

CITIZENS
CONCERNED



BLAIR COUNTY
CHAPTER

Annual Pro-Life Prayer Breakfast, p. 11
Pro-Life Christmas Cards, p. 9

Citizens Concerned for Human Life

Blair County Life News

Volume 13 Number 4

Presenting the Pro-Life Message to Blair County, Pennsylvania

Fall 2021

LIFE CHAIN

Sunday, October 3, 2021 • 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.
17th St. and 9th Ave., Altoona, at Station Mall Medical Center



Across the U.S. and Canada, on National LIFE CHAIN Sunday, hundreds of thousands of participants will silently stand in peaceful, prayerful witness to their commitment to love and protect the unborn and their mothers. LIFE CHAIN challenges the community to be aware and to care. The signs we hold deliver the messages that **Abortion Kills Children • Adoption is the Loving Option • Abortion Hurts Women • Pray to End Abortion • Lord, Forgive Us and Our Nation • Life—The First Inalienable Right • Jesus Forgives & Heals.** This peaceful, prayerful event provides a visual statement of pro-life unity to passersby. Signs will be provided. Please join us!



We hope to see YOU there! For more information, call 814-946-0681

Contact Information

President

President Joseph Biden (D)

The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500
Opinion Line: 202-456-1111, M-F, 9-5
www.whitehouse.gov/contact/

Pennsylvania U.S. Senators

The Honorable Robert P. Casey, Jr. (D)

United States Senate
393 Russell Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-6324
www.casey.senate.gov/contact

The Honorable Pat Toomey (R)

United States Senate
248 Russell Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-4254; www.toomey.senate.gov/contact

Pennsylvania U.S. Representative (13th District)

The Honorable John Joyce (R)

U. S. House of Representatives
1337 Longworth House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-2431
Web contact: www.johnjoyce.house.gov

Blair County Office

5414 6th Ave., Altoona, PA 16602
814-656-6081

Governor of Pennsylvania

The Honorable Tom Wolf (D)

508 Main Capitol Bldg., Harrisburg, PA 17120
717-787-2500; www.governor.pa.gov

Pennsylvania State Senator (District 30)

The Honorable Judy Ward (R)

Capitol Office
460 Main Capitol Bldg., P. O. Box 203030
Harrisburg, PA 17120
717-787-5490
Web contact: www.senatorjudyward.com

Hollidaysburg Office

1904 North Juniata St., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648
814-695-8386

Pennsylvania State Representatives (Blair County)

The Honorable Jim Gregory (R)

District 80-Allegheny Twp. (part), Antis Twp., Bellwood Bor., Blair Twp., Catharine Twp., Duncansville Bor., Frankstown Twp., Freedom Twp., Greenfield Twp., Hollidaysburg Bor., Huston Twp., Juniata Twp., Martinsburg Bor., Newry Bor., North Woodbury Twp., Roaring Spring Bor., Snyder Twp. (part), Taylor Twp., Tyrone Bor. (part), Tyrone Twp. (part), Williamsburg Bor., Woodbury Twp.

Capitol Office

159A East Wing, House P.O. Box 202080
Harrisburg, PA 17120
717-787-9020
Web contact: www.repjimgregory.com

Bellwood Office

135 Stadium Dr., Box 111, Bellwood, PA 16617
814-742-7204

Hollidaysburg Office

324 Allegheny St., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648
814-695-2398

The Honorable Louis C. Schmitt, Jr. (R)

District 79-Allegheny Twp. (part), Altoona, Logan Twp., Tunnelhill Bor.

Capitol Office

415 Irvis Office Bldg., P.O. Box 202079
Harrisburg, PA 17120
717-787-6419
Web contact: www.repschmitt.com

Altoona Office

1331 12th Ave., Ste. 104, Altoona, PA 16601
814-946-7218



Texas Abortion Ban Still in Effect; Still Saving Babies From Abortion

By Steven Ertelt

Planned Parenthood is trying another way to stop the new Texas heartbeat law, but even after a judge issued the restraining order it requested, the Texas abortion ban is still in place and will still save babies from abortion.

The pro-life law went into effect September 1, prohibiting abortions once an unborn baby's heartbeat is detectable, about six weeks of pregnancy. Unique from other heartbeat laws, it includes a private enforcement mechanism that allows people to file lawsuits against abortionists who violate the law.

On September 2, three of Planned Parenthood's Texas affiliates asked a judge to issue a restraining order against Texas Right to Life to stop the pro-life organization from suing abortionists who violate the law. Late September 3, a Democrat judge issued the order.

Judge Maya Guerra Gamble's (D) ruling does not invalidate the new pro-life law but rather halts Texas Right to Life and its associates from suing abortion practitioners and workers at Planned Parenthood abortion centers under the heartbeat law. Judge Gamble's temporary restraining order is due to expire in two weeks, but her order also announced a September 13 hearing on the ability of Texas Right to Life to enforce the law.

The Texas law is already saving hundreds of babies from abortion, as some abortion centers have stopped abortions completely or stopped doing 80-90% of them.

On September 1, the U.S. Supreme Court refused another request from Planned Parenthood and other abortion groups to temporarily block enforcement of the law. As a result, Texas became the first state to be allowed to enforce a heartbeat law.

The law has the potential to save tens of thousands of babies from abortion. In 2020, about 54,000 unborn babies were aborted in Texas, and about 85 percent happened after six weeks of pregnancy, according to state health statistics. That means more than 100 unborn babies with beating hearts may be spared from abortion every single day in Texas.

Whether the Texas law will remain in effect or ultimately be upheld as constitutional in court remains uncertain, but pro-life leaders are hopeful now that the Supreme Court has a conservative majority.

In 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court took away the states' ability to protect unborn babies from abortion under *Roe v. Wade*, and instead forced states to legalize abortion on demand. *Roe* made the United States one of only seven countries in the world that allows elective abortions after 20 weeks. The court is scheduled to hear a Mississippi case in the fall that challenges this precedent.

Meanwhile, pro-life advocates are reaching out to pregnant women across Texas with compassion and understanding, offering resources and emotional support to help them and their babies. Earlier this year, state lawmakers increased support for pregnant and parenting mothers and babies, ensuring that they have resources to choose life for their babies.

Polls show Americans support heartbeat laws. An April poll by the University of Texas-Austin found that 49 percent of Texans support making abortions illegal after six weeks of pregnancy, while 41 percent oppose it. In 2019, a national Hill-HarrisX survey also found that 55 percent of voters said they do not think laws banning abortions after six weeks—when an unborn baby's heartbeat is detectable—are too restrictive.

—Excerpt from *LifeNews.com*, September 4, 2021



PA Legislative Update

By Maria V. Gallagher, Legislative Director

In light of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision [week of August 29] to allow a Texas abortion ban to stand, I wanted to update you on our situation in Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf re-issued his determination to veto any pro-life legislation that comes to his desk. This makes next year's Governor's race all the more important. Electing a pro-life Governor is key to pro-life progress in the Keystone State.

We will be working on new and innovative ways to get out the pro-life vote next year.

In addition, we are hoping that the amicus brief we filed with the Supreme Court in the Mississippi 15-week abortion ban case will help convince the High Court to overturn *Roe v. Wade*. (See adjoining column.)

Finally, I would request prayers for both the PA elections and the overturn of *Roe*. We have much hope, but we will also face significant challenges in making Pennsylvania abortion-free.

—Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation; www.paprolife.org

Sen. Casey voices pro-life platitudes; strikes out in supporting pro-life legislation

By Maria V. Gallagher, Legislative Director

Less than a month ago, U.S. Senator Bob Casey Jr., a Democrat from Pennsylvania, sent a message to a constituent declaring himself pro-life:

"I am a pro-life public official. I believe that life begins at conception, and that the role of government is to protect, enrich and value life for everyone, at every moment, from beginning to end."

Yet, when a critical vote came up the week of August 8, Casey caved. Big time. He voted against not one, not two, but three pro-life amendments.

Those amendments included the Lankford Amendment, barring federal funding for abortion and providing conscience protections. In other words, the amendment supported the long-standing Hyde Amendment, dealing with taxpayer funds for abortion, and the Weldon Amendment, dealing with conscience rights.

The other two amendments Casey voted against would have banned late-term abortions after 20 weeks (the Kennedy Amendment) and would have protected preborn children diagnosed with Down syndrome from abortion (the Inhofe Amendment).

Incredibly, in correspondence to a constituent less than a month ago, Casey voiced support for Hyde.

"Because I am pro-life, I believe we must continue the status quo of the Hyde Amendment, which prohibits the use of federal funds to pay for abortion. Since 1976, this country has kept these funding restrictions in place in the Labor-Health and Human Services-Education appropriations bill and in other appropriations, such as the Financial Services bill, which covers the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program. Consistent with this belief, I have also

continued on page 5

Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation files amicus brief in abortion case before Supreme Court

By Dave Andrusko

In this overview, we look at the fine amicus brief filed by the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation in support of Mississippi's Gestational Age Act, a challenge to which the Supreme Court will hear this fall. The Federation is National Right to Life's state affiliate and its brief makes the compelling case that "they're missing someone" in abortion jurisprudence: the unborn child.

As we've mentioned going back to July 22 when we started this series, at issue in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* is the state of Mississippi's prohibition of abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy with very limited exceptions.

Judge Carlton W. Reeves, an Obama appointee, blocked the law in 2018, maintaining "This court follows the commands of the Supreme Court and the dictates of the United States Constitution, rather than the disingenuous calculations of the Mississippi Legislature." Subsequently Judge Reeves's snarky decision was upheld by a three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit. Mississippi appealed to the High Court and the justices agreed to hear their defense.

The Federation's amicus begins with what ought to be obvious but is plainly not to the Supreme Court:

- "In modern obstetrical practice, the physician treats two patients—the mother and her unborn baby—and strives to maximize and protect the health and well-being of both. Good medical practice requires this."

Unfortunately, *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* turned both/and into an either/or.

- "It is rare that the interests of one of these patients, from a medical standpoint, conflicts with the other. Even in those instances where the mother's condition may place her physical health at greater risk, the pregnancy can generally be managed satisfactorily with a successful outcome for both the mother and baby."

The brief develops this point at length. However, because pro-abortionists have heavily depended on the claim that abortion is "safe," it stands to reason they would boldly (and falsely) assert that abortion is safe—much safer—than childbirth.

- In that vein, the amicus continues (and counters) that: "Claims that abortion must be allowed on demand because abortion is statistically safer than childbirth should be rejected. The relative risk of death is negligible in both abortion and childbirth. Moreover, although abortion is a medical procedure, it is rarely a medical decision. In the vast majority of cases, abortions are sought for socio-economic



continued on page 5

Were aborted babies kept alive to harvest tissue?

The University of Pittsburgh has some explaining to do

By Ryan Navarro

As the University of Pittsburgh spins a web of confusion about methods by which fetal organs are obtained for research projects, the lips of their affiliated medical center are sealed despite mounting pressure on Pennsylvania's largest non-governmental employer to start talking.

The University and their health care counterpart UPMC may have been keeping aborted babies alive to ensure an adequate blood supply from the child's heart to other organs so they could harvest their tissue, according to records obtained by Judicial Watch. The process was described in a 2015 grant application to the National Institutes of Health.

Upon release of the records in early August, Pennsylvania House Health Committee Chair Kathy Rapp submitted a request to review state and federal funding allocated to the university and medical center. Politicians around the country are now echoing calls for an investigation. Perhaps unsurprisingly, only Republican representatives and candidates have spoken out so far.

While Pitt may dismiss these concerns as partisan attacks, the university is less likely to rebuke someone from its alumni base. Retired PA Superior Court Judge Cheryl Allen, a graduate of Pitt Law and a past recipient of the university's Alumni of the Year award, has expressed "horror" over the reports from her alma mater. The potential for additional university-affiliated individuals to openly express their disgust is a reason for panic among the school's administration.

Damage control duties have fallen squarely on the shoulders of Pitt's communications office, as UPMC's bloated media relations department has pleaded the fifth regarding the organization's involvement in the taxpayer-funded practices. Strategic planning at the university is led by David Seldin, a former NARAL Pro-Choice America communications director, who insists that Pitt has no role in medical procedures or tissue collection involving aborted fetuses. This is a distinction without a difference given that the university's three tissue banks reside within UPMC hospitals, and Pitt's own professors execute the abortion procedures.

For instance, the doctor who both performs and oversees abortion services at the medical center's only licensed abortion hospital, Magee Womens, also works as a professor and serves as a vice-chair on the university's Institutional Review Board that greenlights fetal research projects. One such nod of approval was given to an NIH-funded "humanized" mouse and rat study published last September that has been so widely criticized that PolitiFact found it necessary to point out that Dr. Anthony Fauci was not directly attaching fetal scalps to rodents.

When the Pennsylvania House Health Committee held a hearing on fetal experimentation in May, Pitt sent the newly hired deputy director of research at UPMC's Hillman Cancer Center to represent them. The move was a deliberate obstruction, as Dr. Jeremy Rich made embarrassingly clear that he had no knowledge of abortion practices and fetal research specific to the medical center and university.

An employee who is far more well-versed on these subjects is Leslie Davis, who was unanimously selected to take the reins as president and CEO of UPMC by the organization's board of directors in July. The decision was predictable because of her thirteen-year stint directly overseeing Magee and helping to keep the abortion and research pipeline under wraps.

During Ms. Davis' tenure as the hospital's leader, the federally funded venture known as GUDMAP was created to assist researchers who engage in fetal experimentation. The scheme resulted in the resignation of manager Lori Kelly, who was justifiably uncomfortable with the idea of developing a menu of fetal body parts for researchers.

Ms. Davis has not publicly commented on UPMC's abortion practices or the GUDMAP system, contradicting a recent commitment to transparency. Thankfully for her, local media outlets have looked the other way on the issue when writing glowing profiles about her accomplishments.

As long as Pitt and UPMC's innovation-driven focus outshines ethical considerations, the pressure for answers will continue. Pulling apart the enmeshed relationship between the two organizations is a challenge in and of itself.

How much longer these suspected partners in crime can continue to put up roadblocks to accountability efforts is another question.

Ryan Navarro is a licensed therapist in private practice who previously interned and worked for UPMC. His articles have appeared in The Philadelphia Inquirer, the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, and CNS News.

—Washington Times, August 25, 2021



Proposed Pennsylvania Senate Legislation to Investigate Pitt's Research

Posted: August 25, 2021

From: Senator Michele Brooks and Sen. Scott E. Hutchinson, Sen. Scott Martin, Sen. Judy Ward

To: All Senate members

Subject: **Investigating the University of Pittsburgh's Research Program**

We plan to introduce legislation in the near future to investigate reports that the University of Pittsburgh is harvesting body parts from live and aborted babies for their use in research.

Our legislation will call on the state Auditor General to review the University's use of state-appropriated and grant funds and identify whether any of those funds are being utilized for this research. The audit will be provided to the General Assembly and formally reported on the Auditor General's commonwealth website.

The bill will also require the Attorney General to investigate the research practices and research projects undergone by University faculty, staff, and students in the last decade. This investigation will result in the reporting of findings to include any processes, procedures, policies, and practices undertaken to conduct research utilizing live fetal or aborted remains.

STOP PITT'S GRUESOME RESEARCH

Please contact your state Senator and urge him or her to support the bill being introduced to conduct a thorough investigation into the University of Pittsburgh's use of aborted baby body parts in its research. You can send a message to your state Senator now by visiting: https://onedickpolitics.global.ssl.fastly.net/messages/edit?promo_id=13892.

Please share the link on social media and with your pro-life friends and family members, and all appropriate lists. Also, if you have not already done so, please sign the online petition calling on Pitt to stop gruesome research involving aborted baby body parts. You can sign the petition by going to: <https://www.paprolife.org/petition>.

If you prefer, on page 6 of this newsletter is a petition form that you may sign and distribute for additional signatures. Thank you for taking action!

—Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation
www.paprolife.org

Senator Casey

continued from page 3

supported legislation to 'codify' the Hyde Amendment. Such legislation would make the Hyde Amendment permanent, rather than continuing to deal with this matter every year through the appropriations process."

Casey clearly broke his promise to the people of Pennsylvania. He put forth pro-life platitudes, but when it came to an actual vote, he betrayed preborn babies and their mothers.

One wonders what his late father, pro-life champion Robert Casey, Sr., former Governor of Pennsylvania, would think of his pro-abortion flip-flop. Robert Casey, Sr. once said, "Our moral, religious, and political traditions are united in their respect for the dignity of human life."

His son not only has broken with tradition—he has broken the hearts of Pennsylvanians who long for justice for the preborn.

—National Right to Life News, August 12, 2021

Amicus Brief

continued from page 3

reasons; not for medical reasons. Therefore, discussing maternal mortality in relation to elective abortion simply is not relevant in any practical or meaningful sense."

An important observation. Abortion advocates have long counted on the public attention on the "difficult cases" to obscure the truth that abortions for rape, incest, or to save the mother's life represent a tiny, tiny percentage of the total. Two other points:

- "Contrary to what some suggest, *Roe* was not a significant cause of reduced maternal mortality and morbidity from abortion. Such reductions correspond more closely with medical advances such as the development of effective antibiotics to manage infections and advances in medical technology allowing for blood transfusions and better administration of anesthesia. These medical advances were unrelated to the legalization of abortion, having occurred well before *Roe* was handed down. So, overturning *Roe* will not affect those advances, nor will it preclude the application of future medical advances in the treatment of pregnant women and an overall reduction in maternal mortality from all causes."

NRL News Today and *NRL News* have debunked the myth that prior to *Roe* there were massive numbers of abortions [a million was a favorite made-up number] and abortion-related deaths [5,000 was a popular fabrication] on literally dozens and dozens of occasions.

Ironically (as we wrote), even the *Washington Post's* Factchecker "acknowledges Planned Parenthood inflated abortion numbers."

Abortion insiders knew that 60 years ago! In 1960, Mary Calderone, who edited the report of a 1955 Planned Parenthood abortion conference and who would later become president of Planned Parenthood, wrote in the *American Journal of Public Health*, "Abortion is no longer a dangerous procedure. This applies not just to therapeutic abortion as performed in hospitals but also to so-called illegal abortions as done by physicians. In 1957, there were only 260 deaths in the whole country attributed to abortion of any kind."

- Finally, the amicus brief tells us that *Roe* was a radical decision that overrode the legislative judgments of all 50 states. It was based on a flawed understanding of the humanity of the unborn child and views of obstetrical practice that are outdated because they fail to treat unborn children as second patients in pregnancy. ...It should be overturned. It should indeed.

—National Right to Life News Today, August 18, 2021

University of Pittsburgh ADMITS Hearts Beating While Harvesting Aborted Infants' Kidneys

In a statement to news media on August 4, 2021, the University of Pittsburgh admitted that “ischemia time” in its NIH grant application for the GUDMAP aborted fetal kidney harvesting program “refers to the time after the tissue collection procedure.” From this afternoon’s *Fox News* article, “Millions in federal money flowed to fetal tissue bank that collected fetal ‘heart, gonads, legs, brain’: report”:

“Ischemia time, he said “refers to the time after the tissue collection procedure”

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/pittsburgh-fetal-tissue-project>

Ischemia starts when the organ (the kidneys primarily in Pitt’s GUDMAP project) is cut off from blood circulation. The NIH defines ischemia as “lack of blood supply to a part of the body.” The University states the fetal organs do not undergo ischemia—lose their blood supply—until “after the tissue collection procedure.” This means the organs are still receiving blood supply from the fetal heartbeat during the “tissue collection.”

David Daleiden, founder and president of The Center for Medical Progress, notes: “Pitt is now admitting to news media that the aborted babies are still alive at the time their kidneys are cut out for NIH grant money. Pitt’s grant application for GUDMAP advertised this to the federal government and that labor induction abortions, where the baby is pushed out of the mother whole, would be ‘used to obtain the tissue.’ The plain meaning of the GUDMAP grant application, and the University of Pittsburgh’s statement today explaining it, is that Pitt and the Planned Parenthood abortion providers responsible for its ‘research’ abortions are allowing babies, some of the age of viability, to be delivered alive, and then killing them by cutting their kidneys out.”

Daleiden continues: “If Bill Barr knew about this as Attorney General and did nothing, he should be impeached and hauled before Congress to explain himself. Merrick Garland even promised the Senate Judiciary Committee he would make decisions about fetal trafficking prosecutions based on the facts and the law. The fact pattern here in Pittsburgh and elsewhere demands that this Kermit Gosnell-like activity be brought to justice under the law. Dr. Anthony Fauci, whose NIAID office funds nearly 60% of NIH-sponsored fetal experimentation, was recently grilled by Senator Rand Paul about unethical government-sponsored gain-of-function experiments. The Senate Judiciary Committee should call Barr, Garland, FBI Director Wray, NIH Director Collins, Fauci, and representatives of Pitt and Planned Parenthood to face the same imperative scrutiny for the enabling of partial-birth abortions and infanticide in the government-sponsored human trafficking of aborted infants.”

—Center for Medical Progress, August 4, 2021

Virginia Evers, creator of the pro-life ‘Precious Feet’ pin, has died

Virginia Evers, the creator of the popular pro-life pin known as the “Precious Feet,” died on Friday, July 17, 2020, at the age of 99. Fr. Frank Pavone, National Director of Priests for Life, announced the news of her death on Instagram on July 18 along with a photo of Evers presenting him with one of her famous “Precious Feet” pins. The feet in the pin are the exact size of the feet of a preborn child at 10-12 weeks gestation—about the age when most abortions are committed.



Dr. Sacco holds aborted baby feet

The pin was inspired by a photo that pro-life Dr. Russell Sacco took of the feet of a 10-week old aborted baby in the early 1970s when abortion was first legalized through *Roe v. Wade*. On January 22, 1974, Evers and her husband Ellis—who together founded Heritage House—saw a full-page ad in their local newspaper which featured Dr. Sacco’s photograph. According to the Heritage House description of the pin, Evers thought that “these little feet would be the ideal Pro-Life symbol.” She was right.

“This remarkable little pin has been responsible for countless people changing their minds on abortion,” said the late Dr. Jack Willke, known as a great defender of preborn children.

Pro-lifers have been wearing the “Precious Feet” pin over 40 years to help educate others on what a newly-created child looks like inside the womb. The abortion industry has long claimed that at 10 weeks, preborn children are nothing more than “tissue,” however, they have feet, toes, hands, fingers, and a heartbeat. Seeing that size and detail of a preborn child’s tiny feet at 10 weeks gestation brings humanity to the children in the womb and helps open up conversations about abortion and how it destroys human life.

—Newsroom, July 20, 2020

Kate Mulgrew, Star Trek's groundbreaking first female captain, chose life

By Laura Nicole

May 23 of this year marked the 20th anniversary of the airing of *Star Trek: Voyager's* final episode, ending the run of a beloved Star Trek re-imagining, featuring the franchise's first female captain and future pop culture icon.

Kate Mulgrew, who starred as Captain Kathryn Janeway, thought of her role as groundbreaking. "I think it was bold. And I think that they made a timely and rather political move. A gesture that certainly I will never forget and I think [will culturally] serve as a great motivator for women," she said, according to an *ET* story commemorating the 20-year anniversary.

Mulgrew certainly has boasting rights to pioneering the iconic role, but it wasn't her first time as a pioneering role model for women in Hollywood—and everywhere. As a young actress, Mulgrew faced an unplanned pregnancy in an industry that has for years notoriously encouraged and even celebrated abortions—and Mulgrew chose life for her daughter, ultimately placing her with an adoptive family.

In 1977, Mulgrew landed a role as Mary Ryan on the show *Ryan's Hope*, which chronicled the travails of an Irish-American family in New York City. She was a star of daytime television and one of the most-watched women on TV. And then one day she became unexpectedly pregnant. The baby's father pressured her to end his problem and abort the baby, and Mulgrew's mother was unable to help her.

"I was single, alone and flooded with terror. But I knew I would have that baby," Mulgrew said, according to an article she wrote for AARP. "So I decided to give my baby up for adoption. It was a choice, the only one I could make."

"It was unusual, in 1977, to be on national television while single and pregnant," said Mulgrew.

"My agent and many of my friends thought I was making a huge mistake. I offered to quit, but instead, the show's creator [...] wrote my pregnancy into the show"—an unusual move, for certain, in what has otherwise been described as a Hollywood environment hostile to the idea of pregnant actresses and musicians.

Mulgrew, who grew up in a large Catholic family, turned to Catholic Charities to find a home for her baby. Heart-wrenchingly, just three days after delivering her daughter, she was back on set filming a scene in which she was bringing home a baby from the hospital.

"They handed me this stunt infant and gave me this beautiful monologue," she said in her AARP article. "Millions of people watched that day. I almost faltered. I remember thinking, 'If you cry, you will not stop. So you must not.'"

Mulgrew never stopped thinking about her daughter, and then in 1998, she encountered the Catholic religious sister who had supervised the adoption. Sister Una decided to share the adoption registry forms with Mulgrew and her daughter, both of whom promptly filled them out and returned them.

Mulgrew received a call from her daughter while on the set of *Star Trek: Voyager*, and she immediately flew to meet her daughter and her family. Her daughter, Danielle, was a junior in college and just as eager to find her biological mother. The two bonded instantly and remained close, with Danielle becoming as much a part of Mulgrew's family as her husband and sons. And the two have worked through the difficult post-adoption emotions as well.

"My daughter's capacity for forgiveness is something I have never seen before in my life. That sense of abandonment was excruciating in her life. There is not enough time to make up for it, only enough time to love. We cried a lot. All we can do is move forward. So we do."

Kate Mulgrew's brave journey choosing life, her later relationship with her biological daughter, and her time as Captain Kathryn Janeway are all detailed in her 2016 book, *Born with Teeth: A Memoir*.

—LiveAction.org, July 9, 2021



I chose adoption for my baby not because I didn't want her, but because I love her.

~ Sandra, birth mother, adoptionnetwork.com ~



Pro-Life Christmas Cards 2021

Celebrate the birth of Our Lord and the Giver of Life, and at the same time, help our fundraising efforts. Your purchase supports the pro-life work of the Blair County Chapter of Citizens Concerned for Human Life. To place an order or for more information, call **Pat 814-946-0681** or **Marge 814-505-5025**.



Peace on Earth

This card portrays the Nativity scene and three kings against a night-time Bethlehem backdrop. The card is in gold foil with brilliant shades of blue. White envelopes are included.

Actual size: 4^{7/8}" x 6^{3/4}" - \$7.00 per pkg. of 11

Verse:

*So holy His moment of birth
So wondrous this Gift of Life
When Love was born on earth.*

*May the Lord of Life
bless you this Christmas
and throughout the coming year.*

Love Was Born at Christmas

This selection illustrates an image of the Infant Jesus, wrapped in a blanket, asleep in a bed of hay. The text is in gold foil as is the border of the card. White envelopes are included.

Actual size: 6^{1/8}" x 4^{1/2}" - \$7.00 per pkg. of 11

Verse:

*Come and behold Him
born the King of Angels*

*May the love of the Infant Jesus
in Whom all Life begins
be yours this Christmas and always*



Love WAS BORN AT CHRISTMAS

All cards made in the U.S.A. ©Barton Cotton, All Rights Reserved.

Citizens Concerned for Human Life, Blair County Chapter, 2715 Third St., Altoona, PA 16601; blair@centralpaprolife.org

**Pray to End
Abortion.**
40DAYSFORLIFE

**19,198 babies have been saved since 2007.
112 abortion centers closed and 221 abortion workers quit.**

***The next 40 Days for Life campaign
is September 22 - October 31, 2021***

**Pittsburgh - Liberty Ave. and Smithfield Street
For more information, call Nikki Bruni, 412-926-9413**

www.40daysforlife.com



Every Life Matters (ELM)

Services we offer: Free Pregnancy Tests, Limited Obstetric Ultrasounds
Parenting and Prenatal Education, Post-Abortion Recovery and Material Resources

You're Invited to ELM's Annual Fundraising Banquet!

Thursday, October 14, 6-8 p.m. at New Life Worship Center, Pinecroft exit, off I-99.
It's free, BUT RSVPs are necessary—call 814-650-7899 or email: the.elm.pss@gmail.com.

We are still looking for anyone interested in having an ultrasound
or who wants to participate in our Earn While You Learn program.
ELM is also looking for volunteers. Call 814-650-7899 and ask for Carol or Michelle.

Carol Steffen, Executive Director

1351 Logan Ave., Tyrone, Pennsylvania 16686 ♦ Phone: 814-650-7899

TheELMPSS@gmail.com ♦ www.elmcenters.org

All material and monetary donations to ELM are tax-deductible. Make checks payable to Every Life Matters (ELM).

Regional Chapters Citizens Concerned for Human Life

The Bedford County Chapter is sponsoring its annual Life Chain, on October 3rd, 2:30-3:30 p.m. from Bedford Elementary School to St. Thomas Church, along Old Route 220/N. Richard St. For more information, call Kathie Wenger at 814-839-4806.

We invite those attending the Bedford Fall Foliage Festival during the first two weekends of October to visit the Bedford Chapter's table which will be set up in front of Saint Thomas Catholic Church at the corner of Richard and Penn Streets.

Bedford's Baby Bottle Fundraiser this year raised over \$14,000 for the Hope Center Pregnancy Resource Office on North Broad Street in Philadelphia. Thank you, donors!

The Cambria/Somerset Chapter will hold its 2021 Annual Pro-Life Breakfast on October 23, at 9 a.m., at the Immaculate Conception Church Hall in New Germany. Keynote speaker is to be Steve Deace, well-known conservative Talk Radio host and author. See flier on page 11 of this newsletter

The Centre County Chapter will hold its Life Chain on October 3, 2:00-3:00 p.m., 900 West College Ave., State College. For more information, contact Susan Rogacs, 814-238-9590.



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

Fall 2021; Vol. 13, No. 4

President & Publisher: R. Thomas Forr, Jr.

Secretary/Editor: Marge Bradley

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.

2715 Third St., Altoona, PA 16601; phone: 814-946-0681

email: blair@centralpaprolife.org

website: www.blaircountyprolife.com

Prayer for the Unborn Child



16 weeks from conception

Dear Lord,
Reawaken in us respect for
every unborn life, make us
capable of seeing in the fruit
of the maternal womb
the miraculous work
of your creation, open our
hearts to generously
welcoming every child that
comes into life.

Bless all families, sanctify the union of spouses,
render fruitful their love.

Accompany the choices of legislative
assemblies with the light of your Spirit,
so that peoples and nations may recognize
and respect the sacred nature of life,
of every human life.

Guide the work of scientists and doctors,
so that all progress contributes to the integral
well-being of the person, and no one endures
suppression or injustice.

Give creative charity to administrators and
economists, so they may realize and promote
sufficient conditions so that young families can
serenely embrace the birth of new children.

Console the married couples who suffer
because they are unable to have children
and in Your goodness provide for them.

Teach us all to care for orphaned or abandoned
children, so they may experience

the warmth of your Charity,
the consolation of your divine Heart.

—Excerpt of Pope Benedict XVI's Prayer for the Unborn

2021 ANNUAL PRO-LIFE

Prayer Breakfast

CITIZENS CONCERNED FOR HUMAN LIFE, CAMBRIA-SOMERSET CHAPTER

featuring

**STEVE
DEACE** 

ONLY ON 



Steve Deace is an american conservative political activist and talk show host on the Blaze Media Platform.

**Saturday,
October 23rd
at 9:00am**

New Germany, Grove Hall

1635 New Germany Rd.
Summerhill, PA

**A DONATION OF \$10
PER TICKET IS REQUESTED**

For reservations and
ticket information, contact
Ann Poole at 814-472-8584 or
Steve Dillon at 814-241-2772

www.prolifecambriasomerset.org
PO Box 1588 Johnstown, PA 15907

Steve is the author of several books and has also been a contributor to Breitbart, Business Insider, Townhall and Politico. He was born to an unwed teenage mother. After considering an abortion, she decided to bring the pregnancy to full term. She went on to raise him and three other children in the Grand Rapids, MI, area. As an almost aborted baby, Steve has become a very strong supporter and defender of Pro-Life. Much of his remarks and commentary are fully imbedded with biblical values and principles. He and his lovely wife Amy have three wonderful children, Anastasia, Zoe and Noah. They reside in West Des Moines, Iowa. We are honored to have Steve Deace join us for this year's event!

Follow Citizens Concerned for Human
Life, Cambria-Somerset on Facebook!





Three culture of death tipping points

By Wesley J. Smith

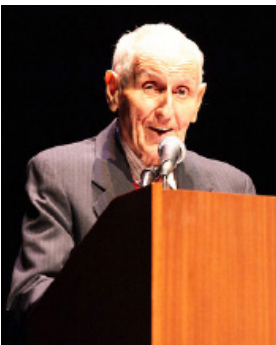
Pope John Paul II once famously described Western society as a “culture of death.” But what does that term mean? It refers to a civilization that endorses lethal omissions and even outright killing by doctors to alleviate suffering or resolve life crises.

“Culture of death” is most often applied in the context of euthanasia, assisted suicide, and abortion. A few decades ago, most such acts were outlawed and widely scorned. Not anymore. The sad fact is that now most people tolerate—and some even celebrate—the culture of death as necessarily linked to secular individualistic modernism.

How did our culture become so indifferent to the sanctity and equality of human life? *Roe v. Wade* had a lot to do with it, of course. But subsequent to that, three major cultural tipping points fueled popular acceptance of death-culture paradigms.



Pope Saint John Paul II



Jack Kevorkian

Jack Kevorkian: Between 1991 and 1999, Jack Kevorkian assisted the suicides of about 130 people. He broke into the headlines after admitting that he had assisted the suicide of Janet Adkins, who had been diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer’s disease. Kevorkian’s disclosure was met with widespread revulsion—even declared “outrageous” by the *New York Times*.

But as he defied moral convention and the law—he was found not guilty of assisted suicides in acts of blatant jury nullification—the worm turned. By the time he was finally convicted of murder in 1999, Kevorkian’s assisted-suicide campaign was widely accepted in public polling, he had been lauded repeatedly on *60 Minutes*, and he had even been invited to *Time* magazine’s 75th Anniversary Gala, where Tom Cruise rushed up to shake his hand. After his release from prison, Kevorkian was restored to mega-celebrity status, receiving \$50,000 per speech while being depicted sympathetically by Al Pacino in an award-winning film hagiography.

The Case of Terri Schiavo: The death of Terri Schiavo was a true culture-changing moment. Before the very public court battle between Michael Schiavo and Terri’s family, many people were unaware that cognitively disabled patients can legally be dehydrated to death via the removal of feeding tubes. But after Terri’s family (in alliance with the disability rights and pro-life movements) spent years striving in vain to save her from dehydration, this form of quasi-euthanasia became both widely known and actively supported by polling majorities.



Terri Schiavo

Planned Parenthood’s Fetal Organ Harvesting: In 2015, the pro-life Center for Medical Progress began releasing a series of undercover videos of Planned Parenthood executives describing in sickening detail how their abortionists preserve fetal organs

and tissues for sale—or legal expense reimbursement, according to Planned Parenthood. At first, there was widespread outrage at executives chirpily telling undercover investigators that abortion techniques could be adapted to “crush” fetuses in a “less crunchy” manner. But by the time videos were released showing abortionists at a convention ghoulishly laughing about “eyeballs rolling into our laps,” the general public no longer much cared.

Each of these events followed the same pattern: Initial outrage was replaced by justifications, which eventually turned into either explicit popular support or, more commonly, shoulder-shrugging. This process was not accidental; public attitudes were pushed along by powerful cultural forces.

The media took sides in each of these cultural conflagrations and helped shape public opinion. Jack Kevorkian was (and still is) depicted in the press as helping only the “terminally ill” commit suicide. This was blatantly untrue. In fact, about 70 percent of Kevorkian’s customers—I refuse to call them patients—were not dying, and at least five were not even sick.

Similar failure to report the facts can be found in the Schiavo case. Michael was usually described by the press as a loving “husband.” Rarely mentioned: When he started court proceedings to have his wife dehydrated, he was already living with a new fiancée (with whom he had two children by the time Terri died)—which could accurately be construed as marital abandonment.

The Planned Parenthood situation was even more egregious. Many major outlets ignored the story, and when they did finally report on it, they described the videos as “discredited” because of propagandistic editing—even though the Center for Medical Progress posted the raw tapes in full for anyone to view.

“Expert” bioethicists also influenced public attitudes in these cases. The field’s predominant voices supported assisted suicide, even if they did not fully celebrate Kevorkian. The bioethics movement was virtually unified behind Michael Schiavo, and the medical and bioethics establishment have all stood as bulwarks defending Planned Parenthood.

Society’s primary purpose is now understood to be the elimination of suffering. In this climate, killing that is motivated by “compassion” often finds strong public support. Kevorkian quickly became popular after he stopped describing his participation in assisting suicides as a step toward human experimentation—explained vividly in his book *Prescription Medicide*—and instead proclaimed that it was based in a desire to eliminate suffering.

Similarly, Terri Schiavo’s husband claimed that his wife would not have wanted to live in such a profoundly disabled condition—even though, when seeking monetary damages, he had told a malpractice jury a different story. Planned Parenthood’s organ harvesting was justified as supplying much-needed material for medical researchers to use in their discovery of cures.

If compassion is the shield that defends the culture of death, autonomy is the spear used to expand its territory. Kevorkian claimed that he had merely helped people fulfill their wish to die. Michael Schiavo testified that he was only doing what Terri had told him she would want. Planned Parenthood defends all abortion-related activities as justified by the “right to choose.”

Each of the three tipping points involved different circumstances. But they struck similar cultural chords, and ultimately expanded the scope of the culture of death. Considering these outcomes, can we still defend against the normalization of lethality in the medical context?

Wesley J. Smith is a senior fellow at the Discovery Institute’s Center on Human Exceptionalism. His most recent book is Culture of Death: The Age of “Do Harm” Medicine. This article first appeared in First Things.

—National Right to Life News Today, August 2, 2021

NOT DEAD YET

The Resistance





PENNSYLVANIA MARCH FOR LIFE

Monday, September 27, 2021

PA State Capitol · Harrisburg, PA
11 am: Rally · 12 noon: March



Abby Johnson
And Then There Were None



Ryan Bomberger
Radiance Foundation



Jeanne Mancini
March for Life



Michael Geer
PA Family Institute

For more details: PAMarchForLife.org

The Blair County Pastors Network is sponsoring a bus. Leaves from Altoona Alliance Church at 8 AM. To reserve a seat call Tony Conrad @ 814-207-9110 or Richard Cox @ 814-577-6196. The bus is free.



Altoona, PA Author Writes Pro-Life Children's Book

'Tis but Thee, by Kathleen M. Spayd

'Tis but Thee is a charming little faith-based fable of a baby's sojourn, beginning amidst the angels of heaven and the very presence of God to the final passage through the misty veil to a mother's waiting heart below. This imaginative story not only sanctifies the precious birthday of every newborn, but also reminds every child, no matter their age, that to each is given a divine purpose. It is a tale to honor all God's children. "I could envision giving this to my own Nana who may be feeling down or questioning her continued purpose in this world. This provides a gentle and loving reminder of her dignity and divine purpose," Spayd said.

'Tis but Thee can be purchased online at Amazon.com, Apple iTunes or Barnes and Noble.

Head of House

*I live all by myself and yet
I'm really not alone.
For He's alive in every nook
And corner of my home.
In treasures found there round-about
On table, shelf and wall,
He speaks His Love for He's the true
Creator of them all.*

*He's showered me with talents till
My cup's filled to the brim.
I seek His Will, then fashion each
To praise and honor Him.
My music—fiber of my life—
Ascends to Him above.
My heart's inside each note and beat,
My gift to Him with love.*

*In spring, He wakens me each morn,
In gentle song of birds.
When winter comes,
each snowflake speaks
His soft, endearing words.
When students seek me through the day,
Or visitors drop in,
I see His Face in every face,
His Smile in every grin.*

*He sends the help I'm bound to need
At one time or another.
Most precious gift He offers us—
The arms of His dear Mother.
Some folks drop by to lend a hand,
Some write or call by phone.
He touches me with those who care.
You see—I'm not alone.*

*If schedules' burdens go beyond,
He whispers, "persevere."
When overwhelming worries mount,
He lets me know He's near.
He's at my side through every trial,
Holds fast my groping hand.
I tell Him all for He alone
Can truly understand.*

*And as I close my eyes each night,
Secure in His embrace,
He pours His Love into my heart,
And heals my soul with grace.
He rules my being, heart and soul,
And guards me as His own.
As long as He's my Head of House,
I'll never live alone.*

—Helen Hamberger, † 2021
99-year-old pro-lifer

From the President's Desk

I want to cry again because of Pitt

From my earliest days, I was a Notre Dame football fan following in the shoes of my Dad. We listened to the games on the radio and watched the highlights on Sunday after Church.

I was ten and in the fourth grade on November 10, 1956, when the Irish lost to Pitt. I broke down crying and Dad attempted to console me by telling me how good the Pitt fans must have felt. I wanted nothing to do with his suggestion.

Once again, I am disappointed as a result of Pitt's actions, but this time it is for a much more serious reason.

As outlined in the articles on pages 4 and 7 of this newsletter, Pitt, UPMC and Planned Parenthood have apparently teamed up for procuring and experimenting on pre-born babies' parts, although trying to conceal their involvement.

It appears that Pitt has a very close relationship with Planned Parenthood of Western Pennsylvania in the training of doctors to perform abortions and in the use of fetal parts for experimentation. Some of these activities are encouraged and funded with our tax money through grants from the National Institutes of Health.

Those of you who viewed David Daleiden's videos featuring doctors who are involved in the procurement and selling of fetal parts would recognize that at least three of the doctors are Pitt Medical School grads.*

Recently evidence has come forth that Pitt in its application for NIH funding acknowledges that babies through "labor induction abortions" are still alive when cut open to procure kidneys.*

Although I might want to cry, I plan on doing more. A trip to Pittsburgh to protest with 40 Days for Life is in my future plans.

*WATCH—Center for Medical Progress video: University experiments on aborted baby parts, funding linked to Fauci
—*LifeSiteNews.com*, May 3, 2021

*READ—University of Pittsburgh ADMITS Hearts Beating While Harvesting Aborted Infants' Kidneys (see page 7).

R. Thomas Forr, Jr., President

Blair County Chapter, Citizens Concerned for Human Life

Need help in a crisis pregnancy?

Every Life Matters (ELM), 1351 Logan Ave., Tyrone
814-650-7899; TheELMPSS@gmail.com

Precious Life, Inc., 1716 12th Ave., Altoona
preciouslifeinc.com
814-944-2669

Real Alternatives, Inc., 1-888-LIFE-AID
realalternatives.org

Post-abortion counseling

Project Rachel
814-884-8000; ProjectRachel@dioceseaj.org

Rachel's Vineyard
877 HOPE 4 ME (877-467-3463)
rachelsvineyard.org/

Family Life, Diocese of Altoona/Johnstown
Pastoral Guidance
814-886-5551; familylife@dioceseaj.org

Donations have been made—

In Honor of:

Doris Grimm

Requested by: Jess and Kathleen Winter

McNelis All Stars, Living and Deceased

Requested by: Chris McNelis

Those Who Advocate for the Unborn

Requested by: Bruce and Cathy Erb

Anne Zelnosky, pro-life leader

Requested by: Diane Gormley

In Memory of:

Dennis and Florence Kovach

Requested by: Theresa and Robert Lonero

Carol, MaryJo and Anne

(sisters of Dave and Rosemarie Dibert)

Requested by: Dave and Rosemarie Dibert

Donations may be made in memory of loved ones who have died or to honor someone special, and near and dear to you, for a particular occasion, or just because...Blair County *Life News* will publish your name as well as the names of those you are honoring and/or remembering. Send donations to **Blair Co. CCHL, 2715 Third St., Altoona, PA 16601**. Thank you. God bless you!

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

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 our quarterly newsletter.

_____ Annual Membership \$10.00

_____ Student/Senior Member \$ 5.00

_____ In Memory of: _____

_____ In Honor of: _____

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.
2715 Third St.
Altoona, PA 16601

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Altoona, PA
Permit No. 150

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Save lives! October 26, 2021!

NATIONAL PRO-LIFE CHALK DAY!



Every year, the pro-life message reaches hundreds of thousands of people in the simplest of ways, *sidewalk chalking*. This small but powerful tool has been used to share the truth about abortion, get the word out about pregnancy resources, and help men and women who have had experiences with abortion find help and healing. And it's FUN! With a handful of chalk and an arsenal of pro-life slogans, you can leave a lasting impression on hundreds or even thousands of people.

- Step 1: Pick up sidewalk chalk
(Walmart, drug stores, Hobby Lobby)
- Step 2: Collect your pro-life friends
(this is optional, but helpful)
- Step 3: Find a heavily-trafficked public area
- Step 4: Chalk short pro-life messages in large letters everywhere (we can give you lots of examples!)

Share the pro-life message through chalking!

Simply find a highly-trafficked public sidewalk and write your life-affirming messages there!

For more information go to: WWW.NATIONALPROLIFECHALKDAY.COM