they couldn't leave me to die.

I'm blessed to be alive, and I've been united with my biological mother and many members of both her family and members of my biological father's family. I can say on behalf of my birthfamily, my adoptive family, my husband, Ryan, and daughters, Olivia and Ava, we are thankful for your support of this bill.

Passage of The Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act will ensure that the fate of survivors like me, or the nearly 300 survivors that I've connected with through The Abortion Survivors Network, aren't left in the hands of their abortionist or the "luck of the draw" in what medical professional is working that day.

Thank you for supporting the bill and for all that you do for lives like mine through your legislative work. Abortion survivors fight for our lives in the womb. We shouldn't have to fight for them again when we're born alive.

Sincerely,

Melissa Ohden, MSW
Founder, The Abortion Survivors Network

Sanders, Buttigieg only the latest Democrats running for President to made radically pro-abortion statements

By Dave Andrusko

On September 6 we posted a story at National Right to Life News Today about the latest bizarre observations from a pro-abortion Democrat candidate for President, in that case Sen. Bernie Sanders. More about Sanders in a moment.

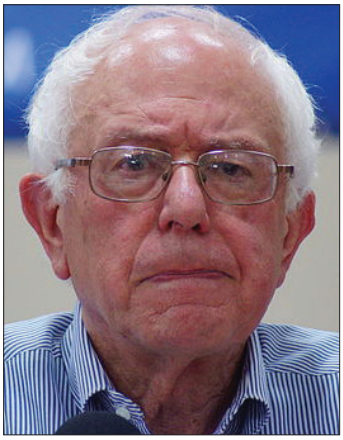
Mary Margaret Olohan subsequently posted a story about Democratic presidential candidate Pete Buttigieg who "suggested Friday that unborn babies can be aborted up until they draw their first breath, saying parts of the Bible mention 'how life begins with breath.'"

However Sanders and Buttigieg are anything but outliers.

It's as if whatever outlandish comment one pro-abortion Democrat makes, others in the presidential field feel the urge to one-up them. This strategy utterly failed for New York Senator Kirsten Gillibrand who dropped out before the third debate. Gillibrand was never the preferred choice of even 1% of Democrats but that never stopped her from upping the ante.

As Patrick Goodenough explained

> **During that visit to Georgia, Gillibrand pledged as president to codify Roe vs. Wade into law; to end the Hyde Amendment (which prohibits federal funding of abortion except in cases of rape, incest, or when the mother's life is endangered); and, in what she described as her "most sweeping step" as president, to "guarantee access to reproductive healthcare – including abortion – no matter what state you live in.**



Bernie Sanders
Photo: Marc Nozell

Back to Sanders. As we wrote, participating in a CNN Townhall, Sanders linked climate change, "curbing" population growth, and taxpayer funding of abortions overseas in one answer.

His media defenders, which are numerous, have attempted to contain the damage. Confirmed Trump-hater *Washington Post* columnist Jennifer Rubin claimed that on the one hand President Trump commits "gaffes" all the time but on the other hand immediately conceded Sanders's faux pas is a problem for Democrats seeking to unseat Mr. Trump. "For Democrats concerned about electability, a statement which frames an issue critical to the base in the least favorable light and hands ammunition to the right certainly qualifies as a problem."

As has Aaron Blake, another *Washington Post* columnist, Rubin insisted that Sanders' comments were practically benign, only awkwardly phrased. Not so. As CNN conservative S.E. Cupp tweeted

> **Let's just state for the record: talking about needing "population control" through ABORTION for the sake of CLIMATE is talking about EUGENICS. The fact that @BernieSanders is willing to entertain this vile idea is not only disgusting, it should be disqualifying.**

Even Rubin conceded, "However, Sanders's formulation smacks of population control by limiting nonwhite births" which (she wrote) "anti-abortion groups" have "pounced on." Sanders' timing was especially unfortunate, according to Rubin, because "progressives have the high ground in abortion politics," thus "Sanders's remark is, to put it lightly, unhelpful."

For good measure, Rubin threw in how "This is similar to how the phony infanticide issue put Democrats on defense." Two quick points, in reverse order.

Pro-abortionists, such as Rubin, insist there is no "infanticide issue" because babies do not survive abortions and even if they did, they would not be neglected. They are and have been even though in 2002 Congress enacted the Born-Alive Infants Protection Act.

The legislation said that babies who are born alive, whether before or after "viability," are recognized as full legal persons for all federal law purposes.

That is why it is imperative that Congress vote on the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act which would add enforcement provisions.

Second, as Blake wrote, "Sanders's 2016 campaign said he opposes that 1974 law, known as the Helms amendment. So it's fair to say that he supports federal funding for foreign abortion services. (Hillary Clinton did, too.)" But that didn't stop Blake from trying to extricate Sanders from

Pete Buttigieg
Photo: Gage Skidmore

the dilemma he had made for himself by confounding federal funding of overseas abortion, curbing population growth, and climate change.

By the way, according to *The Hill*, "CNN's 7-hour town hall on climate change with 2020 White House contenders finished last among the three cable news networks in terms of average total viewers, according to early numbers from Nielsen Media Research."

As per usual, Pew Research bungles public opinion on abortion

By Dave Andrusko

If a respected public opinion outlet makes the same tiresome and misleading representations about what *Roe v. Wade* legalized, you would think the only possibly explanations are (a) they are irremediably stupid, (b) deliberately misleading, or (c) indifferent. None reflect well on the Pew Research Center.

Which brings us to Pew's latest effort released August 29. Here are the opening paragraphs

> **As debates over abortion continue in states around the country, a majority of Americans (61%) continue to say that abortion should be legal in all (27%) or most (34%) cases. A smaller share of the public (38%) says abortion should be illegal in all (12%) or most cases (26%).**
>
> **The new survey by Pew Research Center, conducted July 22-August 4 among 4,175 adults, also finds little support for overturning Roe v. Wade, the landmark Supreme Court decision that established a woman's right to an abortion. Seven-in-ten say they do not want to see the Roe v. Wade decision completely overturned; 28% say they would like to see the Supreme Court completely overturn the 1973 decision.**

Where to begin with this mishmash, there is so much to choose from.

*You have to go to what Pew calls its TopLine to find the actual question.

So in asking whether the respondent wants to overturn *Roe*, how is *Roe* described?

> **In 1973 the Roe versus Wade decision established a woman's constitutional right to an abortion, at least in the first three months of pregnancy.**

I thought this misnomer, this bugaboo, had finally been jettisoned. As EVERYONE knows who follows the abortion battle, *Roe* (and its companion case *Doe v. Bolton*) essentially legalized abortion on demand throughout pregnancy, which, by the way, is the position of the Democrat Party.

But not so. Pew continues to mislead the public, so no wonder in response to the question

> **Would you like to see the Supreme Court completely overturn its Roe versus Wade decision, or not?**

They get 69% saying they would not.

*We're also told

> **Overall, 42% agree with the Democratic Party's policies on abortion either strongly (28%) or somewhat (15%). A smaller share (32%) says they strongly (21%) or somewhat (11%) agree with the policies of the GOP. About a quarter (24%) says they don't agree with either party on this issue.**

But, as Alexandra DeSanctis of *National Review Online* shrewdly observed

> **What's more, when the new Pew poll asks respondents whether they agree more with the Democratic or the Republican party on abortion policy, it offers no specifics about what those policies are. It's left entirely up to each respondent to define for herself, drawing on her potentially limited knowledge, what abortion policies each party favors, a factor that obviously complicates how we should understand the survey's results.**

How many people know that Democrat orthodoxy on abortion is to endorse abortion through the 40th week and be (at best) agnostic on infanticide? Does 42% of the populace support that?!

*One other important result, which comes from that opening paragraph:

> **As debates over abortion continue in states around the country, a majority of Americans (61%) continue to say that abortion should be legal in all (27%) or most (34%) cases. A smaller share of the public (38%) says abortion should be illegal in all (12%) or most cases (26%).**

This is Pew's preferred formulation—"all" or "most." But this misses all the finer details and nuances of the public's opinion on abortion, which is very different than Pew's ham-handed description.

Less than three months ago, Gallup reported a surge in pro-life sentiment. In 2018, Gallup found that a total of 53% wanted abortion legal "only in a few circumstances" (35%) or "illegal in all circumstances" (18%).

This year, according to Lydia Saad, a total of **60%** want abortion legal "only in a few circumstances" (39%) or "illegal in all circumstances" (21%)—a jump of 7 points.

While to the best of my knowledge, Gallup has never spelled out what "a few circumstances" means, it stands to reason that most people have in mind cases of rape, incest, and/or when the mother's life is at risk. Those cases account for a tiny percentage of the roughly 926,200 abortions performed in the United States.

As always, take Pew's abortion results with a pound of salt.

A "progressive" who stands in the way of progress for citizens with special needs

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

He might call himself a progressive, but when it comes to pro-life advances in the Commonwealth, the Governor of Pennsylvania is standing directly in the way of progress.

Democrat Tom Wolf has staked out a position at odds with the state's mainstream, when it comes to the life issues. He opposes any and all restrictions on abortion, toeing the Planned Parenthood line time and time again.

He vetoed a common sense bill that would have banned brutal dismemberment abortions, where babies are torn limb by limb from their mothers' wombs. The former volunteer clinic escort for Planned Parenthood opposes a ban on taxpayer funding of abortion, even though such a measure is supported by the vast majority of Americans. He has gone so far as to pledge to veto any pro-life bill that comes to his desk.

Undaunted, the Pennsylvania House of Representatives this past spring passed House Bill

Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf

321, which would ban abortion for the sole reason of a prenatal diagnosis of Down syndrome. The House approved the bill by a large, bipartisan majority. The measure is now awaiting action in the Pennsylvania Senate.

If the Senate follows the lead of the House and OK's the bill, would Wolf stand in the way of people with disabilities being protected? Or would he at least acknowledge that children with special needs deserve special legal protection? Time will tell.

But all indications are that, if Wolf had his way, Pennsylvania would become another New York, legalizing abortions up to the moment of birth, while offering no care and consideration for babies born as a result of "botched" abortions.

Pennsylvania's House and Senate retain pro-life majorities, so Wolf is clearly out of step with the state legislature. He has also distanced himself ideologically from the majority of the populace, who oppose most abortions, according to public opinion polls.

I know of people who are hoping and praying for a conversion of the Governor's heart. Unless and until that happens, the state legislature is providing a critical firewall against radically pro-abortion policies.

But with another election, that firewall could easily melt away. That is why it is critical that, come 2020, pro-lifers become engaged and informed. Retaining pro-life majorities in the General Assembly is crucial to ensuring that Pennsylvania's common sense limits on abortion, such as parental consent, informed consent, and 24-hour waiting periods, are maintained.

Without them, Pennsylvania will lose the legislative ground we've gained, not to mention untold numbers of precious lives.

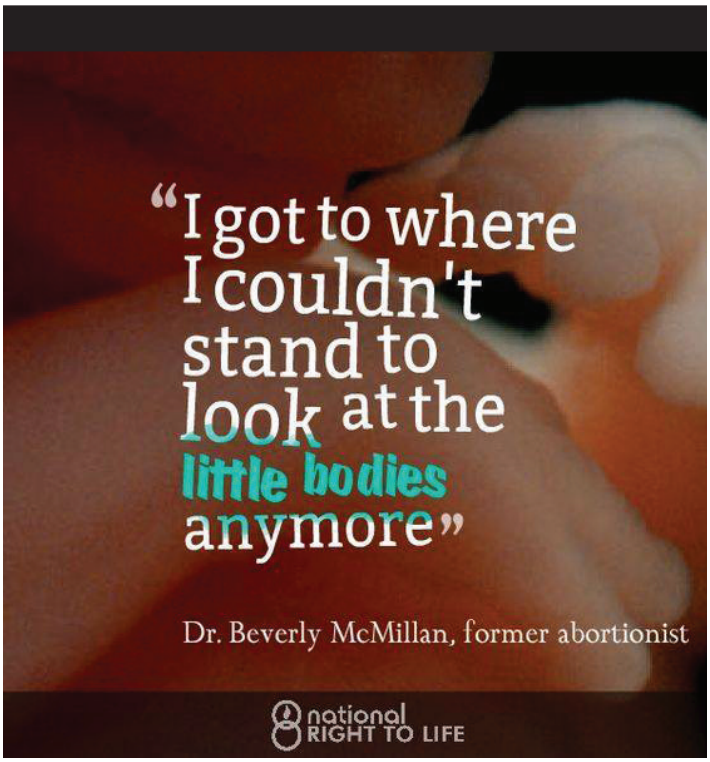
Huge award for wrongfully terminating a 17-year-veteran only the latest bad news for Planned Parenthood

From page 13

To be clear, PPFA is a money-making machine. In the last reporting year Planned Parenthood's revenue was $1.66 **billion**. PPFA has total net assets of $1.88 **billion**. How much excess revenue over expenses last year? A whopping $244.8 million.

But those numbers are a product of a different time when Planned Parenthood enjoyed an (unearned) unsullied reputation. Now employees are leaving, presidents are being canned, PPFA is being sued successfully, and stories, like Mayra Rodriguez's, are beginning to gradually become public.

A very dangerous time for the unborn child's most dangerous enemy.



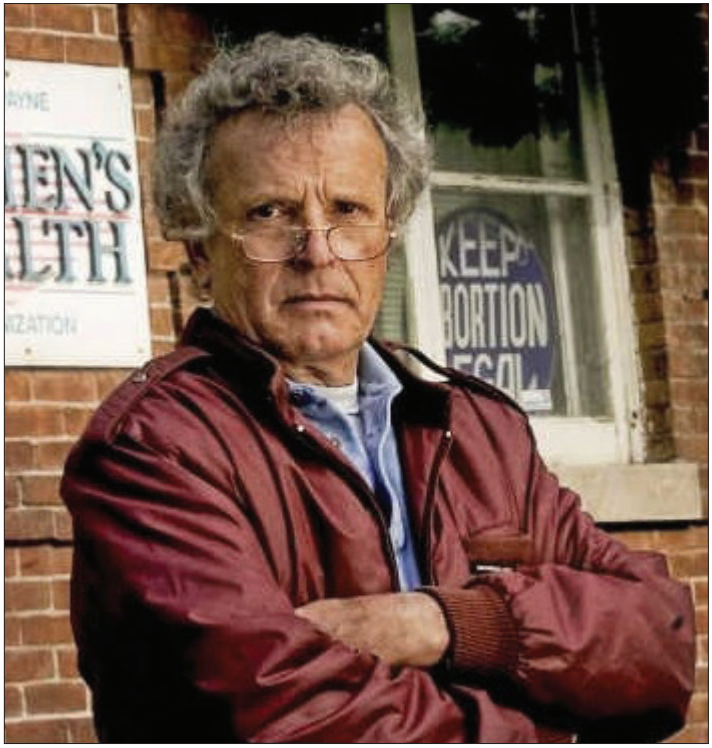
2,246 "medically preserved fetal remains" discovered following the death of an Indiana abortionist

From page 2

who traffic in fetal tissue and whole organs have so dehumanized preborn children that they have lost their own humanity in the process.

Gosnell skated along, unchecked and unmonitored for decades. It was not merely see no evil, hear no evil, and speak no evil (about evil). The Abortion Establishment and its enablers at the city and state level went out of their way to make sure Gosnell was not disturbed as he cavalierly violated the 24-week limit on abortions in Pennsylvania and aborted God-only-knows how many full or near-full terms babies before turning his surgical scissors on their spinal cords.

How did we learn about remains of the 2,246 babies? Not, as was the case with Gosnell, as a byproduct of a police raid to determine if Gosnell was illegally selling prescription drugs (he was). It was much more mundane with Klopfer. The Will County Sheriff's Office put out a press release that said the Klopfer's family found them while going through his property and had asked the coroner's office to remove them.



The late abortionist Ulrich Klopfer

The respective response of pro-abortionists and pro-lifers in South Bend to the discovery of the remains of 2,246 babies is illuminating. Dr. Ellyn Stecker, described as "a retired family doctor who is vocal about women's reproductive health issues," told Lincoln Wright, of the *South Bend Tribune*, "We should not jump to horrible, negative conclusions until we have more information."

By contrast, "Thousands of women are impacted by what Klopfer did to them," said Jackie Appleman Executive Director with Saint Joseph County Right to Life. "He has their children in his garage and so I want to offer a note of hope and healing," She said her group plans to make sure the baby's remains are given a proper burial.

Then *Washington Post* reporter Sarah Kliff--who often doubles as a stenographer for the Abortion Establishment—eventually took back a dreadful 2013 tweet. In response to a question, the gist of which was why no Gosnell coverage when she couldn't write enough about anything that promotes the abortion agenda, Kliff had replied, *"I cover policy for the Washington Post, not local crime, hence why I wrote about all the policy issues you mention."*

Let's see how much attention the grotesque behavior of Ulrich Klopfer receives.

What hidden talents do you possess to help spread the pro-life message?

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

Movies are my love language. I adore cinematic treatments of all manner of stories on the big screen.

So I have been delighted by the popularity of films such as "Gosnell" and "Unplanned," which both manage to tell compelling stories while also promoting the inherent value and dignity of human life. The talented filmmakers behind these movies used their incredible gifts to illustrate eye-opening truths about the abortion industry and its damaging effects on those who work within it.

You may not have the skill of a movie director or the eloquence of a screenwriter. Still, you can use the talents you do possess to promote the pro-life cause!

I know of a woman who specializes in crocheting caps for newborn babies. This labor of love recognizes the priceless gift of a child, while also affirming the motherhood of first-time mommies. How many lives have been touched by this craftswoman's breathtaking handiwork?

I also know a computer expert who used her talent for coding to create eye-catching websites for National Right to Life chapters. She has discovered her special niche in the pro-life world.

At the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation, the Keystone State affiliate of National Right to Life, we hear regularly from musicians, songwriters, poets, painters, and other artists who are more than willing to donate their time and talent to help save the lives of the innocent. The full effect of their impact—the number of lives saved—may never be known, but surely they are making a life-affirming difference in a society too often dominated by the culture of death.

An Emmy-award winning videographer once heard our Executive Director being interviewed on a local radio station. The photographer was just passing through town, surveying the radio landscape, when he heard about the Federation's mission to restore legal protection for preborn children.

He called our office, willing to donate his substantial talents toward making a video celebrating the cause of life. He ended up producing two award-worthy videos which brought audiences to tears—and to the realization they themselves had more to give the pro-life movement.

How about you? Are there some additional hidden talents you case use to help spread the pro-life message? You may not win an Oscar or an Emmy, but you just might save a life!

Beto O'Rourke, This Is What a Third-Trimester Abortion Is

By Katie Yoder

Beto O'Rourke recently argued that, while unborn life has value, abortion is still a "decision for the woman." It's also a decision that becomes increasingly difficult to defend when described in detail – something the media rarely do.

On August 26, the Democratic presidential candidate expressed his support for abortion – even up until the day before birth. O'Rourke made his comments during a town hall Q&A held at the College of Charleston in South Carolina.

The first question that evening came from a 29-year-old man who was curious about the former Texas representative's abortion stance.

"Someone asked you specifically about third-trimester abortions, and you said that's a decision left up to the mother," he said, remembering O'Rourke's past comments during a Cleveland event in March. He wanted to know if O'Rourke still agreed with that.

"I was born September 8, 1989, and I want to know if you think on September 7, 1989, my life had no value," he told O'Rourke.

The Democrat politician responded, "Of course I don't think that. And of course I'm glad that you're here." But, he added, his answer on abortion "remains the same."

"This is a decision that neither you, nor I, nor the United States government should be making. That's a decision for the woman to make," O'Rourke said to the crowd's delight. "We want her to have the best possible access to care and to a medical provider."

After warning his audience about threats to abortion and *Roe v. Wade*, the 1973 Supreme Court case that legalized abortion in the U.S., O'Rourke concluded that "I don't question the decisions that a woman makes."

"Only she knows what she knows, and I want to trust her with that," he added.

But the pro-life movement doesn't challenge abortion because it distrusts women. It challenges abortion to protect women – and all human life – from the moment of conception.

O'Rourke's comments mirror many in the media who attack any restrictions or limits on abortion. But abortion, and how it works, is difficult to defend when looked at in detail.

In 2016, Dr. Anthony Levatino, an obstetrician-gynecologist who has performed more than 1,200 abortions, examined the different procedures with pro-life group Live Action.

During a third trimester induced abortion, which is "performed 25 weeks to term," the unborn baby is "almost fully developed and viable" or "could survive outside the womb if the mother were to go into labor prematurely," he said. He's right – as *The New York Times* reported in 2015, studies show that babies can survive at 22 weeks.

An abortionist "uses a large needle to inject a drug called digoxin" that "will cause fatal cardiac arrest," Levatino said. The needle travels "through the woman's abdomen or through her vagina and into the baby, targeting either the head, torso, or heart." The baby's life ends.

Next, the abortionist "inserts multiple sticks of seaweed called laminaria into the woman's cervix" which will "slowly open up the cervix for delivery of a stillborn baby." A couple days later, the abortionist "replaces the laminaria and may perform a second ultrasound to ensure the baby is dead."

Beto O'Rourke
Source: AP Photo/Kathy Willens

The mother "may be advised to deliver her baby into a bathroom toilet," he said. But "if she can make it to the clinic, she will do so during her severest contractions." He concluded, "if the baby does not come out whole," then the abortionist "uses clamps and forceps to dismember the baby piece by piece."

That's because unborn babies – especially the day before birth – have pieces.

By the time a woman finds out she's pregnant, her unborn baby likely already has a heartbeat, which media admit begins around six weeks of pregnancy. In the second trimester, according to MayoClinic.org, unborn babies boast fingerprints and can suck their thumbs. In the third trimester, they can detect light and even practice breathing.

Abortions performed past 21 weeks are rare, but they still happen, according to the Charlotte Lozier Institute (CLI), the research arm of the Susan B. Anthony List. On top of that, CLI has found that the United States is one of only seven countries with elective abortions past 20 weeks.

Ironically, the abortion procedure itself, particularly later in pregnancy, reveals the humanity of the unborn. The abortionist has to make sure that each part comes out – that a heart stops beating. That's because, the unborn, in the end, are so much more than just a "choice."

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

Abortion forever severs the bond between mother and child

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

It was with a mixture of emotions that I noted "Women's Equality Day" this past week.

I am quite thankful for the sacrifices and struggles that our foremothers underwent to ensure that American women live in a free and equal society. I treasure my right to vote, my professional prospects, and equal treatment under the law.

But I cannot help but think that feminist pioneers such as Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton would be deeply disappointed with the failures that keep women oppressed.

Key among these is legalized abortion. Millions of baby girls are denied the right to life under the *Roe v. Wade* regime. They are unable to exercise any rights, because they have been robbed of the most fundamental of these—the mere right to exist.

Moreover, rather than providing freedom to women, legalized abortion can entrap them in a vicious cycle of abuse. Their partners subject them to violence to the point which the abusers demand that they surrender their preborn children to the abortionist's grisly tools. The pattern of abuse can then easily resume, as they are not only physically beaten by their significant others, but emotionally battered as well.

The act of abortion itself is abusive to women, for it forever severs the bond between mother and child. Women are left to grieve their children lost to abortion—often in secrecy and silence.

The battle scars can lead to substance abuse, suicide attempts, eating disorders, and all manner of self-harm. The cruel legacy of abortion can then traumatize succeeding generations—such as the siblings of the aborted child—and the preceding generation, as grandparents struggle with the loss of their descendants.

I long for the day when we can celebrate women's true equality—when all pregnant women are supported, cherished, and loved, along with their priceless progeny.

Until then…as long as *Roe v. Wade* is the law of the land… Women's Equality Day will indeed be a cause for sober reflection on how far our society has yet to go.

Working with Today's Media

From page 18

I have to balance a NRL spokesperson's time and availability against the audience size or whether the podcaster is hostile and will distort our response. Time on the air (or on the phone) arguing over the abortion issue with a pro-abortion podcaster who has a narrow audience is not the wisest use of a top spokesperson's time. But whether friendly, hostile, or somewhere in between, my job is to treat them with respect, whether that respect is returned or not.

Times have changed. The media, never particularly receptive to begin with, is less friendly to us and more openly hostile to our issue. The solution is to do what we have always done: be respectful, be consistent, be factual, and be accurate.

Key to **any** organization's media strategy is to have a good working relationship with reporters who cover their issues. Some of the reporters who covered the life issue 15 years ago are gone, but not all are.

My job in the next few months will be re-establishing my working relationships with those reporters and creating new ones with reporters new to me or new to our issue. I am proud to follow in the steps of the previous communications director (who is now NRLC's Chief Marketing Officer) who had a good working relationship with many of these reporters.

By expanding our relationships with reporters, we can reach more Americans with the truth. I look forward to the day when all innocent human life is protected from fertilization through natural death.

Doctor faces charges of "unprofessional conduct" after stating "a foetus is a human"

Jacques de Vos is facing four charges of unprofessional conduct

By SPUC—the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children

A South African doctor is facing charges of unprofessional conduct after telling a woman scientific facts about unborn children.

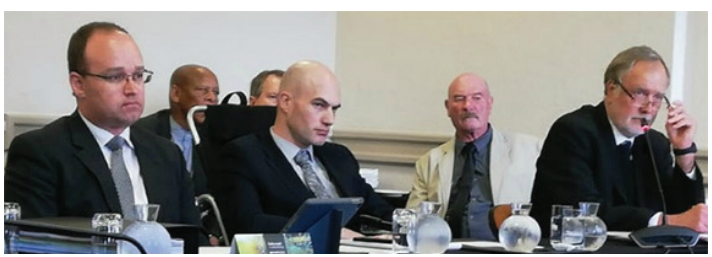
According to *Sowetan Live*, Jacques de Vos allegedly told a patient that "a foetus is a human" and claimed that abortion kills a human. After de Vos stated these scientific facts, his employment was terminated and he was prohibited from practising medicine.

De Vos is now facing four charges of unprofessional conduct from the Health Professions Council of South Africa at an inquiry which has commenced this week. According to the report, de Vos allegedly "infringed" the patient's "autonomy with his anti-abortion utterances."

"Based on ideology, not scientific fact"

SPUC Education and Research Director, Dr. Anthony McCarthy described the charges as "based on ideology, not scientific fact."

"From a scientific point of view, the question of when a new human life begins is relatively uncontroversial," Dr. McCarthy said. "Human life begins at fertilisation as a single cell. Conception marks a change from cells produced by the father and mother, to a cell with a complete human genome that constitutes a new human being."



He continued: "The unborn life in the womb is undoubtedly human, and the evidence for this is overwhelming. As the parents are human- belonging to the species Homo sapiens- and the embryo is oriented to growing up just like them, the new living being is also human. That new life is obviously both very young and very small, but is no less human than we are now. From a scientific and medical standpoint, the facts stated by Jacques de Vos are undoubtedly true."

The continuing vilification of the pro-life community?

With the inquiry against de Vos commenced, there has been speculation that charges brought against him, are part of the growing attempts to vilify pro-life persons throughout society.

Throughout the year, SPUC has been reporting on the escalating media and legal attacks against pro-life individuals. According to SPUC, these attacks are an attempt to expunge any visible pro-life presence in society and include legal attacks aimed at censoring pro-life speech.

What if even the *Washington Post* tacitly admits Democrats are extremists on abortion?

From page 2

to avoid doing so. Politicians eschew firm positions and like to reserve some plausible deniability, especially on extremely divisive issues like this. So it's little surprise that so many of their answers hew to the same talking point.

However, to his credit, Blake then immediately adds

But their answers strongly point in that direction. Indeed, it's difficult to read them any other way.

This is a further step in the direction of candor from what Blake wrote earlier in his story:

The impression left is that they support women making such decisions even in the third trimester.

We have written about the incredible words about abortion that have come out of the mouths of these three —and what Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand vowed before she pulled out. And, again, to Blake's credit, he puts them together for the readers of the *Washington Post*.

He does give Democrats' some wiggle room by writing "the party isn't totally embracing this issue."

Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) has said that "there are limits there in the third trimester that are very important." And the candidates who haven't weighed in on this issue publicly don't seem eager to do so. The campaigns of Joe Biden, Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.), Sen. Kamala D. Harris (D-Calif.) and Sen. Cory Booker (D-N.J.) didn't respond to multiple requests for the candidates' positions this week.

However, Klobuchar's fudging aside, that is likely not the case. If Biden and Senators Warren, Harris and Booker were injected with truth serum, in all likelihood they would agree with Sanders, Buttigieg, and O'Rourke. The difference is not in their positions but in their unwillingness to come within an eyelash of explicitly taking a position supported by a small percentage of Americans.

One other very important point. Blake shrewdly observes this is a top-down decision. The public has **not** grown more willing to embrace third-trimester abortions or agree that "abortion should be available to a woman any time she wants one during her entire pregnancy."

But "despite that stasis, the party's leaders are shifting," Blake writes.

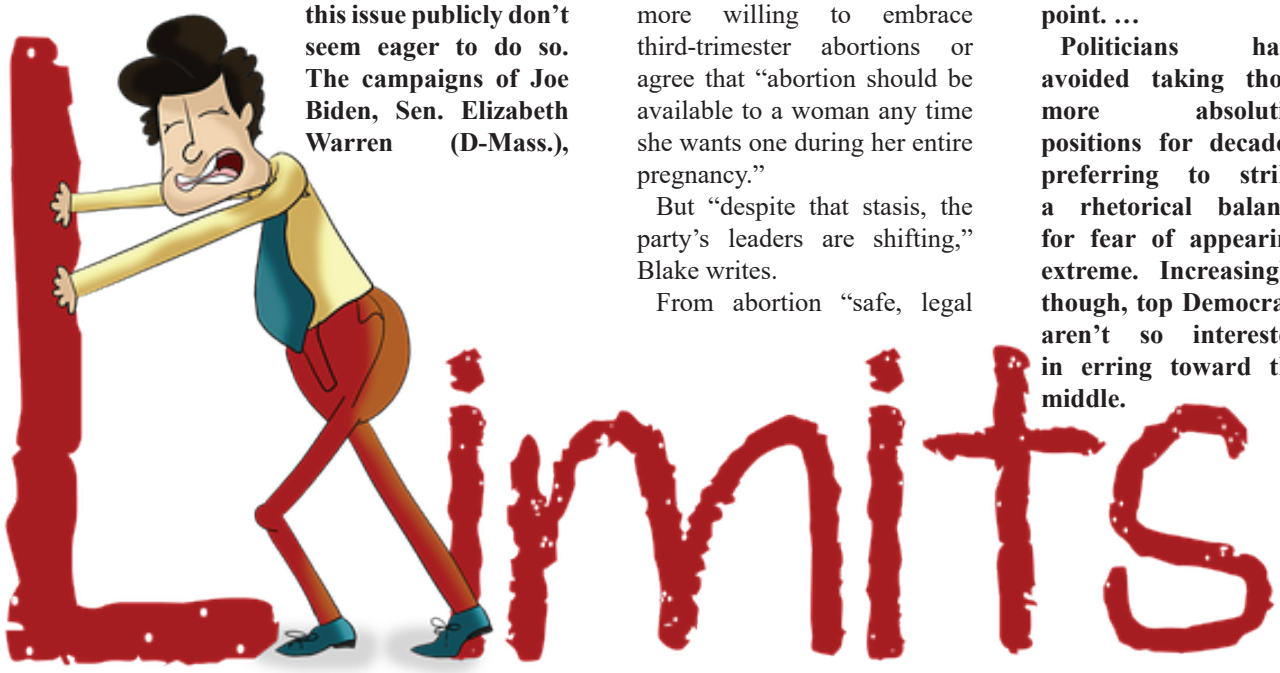
From abortion "safe, legal and rare" (Bill Clinton's phony mantra) to abortion on demand. Indeed, as we have documented on numerous occasions, the party now is unwilling to draw the line at birth.

They refuse to allow a vote on the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act both out of a bizarre consistency and out of fear of alienating Planned Parenthood, and NARAL, and EMILY's List.

Blake concludes

And that's at least consistent with their rhetoric. If you cast abortion as an issue of women's rights and say government should stay out of it, setting a time limit essentially acknowledges that abortion becomes problematic at some point. …

Politicians have avoided taking those more absolutist positions for decades, preferring to strike a rhetorical balance for fear of appearing extreme. Increasingly, though, top Democrats aren't so interested in erring toward the middle.



Even pro-abortion newspapers unsettled by eugenic abortions

By Dave Andrusko

On August 26, reliably pro-abortion U.S. District Judge Howard F. Sachs issued a temporary restraining order that prevented portion of Missouri's strong pro-life legislation, HB 126, from going into effect pending the final ruling that is expected in several months.

The most high visibility component Judge Sachs invalidated was a ban on abortions performed at or after eight weeks of pregnancy. But, intriguingly, Judge Sachs did not ban enforcement of Missouri's ban on abortions for the reasons of race, sex, or that the unborn child may have Down syndrome.

Granted, this may not last; no doubt the ACLU and others will file a lawsuit. But this may represent a wedge—or a lever—to force a discussion of whether it really should be permissible to kill a child **specifically because** the baby is a she and not a he; is not Caucasian; or might have Down syndrome.

Evidence? How about an editorial in the relentlessly pro-abortion *Kansas City Star* that while tossing bouquets to Judge Sachs for gutting the ban on abortions at or after eight weeks of pregnancy also acknowledged (as did Sachs) that "another aspect of the decision was a harder call."

In his 11-page opinion, Judge Sachs wrote

> **The most challenging and novel of the issues in this case is the state's attempt to prohibit all abortions for special reasons that are deemed contrary to public policy. … <u>For present purposes I assume that almost everyone in our culture would be appalled by a pregnant woman's abortion of a fetus identified as female because the woman or the family prefers that she give birth to a boy.</u> The legal issue is whether the public, through legislation, has a right to intervene and prohibit such a discriminatory or 'selective' abortion" before viability."** [My underlining.]

U.S. District Judge Howard F. Sachs

Alluding to Justice Thomas very thoughtful concurrence in a similar case which the justices declined to address, Judge Sachs observed, "Justice Thomas demonstrated great interest in the ultimate question of a State's authority, in his phrasing, to prevent 'abortion from becoming a tool of modern-day eugenics,' citing the recent State laws seeking to prevent abortions motivated by race, sex, genetic abnormality, and Down Syndrome."

The editorial put it this way: "The Supreme Court has not decided this issue and does need to clarify it." Read this powerful conclusion and, again, remember this is a very, very pro-abortion newspaper and editorial page:

> **The high court decided not to review an Indiana law that included similar discrimination provisions, but Justice Clarence Thomas wrote that we should prevent abortion "from becoming a tool of modern-day eugenics" used to select for race, gender or ability.**
>
> **This does present a genuine moral quandary, and raises questions that need to be decided.**
>
> **Sachs reasons that allowing the discrimination provisions to go into effect for a few months won't have much real-world impact because doctors don't currently ask patients why they're getting an abortion.**
>
> **"Caution suggests I withhold" a preliminary injunction against the discrimination provisions of the law, he said. But Sachs also said he remains open to "an adequately supported renewed motion on this narrow issue."**
>
> **No doubt he'll get one.**

"No doubt he'll get one"?!

Now **that** qualifies as encouraging news

So why do pro-abortion Democrats fervently want to gut the Hyde Amendment?

By Dave Andrusko

It is now part of the pro-abortion catechism that the Hyde Amendment must go. At first blush, that might seem wildly stupid on a number of grounds, besides the obvious fact that the public does not and never has wanted to pay for abortions.

via CBS News

For example, once upon a time, it functioned as a shield for Democrats against the charge that they were 100% pro-abortion. They trotted out their support for the Hyde Amendment, which bans almost all federal funding of abortion, as proof positive.

No more, which, alas, is no surprise. Once the party that hid behind the (wholly insincere) formulation of abortion "safe, legal and rare," now Democrats unabashedly support the killing of unborn children through the end of pregnancy—and beyond—paid for by the public. To disagree with party dogma is now unthinkable.

I'd like to take a few minutes to briefly recall how the Hyde Amendment came to be and what difference it has made. Since the Major Media would never tell you, it's up to us to remind people that prior to Hyde Amendment, Medicaid paid for about 300,000 abortions a year. The figure now is a few hundred.

The Hyde Amendment was passed in 1976—three years after *Roe v. Wade*—after a titanic congressional battle. Pro-life forces were led by a freshman congressman from Illinois's Sixth Congressional District, a man whose name would become synonymous with pro-life determination and eloquence.

That the Hyde Amendment would hold up once it came to attention of a Supreme Court riddled with pro-abortionists was by no means a sure thing. Indeed, just the opposite was the case.

U.S. District Court Judge John Dooling quickly struck the Hyde Amendment in a mammoth 642-page decision. While the Dooling decision was working its way up the judicial ladder, over half the members of the United States House of Representatives filed a "friend of the court" brief challenging Dooling's conclusions.

D-Day came on June 30, 1980. On a 5-4 vote the Supreme Court upheld the Hyde Amendment. Writing for the majority in *Harris v. McRae*, Justice Potter Stewart concluded that "abortion is inherently different from other medical procedures because no other procedure involves the purposeful termination of a human life."

A tremendous shot in the arm for the Movement, the Hyde Amendment represented the first significant pro-life victory in the seven years since *Roe* was handed down. Pro-life morale needed a boost.

It is important to understand that the Court insisted its Roe decision did not equal "abortion on demand." Yet until *Harris v. McRae*, every subsequent attempt to hedge in the unrestricted abortion "liberty" was swatted away like a gnat by an imperious High Court.

The Hyde Amendment is conservatively estimated to have save 2 million lives!

BREAKING: European abortionist sues FDA for cracking down on abortion-by-mail scheme

By Calvin Freiburger

The European physician behind an organization that circumvents medical regulations by sending abortion pills through the mail has filed a federal lawsuit against the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) over actions it has taken to block their activities.

Created by Dutch abortion activist Rebecca Gomperts, "Aid Access" sends women the abortion-inducing drugs mifepristone and misoprostol after just an online consultation with a "doctor," for the express purpose of getting around the costs and unavailability of abortions in their area, as well as regulations such as waiting periods or parental involvement requirements. The group claims it's safe to take the pills at home, without medical supervision.

The FDA opened an investigation into Aid Access last October, and in March warned the organization that it was "facilitating the sale of…unapproved and misbranded" products, and to "promptly cease" doing so or face regulatory action potentially "including seizure or injunction, without further notice."

On Friday, Gomperts filed a suit in U.S. District Court for the District of Idaho against the FDA and Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Alex Azar for seizing up to ten doses of abortion drugs Aid Access had "prescribed" since that letter, NPR reports, as well as allegedly blocking some payments to the group. The suit seeks to stop what

Gomperts calls "bullying" and "intimidation" by the FDA.

Gomperts' attorney Richard Hearn claims that Aid Access merely helps women carry out the so-called "right" to abortion. "Some women in the United States can exercise that right just by going down the street if those women happen to live in New York or San Francisco or other major metropolitan areas on either one of the coasts," he told NPR. "But women in Idaho and other rural states, especially conservative states…cannot exercise that right."

"FDA remains very concerned about the sale of unapproved mifepristone for medical termination of early pregnancy on the Internet or via other channels for illegal importation, because this bypasses important safeguards designed to protect women's health," the agency responded in a statement to NPR. It didn't comment on potential future actions against Aid Access, but said it "generally does not take enforcement action against individuals" who receive such unapproved drugs.

Part of the FDA's March warning to Aid Access was that its business circumvents federal requirements that the approved prescription version of mifepristone, Mifeprex, be only made available via a Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) program and obtainable only from REMS-certified healthcare providers. This, it said, ensures that providers can "assess the duration of the pregnancy accurately, diagnose ectopic pregnancies, and provide surgical intervention in cases of incomplete abortion or severe bleeding, or to have made arrangements for others to provide such care"; give women "access to medical facilities for emergency care"; and more.

Pro-lifers also warn that even when "properly" taken, abortion pills are not only lethal to preborn children but more dangerous to women than advertised.

"As of December 31, 2018, there were reports of 24 deaths of women associated with Mifeprex since the product was approved in September 2000, including two cases of ectopic pregnancy resulting in death; and several cases of severe systemic infection (also called sepsis), including some that were fatal," the FDA warns, on top of 2,740 cases of severe complications from 2000 to 2012. …

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

Rep. Gabbard's slight deviation from the position of the remainder of the pro-abortion Democrats running for President

By Dave Andrusko

When competing with a field of rabidly pro-abortion Democrats running for their party's presidential nomination to face pro-life Donald Trump, even the slightest shred of commonsense makes you stand out.

So, Hawaii Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard did make some waves in an interview with Dave Rubin. By way of background, Gabbard has earned a 100% rating from Planned Parenthood, the nation's leading abortion provider, and supports federal funding of abortion. She has also voted against the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act **and** the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act.

So where did Rep. Gabbard draw the line?

Abortion, Gabbard told Rubin, is a "libertarian" way [Rubin is a well-known Libertarian] and government shouldn't be restricting women's choices.

Gabbard went on to say, "I think that there should be some restrictions though," which prompted Rubin to ask if the Congresswoman had a "cutoff point."

Rep. Tulsi Gabbard

She answered, "I think the third trimester. Unless a woman's life or severe health consequences is at risk, then there shouldn't be an abortion in the third trimester."

Not exactly a rousing statement of pro-life principle. However, if the position of the other Democratic president candidates is 180 degrees different than President Trump's position, Gabbard's willingness to accept **any** limitation makes her practically shine by comparison.

Two quick points. First, we'll see how long this lasts. The Democratic National Committee Gabbard did not certify Gabbard to participate in the September 12 debate and the DNC has not as yet accepted the poll numbers Gabbard provided that would make her eligible for the 4th debate in mid-October.

But because Gabbard's position is slightly different than the rest of the field, we could have hoped, if not anticipated, that the ten certified candidates for last week's debate might get asked the question so they can preen for pro-abortion credentials. They weren't.

Second, I am not begrudging Gabbard's willingness to take a step back from absolute abortion absolutism. But she is not going to be the nominee. Moreover, it is impossible that the party nominee would adopt her position or agree with Gabbard's reported unwillingness to advocate the end of the Hyde Amendment which bans almost all federal funding of abortion.

Born-Alive Survivors and the Extreme Child Abuse of After-Birth Abortion

Editor's note. Pro-Life. Caucus Chair Chris Smith [RNJ] delivered the following statement at the September 3 hearing on Capitol Hill on the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act. The hearing was held by Republican Whip Steve Scalise, the Pro-Life Caucus, and the author of the bill, Rep. Ann Wagner.

In a Florida abortion clinic, Sycloria Williams delivered a live baby girl at 23 weeks.

The clinic owner took the baby who was gasping for air, cut her umbilical cord, threw her into a biohazard bag and put the bag in the trash.

Heartbroken, Sycloria later had a funeral for her baby girl who she named Shanice.

In Sycloria's home state of Florida, in just one year—2017—eleven babies were born alive during abortions.

Shockingly only six states—Florida, Arizona, Michigan, Minnesota, Oklahoma and Texas—currently require the reporting of children born alive who survive abortion.

Why the coverup?

Dr. Willard Cates, MD, former head of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Abortion Surveillance Unit, said: "(Live births) are little known because organized medicine, from fear of public clamor and legal action, treats them more as an embarrassment to be hushed up than a problem to be solved. It's like turning yourself in to the IRS for an audit…what is there to gain? The tendency is not to report because there are only negative incentives." [1]

Philadelphia abortionist Kermit Gosnell—one of the few who got caught—was convicted of murder for killing children who were born alive after attempted abortions. The Grand Jury report described it this way:

> **"Gosnell had a simple solution for the unwanted babies he delivered: he killed them. He didn't call it that. He called it 'ensuring fetal demise'. The way he ensured fetal demise was by sticking scissors into the back of the baby's neck and cutting the spinal cord. He called that 'snipping'."**

The Gosnell Grand Jury recommended that: "There should be no statute of limitations for infanticide. We recommend that the legislature amend the statute of limitations so that infanticide is treated as what it is – homicide. It is important to extend the statute of limitations not only because of the seriousness of the offense, but also because the crime is hard to discover. Gosnell, we are convinced, committed hundreds of acts of infanticide. He got away with them for decades because they all took place inside his clinic. We are disappointed that we can charge him for only the babies he let die in the past two years. Homicide has no statute of limitations, and neither should infanticide."

In 2012, two bioethicists, Dr. Alberto Giubilini and Francesca Minerva, published an outrageous paper in the Journal of Medical Ethics justifying the deliberate, premeditated murder of newborn babies during the first hours, days, and even weeks after birth.

The ethicists said: "When circumstances occur after birth that would have justified abortion, what we call after-birth abortion should be permissible."

Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ)

In other words, the same conditions that would justify the killing of a baby in utero justifies the killing of that baby even when she is born.

Giubilini and Minerva further justified after-birth abortion by stating that new-born infants, like their slightly younger sisters and brothers in the womb, "cannot have formed any aim that she is prevented from accomplishing". In other words, no discernible plans, dreams, or "aims" for the future equals no life at all.

Shockingly, some want to legalize and legitimize this assault on children—the murder of born alive babies.

New York Governor Cuomo signed into law a bill to allow abortion until birth and even removes penalties for infanticide of any child who survives. Illinois also repealed its born alive protections. Fourteen other states have no protections for abortion survivors in place.

Not only have 61 million unborn babies been killed since 1973 by either dismemberment—a procedure where a child is decapitated and torn apart, arms, legs, and torso—or by chemical poisoning. The loss of children's lives in America is staggering—a death toll that equates with the entire population of Italy.

Advocates of abortion are now aggressively legislating to extend the violence after birth.

The Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act seeks to end or at least mitigate this egregious child abuse by requiring that a health care provider must "exercise the same degree of professional skill, care and diligence to preserve the life and health of the child as a reasonably diligent and conscientious health care practitioner would render to any other child born alive at the same gestational age or be fined and/or face up to five years in prison."

The bill makes clear that no mother of a child born alive can ever be prosecuted.

And it empowers the woman upon whom the abortion is performed to obtain appropriate relief in a civil action.

The House needs to vote now and approve this humane, pro-child, human rights legislation.

[1] "Abortion: The Dreaded Complication," The Philadelphia Inquirer, August 2, 1981.