

Central Illinois Life News

Pastors Speak Out

In this column, we usually share reflections of Pro-Life Pastors from Central Illinois and beyond. Instead in this issue, we present a report on the abortion situation in South Dakota.

THE SOUTH DAKOTA ABORTION REPORT: WHAT THE MEDIA WON'T TELL YOU

Last year the South Dakota legislature held public hearings and heard evidence concerning the interests of pregnant mothers who were adversely affected by abortion. Numerous women who had undergone abortions testified how they became depressed and were haunted by suicidal ideation. In every instance they testified about the magnitude of their loss and how that loss adversely affected their lives once they understood that the procedure terminated the life of their offspring.

The picture that emerged from the record before both the House and Senate committees was that it was common for women to sign consents for abortion without being truly informed. Many women reported that they were pressured into having an abortion, often by the father of their child, but by others as well. They typically did not understand that the procedure would terminate the life of a human being, and this lack of understanding was further complicated by the fact that abortion providers had misled them at the time of the abortion. The providers told them that there was "nothing but tissue" inside of them. Many of the women testified or reported to post-abortion counselors that if they had been given accurate information, they would not have submitted to the abortion. Their feeling that abortion providers had misled them compounded their sense of loss, adding to their depression, which often followed the mothers' realization that they were implicated in the death of their own child.

(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 Friday, June 9, 2006 and goes through Saturday, June 10, 2006. Collection dates are June 7 and 8. The sale will be at Saint Bernard's 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 12th. It will be at Bradley Park in Peoria and will start at 7:30 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 CIRTL 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 1, 2006. Participants will stand in witness to their commitment to the Sanctity of Human Life 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.

One woman testified before the Legislature that by withholding the truth that her abortion terminated the life of a human being:

"the policy underlying abortion is a lie. First and foremost, because it denies the essential benefit of motherhood. It tells us that we are not forfeiting anything of value for ourselves. We are told we lost nothing, nothing of value. The truth is that the loss is massive. Massive and life altering. Your House Bill 1166 provides an important and essential message that the pregnant mother does have a great benefit, that her child already exists and that she has this existing relationship with her child, and that she has a great fundamental and constitutional right to that relationship, all of which she is giving up, all of which is lost as a result of the abortion... If I had been given this information, I would never had had an abortion."

Moved by the testimony that evidenced a need for the Legislature to act to protect the rights, interests, and health of pregnant mothers in South Dakota, the Legislature, by an overwhelming majority in both houses (63 to 4 in the House and 28 to 6 in the Senate) created the South Dakota Task Force to Study Abortion. That task force held four full days of hearings and heard live testimony of approximately fifty-five witnesses, including thirty-two experts, and considered the written reports and testimony from another fifteen experts. In order to achieve a balanced viewpoint and obtain as much information from diverse points of view as possible, live testimony was divided almost equally between witnesses who support the position that abortion is harmful to women and should be illegal and those who think it should be legal.

The Task Force also received approximately 3,500 pages of written materials, studies, reports, and testimony, all of which were made part of the record and reviewed and considered by the Task Force in reaching its findings, conclusions, and recommendations. Although the Task Force aggressively sought such contributions from all perspectives, this evidence was overwhelmingly in support of protecting life and preventing harm to women caused by abortion.

Of significance, close to 2,000 women who have had abortions provided statements detailing their experiences, trauma, and the impact abortion has had on their lives. Of these post abortive women, over 99% of them testified that abortion is destructive of the rights, interests, and health of women and that abortion should not be legal.

The findings of the task force include:

Incorrect assumptions of the Roe v. Wade decision;

The knowledge concerning the development of the unborn child since Roe v. Wade;

The societal, economic and ethical effects of legalized abortion;

The degree to which decisions to undergo abortions are voluntary and informed;

The effect and health risks that abortions have on women;

The nature of the relationship between a pregnant woman and her unborn child;

Whether the unborn child is capable of experiencing physical pain;

Whether the need exists for additional protections of the rights of pregnant women.

The 71 page report of the South Dakota Task Force to Study Abortion was submitted to the governor and legislature in December. It blows the lid off the lies of Planned Parenthood's abortion empire, showing the havoc wreaked by it on women across America. Anyone with access to the internet can easily read this report online. (Google: South Dakota Abortion Report.) The Task Force Report should be required reading for all Americans of high school age and above to understand the current state of the American abortion holocaust and why it must be abolished.

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



Friday, June 9, 9 am to 5 pm

Saturday, June 10, 8 am to 10 am

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



Saint Bernard School
510 E. Kansas, In Peoria

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

Donation Drop Off Dates

Wednesday, June 7, 8 am to 9 pm

Thursday, June 8, 8 am to 5 pm



*Sorry, we cannot accept baked goods . Please No Large appliances,
(refrigerators, washers, etc.)*



Also needed, workers for each of the above days for setup and pricing. Also we need helpers with a pickup truck or van to pick up and move donations.

Call Sondra at 673-4833 or 309-645-8000. Please post this notice.

January 2006 Sanctity of Human Life Walk Rally

This year's Walk for Life in Peoria was held on Thursday, January 19, 2006, 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 Riverside Community Church. The rally featured special music and prayer along with reports on local Pro Life efforts. Bishop Keith L. Ackerman of the Episcopal Diocese of Quincy gave the keynote address. The 40 hour Prayer Vigil sponsored by Central Illinois Right To Life was conducted from January 16 -19 at the abortion center in Peoria.

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 the box next to volunteer help. Thank you and have a blessed year in 2006!

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 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.

2006 BENEFIT GARAGE SALE

CENTRAL ILLINOIS RIGHT TO LIFE 14TH ANNUAL BENEFIT GARAGE SALE



Friday, June 9, 9 am - 5 pm,
Saturday, June 10, 8 am - 10 am,
Saturday, June 10, 10 am - 12 pm, \$2 A Bag Sale
Saint Bernard's School; 510 E. Kansas, Peoria, IL

We need donations of :

*Nice, usable, clean clothing for all sizes *Clean household items in working condition *Nice, clean linens *Kitchen items *Small Appliances *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. Please No Large Appliances, (Refrigerators, Washers, Etc.) Small appliances must be in working order.

DONATION DROP OFF DATES:
Wednesday, June 7 , 8 am - 9 pm
Thursday, June 8, 8 am - 5 pm



Volunteer Help Is Desperately Needed Wednesday And Thursday Before The Sale, As Well As 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 or van and would be willing to pick up or move donations for us, please call Sondra at 673-4833 or 309-645-8000.

**Please Fill Out And Return To CIRTL At 4100 N Brandywine Dr STE 6 , Peoria, IL 61614,
Or Call Sondra @ 673-4833 or 309-645-8000, or Dennis @ 565-7133
[Please Circle Preferred Day(s) And Indicate Time(s) You Can Help.] Thank You !!!**

**I Can Help Wednesday And/Or Thursday, June 7 and 8.
Time(s) From When To When _____**

**I Can Help Friday And/Or Saturday, June 9 and 10.
Time(s) From When To When _____**

Name: _____

Phone: _____

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Pro Life Events Remembered - Forty Hour Prayer Vigil

From Monday January 16 to Thursday January 19, 2006, 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 on University Street. People from many area churches stood in prayer at this vigil. This was the ninth 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.

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.
4100 N. Brandywine Dr STE 6
Peoria, IL 61614

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Support Your Local Pro-Life Group