

## Choose Life...

2013 - Issue 2

### More News

#### The Notre Dame Evangelium Vitae Metal Awarded to Mother Agnes Mary Donovan and the Sisters of Life

by Ernest Ohlhoff



*Mother Agnes  
Mary Donovan*

South Bend – The Notre Dame Fund to Protect Human Life presented its Third Annual Evangelium Vitae Award to Mother Agnes Mary Donovan and the Sisters of Life in recognition of their commitment to the protection of all innocent human life.

The award ceremony included a Mass at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart offered by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, a reception, and an awards dinner.

In accepting the award Mother Agnes stated:

There is a lie at the heart of the culture of death that stifles true hope, stamps out the light. To be

pro-life is to offer to others the hope we receive from the Resurrection of Jesus. This new life is possible, for every person, no matter one's

background. Each person is capable of greatness, of heroic love, of living beauty. God, in every moment, is making all things new. This capacity for greatness is never threatened by motherhood, even in the most inconvenient or trying of circumstances. For, it is through maternal love, whether spiritual or physical, that this potential for greatness is set free.

The Sisters of Life is a contemplative / active religious community of women founded in 1991 by John Cardinal O'Connor for the protection and enhancement of the sacredness of every human life. Like all religious communities, each sister takes the three traditional vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience but each also consecrates themselves under a special fourth vow to protect and enhance the sacredness of human life.

The Sisters of Life currently have five convents, two missions, a library, and a retreat house. To learn more, please visit: [www.sistersoflife.org](http://www.sistersoflife.org)

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## A Pro-Life Religious Outreach Newspaper

### Gosnell Convicted of 3 Counts of First Degree Murder But Many Babies Continue to Suffer in Late-Term Abortions Nationwide



*Abortionist  
Kermit Gosnell*

Washington – “Kermit Gosnell was convicted of murder for severing the necks of just-born babies, but those babies would have died just as painfully if he had killed them inside the womb, as most late-term abortionists do,” commented National Right to Life President Carol Tobias. “The result is the same for the baby whether it meets its end in a shabby clinic like Gosnell’s or a brand new Planned Parenthood facility – a painful death.”

Except in states that have enacted the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act – nine so far – most states allow abortion of at least some pain-capable babies (past 20 weeks). The legislation prevents abortion, except to save the life of the mother, of unborn children who are capable of feeling pain, which, in accordance with substantial current medical evidence, the legislation defines as occurring at 20 weeks after fertilization. Tobias called on more states to enact the legislation, and for Congress to extend the same protective law to the District of Columbia.

### What the Mainstream Media Didn’t Tell You About The Trial of Abortionist Gosnell

Philadelphia – Kermit Gosnell was on trial charged with multiple counts of murder. The charges included one count of third degree murder involving the death of 41 year old Karnamaya Monger, and seven other counts of first degree murder for deliberately killing late term babies born alive after failed abortions. On April 23rd Judge Jeffrey P. Minehart dismissed the counts on three of these babies for whom he apparently felt that there was insufficient evidence that they were born alive.

When Gosnell’s facility was investigated in February of 2010 a “house of horrors” was uncovered. District Attorney R. Seth Williams described it in a January 2011 Report to the Grand Jury as follows:

*The clinic reeked of animal urine, courtesy of the cats that were allowed to roam (and defecate) freely. Furniture and blankets were stained with blood. Instruments were not properly sterilized. Disposable medical supplies were not disposed of; they were reused, over and over again. Medical equipment – such as the defibrillator, the EKG, the pulse oximeter, the blood pressure cuff – was generally broken; even when it worked, it wasn’t used. The emergency exit was padlocked shut. And scattered throughout, in cabinets, in the basement, in a freezer, in jars and bags and plastic jugs, were fetal remains. It was a baby charnel house.*

Excerpts from Section I of the Grand Jury’s Overview:

*This case is about a doctor who killed babies and endangered women. What we mean is that he regularly and illegally delivered live, viable, babies in the third trimester of pregnancy – and then murdered these newborns by severing their spinal cords with scissors. The medical practice by which he carried out this business was a filthy fraud in which he overdosed his patients with dangerous drugs, spread venereal disease among them with infected instruments, perforated their wombs and bowels – and, on at least two occasions, caused their deaths. Over the years, many people came to know that something was going on here. But no one put a stop to it...*

*When you perform late-term “abortions” by inducing labor, you get babies. Live, breathing, squirming babies. By 24 weeks, most babies born prematurely will survive if they receive appropriate medical care. But that was not what the Women’s Medical Society*

*was about. 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.”*

*Over the years, there were hundreds of “snippings.” Sometimes, if Gosnell was unavailable, the “snipping” was done by one of his fake doctors, or even by one of the administrative staff. But all the employees of the Women’s Medical Society knew. Everyone there acted as if it wasn’t murder at all.*

*Most of these acts cannot be prosecuted, because Gosnell destroyed the files. Among the relatively few cases that could be specifically documented, one was Baby Boy A. His 17-year-old mother was almost 30 weeks pregnant – seven and a half months – when labor was induced. An employee estimated his birth weight as approaching six pounds. He was breathing and moving when Dr. Gosnell severed his spine and put the body in a plastic shoebox for disposal. The doctor joked that this baby was so big he could “walk me to the bus stop.”*

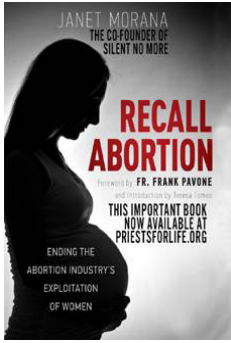
On November 19, 2009, Karnamaya Mongar came to Gosnell’s facility, the Women’s Medical Society in West Philadelphia for a second trimester abortion. Mrs. Mongar, who was a refugee in Nepal had only recently come to the United States and spoke no English. Her daughter, Yashoda Gurung, who also spoke almost no English, accompanied her, and the two of them were given consent forms to sign. In the hours that followed Mrs. Mongar was allegedly given drugs to prepare her for the abortion, including multiple doses of sedatives that were administered both orally and through injections. These drugs were allegedly administered not by Gosnell himself but by an unlicensed workers at his clinic. Mrs. Gurung said that after several hours she was told to leave. The next update she received on her mother’s condition was when an ambulance arrived to transport her to the hospital where she died.

The mass media boycott of this incredible trial is unconscionable. This is another prime example of the media’s pro-abortion bias. Their silence allows the abortion industry to operate without public

*Story continued on page 4*

## Recall Abortion – A Book Review

by Ernest Ohlhoff



Janet Morana’s experiences as cofounder of the post-abortion outreach, Silent No More motivated her to write Recall Abortion, which chronicles the testimonies of numerous women and men who have experienced the personal tragedy of abortion in their lives. Janet begins by skillfully relating the societal changes beginning in the 1960’s that led to the acceptance of abortion not only as an act of desperation but how societal pressures have transformed abortion for many into simply a method of backup birth control.

The book’s strength is in the well written testimonies from the women and men who have lived through the abortion procedure and are now forced to live with the resulting physical complications and psychological problems.

Case in point is excerpts from the testimony form a singer and recording artist who wrote:

“It was like a cattle call. It was dirty. I couldn’t take anything with me not even my purse. The only thing I could bring was a cell phone and cash, because you have to pay cash there. We were hustled in, one after another. I was put under for the abortion and when I woke up I

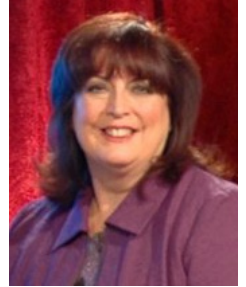
was in a recliner in a room with 25 other girls. Everyone was crying, and they were trying to give us crackers and juice. They gave us some instructions . . . and sent us home.

Two or three week after the abortion I have very heavy bleeding . . . I made an appointment with my ob/gyn but did not tell her I had just had an abortion . . .

It was about four weeks after the abortion. I was put under general anesthesia. When I woke up, my (ob/gyn) doctor was standing next to the table I was lying on and she was crying. She told me she knew I had an abortion because she found parts of the baby inside still inside me . . . She also discovered that the doctor (abortionist) had torn my uterus apart.

I would recommend this book to pastors, post abortion councilors, women who are contemplating abortion. I would also recommend it to those who are secretly grieving over their abortion experience. Recall Abortion includes a strong message of healing, reconciliation and hope for those, as Mother Teresa often called the second victim of an abortion.

Recall Abortion is available over the internet at Amazon.com.



Janet Morana

## Pro-Life Movement Mourns the Passing of Barbara Wilke A Dedicated Pro-Life Pioneer Is With God



Barbara & Jack Wilke

Mrs. Barbara Wilke died in Cincinnati, Ohio on Sunday April 14th at the age of 90. Barbara and her husband of almost 65 years, Dr. Jack Wilke were true pioneers in the early days of the pro-life movement.

Everyone who was involved in the early 1970’s recognized the Willkes as the best source of pro-life information. They traveled the entire country for more than four decades lecturing, teaching, writing, and encouraging all of us who were just starting out. Later they spread their message to many countries around the globe.

Articulate, informative, and generous to a fault, they helped many of us take our first feeble steps learning how to educate, organize and teach others.

Their most famous book The Abortion Handbook sold over a million copies and was translated into over 20 languages. In addition they produced the first meaningful slide show that most of us used in talks to schools, social clubs, and with anyone else who would listen.

Barbara and Dr. Jack were an ideal couple who were a shining example of what a man and women can do who selflessly love and care for each other and who are willing to share their talents and treasures to protect innocent human life.

Barbara, may the Lord welcome you home to eternal joy and peace.

Continued from page 1...

knowledge of just how bad conditions can be in abortion facilities. The average pro-abortion apologist hopes for media indifference so that in time the case will be forgotten and “just go away.”

However one reporter for USA Today did take note of the lack of coverage on this case. In her April 11th article *We’ve forgotten what belongs on Page One*, Kirsten Powers discusses how very under-reported the story is in national newspapers like the Washington Post and the New York Times and in several major national television news outlets. She states, “You don’t have to oppose abortion rights to find late-term abortion abhorrent or to find the Gosnell trial eminently newsworthy. This is not about being “pro-choice” or “pro-life.” It’s about basic human rights. The deafening silence of too much of the media, once a force for justice in America, is a disgrace.”

Please read the entire Grand Jury Report at [www.phila.gov/districtattorney/pdfs/grandjurywomensmedical.pdf](http://www.phila.gov/districtattorney/pdfs/grandjurywomensmedical.pdf). This report will change forever the way you view abortion facilities and the supposed “unbiased” media.

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# Bulletin Inserts

**July 7** – Father Frank Pavone has observed, “One of the most striking and effective statements over the years by the pro-life movement has been ‘Abortion stops a beating heart.’” The Southern Cross, March 2013

**July 14** – In a column addressed to “The Ultrasound Generation,” New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan stated, “You are different than any generation that came before you in that your very first baby pictures were taken not with you in your mother’s arms, but you alive in her womb.” The Southern Cross, March 2013

**July 21** – “A child who would have been born in 1973 would be nearing his 40th birthday now. Roe v. Wade took from him a childhood, an education, the love of a family, a lifetime...” Carol Tobias, president of National Right to Life on occasion of 40th anniversary of Supreme Court’s Roe v. Wade decision.

**July 28** – Nine states now have enacted some version of the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Act, which protects the lives of many more children than the partial birth abortion ban that preceded it, and more states are expected to pass this protective law in 2013.

**August 4** – “With free pregnancy tests and ultrasounds, along with diapers, parenting classes, and even temporary housing, pregnancy centers are playing an increasingly influential role in the anti-abortion movement. While most attention has focused on scores of new state laws, restricting abortion, the centers have been growing in numbers and gaining state financing and support.” The New York Times (1/5/13) noticed...finally!

**August 11** – “Our humanity is not defined by the atrocities that have been committed throughout history, but by the shining light of those who recognize injustice and refuse to be complicit through silence. What profoundly scares abortion supporters gives us enormous confidence in the future: young people are more and more pro-life.” Carol Tobias, National Right to Life President

**August 18** – There is credible evidence that in the two states (Oregon and Washington) that have statutorily legalized doctor-prescribed death for those believed to be terminally ill, the overall state suicide rate for teens and others has risen. In Oregon, for example, the rate is a full 35% higher than the steadily rising national average. Critics of assisted suicide fear that encouraging suicide for the terminally ill may well have begun to lift the stigma from suicide in general. National Right to Life News, Fall 2012, p.9

**August 25** – The new annual report released by the national Planned Parenthood abortion business shows it did more abortions in the 2011-12 fiscal year than ever before in its history – a record 333,964 abortions. Those abortions were estimated to have generated \$150 million dollars for the “nonprofit” organization. Their income included a hefty and ever-increasing check from American taxpayers – a staggering \$542.4 million, which represents 45.2 percent of the group’s total annual budget. Life News, 1/7/13

**September 1** – Rep. Gabrielle Giffords during a visit to Newtown, CT expressed concern that our society has become “desensitized to acts of violence.” Tying these remarks to 40 years of abortion on demand, columnist Star Parker says her observation must be considered “in our effort to grasp our willingness to tolerate, even nurture, the open and flourishing presence of evil in our society. It takes a deadening of the soul to permit this, a state of being ‘desensitized.’ We know it because when those senses are awakened, our indifference and willingness to tolerate evil is pushed back.” Center for Urban Renewal and Education, 1/14/13

**September 8** – An article in the American Medical News (12/6/10) commenting on the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum’s exhibition on medicalized killing concluded: “The misguided scientific ideas of

physicians and scientists were integral to Nazis’ crimes against humanity and should serve as a reminder to doctors to put patients before political ideology... As evil as these actions appear in retrospect, they arose out of a highly sophisticated medical culture... These doctors became killers, not despite their training but in the name of their science and training... All doctors and medical professionals need to know and understand this material.”

**September 15** – On his fourth visit to his native country, Pope John Paul II once again vigorously condemned legislation permitting abortions. He compared abortion to Nazi extermination programs saying, “That cemetery of the victims of human cruelty in our country is extended to include yet another vast cemetery, that of the unborn, of the defenseless whose faces even their mothers have not seen.”

**September 22** – “Maternal mortality is determined by the quality of maternal health care, not the legal status of abortion,” stated a study presented last year to the World Health Assembly. Maternal mortality fell dramatically in developed nations as a result of mid 20th century improvements in health care – well before the widespread legalization of abortion.” National Right to Life News, Summer 2012

**September 29** – “Abortion is the least regulated invasive procedure in the country. Many states do not require that a mother be fully informed about abortion, its potential risks, and alternatives – something required for every other medical procedure performed in this country.” Carol Tobias, National Right to Life News, Summer 2012, p.3

## Suggested Prayers

**July 7** – That we as citizens of a land of plenty may open our hearts to welcome all unborn children, we pray

**July 14** – That, like the Good Samaritan, we may reach out to those different from us – the mentally challenged, the unborn, and the frail elderly, we pray

**July 21** – That all women with unplanned pregnancies may, like Sarah in the Old Testament, rejoice in the gift of new life, we pray

**July 28** – That we may persistently petition God for an end to abortion, we pray

**August 4** – May we value the life of the unborn more than material possessions, we pray

**August 11** – May our heavenly Father reawaken in us a respect for all life, regardless of size or condition, we pray

**August 18** – That all who speak out for the unborn may do so with courage and faith, we pray

**August 25** – May we fulfill Christ’s commandment to love all people by defending the right to life of all, we pray

**September 1** – May we open our hearts to generously welcome all unborn children to the banquet of life, we pray

**September 8** – That we may never seek to usurp God’s power to bring unborn children and their mothers to a safe delivery, we pray

**September 15** – That all who have been involved in abortion may understand that God’s forgiveness know no limits, we pray

**September 22** – For those in positions of authority that they may understand their responsibility to protect all human life, we pray

**September 29** – That we may not turn our back on those with physical and mental challenges, we pray