



A Pro-Life Religious Outreach Newspaper

News Notes

NH Attorney General Defends Parental Notification Law

Since the Supreme Court ruled that New Hampshire's Parental Notification Law could be upheld with some changes, the states' Attorney General Kelly Ayotte asked U.S. District Court Judge Joseph DiClerico to remove unconstitutional portions and allow the rest of the law to stand.

After abortion advocates filed suit against the law, lower courts ruled that the law lacked a health exception allowing teenagers to get an abortion without their parents knowledge in cases of health emergencies. Supporters of the law are expecting Judge DiClerico to create a health bypass in the law.

According to the attorney general's office, a severability provision in the law allows any portion considered unenforceable to be stricken while the remainder of the law remains intact.

Some pro-abortion lawmakers may propose a repeal of the law since more pro-abortion legislators were elected in November.

Former ND Abortionist Accused of Defrauding Medicare

Abortionist Richard Leigh of Grand Forks, ND, has been accused of fraudulently obtaining \$22,000 from Medicare's national health insurance program.

According to Rolf Sletten, executive secretary of the state Board of Medical Examiners, Leigh is believed to have defrauded the federal program for the elderly and disabled from 2001 to 2004 while running his own medical clinic in Grand Forks.

Leigh will be required to repay the amount he illegally gained and has had his medical license revoked.

The former abortionist, now 82, has retired and moved out of state. He was one of the few abortionist in North Dakota and is thought to have opened the first abortion business in the state. He was quoted as saying he did illegal abortions before the Roe v Wade decision.

House Votes to Fund Embryo-Killing Research But Falls Short of Veto Override Number

The U.S. House of Representatives voted January 11 to force American taxpayers to fund research that requires killing human embryos. The vote of 253-174 fell 32 votes short of the votes needed to override a veto by President Bush. Democrats supported the bill 216-16 and Republicans opposed it 158-37.

A White House statement promised that if the bill arrives on President Bush's desk, "he would veto the bill."

"The bill would compel all American taxpayers to pay for research that relies on the intentional destruction of human embryos for the derivation of stem cells, overturning the President's policy that funds research without promoting such ongoing destruction," the statement said. "Destroying nascent human life for research raises serious ethical problems, and millions of Americans consider the practice immoral," the Bush administration emphasized.

NRLC Legislative Director, Douglas Johnson, commented that: "Every lawmaker who voted against this bill supports stem cell research, but not the kind that requires killing human embryos, and we commend them for that. Today the key lawmakers pushing this bill rejected an anti-human-cloning amendment, which was one more proof that the biotech industry is determined to use human cloning to create human embryo farms."

Rep. Chris Smith (NJ/R) pointed to the recent research from scientists at Wake Forest University and Harvard Medical School that found amniotic fluid to be a source of stem cells with potential similar to embryonic stem cells, but without requiring the killing of embryonic human beings.

One Democrat, Rep. Dan Lipinski (IL/D), who suffers from diabetes, opposed the bill, saying, "I desperately want to be cured of diabetes, but science has demonstrated that we don't have to choose between science and protecting human life because of adult stem cell research."

Adult stem cells have shown promise in studies for 70 different diseases whereas embryonic stem cells have not been used in a single human clinical trial. The serious problems connected with introducing embryonic stem cells into human beings have not been overcome despite decades of efforts by scientists.

National Memorial for the Preborn Honors Bishop Yanta and Wendy Wright

The 13th annual National Memorial for the Preborn welcomed its largest ever number of attendees to its prayer service held at the Capitol.

This year Bishop John Yanta of Amarillo, TX, and Wendy Wright of Concerned Women for America received the National Pro-Life Recognition Award presented by the National Pro-Life Religious Council (NPRC). Bishop Yanta has been a strong defender of the sanctity of human life in Amarillo. There were 19 abortion clinics there when he arrived and now, after years of prayer focused on the clinics, there are only 3 left. In 2005, the bishop established in the Amarillo diocese the Missionaries of the Gospel of Life, founded by Fr. Frank Pavone, director of Priests for Life, to be a community entirely devoted to the defense of the unborn.

The prayer service was sponsored by five organizations: the National Clergy Council, the National Pro-Life Religious Council, the National Pro-Life Action Center, Priests for Life, and the Gospel of Life Ministries.

"Our little brothers and sisters in the womb are the most endangered, the most oppressed in our nation... They are at risk, and so we are at risk. We need to stand in solidarity with them. We need to speak about this everywhere, not just where it is "safe."

Senator Sam Brownback, (R/KS), a supporter of pro-life legislation, provided a football analogy: "We are in the 20 yard zone. We need to press on, to continue to move the ball forward."



Bishop John Yanta

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McCain-Feingold Law Provision Held Unconstitutional: A Victory for Pro-Life Issue Ads During Elections

The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia on December 21 ruled that McCain-Feingold's "electioneering communication" provision, which prohibits corporations, like NRIC, from running broadcast ads mentioning the name of a federal candidate within 30 days of a primary and 60 days of a general election, is unconstitutional as applied to grassroots lobbying ads which urge citizens to contact their representatives to influence them about upcoming votes in Congress.

In the case of Wisconsin Right to Life (WRTL) vs. FEC, the pro-life group (an NRIC affiliate) sought judicial relief in 2004 to continue running radio and television ads urging the people of Wisconsin to ask Senators Kohl and Feingold to oppose the filibusters of President Bush's judicial nominees. Because Senator Feingold was a candidate in the election and the ads were within 30 days of the election, WRTL was denied the right to continue the ads.

Judge Leon and Judge Sentelle decided in the three-judge court that the grassroots lobbying ads were not the functional equivalent of express advocacy and that the FEC had not met its burden of proving that the prohibition was narrowly tailored to a compelling state interest as applied to the ads.

"This is a victory for the right of the people to lobby their members of Congress on upcoming votes even if there is a pending election," stated James Bopp, Jr., attorney for WRTL. "This grassroots lobbying is simply self-government at work, which is protected by the First Amendment," he asserted.

Wisconsin Right to Life had argued that the law restricted its constitutional right to petition the government. The First Amendment affirms the right of the people to assemble and speak out in order to seek the redress of grievances. Americans "assemble" in groups that are incorporated for the purpose of advocating particular causes, in order to give the people a voice in governmental policy.

The McCain-Feingold law is flawed, Bopp said, because politicians assure people only care about elections and don't care about public policy. "To them, what's important is whether they're going to be in office two years from now. But the people, what's important to them is the laws that are being enacted right now," he pointed out.

The court's decision has been appealed to the Supreme Court.



James Bopp, esq.

False Legal Myths Underlie Legalization of Abortion

Proponents of the legalization of abortion on demand put forward a false history of abortion vis a vis the law prior to Roe v Wade, according to Joseph Dellapenna's book, *Dispelling the Myths of Abortion History*.

Dellapenna states that pro-abortion historians proposed four theses: 1) that abortion was not a crime at common law before the 19th century; 2) that it was common and relatively safe before the 19th century statutes were enacted; 3) that abortion statutes in the 19th century were enacted to protect maternal, not fetal life; and 4) that such statutes were enacted as part of a male physicians' movement to put "irregular" and mostly female practitioners of medicine, such as midwives, out of business altogether. The extensive study Dellapenna published demonstrates that all of these theses are false, and have been considered by scholars as false, yet they were apparently accepted as authoritative by the justices of the Supreme Court when considering the case of Roe v Wade.

Abortion not a Crime? Historian Cyril Means, Jr., general counsel for National Abortion Rights Action League, (NARAL) based this assertion on two inconclusive 14th century cases. In fact, there were dozens of prosecutions for abortion in ecclesiastical and lay courts in the 15th and 16th centuries. Legal records indicate that abortion was a felony regardless of consent or lack of consent (more frequent) by the woman.

Abortion common & safe? Abortions before the 19th century were practically suicidal. Ingested substances were either harmless or lethal to the woman as well as the child. Invasive methods were extremely dangerous, resulting in serious injury to the woman since there was no way of seeing what the tool was doing and there were no anesthetics or antibiotics. The only common form of "abortion" was infanticide or abandonment.

Purpose of legal prohibition of abortion: Means based his claim that maternal protection was the purpose of abortion laws on a single statement from a New Jersey statute that described the intent to protect maternal life, even though the statute had made it clear that common law's prohibition of abortion was to protect the child's life and that the new statute was simply to supplement this. Dellapenna

found 17 cases in the 19th century that state that the protection of fetal life was the primary reason for the law prohibiting abortion.

Physicians' opposition to midwives? Historian James Mohr proposed this theory. The fact is that physicians had learned the science of embryology that clarified that human life begins at fertilization and therefore felt obligated to protect the life of the unborn child. The citizens lobbying in support of this were overwhelmingly the early feminists who opposed abortion as a male exploitation of women and called it "child murder.."

Dellapenna concludes from his study of the history of abortion, that the advocacy of legalized abortion has corrupted law, the courts, politics, the media, and the feminist movement because of its disrespect for truth.

Cute Baby.

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Abortion Ends a Father's World

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These inserts are perfect for any church bulletin, civic meeting, handing out at pro-life marches and anywhere pro-life people gather. Bulletin insert is 8 1/2" x 5 1/2," double-sided and printed on glossy paper.



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Bulletin Inserts

March 4 - "Unborn children do not have a voice, but they are young members of the human family. It is time to look at the unborn child and recognize that it is really a young human, who can feel pain and should be treated with care," Senator Sam Brownback in support of the Unborn Child Pain Awareness Act.

March 11 - Jesus told his disciples to invite the poor, blind, and the lame to dine with us, saying, "You should be pleased they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid in the resurrection of the just." So also when we speak, work, and pray for unborn children, we advocate for those least able to repay us. Thus, love for the unborn is the most selfless form of love. Nothing comes from them in return." Father Frank Pavone, National Director, Priests for Life

March 18 - Adult stem cells have successfully treated more than 70 diseases and injuries, states Dr. D. Iosarb at the Tufts University of Medicine. He believes "that embryonic stem cells are going to fade in the rear view mirror of adult stem cells." Placental tissue from babies already born and umbilical cord blood are other morally acceptable sources of medically useful stem cells. Pro-Life Reporter, (Pennsylvanians for Human Life, Scranton Chapter), Fall, 2006

March 25 - President Bush proclaimed Sunday, January 21, 2007 as National Sanctity of Human Life Day to help "foster a culture of life and reinforce our commitment to building a compassionate society that respects the value of every human being." He pointed out that "One of our society's challenges today is to harness the power of science to ease human suffering without sanctioning practices that violate the dignity of human life. With the right policies, we can continue to achieve scientific progress while living up to our ethical and moral responsibilities."

April 1 - In January last year, the Supreme Court ruled that the federal government cannot keep a doctor from legally acquiring federally-regulated narcotics, on the outside chance that he might use them to end a patient's life, a legal practice in the state of Oregon. The ironic result of this ruling is that selling and abusing dangerous drugs are against the law, killing people is against the law, but using dangerous drugs to kill people is not against the law, if you are a doctor in Oregon. Alan Sears, National Catholic Register, 3/5-11/06.

April 8 - The new life given us by Christ's death and resurrection is a gift beyond our comprehension. So also the tiny new life in a woman's womb is an incomparable gift from God which we are asked to welcome rather than rejecting the gift, saying in effect, "return to sender."

April 15 - Pat Anderson, a former attorney for Terri Schiavo's family says the family's efforts to prevent their daughter's euthanasia changed her mind on abortion. She stated in an interview, "Killing babies is not the way out of social problems or personal problems." She now sees that "abortion is no solution to the economic and educational problems a woman faces in an unplanned pregnancy!" In many ways, euthanasia is simply the other end of the abortion debate, the former pro-abortion advocate commented. "Killing off your elderly or disabled is not the way to keep your healthcare budget balanced." LIFENEWS.COM, 4/11/06

April 22 - Prenatal testing for some 450 medical conditions is now available. While prenatal screening may seem to give couples more power, it often actually takes choices away. "Society's demand for physical perfection places enormous pressure on couple to 'conform to the norm'

by aborting less-than-perfect children." Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. The Southern Cross, 8/17/06

April 29 - It is sometimes inferred that the pro-life issue is less important than the war issue. Fr. Frank Pavone, director of Priests for Life, comments: "How many innocent lives, and how many children, have been deliberately targeted for destruction in the current war? By comparison, every abortion deliberately targets and destroys a child. otherwise it wouldn't be an abortion... Catholic teaching allows more than one position on war, but it does not allow more than one position on abortion."

Suggested Prayers

March 4 - That we, like Abraham, might put our faith in the Lord when we ourselves or family members are confronted with an unexpected pregnancy, we pray

March 11 - That this church community may not judge women who have had abortions but rather encourage them to seek forgiveness and healing, we pray

March 18 - That we may live out our vocation to be ambassadors for Christ by spreading the message that each human life is sacred, we pray

March 25 - For all women alone and afraid to deal with an unplanned pregnancy, that they may turn to others for help in bringing their baby to birth, we pray

April 1 - That we may always speak the truth about the sanctity of all human life, we pray

April 8 - That this time of celebrating new life may awaken in each of us a deeper gratitude to God for each gift of human life, we pray

April 15 - For all those who care for people with handicaps that they may see in those they love the image of God, we pray

April 22 - That the Holy Spirit may guide those charged with leading the pro-life movement, we pray

April 29 - For those burdened by sickness and impending death that they may realize that they are in God's hands, we pray

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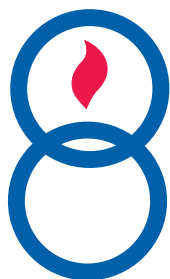
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January/February 2007

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The snow and ice on some roads did not deter thousands of marchers from continuing to bear impressive public witness in opposition to abortion and euthanasia. The predominance of young people means the pro-life fight is not going away but getting stronger.

March for Life Grows Younger and Stronger Each Year!



National Youth Pro-Life Training Envelopes Young Leaders

The second annual National Youth Leadership Summit, sponsored by the National Right to Life Committee, met on the weekend preceding the March for Life for three intense days of training in pro-life education and advocacy.

"The pro-life youth of America are strong. They are passionate, they are dedicated, they are willing to stand in defense of life, and they will not back down. But they need to be trained...to return to their schools and communities ready to speak out in defense of life," stated Joleigh Little of Wisconsin Right to Life, organizer of the leadership training weekend.

Students who attended the weekend were enthusiastic about the detailed information they were receiving on the abortion and euthanasia issues. They realized that too many people don't know the truth, the real facts, and have attitudes that can lead to bad decisions.

"When you tell someone you are pro-life, they may ask you what that means. If you don't know what to say, it makes a bad impression. We need to know how to explain what "pro-life" means.



Trainees at the 2007 Youth Pro-Life Leadership Summit

"It's exciting to be here and meet people who are changing things—to see what is actually happening, to see the results of pro-life action," one of the participants declared.

Several attendees agreed the training was giving them renewed courage and motivation to talk to others back home and to find ways to contribute to pro-life change. Some of the activities mentioned included volunteering at a crisis pregnancy center, organizing a "run for life" or "wash for life" to raise fund for pro-life work, or sponsor a spiritual adoption program to pray a mother and child through the nine months of pregnancy.

Local Chapter Wins Award for Mother's Day Signature Ad

It's usual for a pro-life ad to get attention from the secular media, much less win an award. But the Powhatan Chapter of the Virginia Society for Human Life (VSHL), an NRLC affiliate, won first place for advertising from the Virginia Press Association.

VSHL member Katie Boyer designed the ad featuring an adorable toddler picking a rose and the words, "Life is Precious; Thank you MOM for the gift of life." These words were for all moms who had given life. The names of 300 community members supporting the right to life were listed. It was published in the local newspaper, Powhatan Today.

The award brought extra attention to the ad since it was featured again in stories the newspaper ran proclaiming its awards.

Teri Woodruff, Powhatan Chapter chairman, was excited by this response. "We would love to have a 2-page ad next year," she said.