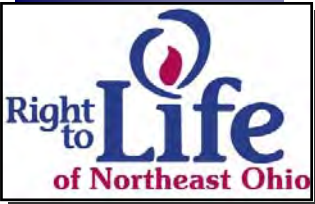


LifeLINES



Spring 2014



Another woman dies from an abortion

On March 21, 2014, 22 year old LaKisha Wilson was transferred to University Hospital Case Medical Center after an abortion at the Preterm facility in Cleveland and later died.

According to a statement released by the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office: "Decedent was conveyed from 12000 Shaker Blvd. in Cleveland to University Hospitals Case Medical Center and arrived on 3-21-14 where she was treated, expired and was pronounced dead on 3-28-14." 911 call records indicated that a woman had died after an abortion at Preterm. Those records also stated that she was "not breathing at all" and had suffered "cardiac or respiratory arrest/death." An autopsy has been conducted and the report had not been released as of April 25. However; there is no doubt that her death was caused by the late-term abortion she received on March 21, 2014.

A press conference organized by a coalition of pro-life leaders was held outside the Preterm abortion facility on April 2, 2014. Participating were Cheryl Sullenger (Senior Policy Advisor at *Operation Rescue*), Rev. Arnold Culbreath (Urban Outreach Director of *Life Issues Institute*), Denise Leipold (Executive Director of *Right to Life of Northeast Ohio*), Mark Harrington (Executive Director of *Created Equal*), Dr. Day Gardner (President, *National Black Pro-Life Union*), Molly Smith (President, *Cleveland Right to Life*), Rev. Walter Moss (*National Black Pro-Life Union*), and Rev. Dale Henkel (*What's Right What's Left Ministries*). The purpose of the conference was to stress that LaKisha's death should not be swept under the rug as other abortion deaths have been. The abortion industry claims that abortion is a safe component of women's reproductive health care. The sad truth is that there is nothing reproductive about abortion, and nothing safe about it either: *at least one of the two human lives involved in an abortion dies.*

Operation Rescue has since stated that Preterm has had other incidents reported

that indicate negligent and substandard practices. On March 31, 2012, an ambulance was called for a 32-year old patient weighing approximately 300 pounds who was hemorrhaging due to the uterus failing to contract enough to seal off blood vessels after an abortion. The facility's elevator was broken and they could not extricate her from the building.



Denise Leipold addresses the media at the April 2 news conference in front of the Preterm abortion facility.

"I question the judgment of the Preterm abortionist that was responsible for the abortion on this high-risk patient," said Cheryl Sullenger, Senior Policy Advisor for Operation Rescue. "With the elevator down, emergency help was delayed for this patient. It was irresponsible to conduct a surgical procedure on this high-risk patient under those circumstances in a facility that isn't equipped to handle complications in the first place. It showed complete disregard for the life and safety of this patient."

Another event took place on June 26, 2010. It involved a 26-year old woman who was suffering "serious" uncontrolled hemorrhaging under anesthesia and had not regained consciousness.

"It is clear that medical emergencies that endanger the lives of women take place on a routine basis at Preterm, but so far they have been swept under the rug. I can't help but wonder if the Board had taken action on the 2012 complaint whether LaKisha Wilson and her baby

(Continued on page 2)

Where are the protests?

Denise Leipold *Executive Director*



I'll admit it....I was a flower child! I graduated from high school during the height of the war in Vietnam. One thing I remember about that time was the daily reports about the huge number of American military that lost their lives in the jungles, along with the daily reports of the protests across the country against the war. Death statistics and protests were at the forefront of most news broadcasts.

If we "fast forward" to the current military conflicts in Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan and more, we know that the news is still dominated by the unnecessary loss of innocent American military lives. We see photos of



flag draped

coffins, grieving parents, congressional inquiries and more.

In all of the military conflict since our country was founded 238 years ago, approximately **1,321,612** Americans have lost their lives. That includes the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, battles of the old west, World Wars I & II, Korean War, Vietnam War, the wars on terror and more. That's a lot of lives! I don't mean to downplay the loss of these lives, but it is a drop in the bucket in comparison to the innocent human lives that have lost their lives through abortion in only 41 years since abortion was made legal. I know I've talked about this in previous newsletters, but it deserves mentioning again. Life Dynamics Institute recently came out with a video that helps these numbers show the stark reality of the comparison. The picture on the left show 9 vases filled with tiny

beads. Each bead stands for 1000 of the over **55,000,000** innocent human lives that have killed through abortion since 1973. The single cup in the picture is 2/3 filled with beads: each bead represents 1000 of the **1,321,612** lives lost through the military conflicts of the last 238 years.

If you haven't seen the video, you really need to watch it, and to forward it on to as many people as you know. It's time this insanity is stopped, and maybe a visual reference will make people wake up to the harsh reality. I hope to God it does.

For Life,
Denise Leipold
Executive Director

(To view this video, visit our website, click on "Issues", then "Abortion". Scroll down to the last video on the page.)

Another abortion death *(Continued from page 1)*

would be alive today," said Sullenger. "We have to make sure that other women are not harmed by Preterm's practices by seeing to it that this time those responsible are held accountable."

Operation Rescue has disclosed that Preterm is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation and is the official training site for the University Hospital Chase Medical Center Ryan Residency Program in Abortion and Family Planning in 2011, according to their 2011 Annual Report. University Hospital is affiliated with Case Western Reserve University, which is listed on the Ryan Residency Program's website as a program location. An article published in the New York Times in 2010 revealed that the Ryan Residency Program is funded by the Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation, named for the former wife of Omaha billionaire Warren Buffett. The Ryan Residency Program springs from the Bixby Center for Global Reproductive Health at the University of California San Francisco, the same group that created a "study group" of non-physicians and then trained them to do abortions to see if the complication rate went up when abortions were done by the less qualified group. In fact, the non-physician complication rate was found to be twice as high as that of licensed physicians. Nevertheless, this study paved the way for the enactment of a radical California state law last year that lowered abortion standards so that non-physicians can now conduct abortions in that state.

In 2010, Preterm, which is located in a predominately Black community in urban Cleveland, added Lisa Perreira to its staff as part of a collaboration with University Hospitals. The addition of Perreira enabled Preterm to expand into the more risky later abortions (through 23 weeks of pregnancy) even though at that time she had little experience, having been licensed to practice medicine for just one year. Preterm proudly noted that it was now among "less than a quarter of providers [that] offer abortion services beyond 20 weeks." Not surprisingly, that year, the number of abortion-related medical emergencies appeared to increase.

The abortion industry attacks pro-life supporters as being in a war against women because of our efforts to pass stronger health and safety regulations for abortion facilities. It is obvious that it is the abortion industry itself that is responsible for the casualties of this so-called war. Visit our website and click on "Issues", then "Abortion", and then "Botched Abortions Report" in the list of articles on the page.

For source information and documentation, visit the Operation Rescue website at www.operationrescue.org.

There has been a recent revitalization within the pro-life movement of the “personhood approach” to the life issues. That is, more and more are convinced that to protect the dignity of every human life at all of its stages, we must renew our efforts to work toward an amendment to the Constitution which definitively declares all human beings to be persons from the moment of fertilization/conception. Both science and the Bible support this approach.



**A person's a person,
no matter how
small.**
-Dr. Seuss

SCIENCE AND THE INDIVIDUAL

Biologists have determined that the life of an individual human being begins at fertilization, when sperm joins egg. Twenty-three of the individual's chromosomes come from the father and twenty-three from its mother, forming a new, unique human being. The fertilized egg (zygote) is programmed to commence its own life journey as a blastocyst, embryo, fetus, infant, child, adolescent and adult, which are simply stages of development affecting the same individual.

SCIENCE AND THE HUMAN FAMILY

Anthropologists and geneticists have determined that all modern humans (*Homo sapiens*) are related through common ancestors who date back at least two million years. Our DNA reveals that all human beings since that time are genetic relatives!

THE BIBLE

The Bible states that humans were made by God in his image:

Genesis 1:27 “God created man in his image; in the divine image he created him; male and female he created them.”

Because we are made in God's image, killing innocent human beings is forbidden:

Genesis 9:6 “If anyone sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; for in the image of God has man been made.”

Exodus 20:13 “You shall not kill.”

God recognizes human beings as persons, even in the womb:

Psalms 139: 13-14 “You formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother's womb. ... My very self you knew. Your eyes foresaw my actions; in your book all are written down; my days were shaped, before one came to be.”



HISTORY

History shows that once we accept the killing of our fellow human beings to solve personal or social problems, the circles of whom we may kill and the reasons for which we may kill grow wider and wider. This is illustrated in our own society, where discussion of the legalization of abortion was fueled in 1962 by the case of Sherri Finkbine, a pregnant woman who had taken the drug thalidomide, which was known

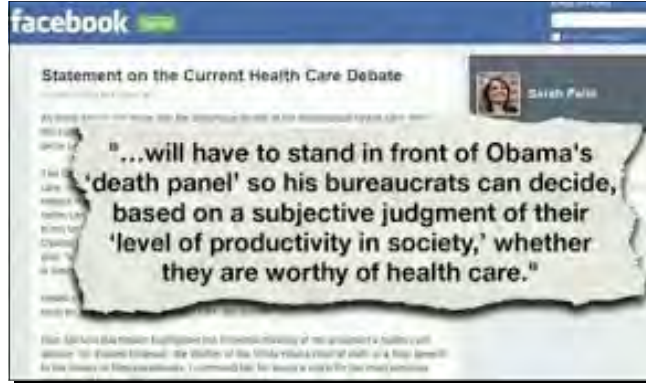
to cause gross abnormalities in the fetus. Less than eleven years later, the Supreme Court gave us abortion on demand throughout the nine months of pregnancy for any or no reason. It is also illustrated by the recent history of euthanasia in Belgium, which we have referred to in recent issues of this newsletter. Moreover, as Dr. and Mrs. Jack Willke, founders of Ohio's pro-life movement have shown, the same arguments used to justify abortion can be used to justify euthanasia. (Click on “Issues” on our website and then on “Slavery, The Holocaust and Abortion,” for details).

POLITICS

Because of the radical nature of the Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* decisions, early pro-life efforts to pass a personhood amendment to the Constitution failed. Hence, the pro-life movement focused on the incremental approach to protecting the unborn and their mothers by passing legislation regarding informed consent, parental involvement in the decision of minor daughters, etc. Over these past 41 years however, medical technology has advanced so that early pro-choice descriptions of the developing human as nothing more than a bag of cells or a “blob of tissue” were shown to be false. Moreover, scientific studies have since demonstrated that legal abortion is physically and psychologically harmful to women. Hence, although we have successfully outlawed partial birth abortions, and some 41 states prohibit most abortions after viability or after 20 weeks (Ohio does the latter) when it is more dangerous for the mother and the fetus can experience pain, pro-lifers are again looking to the personhood approach, which involves no exceptions to the ban on abortion. The latter includes the “hot potato” issue of abortion in cases of rape. Right to Life of Georgia has convinced a majority of its citizens and its state and federal representatives that no human being should be condemned

(Continued on page 5)

Reviewing an earlier version of the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) in 2009, Sarah Palin wrote, *"The America I know and love is not one in which my parents or baby with Down Syndrome will have to stand in front of Obama's 'death panel' so his bureaucrats can decide, based on a subjective judgment of their 'level of productivity' in society, whether they are worthy of health care."* Palin's use of the term "death panel" was unfortunate, since it allowed those unfamiliar with the law to dismiss her comments as "misinformation" and "extremist fear-mongering." If Palin had spoken of "health care rationing panels," her charge would have been more accurate and may have been taken more seriously. Obamacare will lead to the rationing of health care by at least four mechanisms, outlined below.



1. The Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB).

This is an unelected, presidentially appointed 18-member board which is given the duty, starting on January 15, 2015 and every two years thereafter, of keeping down the cost of both government and *private* health care by specified amounts. The board's recommendations can be implemented administratively by the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) or other federal agencies. HHS can impose "quality and efficiency" standards on hospitals and doctors and require them to report compliance. Hence, doctors, hospitals and other health care providers can be told by Washington just what diagnostic tests and medical care meet its "quality and efficiency" standards. The standards are specifically designed to limit the funds that Americans may choose to spend on health care, in order to control medical inflation. Treatment that a doctor, patient, or hospital deem needed or advisable to improve the patient's condition or save his life but which runs afoul of the imposed standards can be denied, even if the patient is willing and able to pay for it himself.

2. **Cuts in Medicare.** According to an August 2010 Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate, Obamacare will cut \$555 billion from Medicare

over the next ten years to help pay for its other provisions. As indicated above, the law allows Washington to prevent older Americans from making up this Medicare shortfall with their own money, which was heretofore permitted.

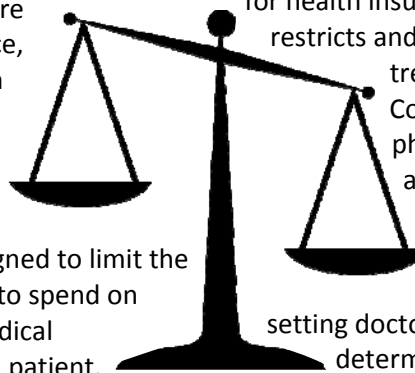
3. The "Excess Benefits" Tax.

This provision of Obamacare imposes a 40% tax on "excess benefit" health insurance premiums, beginning in 2018. It is designed to *discourage* private, nongovernmental health care spending beyond a governmentally imposed limit, again attempting to hold down inflation. Hence, the government may determine, in effect, that some health

insurance policies are "too good" and therefore deemed to be too expensive.

4. **The State Insurance Exchanges.** The idea that some policies are too expensive is also applied to the State Exchanges set up by Obamacare. Obamacare instructs and authorizes state bureaucrats to limit the value of insurance policies purchased in the Exchange. Not only *policies* can be disallowed, but even *insurers*, whose plans **outside** the exchange offer better coverage, if state authorities deem the cost "excessive or unjustified."

In essence, in limiting what individuals can be charged for health insurance (even by private insurers), Obamacare restricts and rations the type and amount of medical treatment that people are allowed to buy. Commenting on IPAB, Howard Dean, a physician and former presidential candidate and chairman of the Democratic National Committee, stated in a Wall Street Journal op-ed on July 28, 2013 that: "The IPAB is essentially a health-care rationing body. By setting doctor reimbursement rates for Medicare and determining which procedures and drugs will be covered at what price, the IPAB will be able to stop certain treatments its members do not favor by simply setting rates to levels where no doctor or hospital will perform them. ... What ends up happening in these schemes ... is that patients and physicians get aggravated because bureaucrats in either the private or public sectors are making medical decisions without knowing the patients. ... these kinds of schemes do



(Continued on page 5)

News Briefs

U.S. ABORTIONS DECREASE

For the 16th time since 1973, the Guttmacher Institute conducted a survey of all abortion providers in the nation, gathering data on the number of abortions for the years 2010 and 2011. It reports a total of 1,058,500 abortions for 2011, a 13% decrease in both



the total and rate compared to 2008, the year reported in their previous survey. The 2011 figure would yield an average of 2,900 abortions per day.

Guttmacher also reported 28,500 abortions in Ohio for 2011 (78 per day), or 3,826 more abortions for that year than reported by the Ohio Department of Health. In recent years, Guttmacher has reported about 11% more Ohio abortions than our state reports. Since Guttmacher would be recognized as pro-choice by most abortion providers, their figures may be more accurate. These figures would not include self-induced early abortions brought on by legal, over-the-counter abortifacients, which are not required to be reported.

Speculating on the causes for the decrease in abortion, the report notes that 106 new laws to protect women and the unborn (it calls them laws to restrict access to abortion) were passed by the states during 2008-2011. The laws they believe to be most effective in reducing abortions are those requiring 24-hour waiting periods and those eliminating state Medicaid funding for abortion.

EUTHANASIA, ASSISTED SUICIDE DEVELOPMENTS

Oregon's Department of Health reports that as of January 22, 2014, 752 of its citizens have died as a result of ingesting medications prescribed under its Death With Dignity Act, passed in 1997.

On January 13, 2014, Judge Nan Nash of the Second Judicial District in *New Mexico* ruled in a case brought by Compassion and Choices claiming that a doctor assisting the suicide of a patient is not breaking an assisted suicide law, since he is only providing "aid in dying." (If you use the right words, you can get away with murder). The case argued both that "aid in dying" is not assisted suicide, but if it is, then New Mexico law prohibiting assisted suicide is unconstitutional because it undermines the right to privacy and autonomy! Attorney General Gary King is appealing the court's decision.

On March 6, 2014, the *New Hampshire* House of Representatives defeated an assisted suicide bill by a vote of 219 to 66. A similar measure before a *Connecticut* legislative committee also was reported likely to go down. Connecticut Governor George Daniel Malloy is thought to be unlikely to support such legislation, and a March 2014 poll of 1,000 Connecticut residents found 55% against such a measure. ■

Health Care Rationing (Continued from page 4)

not control costs. The medical system simply becomes more bureaucratic."

In 14 national polls conducted by CNN/ORC from March 2010 through December 2013, the average percent of Americans saying they approved of the Obamacare legislation was 39.4%, while 55.6% opposed it. The December 2013 poll found 35% in favor and 62% opposed.

For more detail, download "*The Affordable Care Act and Health Care Access in the United States*," at www.nrlc.org/medethics. For more background visit our website, click on "Issues" and then on "HHS Mandate-Healthcare", then on the article "Does Our Health Care Law Provide for Death Panels?" ■

Personhood (Continued from page 3)

to death because of the circumstances of his/her conception. We shall cover this topic in more detail in a future issue. For a short book (*Personhood* by Daniel Becker) detailing Georgia's experience go to www.tkspublications.com.

By implementing the personhood approach, we will not only better protect human beings from being killed from abortion, euthanasia/assisted suicide, embryonic stem cell research, and the over-production of embryos for in vitro fertilization, but also from the growing threats of experimentation with chimeras (human-animal hybrids) and cyborgs. ■

Reaching the Goal....for LIFE!

“Reaching the Goal....for LIFE” was the theme of the annual Right to Life of Northeast Ohio Education and Appreciation Dinner held on April 12, 2014. The keynote speakers were former Kardiac Kids members of the Cleveland Browns Coach Sam Rutigliano and running back Greg Pruitt. They shared intimate stories and details of how precious life really is, and how it transcends the game of football.



Greg Pruitt signed autographs after the event



Coach Sam Rutigliano addresses the crowd.



The inaugural Marie McNeill Life Education award was accepted by Marie’s husband Tom McNeill and family in honor of Marie who passed away in March.



Above Right: Executive Director Denise Leipold presented St. Vincent/St. Mary student Lauren Johanning with the 2014 Right to Life Vandevere Scholarship.



Pictures to Left: Area crisis pregnancy centers staffed tables at the event to share the critical work they do to help their clients choose life.

DAVIS EYE CENTER



REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Golf For Life!



September 15, 2014

NEW LOCATION!

Silver Lake Country Club

1325 Graham Rd., Silver Lake OH 44224

PLEASE PRINT

I am registering for _____ foursome(s) at a cost of \$600.00 each.

(Please attach additional sheet with names of golfers in additional foursomes.)

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: (____)-____-____ Work Cell Home

E-Mail Address: _____

Golfer #1: _____ Golfer #2: _____

Golfer #3: _____ Golfer #4: _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____ *

Please make checks payable to Right to Life of Northeast Ohio, and mail completed form and payment to:

Right to Life of Northeast Ohio Golf for Life ♦ 572. W. Market St. Ste 2 ♦ Akron OH 44303

*For payment by credit card, please contact our office at 330-762-2785. Some portion of your payment may be tax deductible as a donation. To make a tax deductible donation, please make your check payable to Life Education Fund, our 501c3 affiliate. A dinner-only option for \$40 is available if you would like someone to join you for the dinner after the event. Please contact our office to make those arrangements.



572 West Market St. Suite 2 • Akron, OH 44303
 330-762-2785
www.RightToLifeofNortheastOhio.com

NON PROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 AKRON, OH
 PERMIT NO. 28

Our Mission

*Protecting the sanctity of human life from
 conception through natural death*

The Issues

*Abortion
 Embryonic Stem Cell Research & Cloning
 Euthanasia & End of Life Decisions*

Our Goal

Building the Culture of Life

Our Strategies

Educate with the facts concerning life issues
Legislate by promoting laws protecting innocent
 human lives
Advocate as a voice for the voiceless
Unify those seeking to defend life
Multiply our voices to increase in strength

Right to Life
 of
 Northeast Ohio

Denise Leipold
 Executive Director

Board of Directors

Ken Leipold
 President

Amy Zimmerman
 Vice President

Dr. Ray Adamek
 Secretary

Joseph Pollack
 Treasurer

Pat D'Andrea
 Zach Myers
 Bill Obendorf
 Al Van Kirk

Youth For Life of Northeast Ohio
 is a program of
 Right to Life of Northeast Ohio.

Life Education Fund is a 501c3
 affiliate with Right to Life of
 Northeast Ohio.

Contributions to Life Education Fund
 are tax deductible under IRS rules.

5 Ways that YOU can help in the fight for LIFE:

1 GET EDUCATED about what it really means to be pro-life, and share it with others!

 visit our website at
www.rtlfneo.com/issues_a

2 GIVE an hour or more and join with our "Clouds of Witnesses" to stand vigil outside of an abortion facility or Planned Parenthood location on a regular basis....you never know how many lives you might save just by holding a peaceful, pro-life sign.

PLEASE....CALL TODAY! 330-762-2785
 or visit our website at
www.rtlfneo.com/witness

3 VOLUNTEER either in our office or at our events. We have lots of opportunities!

PLEASE....CALL TODAY! 330-762-2785
 or visit our website at
www.rtlfneo.com/volunteer

4 Become an ANGEL who is sent to serve as a monthly donor! You will also receive *Right to Life of Northeast Ohio* logo items such as hats or shirts depending on the size of your donation.

PLEASE....CALL TODAY! 330-762-2785
 or download a pledge form at
www.RTLofNEO.com/monthly_pledge_program

5 Give a gift of LIFE


- In honor of a birthday, anniversary or other special occasion
- In memory of a loved one
- In lieu of flowers for a funeral
- As an enduring legacy through your will

PLEASE....CALL TODAY! 330-762-2785
 or visit our website at
www.rtlfneo.com/a_gift_of_life