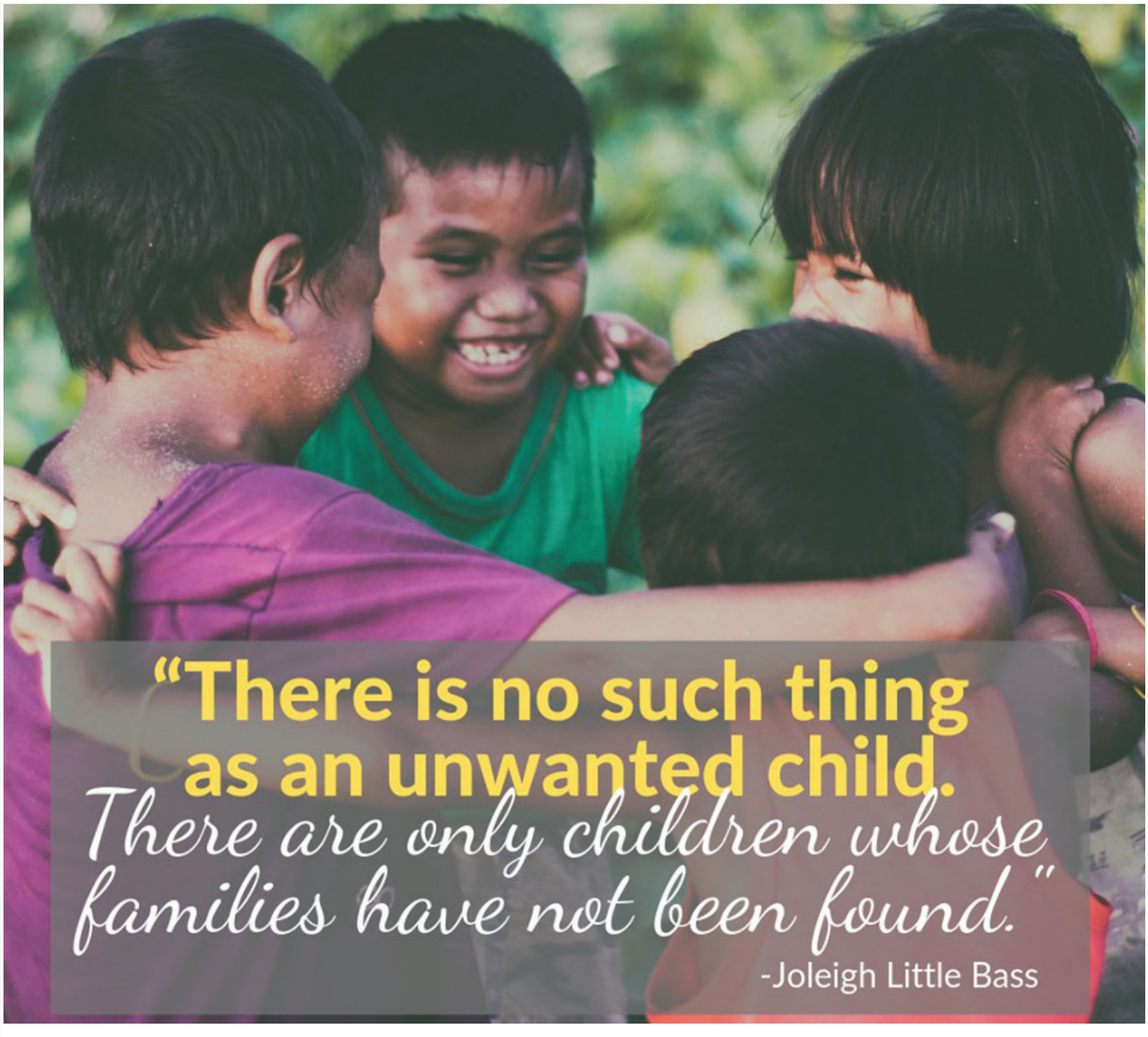
national RIGHT TO LIFE NEWS

August 2019



national RIGHT TO LIFE NEWS

Don't forget about the 2019 Elections!

By Karen Cross, National Right to Life Political Director

With so much focus on the 2020 elections, it's critically important that the 2019 elections don't get overlooked. There remain two congressional special elections in North Carolina next month and there are regularly scheduled state elections in Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Jersey, and Virginia.

Following is an overview of the 2019 elections:

North Carolina 9 Special Election

National Right to Life has endorsed pro-life state Senator Dan Bishop in the September 10 special election to represent North Carolina's ninth congressional district.

North Carolina pro-life state Senator Dan Bishop, who is running for Congress in the 9th Congressional District, with NRL Political Director Karen Cross

There is a huge difference between the candidates on the life issue.

State Senator Dan Bishop opposes abortion on demand, and he opposes using tax dollars to pay for abortion. As he explains his position, "Dan is pro-life and will fight extremist Democrats' to stop infanticide and late-term abortion on demand."

See "Elections," page 28

Connecting the dots to expose and explain the crisis at Planned Parenthood

By Dave Andrusko

We've written more than our fair share of stories about the impending storm at Planned Parenthood. The ouster of Dr. Leana Wen as president after only eight months—and her refusal to go quietly into the night—crystallized the upheavals that are taking place across the country in the "largest abortion provider" which are so egregious that even (if you can believe it) the *New York Times* has taken notice.

However a story that ran last week at *Verily* does a terrific job of connecting the dots. Once you see in one place the large and small crises, you understand why the headline to the story is so well taken: "Drama in HR: Why Are So Many Employees Leaving Planned Parenthood? Pulling back the curtain on this trend."

I have no idea who Margaret Brady, the author is, or her views on abortion. Which is a high compliment. The piece is so complete and so nuanced I cannot do just to it even with a long post. But here are many of Brady's major points

Why are so many employees leaving Planned Parenthood? This goes back to something those helping PPFA employees escape (a fair verb, by the way) talk about all the time. The public profile that ordinarily

See "Dots," page 29

Editorials

In finding an "outer limit" to her "pro-choice beliefs," did an obstetrician reveal more than she intended?

It takes a certain kind of person to abort unborn children way, way, way late in their development. With the obvious exceptions about whom we've written over the years (those whose souls are so seared they can convince themselves of anything), this is utter unsurprising. No one with a functioning conscience can persuade themselves that huge babies well along in their developmental journey are anything but babies yet to be born.

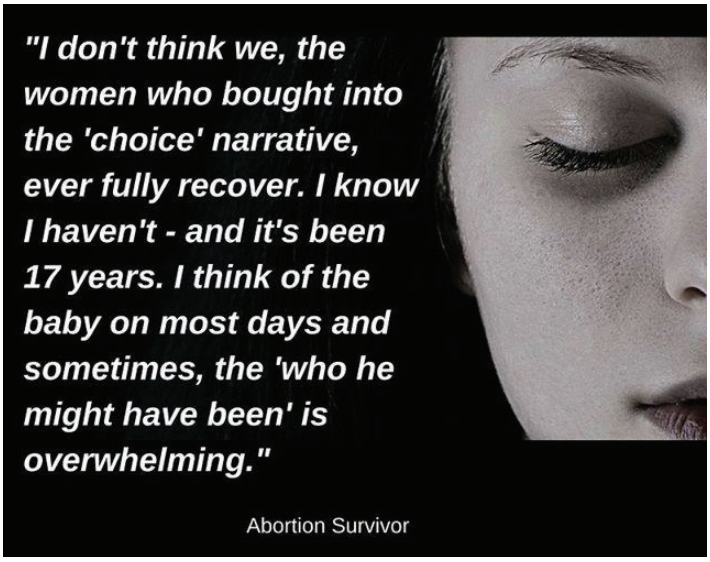
I say this by way of preface to a remarkably revealing story that just ran in *The Atlantic*. Written by Dr. Chavi Eve Karkowsky, the title speaks volumes: "I Found the Outer Limits of My Pro-choice Beliefs: In an ultrasound room far from home, I discovered more than I was looking for" [https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2019/08/pro-choice-ob-gyn-confronts-limits-her-beliefs/594151].

Dr. Karkowsky tells us she is an obstetrician whose subspecialty is maternal-fetal medicine. She arrived a year ago in Israel "temporarily, for my husband's work." Just so we understand, she tells us, "I am pro-choice in a concrete way." She formerly performed abortions "and I haven't for years." Intriguingly, she never explains why.

The key to the whole post, which makes for incredible reading, is that her "concrete" pro-choice position is "Within the American abortion debate…" What does that mean?

There are essentially no limits on abortion in the United States, but it is also true that only a handful of abortionists will kill babies in the late second, let alone the late third trimester.

She assuages her conscience and the American abortion industry by telling us that, "In practice, these situations are incredibly rare, likely a tiny fraction of 1 percent of all abortions in the United States." By the context, I believe she is referring to post-viability abortion but the "1 percent" is more likely the percentage of abortions performed past 20 weeks.



But the percentage is not 1% but 1.3%. This "tiny fraction" means **11,000 to 13,000 babies**—and that doesn't factor in that abortion clinics have a huge built-in incentive to diagnose the baby as younger than she actually is.

See "Outer Limit," page 36

Hold the Presses. *NYTimes* concedes Trump more popular than they let on

I'm not sure what/why it is, but when the Trump-hating *New York Times* runs an analysis with this headline—" Don't Assume Trump's Approval Rating Can't Climb Higher. It already has"–you know something big is up. For example, perhaps, just perhaps, the Major Media may realize it is so lost in trashing President Trump they risk dramatically underestimating how the nation as a whole feels about our 45th president.

Nate Cohen, formerly of the *New Republic*, now writes for what the *Times* calls "The Upshot." There are seven or eight major takeaways, here are four.

*First and, for me, foremost, so much political analysis begins with the assumption that President Trump's best re-election bet is to try to hold on to what he had in 2016—that he is, at best, barely treading water —and that if Democrats produce a more winsome candidate in 2020 than Hillary Clinton, they can only do better.

The former is clearly wrong and the latter questionable. (See below.) As Cohn writes, "[A]n analysis that freezes the president's standing in 2016 but assumes an improvement for the Democratic nominee would be misleading." To which I would add, deeply misleading.

*The subhead reads, "Millions of Americans who did not like the president in 2016 now say they do." Cohn notes

> **The share of Americans who say they have a favorable view of him has increased significantly since the 2016 election.**
>
> **And over the last few months, some of the highest-quality public opinion polls, though not all, showed the president's job approval rating — a different measure from personal favorability — had inched up to essentially match the highest level of his term.**

See "Presses," page 39

From the President
Carol Tobias

Pro-lifers Shine the Light of Life

Does it seem to you as if the world is going a bit crazy? Everyone talks about civility and how words matter, but it seems as if few listen. Everyone thinks someone else is responsible for the disparaging rhetoric and hostile attitudes too often evident in our public discourse.

Perhaps at this moment in history, pro-lifers can be a light to the country. We've been on the receiving end of an endless stream of disparaging remarks for decades (check your local news outlets) yet refuse to return in kind. Why?

Why would we return kind for kind when we respect the lives of **all** human beings, beginning with the little ones who have no voice, and extending to their mothers?

Proof? We open our arms and our hearts to those women who have had an abortion, even though we fervently wish their decision had been for life. They need healing, even when—especially when-- they don't know it.

We pray for those in the abortion industry, along with political leaders who support those in the business of taking the lives of preborn children. Is it an accident that Planned Parenthood, the worst offender of them all, is in self-inflicted turmoil? I think not.

Certainly, we are angered by the cheapening of human life. It is difficult to fathom the callousness that allows some abortion proponents to suggest that killing an unborn child is no more momentous than having a tooth pulled or an appendix removed.

But we redirect that anger into productive channels—into education and political action. The governors and state legislators who are so rabidly pro-abortion that they pass laws to remove any protection from unborn children up to, and even after, birth, need to hear from us. And they do!

We publicize the truth that almost all Democratic members of the U.S. House of Representatives, under the leadership of Nancy Pelosi, refuse to sign a discharge petition that would allow the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act to be brought to the floor of the House for a vote.

Their excuses for not signing ring hollow. No matter how often they say otherwise, babies **do** survive abortions. Requiring nothing more than treatment equal to what any other baby of a similar gestational age receives is justice. As Sen. Ben Sasse said, "Everyone in the Senate ought to be able to say unequivocally that killing that little baby is wrong. This doesn't take any political courage, and if you can't say that, if there is a Member in this body who can't say that, there may be lots of work you can do in the world, but you shouldn't be here."

I would say to opponents, "Open your eyes and your hearts." How can you be so cold-hearted? Let me close with this.

We work to educate fellow Americans about the tragedy that is each life lost to abortion and the remorse felt by many women who wish they had made a different choice—for life.

We work to elect pro-life men and women who will use their votes to speak up for the more than 926,000 powerless preborn babies who will die this year.

We work to pass laws to the extent possible, presenting opportunities for the courts to begin unraveling *Roe v. Wade*. Each bill, even those that do not pass, fractures Roe's crumbling foundation.

We work to help women facing a crisis pregnancy. So often lacking support, they rush to Planned Parenthood without ever exploring the help that is available in this difficult time. We want them to know there is a better way.

Pro-lifers are frequently and unfairly accused of not caring about the mother and child after birth. This has never been the case and surely not today with the expansion of women-helping centers around the country. These champions help young moms learn how to be better parents, how to get jobs, and how to bring order to their oft-times chaotic personal lives. Some offer classes to fathers--including those in prison--so they know how to be better fathers.

I know pro-lifers who take in foster children and who adopt children-- including those with special needs. I know pro-lifers who feed the hungry and open their homes to pregnant women.

I know pro-life people who donate their time to help young children improve their reading ability and who visit sick children in hospitals.

Pro-lifers exhibit positive attitudes and exemplary attributes. They work to make life better for those around them. Being pro-life is a lifestyle. In short, pro-lifers epitomize the best of America.

America can and should be a shining city on a hill, a place where human life is respected and protected. Within that city, it is pro-lifers who shine the light of life.

Pro-aborts hope another new "messaging" strategy will bail them out

By Dave Andrusko

So, what do we have here? Well, according to Marie Solis, the Abortion Industry is retooling its message for the gabillionth time.

So why pay attention to the latest camouflage campaign cranked out by NARAL Pro-Choice America and Planned Parenthood? Here are a few reasons, all of which are strong signals that our benighted opposition understands how fragile their position is.

According to Solis, NARAL did some polling and, guess what? Framing abortion as "reproductive freedom" resonates better than "pro-choice" and "reproductive rights." No kidding.

In the land of the free, by employing the freedom idiom, pro-abortionists hope to invoke what amounts to an almost patriotic feeling to order to bury the grim reality of what they are doing– the obliteration of the unfree, the unborn child.

On the one hand Solis and the NARAL/Planned Parenthood types tout what Solis describes as polls showing that "72 percent of American voters support the right to the procedure," while on the other hand (in a backhanded acknowledgement that this percentage is wildly misleading) bemoaning the passage of pro-life legislation in state after state. Notice, the 72 percent is **not** for the procedure but the "**right to** the procedure."

But what about Planned Parenthood? How is it repackaging the slaughter of the innocents?

Solis bundles PPFA and NARAL together to come up with this gem:

> **NARAL is the second major pro-choice organization to shift its external messaging in the last month. On July 16, former Planned Parenthood President Leana Wen was pushed out after spending her eight-month tenure attempting to depoliticize abortion and frame it solely as a healthcare concern. Similar to NARAL, the group is moving away from traditional categories in the fight for abortion rights like "pro-choice" and "pro-life," focusing instead on attacks on abortion and what it means not to have the ability to access it, according to a Planned Parenthood spokesperson.**

So, the idea is, "Hey, folks, you may be uncomfortable with abortion, but just consider how awful pro-lifers are and, besides, what if women didn't have access to the procedure?"

Is this really new? About as new as "New Coke" was in 1985.

The really interesting part of Solis' story is that pro-abortion organizations not directly affiliated with either NARAL or PPFA question whether there is any one message that will work for a pro-abortion coalition that is, to put it mildly, unwieldy and decidedly very, very, very left-wing.

Take SisterSong, "a Georgia-based reproductive justice group." Its director, Monica Simpson "doesn't think it's necessary for 'large mainstream organizations to be the sole architects of the message, and then pass that down to other people.'"

> **Simpson says SisterSong's messaging is tailored to center the most marginalized people, who are always the first to feel the impacts of abortion restrictions. And having a reproductive justice framework—which links racial justice, economic justice, indigenous rights, and other movements to the fight for reproductive rights—means the way SisterSong's members talk about abortion may depend on what group of people they're talking about, recognizing that a black woman has different obstacles to accessing abortion than a white woman, for example.**

In fact, if you read tweets from PPFA's political arm, you see it, too, is gesturing to all these niche groups—and many more—saying, in effect, "We're there with you/we're all in this together."

Back to Dr. Leana Wen, the ousted president of Planned Parenthood. Wen made it abundantly clear that she was not downgrading the importance of abortion to the largest abortion provider in the known galaxy. But Wen understood something fundamental for which she was unceremoniously canned.

When you promote yourself as a women-helping provider of medical services, yet cut back the provision of real medical services year after year, eventually the public will get wise. They will see you for what you are—as the senior partner to the Democrat Party—and that together you are all about accumulating power and making money off of the unsavory business of abortion.

That is why in her op-ed that appeared in the *New York Times* days after she was forced out, Dr. Wen wrote this intriguing paragraph:

> **I believed we could expand support for Planned Parenthood — and ultimately for abortion access — by finding common ground with the large majority of Americans who can unite behind the goal of improving the health and well-being of women and children.** [My underline.]

I think it's fair to say the Abortion Movement is at a crossroads. The internal squabbles Solis so gently outlines are real.

Which is why all the blabbering about 72 percent support for "the procedure" cannot mask the truth that the public does not now, never has, and never will support PPFA/NARAL's agenda of abortion on demand and beyond.

Have the Democratic presidential candidates forgotten about Kermit Gosnell?

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

This is a question I long to ask the current crop of Democratic candidates for President: Have you forgotten Kermit Gosnell?

Gosnell was the infamous West Philadelphia abortionist and mass murderer who is suspected of killing hundreds of newborn babies. Prosecutors could bring criminal charges in only a handful of cases because Gosnell destroyed so many records from his "House of Horrors" abortion facility.

Ultimately, Gosnell was convicted of the murder of three newborn babies and involuntary manslaughter in connection with the death of a female patient, Karnamaya Mongar. He is now safely off the streets, serving three consecutive life terms in prison.

I have yet to hear a Democratic Presidential candidate mention his name. He does not fit their false narrative: that abortionists come to the rescue of women (they don't) and that infanticide is a hoax (tell that to those who witnessed Gosnell's evil deeds).

Gosnell's crimes pulled the curtain back on an abortion industry the mainstream media simply do not want to investigate. The abortionist actually "joked" that one of the babies he killed was so he could "walk me to the bus stop." Gosnell is the epitome of someone with simply no regard for innocent human life—inside or outside the mother's womb.

The Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act would ensure that the same medical care any other baby born at the same age would receive would be required for babies born during botched abortions. Democratic U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has denied the bill a vote more than 80 times.

As you can imagine, many people in Pennsylvania—individuals who have felt the repercussions of Gosnell's depravity—are outraged that Democrats will not even allow a vote to be taken on the bill. So they are calling on their Congressional representatives to sign a discharge petition which would allow a vote on the bill.

They are also incensed that Democratic Presidential candidates would ignore the silent crimes of Gosnell's victims. For, by supporting absolutely no limits on abortion **and** resisting protections for babies who survive abortion, these candidates are doing nothing to prevent future Gosnells from plying their grisly trade.

If we have learned nothing else from the epic Gosnell tragedy, it is that abortion can all too easily lead to infanticide. Without the law and public officials to protect them, untold numbers of babies may be at risk.

Iowa miracle baby born at just 13 ounces

By Dave Andrusko

The average birth weight for male babies born at full term is 7 pounds, 6 ounces. So it's not surprising that when Ellonn Smartt went into labor on July 11 at just 23 weeks, doctor at Iowa Methodist Medical Center warned her that her baby might well not survive.

"They said I was going to have to deliver in the next day or two and there was a good chance he wouldn't survive," Smartt told reporter Rachel Paula Abrahamson. "That was the moment when I fell apart. I was heartbroken."

But her three-year-old son Elijah told his mom, "Mommy, everything will be fine," according to Laura Terrell of *CBS* affiliate, *KCCI*.

And although when Ms. Smartt gave birth via an emergency C-Section to Jaden Wesley Morrow, he weighed in at way less than one pound—13 ounces to be exact—her son came out fighting.

Smartt told *KCCI* "Jaden entered the world screaming and waving his arms and immediately stunned his parents and doctors," according to Terrell. "Doctors at Blank Children's Hospital said he is the smallest baby born at the hospital in 10 years," she added..

"It's overwhelming," Smartt told Terrell. "Very overwhelming how much love you have."

"His arms and toes were moving and he was trying to breathe on his own," Smartt told *TODAY Parents*. "He's our little miracle."

Jaden is now in the NICU at Blank Children's Hospital in Des Moines, Iowa. It's anticipated he'll be discharged on his due date—November 6.

"For most part, Jaden is stable," Smartt told Abrahamson. "He's on a ventilator and had a small infection, but his doctors think he looks great. He's getting breast milk and gaining weight."

Smartt is "counting down the days until Jaden sleeps in his own crib," Abrahamson reported. "I have moments where I get sad because I want him home with me," she said. "But I am staying positive for Jaden."

A GoFundMe page has been created for the family.

An update in the voice of little Jaden reads,

"Weighing in at a whopping 13 ounces, I'm already wowing the Doctors. I've heard them use terms like 'amazing' and 'remarkable' to describe me so far – not bad for someone under 1 pound, huh? My parents and my grandma are going to use this site to let you know how I'm coming along in the NICU."

Ben Shapiro on abortion victim pictures: 'If it's that ugly, you should do something about it'

By Jonathon Van Maren

Ben Shapiro is arguably conservatism's fastest rising star, with his wildly popular podcast, his campus speeches, and a New York Times bestseller keeping him at the top of the pundit pack. He's also a consistently powerful voice for the pro-life position, debating students on abortion during his campus appearances, frequently visiting the topic on his podcast, and even doing a live-cast from the stage at the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. As a result, Shapiro has accrued many fans within the pro-life movement.

And so it might interest people that Shapiro has also weighed in on pro-life tactics—specifically, the use of abortion victim photography, which some pro-lifers still find controversial. When one student asked Shapiro during a campus event what he thought the best debate tactic against a pro-abortion person would be, Shapiro didn't hesitate: "Show them a picture of a dead baby. End of story."

He recalled encountering a display of abortion victim photos at the 2012 Democratic Convention, noting that he saw guys walking around "wearing buttons that said, 'I love pro-choice girls.'" Shapiro stopped and rolled his eyes: "I can't imagine why." The laughter of the students confirmed that they, too, knew why: Men who want to dodge responsibility are quite fond of girls who are willing to abort their offspring.

These pictures might be "uncouth," Shapiro told the students, but "screw uncouth—they're true. The fact is that people have a 'You Ruined My Day Syndrome,' which is that they don't want to see things that are ugly in everyday life, and if you show them things that are ugly, they get upset. Well, you have to make people feel not morally superior for wanting to kill kids—and these are kids."

Ben Shapiro

He's right, of course. And nothing quite highlights the fact that abortion kills kids like a photograph of a child killed by abortion. If we are lawyers for the pre-born in the court of public opinion, we should be bringing forward the best evidence we have that abortion is barbarism.

Shapiro has described his experience with abortion victim photography more than once. "It's truly incredible to me, the way we can blind ourselves to this," he reflected on his podcast. "I remember when I was at the 2012 Democratic National Convention…and I walked past this exhibit–it was the anti-abortion crowd, the pro-life crowd–and they were out there with these pictures of aborted babies. And I walked past, and I thought what most people from big cities thought—I thought 'Wow, how gauche.' I mean, those are ugly pictures—should I really have to look at that in the public square? That's really ugly.

"And then I realized that's probably how people treated pictures of slavery back in the 1850s, that's probably how people treated pictures of the Holocaust in the 1940s. The bottom line is that maybe if it's that ugly, you should do something about it instead of whining about how ugly it is. It's not a matter of personal choice. I have a stake in whether my neighbor gets murdered, and I have a stake in whether my neighbor's baby gets murdered, too."

That is precisely the point. Abortion victim photos are horrifying because abortion is horrifying, and people should think twice when they get more upset about a photo of an aborted baby than they do about the fact that the act of violence depicted in that photo takes place thousands of times every day.

The photographic evidence of injustice is not pleasant to look at it, but it is essential that we as a society are consistently reminded that not everyone is accorded the same rights that we are, and that we should not rest until that horrifying inequity addressed. Real kids, as Shapiro put it, are being killed. Abortion victim photos draw our attention to that reality and demand that we respond to it.

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

Pro-abortion Biden verbally stumbles his way across Iowa

By Dave Andrusko

Hard as it is to believe, there are twelve (12) Democratic primary debates scheduled in advance of the 2020 presidential election. The next one is September 12 and 13, although the 25 contenders only have until August 28 to meet the eligibility criteria --130,000 donors and at least 2% support in four polls recognized by the Democratic National Committee.

The interesting current twists were utterly predictable. The "party activists" want as many of the candidates with negligible support to drop out before audience interests in the field of pro-abortion Democrats bottoms out. Likewise, they want fewer "personal attacks," as though debates were not about showing policy differences and evidencing the ability to defeat pro-life President Donald Trump.

All these complaints were as foreseeable as swallows returning to Capistrano. Likewise just as likely are headlines such as "Biden's verbal mistakes pile up as he campaigns in Iowa."

There is a reason his campaign has kept Biden in a cocoon as much as possible. It's the first sentence in the Yahoo News story written by Dylan Stableford and Christopher Wilson: "Months before launching his 2020 presidential campaign, Joe Biden acknowledged that he is a 'gaffe machine,' prone to misstatements and embarrassing mistakes."

True, truer, and truest.

Pro-abortion former Vice President Joe Biden

Listening to the former Vice President both makes you cringe and make you guffaw. (Recall of facts and names has never been his strong suit.)

And because he plows ahead, come what may, it doesn't matter how many times he confuses former British Prime Ministers Theresa May and Margaret Thacker (aka the living and the deceased); mixes up meetings he said he had with students as Vice President which took place a year after he was out of office; or mangles his closing statement as he did in one of the earlier debates.

As columnist Michael Kinsley once famously observed, "A gaffe is when a politician tells the truth – some obvious truth he isn't supposed to say." It became so famous Wikipedia gave it its own definition:

> **A Kinsley gaffe or "gaffe in Washington" in American politics is an occurrence of someone telling the truth by accident. Typically, it refers to a politician inadvertently saying something publicly that they privately believe is true, but would ordinarily not say publicly because they believe it is politically harmful.**

Since they are not in our single-issue purview, I won't comment on Biden's truth-telling by accident on a whole range of issues.

But what around gaffes with this twist? You say something that is politically convenient (and **very** unlikely to be what you really believe), but you repeat it because it gives you cover. But when it begins to works against you, you drop your insincere position like a hot potato?

In other words, you finally tell the truth, not based on principle, but because your dodge no longer works to your advantage. You get accused of "flip-flopping," which is true only in the sense that your public position had somersaulted to agree with your private position.

Enter Biden's position on the Hyde Amendment. Countless Democrats used their opposition to federal funding of abortion as a shield against the charge they were 100% in the tank for NARAL and Planned Parenthood and EMILY's List. And it worked.

But now the Democrat Party, which gave us (courtesy of pro-abortion Bill Clinton) the wholly insincere but reasonable-sounding idiom abortion "safe, legal and rare," is demanding that every candidate remove the sole pro-life arrow in their quiver.

And all dutifully obliged, including Biden, who offered an excuse for his reversal so lame that everyone had to hide their faces to keep from laughing out loud.

It'll be fascinating to see how Biden fares over the next few months. His fondest hope must be that the rest of the Democrat field is so pitifully weak, Democrat voters will conclude "Better the devil you know than the devil you don't."

Friends: Ole Miss student killed because she wouldn't abort her baby

By Dorothy Cummings McLean

Editor's note. This is excerpted from a post that appeared at LifeSiteNews on July 31.

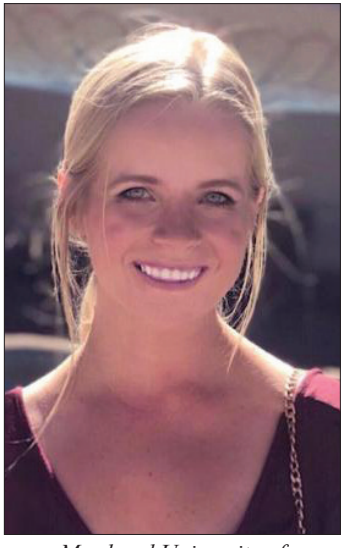
OXFORD, Mississippi–Alexandria "Ally" Kostial was pregnant when she was murdered last week.

Kostial was a business student at the University of Mississippi. Her college friends confirmed to the UK's *Daily Mail* that the 21-year-old was pregnant with her accused killer's child.

The *Daily Mail* reported today that a fellow Ole Miss student told them: "Her sorority sisters knew she was pregnant and that she had told [accused killer] Brandon. He was really upset about it, that it would ruin his life and his future."

"He was really mad that she wouldn't get an abortion. She was like, 'No, I don't believe in that.'"

On July 20, 2019 the college student was found dead by Sardis Lake in LaFayette County, Mississippi, 20 miles from campus, by a police officer on patrol. Kostial had been shot multiple times.



Murdered University of Mississippi student Ally Kostial Photo: Facebook

Two days later, 22-year-old Brandon Theesfeld of Fort Worth, Texas, also a business student at Ole Miss, was arrested and charged with her murder.

Investigators have been tight-lipped about possible motives for Kostial's murder, but it now appears that it could have been because she was allegedly pregnant with a baby fathered by Theesfeld and refused to have an abortion.

Friends reported that Theesfeld and Kostial had had a tumultuous, "on-again, off-again" relationship, and one of the young man's dorm mates told media that Theesfeld was a "daddy's boy" who peppered his conversation with misogynist comments.

Rex Ravita, an Ole Miss journalism student, told *Fox News* that he had found the young man "extremely rude and … privileged."

"He had no respect for women," Ravita added. "And somebody does something like this, they have to have no respect for women."

Ravita told *CBS* affiliate *KMOV* that Theesfeld had bragged about his father's wealth and influence.

"I'm not going to sugar coat it," he said. "He was pretty much a daddy's boy type, constantly had to reference his father's money, how his dad could get him out of anything – just that attitude all the time. Any type of vulgar comment he could say, any type of rude comment to anybody in our dorm, any of the women."

Dr. Daniel Theesfeld, Brandon's father, has released a statement saying that his son is innocent of Kostial's murder and has hired high-powered Mississippi lawyers to defend him.

Kostial was laid to rest on Saturday in her hometown of St. Louis, Missouri.

The University of Mississippi has suspended Theesfeld.

Why do abortion clinics hate to be inspected?

By Dave Andrusko

When it comes to ensuring that abortion clinics meet minimum standards, there is nothing—**nothing**—that to an unbiased third party makes perfect sense which nonetheless the Abortion Industry doesn't fight tooth and nail. Why does not only PPFA but all the other "independent abortion providers" who annihilate essentially all but 5% of the babies not killed by Planned Parenthood go to the mat whenever they hear the word "inspection"?

There's the usual talking points. Abortion is safe, safe, and (did we mention?) safe, so inspections are a waste of time. Or the Abortion Industry is and ought to be self-regulating (try that anywhere else). And so forth.

But the real reason begins when inspections are mandatory, and — from their perspective worse, unannounced — and, ends with the knowledge that abortionist/ thrice convicted of first-degree murder Kermit Gosnell was no "outlier."

The Abortion Industry counts on the willingness of local and state medical and political officials to look away. That way, the local abortion clinic can be as slovenly and as unsafe as it wishes, with no concern there will be consequences—if you disregard what happens to women, that is. The 261-page-long Gosnell Grand Jury report offered mounds of evidence demonstrating conclusively that terrible things were happening at Gosnell's Women's Medical Society, and yet the Department of Health did not set foot in his abortion clinic for 16 years!

A May 1, 2013, photo shows the former site of the Women's Medical Society clinic in Philadelphia, owned and operated by Dr. Kermit Gosnell.
Photo: Matt Rourke/AP

They also count on the 2016 *Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt* Supreme Court decision to immunize them from meeting basic health and safety standards. Since that time, however, states have passed laws substantially different than the parts of the Texas law that *Hellerstedt* eviscerated. We'll see what happens on that score.

Moreover, worth remembering is that the *Hellerstedt* decision was 5-3. Justice Scalia had died and his replacement had not been made. Thus the vote would have been 5-4. Since then Justice Kennedy , who was in the majority, has retired.

Perhaps it is time to look again with fresh eyes at the highly questionable research litigants used to argue that the Texas law's requirements constituted an "undue burden." To do what Justice Alito did in his dissent—research the research.

Stay tuned.

Free chemical abortifacients on California campuses likely to be voted on in state Assembly in August

By Dave Andrusko

When pro-abortionists as loony as former California Gov. Jerry Brown (D) oppose a pro-abortion initiative, you know it must make sense only to those for whom reason has no meaning.

We're told that a final vote on a bill to require all California State and University of California college health centers to provide abortion drugs to students on campus for free by January 1, 2023 is expected by the end of August. If it reaches the desk of Gov. Gavin Newsom, he has already promised to sign the bill into law.

So why in October 2018 did Brown veto SB320?

"According to a study sponsored by supporters of this legislation, the average distance to abortion providers in campus communities varies from five to seven miles, not an unreasonable distance," Brown wrote in the veto letter. "Because the services required by this bill are widely available off-campus, this bill is not necessary." There are 34 public campuses in the University of California and California State University systems.

As state Sen. Connie Leyva, the sponsor, promised, the bill is back.

Writing at *The Federalist*, Bernadette Tasy, a graduate of Fresno State, offered three primary reasons to oppose S.B. 24:

***First, the bill author, state Sen. Connie Leyva, continuously argues that the bill is about "access" to abortion and that public university campuses are not in close proximity to abortion pill providers. Most campuses, however, are within just a few miles of these facilities. The bill places the mandate on all 34 campuses, costing millions of dollars for a completely unnecessary program.**

***Second, although the bill is supposed to save students money for car service transportation to off-campus abortion appointments, the public university systems have stated repeatedly that they will need to raise mandatory student fees to fund this on-campus program. And in California, Medi-Cal patients receive free transportation services to these appointments.**

***Third, one of the author's key witnesses testifying at several hearings in support of the bill co-authored an article demonstrating the failure rate of RU-486: If the student is six-weeks pregnant when she takes the pills, the failure rate is about 3 percent, but if the woman is nine- to 10-weeks pregnant, the failure rate is more than 15 percent. The author estimates 500 students will take these drugs statewide on campus each month, so at least 15-75 students will have a failed abortion each month and need a second, surgical abortion.**

What about conscience protections, for student health center professionals and/or for objecting students whose mandatory fees will help fund the program? None.

Tasy's essay puts the push for abortion pills on campus in the context of California's increasingly militant support for extending abortion up, down, and sideways. All this set against this background:

California is one of the most aggressively pro-abortion states in America. It already has 150 abortion facilities and more than 500 abortion providers statewide, no restriction on race- or sex-selective abortion, and no requirement for verbal counseling including optional ultrasound information for women to make an informed decision about pregnancy.

In fact, California is the one and only state listed as "very supportive" of abortion rights in the pro-choice Guttmacher Institute's latest analysis of state abortion laws.

According to the *Catholic News Service*

Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone of San Francisco is urging Catholics in the archdiocese to join in a novena for the defeat of a "dangerous and unprecedented" bill requiring California State and University of California college health centers to provide medication for abortions.

Washington State: Nearly 25% more assisted suicide deaths in 2018

By Alex Schadenberg, Executive Director – Euthanasia Prevention Coalition

The 2018 Washington State assisted suicide report indicates that there was nearly 25% more assisted suicide deaths in 2018 than 2017.

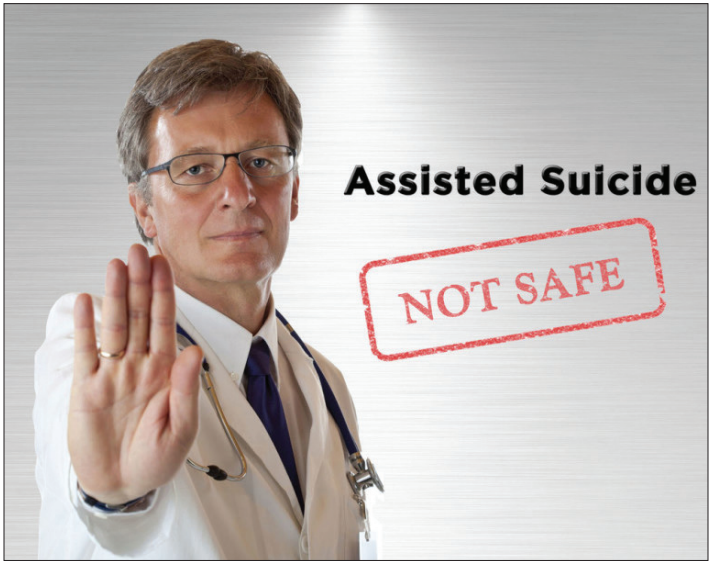
The data in the report reports that there were:

- **203 reported assisted suicide deaths, up from 164 in 2017,**
- **267 lethal prescriptions dispensed, up from 212 in 2017,**
- **29 known natural deaths,**
- **19 unknown deaths and**
- **16 where the death status was pending.**

The 19 unknown deaths may have been unreported assisted suicide deaths.

I use the term "reported" since Washington State has a self-reporting system, meaning the doctor who prescribes the lethal drugs is also the doctor who submits the report. There is no way to know if the doctor reported inaccurate data.

There were more complications in 2018, likely related to the new lethal drug cocktail which is a combination of two drugs rather than just one, Seconal. The report states that 8 people reportedly experienced complications, which was up from 4 in 2017.



Also, 62 people died more than 90 minutes after taking the lethal drugs and the range of time to die ranged from 7 minutes to 30 hours.

The lethal drug cocktails that were developed to lower cost are known to cause side-effects. *The Seattle Times* reported:

> **The first Seconal alternative turned out to be too harsh, burning patients' mouths and throats, causing some to scream in pain. The second drug mix … has led to deaths that stretched out hours in some patients — and up to 31 hours in one case.**

Many assisted suicide deaths are slow and painful.

People who are approved for assisted suicide are not always terminally ill. According to the data, 27 people lived for 25 weeks or more, after requesting assisted suicide and at least one person lived 115 weeks (more than two years).

The main reasons people requested assisted suicide in Washington State, according to the report, was:

- **85% Loss of Autonomy,**
- **84% Less able to engage in activities making life enjoyable,**
- **69% Loss of Dignity,**
- **51% Burden on family.**

"Inadequate pain control or concern about it" was the second least offered reason given for requesting assisted suicide.

The new lethal drug cocktails should make people fear a painful assisted suicide death.

Editor's note. This appeared on Mr. Schadenberg's blog and is reposted with permission.

CBS News Helps Fluff New Planned Parenthood President in Factually-Challenged Interview

By Stephanie Stone

Since the sudden, forced departure of Dr. Leana Wen from Planned Parenthood, some have been skeptical about the organization's motives. It seemed Planned Parenthood's board wanted to focus more on politics, and ultimately, abortion than Dr. Wen had originally planned. We awaited the introduction of the quickly named "acting president," Alexis McGill and on July 30, *CBS News* posted her first interview, highlighting — unsurprisingly — a focus on abortion.

In her interview with reporter Kate Smith, McGill's focus became clear, as well at the bias of the interviewer (who at one point asked "what is at stake here with women's reproductive health care decisions").

Along with a Twitter bio highlighting her interest in "reproductive rights," Smith showed that she was on the side of McGill and ending the lives of the unborn. Here are Smith's first three questions

> **Congratulations on the new job. How did you — why did you first get involved with Planned Parenthood?**
>
> **(….)**
>
> **So tell me little bit more about your time as board chair.**
>
> **(….)**
>
> **So one thing I'm curious about, there are a lot of different ways that you can get involved with health care access, especially for women of color and especially low income women, why Planned Parenthood?**

As for McGill, she outlined her very entrenched, nearly 10-year history with Planned Parenthood, including time on the board and as chair, so McGill knew exactly the mindset Planned Parenthood was looking to portray.

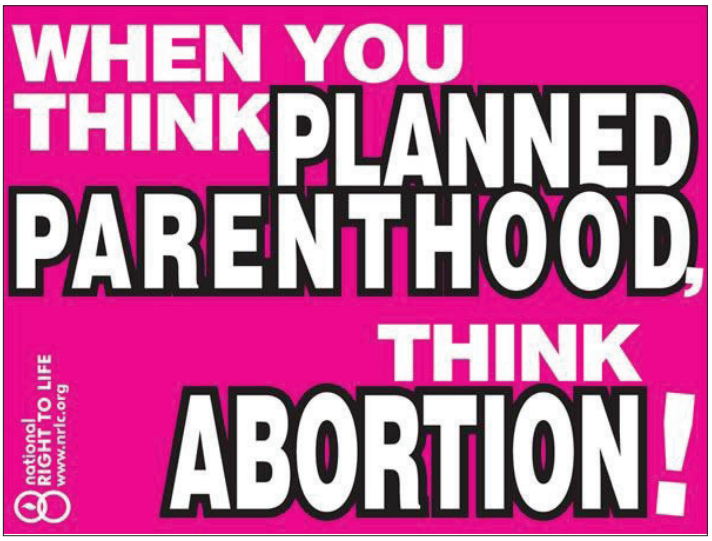
On Wen's departure, Smith continued to show she's anything but a serious journalist:

> **One thing about Dr. Wen's departure from Planned Parenthood has gotten a lot of people wondering, what is Planned Parenthood? Where are they? Are they a political organization? Or are they a network of health care? And what is an answer for that?**

In a crafty response, she knocked the media coverage of the Wen's ouster and stated that the organization was chiefly a healthcare provider and only political to ensure that happens:

> **The truth is it's a false choice. We are primarily a health care provider…And the idea that we can provide that access depends on our ability to keep our health care centers open. So, we hold, you know, the — the politics in a way to help us kind of provide the health care, but what I would suggest is that, you know, we're not political by nature, we have been politicized and that fight has actually been our focus to ensure that our health centers stay open.**

But this was a misleading response. Planned Parenthood felt so strongly about being a political organization that they suddenly ousted their own President, have spent millions annually on campaigning and lobbying to influence elections, and paraded out one 2020 presidential candidate after another at a recent forum.



All together, this renders politics fundamental for Planned Parenthood.

In fact, a poll earlier this year from Students for Life of America found that only seven percent of millennials shared the position of the Democratic Party platform – abortion without any exceptions and funded by tax dollars. The poll also found that Planned Parenthood's support dropped after learning more about their abortion business. By about a three-to-one margin (48 percent to 17 percent), millennials said they preferred that their tax monies went to Federally Qualified Health Centers rather than the abortion giant, Planned Parenthood.

McGill also tried to camouflage the abortion agenda of Planned Parenthood, aided by Smith, who cited a commonly used, factually incorrect statistic: "So a vast majority of Planned Parenthood patients actually don't' come to your clinics for abortions. I think it's only three and a half percent."

This statistic was a commonly used, rhetoric-filled slogan, started by Planned Parenthood themselves. In reality, the breakdown from their own Annual Report suggested that abortion encompasses 93 percent of the services they provide to pregnant people.

Smith also lobbed this softball:

> **SMITH: Is there a scenario where you would discontinue**

See "Fluff," page 23

Hollywood's on-screen abortion agenda attempts to normalize killing unborn children

On-screen abortion depictions have reached record levels

By SPUC—the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children

Hollywood has been pushing on-screen abortion at record levels, in an attempt to normalize it.

According to Gretchen Sisson, a scholar who tracks how abortion is portrayed on-screen, popular shows such as Scandal, Dear White People, Veep and Shrill have been 'unapologetically' depicting on-screen abortion in ways which would have been 'unthinkable a decade ago.'

Speaking to *The New York Times*, Sisson said: "You're definitely seeing more of the matter-of-fact 'I am pregnant, I don't want to be, I'm going to have an abortion', and it's gone way up in 2019."

Sisson's research focused on tracking how abortions are depicted in the entertainment industry. Her study revealed that halfway through 2019, there had been 21 on-screen conversations or depictions of unborn children being killed by abortion. Sisson believes that Hollywood will have exhibited on-screen abortion at 'record levels' by the end of 2019.

The More We Normalize Abortion, the Better

Pro-abortion advocates happily express their desire to normalize the killing of unborn children through on-screen abortion stories. Pro-abortion lobbyist, Lindy West, creator of TV show Shrill and co-creator of Shout Your Abortion, told Jezebel, that unless abortion is shown on-screen the public will think "it hurts, it's scary, traumatic and it's evil."

West said: "We especially don't see anyone have an abortion and be happy about it and say that it made their life better. And I think that the more we normalize abortion, especially right now, the better."

Celebrities Scandalized By Not Killing Unborn Children

This is not the first time that the pro-abortion agenda rooted within Hollywood has been exposed. Earlier this year, a gang of more than 40 Hollywood celebrities expressed mass outrage over the prospect of legal protections being passed in the state of Georgia, which would safeguard unborn children from abortion. The celebrities, who included Ben Stiller, Amy Schumer and Alec Baldwin, penned a letter to the Governor of Georgia, threatening to boycott the state if legal protections for unborn children were introduced, and described the safeguards as 'evil.'

Similarly, entertainment giants, Netflix and Disney, who often market their business to very young children, protested the prospect of unborn children being protected from abortion. Both companies issued threats to boycott the state of Georgia if legal protections for unborn children were introduced.

Abortion Is Not and Can Never Be Normal

Michael Robinson, SPUC Director of Communications said: "What we are witnessing is a relentless attempt from entertainment giants to normalize the mass killing of unborn children and bully into submission those who try to protect them. The fact that celebrities and the entertainment industry as a whole, believe themselves to be so superior, that they can manipulate and bully legislators and audiences for their own pro-abortion agenda is utterly contemptible."

Mr. Robinson continued: "The entertainment industry appears to be obsessed with manipulating public perception of abortion and these 'record level' figures expose these methods. Let us be clear, the killing of tiny humans can never, and will never be normal."

Florida Appeals Court sends challenge to 24-hour waiting period back to lower court

Big pro-life victory

By Dave Andrusko

Florida first enacted its 24 hour waiting period in 2015. Challenged immediately by the ACLU, the case has been up and down the legal ladder ever since Governor (now U.S. Senator) Rick Scott signed HB 633 into law June 10, 2015.

Last week a three judge panel of the 1st District Court of Appeal sent the case back to Leon County circuit court. Judge Timothy Osterhaus, joined by Judge Harvey Jay, agreed with the state's arguments that a 24-hour waiting period is needed to ensure "informed consent" by women before abortions are provided.

In January 2018, Leon County Circuit Judge Terry Lewis (since retired) ruled that the law was unconstitutional on multiple grounds, including that the state failed to show there was a "compelling state interest" for the 24-hour waiting period; didn't show that it was enacted in the "least restrictive manner"; and violated the privacy clause of the state Constitution. Judge Lewis made permanent a temporary injunction granted by the Florida Supreme Court in 2017, after a Gainesville abortion clinic challenged the law as a violation of privacy rights under the state Constitution.

But, as Osterhaus wrote, "Rather than singling out and burdening abortion procedures with arbitrary requirements, the state's evidence indicates that the 24-hour law brings abortion procedures in Florida into compliance with medical informed consent standards and tangibly improves health outcomes for women."

According to reporters Dara Kam and Jim Saunders, Judge Osterhaus made two major points.

First, that since there "disputed genuine issues of material fact remain," opponents of the law "are not entitled to final summary judgment." The panel ordered "further consideration of appellees' facial constitutional challenge."

Second, Judge Osterhaus wrote that Judge Lewis used an incorrect legal test in finding HB 633 to be unconstitutional.

"Women claiming particular harms from the 24-hour law based on their specific circumstances may challenge the law's application to them. But those would be as-applied constitutional challenges. No such challenge has been made here," Osterhaus wrote. "For this facial challenge, the correct legal test is not whether the 24-hour law violates the constitutional rights of some women in some circumstances, but whether it violates the rights of all women in all circumstances."

The plaintiffs have three options, according to Kam and Saunders: an appeal to the Florida Supreme Court; ask the 1st District Court of Appeal for a full-court rehearing; "or agree to have a Tallahassee judge reconsider the lawsuit.

Going to the Florida Supreme Court has all court watchers intrigued. As *NRL News Today* previously reported, three pro-abortion justices left the bench (because of reaching a mandatory retirement age)– Justices Barbara Pariente, R. Fred Lewis, and Peggy Quince. "Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis appointed three replacements, Barbara Lagoa, Robert Luck and Carlos Muniz, who created a solid conservative majority on the court," Kam and Saunders reported.

So long as we do not forget….

By Dave Andrusko

I'm sorry I didn't write about this earlier, but I just found out about "Not Forgotten." (Tip of the hat to Anne Marie Williams.)

I am not exaggerating when I say it is among the very, very best pro-life songs I've ever heard. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mlBSbFMgx8U]

Ironically, when I went to YouTube to listen to the song, a cover version by the teenage Christian group YoungHeart was the one that popped up.

It is every bit as powerful as the original by Phil King, the NxtGen Worship Pastor at Gateway Church in Dallas, Texas. Listeners are blessed by both.

King posted an Instagram on January 27 in which he explained that he was inspired to write the song because of "the recent laws passed in New York State. This is for all of the babies lost. We love you, we remember you and we are fighting for you." King was alluding to the worse-than-abortion-on-demand-bill signed January 22,2019, by pro-abortion Gov. Andrew Cuomo—which prompted pro-abortionists to stand up and cheer and cheer and cheer.

In February, King told the Christian Broadcasting Network's FaithWire "It's still a very fresh song for me — I cried a lot while writing it and it happened real fast, I think in 30-45 minutes it was pretty much done." He added, "I don't think I've cried that much while writing a song before."

When it comes to music, the best "explanation" is to listen to and/or watch the video. The YoungHeart version is a music video which not only includes the moving lyrics but also heart-warming graphics and a little girl who floats in and out of the video reminding us of who is lost and who can be saved.

Having said that, just two quick thoughts, both based on the opening stanzas:

For the one whose song
we won't hear
For the one whose voice
disappeared
For the melody held in
your heart
And for all of your dreams
torn apart

You are not forgotten
We are fighting for you
We've answered your
silent cry to be your voice
Your life was not for
nothing
We celebrate your
heartbeat
The price that you paid is
a fire that'll change this
world

1.) Abortion is violence–unconscionable, inexcusable, and merciless violence. It is taking the life—forever silencing the voice—of one of us whose only "crime" to follow the laws of prenatal development.

2.) We cannot, must not, and will not forget the over 60 million lives lost. Their lives have been cruelly taken from them.

But as long as you and I refuse to forget—to act as if "nothing happen" to a "nobody"– their lives will not have been lost in vain.

Let the price that they paid and incredible songs such as "Not Forgotten" sustain and uplift you every day.

A calm insistence that an hysterically pro-abortion *USA Today* story make at least an attempt at balance

By Dave Andrusko

Over the years I have described "Get Religion" [getreligion.org] as an invaluable resource, one from which I have learned much and quoted frequently. From our single-issue perspective, one of the tasks it has assumed (and done yeoman work in fulfilling) is explaining the many and myriad ways newspapers mangle the abortion issue.

Julia Duin, one of their best contributors, recently wrote a piece under the headline, "When covering Jewish views on abortion, don't forget the Orthodox, U.S. Judaism's fastest growing branch."

My point is not to attempt to characterize the "Jewish" view on abortion. As Duin points out, that's what a piece in *USA Today* did, under the nasty and biased headline of "Jews, outraged by restrictive abortion laws, are invoking the Hebrew Bible in the debate."

Duin begins

> **When USA Today ran a piece last week, suggesting that Christians have misappropriated the Old Testament — the Hebrew Bible — for their views on abortion, I took notice.**
>
> **What I found was an article that quoted the most liberal Jewish voices on these biblical issues while ignoring everyone else.**
>
> **There is a range of rabbinical opinion on this issue, but you wouldn't know it from this piece. That's bad journalism.**

Duin documents that last paragraph's assertion in a very thoughtful—and balanced—manner. If you read the *USA Today* piece, written by Lindsay Schnell, you would (falsely) conclude a number of things, beginning with the notion that there is essentially a monolithic Jewish view on abortion and that when Christians (and pro-life Jews) quote passages from the Hebrew Scriptures, such as Psalm 139, they are playing fast and loose with the meaning of King David's Psalm.

Three points from Duin's superb debunking.

1. "Not one Orthodox Jew is quoted anywhere in this article. That's quite an oversight, considering how — to quote Pew again — Orthodox Jews are projected to dominate American Jewry by the end of this century," she writes. "Instead of having abortions, the average Orthodox Jewish woman is having 5.64 kids.

"Instead, we hear from U.S. Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, not a conservative on the abortion question and hardly a Talmudic scholar, either. A Reform rabbi from Minneapolis, a feminist rabbi in Chicago, the head of the National Council of Jewish Women and a St. Louis-based Planned Parenthood activist — who once had an abortion — are also quoted."

Even by the usual biased, one-sided coverage of the abortion issue by the major media, this is outrageous.

2. Psalm 139 reads in part

> *13 For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.*
> *14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made I know that full well.*
> *15 My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.*
> *16 Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.*

A Chicago-based rabbi said this "makes me apoplectic." According to Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg, "Most of the proof texts that they're bringing in for this are ridiculous."

To which Duin properly responds

> **"[H]ow is this view of Psalm 139 'ridiculous'? It clearly states that the unborn child is a person knit together by God."**

By the way, "I notice, the article only cites one competing piece of scripture," Duin observes. "It's hardly like the whole Hebrew Bible is allowing abortion." And

3. Duin's conclusion knits her critique together beautifully:

> **The USA Today piece does reference Tzitz Eliezer, the most lenient rabbinic interpretation of Jewish law, on the topic. But there are far more conservative interpretations that [Ben] Shapiro managed to dig up. So to suggest that America's Jews are on the warpath about this issue because Christians are stealing their scriptures, is rather simplistic.**
>
> **Seems to me that the reporter had a thesis in mind, then went and found people and quotes to fit that thesis. Which is OK if you're doing editorials but not for a news story.**

Duin's final paragraph refers to the distorted picture of the Jewish community's position on abortion, but in its insistence on balance it could apply to any story on abortion:

> **Next time, USA Today, approach the Jews who are out there having the most babies and get their read on abortion. I would have liked to have known their point of view**

Ben Shapiro's terrific post, "Yes, Judaism Is Pro-Life," can be read at dailywire.com.

Orders coming in for NRLC 2019 CDs and MP3s. Order yours.

The awesome 2019 National Right to Life Convention in Charleston, SC ended over a month ago but orders for CDs and MP3s continue to come in. And that is how it should be.

We know that only a tiny fraction of the millions of pro-lifers can attend National Right to Life's annual convention. That is why the convention goes to such lengths to make sure you have the next best thing to physically being present in Charleston.

NRLC's annual convention hosted 48 workshops, 3 general sessions, a Friday opening Luncheon, and a Saturday evening closing Banquet. And that doesn't even count 11 teen workshops where the next generation of pro-life leaders sharpened their skills and deepened their commitment to unborn children and their mothers.

You can purchase some or all of these resources, either as MP3s or CDs.

An individual CD is $8. And individual MP3 is $5.00. A complete set of CDs is $400, and an entire set of MP3s on a USB drive is only $250. Go here to view all sessions with descriptions and to order!

Once you've perused the list, be sure to alert your pro-life friends and family. They, too, will likely want to be "part of the action" that took place July 5th and 6th!

In the end, the truth is the unborn baby's best friend

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

The abortion industry and its political backers have descended to a new low as far as double-speak is concerned.

For years, they have been promoting dehumanizing language such as "product of conception" and "blobs of tissue" to describe a uniquely formed, undeniably human preborn baby.

But the effort to obfuscate and deceive has intensified with the terminology used about and by their candidates for public office.

The pro-abortion lobbying group known as NARAL tweeted that a pro-abortion candidate was a "fighter for women and families." Such a statement, by rights, should earn a few Pinocchios for its falsity.

First of all, promoting the continuation of legal abortion cannot be considered fighting for families. Abortion destroys families, ending the lives of precious innocent children. As many post-abortive women will attest, abortion can also destroy relationships—ending some marriages while preventing others.

Secondly, fighting for women should mean advocating for their best interests. A cold-hearted offer to take the life of a woman's baby is an act of anti-woman cruelty.

After the abortion she will be left to grieve her child—perhaps her only child. And abortion will not solve any of the problems she had to begin with—be it financial difficulties, relationship troubles, abuse or abandonment.

The Democratic Presidential candidates defending legal abortion are similarly engaging in hyperbole and hypocrisy. Consider New York Senator Kirsten Gillibrand.

Asked by a cable news reporter about late-term abortions, Gillibrand responded "This should be a decision for women."

What about the fact that research shows as many as 60% of women feel pressured into having abortions? In other words, someone else is doing the "choosing" **for** them, be it a husband, boyfriend, parent, or grandparent. These women, victimized by family members and the abortion industry, are invisible to political abortion apologists.

Such subversive language is designed to fool people into thinking that abortion empowers women and that it saves families. Nothing could be further from the truth.

But as it has been said, truth is the first casualty of war and politics. It is only by cloaking abortion in feel-good language that the industry has been able to survive. Once an individual's eyes are opened to the truth, a mind can be changed and a heart softened to accept life, at all ages and stages of development.

In the end, the truth is a baby's best friend.

"Those fatal few minutes that I will regret to my dying day"

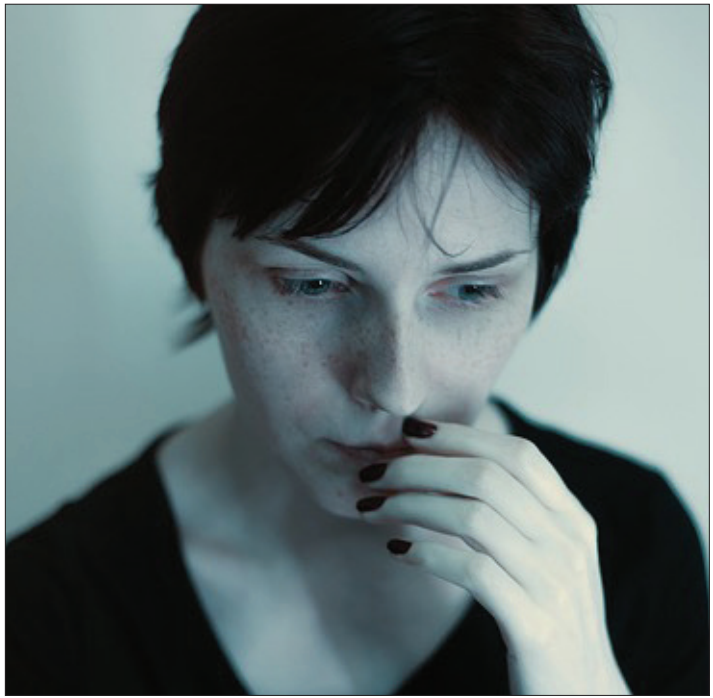
By Sarah Terzo

One woman talks about her abortion:

"It has been 10 years now, almost to this day, and I can still remember, clearly, those fatal few minutes that I will regret to my dying day. The abortionist did not speak or look at me except to growl, 'Be quiet and keep still,' when I began to shake and cry against my own will as I felt his cold, sharp instruments cutting out the life that had been growing inside me for the past three months. The sound of the fetus dropping into the plastic bucket held between my legs is a sound I cannot erase from my memory, and to this day my throat feels choked and my stomach tenses, as I fight back tears for the baby I allowed to be killed."

This comes from Melinda Tankard Reist, "Giving Sorrow Words: Women's Stories of Grief after Abortion" (Springfield, IL: Acorn Books, 2007), p. 37.

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



Once Again, British Doctors Refuse a Child, Tafida Raqeeb, a Chance at Life

By Mark Hodges

Editor's note. Mr. Hodges is a researcher for the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition.

In a culture of death, British doctors destroy chance for life.

Such is the case right now for Tafida Raqeeb, who is dying in a London hospital because her doctors refuse to release her to where she could be cured.

The little five year-old has a rare and fatal blood vessel condition called "arteriovenous malformation." Specialists in Italy have expertise in treating that very condition, but the Royal London Hospital is keeping Tafida literally imprisoned in their facility.

The Giannina Gaslini Institute in Genoa has assembled a medical team for Tafida, and is in contact with her doctors in London. *The Sun* quotes the Institute's Italian doctors as predicting, "There is a good chance she will emerge from the coma she is in."

Yogi Amin, a human rights lawyer representing Tafida, assured decision-makers that:

> **"there is no evidence that Tafida will be harmed during transit or abroad, and her loving parents should have a legal right to elect to transfer their daughter to another hospital for private medical care."**

Still, the UK hospital refuses to even let Tafida's parents take her for a potential healing in Italy at their own expense.

In fact, *The Sun* reports that the British doctors are suing to pull the plug on Tafida, saying, "It would be better for her to be left to die."

And a totally separate lawsuit by Barts NHS Trust seeks to give hospitals the legal right to cut off all medical care if a patient in Tafida's condition gets worse.

But Tafida's parents, Shelina and Mohammed, have taken their fight for their daughter's life to the High Court.

European Union law and Human Rights attorney Jason Coppel QC charged that Tafida's "confinement is against her will." He emphasized the key point, that "Her parents are the sole people who currently have the legal right to make decisions for her."

Despite Tafida's life or death condition, Justice MacDonald delayed making any decision until the fall. He only said he will hear both the parents' and the hospital's sides in September.

But time is of the essence. Ron Liddle of the *Sun* opined,

> **"I can understand doctors telling Mohammed and Shelina there is nothing more that they can do for their little girl. What is beyond belief — beyond imagination — is that they would insist on keeping the child there to die when there is genuine hope she might be cured."**

Little stated,

> **"I am not a medical expert, …but I do know that if there is hope for Tafida, the longer they wait to treat her, the less likely there will be a good outcome."**

Tafida's case is similar to the case of two-year-old Alfie Evans. Alfie had a GABA-transaminase deficiency, and his mom and dad wanted to take him to Vatican-owned Bambino Gesù hospital for experimental treatment. That facility in Rome was ready and waiting to care for Alfie.

But Liverpool's Alder Hey hospital refused to release Alfie.

Attorney Coppel (who now represents Tafida) argued in Alfie's last chance attempt –after his doctors had his ventilator unplugged for two days– to get Alfie to specialists at Bambino Gesù. At the time, Alfie was breathing on his own and could have made the trip to Rome.

But the judge ruled against parental rights, and little Alfie languished three more days in Liverpool's Alder Hey hospital until he died.

Similarly, nearly one-year-old Charlie Gard was diagnosed with Mitochondrial DNA depletion syndrome, and his mom and dad sought to get him to the United States for experimental treatment.

British doctors sued to unplug Charlie's breathing machine so he would die, instead of releasing Charlie to his parents in the hopes that he might be helped by American specialists.

New York's Presbyterian Hospital was ready for Charlie (as was Bambino Gesù in Rome), but British judges blocked Charlie's parents, and he quickly died after his air was cut off.

It seemed to many that the Brits –both physicians and judges– had stepped over the line from "doing no harm" to denying potentially beneficial treatment based on futile care theory.

See "Tafida," page 23

"Without a guaranteed right to life, all other rights are legal fictions"

By Dave Andrusko

In a column I recently re-read, the Rev. Charles Chaput, the archbishop of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, pondered, as he often does, the "meaning and dignity of the human person."

He began with reminiscences about a conference a friend of his had once attended whose theme was "supercomputing and the human person."

What leads the Rev. Chaput to a discussion of particular interest for us begins with his remembrance that "the nickname for the human body among the attendees was 'wetware,' or more crudely, 'meat puppet.'"

However, he reminds us, "Our flesh is not morally neutral. It's not simply 'wetware' or raw meat or modeling clay for the will, but a revelation of God's glory demanding reverence and stewardship."

Here is a key paragraph I'd like to offer three comments about:

> **This makes us witnesses to a meaning and dignity of the human person that puts us at odds with the spirit of our age, an age perfectly captured by the 1973 Supreme Court Roe v. Wade decision and its license to kill the unborn. The cultural civil war triggered by Roe and its enshrinement of permissive abortion has never abated, and it continues full force (and rightly so) today. The stakes are high. Without a guaranteed right to life — a right that includes and recognizes the humanity of the unborn child — all other rights are legal fictions.**

1. "The stakes are high." Why? For the same reason that the right to life is the first of "certain unalienable rights." To put it in the negative, without the right **not** to be killed, all other rights, including "Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness," are, in Archbishop Chaput's perfect description, "legal fictions."

2. There truly **is** a "spirit of our age." Whatever its origins—and they are legion—the underlining ethos is a refusal to see the uniqueness of each and every human being.

If we are nothing more than glorified (or not so glorified) "meat," what follows? For starters, that we are essentially interchangeable. For another, to firmly avow that you, I, **all** of us are of transcendent value invites the listener who is a captive to the spirit of the age to roll his or her eyes in disbelief.

3. I have often quoted the following passage from the late Rev. Richard John Neuhaus: "Thousands of medical ethicists and bioethicists, as they are called, professionally guide the unthinkable on its passage through the debatable on its way to becoming the justifiable until it is finally established as the unexceptionable."

The unthinkable eventually becomes the unexceptional because the creed of contemporary bioethics begins with the rejection that any one of us, let alone **all** of us, is exceptional in any way that matters.

For us, the equality of life ethic means each man or woman, boy or girl, born or unborn is of equal/inestimable worth. Notice how the bioethicist, almost all of whom are secularists, twists the equality of life ethic to mean we all are equally unexceptional.

The idea (to quote Archbishop Chaput) that we are an embodied "revelation of God's glory demanding reverence and stewardship" is not only unintelligible but an offense to them.

That is the Spirit of the Age which we combat every day. It is a battle for our culture that we cannot afford to lose.

Too many powerless people, born and unborn, are counting on you and me.

CBS News Helps Fluff New Planned Parenthood President in Factually-Challenged Interview

From page 13

abortion services in order to make everything else that you do easier, better funded and just easier for your patients?

MCGILL: Absolutely not. No. I was on the board when we voted to ensure that abortion was one of our core services that every center affiliated with Planned Parenthood would provide. We think it's a critical part of a — access to full reproductive and sexual health care and so there's no scenario where we would actively decide on our own to not provide it. It is a medical procedure. It's a health care procedure and we believe that it should be seen in that broad spectrum of healthcare.

Toward the end of the interview, Smith asked McGill how she responds to those bringing up abortion's immorality based on a detectable heartbeat at six weeks and the science of fetal pain at least by 20 weeks.

McGill responded: "Again, these are decisions. The view of the woman, her family, and her doctor and religious counselor. I'm not the arbiter on science or on their morality. I do believe that the government's role in this is minimal if non-existent."

This is a sly way to get out of responding to the harsh reality of scientific proof. If there was scientific evidence of the preborn person's humanness, there's no grey area on who decides they have a right to live. The grey area has been created by Planned Parenthood so they can further their business.

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

Once Again, British Doctors Refuse a Child, Tafida Raqeeb, a Chance at Life

From page 21

Another child, eight-year-old Ashya King, was in Southampton suffering from a brain tumor. His parents were concerned about his treatment, and wanted to take him for proton therapy elsewhere.

When the hospital refused to acknowledge parental rights and release Ashya, Brett and Naghemeh King snuck their son out of the hospital –making them fugitives for the sake of their son's life.

A European continent-wide manhunt was launched against Ashya's parents. They were finally apprehended in Spain.

But their little Ashya was given treatment –which is what the now "criminal" parents were seeking all along.

The illegally-sought treatment cured Ashya. Today Ashya is cancer-free, with no brain damage from his now non-existent tumor.

The Sun's Ron Little reported.

"The parents were right. The doctors were horribly wrong," "Our medical professionals are, by and large, brilliant. But there is sometimes a grotesque arrogance and pigheadedness about them."

The Anglican Church also hasn't helped. Bishop John Sherrington of Westminster said he would pray for Tafida, but he offered no support for Tafida's life or for her parents' heartbreaking plight.

Sherrington even equated the hospital's lawsuit for Tafida's death with her parents' fight for her life. "I hope that all due weight will be given to the wishes of her parents, while also respecting the clinical judgment of the doctors caring for her," he hopelessly and irreconcilably stated. "Those of us not in possession of all the relevant information might best be reserved in our judgment."

In Italy, life-support is not withdrawn from children unless they are declared "brain-dead." Tafida is not "brain-dead," and may be able to make it –as long as doctors do not unplug her ventilator– until her preliminary hearing in September.

Great News: Number of abortions in Georgia drop by nearly 20% in past 25 years

9% decline between 2016 and 2017 alone

By Dave Andrusko

Pro-abortion newspapers, such as *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, know the first two rules of reporting when the number of abortions goes down. First, give zero credit to the pro-life laws you have screamed about forever and a day. Two, since pro-life laws make no difference, therefore it is a waste of time and energy (indeed, counterproductive] to pass even more pro-life laws.

Welcome to "Abortions in Georgia decline by nearly 20 percent in past 25 years."

Such a typical story. One pro-life response, whose answer is immediately explained away, followed by a professor ["Sarah McCool, an assistant professor in Georgia State University's School of Public Health"]; the Abortion Industry ["Planned Parenthood Southeast President and CEO Staci Fox"]; a key pro-abortion legal arm ["The American Civil Liberties Union of Georgia"]; not to mention all-purpose "experts."

Four to one. Seems fair to me

But, excuses and self-serving rationalizations from PPFA and the ACLU don't change the wonderful news that many fewer babies are aborted. Here are the key findings as summarized by reporter Maya T. Prabhu:

*The number of abortions has dropped by 19% in 23 years even though "Georgia's population has ballooned in recent decades" from 7 million in 1994 to 10.4 million in 2017.

In 1994, the earliest year data was available on the Georgia Department of Public Health's vital statistics database, there were 33,516 abortions reported — a rate of about 13.7 abortions per 1,000 Georgia females between the ages of 10 and 55. There were 27,453 abortions reported in 2017, the most recent data available, at a rate of 8.3 per 1,000 females.

Interesting omission. The number of abortions for 2016—29,551—is not mentioned. The drop from 29,551to 27,453, a whopping 9% drop.

Congratulations to pro-lifers in Georgia!

Ethically corrupt and inherently immoral, abortion and assisted suicide challenge the very foundations of a civilized society

By Dave Andrusko

At the risk of only a slight exaggeration, abortion and euthanasia/assisted suicide are, at a minimum, fraternal twins, if not identical twins. Birthed in the same hatchery, for example, they are inherently expansionary.

You could say, and I would, that the urge to find more victims is a part of their very DNA. Its partisans, the likes of Planned Parenthood and the preposterously named "Compassion and Choices," can no more find an "end point" than a cancer will, on its own, cease to spread.

Consider just a few of the parallels, starting with the need to perpetually push all boundaries. For instance, if ending the life of her unborn child is a woman's "right," why should that "right" end at the conclusion of the first trimester? Or second? Or through birth?

Not content with abortion on demand (which they pine to have paid for by taxpayers), it comes as no surprise that we now have to fight blatant excuses for infanticide. The child was supposed to be dead, the abortion lobby tells us. Why would you give him or her the same medical care you would a "wanted" child born at the same gestational age? Which is why Congressional Democrats work night and day to ensure that there is no vote on the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act.

Likewise with assisted suicide. If the issue is about autonomy– about one's supposed right to die "on my own terms"–why should there be any ethical calibration made about "good" reasons or "sufficient" reasons, or any reasons?

If I can't exercise my "right"–whether because I am in a weakened physical state or no longer can articulate my desires, or something else–then surely it is nothing short blatantly discriminatory not to facilitate my death, right?

Where the twin sisters of death meet is when countries decide that newborns should be at a minimum, neglected, or even killed, if they are disabled (physically or intellectually). We reach this hideous conclusion by imputing imaginary motives to them. If only they could speak, they'd want that—or so the anti-life lobby insists.

"Neonatal euthanasia" meet "after-birth" abortion.

Similarly, every pro-lifer writer, including me, has observed that abortion corrupts everything it touches. Jonathon Van Maren, a Canadian pro-lifer, once extended that argument in a brilliant piece he titled, "20 reasons why euthanasia corrupts everything it touches, and must be opposed."

Each and every one of those 20 is worth an individual post. But let me just take three minutes to highlight three illustrations:

Assisted suicide suggests that for people to "die with dignity," they must die faster. The underlying insinuation of the "Death with Dignity" movement is that those who do not opt for an expedited exit are not dying with dignity. …

Eugenics. Assisted suicide requires the state and the medical establishment to judge what constitutes a "life worth living." As a result, those with disabilities become less valued as their lives are judged to be less valuable than those without disability. Parents of disabled children in Belgium have had people

See "Corrupt," page 40

Two pro-abortion Kansas state Supreme Court Justices are retiring

By Mary Wilkinson, President, Board of Directors, Kansans for Life

You may have seen the news Kansas Supreme Court Chief Justice Lawton Nuss and Associate Justice Lee Johnson announced they are retiring from the court. These announcements come months after creating a radical, unrestricted right to abortion and allowing the live dismemberment of pre-born babies in Kansas to continue.

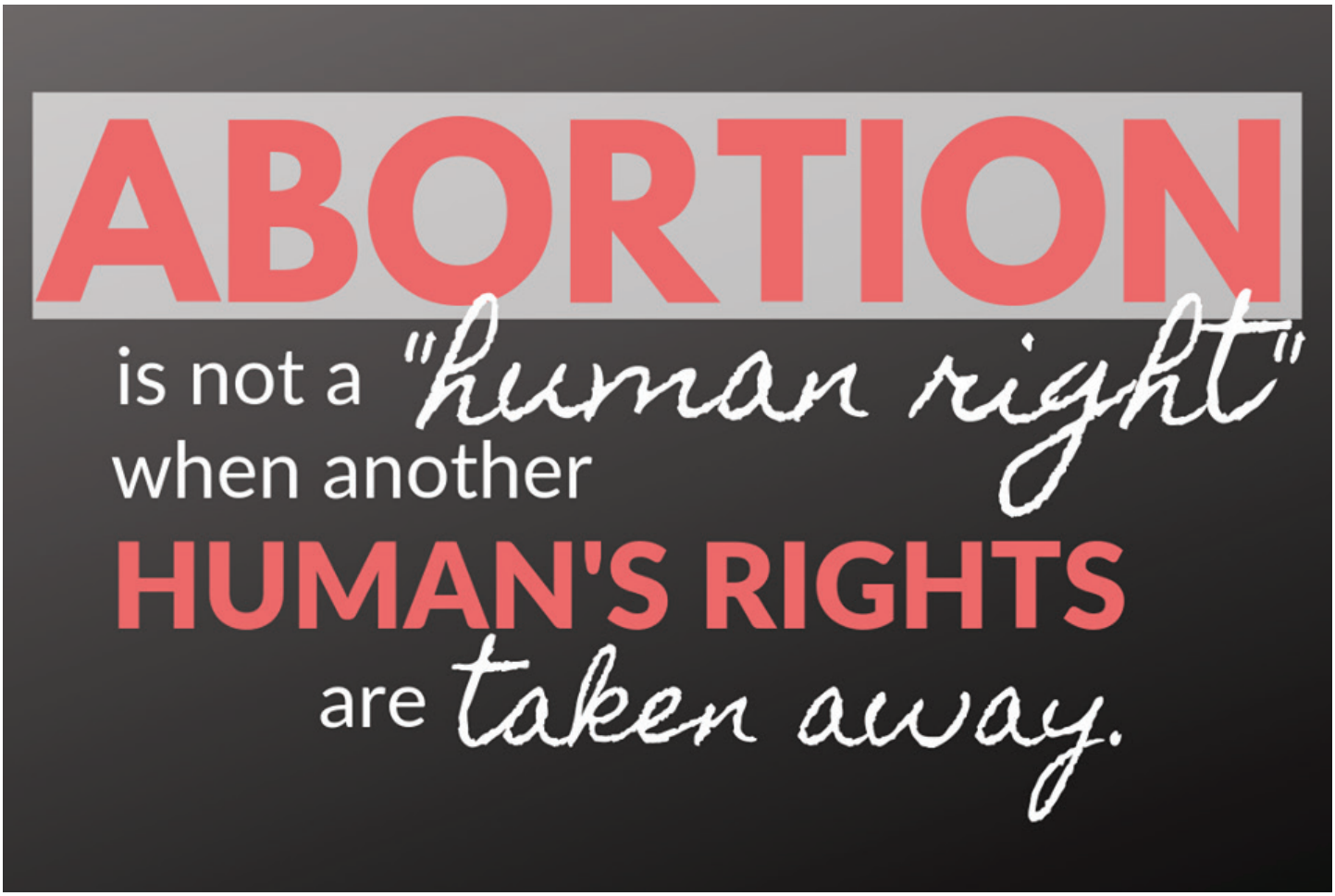
These justices opened the door to late-term, taxpayer-funded abortion. Something that is widely known to make self-identified "pro-choice" voters cringe.

These justices knew they would have to face voters at upcoming retention elections and mainstream media outlets indicated that KFL's [Kansans for Life's] intention to run vigorous retention elections against them was a driving factor in their decisions to step down.

Chief Justice Lawton Nuff seated at the center front and Justice Lee Johnson is standing, second from the front.

Can you blame them? Leaving women and children to the mercy of an unregulated abortion industry is not something to campaign on. With national polls showing that people are trending pro-life, they knew it was time to move on.

While these justices may be feeling the public outcry because of their barbaric ruling, there is plenty of work to be done. We must pass a Constitutional Amendment to reverse the Kansas Supreme Court's barbaric ruling and must work to ensure our Judicial Selection process does not replace these justices with even more extreme members.



16 states file amicus brief in support of Kentucky's prohibition against dismembering living unborn children

By Dave Andrusko

The state of Kentucky is engaged in an out-and-out battle with U.S. District Judge Joseph McKinley who on May 10 obliterated the state's law forbidding the dismemberment of living unborn children as surely as the abortionist extinguishes the life of unborn children.

The state has appealed Judge McKinley's decision to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. On July 17, Gov. Matt Bevin's legal team received a big boost when a coalition of 16 states filed an amicus ["friend of the court"] brief in the case of Kentucky's House Bill 454

"The attorneys general of Ohio, Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and West Virginia argue that the Sixth Circuit should reverse the District Court's erroneous opinion," according to *SurfKY News*.

Before getting into the legal ins and outs, the brief begins with an important gut-level truth. Quoting from a prior decision, it states,

> **Every State in the Union has animal-welfare laws. "Dogs may not be beaten for fun. Bullfights are forbidden. Horses may not be slaughtered." … "Animal-welfare statutes are rational not simply because all mammals can feel pain and may well have emotions, but also because animal welfare affects human welfare."**

This question this case presents, the brief argues, is "whether States can extend the same benefit to unborn children." That is, can States require "that doctors cause an unborn child's death before dismembering him or her during a dilation-and-evacuation abortion?" All the Kentucky's law does is "to bring a small dose of humanity to this procedure."

The SurfKY News story nicely summarizes the three grounds on which the brief argues Judge McKinley went astray:

1. **HB 454 does not place an undue burden on women seeking an abortion,**
2. **it does not place an undue burden on abortion providers, and**
3. **it should not have been struck down in its entirety by the lower court.**

With respect to 1, the brief argues that McKinley "erred by applying the balancing test from *Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt*," the 2016 Supreme Court decision which overturned large parts of a 2013 Texas law.

Regarding 2, the 16 AGs maintain that McKinley "erred in finding an undue burden based on the plaintiffs' assertions that they would stop performing second-trimester abortions if the death-before-dismemberment law went into effect. Feasibility of a regulation turns on whether a procedure can be carried out safely and effectively, not whether one clinic is *willing* or *able* to perform that procedure." [Italics in the original.)

And as for 3, the brief noted, McKinley "erred by disregarding the rule that courts must 'enjoin only the unconstitutional applications of a statute while leaving other applications in force.'" The brief explained that McKinley "enjoined Kentucky's law in its entirety, without considering whether the law is unconstitutional in all of its applications. But the law is certainly *not* unconstitutional in all of its applications—a great deal of evidence establishes that doctors can and do cause fetal demise before performing D&E abortions." [Italics in the original.)

When Judge McKinley struck down H.B. 454, Elizabeth Kuhn, communications director for Gov. Matt Bevin, said, "We profoundly disagree with the court's decision and will take this case all the way to the Supreme Court if necessary, to protect unborn children from being dismembered limb by limb while still alive."

The law had overwhelming legislative support. The vote in the Senate was 31-5. The tally in the House was an equally one-sided 71-11.

"Even before the first trimester ends, the unborn child has a beating heart, brain waves, and every organ system in place," said Ingrid Duran, NRLC director of state legislation. "Dismemberment abortions occur after the baby has reached these milestones."

A medical illustration of a D&E dismemberment abortion is available here:nrlc.org/abortion/pba/deabortiongraphic.

Don't forget about the 2019 Elections!

From page 1

In contrast, his opponent, Democrat Dan McCready, supports a policy of abortion on demand, which allows abortion for any reason, and he supports using taxpayer dollars to pay for those abortions.

Dan Bishop supports the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act. This legislation protects unborn children by prohibiting abortion at 20 weeks, a point by which the unborn child is capable of experiencing great pain when being killed by dismemberment or other late abortion methods.

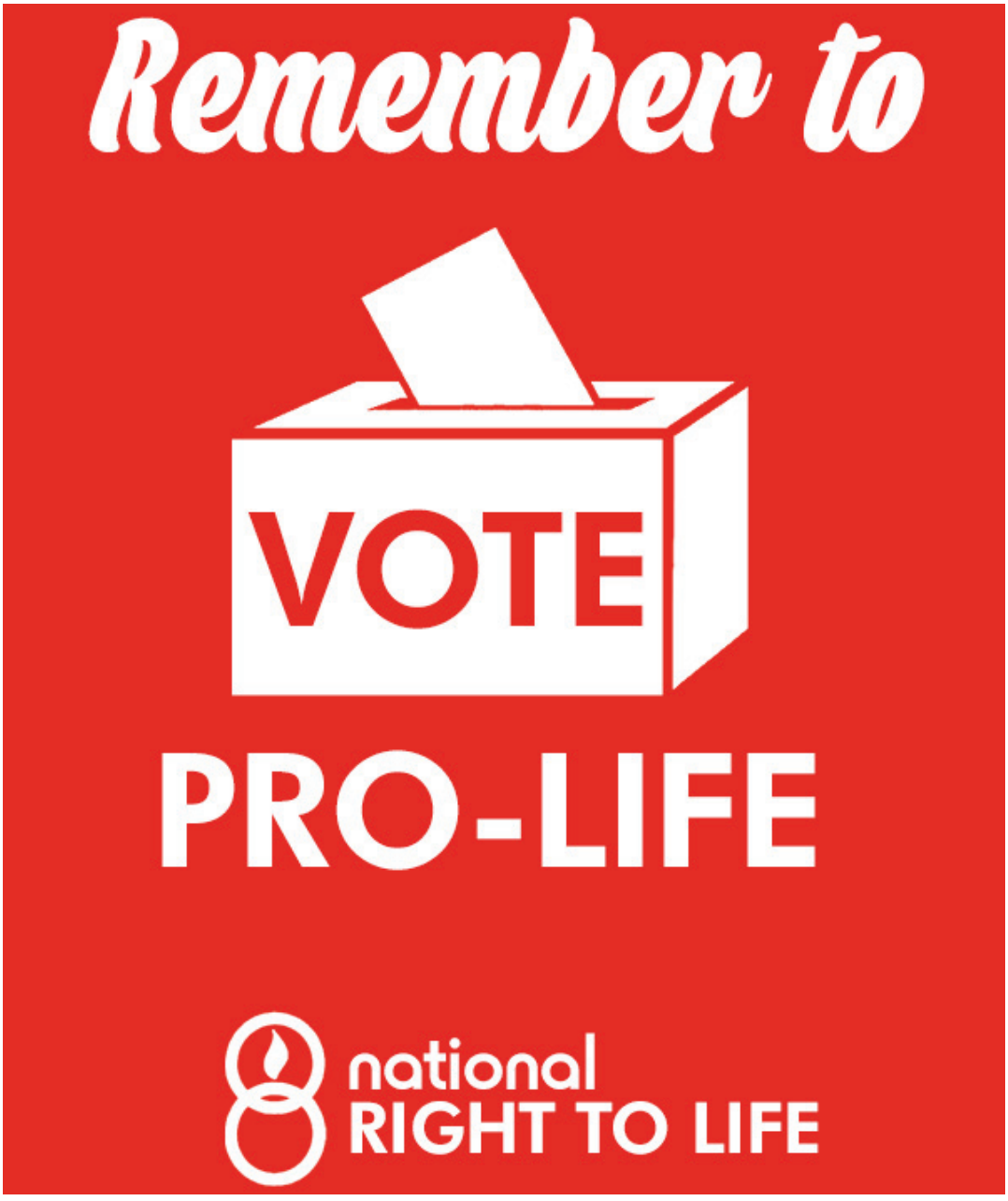
As a state Senator, Dan Bishop voted for SB 359, North Carolina's Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act that would provide medical care to a baby who survives an abortion. Dan McCready opposes requiring care for babies who survive abortions.

A link to a comparison piece can be found at: www.nrlc.org/uploads/files/NC09BishopvMcCready2019.pdf

The race is considered a tossup by Cook Political Report.

On the federal level, Speaker Nancy Pelosi and the House Democrats are holding the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act hostage, refusing to allow the bill to come up for a vote.

Both pro-life Republican candidates in North Carolina have promised to sign the discharge petition, which would circumvent Democrat opposition and make a vote possible. This would bring the total additional number of signatures needed to advance the bill to fifteen.



North Carolina 3 Special Election

National Right to Life has endorsed pro-life state Rep. Greg Murphy, a physician, in the September 10 special election to represent North Carolina's third congressional district. The district was represented by the late Walter B. Jones Jr., a pro-life Republican, from 1995 until his death in February 2019.

Dr. Murphy will face Democrat Allen Thomas. On April 30, Thomas prevailed in a six-way primary battle.

Cook Political Report considers this race "safe Republican."

State Legislative Elections

Gubernatorial elections will be held November 5 in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Kentucky.

Both legislative houses are up for re-election in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Virginia. New Jersey's lower house (the General Assembly) is also up for re-election.

Emphasizing the importance of every vote, both Virginia's House and its Senate have a one-seat pro-life majority. This means that if they lose the pro-life majorities, we will see a New York-style abortion on demand throughout birth and beyond law introduced, passed and signed by pro-abortion Governor Ralph Northam in 2020.

Much is at stake this fall. Find out where the candidates stand on life because life is on the line. Then vote.

Connecting the dots to expose and explain the crisis at Planned Parenthood

From page 1

is treated as gospel by the Major Media is of Planned Parenthood as a woman-helping organization, not a lethal one-trick pony which is killing 300,000+ babies every year. When employees learn the truth, there is a crisis of conscience and some leave.

Abby Johnson, whose stories is told in "Unplanned," left after she was called in to participate in an abortion, saw an ultrasound of a 13-week-old baby being killed, and reacted in horror. But it is also true that the stage had already been set for the one time "Employee of the Year" to leave, although she didn't know it. As she wrote, "I saw that Planned Parenthood was willing to fire employees if they did not meet their abortion quotas and that there were monetary bonuses for directors who did meet the quotas. I saw how that lent itself to the pressuring and manipulation of pregnant women in our clinics."

Brady writes about this bottom-line mentality directly and indirectly.

She also discusses the disgusting conditions in various PPFA clinics.

> **The most recent wave of drama began to trickle into public view in December 2018. That month, the alternative newsweekly Nashville Scene published an extraordinary report based on disclosures from former staffers of a Planned Parenthood-affiliated facility in Nashville, Tennessee, which had abruptly stopped providing abortion services for what officials called "a period of quality improvement." The ex-employees described a local organization struggling to stay afloat financially that had become intensely focused on the bottom line.**
>
> **Speaking anonymously to avoid retaliation, they told of clinic managers that wanted to use plastic drinking cups for urine samples and had stopped providing doctors with sterile gloves. The staffers said they'd also been told to start charging women extra for IV sedation during abortions. The higher price would mean some patients either had to postpone their abortions to save up more money (resulting in a more costly termination later in pregnancy) or suffer through without sedation.**

Although PPFA's firing of Dr. Wen is obviously of a different order of magnitude, Planned Parenthood's treatment of its female employees is a stunning exercise in hypocrisy. Brady writes

> **If the Scene story gave Planned Parenthood a black eye, two days later, the New York Times landed a body blow on the storied non-profit. In interviews with more than a dozen current and former employees, Times reporters uncovered a pattern of discrimination and mistreatment of pregnant workers at Planned Parenthood-affiliated clinics nationwide. …**
>
> **Ta'Lisa Hairston, a former worker at a clinic in New York, told reporters she'd taken a job at Planned Parenthood because she believed in the mission of helping women. However, after she got pregnant, her managers repeatedly ignored multiple medical notes insisting that she be given a thirty-minute lunch break. Her blood pressure spiked and she wound up delivering her son prematurely via an emergency C-section.**

One other point—again, I encourage you to read the entire story. In an eerie way, it all comes back to Dr. Wen.

Remember, Wen never retreated on PPFA's public commitment to unlimited abortion. She faithfully spouted Planned Parenthood's error-ridden talking points.

But PPFA had made a colossal misjudgment. They wanted a physician to replace a politico (Cecile Richards), thinking this would polish their image as a provider of health care to women. Only Wen actually wanted the organization to be what the insincere movers and shakers at PPFA only gave a verbal nod to. As Wen wrote in an op-ed that appeared in the *New York Times* a few days after she was canned

> **There was immediate criticism [after her hiring] that I did not prioritize abortion enough. While I am passionately committed to protecting abortion access, I do not view it as a stand-alone issue As one of the few national health care organizations with a presence in all 50 states, Planned Parenthood's mandate should be to promote reproductive health care as part of a wide range of policies that affect women's health and public health.**

Right now, Planned Parenthood is no doubt in intense discussions over its next move. They have an interim President who surely is closer to what they want but whether she is up the enormous challenges ahead is anyone's guess.

Perhaps the best way to end is to quote Brady's astute summary of what happened after news of the "pattern of discrimination and mistreatment of pregnant workers at Planned Parenthood-affiliated clinics nationwide" made the pages of their most faithful ally, the *New York Times*:

> **At the time, Dr. Wen put out a statement pledging to do better for workers and promising to investigate their allegations. Months later, though, she became the latest casualty in the conflict between the philosophy of employees that Planned Parenthood attracts and the reality of how it carries out its mission.**

Validation for men unable to save their unborn children

By Melissa Ohden

Editor's note. This appeared on Melissa's blog. Melissa is an abortion survivor who has spoken all over the world, including National Right to Life's annual conventions.

"When I heard you talking tonight about how often coercion and force happen in abortions, it really hit me. That was my experience. It was my mother."

I hear circumstances like these time and time again, but this time it was different.

"My mom took my girlfriend for an abortion without giving me any say. Without giving either one of us a choice."

Although it's women that I often hear from regarding coerced and forced abortion, the reality is that many men have experienced it, too. Yes, there are men who are responsible for coercion and force, but we need to acknowledge that there are also men who have experienced the coercion and force of their girlfriend, wife, sister, or other family member or friend's abortion. And typically at the hands of one of their family members.

"It was just so good to hear from someone else who gets it. Who knows that I didn't want this."

The man that I spoke with after an event supporting his local pregnancy center struggled to find the words to describe what it was like to hear about my birthmother's forced abortion, but we settled on the word validation.

Men have been told over the last 46 years now since Roe v. Wade was passed down, that abortion is none of their business, that they have no place to say anything.

And although, unfortunately, there are men who exert their say to pressure a woman to abort, there are men who have been either covertly or even overtly placed in a position that they can do nothing or say nothing to save the life of their child.

I look back upon my birthfather's life, and wonder about how he felt, not having any say in what happened to my birthmother, what happened to me. My birthparents we're engaged to be married—they had dated for four years before my birth mother became pregnant with me.

I'm sure he had protected her from many things in their years together. I'm sure he planned to honor her, love her, protect her throughout a lifetime of marriage. But then, my grandmother stepped in.

I think about him a lot, as you can imagine. Who he was, what my birthparents lives would have been like if they had stayed together, what my life would have looked like if my grandmother wouldn't have forced the abortion.

But I wonder the most about how he dealt with all of this over the years. I wonder if my birthfather thought he was somehow alone in this experience, that he was the only man who seemingly failed in protecting his child…in protecting his fiancée? He mentioned once to his family that he had done something (around the time of the abortion) that he was so ashamed of, he would never tell anyone about it. Whether it was the unplanned pregnancy or the abortion, we will never know, but from the experiences of so many men that I meet, it wouldn't surprise me at all if his feelings of shame came from the forced abortion and his inability to intervene on our behalf.

Forty-six years into legalized abortion, I can't even begin to imagine how many men live in similar shoes to my birth father. In order for future generations to be saved from abortion, current generations MUST HEAL.

Men need to hear that abortion affects them, too, and yes, men should have a say in what happens to the life of their child.

Men need to hear that the pain of abortion often has a lasting effect on the long-term physical, emotional, and mental health of their girlfriend or partner.

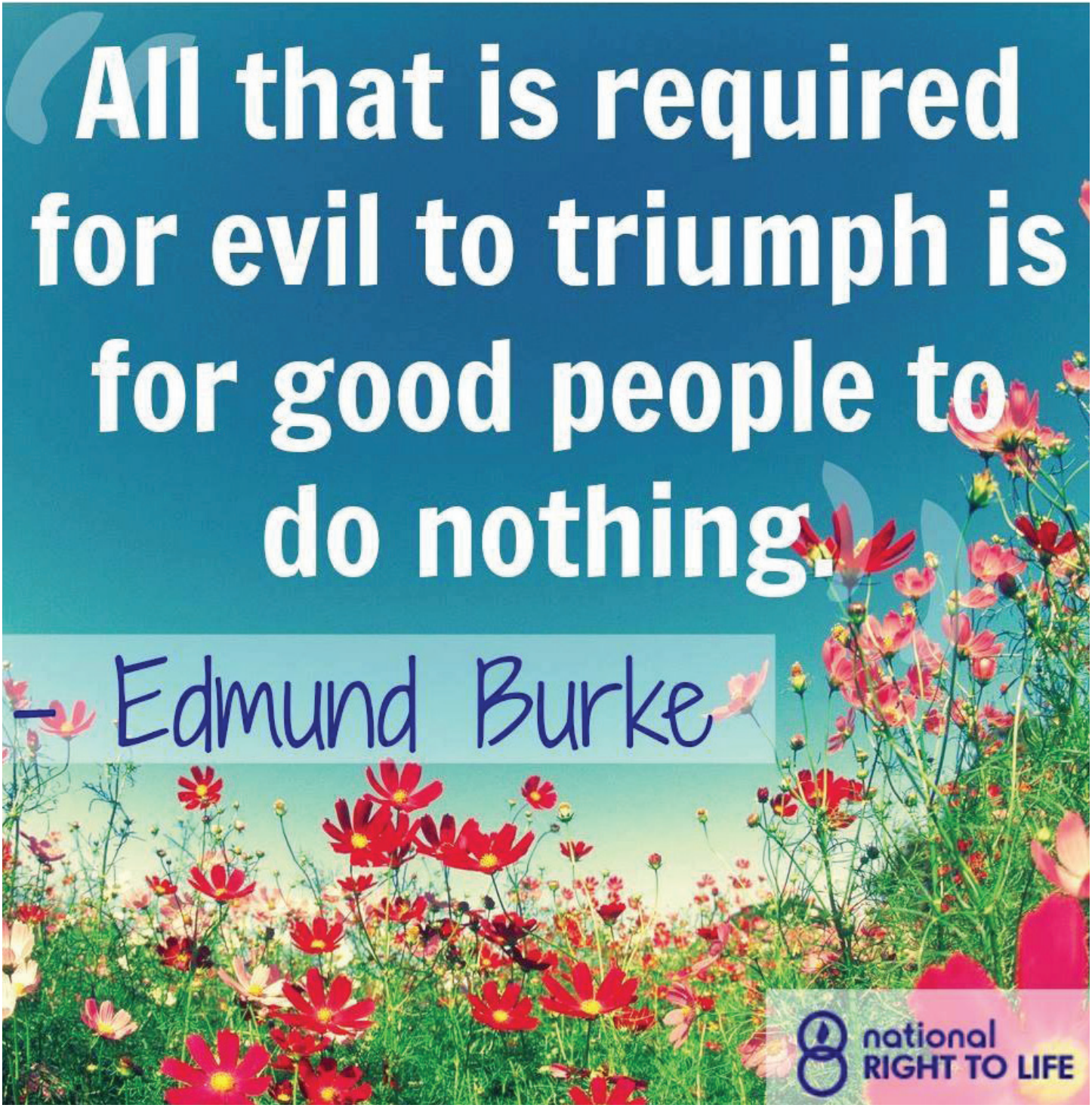
Men need to hear that there are resources and supports to assist their partner and their preborn child, even if their family or families are refusing to support them.

Men need to hear that even if their own father was absent and they don't have an example to draw from for fatherhood, there are classes they can take to receive that information and experience.

Men need to be told that there are countless men, like my biological father, who know what it's like to be placed in the position of coerced or forced abortion, and they don't have to feel ashamed or embarrassed by their experience…shame and embarrassment often weigh us down, silence us into submission, hold us in a place of being incapacitated to do something with our experience that will result in good for others.

Men, here is your validation.

I may never have had the chance to tell my birth father face to face that he is loved and forgiven, and I'm so terribly sorry that he lost my birth mother and me in the forced abortion, I get to share it with you. Take this validation as yours. And allow it to heal and transform you.


"All that is required for evil to triumph is for good people to do nothing."
– Edmund Burke
national RIGHT TO LIFE

Pro-abort NY Mayor bobs and weaves on late-term abortions, tells Hannity abortion is "a sacred choice for women"

By Dave Andrusko

When as mayor you are deeply—**deeply**—unpopular with the people of your city, and your "standing" among Democrat presidential candidates is literally zero, why not go on Sean Hannity's show? Thus did pro-abortion New York Mayor Bill deBlasio appear last week. (You can watch it on the Internet or read the transcript at www.foxnews.com/transcript/bill-de-blasio-on-the-importance-of-keeping-kids-healthy)

It was everything you would expect—and more. Words such as "contentious" hardly do the exchanges justice.

But deBlasio's answers are a roadmap to how Democrats who are adamantly against any limitation on abortion (and infanticide) will respond, if asked.

To be clear, Hannity's questioning was a hundred times more probing than any softball pitches "moderators" at a *CNN*-sponsored debates will lob to Democrats. But still, let's see how deBlasio handled the questions.

HANNITY: Okay. Now, we have a lot of controversial issues. Do you support any restrictions on abortion?

DE BLASIO: Look: —

HANNITY: Oh, that's a simple question.

De BLASIO: It's a simple answer. I believe in Roe v. Wade, I believe this decision to attain a woman and a doctor.

Thus was the template established. Specific question, rote answer in which DeBlasio avoided responding to what Hannity asked.

Fox News video screenshot

Question Two:

HANNITY: Right, but where it's gotten controversial is for example in Virginia when you have a bill proposed that would allow during birth dilation abortions and a Governor of Virginia that said, well, first we are going to birth the baby and make the baby comfortable hang on then we'll let the mother decide. Do you support any restrictions on abortion? That's a simple question.

DE BLASIO: It's a simple answer. I believe in Roe V. Wade under choice: —

Hannity tries to get him focus and—as you would expect—deBlasio filibusters and acts as if Hannity is the simplifier, not himself.

There are several more exchanges but deBlasio's primary technique is what pro-abortion Democrats always fall back to: late-late term abortions are a figment of the pro-life imagination.

HANNITY: Okay. I have many – I live in New York. I have many friends that are Democrats and consider themselves pro-choice. But, for example, do you think a woman in the ninth month putting aside health, putting aside life of the mother; do you support any restrictions until the baby is born? That's a simple question.

DE BLASIO: No, I believe it's a smoke screen because it doesn't happen in America. We didn't make this choice. It's a sacred choice for women.

So, ninth month abortions don't happen—they do, and even more do in the 7th and 8th month when the child is viable under any criteria—but who cares anyway because the deliberate execution of an unborn baby is "a sacred choice for women."

Several more exchanges—in which Hannity asks about abortions in the 8th month–and then this conclusion:

HANNITY: Here is my simple question. 8 months into pregnancy, should a woman be allowed legally to have an abortion?

De BLASIO: Again, I've told you I believe woman's right to choose. This is a smoke screen. I'm not answering your way. I'm answering my way.

Yes, deBlasio, like all his fellow competitors for their party's presidential nomination, will answer the way he wants to. Abortions on pain-capable unborn children don't happen, but even if they did—which Democrats would never concede– so what? "Women's rights to choose …is under attack."

Some still think abortion won't be a prominent issue next year. Talk about missing the obvious.

Woman walks out of abortion clinic after seeing her twins on ultrasound

By Sarah Terzo

From an article in *The Oklahoman*:

> **When Oklahoma resident Pam Brown realized she was pregnant for the second time in 18 months, she felt like an abortion was her only option.**
>
> **At the clinic, the doctor performed an ultrasound to gauge how far along Brown was in her pregnancy. She saw something that would change her life forever: two tiny, moving heads.**
>
> **"I got up right then and walked out," she said.**
>
> **Today, Brown has 16-year-old twin sons.**

Jennifer Mock, "New law targets abortion in state," *The Oklahoman*, July 3, 2006.

Editor's note. Sarah Terzo is a pro-life author and creator of the Clinic Quotes website where this appeared. It is reposted with permission.

Man charged in murders of 9-month-pregnant woman and her unborn baby

By Dave Andrusko

Terence Sample has been charged with kidnapping and two counts of murder in the deaths of McKayla Winston, his nine-month-pregnant girlfriend, and her unborn baby.

The 21-year-old Winston and her unborn baby "were found dead off a stretch of desolate roadway in Holmes County on July 1," *The Clarion Ledger* reported. "She had gone missing four days earlier."

learned she planned to keep the baby and not give it up for adoption, the Holmes County district attorney said Thursday before a packed courtroom

The due date for her first child was July 4.

Last week Sample, the son of a justice court judge in nearby Attala County, appeared in court in Holmes County for a preliminary hearing, according to reporter Justin Vicory:

> **The man charged with kidnapping and killing a pregnant Mississippi woman acted after he**

The 33-year-old Sample had a paternity hearing scheduled on July 3.

District Attorney Akille Malone-Oliver presented her case before Yazoo County Judge Bennie Warrington. According to Vicory's story

*"Oliver pointed to witnesses and recovered phone communications from the night Winston went missing as proving she met with Sample, and then went missing shortly afterward."

*Mississippi Bureau of Investigation Captain L.A. Oliver "said witnesses confirmed seeing Winston and Sample and their vehicles at the same location on the same night. One of the witnesses had called and talked to Winston while she was with Sample, Oliver told the court. He said Winston planned on showing Sample pictures of her sonogram."

*"Winston's car and phone were discovered in the same location the next day. Her keys were still in the ignition. Her shoes were also found outside the vehicle. Investigators also recovered what appeared to be blood in Sample's white SUV and on his clothing. "

*"Oliver also testified that while the case was still a missing persons case, Sample initially told investigators he hadn't spoke to Winston in three weeks to a month. That turned out to be untrue when investigators discovered the messages in Winston's phone. "

Sample's defense attorney, Richard Carter, said prosecutors were on a "fishing expedition," Vicory reported. "There's not one single piece of physical evidence to detain my client and hold him without bail."

District Attorney Malone-Oliver countered there was multiple circumstantial facts buttressing her case.

> **"There's substantial evidence the two were together through their location and communications… Witnesses spotted his vehicle and Makayla's at the same time period… He first denied contact with Makayla, but that was proved to be false… There's the possible DNA and article of clothing."**
>
> **"We know that he was upset once he realized she was not going to put the baby up for adoption," she said.**

At the end of the hearing, Judge Warrington ruled there was enough probable cause to hold Sample on the charges.

Teen mother who abandoned newborn turns herself into police

By Dave Andrusko

On July 30, when police found a baby girl wrapped in a little white blanket on a porch in Upper Darby, Pennsylvania, she was the fourth abandoned newborn in recent weeks, according to *CNN*. Other babies were left in Georgia and two in California, one of whom died.

It was 93 degrees outside when the baby was found, her umbilical cord still attached.

Police immediately took to social media to try to find the baby's mother.

"This adorable, hours-old newborn was left abandoned, alone. We need help locating the parents to get them the assistance that they need," Upper Darby Police tweeted. "Mom, if you're reading this, call us."

Subsequently, Upper Darby Police Superintendent Michael Chitwood told reporters, including Kevin Tustin, that

> **police have spoken with the 15-year-old girl, who allegedly admitted to leaving her hours-old infant wrapped in a blanket on a side entrance of a home in the 100 block of Englewood Road Tuesday morning. Endangering the welfare of a child charge will likely be filed in Juvenile Court, preventing police from publicly disclosing her name.**

The girl and her parents were interviewed by police Friday at their headquarters.

Photo credit: Upper Darby police

Chitwood said judging by the parents' response, they truly did not know their daughter was pregnant.

The girl could have taken advantage of Pennsylvania's "The Newborn Protection Act (Safe Haven)" law. Under its provisions, "a parent of a newborn may leave a child in the care of a hospital or a police officer at a police station without being criminally liable, as long as the child is no older than 28 days and is not harmed," according to police.

Tustin writes that Chitwood said the story started on a Monday

> **or early Tuesday when the baby was born inside the girl's parents' home. The baby's umbilical cord was reportedly cut in the bathroom. In the morning, the baby was cleaned up and wrapped in a towel and blanket and was taken to the home on Englewood, where she was left alone in the summer heat. The baby was discovered by a resident in the home early Tuesday afternoon and the police were called.**

The baby girl, who is doing well, has been placed into foster care.

A neighbor, Terrell Phillips, told *CNN* affiliate *WPVI* that he found the baby girl on the porch of his neighbor Tom Dailey.

> **"Once I came out and saw the white towel, I didn't pay it no mind. But once I saw a little arm, I thought it was some sort of animal or something," said Terrell Phillips.**
>
> **Once he realized it was an infant, he contacted the owner of the home where the baby was found.**
>
> **"I said it's not my baby, I don't know anything about this baby. So I just called the cops," Thomas Daley said.**

In finding an "outer limit" to her "pro-choice beliefs," did an obstetrician reveal more than she intended?

From page 2

Then her post grows more and more troubled. According to Dr. Karkowsky, the cultural/medical setting in Israel is very different. It is quite true on the surface there are various hurtles to jump through before a woman aborts. But the fact is, almost every abortion is approved, including abortions up until birth for reasons that deeply unsettle Dr. Karkowsky.

She began her post by referring to an ultrasound taken of a woman who is 35 weeks pregnant, one at that reveals some troublesome signs. Again, she is contrasting the situation in Israel with the U.S. where Dr. Karkowsky assures us, "In practice, only a handful of facilities in the entire United States perform abortions after 26 weeks for nonlethal anomalies." [It's not a "handful," but…]

> **But here in Israel, abortion is widely available and can be offered until delivery. A subtle abnormality, such as the one I saw in that ultrasound room outside Tel Aviv, can prompt a discussion of pregnancy termination. Even at 35 weeks. …**
>
> **But in that dark room so far from home, I was deeply uncomfortable discussing abortion with a woman 35 weeks into her pregnancy, when that fetus had no clearly lethal or debilitating problem. By then, I'd been living in Israel for about a year, and practicing medicine at a local hospital for about six months. In Israel, everything was different—perhaps including me. In that dark room, I felt lost, as I confronted the outer borders of my pro-choice beliefs.**

The most powerful section of her story is how Dr. Karkowsky deals with the requirement to talk about all options, including abortion, no matter how seemingly minor the problem may be and no matter how close to birth the woman is.

"When termination of pregnancy is never off the table, it changes the way doctors like me practice," she writes. "In the ultrasound suite, there's always a chance I'll have to initiate a traumatic conversation with a pregnant woman, no matter how far along she is."

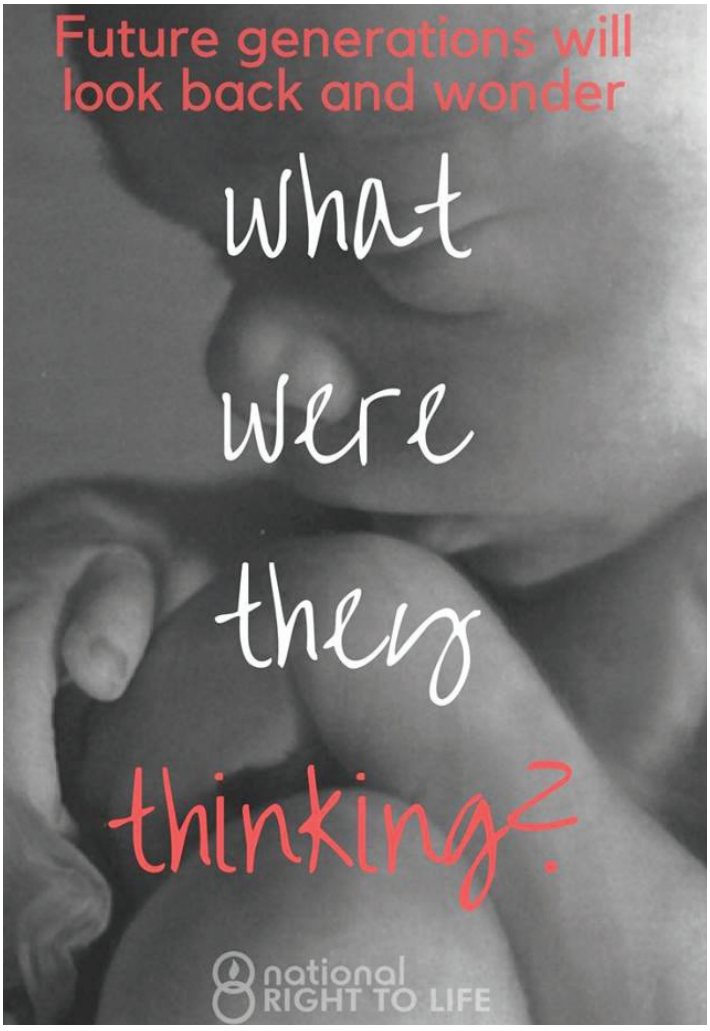
In explaining to the mother what she saw on the ultrasound, Dr. Karkowsky chooses her words very, very carefully. Here is the incredible conclusion:

> **"Most people ...," I said. I paused, trying to get the words and the tone exactly right. I started again. "Most people wouldn't consider doing anything further for what I just saw, much less something serious like amniocentesis or terminating the pregnancy. But if you'd like to talk to someone who can tell you about those things, or even just take a second look at the brain, I can send you to someone else."**
>
> **She was already shaking her head. "No," she said. "No, thank you." And then she asked: "Can I have that picture of the baby's face? I want to show my husband; I think she has his mouth."**
>
> **I gave it to her. She smoothed the black-and-white film between her fingers, and smiled at it in her hand. And then she walked out the door.**

She does not say so—this is me extrapolating from other parts of her post—but Dr. Karkowsky may well have been praying the woman would listen to her words and choose life.

But I have no doubt believing Dr. Karkowsky smiled as well. After all, except for the hardest of the hard-hearted, how can you want a woman to abort at **35** weeks?

Must reading, in my humble opinion. You will find it at [https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2019/08/pro-choice-ob-gyn-confronts-limits-her-beliefs/594151].



Forced abortions: North Korean's vastly underreported human rights violation

By Dave Andrusko

Two years ago, we posted a nightmarish story based on the testimony of female defectors who were forcibly repatriated to North Korea and compelled to have abortions. The setting was an event titled "The Terrifying experience of forcibly Repatriated North Korean women." The sponsors were the U.S. France, Japan, South Korea, Canada and the U.K.

Alas, there has been no improvement. Indeed, if anything, conditions have grown worse, according to Hollie McKay, a *Fox News* Digital staff reporter since 2007, in a story that ran under the headline," North Korea's forced abortions: The Hermit Kingdom's underreported human rights abuses."

The savagery inflicted by North Koreans on women who've defected to China or South Korea and been captured knows no bounds, according to experts whom McKay quoted.

"Terrifying reports from female defectors depict undergoing forced abortions after they fled to what they thought was freedom in China, only to be repatriated back to North Korea by authorities in China," said Olivia Enos, Senior Policy Analyst for Asian Studies at The Heritage Foundation. "Other women from North Korea recount having aborted babies born alive or giving birth in ordinary prison camps only to have border guards smother or drown their babies before their very eyes."

Enos said, "Babies are aborted without anesthesia. Some reported having soldiers jump on their stomach until the baby came out, others by having various instruments inserted, others still by having poisonous plants inserted in their vagina to kill the baby and induce labor."

A North Korean defector in 2017 forced to undergo abortion in detention. (UNTV)

Added Dong Yon Kim, an analyst and journalist for *Chosun News-Press* and a former Air Force Officer for the Republic of Korea, "These [women] are treated like an animal and have been put through forced abortions and it is done in many ways."

"Pregnant women can be made to lie on the ground. Then [guards] put a long and wide piece of wood on her stomach. They pick two people for the job. These two people could be the son of the woman, her husband or lover, or any relative. These men stand on top of the wooden board like a see-saw," Kim said. "Using a burning iron is another method. The punisher carries a long piece of metal and lets it burn until red or yellow, then puts it into the pregnant woman. A woman can die from this punishment, and often, if she survives, she cannot walk properly."

McKay's story goes on and on with one terrible example of brutality and cruelty even worse than the one before. For example, Harry Kazianis, Senior Director of the Center for the National Interest and a North Korea expert, spoke about sadistic prison guards.

"Where this gets really barbaric is if the woman hides the pregnancy and wants to keep the baby – punishment is swift and heinous. If she is discovered, I have been told of accounts where the woman is killed as well as the baby," he said, according to McKay. "I have also been told of accounts where the woman is tied to a tree, the baby is cut out of her stomach, shown the child before its throat is slit and then she is executed or left to bleed to death."

Forced abortions in China have been known about ever since Steven W. Mosher wrote about it as far as the early 1980s, most famously in "Broken Earth: the Rural Chinese." Knowledge of North Korean's trafficking in the same viciousness is more recent.

"Experts that spoke to *Fox News* said China is complicit in the abuse, and have said in cases where involuntary abortions aren't ordered, North Korean officials engage in outright infanticide," McKay writes.

"International human rights experts and activists say there is more that can be done to put a stop to forced abortions — even in a very closed country such as North Korea."

Pro-abort Judge extends order halting enforcement of three pro-life Arkansas laws

By Dave Andrusko

Watching U.S. District Judge Kristine Baker rule on abortion reminds you of a metronome. Her always-pro-abortion rulings unfold without missing a beat and with perfect uniformity.

Judge Kristine Baker

First, the pendulum moves to the left—a temporary restraining order (usually 14 days)—then to the right—where the TRO is extended indefinitely. This allows our judicial wizard to cogitate before finally concluding with what Judge Baker had in mind all along: the law/laws is/are unconstitutional.

Three weeks ago Judge Baker blocked three pro-life Arkansas laws from taking effect:

- **Act 619 which protects unborn babies who would be aborted solely because of a prenatal diagnosis of Down syndrome.**
- **Act 700 which requires abortion providers to be board-certified.**
- **Act 493 which bans abortions starting at 18 weeks.**

For reasons of her own, on July 23 Judge Baker waited until there were only three minutes and 41 seconds remaining before the laws were to take effect before issuing her temporary restraining order.

This time around—last Tuesday—Judge Baker beat the 5pm deadline before the TRO expired by five hours and 15 minutes.

On the positive side, "Within four minutes of the filing of Baker's ruling, Attorney General Leslie Rutledge's office notified the court that it will appeal the injunction, and some previous rulings in the case, to the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in St. Louis," according to Linda Satter of the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*.

"Sen. Jason Rapert, R-Conway, who sponsored the 18-week abortion ban, advocated for all three challenged pieces of legislation and sat in on the July 22 hearing in Baker's court, said Tuesday, 'I'm very disappointed to see that yet again, the will of the people of Arkansas and the Arkansas Legislature is overturned by one single federal judge,'" Satter reported.

As *NRL News Today* reported on July 23, the *Associated Press's* Andrew DeMillo (referring to Act 700), noted that in her 159 page opinion, Judge Baker

> **wrote that the restriction "provides no discernible medical benefit" to women and questioned lawmakers' intent in passing the law, known as Act 700.**
>
> **"This, coupled with the record evidence that Arkansas has enacted more than 25 laws regulating abortion access in the state, including 12 enacted in 2019 alone, gives the court pause with respect to the purpose of Act 700," she wrote.**

In oral arguments, the state of Arkansas argued that the board-certified requirement was similar to a Mississippi law that U.S. District Judge Dan Jordan upheld in March 2018.

The *Associated Press's* Emily Wagster Pettus, in explaining the Mississippi decision, wrote

> **State attorneys said in defending the OB-GYN requirement that a physician must complete a four-year residency in obstetrics and gynecology to become board-certified or board-eligible.**
>
> **Jordan wrote that because of this, he rejects opinions by plaintiffs' experts who testified the OB-GYN requirement provided no benefit to women seeking abortions. He added, though, that the provision in the 2012 law was no stronger than what had existed in a previous law.**

Hold the Presses. NYTimes concedes Trump more popular than they lead on

From page 2

*Amplifying on the first takeaway—that Trump's popularity has not topped out–Cohn observes

But it is not 2016 anymore. Millions of Americans who did not like the president in 2016 now say they do. Over all, his personal favorability rating has increased by about 10 percentage points among registered voters since Election Day 2016, to 44 percent from 34 percent, according to Upshot estimates.

At the risk of stating the obvious, an increase of **10** percentage points is enormous.

Without getting too deep in the weeds, some of that increase must be Republicans who opposed Trump in 2016 but it must also include some Independents or former Democrats.

*Cohn doesn't buy into the "hidden" or "shy" Trump voter thesis. Be that as it may, he writes

In some periods over the last few months, his job approval rating increased to among the highest levels of his term, according to live-interview telephone polls, long considered the gold standard of public opinion research. In live-interview polls of registered voters since June, Mr. Trump's job approval rating has averaged 46.4 percent, higher than his 45.9 percent vote share in 2016. (This analysis excludes those respondents who did not offer an opinion about the president.) Curiously, online polls have not shown this same increase; in fact, they've shown no increase at all.

As he should, Cohn reminds us that all of this guarantees nothing. Things change—they always do—and we are 15 months away from the 2020 presidential election. And we don't know whom the Democrats will nominate—and how he or she will fare when the general public finally begins to look at them as a possible president.

But this analysis is not only encouraging, it is a reminder that facts are stubborn things that even Trump haters like the *New York Times* periodically must acknowledge.

Ethically corrupt and inherently immoral, abortion and assisted suicide challenge the very foundations of a civilized society

From page 25

suggest to them that they should have their children euthanized. Euthanasia – Greek for "good death" – is being employed as eugenics, which is Greek for "good birth." Just as abortion is used to kill pre-born children with Down syndrome and other conditions, euthanasia is already being used to kill born people deemed less than perfect. …

Assisted suicide could be used by children to pressure parents into accepting this "service." Instances of children encouraging their parents to take this route have surfaced in the United States and Europe already. As people live longer and thus spend much of their savings on their own care, the reaction of selfish offspring watching "their" inheritance shrink should be noted. (In fact, the Calgary Herald recently published a column describing the anticipated "bequest boom" over the next decade, in which Canadian parents are anticipated to turn over $750 billion in inheritance over to their children).

Parents pitted against their own children, children pitted against their own parents. The "market" in "imperfections" resembles the real estate boom of the early 2000s.

Reverence for the uniqueness of every single life is treated with disdain, dismissed as a left-over from a by-gone era (and, they would add, good riddance).

You get the picture.

That's why euthanasia/assisted suicide is every bit as awful, every bit of an encouragement of the dog-eat-dog mentality, as abortion is.

That is why from its very beginning, National Right to Life opposed euthanasia/assisted suicide just as vigorously and with equal determination as it did abortion.