

LIFE TIME

Life's or everyone

DUBUQUE
COUNTY
RIGHT TO LIFE
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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

THIRTY YEARS AFTER ROE v. WADE

Coinciding with the anniversary of Roe, the Women Deserve Better Campaign is launching a public educational effort highlighting the failure of abortion to meet the needs of women. Abortion has been promoted as the answer for untimely pregnancies but has instead been an obstacle to the development of real solutions. The primary reasons women with untimely pregnancies turn to abortion are a lack of financial resources and emotional support. Real solutions address these needs and concerns. The Women Deserve Better Campaign ads read: "Abortion is a reflection that we have not met the needs of women. Women deserve better than abortion."

Also coinciding with the anniversary, the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League (NARAL) is softening its pro-abortion identity by promoting 'choice' as part of its new name. In this effort to sugar-coat their image, they are launching an advertising campaign. Henceforth, NARAL will call itself "NARAL Pro-Choice America." This semantic game is nothing new to NARAL (or Planned Parenthood or the National Organization of Women). However, we must keep in mind (and educate others to) the fact that the "choice" for which the organization(s) stands is the killing of unborn babies. NARAL wants to conceal this (inconvenient) fact and focus on "choice." No amount of linguistic trickery can change that fact!

The good news is, after 30 years of fighting for the rights of the unborn (and of women) we are making progress. NARAL, NOW and PLANNED PARENTHOOD know this. They are concerned that the current administration is "chipping away" at our 'reproductive rights' and wondering if Roe v. Wade will survive. They have reason to be concerned. In a recent Wirthlin poll, 70% of respondents say they favor "restoring legal protection for unborn children." Almost the same number -- 66 percent -- said they favored nominees to the Supreme Court "who would uphold laws that restore legal protection to unborn children." Only 28 percent said no.

All this does not mean we can be complacent! We may be winning a few battles, but the war isn't over. In order for the "chipping away of the "basic right to abortion" (Kate Michelman, NARAL) to occur, we may need at least 60 votes in the Senate. [The 60 vote rule relates to ending an expected or ongoing filibuster-the Senate tradition by which a single determined Senator can block a vote on proposed legislation by refusing to end debate.] And, all six Democrats creating presidential exploratory committees have agreed to attend a NARAL event commemorating the 30th Anniversary.

So, don't give up the fight.
Keep up the good work!

“THERE’S AN OLD SAYING IN WASHINGTON THAT CONGRESS LISTENS TO WHO’S TALKING!”



PRO-LIFE LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS:

The addresses and phone numbers for your members of Congress are:

U.S. Senate

Washington, D.C. 20510

Phone: 1-202-224-3121

Capitol Switchboard toll free number: 1-888-723-5246

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

Phone: 1-202-225-3121

E-mail addresses for **Representatives** can be found at <http://clerkweb.house.gov> (and then go to “Write your Representative”). Phone numbers are listed above. Rep. Jim Nussle, 303 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515, 202-225-2911. Fax: 202-225-9129. E-mail: nussleia@mail.house.gov. Dubuque office: 563-557-7740, Waterloo office: 319-235-1109, Mason City office: 515-423-0303, and the Manchester office: 563-927-5141 or 800-927-5212.

E-mail addresses for **Senators** can be found at <http://www.senate.gov>. You can reach any senator by calling the Capitol switchboard at 202-224-3121. Senator Charles E. Grassley (R), 135 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. E-mail: chuck_grassley@grassley.senate.gov Phone: 202-224-3744 in Washington; 319-232-6657 in Waterloo; or 319-363-6832 in Cedar Rapids.

Senator Tom Harkin (D), 731 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510. E-mail: tom_harkin@harkin.senate.gov Phone: 202-224-3254 in Washington; 319-365-4505 in Cedar Rapids; or 563-582-2130 in Dubuque.

To contact your IOWA Congressmen:

Call the State House to reach your Governor, Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Secretary of Ag., Auditor, and Attorney General @ 515-281-5211. To reach your State Senators, call 515-281-3371. To reach your State Representatives, call 515-281-3221. The toll free number to the Iowa Capitol Building is 800-375-7097.

To write: The Honorable _____, Office of the Governor or Senate Chamber or House Chamber, State Capitol Building, Des Moines, IA 50319. Begin letters with Dear Governor _____ or Dear Senator _____, or Dear Representative _____.

To FAX: House - 515-281-6108; Senate 515-281-5868

To E-mail: firstname_lastname@legis.state.ia.us Please note: an underscore character must be typed between the first and last name. When e-mailing your legislator, please let them know where you live in their district. There are various e-mail addresses for legislators.

A new petition sponsored by Faith2Action at ConservativePetitions.com found that seven out of 10 Americans surveyed want legislation that protects the rights of unborn children, and that two out of three support U.S. Supreme Court justices who will uphold such laws. Please let the President and

In the Senate, as of Wednesday, January 15th, every committee in the Senate was still run by Democrat chairmen. Senator Lieberman (D-CT) still held the gravel as chairman of the Committee on Government Affairs and Senator Inhofe (R-OK) still had not taken over from Senator Jeffords (D-VT) at the Environment and Public Works Committee. The Senate Democrats were refusing to vote on an "organization plan" under the new Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist. The Democrats are demanding that they receive equal committee funding to the Republicans. This was despite the fact that the tradition has always been for the winning party to have 2/3 of committee funding. An agreement has now been reached by Majority Leader Frist and Senator Tom Daschle. Under the plan the Democrats will receive 40% of the funding and office space instead of the traditional 33%. Also, two important committees (Intelligence and Ethics) will be evenly split rather than having a Republican majority. The committees will have Republican chairmen.

BILLS LIKELY TO BE BROUGHT UP IN THIS SESSION

1. The **HUMAN CLONING PROHIBITION ACT** - this bill would prohibit using the cloning technique to create a new human life. Human cloning is a process in which a child is created for the purpose of reproduction for infertile couples (reproductive cloning) or for “therapeutic” reason (therapeutic cloning) in which case the baby would be dissected and destroyed for medical research. In either case, human life is being treated as a commodity where exploitation is inevitable. ACTION NEEDED: Please contact your Representatives and Senators to discuss the HUMAN CLONING PROHIBITION ACT.
2. THE **PARTIAL BIRTH ABORTION BAN ACT** is likely to be brought up early this session. This bill would make the procedure a criminal act, and would hold the abortionist accountable for his actions. ACTION: Please contact your Representatives and Senators to discuss the PARTIAL BIRTH ABORTION BAN ACT.
3. **CHILD CUSTODY PROTECTION ACT** - The Child Custody Protection Act would make it a federal offense to take minors across state lines in order for them to obtain abortions. Currently, more than 30 states have laws requiring consent or notification of at least one parent, before an abortion can be performed on a minor. ACTION: Please encourage your Representatives and Senators to support the CHILD CUSTODY PROTECTION ACT.
4. **ABORTION NON-DISCRIMINATION ACT (ANDA)** - Recently, there have been attempts to force health care organizations that object to providing abortions, to provide or pay for abortions. The current law, which provides limited protection, needs to be clarified. This change in existing law would allow these organizations or individuals to set their own abortion policies according to their organizational consciences. This bill is designed to protect the rights of private and religious hospitals and other medical facilities that do not wish to perform abortions. The Abortion Non-Discrimination Act would establish that Federal, state, and local governments may not discriminate against any health care professional, hospital, HMO, insurance plan, or other health care entities because of refusal to perform cover, or pay for induced abortions. ACTION: Please contact your Representatives and Senators to discuss the ABORTION NON-DISCRIMINATION ACT.
5. **Equity in Prescription Insurance and Contraceptive Coverage (EPICC)** amendment -The fundamental freedom that is at issue is "conscience", the freedom of individuals to "conscious choices" in health care. There are dangerous medical consequences of this legislation and serious threats to children, parental rights and right of conscience. There are plenty of health plans available with contraceptive coverage. If EPICC is passed, there will no longer be freedom of choice in health plans for those who do not want to subsidize contraception coverage. ACTION: Please contact your Representatives and Senators and tell them what you think of this bill.
6. The **Unborn Victims of Violence Act** recognizes an unborn child as a legal victim when he or she is injured or killed during commission of a federal crime of violence. ACTION: Please contact your Representatives and Senators to discuss the Unborn Victims of Violence Act.
7. The **PATIENT HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTECTION ACT (RU486)** - Only after the qualifications and conditions regarding the prescription of this deadly drug were reduced was the FDA able to approve RU486. Not only is this drug destroying the lives of unborn children, it is detrimental to the health of the mother. If passed, this bill would reinstate the safety precautions originally recommended by the FDA. ACTION: Please contact your Representatives and Senators to discuss this Act.
8. The **Family Life Education Act & the Work, Opportunity and Responsibility for Kids (WORK) act** is an attempt to provide a “safe-sex” alternative to Title V abstinence education within the Welfare Reform Act. Supporters want to eliminate Title V and add \$100 million to the contraceptive-based “family-planning programs.” In contrast, the **Personal Responsibility, Work and Family Promotion Act of 2002** would reauthorize the 1996 Welfare Reform Act. ACTION: Please contact your Representative and Senators to discuss abstinence education vs. the “safe-sex” alternatives.
9. The **Informed Choice Act** is currently being sponsored by 25 pro-life Congressmen. An identical bill is also up in the Senate. At present, pro-life groups are lobbying to enlist more co-sponsors in both the House of Representatives and Senate. If passed, qualifying pregnancy medical clinics would receive federal grants for the purchase of ultrasound equipment.

(continued next page)

10. The Bankruptcy Reform Act which banking interests are seeking as a high priority after a decade of negotiations had stalled during the summer because of a provision affixed by Sen. Charles Schumer (D-NY) seeking to deny bankruptcy protection for pro-life activists who get into legal trouble while seeking to interdict distressed mothers entering abortuaries. After pro-life members of the House defeated the bankruptcy bill in November, the House then removed the Schumer amendment and passed the bankruptcy bill in a new vote. However, the Democrat-controlled Senate refused to act on the legislation - essentially killing the measure. The bill will be brought back in this congressional session -- this time, without the troublesome amendment.

11. THE SENATE HAS BACKED DOWN from its amendment to the Defense Appropriations bill which would have forced the military to allow abortions to be committed in US military medical facilities. The Senate had voted 52-to-40 in late June to attach the amendment, sponsored by Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA).

But during House/Senate negotiations Sen. Carl Levin (D-MI), chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, agreed to remove the Murray Amendment because of concerns the President would veto the bill if it arrived on his desk with "Murray" intact. The House had never agreed to the provision and has voted repeatedly against attempts to add such language.

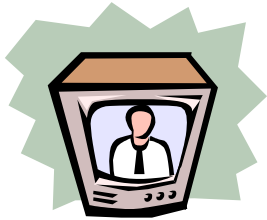
IN THE SUPREME COURT. . . .

The Thomas More Law Center, a national public interest law firm, has asked the U.S Supreme Court to strike down the 1994 Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act (FACE) as unconstitutional. The center argues that Congress not only 'exceeded its authority under the interstate commerce clause but pro-abortion groups backed by overzealous prosecutors have abused it to suppress the free speech of peaceful pro-life protesters.' The Law Center is representing a 57 year old woman who was targeted for handing out pro-life literature outside a Kalamazoo, Michigan abortion clinic.

KNOWN ADVOCATES FOR LIFE WERE APPOINTED in late December to the Reproductive Health Drugs Advisory Committee to the federal Food & Drug Administration (FDA). Among the appointees is **W. David Hager MD** University of Kentucky OB/Gyn professor (promotes abstinence, considers fetus a person, 'As a member of the Christian Medical Assn helped draft a petition to the FDA to reverse its decision approving RU-486), **Dr. Joseph Barney Stanford MD**, associate professor with the University of Utah's Salt Lake City-based Dept. of Family & Preventive Medicine ("has described the 'morning-after pill' as an abortion drug."), and **Susan Crockett MD**, University of Texas clinical assistant professor at San Antonio's Health Science Center and director of maternity services at Christus Santa Rosa Hospital. Dr. Crockett "was targeted by Planned Parenthood because of her service as an at-large board member of the American Association of Pro-Life Obstetricians & Gynecologists."

A new session of **SPEAKER TRAINING** for Dubuque County Right To Life will begin on Sunday, February 23 @ 7 P.M. Other scheduled sessions will be held on March 2 & 23. Attending a speaker training session does not obligate you to become a speaker. Many people come to learn how better to educate family, friends and acquaintances. For more information or to register, call Ellen or Barbara (556-5060) or Connie (556-8982).

ATTENTION: Our February meeting will be held in the Arizona room at the Loras College Alumni center on February 6th at 7 P.M. NOTE THAT THIS IS THE USUAL DAY AND TIME BUT THE **LOCATION HAS CHANGED** (for this meeting only)! Loras College Alumni Center is located at the corner of Loras Boulevard and Cox Street. The Loras group that attended the March for Life in Washington, DC will discuss their experiences. This program is always delightful. **Don't miss it!!**



Our cable access shows can be seen on cablevision Channel 16! Our programs are scheduled for Monday @ 10:00 A.M., Friday @ 3:00 P.M. and Saturday @ 1:00 P.M. The upcoming **Programs** are: 1) St. Joseph the Worker student panel "ABORTION, AFTER EFFECTS, EUTHANASIA & STEM CELL RESEARCH [Connie Hardie, Lindsey Carew, Craig Markham & Ellen Markham] and DCRTL MEETING featuring Ellen Markham on ASSISTED SUICIDE. 2) DCRTL WALK FOR LIFE (January 18, 2003) 3. LIFE AFFIRMING FEMINISM by Antonia Yaklin 4) OPERATION OUTCRY - REVERSE ROE

Memorials to DCRTL: Thanks to all who have given a gift of life in memory of the following: from James Giese for Jerry Meyer; from M. Eileen & Joseph Kane for **Joe Kane**; from John & Ellen Markham for **Wilda Splinter, Donald Casey, C. Donald Collins & Joseph Hudspeth**; from Jean & Dick Mescher for **Alvina "Toots" Haegman**; from Jack & Dianne Brehm for **Delbert Kramer, Don Casey and Bob Roussel**; from Ding & Marilyn Bell, Dan & Anne Bohle, Pat & Diane Carney, George & Lillian Freund, Terry & Paula Friedman, Joe Giese, Thomas & Jolyn Hannan, Connie & Steve Hardie, Paul Hoffmann, Tom & Cyndi Kiefer, Gregory & Ramona Manternach, Mark & Marna Sullivan, Loras & Jo Sabers, Corrine McCullough for **Don Conlon**.

And in honor of: Don & Margaret Koopman (50th Wedding Anniversary) from Larry & Irene Scherrman.

Whenever a gift is given in memory or in honor of a loved one, an acknowledgement card is sent to the person of family you designate. With gifts of \$250 or greater, their name is engraved on our memorial plaque which is displayed in our office.

CORRECTION:

Andrea Errthum's name was omitted as Poster Contest winner from RickardsvilleHolyCrossLuxemborg School. In addition, FIRST PLACE WINNER of our ESSAY CONTEST Eric Weimerskirch's name was misspelled. The editor regrets these

PRAYER AT THE ABORTION MILLS: In February, we will be visiting **Planned Parenthood in Bettendorf**. Bill McDonough will leave the Resurrection Church parking lot after their 7:00 A.M. Mass on Tuesday, **February 18th**. Please call the office (563-556-5960) or Bill (563-582-4436) to let us know you want to go. In addition, Mike Scherr will lead a group to Iowa City on Saturday, February 22. They will leave from St. John's Church in Peosta at 7:00 A.M. Please call the office (563-556-5960) or Mike (563-556-2876) to let us

WHY PRAY AT THE ABORTION MILLS?

In Duluth, after all the sidewalk counselors and prayer warriors had left for the day, one of them decided to go back and pray. She was rewarded by seeing a girl and her mother leaving the abortion facility. The girl was crying and said she had changed her mind. This is another reminder that we don't see everything that goes on. **We are confident that there are many other babies saved without our knowledge.**

(emphasis mine)

