

# LIFE TIME

Life for everyone

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COUNTY  
RIGHT TO LIFE  
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Monday - Friday

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## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

### THE LAND OF THE FREE???

In the past, we've discussed the Abortion Nondiscrimination Act (ANDA), an attempt to provide broader protections for those not wanting to participate in abortion, in this newsletter. I'm sure most of you followed the Justice Roy Moore case, where he wasn't allowed to display the Ten Commandments in his office. There is pending legislation in West Virginia, which will effectively deny parents the right to any and all vaccine exemptions. On March 2, 2004 the

Supreme Court of California ruled that Catholic Charities must pay for birth control for its employees. These rulings are all related because they have to do with freedoms - freedom of choice, freedom of speech, freedom of religion.

The California Supreme Court Decision weighs most heavily on my mind. As dissenting Justice Janice Rogers Brown wrote, "Here we are dealing with an intentional, purposeful intrusion into a religious organization's expression of its religious tenets and sense of mission." Ned Dolejsi, Executive Director of the California Catholic Conference said, "For us, it was never really about contraceptive insurance. It was about our ability to practice our faith." The Family Research Council reports far-reaching implications. Churches involved in "faith-based" ministries could be forced to comply not only with health coverage issues that violate their religious tenets, but could also be forced to employ individuals whose lifestyles or beliefs are counter to the church. Catholic Charities, backed by other religious organizations, has warned that such a regulation could spill into areas such as abortion and assisted suicide that conflict with church teachings. This is big!! They've taken God out of the schools and now are trying to take Him out of the Church. Why isn't anyone crying, "What about the separation of church and state?" People of all faiths need to be concerned. Where is our freedom of religion if a state can mandate that a church must provide access to something the church prohibits? Catholic leaders said they would review the decision in coming weeks to determine if they would appeal to the US Supreme Court. Joseph M. Starrs, director of the ALL's Crusade for the Defense of our Catholic Church said, "The state's Catholic bishops have a moral responsibility to courageously speak out against this ruling. . . . They could simply ignore it as an act of civil disobedience; they could counter this act by withholding the countless services they offer to state residents or they could simply stop offering any prescription medical benefit to their employees. **ACTION:** CONTACT THE BISHOPS to let them know your thoughts and offer encouragement, support and prayers [Mark Chopko, General Council for the USCCB, Office of General Counsel, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 3211 4th Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20017-1194, (202) 541-3000] and CONTACT YOUR LAWMAKERS ABOUT ANDA. Current federal law protects "health care entities" from having to perform or provide for abortions, but it has been interpreted to protect only individual physicians and training programs, leaving hospitals, health plans, nurses, and other health care participants without protection unless helpful state laws are in place. ANDA would expand these protections.



**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

CONTACT THE FOOD & DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA)-:  
5600 Fischers Lane  
Rockville, MD 20857-0001  
1-888-463-6332

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

- ◆ On March 2, 2004, the Food and Drug Administration delayed its decision on the **morning-after-pill**. The FDA told Barr Laboratories it is waiting 90 days to make the decision on whether to make Plan B an over-the-counter drug. The FDA hasn't formally announced the delay. There is a petition being circulated to President Bush asking him to use his executive power to stop the FDA from approving the over-the-counter sales. Call (563-556-5960) for copies.
- ◆ Still no news from the Senate on the **Human Cloning Prohibition Act (HR534)**. However, at the March for Life, President Bush announced that he wants a comprehensive ban. The biotech industry has convinced some key senators of the need to protect "therapeutic cloning". Contact your senators with your views on cloning.
- ◆ The House passed the **Unborn Victims of Violence Act**. If Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist calls the measure for a vote, it is expected to face a single-victim substitute amendment, which will merely enhance penalties for violent crimes, overlooking the unborn child as a second victim. Contact your Senators.
- ◆ On January 20th, the Children of God for Life proposed legislation to Congressman Chris Smith's office titled, the **Fair Labeling and Informed Consent Act 2004 (FLICA)**. This bill would require any prescription or non-prescription drug, vaccine or medical treatment that contains or is produced using embryonic or fetal cell lines obtained from procured abortion -or produced sexually or asexually through embryonic stem cell research or human cloning, to be labeled as such on the product labeling or package insert. The language includes protection of conscience and religious freedom for medical professionals, pharmacists, researchers and consumers who wish to abstain from using or dispensing such products. Get ready for a letter writing campaign as soon as it is assigned a bill number.
- ◆ March 29, 2004 is the date set for each of the lawsuits in Nebraska, New York and San Francisco which are pending against the **Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act**. The Justice Department is dropping its effort to subpoena abortion records from six Planned Parenthood affiliates as part of the government's defense of the new law. Government lawyers said they were forced to withdraw the subpoenas because of U.S. District Judge Phyllis Hamilton's ruling in San Francisco last week that the records could not be introduced in a trial of a challenge to the law brought by Planned Parenthood Federation of America. Meanwhile, the Justice Department continues to battle six hospitals that are resisting subpoenas for records of abortion providers who filed the lawsuit in New York. The judge in that case has agreed that the records are necessary, but other judges have approved motions by the hospitals to quash the subpoenas. Monica Goodling, a Justice Department spokeswoman, said the abortion records are considered central to the claims by the law's challengers that the procedure is medically necessary.



### NEW THIS YEAR

We are having a Silent auction before our dinner. Come early to bid on items of interest to you! They will come in a variety of price ranges.

### LIFE DINNER 2004

Invitations for our annual dinner will be out soon. It will be held on Friday April 16th at the Grand River Center. We will begin at 5:30 P.M. for cocktails and Silent Auction & the dinner will be at 7:00.

We need a volunteer who would be willing to videotape the presentation. If you are able to help out with this, please let Colleen know ASAP!! Call Colleen @ 563-556-5960 to find out more OR to let her know you can help.

This year we have invited the Women of Operation Outcry, Silent No More to be our speakers, along with our own Colleen Pasnik. They were here to speak for our Pro-life Awareness events last fall and are **BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND**. If you didn't hear them then, you need to hear them now. You will also be provided with an update on the Roe v. Wade court challenge.

Oral arguments in Norma McCorvey's lawsuit were abruptly canceled. The panel now plans to rule without live arguments.

President Bush made 2 **Judicial 'Recess Appointments'**- Judge Charles Pickering & Alabama Attorney General William Pryor. Both appointments will expire in late 2005, when if re-elected, he can nominate the two for another confirmation round in the newly elected Senate.

#### Memorials to DCRTL:

Thanks to all who have given a gift of life:

**In memory of** the following: for **Dorrance Schauer** from Bill & Doris McDermott; for **Hugh & Helen McCaffrey** from George & Lillian Freund; for **Roger Boleyn & Zita Portzen** from Mary Kay Portzen; for **Frank Delaney** from Dick & Jean Mescher.

**and in honor of:** Mrs. Alice Althoff's birthday from Dick & Jean Mescher.

**Whenever a gift is given in memory or in honor of a loved one, an acknowledgement card is sent to the person or family you designate. With gifts of \$250 or greater, their name is**

#### OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER AT THE ABORTION MILLS:

Meet Bill McDonough (563-582-4436) after 7:00 A.M. Mass in the Resurrection Church parking lot on Tuesday, **APRIL 20th** or meet @7:00 A.M. in St. Columbkille's parking lot that faces the church on Saturday, **APRIL 17th**. For more information, call our office @ 563-556-5960.

PLEASE CALL TO LET US KNOW YOU WILL BE JOINING THE GROUP.

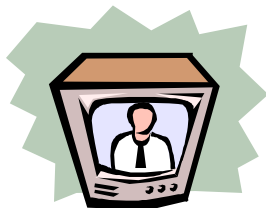
#### SIDEWALK COUNSELING SESSIONS:

We will be bringing in a speaker/trainer from the Pro-Life Action League to help us in our efforts to become more involved in sidewalk counseling at the abortion mills. PLEASE SIGN UP IF YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED IN COMING. You will not be obligated to attend or commit to sidewalk counsel but we will be sure to contact you when we know the date, time & place. You are welcome whether your motive is to become a sidewalk counselor or to increase your knowledge or just curiosity.

#### VOLUNTEER NEEDED TO SCHEDULE OUR VIDEO/CABLE ACCESS PROGRAMS

If you enjoy video technology and have some spare time, please call us @ 563-556-5960!

We will train you, so don't shy away just because you've never done it before!



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. Watch for our **upcoming programs**: this month will feature the January issue of **Life Dynamics** monthly news magazine (with up to date pro-life news and features) and **Operation Outcry, Silent No More** (press conference, June '03).

#### BUILDING ON THE FOUNDATION OF LIFE - update:

Our capital campaign has reached **\$187,409.50** in cash and pledges, toward our goal of \$250,000. If you haven't yet sent your money or pledge to us, please do so promptly. Make checks payable to DCRTL Building Fund and send to us at 1205 Cleveland Avenue, Dubuque, IA 52003.

