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Newsletter of the Right to Life Committee of New Mexico

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**Commentary on Giving**

*By Dauneen Dolce, Executive Director*

Recently I helped enter donation information into our computer. Not being responsible for doing this or opening mail very often, I can forget the very remarkable people who fund our organization.

I am so glad I had this opportunity to see the many friends who over many, many years have been there with their hard-earned money to help our mission and goals. They have provided the funds to get the truth out to the public. They have helped our organization to grow and be a reliable source of information for the people in our state.

Furthermore, many of these same people have also given valuable time volunteering. They walk the walk in a manner to be honored, appreciated, and emulated. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATED AND LOVING SUPPORT!**

Without the funds provided for all three of our entities—membership (C-4), the Political Action Committee (PAC), and the Educational Trust Fund (C-3)—we would be working in a much more fragile and hostile environment.

I want to take this opportunity to remind people that the different entities require specific actions on your part when giving a donation. Only the Educational

Trust Fund is tax deductible. When giving a donation you want to be tax-deductible, “Educational Trust Fund” or “ETF” must be written on the check if you are not using an Educational Trust Fund return envelope. For those who give to Five Alive, you must use the envelopes provided to you for the right month. If you send your own, Ed Trust Fund must be on the envelope or the check. This makes sure you will be recorded as giving a tax-deductible donation.

Memberships are not tax-deductible. Checks in plain envelopes made out to Right to Life, Right to Life NM or RTLNCNM will be considered C-4 and not tax-deductible. Donations to the Political Action Committee should be in a PAC envelope or PAC written on the check. PAC donations are not tax-deductible.

These are the rules of IRS, which is getting tough with C-3 organizations, as well as C-4s and PACs. If you have questions, e-mail me at [info@rtlnm.org](mailto:info@rtlnm.org) or call the state office at 505-881-4563.

Don't let this information overwhelm you. It is just to clarify how to give. Don't let it prevent you from giving. You are needed more than ever - “old & new”.

**We are Not Terrorists, We Love Life!**

*Editorial by Dauneen Dolce*

From the government to the pro-aborts, the media and now many citizens of our country, we are being called terrorists. We are being put in the same league as Bin Laden and the terrorists who killed people in the destruction of the Twin Towers, the al Qaida. How terrible that our U.S. government should have started this whole devious, slanderous lie to now have this hate attack on the pro-life movement spread from other sources.

It didn't help but fuel these accusations with the killing of the infamous late-term abortionist Dr. George Tiller, who was shot to death on May 31 in Wichita, Kansas, by a person never affiliated with a pro-life organization. This anti-life action has supplied rhetoric that has all of us being “murderers” and Dr. Tiller look like a loving doctor who cared

for his patients. But George Tiller was not a good man.

Tiller killed thousands of innocent, unborn babies using a method that is diabolical. He harmed women in the process, and several died. He circumvented the law and was being scrutinized by the state of Kansas for illegal actions. Nonetheless, it was **WRONG** to kill this man. We are here to put him out of business, but we can *never* condone killing or destroying abortionists and/or their clinics. It goes against everything we stand for. We love and protect all human life, even when that life is less desirable than others. We stand for what our Constitution allows: death from an act of war, self-defense, and by due-process of the courts.

It must be noted that the pro-abortion organizations know that we aren't involved in the few killings (*more, page 2*)

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY USA!**

With the establishment of The Declaration of Independence, the United States of America was born. Under this great document, our forefathers had the love of freedom, nation, and life. We established a great truth that then moved on to a constitution and a country that created a climate that would have all men be free (eventually) and life be respected.

We in The Right to Life Committee of New Mexico take to heart the Declaration that all men are created equal with the inalienable right to Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.

Our whole organization is based on this truth, and it is our mission to carry out this wise premise for the unborn, the aged, and the handicapped. We will respect life and liberty. Only then can anyone have happiness. May our great country return to these principles.

**RTLNCNM NEEDS YOUR HELP!!!**

*Please Turn in Questionnaires*

In the last *Viva Life* newsletter, a questionnaire was sent to you who are supporters of our organization. The purpose was to find out what YOU want when it comes to our educational forums such as our conference. To ascertain your wishes, you need to respond. Otherwise, we are still in the dark and cannot make those changes that will meet the most needs. The response has been dismal. So please fill out the form, or if you lost it, call the office at 505-881-4563 or e-mail us at [info@rtlnm.org](mailto:info@rtlnm.org).

**NEEDED ALL OVER NEW MEXICO**



As only a chapter in its county can do, Santa Fe County RTL set up a table with information at Community Days on the Santa Fe Plaza to help educate the public. Done with just a few people, imagine what more could be done with more volunteers! To help, please call President Richard Sanchez at 455-0171.

that have taken place over the years. If you look at the website for the National Abortion Federation you will see their statistics of crime at Abortion Providers to National Crime Statistics. It is all there – and the Right To Life Committee of New Mexico and many other pro-life organization are what they have been and always will be: law abiding, caring people seeking positive solutions to difficult problems created by people. Solutions that save lives, not take them.

When I speak of our government, I am referring to President Obama and his administration and the people from Homeland Security to the IRS and others who are out to destroy us.

For that reason we must be very careful in our actions *and* words. It would be wrong to say that it is good that George Tiller is dead or that the world is better without him. This gives the appearance that Scott Roeder was

## National Health Care “Reform”: Be Afraid, Be Very Afraid

*By Carol Tobias, NRLC Vice Pres. of Political Affairs*  
Democratic congressional leaders are working with President Obama behind closed doors to craft legislation that will attempt to use health care “reform” as a vehicle to impose sweeping pro-abortion mandates on the American health-care delivery system.

Douglas Johnson, Legislative Director of the National Right to Life Committee, stated, “The pro-abortion movement sees federal ‘health care reform’ legislation as a golden opportunity to force-feed abortion into every nook and cranny of the health-care law to make abortion on demand accessible in every region of every state, paid for by taxes and by government-mandated private insurance premiums.”

At a 2007 Planned Parenthood conference, Obama addressed his plans for health care reform, saying, “**In my mind, reproductive care is essential care, basic care, so it is at the center, the heart of the plan that I propose.**” Reproductive care, of course, being our opponents terminology for abortion.

Under Obama’s plan, people could choose to keep their existing private health care plans, but, as he stated, “Insurers are going to have to abide by the same rules in terms of providing comprehensive care...that’s going to be absolutely vital.”

The *Chicago Tribune* asked President Obama about his proposal for expanded access to health insurance and was told that it would cover reproductive health services. Later, an Obama spokesman said that included abortions.

right in what he did. No, this man, who some said had mental problems, must be shown how wrong he was. Vigilanteism is wrong and is not what we are about.

It is perfectly alright to say we are happy that George Tiller’s clinic is being closed permanently. This we want. We want to close all abortion clinics. But even more, we want to stop the slaughter of innocent human life. We want positive alternatives to those women who find themselves pregnant and need help. We want to prevent these pregnancies and help people be responsible.

This will keep us busy for many years, and killing any doctor is not going to address these needs. These doctors, even if there are a lot less of them, will keep cropping up like weeds. We will plant the good seeds to eliminate them. **WE ARE PRO-LIFE FOR ALL PEOPLE FROM FERTILIZATION UNTIL DEATH!**

During President Clinton’s early years in the White House, the Clinton health care plan scheme failed in Congress because people had time to study it and to react to its radical implications. This time the Obama Administration and congressional leaders hope to push it through quickly to prevent opposition from building

If pro-lifers are not alert, the legislation could achieve sweeping pro-abortion effects without even mentioning the word “abortion.” One piece of legislation now being discussed has the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) appointing a council to determine — at a later time — which services are to be included in any government-defined or government-mandated package of health care benefits.

We can be pretty sure that abortion will be a mandated service to be included in any and all health care plans — private or government-funded.

Another concern for pro-lifers is the possibility of health care being rationed. The Secretary of HHS could determine what won’t be covered in qualified health care plans — maybe no one over 65 gets knee replacement surgery or maybe no one over 60 gets a heart bypass. Unelected bureaucrats would be making decisions without being held accountable to the voters.

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) says President Barack Obama wants to ration health care for Americans and involve the government in decisions on what treatments individual citizens can receive. (*more, page 3*)

## TEENS FOR LIFE LAUNCHES SOCIAL NETWORKING SITE

*Website Dedicated to Interests of Pro-Life Teens*

**INDIANAPOLIS, IND.**—Teens for Life, the multiple-award winning youth outreach known for producing the world’s only quarterly pro-life publication for teens, is breaking new ground again with the launch of teensforlife.com, the world’s first social networking site dedicated to raising up a new generation of pro-life teens. The site features an in-depth networking experience for teens that allows them to discuss core issues, exchange ideas, share multimedia, and just hang out with peers online.

“This is the first time that the pro-life movement has actively embraced the power of social networking for the purpose of raising up a new generation of leaders,” says TeenForLife.com editor Mike Fichter. “Our goal is to educate, motivate, and activate a new generation to impact its culture by advancing positive and healthy alternatives to abortion.”

TeensforLife.com offers visitors a wide range of ever-changing resources to supplement its social networking abilities in fetal development and even book and music reviews. A special Speak-Out section gives teens the opportunity to give their feedback on the hottest topics of the day, while an RSS news feed keeps visitors up-to-date on what’s happening in life issues around the world.

“The future of the pro-life movement is here, and we’re giving it a voice of its own,” says Fichter. TeensforLife.com is worldwide outreach of the Indiana Right to Life Education Fund.

## HEALTH CARE DECISION MAKERS

In a recent article in the *Albuquerque Journal* written by Associated Press reporters Larry Margasak and Sharon Theimer, the people who have been assigned to “overhaul” health care do so with possible “strings of attachment.”

The ties to the health industry seem to be many. Jackie Cleg Dodd, wife of Sen. Chris Dodd who is in charge of writing the senate bills, sits on the board of four health care companies. These companies are Javelin Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Cardiome Pharma Corp., Brookdale Senior Living, and Pear Tree Pharmaceuticals.

Sen. Dodd is filling in for Sen. Ted Kennedy, Chairman of the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, which will work on the health bills.

Mrs. Dodd earned \$32,000 in fees and \$109,587 in stock option awards last year from Javelin Pharmaceuticals Inc. as a non-employee. She earned \$79,063 in fees from Cardiome in its last fiscal year. Brookdale Senior Living gave her \$122,231 in stock awards in 2008. She earned no income from her post as a director for Pear Tree

*see DECISION MAKERS, 3*

During a recent appearance on CBS's "Face the Nation," McConnell said Obama supports "a national rationing board to determine what kind of treatments would be available for American citizens. Typically, those in single payer countries like Canada and Britain involve

## Judge Sonia Sotomayor: Who and What is She?

Sonia Sotomayer is a liberal, pro-abortion judge because she is being nominated by President Obama who has a very serious abortion agenda. This may be the final word on what she is. But does it really answer the questions as to who she is, which also impacts what she will decide?

We know these facts about her: She was born in the Bronx in 1954 to Puerto Rican immigrant parents. Her father died when she was nine years old. She attended Catholic schools as a child and graduated *summa cum laude* in 1976 with an A. B. from Princeton University. In 1979 she graduated from Yale Law School and served as editor of the *Yale Law Journal*. From 1979-1984 she served as an assistant district attorney in New York County and in 1984 entered private practice specializing in intellectual property litigation.

In 1991 she was nominated to the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York by President George H. W. Bush. In 1998 she was appointed to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals by President Clinton. She is a member of the American Bar Association, the New York Chapter of the Women's Bar Association, the Hispanic National Bar Association, the Puerto Rican Bar Association, The Association of Judges of Hispanic Heritage, the National Association of Women Judges, and the American Philosophical Society. She is a frequent speaker and panelist at bar conferences and law schools.

She is considered to be a political centrist. Both a Republican and Democrat president regarded her as a potential high court nominee.

There are only three decisions that she has made that touch on abortion and only one of those does so directly. She wrote the opinion in *Center for Reproductive Law and Policy v. Bush*, which was a challenge to the "Mexico City Policy" that prohibited foreign organizations receiving U.S. funds from performing or supporting abortions. An abortion rights group (along with its attorneys) claimed that the policy violated its First Amendment, due process, and equal protection rights. Relying on the Second Circuit's earlier decision in *Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Inc. v. Agency for International Development* that dealt with a virtually identi-

delays in treatment, denial of care, and those kinds of things."

The House and Senate are expected to vote on this "health care reform" legislation this summer, very soon after it is formally unveiled.

cal claim, Sotomayer's opinion rejected the group's First Amendment claim on the merits. Turning to the plaintiffs' due process claim, Sotomayer held that they lacked standing because they allegedly only do harm to foreign organizations rather than themselves. Sotomayer held that the plaintiffs did have standing with regard to their equal protection claim, but she ultimately held that the claim failed under rational basis review because the government "is free to favor the anti-abortion position over the pro-choice position" with public funds.

In *Port Washington Teachers' Association v. Board of Education*, plaintiff teachers challenged a school district policy, which suggested teachers should report student pregnancies to the student's parents. In an opinion that Sotomayer joined, the court dismissed the case for lack of standing, noting that, because the policy was not mandatory, objecting teachers wouldn't be fired for "violating it." Again, the court is strictly correct.

In *Amnesty American v. Town of West Hartford*, a lower court had ruled that the police had not used excessive force. She ruled that "a reasonable jury could find that the officers gratuitously inflicted pain in a manner that was not a reasonable response to the circumstances." Sotomayer wrote, "It is undisputed that the police were forced to employ some degree of physical coercion in order to arrest the protesters and remove them from the premises. Plaintiffs allege, however, that the police responded with far more force than was necessary and inflicted severe pain on the demonstrators by dragging them out of the building by their elbows, using choke holds, and lifting them off the floor by their wrists. Moreover, one officer allegedly shoved and pinned a sitting protester's head to the floor with his foot, and some threatened those who were praying aloud that they would 'get more' if they 'kept crying out in praise of the Lord.' The protesters who were subjected to this treatment 'screamed' in pain, and the demonstrators assert that they could hear the continuous screams and protestations of their fellow arrestees."

Though the case dealt with criminal procedures and questions of (*more, page 4*)

## DECISION MAKERS — from page 2

Pharmaceuticals but holds up to \$15,000 in Pear Tree stock.

There are others who have connections with the health industry, including Jay Rockefeller see and Tom Harkin, Democrats, and Tom Coburn, Judd Gregg, John Kyl and Orrin Hatch who are Republicans. Their financial disclosures are less precise. Congress only requires that assets and liabilities be listed in ranges of values. We know Tom Coburn is a physician, so it is not unusual for him to have affiliations with the health industry. He and John Kyl and Orrin Hatch are opposing national health care as is being proposed.

## NRLC CONVENTION COVERS EVERY PRO-LIFE SUBJECT

There was a good showing at the National RTL Convention June 18-20 in Charlotte, N.C. Nearly 800 people attended the 3-day convention, which had special sessions with Wesley Smith, author Kate Adamson, Rev. Doctor Tadeusz Pacholczyk, and Congressman Chris Smith, who spoke at the banquet.

Every pro-life subject was covered: abortion, euthanasia, assisted suicide, stem cell research (both adult and embryonic), cloning, health care, the media, abortion and the breast cancer link, working with churches, helping those who have unplanned pregnancies, statistics and surveys, and of course the topic of the convention – Stop The Abortion Agenda. There are many subjects under just that one issue.

As is true for us, the pro-life people are stunned at just how pro-death the Obama Administration is. Chris Smith, although encouraging, is telling how it has affected the remaining pro-life congressmen and women who are still in the House. It is very discouraging for them to have to face the onslaught of pro-abortion legislation being promoted by the House leadership. He is hopeful that moderate Democrats will join pro-life Republicans to ward off the evil and even pass some protective laws for our defenseless citizens.

Health care is the main topic, and there really may be hope in this area. But we must be ready to do our part. When an e-mail is sent to you, please respond as quickly as possible, as time is going to be of the essence. Our website will also be providing direction. We can and must do our part.

Further information ascertained at this convention will be in coming *Viva Life* newsletters. Please read these articles, keep informed, and share the information. Come to the educational seminars that are going to be provided. Give us your e-mail (or corrected one when you get a new one), and we will keep you in the loop. It will be a tough four years, but not impossible ones.

Vince Lombardi made this quote; we should follow it. "It's not whether you get knocked down; it's whether you get up." Let us rise to the challenge.

municipal liability, not the merits of abortion, it's interesting that she sided with the position of the pro-life groups.

Much more on these cases and on Sonia Sotomayor will be coming forth in the coming weeks. We will try to update you as we can. The hearings on her appointment to the Supreme Court will begin in July.

There are mixed messages on Judge Sotomayer, and we hope all will be sorted out so that we will clearly know her position. We have been fooled before

## The Good, the Bad, the Ugly, the Beautiful & the Hopeful

**GOOD: Troubled Economy Yields More Adoptions** (LIFE NEWS, MAY 20, 2009)—Because of the troubled economy, anecdotal evidence and hard numbers from abortion centers show the number of abortions is on the rise. However, the same personal stories and figures from agencies show the number of adoptions is increasing as well.

As families struggle to make ends meet, several large adoption agencies tell *USA Today* that more pregnant women are deciding to do something they never thought they would do – place a baby for adoption.

Joan Jaeger of The Cradle, a Chicago-based adoption agency, says many of the women coming to her are in their 20s and 30s and already have children. They see another child as an additional expense they can't afford. Scott Mars of American Adoptions, a private national adoption agency based in Kansas, says he has seen a 10-12 percent increase in the number of actual placements.

Abortions have gone up, especially in northern California, but women are also finding this is not the only option. There are 2,300 pregnancy centers across the US to help them make a "loving and living" choice.

**BAD: Dr. Alveda King Calls Tiller/MLK Comparison "Offensive Beyond Belief"** (CHRISTIAN NEWSWIRE, JUNE 9, 2009)—Dr. Alveda King, Pastoral Associate of Priests for Life and niece of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., reacted to remarks by late-term abortionist LeRoy Carhart that compared the killing of George Tiller to the assassination of her uncle.

"For LeRoy Carhart to mention the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who worked through peaceful and non-violent means, in the same breath with that of George Tiller, whose work ended peace and brought violence to babies in the womb, is offensive beyond belief," said Dr. King. "The analogy is just wrong.

"Dr. Carhart also speaks of hate crimes," added Dr. King. "I would sim-

on a Supreme Court nominee and could be again.

Postscript: The Senate Judiciary Committee has sent a questionnaire to Sotomayer. The questions were crafted by Chairman Pat Leahy-D (pro-abortion) and Sen. Jeff Sessions-R (pro-life). It would appear that she is pro-abortion from the response to the questionnaire and the affirmation from Democrat Sens. Diane Feinstein and Ron Wyden, both pro-abortion supporters.

ply ask him, is it not hateful to regard an entire class of people as non-human because they're unwanted?"

**UGLY: Abortion Drug 23% Failure Rate Necessitates Surgical Abortions** (LIFE NEWS, MAY 8, 2009)—Abortion advocates have promoted the dangerous abortion drug RU 486 (mifepristone) in part by saying it can cause an abortion without women having to have a surgical abortion. However, a new study shows the abortion drug fails anywhere from 16-23 percent of the time.

When the mifepristone abortion drug fails, a follow-up surgical abortion is necessary because an incomplete abortion can result in major medical problems, including death.

Melissa Stafford of the Boston Medical Center presented the results of her study at the recent American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists annual meeting.

The abortion drug includes a combination of mifepristone, the drug that causes the starvation death of the unborn child, and misoprostol, an ulcer drug misused to cause contractions that expel the body of the dead baby. Although the FDA has called for a 48 hour interval between the uses of the two drugs, many abortion centers give women the two drugs simultaneously within a shorter period of each other, usually within hours on the same day. Dr. Randy O'Bannon, Director of Research and Education for NRLC, said, "Those who have developed and promoted RU 486 have told women that the abortifacient offers them a way to have an abortion without the risk of surgery. Yet the abortion industry's efforts to tamper with the FDA protocol, changing doses, lengthening the gestational limits, shortening the time between the administration of the two drugs have decreased the 'effectiveness' of the drugs and put many of these women in line for surgical abortion after their chemical abortions failed.

"Attempts to make the process more convenient for women, for the (*more, page 5*)

## SANTA FE CHARGE FOR MURDER OF UNBORN CHILD DROPPED

*Recently, several reporters from The New Mexico Independent Newspaper have been interviewing our executive director regarding the killing of the unborn child in the mother's womb that took place recently in Santa Fe.*

Mariano Leyba killed Sarah Lovato and her father, Bernie Lovato, Sr. He also deliberately shot Sarah in the abdomen, killing her son. He was to be named Isaac, was full term, and was to be born any day.

Initially, Mariano Leyba was charged with three counts of murder, but the count of murder for killing the unborn child was dropped because a fetus isn't considered a human being under New Mexico homicide laws. If the baby had been born and had taken one breath then died, it would be homicide.

In Oregon, Kosrena Elaine Roberts is accused of killing 21 year old Heather Snively and cutting Heather's unborn baby from her womb. Both died as a result. Again, it could not be proven that the baby took a breath.

In 36 other states there are laws that cover the homicide of an unborn baby. They are called Unborn Victims of Violence laws. In these states it is very clear we have two separate human beings who are very wanted and viable. Because the baby's residency is in a womb rather than an incubator does not make the baby less human, less wanted, less important, or less deserving of protection and justice.

The reporters were shocked, the people in Oregon were shocked, and we all should be shocked at the attitude that has prevented such a law from being passed here. It was attempted by Rep. Larry Larranaga a few years back. The reason for defeating it was because it would affect abortion laws. This has nothing to do with abortion. These are "wanted" children by their mothers, and they were killed. They should have been born and lived a long, good life. The mother did not decide to destroy them. A person who wanted to destroy them or did destroy them in an act of violence made that decision.

This is what happens when life is no longer valued, when death to another human being can be accepted as "legal." Now it is legal to murder the "wanted." Where does it stop? It doesn't.

When death is acceptable as a way to solve a problem, then there are no limits to what can be done and is being done in this nation. This must be changed.

## MORE POLLS FIND INCREASE IN PRO-LIFERS

As reported in June *Viva Life*, a May 18 Gallup Poll shows more Americans identify themselves as being pro-life (51 percent) than pro-choice (42 percent).

see POLLS, 5

clinics, may help the industry attract more customers, but as this latest study shows, it exposes women to additional risks. As long as the abortion industry puts its own profits and preferences ahead of patient safety, both mothers and their unborn children will continue to face danger behind clinic doors," O'Bannon said.

**NOTE:** Nationwide there have been deaths with the use of RU-486, which Gov. Richardson has specified to be used for NM Medicaid abortions.

**BEAUTIFUL: Magee's Smallest Baby** PITTSBURGH, PA. (WPXI.COM, JUNE 1, 2009) — Taylor Rideout weighed 12.5 ounces and was just 10 inches long making her the smallest baby ever to survive at the Magee Women's Hospital. Her mother, Brittany Rideout, says, "She's a fighter." At 80 days and now weighing three pounds, Taylor has come a long way. The tiny baby's survival was not a sure thing.

While Brittany was pregnant, she had two strokes and two seizures. She still survived, her mother said. Brittany has Lupus, and the pregnancy threatened her life, so the doctors delivered the baby 14 weeks early in March. "I thought, 'There's no chance of this tiny baby surviving,'" said Dr. Toby Yanowitz. "She's doing well, and her future looks good."

## Ethical Blind Spots

*Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, PhD*

When I traveled to Auschwitz a few years ago, one question played over and over in my mind: Did they know? Did the German people know what was happening in this camp near their own border, in their own occupied territories? With the trains coming and going year after year, with the long lines of prisoners and the billowing smokestacks, did they just turn a blind eye to the atrocities? Had they become desensitized to the point that they could no longer see the carefully choreographed death operations nearby?

Some concentration camps like the one in Dachau were set in comfortable suburbs right inside Germany itself, and the townsfolk could stroll past them during their daily routine. The grass in those suburbs continued to grow as green as anywhere else, young people got married, babies were born, men went to work, and life went on.

Walking through a place like Dachau or Auschwitz, one wondered could it ever happen again. Could a similar scenario play out today in middle-class America? Most would instinctively say "no" — after all, we live in a more enlightened time and culture. A more perspective eye, however, can discern troubling

**HOPEFUL: Nebraska Ultrasound Bill** (NRLC PRESS RELEASE, MAY 29, 2009) — In an overwhelming 40-5 vote (and 3 not voting), the Nebraska legislature today passed one of the nation's strongest bills requiring an abortionist display a real-time ultrasound of a mother's unborn child prior to performing an abortion.

"Ultrasound technology has made tremendous advancements and provides a window to the womb that allows mothers to see their unborn children in real time," said Mary Spaulding Balch, J.D., NRLC state legislative director. "It is absolutely vital that a woman, at this most crucial life-and-death juncture, be provided all the information possible about the abortion procedure and the development of her unborn child. Simply put, the abortion decision cannot be undone. Women deserve all the facts."

What makes the Nebraska legislation stronger than that of other states is the requirement that the abortionist display the ultrasound image, thus enabling the mother to easily look at the screen, if she chooses, rather than have to request that the image be displayed.

Both National RTL and Nebraska RTL worked with pro-life legislators for the successful passage of this legislation.

parallels. Nowhere are these parallels more evident than in the bioethical issues of our day. Our society, in fact, faces virtually the same temptation that Germany did: the temptation to normalize certain well-scripted death operations in the midst of polite society.

If we look within our own culture and within our own time, we will see that suction machines have replaced smokestacks and that Fertility Clinics and Women's Health Centers have replaced the barbed wire. Unborn humans and embryonic children are now dispatched with the same desensitized ease as camp inhabitants once were, and ne'er a word is mentioned in respectable society. Our great universities, which need to serve as a moral voice, remain mute or even foster such evil, as does the press, and few dare mention the pall of death that quietly permeates the air. We need look no further than the Planned Parenthood clinics, which are dotted across our country.

Future generations are likely to be appalled by the statistics: nearly two million deaths per year. They are sure to wonder about a people that ended the lives of their own children at the rate of one every 23 seconds through elective abortion. They are sure to ask, "How could they?" and "Did they know?" (*more, page 6*)

**POLLS** — *from page 4*

Now, two additional polls confirm the Gallup Poll results. Opinion Dynamics research firm conducted a poll for Fox News. They too found that there were more Americans saying they are pro-life and less saying they are pro-choice. Their poll was done May 12-13, which asked the question, "On the issue of abortion, would you say you are more pro-life or more pro-choice?"

This poll found 49 percent said they are pro-life and 43 percent said they are pro-choice. Six percent weren't sure where they stood. Republicans take a position of 69 percent pro-life and 27 percent pro-choice. Independent voters had a 51-40 percent spread. Democrats support abortion 57-34 percent.

A Rasmussen Reports poll conducted May 28-31 found that 61 percent of Americans said abortion was an important issue (39 percent "very important" and 22 percent "somewhat important") and 35 percent said it was not (24 percent "not very important" and 11 percent "not at all important"), while 5 percent were unsure.

Rasmussen found the percentage of Americans who say abortion is an important political issue is unchanged from a similar poll conducted in April. However, other issues have tumbled. Health care has tumbled 13 percent, and national security has dropped by 12 percent. Education dropped 8 percent and immigration dropped 11 percent. This clearly shows a shift in the importance of abortion to the American public and the following change of attitude in their pro-life positions. This is truly a hopeful situation that we can build upon.

## COMING EVENTS

**Thursday, Aug. 6: "Health Care, Rationing and Euthanasia"** Educational seminar by Attorney Tom McBride from 6-7:30 p.m. at Glory Christian Fellowship, 2417 Wyoming Blvd. NE (west side, between Phoenix and Claremont), in Albuquerque.

**Sept. 11-27: State Fair** RTLCNM booth in the Manuel Lujan Building.

**Saturday, Sept. 19: "Our Youth and the Pro-Life Issues"** Educational seminar by Bob Cornelius and Ryan Cangioli from 10-11:30 a.m.

**Saturday, Oct. 24: "Stem Cell Research Update"** Educational Seminar by Dr. Frank Maldonado from 2-4 p.m. with Spaghetti Dinner.

**Saturday, Nov. 14: Born to Run** at the Balloon Fiesta Park in Albuquerque.

## COMCAST CABLE TV

*Albuquerque Public Access Channel 27  
Pro-life broadcasts Mondays at 10 p.m.*

Aug. 3: **Teens and Abortion and Christ's Choice**

Aug. 10: **Bridging the Tears and Born to Be Killed**

Aug. 17: **The Miracle of Life**

Aug. 24: **Kathy's Story and The Silent Scream and The Answer**

Aug. 31: **The Right to Kill**

# RIGHT TO LIFE COMMITTEE OF NEW MEXICO

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## ETHICAL BLIND SPOTS...

Future generations are sure to be scandalized by the numbers: *in vitro* fertilization making hundreds of thousands of embryonic humans to be chilled in liquid nitrogen and turned into, in the words of one commentator, "kidsicles." They are sure to deplore the many other human embryos treated as objects discarded as medical waste, poured down the sink or experimented upon and strip-mined for their embryonic stem cells.

There is certainly banality about evil. It doesn't necessarily present itself in a monstrous or dramatic way. It can take the shape of simple conformity to what everyone else is doing. The gradual encroachment of evil in our lives can be something we might not even notice because we are not paying attention; it can be something barely on the periphery of our consciousness. The majority of those who collaborated with some of history's most terrible crimes and falsehoods need not be cast as inhuman monsters; instead, they are often like us. They were capable of giving and receiving sympathy and love; they could have beautiful feelings and noble ideals; heroism, loyalty, family and culture could all co-exist with almost unbelievable evil.

During the Nazi years, there often were no momentous decisions to be made for or against evil. People were concerned with their daily affairs, and on that level, Nazism seemed good: it seemed to bring prosperity, it made things work, and it allowed people to feel good about themselves and their country. The moral issues – the ones that we now see as having been central – were carefully avoided. When the full horror of Nazism was revealed at the end of the war, the German people responded, "We didn't know." When a local townsman was asked whether he knew what was going on in the camp, he gave a more complete answer. "Yes, we knew something was up, but we didn't talk about it. We didn't want to know too much." Primo Levi, a writer and a survivor of Auschwitz, described the German ethical blind spot this way: "In spite of the varied possibilities for

information, most Germans didn't know because they didn't want to know. Because indeed they wanted *not* to know...Those who knew did not talk; those who did not know did not ask questions; those who did ask questions received no answers. In this way the typical German citizen won and defended his ignorance, which seemed to him sufficient justification of his adherence to Nazism. Shutting his mouth, his eyes, and his ears, he built for himself the illusion of not knowing, hence not being an accomplice to the things taking place in front of his door."

Martin Luther King, Jr. used to say that what pained him the most was the silence of the good. Albert Einstein, who fled Germany when Hitler came to power, articulates the same sentiment in an interview for *Time* Magazine on Dec. 23, 1940. He stressed that sometimes it was only the Church and religion that could challenge the status quo as evil made inroads into a society: "Being a lover of freedom, when the revolution came in Germany I looked for the universities to defend it, knowing that they had always boasted of their devotion to the cause of truth. But no, the universities immediately were silenced. Then I looked to the great editors of the newspapers, whose flaming editorials in days gone by had proclaimed their love of freedom. But they, like the universities were silenced in a few short weeks. Only the Church stood squarely across the path of Hitler's campaign for suppressing truth. I had never any special interest in the Church before, but now I feel a great affection and admiration because the Church alone has had the courage and persistence to stand for intellectual truth and moral freedom."

The courageous, even daring question we must ask is, "What is our own response to the evil around us?"

*Rev. Pacholczyk has a doctorate in neuroscience from Yale, and post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, Mass. and serves as Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. He spoke on stem cell research at NRLC convention.*

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I understand that the Right To Life Committee of New Mexico (RTLNCNM) is a non-sectarian, non-profit organization dedicated to the right to life of all innocent human beings from fertilization to natural death; that this organization takes a stand only on those issues that are directly related to abortion, infanticide and euthanasia.

I support the goals of RTLNCNM, including a Human Life Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, and hereby make application for membership (renewal) as follows:

- Individual — \$20.00
- Corporate — \$40.00 -  
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- Family — \$30.00
- NRL News Subscription  
(\$5.00 with paid membership)

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