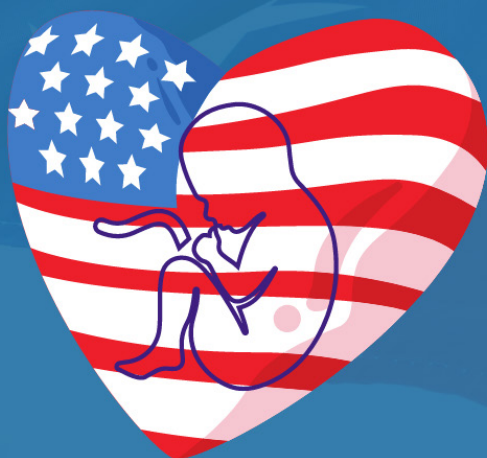




November 2022

NATIONAL RIGHT TO LIFE

**NOW MORE THAN EVER,
WE MUST CONTINUE OUR
FIGHT FOR LIFE**



**POST ELECTION
COVERAGE**



Elections and the power of the press to suppress truth

By Jacki Ragan, Director, State Organizational Development Department

In the aftermath of the November 8th elections, so many things--thoughts, ideas, nonsense--take hold of my brain and runs with it. It is hard not to get caught up in the "talking heads" and "latest polls of the moment" type of election hype. They want to convince us that they can tell everyone who will win before the first vote is cast. Why not, it equals ratings and that is what the press lives on and for.

But they have a power that most people do not recognize. The power to repeat a lie, over and over, and over again, until people begin to believe what they know at some level in their soul is wrong.

WE ARE THE GRASSROOTS



On Election Day, there were 5 abortion related Ballot measures in the country that passed or failed depending on the wording. Not one came down on the side of life. Not one. And the outcomes weren't close.

We have excellent affiliates where these initiatives were held and they worked harder than you can imagine to either pass them or prevent them from passing.

Let's run through them. First, California's Proposition 1, A Constitutional Right to Reproductive Freedom. The State

See Elections, Page 31

Recapping the 2022 Elections: the Fight for Life goes On

By Karen Cross, NRL Political Director

The most important result of the 2022 midterm elections for the pro-life movement is undoubtedly that the Republican Party is on track to retake the U.S. House. As of our print deadline, Republicans need just one more outstanding race to be called in their favor to win the majority and seize the gavel from pro-abortion Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

This key victory gives the pro-life movement the opportunity to stop pro-abortion measures coming from the Biden Administration and the Democrat-controlled Senate dead in their

tracks. Republicans will have the power to prevent the passage of radical pro-abortion legislation like the so-called *Women's Health Protection Act*, which aims to permanently enshrine abortion in federal law and policies, and strike down virtually all state-level protections for unborn children and their mothers like parental involvement and informed consent laws.

When the Democrats held the majority, they voted

See Fight, Page 32



Editorials

The *NY Times* explains how Democrats manipulated the abortion issue to their advantage

What an amazing revelation. Of all the publications, the last one you would expect to publish a story explaining how Democrats manipulated the abortion issue to their advantage would be the *New York Times*. But that's what appeared in a story written by Lisa Lerer and Elizabeth Dias.

To be sure, there were multiple stories gleefully extolling the victories in five different abortion referenda. But while "How Democrats Used the Abortion Debate to Hold Off a Red Wave" was no less triumphant, it contained an admission from Celinda Lake, the longtime Democratic pollster, that pro-lifers should listen to.

But first an explanation of how Democrats were able to take President Biden's miserable approval rating and galloping inflation and soaring gas prices and—strange as it seems—use it to their advantage.

Democrats "wove the issue [abortion] into broader Democratic messages that framed the election as a referendum on what they describe as Republicans' 'extreme' views, and not on President Biden and Democratic control in Washington," they wrote. "It was all tied together," Representative Diana DeGette, the Colorado Democrat and longtime head of the Pro-Choice Caucus in the House, said on Wednesday morning. "It wasn't like, here's our wedge issue — abortion. People were thinking, 'I'm worried about the economy. I'm worried about freedoms being taken away,' and they were worried about democracy, too."

For the zillionth time, Democrats successfully "wove abortion" into a garment made up of other issues. But to return to the Republicans alleged "extreme" views," specifically on abortion.

How could that be? Is it not Democrats who, as time has gone by,

The New York Times

have fully embraced abortion throughout the entire pregnancy? Good heavens, do they not even defend failure to treat abortion survivors?

For starters, they had money galore and used those resources to flood the airwaves. "Those wins came after a tsunami of advertising nationwide," Lerer and Dias write. "In total, Democrats spent nearly half a billion dollars on ads mentioning abortion, more than twice what they spent on the second-closest issue, crime, according to AdImpact, an ad-tracking firm."

See *NY Times*, Page 34

When doing "nothing" would save countless lives

Pro-abortion President Joe Biden held a press conference the day after the midterm elections. The first question asked by Zeke Miller of the *Associated Press* was what would he "do differently" over the next two years given that 75% of the country thinks we are headed in the wrong direction?

Biden said "Nothing. ... The more they know about what we're doing, the more support there is."

Really? I would bet money that the more the public knows about his strident support for advancing the culture of death, the less support there would be. For example....

Is the public interested in

"codifying Roe"? Not when what that means is spelled out, that's for sure.

When he talks about "codifying Roe" the President is alluding to the preposterously mislabeled "Women's Health Protection Act."

"Codifying Roe" is the Big Lie which Democrats keep peddling. The Women's Health Protection Act "would nullify nearly all existing protective state laws," said Jennifer Popik, J.D., director of Federal Legislation for National Right to Life. "In addition, this legislation also would have prohibited states from adopting new protective laws in the future, even laws specifically upheld as

constitutionally permissible by the U.S. Supreme Court."

Does the public want its tax dollars used to pay for abortions? Hardly. Biden would overturn the Hyde Amendment which has prevented that from happening. Not only has the Hyde Amendment enjoyed 45 years of bipartisan support, it enjoys strong support among the people.

This past summer in Madrid, Mr. Biden told reporters

The most important thing to be clear about is we have to codify Roe v. Wade into law and the way to do that is to make sure Congress votes to do that," Mr. Biden told

reporters during a press conference in Spain.

And for good measure, he said **"And if the filibuster gets in the way, it's like voting rights, it should be provided an exception for this...to the filibuster.**

Does the public want its dollars spent at home and overseas to increase the number of abortions? "President Biden's HHS has erased Trump's *Protect Life Rule*, refunneling Title X money to abortion giant Planned

See *Nothing*, Page 39

From the President Carol Tobias

We Move Forward



Well... there is no point beating around the bush. The November elections didn't go as well as we had hoped. Some states had fantastic victories but the level of strength we hoped for in Congress didn't materialize. And the statewide ballot measures did not end well for unborn children.

There is still an important race to win. Because neither pro-life Herschel Walker nor pro-abortion Senator Raphael Warnock secured 50% of the vote, there is run-off in December in Georgia. If you can financially help NRLC's activities in that race, I would ask that you do so.

An article in *The New York Times* analyzing election efforts by the Democrat party reported, "In total, Democrats spent nearly half a billion dollars on ads mentioning abortion, more than twice what they spent on the second-closest issue, crime, according to AdImpact, an ad-tracking firm."

If you saw any of the pro-abortion ads, you also saw unprecedented attacks using fabrications and misrepresentations against pro-life candidates as they hid deception and spin.

It's always helpful to sit back, take a deep breath, and figure out what happened and what else we need to do, whether differently or just more effectively. But are we going to give up? Of course not! We've had setbacks before, but we have always kept going. We need to do so again because the lives of our littlest brothers and sisters depend on us.

The pro-life movement always has been, and always will be, resilient. It took almost 50 years to correct *Roe v. Wade*, a grievous error on the part of misguided Supreme Court members. We had many setbacks during that time, but we didn't quit. We knew that our mission of protecting the most innocent and vulnerable among us was the right thing to do.

Let's look to the coming year as a year of growth and opportunity.

It's clear that too many people don't

understand or recognize the humanity of the unborn child. Too many still think of the developing child as a "blob of tissue," a mass of cells that somehow miraculously becomes a baby shortly before birth.

NRLC has a social media campaign called #40Weeks40Facts. Let's work even harder to inform our society about the amazing gift of life. The information in those postings needs to be widely promoted.

Along with beautiful pictures, the #40Weeks40Facts campaign includes these amazing facts:

Week 3: The baby's heart begins its first halting beats as early as 18 days after conception. Fun fact: Between fertilization & birth, the heart beats about 54 million times! Watch this short video about more fetal development in the womb [Baby's First Months](#).

Week 5: The embryo's liver starts to produce blood cells! The stomach and other organs are developing & permanent kidneys appear. Fun fact: the skin, only one cell thick, is transparent—

we can SEE developing organs! The tiny one is the size of a peppercorn.

Week 7: The preborn baby's legs are developing as knee joints appear and the baby can kick. She will also jump if startled and has started sucking her thumb.

Week 8: This tiny one is largely developed. The formation of the hypothalamus starts—it

controls heart rate, body temp, blood pressure & more! The upper & lower eyelids begin to fuse together, making the appearance of closed eyes.

And I call your attention to an amazing article, written by Randall K. O'Bannon,



PhD, NRLC's Director of Education & Research, entitled, "[The Glory of Our Humanity Begins With a Single Cell](#)"

Almost everyone in society considers themselves to be a caring, compassionate person. Let's help them to recognize that their compassion needs to extend to the most precious and innocent humans among us.

A Look Ahead to the New 118th Congress

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

At the time of this writing, the nation awaits results in several key House races across the country. The House appears to be poised to flip to Republican control with around a dozen seats too close to call. The Senate will

continue to briefly control both lower chambers.

According to floor remarks from Sen. Charles Schumer, “We still have much to do and many important bills to consider. Members should be prepared

what we’re doing. The more they know about what we’re doing, the more support there is.”

The Biden Administration has been hard at work furiously attempting to short circuit the legislative process and expand

“health” exception. The administration is also hard at work attempting to try and expand chemical abortion, even in states that protect life.

With an administration so focused on expanding abortion, all eyes will be on Congress for the next two years.

The Senate has currently been operating with the narrowest of majorities. With a 50-50 split in the Senate, Democrats lack the votes to overcome the filibuster’s 60-vote threshold. And because of the commitment of Senators Kyrsten Sinema (D-Az.) and Joe Manchin (D-Wv.) to vote to maintain the filibuster, the Democrat leadership does not have the votes to abolish the filibuster either completely, nor on a bill-by-bill basis. As a result, radical bills like the Women’s Health Protection Act (abortion without limits until birth) have remained out of reach.

If Sen. Warnock were to defeat Herschel Walker for the Georgia senate seat, Democrats would control 51-49, placing even sharper pressure to abolish the filibuster. If the legislative filibuster falls, legislation to expand abortion would certainly be a priority in the Senate.

With a critical Senate race still outstanding, pro-life Americans must remain vigilant to retain the common-sense protections related to government funding of abortion, and must seek to push back against the radical Biden abortion agenda.



remain under Democrat control, but whether they control with 50-50 (with Vice President Kamala Harris being a tie-breaking vote) or with 51 seats remains to be seen. Sen. Raphael Warnock and Herschel Walker will face each other in a December 6th runoff in Georgia.

In the wake of the *Dobbs* decision that overturned *Roe v. Wade*, and campaigns that focused heavily on abortion, one thing is clear: the Democratic Party is the party of unlimited abortion.

The current 117th Congress will now enter the “lame duck” session, with several tasks yet to accomplish. Democrats will

for an extremely, underline extremely, busy agenda in the last two months of this Congress.”

Pro-life groups continue to remain vigilant on the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) and on fiscal 2023 appropriations spending package for items related to government funding of abortion.

As for the next Congress, President Biden was recently asked by a reporter “What in the next two years do you intend to do differently to change people’s opinion of the direction of the country, particularly as you contemplate a run for President in 2024?” He responded, “Nothing, because they’re just finding out

abortion. President Biden and his administration have taken a series of anti-life actions, including executive orders.

In January 2021, less than a week after taking office, President Biden issued an executive order forcing American taxpayers to fund groups that promote abortion overseas (rescinding the Trump administration’s Global Protect Life or Mexico City policy). In the time since, the administration has been issuing opinions aimed at funding abortion travel in violation of the Hyde Amendment.

In addition, they are promoting abortion in the VA in likely violation of federal law by including an incredibly broad

NPR profiles “all trimester” clinic expected to open in Maryland

By Monica Snyder

Editor’s note. This appeared at Secular Pro-Life and is reposted with permission.

Melissa Block with *NPR* spoke to Dr. Diane Horvath and Morgan Nuzzo about the clinic they are opening in Maryland, “Partners in Abortion Care.” Calling it an “all trimester” clinic, the article specifies

When it opens... Partners in Abortion Care will be one of only a handful of clinics in the United States that offer abortions into the third trimester — in this case, up to 34 weeks’ gestation. A full-term pregnancy typically lasts 40 weeks.

Most people believe late-term abortion (here referring to abortion at or after 21 weeks) is not only very rare, but also done

exclusively (or nearly exclusively) for medical emergencies such as if the woman’s life is threatened or the fetus has a fatal anomaly. Pro-choicers repeat this talking point ad nauseum, despite the

situations. So I was surprised to see *NPR* candidly acknowledge that’s not actually the case:

When their all-trimester clinic opens, Horvath and Nuzzo expect to

later in pregnancy. It could be a patient whose continued pregnancy threatens their health. It could be someone who didn’t discover they were pregnant until after the first trimester.

Block goes on to explain additional reasons women seek later abortions: they may lack the time and resources for earlier abortions, and now there are more places around the country that restrict access very early. Block does not specifically mention (but research also shows) that some women also seek later abortion because they struggled to decide whether they wanted to abort. This article serves as another data point suggesting that the idea that late-term abortions only happen for medical emergencies is a myth.



evidence suggesting otherwise. And when major news outlets address the issue of later abortion at all, they usually also imply it’s done primarily in severe medical

treat perhaps 10 people each week. It could be someone whose fetus has serious anomalies, which are often only discovered

They need us, NOW more than ever!

Giving Tuesday
11-29-2022
nrlc.org

We continue to fight for them.





Biden says there may not be enough votes in the new Congress to “codify Roe,” will promote abortion in every way possible

By Dave Andrusko

As I write this, it appears Republicans will win control of the House of Representatives. The importance of this cannot be exaggerated. Following the elections, the Senate will remain evenly split—50-50—if pro-life Herschel Walker defeats pro-abortion Sen. Raphael Warnock in a December 6th runoff, or 51-49, if Walker loses.

Pro-abortion President Joe Biden (as they say) made news Monday. It came at solo press conference in Indonesia. Biden virtually always takes questions only from preselected reporters but today was different. *NBC's* Peter Alexander shouted out, “Mr. President what should Americans expect from Congress as it relates to abortion rights after the midterms?”

Biden said, “I don’t think there’s enough votes to codify [Roe] unless something happens unusual in the House.” He added, “I think we’re going to get very close in the House ... but I don’t think we’re going to make it.” And

then, as if he regretted answering the question, Biden said, “I don’t think they can expect much of anything other than we’re going



*Pro-abortion President
Joe Biden*

to maintain our positions. I’m not going to get into more questions. I shouldn’t even have answered your question.”

In October, the President said, “The first bill I will send to the Congress will be to codify *Roe v.*

Wade. And when Congress passes it, I’ll sign it in January, 50 years after *Roe* was first decided the law of the land.”

“Codifying *Roe*” is shorthand for abortion on demand and then some. “Codifying *Roe*” is the Big Lie which Democrats keep peddling. The Women’s Health Protection Act “would nullify nearly all existing protective state laws,” said Jennifer Popik, J.D., director of Federal Legislation for National Right to Life. “In addition, this legislation also would have prohibited states from adopting new protective laws in the future, even laws specifically upheld as constitutionally permissible by the U.S. Supreme Court.”

There’s no shortage of interest in promoting abortion. On Sunday, White House senior adviser Anita Dunn, appearing on *Face the Nation*, said that President Biden will push Congress to legalize abortion on demand nationwide if Democrats win control of both houses.

So, the president has been very clear, he believes Congress needs to codify *Roe* versus *Wade* so that it is the national law of the land. And he has said, if Democrats control the House and the Senate, that he will send a bill to codify this nationally.

But there many other avenues to allow for a greater number of abortions, as Dunn proudly pointed out.

He will continue to work, as our administration has, since this ruling came down, to make sure that the travel of women who want to go to states where abortion is legal is not impeded, that people are able to get reproductive health care, that women who have other medical issues aren't denied care, which is happening, Margaret [Brennan].

Texas's abortion total drops from 2,770 to 10 as abortion ban saves over 10,000 babies nationwide

By Dave Andrusko

It comes from a pro-abortion source—#WeCount, a national research project lead by the Society of Family Planning—but they have provided invaluable information gauging the effect of the reversal of *Roe v. Wade* on the number of abortions in various states.

We reported on the preliminary results in late October in a report leaked exclusively to *FiveThirtyEight*.

The data set “shows that in the two months after the Supreme Court decision, there were 10,570 fewer abortions as compared to pre-Dobbs estimates.” That was a nationwide drop of an estimated 6%.

Teresa Woodard of *WFAA-TV* reported on the impact in Texas. The astonishing headline read, “Report says 2,770 abortions were provided in Texas in April. By August, that number fell to 10.”

10!

Pro-lifers, of course were delighted.

“This means there are children alive today who otherwise would not have been if not for this Supreme Court decision and this epic victory,” Kimberlyn

Schwartz of Texas Right to Life told Woodard.

“I expect more data will show we’re saving even more lives

decades, some were passed in the past few years. Some laws are in effect, others are tied up in court.

Margot Sanger-Katz and Claire



than what is being shown in this study,” she said.

Texas, along with more than dozen states, began enforcing state laws which were overridden by *Roe*, but not taken off the books. Some laws go back many

Cain Miller of the *New York Times* wrote

“Thirteen states banned or severely restricted abortion during those months, mostly in the South, and legal

abortions in those states fell to close to zero, according to detailed estimates made by a consortium of academics and abortion. Nine more states added major abortion restrictions, and legal abortions in those states fell by a third. In states with bans and restrictions, there were about 22,000 fewer abortions in July and August, compared with the baseline of April, before the decision.”

#WeCount is a new organization, spawned by the pro-abortion Society of Family Planning. “It is collecting abortion data from clinics, hospitals and telemedicine providers across the United States,” according to Sanger-Katz and Miller. “It obtained detailed abortion counts from 79 percent of the nation’s abortion providers, which were responsible for 82 percent of all abortions before the court’s *Dobbs* decision. Researchers used adjustments based on state data and time trends to estimate the missing data.”

The Abortion Lobby hates Pregnancy Help Centers. Here's why

By Dave Andrusko

Can you imagine anything that what would scare pro-abortion Democrats more than the movement in large numbers of Latinos voting for Republicans? Frankly, I can't.

Measurements are notoriously incomplete, but at least 35% of Latinos say they will vote for Republicans this year. Very recently Democrats enjoyed as much as a 40 point advantage.

We've written a boatload of stories about how much pro-abortionists hate—HATE—pregnancy help centers. They tout “choice,” but will do anything to stifle PHCs, including laws that have only one objective: to make it impossible to do their saintly work, to give women a choice.

Disproportionately of limited means, Latinas benefit enormously from the work of Pregnancy Help Centers.

“Latinas have long been targeted by abortion misinformation,” complains Adrianna Rodriguez. “It's getting worse, experts say.” The subhead for her story is “The Latino community has been targeted by false information that's meant to discourage abortions.”

Of course “false information” includes anything they don't like. For example, the use of fetal models.

“Anti-abortion advocates also are

capitalizing on the moment to push old ads with false claims, Bolaños Perea said. The most prevalent include misinformation and disinformation about fetal development. ...

“These images are emotionally charged, and by putting them on these pamphlets they're forcing the patient to assign personhood to a pregnancy that she isn't thinking of in that way,” she said. “It's very manipulative.”

Talk about the pot calling the kettle black! Minimizing the humanity of the unborn; lying about what features the baby possesses even early in pregnancy; pretending chemical abortions won't hurt incredibly—distortion and misinformation are the Abortion Industry's stock in trade.

Rodriguez continue

Other misleading sites warn against “post-abortion syndrome,” a fabricated form of depression, and promote “abortion reversals.” Previous research confirms women who have abortions are not at a higher risk of mental health issues compared

to those who carry out an unwanted pregnancy, and abortions cannot be reversed.

Nothing will convince them that women can and will experience emotional aftershocks from an



abortion. Nothing. Consider this. When a woman undergoes a chemical abortion, imagine what she feels when she faces the realistic possibility of seeing her dead baby's remains.

As for Abortion Pill Reversal, we've debunked the myth that APR doesn't work probably 75 times. As Kim Hayes wrote

Reversal entails prescribing bioidentical progesterone to counter the first abortion drug. It is an update application of a treatment used since the 1950s to combat miscarriage.

Statistics from the

Abortion Pill Rescue® Network (APRN) show that more than 3,500 lives have been saved through Abortion Pill Reversal.

More than 150 women call the APRN each month seeking reversal

of the abortion pill, Dr. George Delgado [medical advisor to APRN] explained on a recent broadcast of the OANN In Focus program.

“This is a large number of women,” Delgado said, “and we know that over 3,000 babies have been documented to be born after successful abortion pill reversals.”

Now that *Roe v. Wade* has been overturned, the need for Pregnancy Help Centers is greater than ever. And they won't allow pro-abortion lies to stand in the way.

Looking to the future with hope, knowing that our cause is just and that life will win in the end

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

In all the post-election drama, little things can be missed. But sometimes in life, the little things are what matter most.

It was a routine trip to the hair stylist that brought this phenomenon again to my mind. I was sitting in the styling chair, contemplating election results, when I heard a young boy bound into the salon. He was there with his father for a routine haircut.

It is not an overstatement to say that this little boy brought life and a healthy dose of joy into this environment. His zest for life was infectious and immediately elevated my mood.

Children liven things up! They make us see life from a different, fresh perspective. As we attend to their needs, they can bring out the best in each of us. In welcoming the child in our midst, we are welcoming new life.

My next eye-opening experience came in the confines of my office,

as I met with a young immigrant woman who has just joined the pro-life cause. She smiled broadly as I discussed breakthroughs in pro-life advocacy. She is excited and motivated to enhance our efforts to reach out to our Commonwealth with a message of life-affirming love.

It is always wonderful to welcome a new person into the pro-life movement. They bring with them an enthusiasm that is contagious. New faces reinvigorate our movement and help strengthen it. As advocates for life, we should always be in recruiting mode, bringing new people into the fold.

I realize that, as pro-lifers, we face a number of challenges in the coming year, especially in my home state of Pennsylvania. But we can look to the future with hope, knowing that our cause is just and that life will, indeed, win in the end.



ABORTION

is not a "human right"
when another

HUMAN'S RIGHTS

are taken away.

Democrats' distortion and disinformation campaign not enough, they also peddle blatant lies to fool the public

By Laura Echevarria, Director of Communications and Press Secretary

One of the most mendacious arguments made during the election cycle by Democrats was nothing short of a reckless disregard for the truth. The pro-abortion movement used a broad definition of "abortion" that included miscarriages and the treatment of miscarriages to scare viewers. Ads describing women unable to get treatment for miscarriages or other life-threatening situations ran on local stations and social media platforms as well as streaming services such as Pluto and Roku.

The fearmongering was rampant. In race after race, in state after state, millions of dollars in ads aired that were produced by dozens of pro-abortion groups including the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC). Ads similar to this one from the DCCC that aired in Virginia's 2nd Congressional District race ran on airwaves across the country. [Jen Kiggans is the pro-life Republican.]:

"SORRY" TRANSCRIPT:

Woman: I need help.

Nurse: I'm sorry, thanks to politicians like Jen Kiggans who applauded the overturning of Roe, and voted to restrict your reproductive freedom...

Woman: There's nowhere to go?

Nurse: It's worse than that. If Kiggans' extremist allies in Congress get their way, you are potentially a criminal – and so am I.

Woman: But let me explain my situation –

Nurse: I'm sorry. We won't be able to help you.

Narrator: Not anymore. Not in Jen Kiggans' Virginia.

Axios reported on October 31, less than two weeks before the election, that "In a midterm cycle dominated by attempts to paint the other side as extreme, the ads in question range from disputed to outright fabrications. But almost invariably, they focus on one of two major issues driving campaign messaging: crime and abortion."

Axios later noted comments by Jennifer Stromer-Galley, a professor at Syracuse University's School of Information Studies:

"We've gone from stretching the truth to just constructing an entirely new reality," she told Axios. "Our democracy requires the public has correct information in order to make a judgment in their best interests. We are currently and increasingly in an informational environment where they cannot do that because it's full of deceptions."

What many voters do not realize is that under federal law, the television stations that run candidate ads are not liable for any

misstatements or fabrications made by the campaigns in those ads. This means that a television station can run a candidate's ads—even if those ads are full of falsehoods—and make money from the ad campaign without repercussions.

Federal law requires that candidates be given equal time but if one candidate raises \$4.5 million from outside groups and donors and the other candidate has only \$1 million, the candidates with only \$1 million will not have the means to run counterattack ads with the same frequency.

It doesn't help that few news outlets spent time investigating the half-truths and falsehoods in these ads.

One of the few reports was a brief analysis by *CNN* of campaigns ads in four races. In all four races, *CNN* reported that the Republican candidates position on abortion was being misrepresented,

Many of the Democratic ads accurately describe their Republican targets' strict anti-

abortion positions. But some others employ slippery phrasing and the power of insinuation to promote the impression that certain Republican candidates have taken more aggressive anti-abortion stands than these candidates actually have.

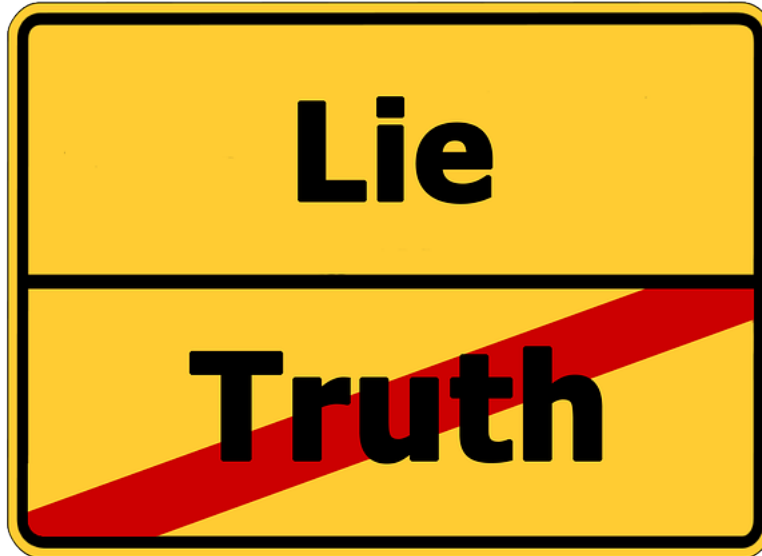
Because of the scare tactics employed by pro-abortion groups immediately following Dobbs and aggressive political campaigns that built on that fearmongering, television ads created by pro-abortion campaigns created fictional scenarios based on falsehoods. Viewers were told that pro-life candidates wanted to see women arrested for having an abortion or left to die from a life-threatening infection from a miscarriage or ectopic pregnancy.

After the election, an article in *The New York Times* noted that,

Soon after the [Dobbs] decision in June, Democratic Party committees invested in detailed polling, hoping to drill down on what exact messaging worked best. There was a clear conclusion: The most potent messaging for Democrats was to keep the conversation broad by casting Republicans as supporting a national ban on abortion, and avoid a discussion over the details about gestational week limits.

[Underlining mine.]

Proving once again that when pro-abortion groups and their allies have to talk about what happens in an abortion, they lose. The only way they can talk about the issue is to avoid talking about abortion and the unborn baby and resort to lies and obfuscation.



Abortion Myths That Need Dismantling: Six Week Bans Take Effect Before Many Women Know They're Pregnant

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

It is hard to tell exactly when or where the first statement was made, but shortly after pro-lifers introduced the first "Heartbeat Bill" in 2011, pro-abortion activists began complaining that the law, if passed, would ban abortions as early as the sixth week of pregnancy, at a time before "many" or even "most" women even know that they are pregnant.

The intended implication clearly is that such a law is really effectively a ban on abortion, as many, if not most women won't realize they are pregnant until after the six week deadline has passed. The law's allowance of abortions prior to that time is meaningless, they infer, if a woman never really has an authentic opportunity to exercise that "right," "choice," or provision within that time frame.

But is this really so early that many of these women don't even realize they are pregnant? Is it really that difficult to figure out? What do the statistics show about women having abortions at six weeks or less?

Abortions do drop once a heartbeat bill is in place, but plenty of women still have abortions before six weeks of pregnancy, clearly indicating they do, in fact, know that they are pregnant. Those who forego abortions may be doing so because the information that their baby has a heartbeat at six weeks may change their minds and intentions.

A myth pushed by the press and abortion advocates

Like many of the abortion lobby's claims, this is accepted as a truism and is constantly repeated in the media.

The Advocacy Team of the Center for American Progress, in an article titled, "The Latest Extreme Anti-Abortion Trend,"

Jan 31, 2013, said "Now Republicans are starting off 2013 with another major anti-abortion push in the states. This time the push is around so-called 'fetal heartbeat' bills — bills that attempt to ban abortion as soon as a fetal heartbeat can be detected. This means abortion could be banned after just six weeks, which is before many women even know they are pregnant."

In December of 15, 2016, Jessica Goldstein wrote in Think Progress that Ohio Governor John Kasich had line item vetoed a law which "would have banned an abortion after six weeks, before most women even know they are pregnant."

The phrase reflects the official position of the Guttmacher Institute, the research arm of the pro-abortion movement, which declared as recently as January 1, 2019 that there had been "A Surge in Bans on Abortion as Early as Six Weeks, Before Most People Know They Are Pregnant."

CNN helpfully offered an article "Reasons a woman may not know she's pregnant at six weeks" in May 9, 2019, and the *New York Times* gave the myth its official blessing in a piece by Roni Caryn Rabin titled "Answers to Questions About the Texas Abortion Law," published September 1, 2021. The *Times* piece included the helpful subhead, "The law prohibits abortions before many women even know they're pregnant, and it will be hard to challenge in the courts."

Data show high numbers of abortion at six weeks

If many, or even most women didn't realize they were pregnant until six weeks after their last menstrual period (LMP), there would be few abortions performed

at this stage. But that is not what statistics show.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the federal agency responsible for collecting and publishing national abortion

pregnant by six weeks and simply took the time to collect funds or schedule the abortion at a time convenient to them.

Data published by the state of Texas subsequent to the Heartbeat



data, regularly reports on the number of abortions by gestational age. In its most recent report for abortions performed in 2019, 42.9% of abortions in the country were performed at six weeks gestation or less.

Though several states considered and passed such legislation between 2011 and 2022, because of legislative processes and court challenges, the first Heartbeat Law to take effect was in Texas, which began to be enforced in September of 2021. This means that the CDC gestational data reflects practice before any of these laws took effect.

The point is that, even without the clock ticking and the earliest (and cheapest) chemical and surgical abortions still widely available for several more weeks, nearly 43% of women not only knew they were pregnant but got abortions at six weeks or less. Many of the additional 36.4% who the CDC says got abortions between seven and nine weeks of gestation surely knew they were

Law's taking effect back up this contention. After recording 5,706 abortions in August of 2021, Texas showed only 2,251 abortions for the following month, September. Even if August was a bigger month, owing to women rushing to beat the deadline, the months prior to that, when abortions averaged about 5,000, show that even with the six week ban in effect, about 45% of women were still able to obtain abortions in Texas.

Statistics for the following months show the number of abortions ticking up a bit more, with December 2021 reaching 2,699, or about 54% of what they had been in May-July, 2021 before the law took effect.

Texas statistics for that year do not currently have a separate category for abortions at six weeks or less, but do show that all but 14 of the abortions it counted after September 2021 were performed by the eighth week, the lowest gestational window the state records.

Abortion Myths That Need Dismantling

From Page 11

If these statistics are accurate, “most” women clearly knew they were pregnant and were still able to get abortions within the six week window.

Put another way, if most women did not know they were pregnant, the number of abortions performed in that state would necessarily have fallen considerably more once the law took effect.

Planned Parenthood says drugstore pregnancy tests are at least 99% accurate at 5-6 weeks

While there are still the odd, occasional stories of women who go through an entire pregnancy and never realize they are pregnant until giving birth, there is really little reason in this modern age for any woman not to be able to determine whether or not she is pregnant.

As Planned Parenthood points out on its website, “The pregnancy tests you get at the drugstore work 99 out of 100 times” and are “just as accurate as a urine test that you’d get at a doctor’s office” (www.plannedparenthood.org/learn/pregnancy/pregnancy-tests, accessed 11/3/22).

The group tells women they can take a pregnancy tests “anytime after your period is late,” but adds that though some may work as early as 10 days after unprotected sex or a few days before a missed period, “your best bet for accurate results is to take a pregnancy test 3 weeks after sex.”

Given that ovulation tends to occur in the middle of a woman’s normal 28 day cycle and is an essential precursor to conception, pregnancy testing at the three week mark after unprotected intercourse practically means 5-6 weeks LMP, meaning she can know her status well within the legal limit.

Irregular periods and other objections

Pregnancy can be reliably

detected at six weeks or less even if a woman has irregular periods or otherwise thinks she has reason to doubt pregnancy. If she has had unprotected intercourse, even if she has been using some form of birth control, pregnancy is possible and it can usually be reliably detected three weeks later using a standard drugstore pregnancy test.

Some women do have irregular periods and may not know how to check for signs of ovulation and enhanced fertility. But unless they totally fail to understand the connection between intercourse and pregnancy and have special difficulty dating or tracking their sexual encounters, they still should be able to know when a test can reliably rule in or rule out pregnancy, before the six-week deadline occurs.

A woman on birth control may believe that she is incapable of conceiving, but no method on the market can advertise itself as 100% effective. The new law may not prevent such a woman from having an abortion, but it may encourage her, if she intends to have sex and would consider aborting that baby, to check for pregnancy three weeks after the encounter, even if she was using birth control.

Testing earlier than she might have planned won’t change the test result one way or the other, but it could alter her options.

If she has experienced spotting, she may think that is a sign she is not pregnant. But if she is well informed about sex and pregnancy, she will realize that spotting may occur when the baby implants in the uterine wall. Once again, the best thing to do is not to simply hope or assume but to take a pregnancy test as soon as three weeks after that original intercourse.

Claims that many women will still not know they are pregnant run counter to assertions by abortion advocates that women

do indeed know and are ready to manage chemical abortions on their own. April Lockley, a self-identified “abortion provider” defending “self-managed abortion” performed with pills ordered online, confidently declares “Most people know their own bodies—they know when they had a period, they know when they’re pregnant, they know when they’re no longer pregnant, and they know if they’re experiencing something that might need in-person medical care.”

If a substantial number of women do not know and do not understand how their bodies work and lack the knowledge, maturity, and responsibility to manage their own pregnancies, then abortion advocates should not only stop pushing “self-managed abortions” and stop petitioning the government to allow abortion pills to be ordered online and sent by mail without limitations, but should also drop any opposition to informed consent and parental involvement laws, which they sometimes portray as intrusive or unnecessary.

The law is saving some lives

While the Texas “Heartbeat Law” may have been one of the reasons for some women traveling to other states for abortion or even ordering abortion pills to be shipped to their homes, it is clear, even from the limited data available, that it has saved some babies lives.

The Texas statistics cited earlier showed more than 11,000 fewer abortions, in the four months following the law’s implementation, or about 2,750 fewer a month, and the four months that preceded it, the monthly numbers dropping more than half.

According to the New York Times, the Texas Policy Evaluation Project, an abortion supporting public policy group, surveyed clinics in surrounding

states and found out that a number of women (logistically and financially aided by Texas abortion groups), traveled to neighboring states to have abortions. They estimated that an average of 1,400 women visited one of seven neighboring states and got abortions there, displacing a significant part of the drop Texas.

Aid Access, a Dutch-based group selling Indian abortion pills online and delivering them by mail to American women, claimed that it as many as 1,100 Texas women a month ordered abortion pills. While this, taken together with the women having abortions out of state, would appear to account for a lot of the drop, it would not account for all of it.

Abigail Aiken, part of the Texas Policy Evaluation Project which tracked the out of state abortions, admitted to the *New York Times* that the law was at least “semi-effective” but noted it would not stop all abortions. Though higher numbers of prevented abortions would certainly be welcome, even the saving of a few hundred or even thousands of lives would give pro-lifers reason for celebration

Ultimately, the *Times* granted that while “The data shows the limitations of laws restricting abortion,” that same data “also shows how restrictions erect significant obstacles, which will cause some women to carry unwanted pregnancies to term,” which means babies will be born and not aborted.

The scope is broader, spread over the entire country, and covers laws ranging from outright bans to laws prohibiting abortions once an unborn child can be shown to be capable of experiencing pain (against states which encourage

“You’re doing a beautiful work, and that will continue” – Gratitude for the pregnancy help movement

By Lisa Bourne

Heartbeat International is honoring the many thousands of individuals who make pregnancy help happen each day across the world with a special observance of gratitude this week.

The staff, volunteers, executive directors, nurses, ultrasonographers, receptionists, board members, and more who serve women and families via pregnancy centers, pregnancy help medical clinics, maternity homes, and non-profit adoption agencies are all being celebrated with Heartbeat’s Pregnancy Help Appreciation Week.

Women and men receive the compassionate support they need when facing a life-changing decision because of the work of those serving in pregnancy help. Pregnancy help staff and volunteers walk alongside families in need throughout the woman’s pregnancy and beyond, blessing them with material and emotional support, ultrasounds, parenting and other classes, and much more at no cost.

The ninth annual Pregnancy Help Appreciation Week is November 7-11, 2022, and comes as pregnancy help is on the receiving end of widespread hostility, attack, and denigration from abortion supporters in Congress and beyond in response to the *Dobb v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization* ruling overturning *Roe v. Wade* earlier this year.

Nonetheless, pregnancy help will prevail, and the pregnancy help community has the support of Heartbeat International and others in and outside the pregnancy help and pro-life movements, said Peggy Hartshorn, Heartbeat International Board chair and former longtime Heartbeat president.

“We know that this has been a challenging year and will

continue to be as we sort out the effects of the Dobbs decision,” Hartshorn said. “But you’re doing a beautiful work, and that will continue.”

Hartshorn and her husband have been performing hands-on pregnancy help since 1975 and continue to do so.

“We’re still partnering with you through Heartbeat International,” Hartshorn told pregnancy help organizations. “All of us here are just thrilled with the work that is being accomplished, that the Holy Spirit is doing through you out there right now.”

“We’re in it with you,” Hartshorn said. “We’re here to support and help in every way we can, and we’re just thrilled to see the fruit of your work as it continues.”

Heartbeat International is the largest network of pregnancy help in the U.S. and globally with more than 3,100 affiliated pregnancy help locations in more than 81 countries worldwide and nearly 2,000 affiliated pregnancy help locations in the U.S.

Heartbeat serves and celebrates pregnancy help organizations whether they are affiliates of Heartbeat, one or both of the other two major networks, NIFLA (the National Institute of Family and Life Advocates) and Care Net, or none.

The need for and the impact of pregnancy help have both existed for many years, with Heartbeat having served the movement for more than 50 years.

Roughly 2,700-plus pregnancy centers served almost two million people in 2019 in the U.S. alone, according to the latest report from CLI. The centers surveyed by CLI were affiliates of all three networks, and they provide crucial medical, education, support, and material service to women and families – saving communities an

estimated \$270 million.

With these overall figures from U.S. centers and Heartbeat numbers showing that its affiliates alone saw more than 5.6M total client visits, including virtual, at affiliate pregnancy help

pregnancy help is that it goes back not just 50 years, not just a hundred years, it goes back a millennia,” he said. “We actually see it in the scriptures with the Hebrew midwives. So, it goes way back, and it’s part of our



organizations worldwide in 2020, millions of people are served each year worldwide by pregnancy help.

Additionally, post-visit surveys indicate centers have extraordinarily high rates of client satisfaction.

During Pregnancy Help Appreciation Week pregnancy centers are given special offers for pregnancy help resources and materials, they receive extra thanks and prayer, they can take part in prayer and praise, and they have the opportunity to tell their pregnancy help story.

Whether pregnancy help servants sit in the executive chair, on the center board, in the counseling room or the classroom, or they help in the boutique or serve on a committee, they are appreciated, said Heartbeat International President Jor-El Godsey.

“We are grateful for you and for all you do,” Godsey said.

One of the amazing things about

DNA as presenting and sharing the Gospel of life.”

Unplanned Movie star Ashley Bratcher is a fan of pregnancy help, having advocated for pregnancy help since starring in the film, and partnering with Heartbeat International for the *Unplanned Movie* Scholarship.

Bratcher said she had spent the last year and a half traveling the U.S. and the world this has given her a good look at the pregnancy help community.

“I have seen what everyone is doing in this movement to help women, to help families, to create a culture of life,” she said. “You are the ones who are the real heroes.”

While she had gotten to play one in a movie, Bratcher said, “You guys are the ones that are out there on the front lines, and you’re fighting for life.”

Mommies Matter, so ministry rises to meet the long-term, ongoing needs of families facing unplanned pregnancy

By Kim Hayes

Community and long-term help for women and families facing unplanned pregnancy are at the heart of the Mommies Matter ministry.

Mommies Matter is faith based, pro-love, and pro-woman.

“To teach the mind you have to touch the heart,” said Founder and Executive Director Monica Flynn, describing the approach of Mommies Matter.

Flynn previously served at Central Ohio’s Pregnancy Decision Health Center (PDHC). She was part of many excellent life-saving services there and wanted to see even more offered to families in crisis.

Mommies Matter “provides an extension of pregnancy care services by journeying with single mothers through their pregnancies, the birth of their child, and beyond,” according to the ministry’s website.

The staff and volunteers build on-going relationships with their clients with no set “expiration date.”

“It is a way out of generational cycles of trauma and poverty,” Flynn explained.

Flynn referred to the relationship between staff, volunteers, and the mommies as a “covenant between equals.”

The ministry has been a GIFT to many families in the four short years it has been around. The GIFT acronym describes their services: **G**roup Support, **I**ndividualized assistance, **F**inancial assistance and services, **T**herapy (counseling).

Shannon, one of the 40 or so clients of Mommies Matter, is the mother of five and has been served by Mommies Matter for over two years. She is a testament

to the vision of Mommies Matter which is, “For every mother to embrace her value and dignity as a woman.”

Shannon openly expresses her gratitude to Mommies Matter, sharing her story in her own words in a video for the organization.

“They support you through it all,” she said.

The material aid Shannon has received has been significant, including a van and six months of the insurance for it paid.

Initially Shannon received services while pregnant with her daughter who is now two. At the time she had two teenagers and was not prepared for a motherhood re-start.

Months after her daughter’s birth, Shannon was devastated to learn she was pregnant with twins. For many women, raising five children on their own would mean financial insecurity and little hope for a better future.

Mommies Matter’s intervention for Shannon meant upgrades in her life on all counts. She learned to budget and utilize resources and the support offered to improve her family’s life for the long term.

Now she is in college while

raising her little ones, working toward becoming a social worker so she can serve others.

“I am at a point in my life where I want to help and I use it and benefit from it so that I won’t need the same help again,” stated Shannon.



Mommies Matter specializes in finding local services as well as gathering resources where a family’s needs would otherwise fall through the cracks.

Like any 501(c) (3), Mommies Matter fundraises, but they have carved out a unique opportunity for women in church and community groups to do so in a fun and creative manner. Princess Tea Parties give moms and daughters a special event to celebrate being daughters of the King while benefitting the great work of Mommies Matter.

“I will say one of the best things I received from Mommies Matter was a Mother’s Day picture,” she reflected. “That is the first framed picture I have. To some that may be small, to me that’s huge and means a lot. I have it sitting in the middle of my table, and I love when people enter my house and see it. It makes me feel special!”

Twice a month Mommies Matter offers enrichment events which are special get-togethers for all the families involved to gather as a community.

Personal enrichment events are Shannon’s her favorite part of the Mommies Matter experience because it is an opportunity to bond with others while forming a strong community.

Respite care for new moms and other individualized assistance are offered to bring encouragement in what can be a challenging time as a new parent.

Additionally, there is a mentoring program where allies come alongside a mom and establish the relationship of “doing life together” which comes with a seemingly endless list of benefits.

The eternal ramifications of the ministry are significant.

“I really love bible study and through Mommies Matter I gained my faith back,” said Shannon.

When material aid and services are viewed through the lens of “God’s economy” there are no small gifts. Every act of love is a blessing.

Shannon noted she now knows how to establish financial stability as well as to make and maintain healthy relationships.

“They have given me the tools I need to be successful,” Shannon said. “Mommies Matter will continue to empower me because we’re doing life together.”

For more information on how the ministry empowers women as moms visit the Mommies Matter website.

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

Ohio Right to Life congratulates J.D. Vance on winning US Senate Seat; Celebrates Sweeping Pro-Life Victories and re-election of pro-life Gov. Mike DeWine

Ohio Right to Life's Director of Communications, Elizabeth Whitmarsh, said, "Ohio Right to Life is extremely encouraged by J.D. Vance's victory, as we have supported him from the beginning. He has proven time and time again that he will fight for the lives of every Ohioan, born and pre-born."

Throughout the campaign, Tim Ryan attempted to castigate J.D. Vance's pro-life views as "extreme" or "radical," despite Ryan recently voting against protecting babies born alive from a botched abortion. His voting record on abortion is repeatedly on the fringes of what most citizens believe. "Tim Ryan's efforts to manipulate the people of Ohio have failed yet again, and hopefully now he will end his career of lying to Ohioans in his pursuit of power," Whitmarsh stated. After 20 years of being an elected official, this will be the first time that Tim Ryan does not hold public office.

"It is not often that we see such an effective fighter who not only understands the issues we are facing in-depth but has real tangible solutions as well," said Whitmarsh. She continued, "Ohio Right to Life endorsed J.D. Vance

during the primary due to his insight on how to build a culture of life. His testimony, along with his work in the private sector, has exceptionally prepared him to lead us in Washington. We look forward to working closely with him as we fight to protect every innocent life, from conception to natural death."

Ohio Right to Life also celebrated pro-life candidate winning every state-wide race and retaining a solid pro-life majority in Ohio's General Assembly.

"Ohio is a pro-life state, which is proven time and time again every election," Whitmarsh stated. "In the face of the many allegations that 'Ohio is pro-choice,' Ohioans boldly proclaimed that we stand for life. Therefore, the radical abortion-on-demand platform has no place in the Buckeye state."

"Secretary of State Frank LaRose, Attorney General Dave Yost, Auditor Keith Faber, and Treasurer Robert Sprague have prioritized building a culture of life in everything that they do. Their victories are a win for us all," Whitmarsh stated. Continuing, she said, "it is rare to have such courageous leaders. We are very proud of the work that they have done and will continue

to do."

She concluded, "Knowing that the pro-life movement won such decisive victories tonight should

Ohio democrats championed this campaign season," said Mike Gonidakis, President of Ohio Right to Life.



motivate us all to move swiftly to end abortion from conception by the end of this year. Abortion has no place here in Ohio, and it is time to put a stop to it."

In addition, pro-life Gov. Mike DeWine won a "commanding re-election victory" over Democrat Nan Whaley. "His success was never doubted based upon his compassionate leadership for all Ohioans. Further, what we witnessed tonight was a complete rejection of the radical 'abortion-on-demand' extremism that Whaley and

"Whaley and the liberal media's narrative leading up to tonight predicted that pro-abortion voters would show up in massive numbers since *Roe* was overturned leading to pro-life officeholders and candidates losing at the ballot box. Simply put, this was a false and misleading narrative as evidenced by the overwhelming popular vote re-electing Governor DeWine. The November 8th election results were a clear referendum on abortion making it more apparent than ever that Ohio is undeniably a pro-life state."

Planned Parenthood used massive financial resources to “enshrine” abortion into the Vermont Constitution

By Mary Hahn Beerworth, Executive Director, Vermont Right to Life

Despite a statewide effort to expose the truth about Planned Parenthood’s push to “enshrine” abortion into the Vermont Constitution, the vote passed in Vermont by a wide margin.

Planned Parenthood used massive financial resources to launch a misleading advertising campaign on all Vermont airwaves. Voters were inundated with false messaging that successfully managed to hoodwink Vermonters into believing that they must support passage.

Thousands of Vermont voters were misled into believing that abortion would become illegal in Vermont unless citizens cast their votes in favor of passage of Proposal 5/Article 22. In the

wake of the US Supreme Court decision to overturn *Roe v Wade*, abortion proponents capitalized on that public fear of losing the right to abortion entirely. Proponents also neatly side-stepped the fact that abortion is already legal in Vermont and has been since 1972.

Planned Parenthood is the largest provider of abortions in the state of Vermont (performing 90% of all abortions) and passage of the amendment now permanently shields their abortion business from any oversight or state limitations at any time throughout all nine months of pregnancy. This is a tragedy for mothers and their babies.

Abortion supporters, like Planned Parenthood, not only

raised and spent massive amounts of money, their strategy also included a refusal to participate in debates or forums. A strategy of

voter confusion. Most local news coverage only included proponents of the amendment and often even included the abortionist at the



“the less the voters know the better for our side” ultimately succeeded. On the other hand, opponents of Prop 5 were fully prepared to examine the amendment in depth for greater public understanding – but that never happened.

Furthermore, the Vermont media coverage was unfailingly biased and unbalanced and that added to

University of Vermont Medical Center as a source of “neutral” information.

The Vermont Right to Life Committee is disappointed with the vote total and this loss. However, pro-lifers can expect that our efforts to inform Vermonters about life in the womb and alternatives to abortion will continue undeterred.



"President Biden has been the most pro-abortion president in our nation's history and continues to use taxpayer dollars to promote abortion and prop up the abortion industry, like Planned Parenthood,"

Senator James Lankford (R-OK)

.....

"The Biden Administration's rule is an assault on the most sacred and fundamental human right, the right to life. I will continue to protect the sanctity of life and do everything I can to make sure taxpayer dollars are not used for or promote abortions."

Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL)

Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt Receives Final Recommendations From H.E.L.P. Task Force

Governor Kevin Stitt received the final recommendations from the Helping Every Life and Parent (H.E.L.P.) Task Force in a briefing last week with Chairwoman Juli Merciez, Secretary Kevin Corbett from the Oklahoma Health Care Authority, Commissioner Keith Reed and Jackie Shawnee, who is also a task force member, from the Oklahoma Department of Health, and interim Director at the Department of Human Services and task force member Samantha Galloway.

“I am impressed and grateful for the HELP Task Force’s dedication and execution of their responsibility to deliver thoughtful recommendations to support Oklahoma families and women before, during, and after childbirth,” said Governor Stitt. “In just six weeks these thought leaders came together, tackled tough issues facing our state, and presented solutions. Our state is better for their service and hard work.”

The task force, which was created by Governor Stitt’s executive order, studied, evaluated, and made recommendations regarding policies, programs, and proposed legislation to support crisis pregnancy centers, make adoption easier, support mothers facing an unplanned pregnancy,

and empower nonprofits organizations and local faith communities to support families and mothers before, during and after childbirth.

“Governor Stitt’s HELP Task Force brought together top thought leaders who worked with excellence and expediency to



Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt

bring forth recommendations that drive change and support mothers, fathers, and families across our state,” said Chairwoman Merciez, BSN, RN MPC, Co-Founder and President of The Cottage, a pregnancy center and residential maternity home. “We offer these recommendations and we stand ready to continue to serve the women, parents and families who seek needed resources.”

Merciez continued: “Areas of focus were not easy tasks to examine and included areas such as expanding and increasing access for women’s healthcare coverage, supporting fatherhood initiatives, and making adoption easier. We believe in saving and changing lives and we believe

these recommendations will help women, parents and families across the state.”

Read the final recommendations submitted to the governor at <https://oklahoma.gov/content/dam/ok/en/omes/documents/HELPTaskForceReport.pdf>.

Read a summary of the recommendations <https://oklahoma.gov/content/dam/ok/en/omes/documents/>

[HELPTaskForceReportSummary.pdf](#).

Among the final recommendations, which were unanimously approved by the task force in September, was for the Oklahoma Health Care Authority to expand coverage for SoonerCare members receiving pregnancy and postpartum services. Specifically, two major policy changes were proposed. First to increase Oklahoma’s income threshold for full-scope pregnancy-related benefits from 138% to 205% of the federal poverty level (FPL). Secondly, to provide new mothers in Oklahoma with up to 12 months of continuous postpartum coverage.

These policy changes, which will require approval from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, are fully supported by Governor Stitt.

Stitt said: “I fully support these two recommendations to expand and extend care for new mothers and their babies. Raising the income threshold will allow thousands of additional women in Oklahoma to have access to services that will reduce risk and create opportunities for better health outcomes for both them and their child. Ensuring more women have access to better, longer care is a positive step in the right direction for our state.”

The defeat of Kentucky's Amendment 2 “does not mean there is a right to abortion hidden in the Kentucky Constitution and that the regulation of abortion policy is a matter that belongs to our elected representatives”

By Dave Andrusko

When Kentucky's proposed pro-life Amendment 2 narrowly lost, some accounts acted as though that defeat meant there was suddenly a right to abortion. The exact language was “To protect human life, nothing in this constitution shall be construed to secure or protect a right to abortion or require the funding of abortion.”

In a tweet Attorney General Daniel Cameron made clear that in his opinion “while this result is disappointing it does not change our belief there is no right to abortion hidden in the Kentucky Constitution and that the regulation of abortion policy is a matter that belongs to our elected representatives in the General assembly.”

The day after the elections, Cameron's office “filed a motion with the Kentucky Supreme Court to explain why this outcome has no bearing on whether the Court should consider creating a Kentucky version of *Roe v. Wade*. We urge the Court to interpret our Constitution based on its original meaning.”

Just before the vote, in an op-ed,

state Senators Alvarado and Wise explained what the amendment would accomplish:

Voters have an opportunity to affirm unequivocally, that there is no inherent constitutional right to an abortion in the Constitution of Kentucky. ...

Constitutional Amendment 2 simply does two things: it says

amendment will continue to protect the woman's life if a pregnancy is to be a medical risk to her life.

Reporter Deborah Yetter explained it this way in a story that ran in the *Louisville Courier-Journal*:

Passage of the measure would have guaranteed there is no state right to abortion in Kentucky's

abortionists want the Kentucky Supreme Court to adopt and which Cameron opposed in his brief.

In an op-ed that ran October 25, Cameron wrote

Shortly before Roe, Kentucky's highest court considered a constitutional challenge to this statute. The court unanimously rejected the challenge and upheld the law. The court determined that deciding whether and when to prohibit abortion was a matter for the

General Assembly and emphasized the court's “obligation to exercise judicial restraint” regarding the will of the legislature.

For 49 years, our long history of protecting unborn life had been eclipsed by federal judicial activism, but thankfully the shadow of Roe has now lifted.

Yes r Life

that under the Kentucky Constitution, abortion is not a right and it prevents state funding from being used to perform them. By voting yes on this amendment, you are keeping judges from creating new constitutional rights not explicitly addressed nor even implied in our founding state document. This

constitution and would put an end to legal challenges seeking to overturn state laws that restrict or ban abortion.

Defeat of the amendment means that reproductive rights supporters may still seek to have abortion declared a state right through legal challenges to existing laws.

It is this latter approach that pro-

Maryland “all-trimester” abortion center still not open

By Patty Knap

After announcing that a new Maryland late-term abortion facility would open in September, Partners in Abortion Care remains unopened.

The College Park office space has been leased and the sign is up out front, but according to local pro-lifers, the place is not yet open for appointments.

40 Days for Life local coordinator Katherine Hunter and a dedicated group of participants chose the site for their prayer campaign, expecting the center to have opened weeks ago. They have been praying in front of the new center, and say the office is not open yet.

The abortion facility, located right by the University of Maryland, announced plans to offer late-term abortions to women traveling from states with abortion restrictions in the wake of the Dobbs case overturning *Roe v. Wade*, according to *NPR*.

The abortion center will perform abortions on babies up to eight-and-a-half months, past the point of when they can live outside the womb.

Over the summer, Maryland began allowing non-physicians to perform abortions, after allocating \$3.5 million per year for “abortion care” training there.

Meanwhile, Montgomery County, where Partners in Care is located, announced \$1 million in grants to organizations that directly support access to abortion.

The website for the new center states:

“We believe abortion care should be built on justice and anti-oppression principles. Our clinic welcomes people of all races, genders, ages, sizes, and abilities. We are committed to the process of continual

Maryland would allow late term abortionists to operate in the state.

They raised money on GoFundMe to hire staff and renovate office space for the center, and purchase used equipment from a closed Georgia abortion center.

“We are excited and ready to open the only women-owned and operated, all-trimester abortion

intends to prioritize women seeking abortions after viability, according to *The Diamondback*, an independent student newspaper at UMD.

Nuzzo said that late-term abortion has been in the shadows, and stated, “I’m not a monster for doing this, I’m a person who’s going to take care of you or someone you love.”

Horvath said overturning *Roe* had been “all part of the plan for ever and ever. From the lowest appellate courts all the way up to the Supreme Court.”

And Nuzzo said, “We’ve been living in the grief for almost a year.”

The two abortionists have said they plan to perform five to 10 late-term abortions and a few abortions earlier in pregnancy per week. Most of their clients will have received money from an abortion fund or a support network and will be traveling from outside the D.C. metro area.

The *NPR* report said Nuzzo and Horvath had planned to open after Labor Day, but faced delays with getting an updated application from the state of Maryland for their health care facility license.

40 Days for Life vigil participants will continue to pray at the as-of-yet unopened abortion site in hopes that it will somehow remain unopened.

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



improvement in order to best serve the people we care for and the community in which we live and work.”

Partners in Abortion Care is co-owned by two women, both mothers

Diane Horvath, 43, a physician, and Morgan Nuzzo, 43 a certified nurse-midwife, talked about opening an abortion center for years and decided to do so last November, knowing that

clinic in the United States,” the GoFundMe page says.

The two women are part of a “nationwide reshuffling of providers, equipment and even buildings, a *Washington Post* report said. “The National Abortion Federation created an online members-only marketplace for buyers and sellers to connect.”

“I couldn’t keep saying this care should be provided and not do it, knowing I had the skill set to do it,” Horvath said.

Partners in Abortion Care

Mid-term elections solidifies Arkansas' position as a staunchly pro-life state

By Tim Yarbrough

LITTLE ROCK – Arkansas remains a staunchly pro-life state with strong conservative values following the mid-term elections.

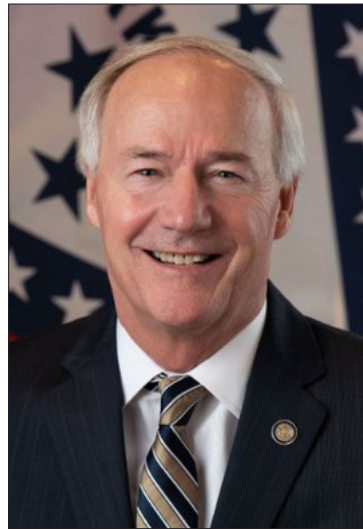
Endorsements by the Arkansas Right to Life (ARTL) PAC resulted in 77 of 79 candidates being elected, said Rose Mimms, ARTL Executive Director.

“Our General Assembly, both the Arkansas House and Senate, hold pro-life majorities, and all of the Arkansas Constitutional officers and U.S. Congressional delegation are all pro-life champions,” said Mimms. She added, “Though we expect an attempt to weaken our abortion law to allow exceptions other than to save the life of the mother in the coming 2023 session, I believe we will continue to keep abortion illegal in Arkansas for many years to come barring any federal law that would take that right away from the citizens of Arkansas.”

Mimms applauded outgoing Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson, who is term-limited, as leading the state to pass 47

laws to protect life during the eight years of his tenure.

“Over the last 8 years Governor Asa Hutchinson has passed close to 50 (47) laws protecting



Outgoing Pro-life Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson

all life in Arkansas, more than any governor in the history of Arkansas and I dare say our nation,” she said.

“Among the highlights of his administration was the successful decertification of Planned

Parenthood as a Medicaid provider in Arkansas after the 2015 videos exposed them for whom they are: an organization driven by profits and greed in their grisly work of abortion,” said Mimms. “He was one of a few governors to take that action and to have the courts affirm his executive decision.”

Other Arkansas lawmakers Mimms credited with leading the pro-life charge were Senators Cecile Bledsoe and Jason Rapert.

“Senator Rapert’s Act 180 of 2019 was the ‘trigger law’ certified by Attorney General Leslie Rutledge that ended legal abortion on Friday, June 24, when the *Dobbs* decision was released overturning *Roe* and *Casey* and returning it to the states. Arkansas was ready, thanks to him,” said Mimms.

“Senator Bledsoe was an original sponsor of the Safe Haven Law when she was in the Arkansas House,” Mimms said. “Later in 2019 the law was amended to add a provision for safety devices to provide anonymous surrender that has

led to three safe and successful surrenders that have given these infants to a forever family through adoption.”

Mimms added that First Lady Susan Hutchinson has been at her husband’s side in defense of life, especially through her work with Arkansas Advocates for Women and Children.

Arkansas Right to Life is hosting a special pro-life reception honoring the Gov. and Mrs. Hutchinson, along with Bledsoe and Rapert, at the Governor’s Mansion.

ARTL PAC endorsements that won office or were re-elected included federal offices: U.S. Senator John Boozman; and U.S. Congressmen Rick Crawford, French Hill, Steve Womack, and Bruce Westerman. State office candidates: Sarah Huckabee Sanders, Governor; Leslie Rutledge, Lieutenant Governor; Tim Griffin, Attorney General; John Thurston, Secretary of State; Dennis Milligan, State Auditor; Mark Lowery, State Treasurer, and Tommy Land, Commissioner of State Lands.

NPR airs shocking audio of an abortion as it is performed

By Dave Andrusko

Journalism hit a new—and very disturbing—low: NPR played the audio of an abortion as it was performed, “complete with disturbing sounds of machinery vacuuming out the unborn child and the mother crying and moaning,” Caroline Downey reported. XStrategies’ Greg Price wrote

I almost didn’t want to tweet this but it’s something everyone needs to know. NPR on the radio this morning played audio of a woman getting an abortion. You can hear the vacuum turning on, crying, moaning, and the doctor telling her it’s done. Warning: It’s tough to listen to.

NPR matter of factly led into this atrocity with this: “Abortion rights are on the ballot in Michigan, which has already become a regional abortion haven. Kate Wells spent weeks observing procedures and talking to patients inside a clinic outside Detroit.”

Wells “did a voiceover while the abortion was occurring, so listeners were unable to make out conversation between the woman and medical staff,” Downey reported, “For nine days in October, ahead of the midterm elections, Wells shadowed the staff

at an abortion clinic, Northland Family Planning in metro Detroit, Mich., and reported her findings in an extensive article. She told the stories of multiple women who came through the doors and left after their babies had been removed from their wombs.”

Wells tweeted her gratitude to the abortion clinic:

Abortion clinics are almost always closed to press. But a group of MI clinics generously allowed us to embed with them, b/c abortion rights are on the ballot in Michigan this Nov. But for the drs, staff and patients we met there, none of this was about politics.

“Chris” asked the question we all would ask:

Why does Michigan Radio/NPR only do stories on abortion from only the pro-abortion side? So biased! Does NPR now stand for National Planned Parenthood Radio? This is why I stopped donating to Michigan Radio.

Needless to say, Wells didn’t back down.

Hi Chris, thanks for your response. I have

to disagree that doing a story inside an abortion clinic is somehow “pro-abortion.” Abortion is on the ballot in Nov. I’d argue that getting

Wells relayed the story of a young woman

who is already a mother to two toddlers, who she said had an abusive father.



to see what’s actually happening in clinics right now isn’t biased, it’s factual.

The timing was indeed no accident. The program aired a week before the people went to the polls to vote on Proposal 3, a genuinely radical pro-abortion amendment. Unfortunately, it passed.

“The amendment would allow unborn babies to be aborted for basically any reason up to birth and allow anyone, including people without medical training, to assist with an abortion, according to the Citizens to Support Michigan Women and Children, a pro-life coalition.

The woman, who was pregnant with twins, had an abortion performed the week she spoke to Wells. According to Wells, the woman told her existing children that she was carrying their siblings in her womb but would not be giving birth to them.

“My daughter was so cute. She said, ‘OK, well, maybe another time, maybe later,’” the woman told Wells. “I was like, ‘Yes, maybe later.’”

If you think you can handle it, you can listen at https://twitter.com/greg_pricell/status/1588223254799548416

We can't close our eyes to the existence of forced abortion

By Michael Cook

An overlooked angle on the abortion debate in the United States and elsewhere emerged in the European Court of Human Rights earlier this month. In the case of *S.F.K v Russia*, the court found that the human rights of a 20-year-old woman were violated in 2010 when her parents and her doctors forced her to have an abortion. Subsequently police refused to press charges, partly because they felt that the parents were acting in their daughter's best interests.

The court condemned this as “an egregious form of inhuman and degrading treatment which had not only resulted in a serious immediate damage to her health – that is the loss of her unborn child – but had also entailed long-lasting negative physical and psychological effects.”

This tragic crime is distant both in time and space from the US debate over abortion – but it shows that forced abortion is a reality.

Just published on *The New Bioethics* website is an article by Australian researcher Greg Pike which analyses the issue of coerced abortions. He claims that

“[there are] legal requirements for coercion screening in some US states. Such laws have been met with strong resistance from prochoice advocates who see them as a hindrance to accessing abortion.”

Little work has been done on the prevalence of forced abortion, although a lot of publicity has been given to forced pregnancies. But this could be a bomb with a long fuse.

Pike points out that the “problem” of an unwanted pregnancy used to be “solved” by adoption; nowadays it is normally “solved” by abortion.

The accounts women gave of the way in which coerced adoption operated are similar to the way in which

pressure to abort their pregnancies.”

A history of intimate partner violence: “women who report multiple abortions are more likely to have a history of IPV compared with those who have only had one.”

China and India: in these societies, coerced abortion



reproductive coercion, and coerced abortion in particular, currently operate. But it took many decades before policies changed or there was a cultural shift that protected women from coercion to adopt out a child.

In what settings do coerced abortions exist?

Pressure from partners: A “Scandinavian study found 20–25% of women experienced

has been relatively common – because of population control and because of a preference for male children. China also allegedly forces Uyghur women to have abortions as part of its control of the population.

Coercion from doctors: “the medical profession has at times been guilty of applying considerable pressure to women to abort a pregnancy where testing has revealed an anomaly or risk of one.”

Abortion providers: Marie Stopes International and Planned

Parenthood have both been accused of pressuring women into consenting to have an abortion after they arrive at a clinic.

Sex slavery and trafficking: “Forced abortion is an integral part of the trade so that women can be returned to the street as soon as possible.”

Pike laments the fact that there is so little data on Reproductive Coercion (RC). Up to now, researchers have dismissed it as minutia or a myth, possibly because the pro-abortion narrative is that women consent to a difficult choice after careful consideration. But he insists that it probably is a big problem. Based on a UK poll of women's experience with RC, he believes that as many as 60% of women who have had an abortion experienced pressure.

Whatever the scale of the problem at the moment, it is going to become worse:

This risk would likely be exacerbated by telemedicine abortions, where the absence of medical oversight enables perpetrators to act covertly. Easier access to abortion pills, even by those not intending to personally use them, will also increase the risk of secretly induced abortion – 6% of women in the UK ComRes poll who had experienced RC cited being given pills without their knowledge or consent.

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

Women respond to Taylor Swift song with heartbreaking miscarriage stories

By Bridget Sielicki

When Taylor Swift released her tenth studio album, “Midnights,” on Friday, October 21, one song struck a chord with many listeners. While pregnancy loss isn’t explicitly mentioned, the lyrics in “Bigger Than the Whole Sky” are reminding many women of their own miscarriage experiences.

The song undeniably speaks of loss. Some of the lyrics include:

Goodbye, goodbye, goodbye / You were bigger than the whole sky / You were more than just a short time / And I’ve got a lot to pine about / I’ve got a lot to live without. I’m never gonna meet / What could’ve been, would’ve been / What should’ve been you / What could’ve been, would’ve been you.

Did some force take you because I didn’t pray? / Every single thing to come has turned into ashes / ‘Cause it’s all over, it’s not meant to be / So I’ll say words I don’t believe.

After hearing the song, many women started sharing their personal, heartbreaking stories.

“When I listened to ‘Bigger Than the Whole Sky’ all I could see in my mind is the baby I lost and this put words to everything

I’ve felt since the miscarriage,” tweeted one user.

Another said, “I had a miscarriage in June. I’m not over it. I’m not OK. I haven’t been able to put it into words but this song has done it for me.”

Fans also started a Reddit thread commenting on their reaction to the song. One woman wrote, “Lost my first pregnancy last month. This song puts into words everything that I haven’t been able to. It hits so close to home.”

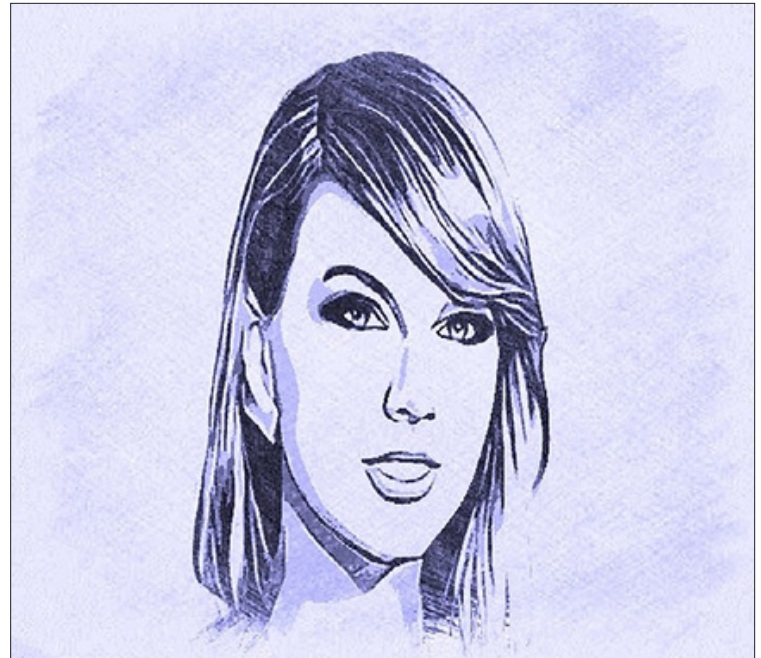
Another said, “I’ve had 3 miscarriages, including one in January at almost 12 weeks where I passed my daughter at home and held her. I’m pregnant with my rainbow baby right now. When I heard this song, I immediately just sobbed and played it for my husband who also teared up. This just 100% encapsulated how I felt (and still feel when I think about) having a miscarriage. I’ve never felt so connected to a song about this.”

“This is the most powerful song I’ve ever heard as someone whose had a miscarriage,” another wrote. “I had to pull over the first time I heard it because the immediate tears clouded my vision.”

Ashley Fritz shared her pregnancy loss experience with

TODAY Parents. “I have a box in my room with the pregnancy test and the first few pages of the baby book,” she shared. “I still

While there’s no way of knowing whether or not Swift wrote her song with miscarriage in mind, it’s clear that these lyrics



take them out and mourn. I’ve written my own things about my experience and the release of pain, but I have never come across anything that has expressed how I felt until I listened to ‘Bigger Than the Whole Sky.’ I finally get to listen to something that allows me to just cry and feel the emotions and maybe let it go for a little bit.”

are touching the hearts of women everywhere, and they’re all saying the same thing — the loss of a preborn child is a devastating, heartbreaking experience, no matter how early.

Editor’s note. This appeared at Live Action News and is reposted with permission.

New Zealand's Prime Minister launches '0800 dial an abortion' service

By Right to Life UK

The New Zealand Government has launched a new 'DIY' abortion scheme that allows women and girls to 'free-phone' a number and have abortion pills delivered to them in what has been described as 'state-sponsored backstreet abortion'.

Following the introduction of one of the most extreme abortion laws in the world, permitting the abortion of babies

sponsored back street abortion?"

The group also drew attention to the lack of safeguards and the potential for coercion and abuse asking "Will perpetrators of abortion coercion now have a convenient mechanism which will allow them to literally stand over their pregnant female victims as they force them to order up the DIY abortion drugs over the phone?"

mifepristone, which is used in early medical abortions, will be available as a subsidised prescription.

Scheme run by man who worked for scandal-ridden abortion provider in the UK

Funded by the Ministry of Health in New Zealand, the Decide scheme is being run by

vulnerable women facing a crisis pregnancy.

Dr. Snook previously worked for Marie Stopes International (now MSI Reproductive Choices) in the UK, which has been linked to a series of scandals. This includes a damning report from the UK's Care Quality Commission (CQC) that accused Marie Stopes International of paying staff bonuses for persuading women to have abortions. At all 70 Marie Stopes clinics, inspectors from the Care Quality Commission found evidence of a policy that saw staff utilise a high-pressure sales tactic, phoning women who had decided against having an abortion to offer them another appointment.

At one clinic in Maidstone, staff told CQC inspectors that the clinic was like a "cattle market" with a "very target-driven culture".

Right To Life UK spokesperson, Catherine Robinson, said "DIY" abortions are medically unsupervised abortions. They could literally happen in a backstreet and there is nothing to prevent this."

By removing a routine in-person consultation that allows medical practitioners to certify gestation and recognise potential coercion or abuse, 'at-home' abortion has presented serious risks to women and girls in abusive situations. It has allowed severe complications to occur, as well as abortions far later than the gestational limit for these schemes, as abortion providers currently cannot ensure the pills are taken by the intended individual within the appropriate time frame".



de facto on demand up to birth, the Labour Government, led by Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, launched a nationwide 'DIY' abortion scheme called 'Decide'.

The 'Decide' scheme allows women and girls to call a freephone 0800 number and have abortion drugs delivered to them or their nearest pharmacy so that they can carry out a 'DIY' medical abortion without in-person medical supervision.

The New Zealand pro-life group, Voice For Life, said "How is this anything other than state-

"What happens when a vulnerable minor rings DECIDE asking for abortion drugs to carry out a secret abortion with no one else around?"

"What about victims of sexual abuse who are coerced into using this service by those who have abused them, and who are seeking to hide the evidence of their repugnant acts of victimisation?"

The nationwide availability of 'DIY' abortion is the third phase of the New Zealand Government's abortion expansion scheme. As well as 'DIY' abortion, the drug

Family Planning New Zealand and Magma Healthcare. Magma is headed by Dr. Simon Snook who previously ran a now-defunct similar smaller local freephone abortion service called '0800-ABORTION'. Dr. Snook also owns two of the three private abortion clinics that operate in New Zealand.

Dr. Snook is the director of Istar, a company that imports abortion pills to New Zealand and funds a website advertising abortion in New Zealand. The site ranks highly on Google search for

Under Ohio's Heartbeat Law, abortions drop 65%; about 2,470 lives are saved

By Dave Andrusko

Ohio's Heartbeat Law which would protect unborn children who have a detectable heartbeat, typically beginning around six weeks, was passed in 2019 and signed into law by pro-life Gov. Mike DeWine. S.B. 23 had been blocked by the courts until the U.S. Supreme Court's June 24 historic *Dobbs* decision. The initial results were incredible: "about 2,470 fewer people obtained abortions in Ohio during July and August relative to April," according to the *Cincinnati Enquirer*.

Jessie Balmert reported, "Abortions in Ohio dropped by 65% in the months after the U.S. Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade* and the state imposed a six-week abortion ban, according to a new report."

Based on the figures provided by #WeCount, a pro-abortion national reporting effort sponsored by the Society of Family Planning,

Balmert wrote "The number of abortions performed in Ohio dropped from 1,950 in April – before the U.S. Supreme Court ruling on June 24 – to 680 in

As *NRL News Today* reported, nationwide an estimated 10,670 fewer women had abortions in the months of July and August as compared to April. "That



August." While the law was in effect—June to August—abortions dropped 65%, meaning about 2,470 unborn babies were saved.

amounted to a 6% decrease in abortions between April and August," according to Balmert.

Pro-life Ohio Attorney

General Dave Yost filed his notice of appeal of the Hamilton County Common Pleas Court's preliminary injunction of the Heartbeat bill. Hamilton County Judge Christian Jenkins had issued two temporary injunctions of two weeks each blocking S.B.23, Ohio's Heartbeat law, before issuing the indefinite injunction against the ban on October 7. It is widely assumed the case will end up being heard by the Ohio Supreme Court.

A group of abortion clinics represented by the ACLU of Ohio "has challenged the state law banning most abortions after fetal cardiac activity is detected on grounds it violates provisions of the state constitution guaranteeing individual liberty and equal protection. It also says the law is unconstitutionally vague," according to the *Associated Press's* Julie Carr Smyth.



"But I feel that the greatest destroyer of peace today is abortion, because it is a war against the child, a direct killing of the innocent child. And if we accept that a mother can kill even her own child, how can we tell other people not to kill one another?"

St. Teresa of Calcutta



Peace Begins In The Womb

SPUC slams NI Secretary's "doubling down" on abortion plans as "shocking abuse of power"

The UK government is to double down on its commitment to force its radical abortion regulations on the people of Northern Ireland. SPUC has condemned its continuing "doubling down" on abortion as a "shocking abuse of power".

By SPUC—the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children

In a statement to the House of Commons on Monday October 24, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Chris Heaton-Harris, pledged that the London government would make sure "appropriate funding is available to enable healthcare professionals to take the necessary steps to ensure that essential training and recruitment of staff can progress, and services can be implemented".

The statement, issued to coincide with the third anniversary of the repeal of Northern Ireland's pro-life legislation, follows resistance to the government's attempt to impose its radical abortion agenda on Northern Ireland.

Regulations dating back to March 2020 include abortion for any reason up to 12 weeks of pregnancy, up to 24 weeks on health grounds (including undefined "mental health" issues) and up to full term on grounds of fetal disability as well as other circumstances.

So far, individual health trusts have provided abortion drugs on an ad-hoc basis. However, opposition within the Stormont Assembly [Parliamentary building] has prevented the Northern Ireland Department of Health from allocating the funding required to meet the government's plans.

Breach of Ministerial Code

Secretary of State Brandon Lewis had previously issued new regulations giving himself the

power to bypass the devolved institutions. He then directed the Minister of Health to provide funding sufficient to perform up to 6,500 abortions annually. But this would have required the Health Minister to act in contravention of the Ministerial

and girls in Northern Ireland are still unable to access the full range of healthcare to which they are lawfully entitled."

"Insult to injury"

Commenting on Mr Heaton-Harris's statement, Liam Gibson,

of Health and Social Care Trusts in the coming weeks to ensure London's abortion agenda can be fully implemented. If he is serious about paying for a massive increase in abortions from the existing health budget, then cuts to legitimate healthcare services



Code. The Minister insisted that he was under no obligation to divert resources from existing healthcare services to facilitate abortions.

Westminster [the meeting place for the two houses of Parliament] insists that it remains the responsibility of the Northern Ireland Executive to fund the full implementation of London's abortion agenda. In his statement, Mr Heaton-Harris said: "It is not right that three years on, women

SPUC's policy and legal officer based in Northern Ireland, said: "There are serious questions over the legality of Westminster's attempts to push through its radical abortion agenda, which it is now doubling down on. We will be raising these questions with the Court of Appeal when it hears SPUC's challenge to the Secretary of State's attempted power grab.

"Mr Heaton-Harris says he will be meeting the chief executives

will be unavoidable. This will add insult to injury. Imposing abortion on Northern Ireland against the will of the people was a shocking abuse of power. To now divert money from the treatment of the sick in order to kill innocent children is unforgivable."

Mr. Gibson concluded, "Abortion is not healthcare; it is a lethal act of violence directed at an unborn child and violence against children is never acceptable."

Abortion Industry Goes Too Far For Even the FDA with “Pre-Emptive” Mifepristone

Wish to ship abortion pills to women who are not pregnant

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

Every time the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has acceded to demands from the abortion industry to further loosen distribution and prescription limitations on mifepristone, the industry has come back and demanded more, indicating it won't be satisfied until women can order and self-administer these abortion pills without any medical oversight or supervision whatsoever.

This time, however, the abortion industry's bullying may have gone too far. Even the FDA cannot turn a blind eye to the fundamental safety issues raised by the industry's latest demands.

The abortion industry wailed back at the beginning when the FDA approved mifepristone (or RU-486) in September of 2000. Despite getting their long sought approval, they didn't like how the FDA required three visits (one for exam and counseling before receiving mifepristone, the second for the clinician to

administer the prostaglandin, the third a followup to determine whether or not the abortion was complete), the seven week deadline (up to 49 days past a woman's last menstrual period, or LMP) the required supervision of physician who could certify they understood the risks and how the drugs worked, the recommended dosages, the ability to treat hemorrhages, failed abortions or refer to someone with the skills to do so.

Faced with an industry that already ignoring most of these conditions and a formal request to revise the label, the FDA agreed to most of these changes in March of 2016. They dropped required visits down to one initial visit, adjusting dosages, raising the cutoff date to 10 weeks LMP, expanding the prescriber pool to include any “certified healthcare provider.”

That turned out not to be good enough for the abortion industry either. They wanted to forego any

requirement that the woman visit the clinic at all, so that she could have her “exam” and counseling over the phone or via a webcam interview, and simply be shipped her pills in the mail.

When COVID hit, they used this as an excuse to petition the FDA to suspend these regulations, arguing that the presence of the virus meant exposing women to additional risks if they had to visit the clinic to get the pills. Various court cases suspended and then reinstated the FDA's regulations, but even these modest limits were gone for good once Biden took office and directed the FDA review whether the need for these regulations existed anymore.

Under the current regulations, women do not have to visit a clinic at all, do not have to undergo a physical examination, and can simply have the pills mailed to them by a certified healthcare provider. It is implied that the prescriber, in signing certification forms, has

committed to doing some sort of interview to determine the woman's gestational age (efficacy declines, risk of complications increase the farther along the pregnancy is) and checked for signs of an ectopic pregnancy, which mifepristone does not treat.

Abortion pill advocates, who have been trumpeting the “No-Test” chemical abortion, which claimed women could safely use these pills and manage these abortions without any ultrasound or testing to determine the age or location of the child, found even these minimal safeguards problematic.

They want to be able to ship these pills to anyone who asks for them and let women assess for themselves, however carefully or casually they want, whether the drugs would be safe or effective for them.

See FDA, Page 28



Abortion Industry Goes Too Far For Even the FDA with “Pre-Emptive” Mifepristone

From Page 27

And now the industry wants to go one step further, shipping abortion pills to women who are not currently pregnant but wish to stock the medicine cabinet for possible later use “just in case.”

This is a bridge too far for the FDA, an anonymous spokesperson told the *Politico* in an October 31, 2022 article entitled “FDA says providers offering medication abortion before pregnancy have gone rogue.”

“The FDA is concerned about the advance prescribing of mifepristone for this use,” this spokesperson told *Politico*. “Mifepristone is not approved for advance provision of a medical abortion.”

This spokesperson explained to *Politico* that the agency was concerned that if these pills were prescribed before a woman became pregnant, the “providers” would not be able to perform the sort of proper medical oversight that is required to see that

these pills are used safely and effectively.

Elaborating, the FDA spokesperson told the *Politico* that if patients took the pills weeks or months after the original prescription, the “medical professionals” might

Given that ultrasounds and direct physical examinations are no longer part of the official FDA protocol, it is unclear how or why the FDA is now concerned that pre-emptive prescriptions will threaten the ability of clinicians to actively monitor

But whatever the letter of the law requires, it is clear that the abortion industry has pushed the agency too far this time, exposing how little regard the industry really has for actual patient health or safety.

The FDA compromised its own commitment to patient health and safety when it first approved mifepristone for taking the lives of babies in September of 2000, and every time it acceded to another industry request to further loosen abortion pill regulations.

Yet even the team put in place by the Biden administration, who *Politico* says “has publicly pledged to do everything within his power to preserve access to abortion,” knowing what it does about the risks associated with this drug, doesn’t believe (for now) it can credibly maintain its standards and authorize this latest irresponsible expansion.

Don’t expect the abortion industry to stop trying.



no longer have the ability to properly date the pregnancy or to rule out an ectopic pregnancy, where the child implants outside the uterus.

for such red flags. This may be an indication that the FDA interprets current regulations more stringently than do many in the industry.

We're all human,
aren't we? Every
human life is worth
the same and worth
saving.

J. K. ROWLING

“Dixie Darlin” beautifully describes a man’s pain when he can do nothing to save his unborn child

By Dave Andrusko

A grateful tip of the hat to Evita Duffy of The Federalist for bringing “Dixie Darlin” to my attention. “This Country Song Shines A Rare Spotlight On The Heartbreak Abortion Causes Fathers” is the headline, “Wilder Blue’s song ‘Dixie Darlin’ is a beautiful ballad that gives a rare insight into the often-overlooked father’s perspective on abortion” the subhead.

In fact, the song lives up to the praise she lavishes on it. Men and abortion are, unfortunately, three words not often put together. Which is a shame. There really are a lot of guys who don’t attempt to coerce a woman into a more-or-less unwanted abortion. But we don’t hear about them. Songs like this are a small attempt to fill that void.



Wilder Blue

The narrative for “Dixie Darlin” revolves around a woman and the man who loves her. However, she is a free spirit whose wanderlust makes a commitment out of the question. Indeed, according to Wilder Blue’s main vocalist, Zane Williams, who acts as the song’s narrator and lead singer

*Dixie says that horses know her better than people do
Well I’ve known Dixie seven years and I’d have to say it’s true
Once my sweetheart, now the sweetheart of the rodeo
She heard the highway callin’ with the meltin’ of the snow*

Early on he sings a pre-chorus refrain repeated in the lyrics:

*I tried...
Yes I tried... to change her mind*

When her dad died, Dixie came to him and “asked if I would hold her and I held her all that week.” But then she saddles up and is off again.

And then the pre-chorus

*I tried...
Yes I tried... to change her mind*

Followed by the mournful chorus

*Dixie darlin’, did you find what you were after
A greener pasture
A wilder blue...
When I think about the things that really matter
I always wish that I had mattered more to you*

Then Dixie calls him to inform him she is “two weeks late and she knew it must be mine.” His response is

I wanted to raise a family, right here in this little town

but

In the end she wasn’t ready to have a kid and settle down.

The ballad ends once again with the pre-chorus

*I tried...
Yes I tried... to change her mind*

Followed by the chorus

*Dixie Darlin’, did you find what you were after
A greener pasture
A wilder blue...
When I think about the things that really matter
I always wish that I had mattered more to you*

Evita Duffy writes, “There’s a sense of hopelessness in the upbeat nature of the song’s chorus. Dixie’s lover, like many other fathers, was completely powerless in his partner’s decision to kill their child. All he could do was helplessly sing that he hopes Dixie finds what she’s been after.”

For surely he didn’t.

Pennsylvania's Pregnancy and Parenting Support Services program offers services to pregnant women and to their families up to 12 months after the birth of their babies

Program “strengthens women and that’s what I love about it!”

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

Stories of triumph over trauma abounded at a recent gathering in south central Pennsylvania.

Two pro-life powerhouse lawmakers, State Senator Judy Ward and State Representative Officials from Real Alternatives,

families up to 12 months after the birth of their babies.

and CEO Kevin Bagatta noted that “over 340,000 women have been served, not counting the babies, at 1.9 million visits.” As Senator Ward said, the program “strengthens women and that’s what I love about it!”

The second panel, made up of program counselors, explored the unique issues facing pregnant women in challenging circumstances and the comprehensive support they receive from social service agencies, pregnancy support centers, and maternity homes.

“To be able to go into a place where somebody is just listening to them and not casting judgment is just enormous” for the women experiencing an unexpected pregnancy, said Rep. Keefer.

The third panel discussed service providers who separately offer medical services to women, such as ultrasounds and STI testing. Health care professionals from Morning Star Pregnancy Services spoke about their high standard of care for women.

You can view the symposium here (www.RealAlternatives.org/Symposium2022).



The participants came together to discuss the Keystone State’s phenomenal Pregnancy and Parenting Support Services program, which is administered by Real Alternatives, Inc.

Dawn Keefer, moderated the event.

The first panel dealt with the overall impact of the 27-year-old program, which offers services to pregnant women and to their

Catholic Social Services of Philadelphia, and TryLife Center in Lower Burrell explained how the program not only saves lives, but changes lives.

Real Alternatives President

Elections and the power of the press to suppress truth

From Page 1

Constitution would be amended to protect a person's reproductive freedom "in their most intimate decisions," including the right to abortion and contraceptives. The proposition is currently winning by 65% to 35%. There isn't now, and never was, any doubt that it would win.

Next, we had Kentucky's Constitutional Amendment 2 ~ No Right to Abortion, in this case a pro-life proposal. The amendment stated there is no right to abortion, or any requirement to fund abortion, in the State Constitution. 52% said No, 47% said Yes,

Then, we go to Michigan's Proposal 3 ~ Constitutional Right to Reproductive Freedom. The proposal would create a state constitutional right to reproductive freedom, including decisions "about all matters relating to pregnancy," such as abortion and contraception. Pro-abortion to the core. But 57% of Michigan voters said yes, let's do this.

Next was Montana's Legislative Referendum 131 ~ Born-Alive Infants Regulation. The measure would enact a law making any infant "born alive" at any

gestational age a legal person, a protection that already exists under a federal law passed 20 years ago but without an enforcement mechanism. It would criminalize health care providers who do not make every effort to save the life of an infant "born during an attempted abortion" or after labor or a C-section. Doctors say they are concerned that the law will limit palliative care for infants who are born but will not survive. A pro-life post-abortion proposal. Results? 53% of voters in Montana said No.

Finally, there was Vermont's

Proposal 5 ~ Constitutional Right to Reproductive Autonomy. The proposal would create a constitutional right to personal reproductive autonomy. More than 77% of Vermont voters said yes to this open-ended invitation to abort.

I know these people personally and I can tell you they worked, and worked, and worked, and then, they worked some more. They were as prepared as they could be.

They had money (although vastly outspent), they had people, and they had truth on their side. But what they did not have was the press. They were unable to counter the lies that the pro-aborts put forth as fact, confident that the press would back them up.

And they did.

So in a sense, pro-abortionists won because American voters were "gaslighted" into buying into the falsehoods. If you are still reading, thank you, because I do have a point. And it is, don't you believe for a second that Americans are somehow 60% and 70% pro-abortion. It is not true. Americans bought into what was being told them as fact.

Do we have a **ton** of work to do? Yes, we do. And we are getting ready to build--and grow--the grassroots nationwide. We are building a network of reachable people that can help spread the truth and combat the lies.

We aren't going away.

We will never forsake the babies.

We will never stop fighting for life.

And that is a fact.

“

The right-to-life movement is the movement of love. We work to save people we will never meet. They may never know that our efforts and our intervention made it possible for them to live. What a beautiful expression of love.

CAROL TOBIAS

Recapping the 2022 Elections: the Fight for Life goes On

From Page 1

numerous times to eliminate longstanding pro-life policies and appropriations riders like the Hyde Amendment, which prevents the use of American tax dollars to pay for abortions in many federal programs. The Democrat vision of unlimited abortion nationwide for any reason until birth, funded with taxpayer money, is now far less likely to become a reality. Study after study confirms that pro-life measures like Hyde save lives. So, it is not an exaggeration to say that lives have been saved as a result of these elections!

Yet, some may look at the results of the 2022 elections with disappointment. They were not characterized by the kind of sweeping gains we saw in 2010, 2014, 2016, or even 2020. The Republican House Majority will be a narrow one, likely reminiscent of the thin majority the Democrats have held since 2020.

In the Senate, Democrats picked up one open seat (Pennsylvania) and defended all of their incumbent Senators. (With the exception of pro-abortion Senator Raphael Warnock who faces a December runoff against football legend and pro-life Republican Herschel Walker.) Every Democrat incumbent hailed from a state that Biden carried in 2020. Republican incumbents also won their re-election bids, including Senator Ron Johnson in Wisconsin, the only one running for re-election in a state carried by Biden.

Republicans began the cycle at a disadvantage despite 2022 being a midterm year with a sitting Democrat president, factors which historically worked in their favor. Republicans had the task of defending more Senate seats, including seats in battleground states like Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, North Carolina, Florida, Iowa, and Ohio. The only seats in play for potential pickups were Arizona, Georgia*, New Hampshire, and Nevada- all states that Biden carried in 2020 and all states with Democrat incumbents. In

2018, despite Democrats winning tossup House races and ultimately the House Majority, Republicans flipped 4 Senate seats (in Florida, Missouri, North Dakota, and Indiana). This year, Republicans are on track to take control of the House and Democrats flipped one Senate seat.

Some may be inclined to point the finger at the pro-life movement as the cause of Republican underperformance in the elections.

Contrary to what you may hear in the media, standing up for unborn babies and their mothers did not encumber Republican candidates in the 2022 midterm elections. For decades, abortion has played a decisive role in U.S. elections, impacting how millions of both pro-life and pro-choice Americans cast their votes. The Supreme Court's landmark ruling in *Dobbs v. Jackson* in June amplified the importance of the issue in 2022. In some battleground states and tossup House districts, abortion even ranked among the top issues on voters' minds.

Pro-life Republican candidates fared best when they acknowledged the heightened importance of the issue and clearly articulated their position while contrasting it with the extremism of their pro-abortion opponents. Conversely, Republicans who attempted to hide from the issue squandered their opportunity to accurately convey their position to voters. By not taking a position or going radio silent, these candidates allowed their pro-abortion opposition to define them on the issue. It also allowed the abortion extremism of their opponents to go unchallenged. Virtually every Democrat running for federal office embraced a policy of unlimited abortion for any reason until birth and paid for with tax dollars.

In many races, pro-abortion Democrats who support abortion without limits, even late in pregnancy, were able to gain the upper hand on the issue by portraying Republican

candidates as "extreme" on the issue. Yet, polling consistently shows that the Democrats' stance in opposition to any and all limits on abortion is the one that is most at odds with the views of the voters. Many Republicans, possibly out of fear or following the recommendation of unknowledgeable campaign consultants, opted not to seize the opportunity to defend themselves and shift attention to their opponents' out-of-touch views.

Pro-life candidates also had to contend with massive, well-funded onslaughts of misinformation and outright lies by the abortion industry that went unchecked by most members of the press. In Congressional races as well as state referendum and ballot initiative fights, pro-abortion forces made outrageous, factually inaccurate claims, including that the pro-life movement advocates for the punishment of women who have abortions (See the NRLC open letter condemning any such statute), that treatment for miscarriages or ectopic pregnancies would become illegal, and that access to contraceptives would be threatened. This was the same playbook used during the fight over the Love Them Both Amendment in Kansas this summer. Members of the media, many of whom do not even try to hide their pro-abortion leanings, proved to be uncritical or just uninterested in correcting the erroneous claims coming from the pro-abortion side.

With the *Dobbs* decision granting states greater opportunities to pass protective measures for unborn children and their mothers, abortion became a central issue in many of the most competitive gubernatorial races.

Republican governors with strong pro-life records, who advanced protective measures for unborn children and their mothers in their states, scored decisive wins at the ballot box. Among these were Governor Mike DeWine in Ohio, Governor Brian Kemp in Georgia, Governor Ron

DeSantis in Florida, Governor Kim Reynolds in Iowa, Governor Greg Abbott in Texas, Governor Henry McMaster in South Carolina, Governor Kevin Stitt in Oklahoma, Governor Kristi Noem in South Dakota, Governor Bill Lee in Tennessee, Governor Kay Ivey in Alabama, Governor Brad Little in Idaho, and Governor Mark Gordon in Wyoming.

Notably, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine, who signed the Ohio law protecting unborn babies when their heartbeat can be detected, won re-election by a 25-point margin. In Georgia, Governor Brian Kemp, who signed a similar bill into law, defeated well-funded Democrat rising star Stacey Abrams by more than 8 points. In Florida, Governor Ron DeSantis, who signed a law protecting unborn babies 15 weeks and older on account of their capacity to feel pain, won by nearly 20 points. In fact, not a single incumbent pro-life governor lost his or her bid for re-election. Additionally, pro-life candidates prevailed in two gubernatorial races with open seats: Sarah Huckabee Sanders in Arkansas and Jim Pillen in Nebraska.

While the results of the 2022 elections did not exactly match the "massive red wave" predictions of many conservative media personalities and right-leaning pollsters, there is a lot to be thankful for. The importance of retaking control of the House alone, even if by a small margin, cannot be overstated. This shift in power all but ensures top pro-abortion priorities like passage of the so-called *Women's Health Protection Act* and the elimination of the Hyde Amendment are dead on arrival in the new Congress.

The fight for life goes on! We have come too far, and life is still worth defending!

*Georgia is not yet decided. Neither Raphael Warnock nor Herschel Walker passed the 50% threshold in the general election so they will face off in a runoff election on December 6th. If you live in Georgia, your vote is crucial (yet again)!

“You’re doing a beautiful work, and that will continue” – Gratitude for the pregnancy help movement

From Page 13

“It is so important,” she said.

“In just the little time that I’ve been part of this movement I know what it feels like to wonder if your voice is even being heard, if what you’re doing is worthwhile,” Bratcher told pregnancy help personnel. “Well let me tell you something, if even one life is positively affected by what you’re doing, it’s all worth it.”

Nate Robertson, vice president of Sidewalk Advocates for Life, said that for sidewalk advocates, every week is Pregnancy Help Appreciation Week. The work of sidewalk advocates unites with the work of pregnancy help, and Robertson said they can confidently tell women in unplanned pregnancy and others that there is help and resources available.

“It all hinges on the pregnancy help centers, the pregnancy help medical clinics, the mobile unit that provide the services those moms so desperately need,” Robertson. “To say that we appreciate pregnancy help organizations is an incredible understatement.”

The work of pregnancy help is recognized by pro-life members of the U.S. Congress as well.

Rep. Bob Good, (R-VA) offered support for the work of pregnancy help.



“We’re proud to support you. We’re proud to fight alongside you,” said Good. “Thank you for the wonderful work that you’re doing across the country.”

Sen. Steve Daines (R-Montana) offered gratitude for pregnancy help organizations as well.

“I’d like to thank you for the

work that you are all doing to support women through their pregnancy,” the chair of the Senate Pro-Life Caucus said. “Because I believe that every life – every life – is created with God-

given dignity and potential. And work together to ensure women are empowered to choose life is so very critical.

“Keep up the great work, and God bless your efforts,” Daines said.

National Pregnancy Center Week is an annual Congressional

declaration that coincides with Pregnancy Help Appreciation Week, shining additional light on the good work of pregnancy help. Utah Sen. Mike Lee recognized pregnancy centers by issuing resolution for the 2022 National Pregnancy Center Week declaration earlier this year.

Lee said of pregnancy help centers when issuing the declaration:

“In light of recent attacks on pregnancy centers across the country, this timely resolution recognizes the unsung heroes dedicated to providing critical services to women across the country. These centers go above and beyond the call of duty, providing services such as free pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, counseling, and education. I’m humbled by their efforts and honored to support their life-affirming work.”

Editor’s note: Heartbeat International manages Pregnancy Help News where this first appeared. Reposted with permission.

The *NY Times* explains how Democrats manipulated the abortion issue to their advantage

From Page 2

Needless to say, that barrage of ads was a tissue of lies, omissions, and distortions. That's what Democrats do, that's who Democrats are.

Lerer and Dias tell us that soon after the June 24 Supreme Court *Dobbs* decision overturning *Roe*, "Democratic Party committees invested in detailed polling, hoping to drill down on what exact messaging worked best. There was a clear conclusion: The most potent messaging for Democrats was to keep the conversation broad by casting Republicans

as supporting a national ban on abortion, and avoid a discussion over the details about gestational week limits."

Then this: "Debating weeks is not where we want to be," said Celinda Lake, the longtime Democratic pollster who conducted some of the surveys" told them. "People are terrible at math and terrible at biology."

"People are terrible at math and terrible at biology." What that means is never, ever bring up "a discussion over the details about gestational week limits."

People might catch on to what pro-abortion Democrats stand for: unlimited abortion paid for out of the taxpayer's pocket.

In running for office--regardless of how radical Democrats' position on abortion was and is-- they disguised their agenda by shifting the discussion to a playing field that favored them.

Here is NRL President Carol Tobias who summed it up:

"Pro-abortion groups and their allies in Congress know they cannot win with the truth. We saw

unprecedented attacks using fabrications and misrepresentations against pro-life candidates. Pro-abortion Democratic leaders and their allies know that when people learn the truth about abortion, they lose, so they had to hide behind deception and spin."



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

By Jean Garton

Editor's note. In December 2016, Jean Garton, my friend of more than 30 years and a phenomenal pro-life author and speaker, passed away. Periodically I re-run one of her great, great columns. This ran

day with the way political candidates bob and weave on issues. A popular cartoon strip even featured one candidate in the shape of a waffle.

Yet many Americans themselves are inconsistent and “waffle”

and how they vote, they give a variety of reasons. “Out of party loyalty,” say some or because they agree with a pro-choice candidate on other issues. “I don’t believe in being a single-issue voter,” state many.

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

Would we vote for someone who is “good” on issues like crime but who also condones child abuse? Isn’t that what abortion is –the first and worst abuse any child can suffer at the hands of an adult?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



the month before she died in the November edition of National Right to Life News.

Columnists and late-night comedians are having a field

on issues. Some of them, for instance, who hold a pro-life view, repeatedly vote against that conviction.

When asked why the dichotomy between who they say they are

Even abortion supporters don't believe *The Guardian's* photos of 'pregnancy tissue'

By Sarah Terzo

A misleading article in the pro-abortion publication *The Guardian*, which *Live Action News* responded to here, claims to prove that aborted babies are just tissue with no recognizable features.

However, even abortion advocates are admitting that the article and the photos obscure the truth.

Pro-Abortion Activist Shares a Photo of Her Own Aborted Baby

On a pro-abortion forum on Reddit, a woman with the username "BackgroundPea7785" shared a photo of her aborted baby. BackgroundPea7785 took the abortion pill and photographed her child.

The picture shows a baby with arms and legs, complete with fingers and toes.

BackgroundPea7785 says she conceived on April 5 or 6 of this year, and her abortion was on May 28. This would make her child seven weeks and three or four days old from fertilization. Counted from the last menstrual period, as most doctors' offices do, this would be just over nine weeks gestation.

BackgroundPea7785 states:

I am extremely pro choice under any circumstances and for any reason. I wanted to share these as I've seen some possibly misleading info in regards to what an embryo might look like at this stage. My tattoo should be proof that these are my photos. I do have a video as well, hard to see toes as it still looked like there was

a tail of sorts but clear fingers, eyes etc.

She later clarified that she meant it "was not hard to see toes." Elbows, hands, feet, and toes are clearly visible in the picture.

The Trauma of Seeing an Aborted Baby

Although BackgroundPea7785 says that she doesn't regret her abortion, she admits seeing her baby was traumatic:

It felt like my heart stopped when I looked at it because it was a blob in my hand when I expected to see a blood clot instead. It was very smushed looking until I placed it in water.

[I]t was extremely traumatizing for me even though I am so pro choice and knew I was making the right decision... I did not keep it, I respectfully disposed of it...

She later admits that this "respectful" disposal meant flushing her child down the toilet. She says, "I live in a rental, and it's medical waste, I wasn't going to bury it."

Other Pro-Abortion Activists Acknowledge the Truth

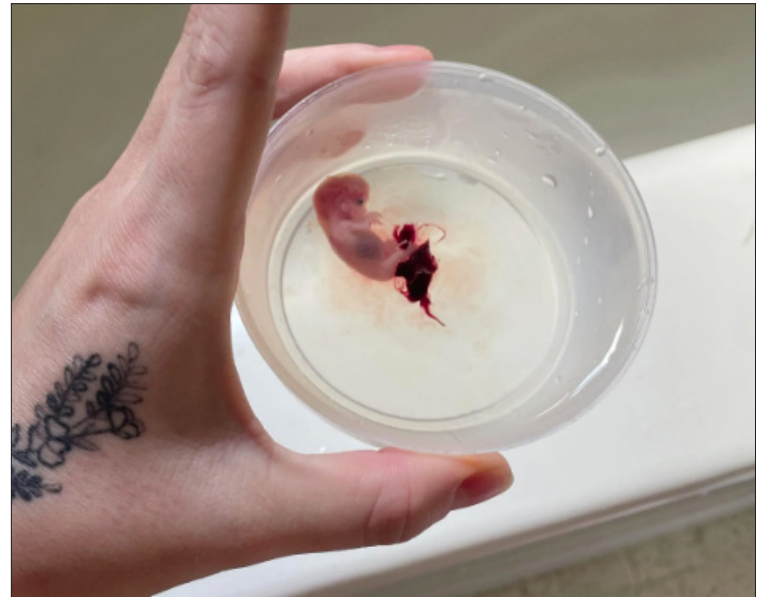
One woman posted a response saying that she too had seen a developed baby after her miscarriage. Another described seeing a similar-looking miscarried baby in the restroom toilet of the grocery store where she worked after a homeless woman miscarried there.

Other comments admitted the *Guardian* article was misinformation. One commenter said, "Thank you for contributing

to the discussion. It's extremely important we double triple check our facts especially if we want to make a change."

Another wrote, "Thank you so

it can be so much more developed than other tissue I've seen is all... I'm really confused, I know an embryo/fetus



Reddit user BackgroundPea7785's photo of aborted baby at 9 weeks gestation

much. Those 4-9w graphics going around are terribly misleading and honestly just more fuel for pro-lifers. There's nothing wrong with facing the truth of our cause."

A third person was confused because the photo in the post looked so different from pictures of "pregnancy tissue" she'd seen in other (presumably pro-abortion) sources:

...I don't know if it's possible for it to look almost human or so much more developed at 7.5 weeks than the images of aborted pregnancy tissue I've seen in articles.

I don't doubt the OP... I'm just confused how

will grow at different rates depending on the pregnant person but can it really look almost human-ish at 7 weeks?

She's seems to be having trouble accepting that she's been lied to.

An Abortion Worker's Comments

An abortion worker chimed in, giving a possible reason why photographs taken after an abortion may not always show recognizable remains:

I work at an abortion clinic and I literally

Abortion Myths That Need Dismantling

From Page 12

and even fund abortion). But a recent national study by the Society of Family Planning found a net 10,570 fewer abortions in just the first full two months (July and August of 2022) following the Supreme Court's *Dobbs* decision.

This again, is the net drop. The states with bans of some sort actually saw declines of 15,910 for those two months; this was offset by those states where abortion was fully legal or legislatures took steps to protect the abortion industry.

Even so, the net effect of these new abortion limits appears to have been the saving of thousands of unborn lives.

The unborn child at four weeks (or six weeks gestation)

Though the fall of *Roe* seems to have prompted the abortion industry's revival of the ludicrous "blob of tissue" falsehood, arguing that what is lost in abortion is nothing more than a "clump of cells," modern embryology shows that even at its earliest stages, the human embryo is a marvel to behold.

Though starting as just a single celled zygote, within a matter of just a couple of weeks there have countless numbers of cell divisions and the cells have already begun forming specialized structures and organs. By the third to fourth week, the child's body has already begun to take form, with the appearance of the head, the brain, the back, the spinal cord, and yes, the heart and circulatory system. Lungs and the gastrointestinal tract begin

to form. The first signs of limbs appear.

Before the child's fourth week of life is over (when doctors would date her pregnancy at six weeks, measuring from the day of the mother's last menstrual

For many people, the presence of a beating heart is irrefutable evidence of living humanity, and a clear reason for the state to extend its legal protection to unborn child by at least this stage.

This is the basis for the



period), the child's heart is beating steadily at about 113 beats a minute.

This is clearly no mere mass of undifferentiated cells.

The abortion industry's acknowledgment these Heartbeat Laws take effect at six weeks gestation is an admission that there is a scientific consensus on at least this basic embryological fact.

Heartbeat Laws that have been passed in many states.

Women's awareness of these basic fetal facts, perhaps in part facilitated by the law, may be the reason that some of these women choose to forego abortion and carry their children to term, especially if and when they find out about help and assistance that may be available to them if they allow their child to be born.

Summary: Women can and do know they are pregnant at six weeks gestation

Assertions that most women do not know they are pregnant at six weeks after their last menstrual period are not supported by the evidence. Whether the error stems from reliance on outdated medical information from before the era of modern home pregnancy tests or intentional obfuscation is unknown. But the evidence clearly shows that a large percentage of women know they are pregnant by the sixth week and are able to schedule and have their abortions within that time frame.

In the modern day, women can easily, cheaply obtain reliable tests that indicate pregnancy as early as three weeks after unprotected intercourse, early enough to meet the six week abortion deadline. The data show that many women clearly do.

The data also show that, once the law passed, many women seem to have chosen to carry their pregnancies to term. This could be due to missing the deadline, but just as well might be because the law helped them realize the humanity of their unborn child, that the child they were carrying was no mere "blob of cells," but a living human being with a beating heart. And once they knew this, and had the time to access community help and services available to women in their situation, they charted a different course.

Which is precisely what these laws were designed to do.

Horrifying case: Minor locked in room and forced to take abortion pills

By ProLife Campaign

When the X Case story broke in 1992, it sparked a months-long media frenzy in Ireland, all with the intent of opening the door to abortion and securing the right for minors to access abortion. There was the infamous Martyn Turner cartoon in *The Irish Times* at the time featuring a map of Ireland surrounded by barbed wire with a girl standing in the middle, next to the words: “The introduction of internment in Ireland... for 14-year-old girls”. Day and night, the media bombarded the public with reports demanding the introduction of abortion.

However, when news broke that a minor in Ireland was recently locked in a room and forced to take abortion pills, it was met with no cartoons emblazoned across the front page of *The Irish Times* or indeed wall to wall media coverage. Aside from a small mention in *The Irish Examiner*, there was stunned silence in the media about this truly horrifying case.

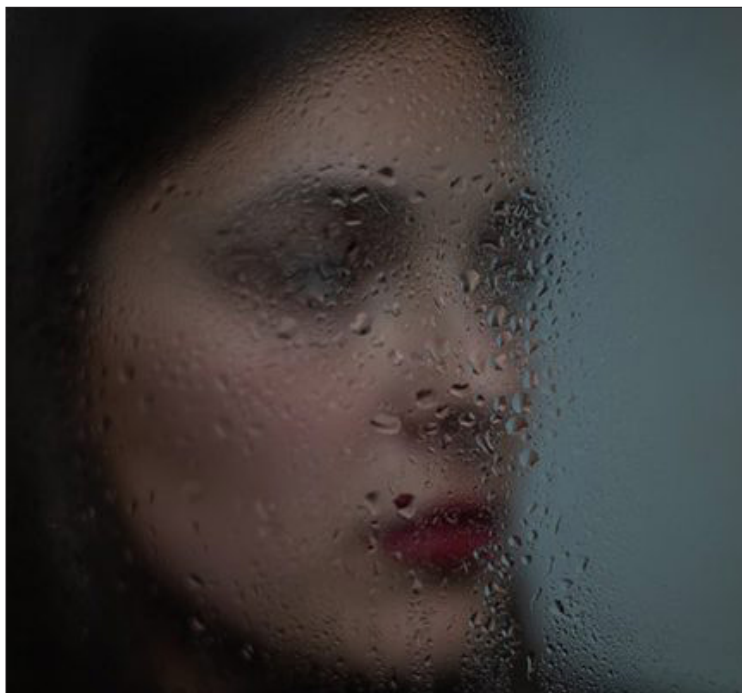
Greater awareness among the public and healthcare workers is needed of this shocking abuse, SATU [Sexual Assault Treatment Unit] staff has urged.

In one case, a girl, aged under 18, was locked in a room and given abortion tablets to force her to have a termination.

SATU national director Dr Maeve Eogan said patients such as these can be found not just in SATUs, but across the health service including by GPs,

their tears and outrage are strictly reserved for stories that serve a pro-abortion narrative.

We know that coercive abortion is not an isolated reality wherever



emergency departments, and maternity units.

Fair play at least to the *Examiner* for reporting on the story. But the refusal of the mainstream media in general to shout from the rooftops about the obscenity of a minor being held prisoner in a room to undergo an abortion is proof that

abortion is legal. Research conducted recently by Savanta ComRes for BBC Radio 4, revealed that 15% of women in the UK (aged 18-44) said that at some point in their life they experienced pressure to go through with an abortion they didn't want to have.

Earlier this year, in reply to a parliamentary question on telemedicine abortion from Carol Nolan TD, the HSE [Health Service Executive] conceded that “meeting the woman in person increases the likelihood of the provider identifying any coercion or domestic abuse”. Despite this, the Minister for Health Stephen Donnelly has continued to defend at home telemedicine abortion and has indicated that the Government intends to allow the practice to continue.

As for the media, they appear much more preoccupied with giving cover to the pro-abortion movement than protecting the welfare of women and vulnerable children from coercive abortion. Journalism has been replaced by zealous campaigning when it comes to the abortion issue. Troublingly, that has proven to be the case once again this week.

Editor's Note: ProLife Campaign is a national pro-life group based in Ireland.

When doing “nothing” would save countless lives

From Page 2

Parenthood (despite it violating Title X rules) and mandates medical professionals participate in or refer for abortion,” according to Ryan Bomberger.

Does the public want the right of conscience to be obliterated,

Specifically, the bill redefines the term “sex” to include “pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition.” It then bans “pregnancy discrimination” and

abortifacients were screened to be sure they did not have an preexisting condition, including ectopic pregnancy. (So-called “medication abortion” does not affect an ectopic pregnancy and if women are not checked for

Services,” immediately allowing elective abortions at VA medical clinics. The rule allows for abortions, with no mention of gestational age limits, whenever they can be justified as “needed to promote ... the health of the [mother].” The rule received 57,900 public comments, many of which opposed the VA’s decision.

Under such a vague requirement, is there any abortion that President Joe Biden’s VA wouldn’t perform? How will this new, broad authorization affect VA staff who don’t want to perform or assist with an abortion due to either religious or moral beliefs?



forcing medical personnel to be a party to abortion? Wesley J. Smith writes

The Equality Act—which has passed the House of Representatives—seeks to obliterate existing medical conscience rights around abortion by transforming conscientious refusals into acts of sex discrimination.

requires that pregnancy “shall not receive less favorable treatment than other physical conditions.” Moreover, it would gut the right to refuse participation in abortion based on religious belief.

The list goes on and on. The Biden Administration eliminated safeguards in place that ensured women taking chemical

this, it could rupture threatening her life.)

Even the VA was not safe. An op-ed in *Stars and Stripes* written by Danielle Runyan and Christine Pratt began

Last month, the Department of Veterans Affairs ended the public’s opportunity to comment on its new interim final rule (VA Rule) titled “Reproductive Health

You get the point. President Biden and his administration count it a day lost when they haven’t facilitated the deaths of additional unborn children.

When asked if he intended to run again, the President said it would “ultimately [be] a family decision.” He said that “my intention is that I run again,” but that he doesn’t “feel any hurry one way or another” about making an announcement.

Hasn’t he already done enough damage?

“Conscious Abortion” and Ridiculous Pro-Choice Exercises

By Sarah Terzo

In the article “Conscious Abortion: Engaging the Fetus in a Compassionate Dialogue” in the *Journal of Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology and Health*, psychologist Claudette Nantel encourages women to communicate with their baby before an abortion, tell them how much they love them, say goodbye, and even get their child’s permission for the abortion.

Really.

Nantel admits the baby’s humanity, defining “fetus” as “an unborn baby in its mother’s womb, at any time from conception to birth.”¹

“A heart-to-heart conversation”

“Conscious abortion” hinges on the belief that the baby in the womb can “hear” and understand the woman’s thoughts and even telepathically communicate back. Family doctor G McGarey suggested² that someone having an abortion should have “a heart-to-heart conversation with her baby in the womb, explaining how this is not a good time for her to raise a child, reassuring them that they are deeply loved.”³

According to McGarey, it’s important for women to make sure their babies know they love them... before they have them dismembered or poisoned. McGarey has guided women through the process and says many of her colleagues use it.

Several other counselors tell women with unwanted pregnancies to ask their baby to leave the womb. PH Fairfield instructs the following: “With deep love and concern, ask [the baby] to leave. Let yourself feel the divine love and connection with them, then tell them that it is not time for them to come in, or that you would like them to come back at a later time.”⁴ It is

hoped, then, the baby will choose to leave, and the woman will miscarry. If not, then they believe abortion is needed to complete the process.

Another practitioner, M Axness, says women having abortions should communicate with the baby “through prayer, imagination, art, letter, dance, song – a level of communication

(feeling, hearing, and seeing). The women were encouraged to repeat this exercise at home, and when/if they felt a response of agreement from the fetus, to visualize the fetus leaving their body.⁶

She says this leads the women



with the newly arrived being in their wombs through which they explain to the baby that it isn’t the right time for him or her to come and that it is necessary to separate.”⁵

Ask for consent and wait for “a response of agreement”

HH Watkins has women with unwanted pregnancies ask the baby to consent to the abortion. The child, according to Watkins and Nantel, will then telepathically communicate to the mother that they agree to be aborted. Watkins instructs women to:

visualize the fetus, express their conflict about the pregnancy, then wait for a response

mean that?”

Watkins recalls what happened next:

[She] continued the process of weeping and talking to the fetus at home until there was only silence in response. She concluded the fetus accepted her intended surgical intervention. She began the abortion visualization, but no miscarriage occurred.

The surgical intervention was accomplished without complication, healing was rapid, and the client felt little or no remorse. She knew at all levels she had made the appropriate decision for herself.⁸

So apparently the baby, by his or her silence, consented to be aborted after all.

Twisting reality

One woman had three abortions. Of the first child, she said, “I was young and much more centered on myself and my life circumstances than on the baby. I was not really in contact with this baby.”⁹

But with the other two, “I was able to go inside myself and have an intimate relationship with these two babies.”¹⁰

She thinks her children existed for the purpose of telling her to leave the man she was with, and says:

I never felt I was doing them harm. Just before the abortion for each of them, I asked the lady who showed me the ultrasound screen to give me five minutes alone with the baby, before the intervention.

One woman “heard” the child say no.

After getting this “answer,” the woman responded, “You don’t

Even abortion supporters don't believe *The Guardian's* photos of 'pregnancy tissue'

From Page 36

covered my mouth when I saw this because I never thought I would see that. Because they're removed with suction, it's extremely rare to see anything other than a sac at this point because everything else is too fragile and ends up blending in with the rest of the tissue to the point where it's unrecognizable.

Later, however, she seems to contradict herself, saying, "I work at an abortion clinic (that does surgical AB) and this looks real to me."

This worker reveals that one possible reason recognizable babies didn't appear in some of the early *Guardian* photos was that the powerful suction completely

destroyed the children. *The Guardian* doesn't mention this.

Mocking the Preborn Child and Pro-Lifers

Several commenters mocked the photos or used dehumanizing language to describe the baby.

In the picture, BackgroundPea7785 is also holding a marijuana joint (cropped for *Live Action News* purposes). One person commented, "A picture of tattooed hand holding petri dish with an aborted fetus and a joint. That deserves to win Pulitzer."

Another said, "I can just imagine an old mega-Christian woman looking at that picture and fainting."

Others said the photos were "interesting."

None acknowledged the humanity of the baby.

Another Dishonest Pro-Abortion Article

Despite evidence proving that the *Guardian's* pictures were false and misleading, the Huffington Post attempted to defend them. Their article mentioned that there were "commenters online saying this is not what the early miscarriage tissue they passed looked like." They explained this away by saying, "This could be because of the blood that accompanies a miscarriage."

The article doesn't explain how blood could be mistaken for a developed baby with fingers and toes.

Joan Fleischman, who shared the photos, said "I'm not going to

invalidate anybody's experience. But I've never seen an embryo under nine weeks."

But the *Guardian* article claims to present aborted babies at nine and ten weeks as well. So even if what Fleischman says is true for her, what about those children?

The Huffington Post quoted an abortionist saying, "It's important for people to understand we're not talking about something highly developed at all."

However, a baby at seven weeks has a heartbeat, brain waves, developing eyes with retinas and eyelids, and, if female, ovaries. She's been able to respond to touch for almost a week.

Editor's note. This appeared at Live Action News and is reposted with permission.

"Conscious Abortion" and Ridiculous Pro-Choice Exercises

From Page 40

I spoke to each of them in a fluid, soft manner, more like saying, 'Thank you, see you later...' The ultrasound screen conversations were way of recognizing the relationship, expressing my gratitude...

It was so clear for me that these two children had not come to me saying, 'Let me be born.'¹¹

In this woman's mind, her babies existed solely for her – to give her a life lesson. She says, "These babies helped me, and I acted on what they helped me with. I honored them. And they had a tremendous healing effect on the guilt and angst which I carried a long time during and after my first abortion."¹²

After they gave her that lesson, they could be discarded. To avoid

guilt, she convinced herself that her children were content to be discarded. After all, they had served their purpose.

According to her, her aborted babies were "beings who were my equals, partners in learning."¹³

The possibility that these "equals" could have a right to life of their own never occurred to her.

Note also the euphemism being used in these cases — "intervention" rather than abortion.

The phenomenon of "conscious abortion" is about twisting reality to make abortion acceptable, even while admitting it's killing babies. If doctors, counselors, and women having abortions believe the baby has no objections, they don't have to feel guilty.

The article isn't clear on how widespread the practice of "conscious abortion" is, but quotes multiple practitioners of it, some of whom reveal that their colleagues are doing it as well.

The article even quotes a French woman who works in an abortion facility and does this exercise with women before their abortions.

Notes:

1. Claudette Nantel "Conscious Abortion: Engaging the Fetus in a Compassionate Dialogue" *Journal of Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology and Health* 35 (2) Summer 2021: 2
2. G McGarey *Born to Live* (Inkwell Productions 2008) 59 – 60
3. Claudette Nantel "Conscious Abortion..." 10
4. PH Fairfield "Conscious Abortion" and the Idea of Abortion Itself *Journal of Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology and Health*, 20 (4): 2006:346
5. M Axness "To Be or Not

to Be: Prenatal Origins of the Existential "Yes" v. The Self Struggle" *Journal of Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology and Health* 31 (2): 155

6. Claudette Nantel "Conscious Abortion..." 13
7. HH Watkins "Treating the Trauma of Abortion" *Journal of Pre-and Perinatal Psychology and Health* 1 (2) 1986: 136
8. HH Watkins "Treating the Trauma of Abortion" 137
9. Claudette Nantel "Conscious Abortion..." 17
10. Ibid., 14
11. Ibid., 15
12. Ibid.
13. Ibid.

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