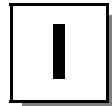


Central Illinois Life News

Pastors Speak Out



n this column, we share reflections of Pro-Life Pastors from Central

Illinois and beyond. The following is by Richard H. White, Pastor of Jacksonport Baptist Church - Jacksonport, Arkansas. Pastor White saw our website and sent this sermon for our use. All of the pastor's articles from past issues are available on our web site at <http://www.cirtl.org>

“A Right To Life Sunday Sermon” (Condensed)
Our society would have us to believe that there are no absolutes. Just as it is said, “Beauty is in the eye of the beholder,” people believe that truth is in the hands of the beholders. People think that truth is what they want to make it personally. People would like to think that there is no difference between right and wrong or good and bad. They realize that these things are different but they want to say that there are no positive or negative aspects to them. People may think that truth is relative, that there are no absolutes, but one day they are going to be confronted with THE TRUTH, cold and hard, Revelation 20:11-15. We who know the truth need to try to help them before it becomes too late.

What we will be looking at is the devaluation of human life. We are surrounded by a sea of death. The dead don't lie in the streets killed with guns. It is not a highly visible kind of death. It's very neat and clean. It's done behind closed doors with the best precision that our modern medical technology has to offer. The completely innocent victims are picked out and then systematically slaughtered. We are of course talking about abortion.

War is a terrible thing. It's amazing how many American boys have gone off to war, never to come back home. The total is 1.6 million. 1.6 million who never had a chance to grow old.

(continued on page 2)



Coming Events

During coming months, the following pro life events are scheduled in the Peoria area:

Central Illinois Right To Life Fundraising Garage Sale Begins Thursday, June 14, 2001 and goes through Saturday, June 16, 2001.

Collection dates are June 11 and 12. The sale will be at the Holy Family School in Peoria. See the enclosed flyers for more information.

July Fourth Parade: Members and friends of Central Illinois Right To Life will walk together in the July 4th Parade in West Peoria. Meet at 9:30 AM on the 4th at the West Peoria fire station. Call Sondra McEnroe at 673-4833 for more information.

Annual 5K Run/Walk: This year the race will be on August 25th. It will be at Bradley Park in Peoria and will start at 8:00 AM. Trophies are awarded to male and female winners in several age divisions. Contributions are needed to help purchase the trophies for the run. Call Dan at 691-3611 or CIRTIL at 685-3034 for additional information.

Annual Peoria Area Life Chain: Central Illinois Right to Life will sponsor the annual Life Chain on Sunday, October 7, 2001. Participants will stand in witness to their commitment to the Sanctity of Human Life along University Street and Glen Avenue in Peoria. Don't miss this chance to show your support for the unborn. Call Dan at 691-3611 for more details. Organizational help and church coordinators are also needed.

Pro Life Events Remembered - Forty Hour Prayer Vigil

In January 2001, members and friends of Central Illinois Right To Life held a Prayer Vigil for forty hours over four days on the sidewalk in front of Peoria's abortion clinic. People from many area churches stood in prayer at this vigil. This was the fourth consecutive year that a Prayer Vigil has been held in conjunction with the Sanctity of Human Life Rally. Our silent prayerful presence focused on divine intervention to prevent the death of more children and for the mothers who will suffer from the loss of those children.

1.6 million who perhaps never enjoyed holding their children or grandchildren. Their lives ending before they ever really had a chance to get started. This is a tragedy. Do you know how many Jews died at the hands of the Nazis in World War 2? 6 million Jews. 6 million people who just happened to be born with the wrong ancestry. 6 million valuable human beings who should have been allowed to live. War is a terrible thing!

Do you know what has claimed more lives than these two things put together. Abortion has claimed nearly 5 times this many lives in the United States since the year 1973, 35 million innocent unborn babies. That's 1.4 million a year. That's 26,923 per week. For the past 25 years they have killed an average of 160 babies an hour, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can hear these actions justified by people saying that these children would have been born into families where they were not wanted. Abortion is the savior of these children and it saves society from the affects that these unwanted children would have upon it. But since 1973:

1. Juvenile arrests have more than doubled. Our streets are not safer!
2. The percentage of children living below the poverty level has gone from 15 to 21%.
3. Teen pregnancies have gone from 5% to 10%.
4. Rather than having 11% of children born to unwed mothers, now 28% are born out of wedlock.
5. Reports of child abuse are up 1,492%. In 1973 there were 167,000 cases reported, but in 1991 there were 2.5 million.

Abortion has done nothing to benefit our society or anyone in it. Abortion has cheapened our society's view of life. It is no longer valued. God still values life!

Abortion has cheapened our society's view of sex. Casual sex is not the exception, it's the norm. God has said that sex is not cheap. It is not just the coming together of the bodies of a man and a woman. It is a covenant between them, Jesus said "they are no longer two, but one flesh." When people practice casual sex, they make and break that covenant over and over again. Making a covenant before God is a more serious thing than that. People can believe what they want to believe, but some day the truth is going to hit them in the head like that light pole we talked about earlier. Human life is sacred.

That is what the Bible teaches as in God's Commandment Genesis 1:28 People who don't know anything at all about the Bible know about the 10 Commandments. People know about the 10 commandments, but the Bible has a lot more than 10 commandments. The command that God first gave to mankind is recorded in Genesis 1:28 and it has something to say about our discussion. How can you be more opposed to God's commandment than to abort an unborn child. To have an abortion is to take the fruit that God has blessed us with, rip it out of the womb and throw it in God's face. God blesses people with the ability to fulfill His commandment but so many people have taken His gift and thrown it away.

Is there anything that can be done to better display our open rebellion to God. Is there any way we can be more opposed to one of His commandments.

The Apostle Paul said in Galatians 6:7 that those who would throw God's blessing away will someday stand before that same God and give an account of their lives. Those who would take God's precious gift and throw it away will someday stand before God.

How do you think God looks at abortion? He has commanded us in Deuteronomy not to sacrifice our children. But every hour 160 babies are sacrificed upon the altars of the false gods of casual sex and convenience. God has spoken, no one among you is to make his child pass through the fire.

Some would say that the Bible is talking about child sacrifice here and not abortion. Some comfort themselves by saying that life begins at birth and not conception. (continued on page 6)

Ninth Annual Right To Life **Benefit Garage Sale**



Thursday, June 14, 9 am to 5 pm

Friday, June 15, 9 am to 5 pm

Saturday, June 16, 8 am to 10 am - Half Price Sale

Saturday, June 16, 10 am to 12 pm - \$2 Bag Sale



Holy Family School Gym **Corner of Sterling & Gale, In Peoria**

- *Nice, usable, clean clothing for all sizes
- *Clean household items
- *Nice, clean linens
- *Kitchen items
- *Appliances in working condition
- *Lawn & garden items
- *Craft items
- *Exercise equipment
- *Nice books
- *CDs, tapes and music
- *Antiques

Donation Drop Off Dates

Monday, June 11, 8 am to 8 pm

Tuesday, June 12, 8 am to 8 pm



Sorry, we cannot accept baked goods . Large appliances, (refrigerators, washers, etc.), must be in working order and of good appearance.



Also needed, workers for each of the above days, especially someone with a pickup truck to pick up donations. Call Sondra at 673-4833 or 309-645-8000. Please post this notice.

January 2001 Sanctity of Human Life Walk Rally

This year's Walk for Life in Peoria was held on Monday, January 22, 2001, at 6:30 P.M. Participants met at the Peoria County courthouse at that time and after prayer and singing walked to the 7:00 P.M. Sanctity of Human Life Rally at Sacred Heart Church (next to the Peoria Civic Center). The rally featured special music and prayer along with reports on local Pro Life efforts. Jill Stanek, the courageous nurse from who brought to light the induced labor abortions being performed at Christ Hospital in Oaklawn, IL gave the keynote address. The 40 hour Prayer Vigil sponsored by Central Illinois Right To Life was conducted from January 22 -25 at the abortion

HELP!!! Single? Children Grown? Semi-retired? WE NEED YOU!!! Do you have an hour or two now & then to help Central Illinois Right to Life's board members with a project? Can we put you on a list of prospective volunteers to contact in the future. Remember, the "Pro-Choice" i.e. the pro-abortion crowd

has countless workers and millions of dollars. We operate on a bare-bones budget and are dependent on willing volunteers. If you could help a little in any way, it would be greatly appreciated and immensely gratifying. Please fill out the coupon below and mark

Outreach Committee News: *Each Child ... Deserves Protection!*

On the third Monday of each month, the Outreach Committee of persons interested in bringing the Pro Life message into their churches meets at the upstairs conference room of the Christian Center at 4100 War Memorial Drive at 7:30 p.m. We come together to share ideas, pray, and to renew our efforts to reach people with the Pro-Life message.

Past topics discussed have included presentations of The Hard Truth video to church groups, other Pro Life videos, how to stop Planned Parenthood, how to be an effective Pro Life advocate, and other Pro Life activities. At recent meetings we have also worked on organizing the annual fund raising garage sale and have put together mailings and newsletters like this one. Members have also helped organize and contribute to our new internet site. Anyone interested in joining this effort should come to our meetings or call Dan Smith at 691-3611.

Central Illinois Right to Life: Membership and Volunteer Drive

If you would like to help defend life in Central Illinois, become a member of Central Illinois Right to Life and continue receiving our quarterly newsletter by returning this form and enclosing the annual dues of \$10.00.

Name : _____

Address : _____

City : _____

State : _____

Zip Code : _____

Telephone : _____

MEMBER DUES : \$10__ Date

DONATION : \$5__ \$10__ \$15__ \$25__ Other_____ Thank You!

VOLUNTEER HELP : Please put my name on your list of volunteers.

2001 BENEFIT GARAGE SALE

CENTRAL ILLINOIS RIGHT TO LIFE 8TH ANNUAL BENEFIT GARAGE SALE



Thursday, June 14, 9 am - 5 pm, Full Price Sale
Friday, June 15, 9 am - 5 pm, Full Price Sale
Saturday, June 16, 8 am - 10 am, Half Price Sale
Saturday, June 16, 10 am - 12 pm, \$2 A Bag Sale
Holy Family School Gym; Sterling @ Gale Ave, Peoria, IL

We need donations of :

***Nice, usable, clean clothing for all sizes *Clean household items in working condition *Nice, clean linens *Kitchen items *Appliances in working condition *Lawn & garden items *Craft items *Exercise equipment *Nice books *CDs, tapes and music *Antiques.**

****Please, No Torn, Broken, Or Soiled Items. We Cannot Accept Baked Goods. Large Appliances, (Refrigerators, Washers, Etc.), must be in working order and of good appearance.***

DONATION DROP OFF DATES:
Monday, June 11, 8 am - 8 pm
Tuesday, June 12, 8 am - 8 pm



Volunteer Help Is Desperately Needed Monday, Tuesday, And Wednesday Before The Sale, As Well As Thursday, Friday, And Saturday During The Sale, And Immediately After For Clean-Up And Agency Pick-Up. Perhaps Your Church Group Could Sponsor A Time Slot At Your Convenience. Remember, We Are A Volunteer Organization. Senior Citizens & Teens Are Welcomed & Encouraged. Also If You Are An Experienced Garage Saler Or Have Organizational Skills Or A Talent For Arranging Displays, We need You!!! If you have a pickup truck and would be willing to pick up donations for us, please call Sondra at 673-4833 or 309-645-8000.

Please Fill Out And Return To CIRTL At 4100 N War Memorial Drive, Peoria, IL 61614,
Or Call Sondra @ 673-4833 or Dennis @ 565-7133
[Please Circle Preferred Day(s) And Indicate Time(s) You Can Help.] Thank You !!!

I Can Help Monday, Tuesday, And/Or Wednesday, June 11,12,13.
Time(s) From When To When _____

I Can Help Thursday, Friday, And/Or Saturday, June 14, 15, 16.
Time(s) From When To When _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Central Illinois Life News

Conclusion of Pastors Column From Page 1

However, the Bible makes it very clear that Life begins at conception.

We understand from the Bible, that Life Is the Work of God from Start to Finish, (Psalm 139:13-16; Job 31:15; Isaiah 44:2; Isaiah 49:1; Jeremiah 1:5; Luke 1:15; Galatians 1:15; Psalm 138:13-16.)

We see in the Scripture that it is the command of God for us to be fruitful and multiply. Abortion not only is disobedient to this command but is the ultimate expression of human rebellion against it.

We read what God has said in Deuteronomy 18:10. "There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire," And yet in the past hour, another 160 babies have been sacrificed upon the altar of casual sex and convenience.

Yes, we know that God is the author of Life from beginning to end. Life begins at conception, according to God's Word.

Finally, we have the ultimate expression of the character of God, found in Christ Jesus. Mark 10:13-16 tells us that Jesus loved the little children. Verse 16 says that Jesus "took them in His arms and began blessing them, laying His hands upon them." Because Jesus loved the little children, He rebuked His disciples for not letting kids come and sit on His lap. As representatives of Jesus Christ; as ambassadors for the Kingdom of God, God's people must also love the little children - both born and

Unity on the essentials of the Sanctity of Human Life is our objective. We are not seeking uniformity of opinion on all matters.. Therefore, some ideas advocated by the authors of articles in Central Illinois Life News or on the Central Illinois Right To Life website may not necessarily reflect the the personal views of all the members and officers of Central Illinois Right To Life, Inc.

**Central Illinois Right to
Life, Inc.**

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