



# Citizens Concerned for Human Life

# *Blair County*

# *Life News*

Volume 6 Number 3

Presenting the Pro-Life Message to Blair County, Pennsylvania

Summer 2014



## Silent No More

**S**ilent No More Awareness, a project of Priests for Life and Anglicans for Life, is a Campaign whereby Christians make the public aware of the devastation abortion brings to women and men. The campaign seeks to expose and heal the secrecy and silence surrounding the emotional and physical pain of abortion.

The Campaign began November 11th, 2002. As of December 2013, the Silent No More Awareness Campaign has held 1,325 Gatherings in 17 countries and 48 states with 5,715 women and men sharing their abortion testimonies. Testimonies have also been shared at 72 high schools and universities in the last four years, 14 in 2013.

There are 2,014 testimonies posted on the Campaign website, with 293 that are shared via video. Currently, there are 14,979 people registered with the Campaign representing 77 countries.

People who are not ready to join the Campaign, are invited to 'register their regret.' So far, 4,239 women and 516 men have said they regret their abortion or lost fatherhood. 443 women and men have posted memorials to their children.

In 2011, we surveyed Campaign members; 328 surveys were returned—310 women/18 men representing 450 abortions. More than ½ didn't begin looking for healing until after 20 years. The longest was 36 years and the shortest was 1 month. The majority shared their testimony and gave us permission to share it. Many people responding to the survey made comments of how the campaign has positively impacted their lives.

### What are the Goals of the Silent No More Awareness Campaign?

- ♦ Reach out to people hurt after abortion, encouraging them to attend abortion after-care programs. Invite those who are ready to break the silence by speaking the truth about abortion's negative consequences and the path to healing.
- ♦ Educate the public that abortion is harmful emotionally, physically and spiritually to women, men and families, so that it becomes unacceptable for anyone to recommend abortion as a 'fix' for a problem pregnancy.
- ♦ Share personal testimonies of hurt and healing to help others avoid the pain of abortion.

### Why do we need a Silent No More Awareness Campaign?

Many women and men are realizing the abortions they were involved in years ago are the source of the physical and emotional problems they have today. The Campaign gives them a forum to help others by sharing the painful consequences of abortion. Women talk about feeling guilt, anger, shame and worthlessness; and how they struggled with suicidal thoughts, drug/alcohol addiction to numb the pain, eating disorders or depression. Men share how the abortion of their children caused them to feel pain, guilt, and anger. They also share their experience in finding peace and healing. These voices of experience need to be heard so others can learn about the help that is available. They also want people who think abortion is a good solution for someone facing an unplanned pregnancy to understand the real long-term consequences their friend or loved one is likely to face in the future. For more information, go to: [www.silentnomoreawareness.org](http://www.silentnomoreawareness.org), call Janet Morana, 1-888-735-3448; or email: [mail@silentnomoreawareness.org](mailto:mail@silentnomoreawareness.org).



# Offering Real Alternatives to Women in Crisis

By Maria Gallagher

The young woman who walks into the office may have been pro-life since she first became aware of the issue of abortion. And then, she finds herself pregnant, her boyfriend abandons her, and she feels completely alone. In that hour of crisis, she may be tempted to seek an abortion.

But the kind, compassionate woman who greets her in the pregnancy help center waiting room is just the person she needs in her life at this critical time, who can shine a light in the darkness which threatens to envelop her.

This is what Pennsylvania's Alternatives to Abortion program offers—a ray of hope, a listening ear, a kind word, a trusted ally. The landmark program has now served more than 200,000 clients and their families—including many in the Harrisburg Diocese.

The program was the brain child of former Pennsylvania Governor Bob Casey, and it enjoys the support of current Governor Tom Corbett, along with a bipartisan coalition of lawmakers. Harrisburg area State Representatives Glen Grell, Sue Helm, Ronald Marsico, John Payne, and Mike Regan are among those who have expressed support for this ground-breaking program, which has become a model for the rest of the nation.

Women facing unexpected pregnancies need more than a pamphlet, according to Real Alternatives President and CEO Kevin Bagatta. They need a person who will walk with them during their journey, who will offer comprehensive support, and who will not judge them.

And the program has had phenomenal success—in central Pennsylvania and throughout the Commonwealth. Consider these figures from the 2010-11 fiscal year:

64% of women entering the program who were considering abortion chose childbirth.

88% of women who were pressured by others to abort chose childbirth.

67% of women who were pressured by others AND considering abortion chose childbirth.

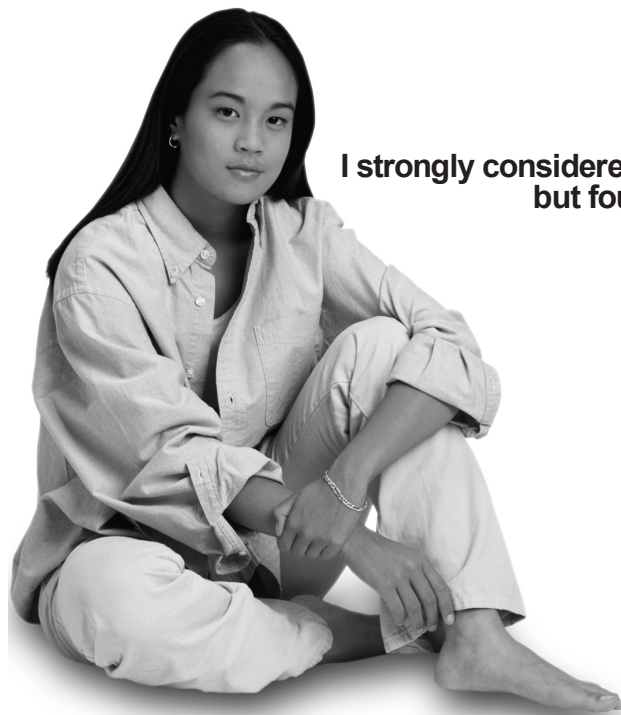
Real Alternatives also offers a toll-free hotline, 1-888-Life-Aid, which connects women to their local pregnancy resource centers, where they can receive free pregnancy tests, counseling, and support for themselves and their babies, both during their pregnancies and in the 12 months afterward.

The Pennsylvania Catholic Conference, which represents the state's bishops, has voiced strong support for the program, noting its ability to stand beside women in their hour of need. Pastors throughout the state have also hailed the program for its life-affirming, life-changing focus. One national poll showed that more than 80 percent of the post-abortive women surveyed would have chosen life for their children—had just one person offered support. For many Pennsylvania women, that one person has been found at a Real Alternatives center.

"Number one, you're not alone," Real Alternatives' Kevin Bagatta said in a recent K-LOVE Radio interview. "There are people who care about you...so you can be empowered...to choose life."

For more information about Real Alternatives, visit [www.realalternatives.org](http://www.realalternatives.org).

—Maria Gallagher, Legislative/PAC Director  
[gallagher@paprolife.org](mailto:gallagher@paprolife.org)



**I strongly considered abortion,  
but found a better way.**

I was scared and torn. Unmarried, 18, with a promising modeling career.

My boyfriend pressured me to have an abortion. Another close friend - who had two abortions - pleaded with me not to. I knew she was right. If I did, it would haunt my conscience every day.

Although everything in me wanted to keep my child, I could not. After much struggle, I decided to place my baby for adoption. Friends, family and even strangers were very supportive.

Though I still long for her and pray for her daily, God continues to bless me because I was determined to give my daughter the best.

**Adoption was just that - for us both.**

—Life Issues Institute

# Tragic Affects of Abortion

## What about the Fathers?

By Lynn Gura

### What can happen to the Father of an aborted child?

Sometimes he simply disappears, whether by his own choice or the choice of the Mother. Sometimes he is deliberately ignored because our society doesn't want to face any of the hard truths about abortion. It certainly doesn't want to add one more to the list of victims.

Whether the Father encouraged or supported the Mother to choose abortion, pressured her to abort, abandoned her to make the decision alone, unsuccessfully opposed the abortion, or learned about it after it happened, one thing is certain—the natural role as a Father was cut short and he can also experience post-abortion syndrome (PAS).

Jason Baier, founder of the Fatherhood Forever Foundation says, "The world needs to know that men suffer intensely from abortion. This suffering manifests itself in a variety of self-destructive behaviors, including workaholicism, drinking and drugs, gambling, and pornography addictions. A post-abortive man may be depressed. He may doubt that he can be a good protector and provider.

"For Fathers who were unable to prevent the abortion, there is a feeling of powerlessness," explains Kevin Burke, co-founder of Rachel's Vineyard Ministries and author of an abortion recovery book for men called *Redeeming A Father's Heart*. "When they are unable to stop the death of their child, it is a deeply painful and even dangerous situation for the Fathers, given the level of grief and rage they experience, which can find expression in various forms of abuse, addiction, suicidal thoughts and actions, and relational problems."

Many Fathers who agree with or insist on the abortion will eventually feel a great sense of shame because men have been created with the instinct to protect Mother and child. "This shame may be an immediate reaction to their role in the abortion or it may be buried in the subconscious only to surface at another time in a man's life...perhaps when he sees an ultrasound of his child or as part of a conversion experience," Burke says.

According to Brian Fisher, President of Online for Life, he says the following in a *FoxNews* column (Father's Day 2013) about the impact of abortion on men. "Fifty-five million aborted babies later, it seems many men are realizing the Supreme Court got it wrong. Fatherhood doesn't start with birth. It starts when we opt to sleep with a woman. And, despite federal law, our consciences testify that we are wired to protect and care for a child when it is conceived, not nine months later." He further states, "We are just now considering, though, that we victimize ourselves. In our heart of hearts, we are coming to grips with what we are doing. We are willfully taking the lives of those we are wired to protect." Men, born to be honorable and full of valor, Fisher says, have traded their innate sense of responsibility for a perceived freedom that is not worth the cost. He says that a man's fundamental calling to defend those who are dependent on him, including the unborn, is squashed by the abortion mentality.

Almost all Fathers feel a sense of emptiness after abortion. They may be plagued with thoughts of their lost children, like what they would have done together—camping, playing baseball, working on airplane models, riding bicycles, reading stories, getting ice cream for an evening treat, going to a daddy / daughter dance, etc.

The following is from an article in *National Right to Life News* (Father's Day 2013) written by Paul Stark, Communications for Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life: "Pro-choice advocates like to say that only women can speak about abortion, and many men are silent or (if they are pro-life, but strangely not if they are pro-choice) their opinions are disregarded. But that doesn't make any sense. The pro-life (or any other) position must be considered on its merits, not dismissed because of some characteristic of a person advancing that position. Many, many women, after all, make

the very same pro-life case. Men have an obligation to graciously speak the truth and to defend the lives of those who cannot defend themselves. Father's Day recognizes that Fathers play an essential role in the lives of their children. They are also essential to restoring a culture of life in which all human beings, especially the youngest and most vulnerable, are respected and protected."

### How does a Father recover from aborting his child/ children? With forgiveness, hope and healing!

We know that good things come out of pain and suffering. These are some steps the Fathers of children who have been aborted can take to heal their brokenness (*Mothers can do the same*):

◆ Fathers need to recognize they are not alone. Others have been through the same experience and the same trials. Their experiences and understanding can help the grieving Fathers through the healing process.



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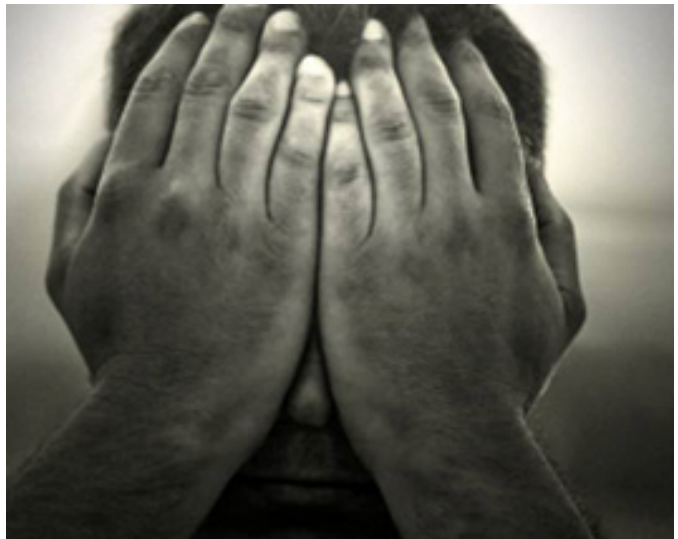
## What About the Fathers?

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- ◆ Fathers need to recognize that the road to full recovery will take time and effort. God's forgiveness can be had instantly. But sorting out their feelings and overcoming the ever-present temptation to give in to despair and doubt, takes time.
- ◆ Fathers need to recognize that it is normal and good to mourn the loss of an aborted child. They need to accept their grief as normal rather than something which must be covered up or pushed away. They also need to recognize that the pain of their loss will fade as the healing progresses.
- ◆ Fathers need to admit their own personal responsibility but also recognize that others, too, were involved. They should be encouraged to pray for the strength to forgive themselves, the Mothers, and everyone else who either encouraged the abortion or who failed to help them avoid it.
- ◆ Fathers need to give their children over to the care of God and realize that he or she is loved, happy, and well cared for in Heaven. Their children want them to be healed and restored to the fullness of joy and happiness.

**If someone you know is suffering from the pain of an abortion decision and he (or she) comes to you to talk, here are some suggested DO's and Don'ts:**

- ◆ **DO** listen patiently to everything they have to say. Expect and allow them to repeat themselves and to bring the subject up again later. Don't shut them off by changing the subject.
- ◆ **DO** reassure them that it's okay to make mistakes. On a spiritual level, all religions teach that our mistakes/sins can be forgiven. Don't condemn them for making a bad or immoral choice.
- ◆ **DO** reassure them that their feelings are normal. Build up a sense of hope that they can be healed and reconciled with God and their child in heaven. Don't deny that they lost a child.
- ◆ **DO** allow them to vent their anger toward others, but look for the right time to encourage forgiveness and "letting go" of one's anger. Don't encourage them to blame others for the abortion and don't push them to forgive others, especially when they are in the initial stages of venting their anger and rage.
- ◆ **DO** allow them to regret their choice. Allow them to reframe the experience as a tragic mistake. But remind them that we all can become better people when we learn from our mistakes. Don't insist that they did the "right thing" or the "best thing" at the time.
- ◆ **DO** encourage them to entrust their child to the care of God. Don't suggest that having another child "someday" can make up for the one who was lost.
- ◆ **DO** give them a number to a post-abortion program or some other referral information. Don't leave them without encouraging them, over and over again, to find and accept the help of post-abortion counselors or peer support groups.



- ◆ **DO** show you care by continuing to be a sounding board for them. Don't be afraid to ask them how they are doing with it in the future.

A growing number of cities have agencies offering post abortion counseling. An agency called Rachel's Vineyard provides hope and healing for Fathers (and Mothers) of children who have been aborted: [www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org) or call 877-HOPE4ME (877-467-3463).

**Also, these agencies are available for on-line help:**

- ◆ [www.AbortionChangesYou.com](http://www.AbortionChangesYou.com)
- ◆ [www.AfterAbortion.org](http://www.AfterAbortion.org) (Elliot Institute)
- ◆ [www.care-net.org](http://www.care-net.org)
- ◆ [www.FatherhoodForever.org](http://www.FatherhoodForever.org)
- ◆ [www.PostAbortionHelp.org](http://www.PostAbortionHelp.org)

**Post-abortive healing books for men are available:**

- ◆ *Making Abortion Rare*, David Reardon, Acorn Books
- ◆ *Redeeming a Father's House*, Kevin Burke, Author House
- ◆ *Fatherhood Aborted*, Guy Condon and David Hazard, Tyndale House Publishers
- ◆ *Repairing His Story: Abortion Stress Recovery for Men*, Dr. Lynellen with D. S. Perry and Linda Perry, Chalfont House Publishing
- ◆ *Healing a Father's Heart: a Post-Abortion Bible Study for Men*, Linda Cochrane and Kathy Jones, Baker Books
- ◆ *Dearest Angel...a Father's Post-Abortion Journal of Hurt and Healing*, William D. Zimmerman, iUniverse
- ◆ *Men and Abortion: a Path to Healing*, C. T. Coyle, Life Cycle Books, Ltd.

If you want to research and follow this topic even more, all you need is your computer and the internet, a local pro-life educational resource, or a local library.

Let us continue working **together** this year to help save the lives of unborn children and spare their Fathers, Mothers and other family members the grief, despair, and pain associated with abortion by passing on what we have learned **with great love and compassionate care!**

—Lynn Gura is the Youth Director for Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund, Livonia, Michigan.

## WHAT MIGHT THE FUTURE HOLD? NEVER SAY NEVER!

# *Artificial Reproductive Technology: Constructing a Dystopia Beings Less and Less Dependent on Parents to Exist*

By Denise Hunnell, MD

Both the 1932 novel *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley and the 1997 science fiction movie *Gattaca* are classified as dystopias because they depict societies riddled with misery, tragedy, and a dehumanizing culture. Both attribute this decline in civilization to manipulations of human genetics and perversions of human reproduction. In *Brave New World*, the traditional family structure has completely disintegrated and children are manufactured in “hatcheries” through in vitro fertilization (IVF) and gestation. In *Gattaca*, human beings are “enhanced” through genetic alterations, and those who do not have their DNA modified are seen as second-class citizens.

It is curious that genetically modified humans can be clearly seen as dangerous and undesirable in fiction but are celebrated as great achievements in current biomedical sciences. In the name of progress, we are steadily marching forward to separate human procreation from human relationships and make it a laboratory procedure.

The floodgates of artificial reproductive technology were opened in Great Britain on July 25, 1978, with the birth of Louise Brown, the first “test tube” baby. In the ensuing years the use of IVF has fueled the growth of the multi-billion dollar fertility industry. The growing demand for ova to produce children for infertile couples has led to the widespread exploitation of young women as egg donors. Similar exploitation of poor women in countries like India has occurred as couples seek both egg donors to help conceive a child and a surrogate mother to gestate the child. Both women and children are dehumanized as human reproduction is commercialized.

The development of pre-implantation genetic diagnosis (PGD) pushed artificial reproductive technology to a new level of genetic manipulation. It is no longer sufficient to conceive a child, but that child must now be “defect free.” Embryos are conceived through IVF, but before they are implanted in the uterus, their DNA is screened for chromosomal abnormalities. Embryos found to have undesirable genetics are discarded as medical waste with no regard for their humanity. These nascent human beings may be destroyed because they have chromosomal patterns linked to diseases like Down syndrome or Trisomy 18, or they may have the gene linked to familial cancers, or they may just be the wrong sex. Sex-selection abortions and sex-selection of embryos for implantation have led to serious gender

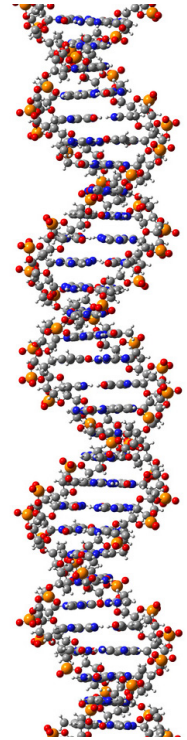
imbalances in countries like China and India where sons are highly preferred over daughters.

If one can select against undesirable traits, the next logical leap is to choose embryos that have desirable features. With the help of a billion dollar investment from the Chinese government, the Chinese firm B.G.I. is working to make selecting the most intelligent embryo a viable option. It is not unreasonable to think that the selection for other traits such as physical attractiveness or athletic ability cannot be far behind.

The idea of building the perfect child is part of the philosophical principle of “procreative beneficence.” The term was coined by Oxford professor Julian Savulescu, and refers to a form of utilitarianism that asserts parents have a moral obligation to produce the best child possible. The utilitarian foundation of his reasoning only values those who produce a material benefit to others. The sick, the weak, and the disabled drain resources and are therefore disposable. Professor Savulescu freely admits this amounts to eugenics. He justifies it as providing the greatest good to most people. However, the “good” that he seeks only benefits the strong and powerful, and is obtained at the expense of the weak and vulnerable.

Current reproductive technology requires fully formed gametes, ova and sperm, to produce human embryos. What if that requirement was removed? The next big leap in artificial reproductive technology is in vitro gametogenesis. Adult or embryonic stem cells are manipulated in the laboratory to function as gametes. This removes the need for both male and female donors. Ova and sperm can be produced from stem cells from either a man or a woman. This would allow same-sex couples to have children that are genetically related to both partners. Theoretically, in vitro gametogenesis could allow a single person to use his own cells to produce two gametes and have a child with only one biological parent.

In a 2013 article in the *Journal of Medical Ethics*, Dr. Robert Sparrow of Monach University in Australia invokes Savulescu’s procreative beneficence and outlines the potential uses of in vitro gametogenesis. He suggests



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# 14 Reasons Why People With Down Syndrome Are Awesome

Individuals with Down syndrome are precious gifts to our world. Here are just a few reasons why they are so awesome!

## 1. They're pointing out that every life has value.



## 2. They're climbing Mt. Everest.

A courageous young man from Oregon recently made history with the first recorded account of an American teenager with Down syndrome to reach a base camp of Mt. Everest.



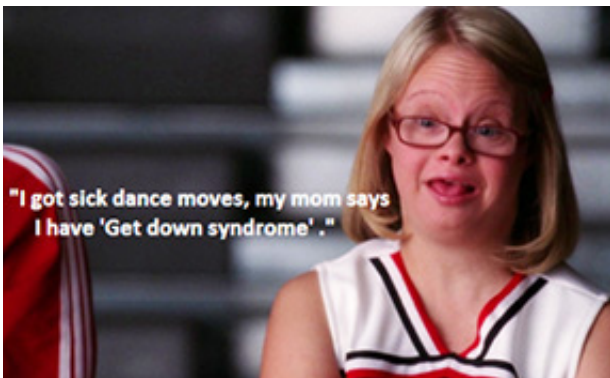
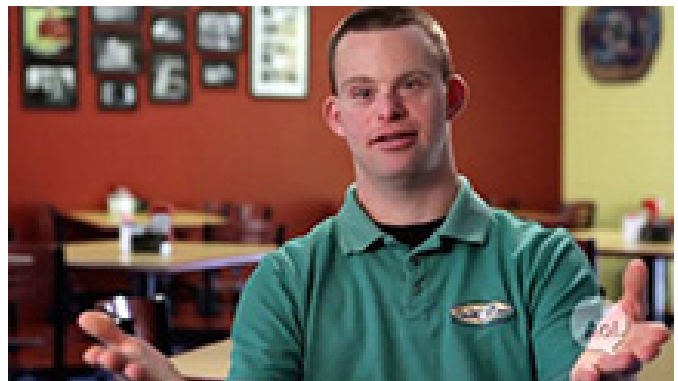
## 3. They're changing the face of fashion.

6-year old Ryan Langston has appeared in a Nordstrom catalog and an ad for Target. "He's a beautiful little boy and he does shine, he has a beautiful little light and I think that's what people are seeing," Ryan's mother Amanda said. This was the Target ad.



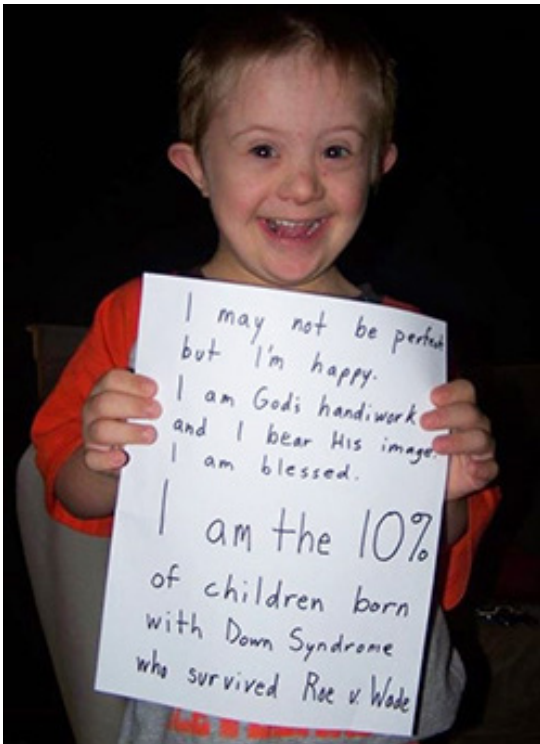
## 4. They're succeeding in business.

Individuals with Down syndrome are breaking stereotypes into bits and pieces—from running a restaurant to launching a pottery business. Tim Harris, a university graduate, medal-winning Special Olympian and motivational speaker, owns Tim's Place in Albuquerque, NM where every customer is offered a hug—free of charge; see [www.timsplaceabq.com](http://www.timsplaceabq.com).



## 5. They're starring in TV shows.

Actress Lauren Potter appears on Fox's Glee.



### **6. They're going viral on social media.**

This photo went viral on Facebook garnering thousands of Likes and Shares.

### **7. They're being elected to public office.**

In 2013, Angela Bachiller became the first person with Down syndrome to be elected as a councilwoman. She now works at the Ayuntamiento (municipality) of Valladolid, Spain, and is expected to continue her political career.



### **8. They're enriching the lives of those around them.**

Among 2,044 parents or guardians surveyed, 79 percent reported their outlook on life was more positive because of their child with Down syndrome.

### **9. They're making incredible strides in education.**

Megan McCormick is the first person with Down syndrome to graduate with honors from a technical college in the United States. This past May, Megan earned her degree in education and was at the top of her class at Bluegrass Community Technical College in Kentucky.

### **10. And teaching us new lessons about life every day.**

### **11. Like how to appreciate the little things.**



### **13. And that real love doesn't count chromosomes.**

### **14. Is there a limit to what people with Down syndrome can do?**

*National Right to Life News Today, March 27, 2014  
<http://www.noahsdad.com>*

### **12. And to have a sense of humor.**



## Comparing the Candidates on Life

In the confusion of campaign politics, Pennsylvanians may not be aware of the stands of the candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor when it comes to the life issues.

Fortunately, with just a little bit of research, the candidates' stands come into crystal-clear focus.

Republican Governor Tom Corbett and Lieutenant Governor Jim Cawley are on the same page when it comes to protecting Pennsylvania's most vulnerable citizens. Corbett and Cawley oppose taxpayer funding of abortion, support parental consent for abortions for teenage girls, and support positive, peaceful alternatives to abortion.

Corbett and Cawley supported House Bill 818, which ensured that no taxpayer funding of abortion occurs under the health insurance exchange created in Pennsylvania by Obamacare. They also supported legislation to ensure that abortion facilities abide by the safety standards of outpatient surgery centers—a measure that came in response to a massive tragedy in West Philadelphia. There, abortionist Kermit Gosnell was convicted of killing full-term infants and causing the death of a female patient through negligence.

In contrast, Democratic Gubernatorial candidate Tom Wolf and Lieutenant Governor candidate Mike Stack have adopted a pro-abortion stand. Just two years ago, Stack was pro-life, but he has since publicly flip-flopped and has been called supportive of "abortion rights" by Planned Parenthood, the nation's largest abortion operation. Stack also voted against House Bill 818, giving the go-ahead for tax funding of abortion. Stack's cumulative voting record is mixed, but he has embraced a new abortion-on-demand position.

Education is power. Please educate your friends and family members about the candidates. The fall election will be here before we know it!

—Maria Gallagher, Legislative/PAC Director  
gallagher@paproflife.org



*"Abortion is not like any other issue:  
Abortion is the killing of a child  
in its mother's womb.  
It is the most violent act designed by man  
against Almighty God,  
against society at large, against women  
and against children in the womb in particular.  
By voting for someone  
who refuses to act to stop abortion,  
you are implicitly endorsing that violence.  
You are saying you do not  
care enough about the damage done to women  
and the killing of more than [1.2 million]  
unborn children each year to put aside issues  
such as taxes and trade, poverty,  
unemployment and the environment.  
All these issues are important,  
but they are not nearly as important as abortion."*

~ Jim Hughes, vice president of International Right to Life  
and president of Canada's Campaign Life Coalition ~



**Save the Date!**  
**Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation**  
**Celebrate Life Banquet, September 30**

Register now for the 2014 pro-life event of the year. The 2014 Celebrate Life Banquet will be held on September 30 in Harrisburg, featuring keynote speaker, Bishop Ronald Gainer, of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg.

Gainer is an outspoken advocate for life, which he calls "THE paramount issue of our time." Gainer is a Pennsylvania native who recently returned to the state after serving as bishop in the Diocese of Lexington, Kentucky.

Registrations and sponsorships already are being accepted. For more information, go to: [www.paproflife.org/state-events](http://www.paproflife.org/state-events) or call 717-541-0034.



## Artificial Reproductive Technology

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He suggests that this technology would allow the breeding of better humans. Embryos could be produced and screened for desirable traits. Instead of implanting these embryos for gestation, their stem cells could be harvested and used to make more gametes. These would be used to make another generation of embryos that are again screened and selected. This process could be repeated again and again until the desired refinement of the genome is achieved. The embryo who is ultimately selected for full gestation may actually be several generations removed from his last relative who was actually born. Dr. Sparrow points out that the use of in vitro gametogenesis could shorten the time span between successive generations to a matter of months instead of a matter of decades.

In vitro gametogenesis does not require naturally formed gametes, but it does require naturally formed DNA. Dr. Jef Boeke and his research team, working at both Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore and New York University, are working to remove even that constraint. They have successfully constructed the first synthetic yeast chromosome. The yeast has a cell structure very similar to humans, so this work is seen as the first steps towards producing a completely synthetic human genome. While the research is in its infancy, the ultimate goal is mind-boggling. Children that have no biological parents could be produced from gametes made with synthetic DNA. Their DNA would be designed in the laboratory to meet the specifications of whoever is commissioning their creation.

Biomedical science has the potential to alleviate great human suffering. However, when it is applied without careful consideration of the consequences, it harms far more than it heals. Artificial reproductive technology takes human procreation out of the constraints of natural law and into the realm of human folly. It takes remarkable hubris to suggest that the value of any human being is subject to the judgment of others. Every human being is imbued with an intrinsic dignity and inestimable worth. This value is independent of his stage of development, his state of health, his mental acuity, or his physical prowess. Pursuing lines of scientific inquiry and technological development that disregard human dignity is not progress. Instead, such endeavors pave the way to making the dystopia of fiction a reality.

**Dr. Denise Jackson Hunnell** is a Fellow of Human Life International. She graduated from Rice University with a BA in biochemistry and psychology. She earned her medical degree from The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School. She went on to complete a residency in family medicine at Marquette General Hospital, Marquette, Michigan.



Upon completion of her training, Dr. Hunnell served as a family physician in the United States Air Force. She was honorably discharged. She continued to practice medicine all over the country as her husband's Air Force career kept them on the move. In order to better care for her family, Dr. Hunnell retired from active clinical practice and focused her professional efforts on writing and teaching. She has contributed work to local and national Catholic publications as well as to secular newspapers including the *Washington Post* and the *Washington Times*. She also teaches anatomy and physiology at Northern Virginia Community College Woodbridge Campus. Her affiliations include the American Academy of Family Physicians, The Catholic Medical Association, The Fellowship of Catholic Scholars, and the National Catholic Bioethics Center. She received her certification in health care ethics from the National Catholic Bioethics Center in 2009.

Dr. Hunnell has been married for nearly thirty years to Colonel John F. Hunnell, an Air Force test pilot. They have four children and are blessed with one grandchild so far.

—Zenit.org, April 10, 2014



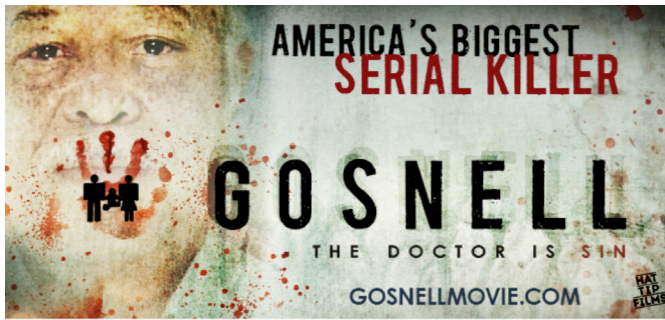
Recently, PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) asked my hometown for permission to erect a statue of a 250-pound banged-up chicken at a very busy intersection. The statue commemo-

rates the hundreds of chickens who perished in a very grisly (for the chickens, anyway) crash. The city, citing safety concerns, denied the request.

Though the story made me laugh (and just for the record, I had one very spoiled pet chicken growing up), I couldn't help but wonder what the public's reaction would be if we put a similar statue in front of the local Planned Parenthood. "In memory of the thousands of children who suffered and died in a morality crash. Every day since January 22, 1973.

Go Pro-Life."

—Crystal Kupper, LifeNews.com, August 5, 2013



## Gosnell Movie to Tell Story of Abortionist

By Steven Ertelt

**T**hey did it. The producers of the Gosnell movie have raised the \$2.1 million they needed to make the Hollywood-style film that will tell the story of the gruesome abortion practitioner. The campaign reached its goal four days ahead of schedule thanks to a unified effort by pro-life advocates and almost 24,000 people who agreed to fund the movie. Proving its grassroots appeal, most of the 23,471 donors contributed \$100 or less while only 72 people claimed the perks from donating over \$1,000.

Gosnell is the abortion practitioner who killed babies in live-birth abortions that were more akin to infanticide than abortion. The media virtually ignored Kermit Gosnell until the pro-life movement launched a concerned effort to call them out on their bias during the early stages of his trial for murder. Now, Gosnell is in prison, having been convicted of murder in the deaths of multiple babies, though he was accused of killing thousands of viable babies. Still, one report from Gallup showed a large percentage of Americans still have no idea who Gosnell is and what he did.

Ann McElhinney and Phelim McAleer, the directors behind *Not Evil Just Wrong* and *Fracknation* are behind the Gosnell movie project. Their made-for TV movie is based on real life Grand Jury testimony with actors to tell the Gosnell story.

"The Gosnell Movie has raised \$2.1 million and will be made! We are so incredibly grateful to you for getting us here. It's been a long road and it was your ongoing support that carried us through," they said.

The Grand Jury investigating Kermit Gosnell's horrific crimes said this: This case is about a doctor who killed babies...What we mean is that he regularly and illegally delivered live, viable, babies in the third trimester of pregnancy—and then murdered these newborns by severing their spinal cords with scissors...Over the years, many people came to know that something was going on here. But no one put a stop to it. (*Report of the Grand Jury*)

Gosnell is serving several life sentences but the media basically ignored his crimes and his trial. They ignored the facts that emerged from the trial, like the fact that the babies he murdered suffered terribly.

The mainstream media or Hollywood don't think this is a story. Even though Gosnell killed more people than Gary Ridgeway, John Wayne Gacey, The Zodiac Killer and Ted Bundy combined. In a 30-year killing spree, it is thought he killed 1000s of babies. And that wasn't a national story?

—Excerpts from *LifeNews.com*, May 9, 2014

## National Right to Life Convention

Louisville, KY ★ June 26-28, 2014



**F**rom its impressive first formal convention in St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1971, the NRL Convention has continued to be the premier pro-life educational event of the premier pro-life organization in the world. NRL Conventions have always offered workshops and extraordinary general sessions featuring pro-life leaders, from the incomparable Mother Teresa to journalists such as Paul Greenberg and Fred Barnes to political leaders such as House Speaker John Boehner and Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback.

The convention is geared to meeting the needs of those who have worked in the pro-life movement since the very beginning as well as for those who are new to the struggle. Its organizing principle is to provide the tools and resources—workshops, exhibits, general sessions—the individual pro-lifer needs to better conduct the work of the pro-life movement through chapters in all 50 states.

Over three days, pro-life leaders on politics, stem cell research, the denial of life saving treatment, polling, population control and many, many other issues of the day address the attendees at four to five general sessions, as well as at a Prayer Breakfast and closing Banquet. Throughout those three days, people can choose from over 70 workshops which go into detail on a wide range of topics.

Most of all the focus of the 2014 Convention will be on equipping attendees to fight back against the most pro-abortion president in our history, and most particularly against ObamaCare. Pres. Barack Obama's continued assault on unborn babies will be outlined, analyzed and critiqued. The rationing components of his health care "reform" bill will be carefully explained and strategies in response will be detailed. At the same time, we know that pro-lifers have been busier than ever in the state legislatures, moving forward and in many cases passing protective legislation. Attendees will learn how that was accomplished.

NRL Conventions have worked hard to bring in and support the growing percentage of young people who identify themselves as pro-life. Since 1986 the NRL Convention has included several workshops and general sessions geared exclusively to, and often led by, teens and college students. The conventions pulsate with the energy of youth ready to champion the pro-life cause into the next generation. NRL Conventions continue to place great emphasis on the fastest-growing constituency of the pro-life movement: the youth of this country.

We know that you will carry unforgettable memories back home with you. Everything you need to know about the Convention can be found at [www.nrlconvention.com](http://www.nrlconvention.com) or call 202-378-8842.



*"Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them." Ephesians 5:11*

## From the President's Desk

The little girl, about two-years-old, was looking through the iron railing, trying to get the attention of her father on the main court at the Sarni Tennis Center at Penn State.

Her sisters and their mother were standing or sitting nearby when the love of their lives looked up and smiled.

Dad was a Marine Captain in his dress uniform who was bestowing medals on the winners in the Special Olympic tennis competition this past weekend. Who knows what anxiety and worries his young wife and the two older daughters experienced over the past several years as their husband and father defended our country.

My thoughts went back to my father, a World War II veteran, who with my mother, brought up five children not knowing what the future would hold. Like most Dads of that generation, my father worked hard and encouraged his children to get an education. Dad, who served in the Army in the Pacific Theatre, warned his oldest boys not to join the Marines, perhaps because of what he saw in the war. I'm proud to say that two of my younger brothers didn't listen and became career Marine officers. I took Dad's advice and joined the Army.

The young adults receiving medals were deeply impressed by the young Captain. One young lady from Blair County, Amy Faris, gave him a big hug as he helped her from the podium. Those present, like his family, saw something special in this young dedicated father and Marine.

Numerous studies have shown the importance of a father on a child's development. One such study—*The Importance of Fathers in the Healthy Development of Children*, by Jeffrey Rosenberg and W. Bradford Wilcox, Child Welfare Information Gateway, explains in detail the impact of a father on a child's life.

So this weekend, say an extra prayer for your Dad and ask Our Father to guide us as we try to do our best to follow in the footsteps of His Son.

R. Thomas Furr, Jr., President  
Blair County Chapter, Citizens Concerned for Human Life

## Legislative Alert

Please call your state Senator and urge him or her not to co-sponsor a bill, sponsored by Senator Mike Stack, labeled "Patients First" or "Patient Trust." The bill is actually a vehicle for trying to suppress pro-life legislation that protects preborn children and their mothers from harm. The legislation puts politics ahead of informed consent. Rather than ensure that patients receive the best quality care, the bill would do exactly the opposite. It is supported by the abortion industry and its advocates. For the sake of Pennsylvania women and their families, please urge your state Senator not to support the Patients First or Patient Trust bill.

If you don't know who your state Senator is, or you need his or her phone number, please go to <http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/home/findyourlegislator/#address> and type in your address. A pop-up window will appear with your state Senator's contact information.

*Maria V. Gallagher, Legislative Director  
Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation  
[www.paprolife.org](http://www.paprolife.org); 717-541-0034*

## Boalsburg Student Wins State Pro-Life Oratory Contest!

Teresa Sicree, a homeschooler from Boalsburg, captured first place in the contest, held in Harrisburg. Teresa will represent Pennsylvania at the National Right to Life Oratory Contest on June 28 in Louisville, Kentucky. Her presentation will be published in the next issue of *Blair Life News*. Congratulations, Teresa!

**Blair County Life News**  
**Blair County Chapter**  
**Citizens Concerned for Human Life, Inc.**

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Citizens Concerned for Human Life, Inc. is a non-profit, non-partisan, non-denominational organization dedicated to educating and upholding the truth about abortion, infanticide, euthanasia and embryonic stem cell research. CCHL is composed of chapters made up of persons of all ages, sexes, races and cultural backgrounds. CCHL, Inc. is an affiliate of the PA Pro-Life Federation and the National Right to Life Committee. Donations are not tax-deductible.

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**website: [www.blaircountyprolife.com](http://www.blaircountyprolife.com)**

### Blair County Chapter, Citizens Concerned for Human Life, Inc. Membership Form

Blair County CCHL believes that human life has value in all stages of development from conception until natural death, and is committed to speaking on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves — the unborn, the aged, the incapacitated. Won't you please help in our struggle to preserve respect for human life? A contribution brings you the newsletter as well as educational materials and special mailings.

Annual Membership      \$ 10.00       Other  
 Student/Senior Member      \$ 5.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this form and return with your donation to: **Blair County Chapter, CCHL, 2715 Third St., Altoona PA 16601.** For more information, call **814-946-0681**. Sorry, donations are not tax-deductible.



**BLAIR COUNTY CHAPTER**  
**CITIZENS CONCERNED FOR HUMAN LIFE, INC.**  
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*Thanks, Dad,  
for all the times you embraced me  
with arms of love.*



*How often you picked me up and raised me to your cheeks. You held me tenderly  
near your heart. You taught me to walk. You taught me how to live...*

*Like you — protecting, providing, caring for others.*

*You gave me life. You gave me the greatest gift a person could — yourself.  
As you carried me close to your heart, now I carry you in mine, with thanks.*

***Happy Father's Day.***

*Life Issues Institute*