



## Steps Off at La Salette Shrine in Attleboro



Ben Bailey, Walk Baby Julia, her mom Katie, sister Anna and dad Larry, Katie Fox, Beatrice and Amelia White, MCFL President Anne Fox and Luke Cerullo start the 2013 Respect Life Walk.



A beautiful day showcases the monument to the unborn, a gift to the La Salette Shrine from the Knights of Columbus.



Walkers of all ages came out to raise money to support 43 organizations that help women in need choose life for their unborn children at the Respect Life Walk at the National Shrine of Our Lady of La Salette in Attleboro on April 28. (Photos by Edward Boylan)

### 40 Years: A Dark Harvest of Inhumanity

Gosnell's "House of Horrors"/Late-Term Abortions Provide a Teachable Moment for Pro-Lifers

It may be springtime on the calendar, but a plethora of horrors from the trial of late-term abortionist Kermit Gosnell, the revelations by undercover video from Lila Rose's Live Action showing the willingness of cold-hearted abortionists to recommend and countenance infanticide, and an astonishing number of abuse cases being recorded daily at abortion facilities nationwide, shows how 40 years of abortion on demand has led to the darkness of inhumanity and the devaluation of human life. "This is 'movement moment' for the pro-life community," said MCFL consultant Tim Rosales. "This is a teachable moment

for our movement to expose the brutality of an unlimited abortion license in injuring and debasing countless numbers of women and the destruction of millions of born and unborn children."

#### Kermit Gosnell's House of Horrors

The trial of Dr. Kermit Gosnell found the late-term abortionist facing 263 counts, including seven counts of first-degree murder and one count of third-degree murder. He was convicted of first-degree murder in the deaths of three babies who were born alive and killed by having their spinal cords severed, and found guilty of involuntary manslaughter for the death of



Dr. Kermit Gosnell

a woman who died of a drug overdose during an abortion. Gosnell was facing the death penalty. After agreeing to drop any attempts at appealing the decision, Gosnell received three life sentences.

In a 2010 raid at the Women's Medical Society in West Phila-

#### Save the Date!

Live Action's Lila Rose will be the keynote speaker at the upcoming MCFL Annual Banquet on October 10.

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#### Convention/Annual Meeting, June 29

"Get Real" will feature topics on getting back to the basics of abortion and euthanasia.

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#### MCFL Plans 2013 Summer Academy

Academy returns on July 10 with top-notch educational opportunities for youth.

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#### How I Became Pro-Life

A new series of pro-life stories starts with a post-abortion woman's journey to life

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#### Respect Life Walk

More photos from the 2013 Walk to Aid Mothers and Children.

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# Gosnell No Outlier: Late-Term Abortion Abuse Widespread



**A premature baby close to the size of the children illegally aborted at Gosnell's clinic. Pro-abortion groups tried to frame the case by saying that legal abortion protects women from degrading conditions. But Fox News got it right when it said, "This case wasn't about abortion. It was about the killing of babies."**

delphia, police found much more than evidence of Gosnell's selling of illegal prescriptions, their original reason for the raid. Josh Dzieza of the *Daily Beast* recounted the Grand Jury report. "These was blood on the floor, the stench of urine in the air. A flea infested cat was roaming the facility and there were cat feces on the stairs. Semiconscious women scheduled for abortions were moaning in the waiting room or the recovery room where they sat on dirty recliners covered with blood stained blankets."

Investigators found what they describes as a "house of horrors," the remains of aborted fetuses stored everywhere, in the refrigerator next to employee lunches, in cat food and orange juice containers, and in jars containing severed feet. Said former staffer Steve Masoff, "It would rain fetuses. There were fetuses and blood all over the place."

Abortions after 24 weeks are illegal in Pennsylvania, except to save the life of the mother. Despite this, by 2009, Gosnell's reputation was so bad, that he began catering to women who had waited so long to get an abortion that they couldn't go anywhere else. His main clientele, poor women of color, were given labor-inducing drugs in the filthy lobby by untrained employees, including a 15-year-old high school student. White women were treated by Gosnell himself in a separate, clean room. The women would give birth, sometimes to living babies, who eyewitnesses said were, "moving, breathing, or whining." Gosnell's defense lawyer claimed that the abortion doctor's practice of "snipping," or severing the spinal cords of the babies, was only done to end the reflex movements of an already dead infant.

Gosnell was also found guilty for the overdose death in 2009 of Karnamaya Mongar, a Bhutanese immigrant. Mongar was given too much of the cheap and dangerous drug Demerol, when staff finally noticed she wasn't breathing, a broken defibrillator made resuscitation impossible. Much of Gosnell's equipment was broken and dirty. Women had acquired infections such as gonorrhea and chlamydia from his filthy instruments. At the time of his arrest, Gosnell was paying for 46 lawsuits from women he had injured.

The Grand Jury found numerous failures

to report information which could have been used to close the clinic. In 1993, the Department of Health stopped inspecting abortion clinics, unless they received a complaint. Complaints against Gosnell were frequent, from lawyers for women who were injured or were infected with venereal disease at the facility, to former staffers who warned about dangerous conditions. The Department of State ignored an insurance company report about a 22 year old woman who died of sepsis after a perforated uterus. The Philadelphia Health Department inspected after receiving reports that fetal remains were being stored in the refrigerator, but did nothing. The hospitals where women injured by Gosnell received treatment did not report these injuries to any authority.

Both Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania and the National Abortion Federation knew about the deplorable conditions at the Women's Medical Society but they did nothing about it. After inspection of the wretched facility, an evaluator from the NAF denied Gosnell's application for membership saying it was "beyond redemption."

Wrote Dave Andrusko in National Right to Life *News Today*, "Why was Gosnell delivering babies alive and then killing them? He was paying money on 46 lawsuits. Gosnell had stopped killing babies in utero by injecting them with Digoxin to save money. Instead, he gave patients heavy doses of the labor-inducing drug Cytotec, so they would spontaneously abort. Gosnell was incompetent to administer the drug in utero babies so he went back to delivering huge babies and cutting their spinal cords."

Said National Right to Life President Carol Tobias, "Kermit Gosnell was convicted of murder for severing the necks of just-born babies, but those babies would have died just as painfully if he had killed them inside the womb, as most late-term abortionists do. The result is the same for the baby whether it meets its end in a shabby clinic like Gosnell's or a brand new Planned Parenthood facility – a painful death."

#### Live Action Uncovers Deceit

Concurrent with the grisly evidence from the Gosnell trial was the release of a series of undercover videos by Live Action. "Inhuman: Undercover in Ameri-

ca's Late-Term Abortion Industry," has so far released four videos exposing the industry lie that late-term abortions are rare.

In one video, the camera captures notorious late-term abortionist LeRoy Carhart telling a prospective client that he'd never sent any of his patients to a hospital. Carhart is currently being investigated for the death of Jennifer Moribelli who died after massive internal bleeding. Live Action said Carhart bragged to their undercover investigator that he'd performed, "twenty-some-thousand" abortions "over 24 weeks." Similar to the way Gosnell worked, Carhart also used untrained staffers to give medical care and administer drugs. Carhart said he'd only performed late-term abortions for fetal anomalies, however Live Action investigators found him perfectly willing to schedule late-term abortion on a health baby.

Live Action President Lila Rose said, "Dr. Carhart's testimony is shocking and sickening. He compares a baby in the womb to 'meat in a slow cooker.' He jokes about his abortion toolkit, complete with pickaxe and 'drill bit.' the outright lies when he says that Jennifer Moribelli died from complications in her pregnancy rather than from his abortion."

Another video has an abortion counselor in the Bronx describing what would happen to a baby born alive before the completion of the two to three day abortion procedure, "They would have to put it in a container." If it was moving or breathing, "The solution will make it stop. It's not going to be moving around in the jar...that's the whole purpose of the solution." What to do if the baby is born at home before the abortion? "If it comes out, then it comes out. Flush it," the counselor recommended.

Washington D.C. abortionist Dr. Cesare Santangelo told a Live Action in-

vestigator that he would leave babies who survive an abortion attempt to die. "Legally we would be obligated to help it survive," Santangelo said. "You know, it probably wouldn't. It's all how vigorously you do things to help a fetus survive at this point. We would not help it."

In Phoenix, a fourth video records both the abortion doctor, Laura Mercer, and the counselor admitting that they would leave an abortion survivor to die. "These children are human beings," Lila Rose said. "They have the same basic human rights and deserve the same protections all of us enjoy."

Marjorie Dannenfelser, President of the Susan B. Anthony List said, "The abortion lobby claims Gosnell is an outlier, but the footage released by Live Action reveals once more that the abortion industry treats women and children as pieces of meat. Congress must address the multi-state breakdown of oversight in the abortion industry as well as the barbarism of abortions performed on children capable of feeling pain and surviving outside the womb."

#### Evidence of late-term abortion mounts

During hearings on a Born Alive Bill in Florida, the lobbyist for Florida Alliance of Planned Parenthood Affiliates Alisa LaPolt Snow, told members of the Florida House of Representatives Civil Justice Committee that the fate of a baby born alive after a failed abortion, "Should be left up to the woman, her family and the physician."

Michelle Malkin said in an article for the *National Review* on April 19, "Gosnell's enablers claim that his case is a grisly exception. But, deadly indifference to protecting life isn't tangential to the abortion industry's existence – it's at the core of it." Malkin referred to the abortion industry as "Gosnell's silent co-conspirators," citing evidence that late-term abortions aren't the rare occurrence the

## Another Loss: Remembering Laura

The Woman's Right to Know Bill, an informed consent law proposed by MCFL is also named "Laura's Law" in remembrance of Laura Hope Smith who died during an abortion due to the negligence of her doctor.

In 2008, Doctor Rapin Osathanondh was charged with manslaughter for Smith's death. Prosecutors alleged that he failed to monitor Laura while she was under anesthesia, delayed calling emergency services when her heart stopped, and later lied to try to cover up his actions.

As reported by [msnbc.com](http://msnbc.com) the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine issued a "scathing list of charges against him, alleging that he had 'engaged in conduct that calls into question his competence to practice medicine.'

"The board said Osathanondh did not have any means of monitoring Smith's heart, and did not have oxygen or a functioning blood pressure cuff in



**The Laura of "Laura's Law,"  
Laura Hope Smith**

the room during Smith's abortion. The board also alleged that he "failed to adhere to basic cardiac life support protocol" and did not call an ambulance in a timely manner."

MCFL contends that women seeking abortions are not safe absent any meaningful regulation of the abortion industry. Women deserve no less.

# Arkes Calls for Pro-Life Strategy in Wake of Gosnell Trial



**Law Professor Hadley Arkes said now is a strategic time to put penalties back into the federal law that restores legal protection to babies who are born alive following an abortion. Arkes's book, "Natural Rights and the Right to Choose," recounts his crafting of the Born Alive Infants Protection Act.**

industry claims they are, noting the revoking of medical licenses of California's Andrew Rutland and Maryland's Steven Brigham.

USA Today columnist Kirsten Powers received praise from NRLC's Dave Andrusko for bringing the Gosnell case national attention. In an opinion piece for USA Today, Kirsten Powers reported that the [closing arguments in the Gosnell case](#) "leave questions about clinics elsewhere in America. Gosnell's abortion atrocities are no aberration." Powers recounted the closing of an abortion facility in Ohio with problems similar to Gosnell's: assistants administering powerful drugs to patients, missing narcotics and sedatives, lapsed pharmacy licenses, and staff unscreened for a communicable disease.

Wrote Powers, "Planned Parenthood of Delaware has suspended surgical abortions after charges of dangerous and dirty conditions. Two nurses who worked there quit to protect their own medical licenses, stunned by what they called a meat-market style of assembly-line abortions." Powers cited the recent closing of three clinics in Maryland for unsafe conditions. In Illinois, after state officials began inspections after a lapse of ten to fifteen years, "inspectors closed two clinics, including one fined for failure to perform CPR on a patient who died after a procedure."

Andrusko lauded Pennsylvania State Rep. Margo Davidson as the only member of the Democratic black caucus to vote in favor of a bill to strengthen abortion clinic regulations. Davidson was quoted by Powers as saying, "the choice community knew what was going on and said nothing."

Powers wrote, "Davidson concluded that for the choice community, 'the institution was more important than the individual lives.' Davidson knows what can happen when people choose to look the other way. Her 22-year-old cousin died after an abortion at Gosnell's clinic."

#### A strategic moment

Chicago nurse Jill Stanek blew the whistle on the practice of "live-birth" abortion, abandoning babies to die who had survived an abortion attempt. Her explosive testimony helped to pass a federal statute, the [Born Alive Infants Pro-](#)

[tection Act](#) in 2000. In a May 7 article in *The Catholic Thing*, Hadley Arkes, the architect of the bill, wrote that [now is a strategic moment to restore penalties to the Act](#). Wrote Arkes, "The bill had a teaching premise, to plant a critical premise in law that even a child marked for abortion may have protection of the law. It was also the first congressional act marking the limits to the 'right to abortion.'"

However, penalties for the failure to aid a child born alive after a failed abortion were removed for fear that pro-abortion President Bill Clinton would veto the bill. "The Gosnell case offers a dramatic case for holding hearings again on the Born Alive act for the sake of restoring penalties that had been dropped from the original bill," Arkes continued.

At a recent House Judiciary Committee hearing, Rep. Trent Franks asked US Attorney Eric Holder if he knew whether the federal "Born Alive" law had been enforced even one time. "I don't know," Holder replied.

Congress also sent letters to public health officials in all 50 states asking them what they are doing to prevent "House of Horrors" abortion clinics like Kermit Gosnell's. The House Energy and Commerce Committee sent the letters to see if state health departments are making sure that abortion facilities have the same safeguards as any other medical facility. Committee Vice-Chair Marsha Blackburn said, "Oversight and enforcement are desperately needed so we can stop these Gosnell scenarios from happening."

The Gosnell Grand Jury said a "regulatory collapse" let him operate for decades. The House Judiciary Committee sent a letter to all 50 state attorneys general. The letter seeks to find if state and local governments are being prevented from investigating possible cases of newborn homicides.

Arkes explained the genius of the "Born Alive Bill," in his own words, 'a modest, first step.' "Whatever the 'right to abortion' might be, it cannot be the right to kill a child who survived an abortion. We can then raise the question of what is different about that same child five minutes, five days, five months earlier. The other side knows that if we plant this premise, we can unravel their whole position - if we have a class of pro-life political leaders ready to push the whole argument forward."

Another piece by Arkes on May 21, asked, "Are We In a Post Gosnell Moment?" He quoted Kirsten Powers remarking that pro-choice friends of hers are shocked to learn that abortions can be performed throughout pregnancy.

"It was one of the driving purposes of the Born-Alive Act to impart that precise effect - to break out to the public news that even pro-choicers would find jolting," wrote Arkes.

Arkes showed how the Born Alive Act established an important legal premise. "The Act also gave us the chance to prove this key point: that if the Supreme Court could articulate a new constitutional right - a right to abortion - the legislative branch must be able to vindicate the same right on the ground in the Constitution discovered by the Court, and in filling out that right, marking its limits.

"What should not be tenable is that the Court can articulate new rights - and then assign to itself a monopoly of legislative power in shaping those rights. What we sought to establish then was that the Congress may indeed legislate on this matter. Let us put these key points in place with new hearings on the Born-Alive Act."

A Townhall.com [article by Kathryn Lopez on April 13](#) said, "There is a complacency that cannot stand. It was a lack of charity that drove women to Gosnell's and they certainly found no love within

## The Super Coil

From the [Grand Jury Report](#)  
(Pages 96-98)

"The Mother's Day Massacre"

In 1972, Gosnell offered to abort fifteen poor women who were bused to his clinic from Chicago. These women were in their second trimester of pregnancy. Unbeknownst to the women, Gosnell planned to use an experimental device called a "super coil" developed by a man who ran an underground abortion service in the 1950's. The device was basically a ball of plastic razors coated in a gel to keep them closed. After insertion into a woman's uterus, the gel would melt after several hours at body temperature and the 97 razors would spring open. Supposedly, this would cut up the fetus and it would then be expelled.

The device was never tested, even on animals, lacked FDA sanction, and there were never any other human trials. This experiment was decided upon by Gosnell and the developer of the coil. A follow-up investigation by the CDC and the Philadelphia Department of Public Health detailed serious complications suffered by nine of the fifteen women, including one woman who needed a hysterectomy. Complications included a punctured uterus, hemorrhage, infections and retained fetal remains.

#### More information:

[Philadelphia Inquirer on super coil](#)  
[Health Serve Report on super coils](#)

the walls if his facility. The desensitization that 40 years of legal abortion has wrought must be undone. The legal climate promotes an idea of unborn children as non-people, undeserving of care, love, or even the briefest consideration - that created a space for Gosnell to work."

## Save the Date!

Massachusetts Citizens for Life

# Annual Fundraising Banquet

## Thursday, October 10, 2013

**New Location!** Four Points by Sheraton Norwood Hotel  
1125 Boston Providence Turnpike, Norwood



**Keynote Speaker**  
**LILA ROSE**

- Founder and President of LIVEACTION specializing in investigative journalism, media, and youth education
- Numerous undercover investigations exposing corruption and illegal activity at Planned Parenthood
- Award Winning National and International Pro-Life Speaker
- Frequent appearances on radio and television: "The O'Reilly Factor," CNN, EWTN, The Glenn Beck Program, and "The Laura Ingraham Show."
- Featured newspaper and blog pieces by Reuters, the LA Times, the Wall Street Journal, the Washington Times, and National Review

# Focus on Abortion and Euthanasia Issues in Massachusetts

A Message From President Anne Fox



MCFL President Anne Fox hits the pavement at the Respect Life Walk.

"Late-term abortionist **Kermit Gosnell** has been convicted of first degree murder for killing babies after delivering them alive...."

"But Dr. Gosnell is only the front man; and the real trial has only just begun. The defendant is the abortion license in **America**." - Professor Robbie George who spoke at 2011 Mother's Day Dinner

**W**e have always known that it was good to have abortion in the news. The more people

he might seek the death penalty for the abortions. No quibbling about where or when those babies were killed.

As J R Dunn writes in *American Thinker*, "A problem with the battle against abortion is that it did not have a face. Now, at last, it does. That face must now be fused to the features of his [Gosnell's] supporters and collaborators, so it can't be taken off. In truth, Gosnell resides in them all. They must be made to acknowledge that fact. When they look in the mirror, they must see Kermit Gosnell gaping back at them: the werewolf

**"Dr. Gosnell is only the front man; and the real trial has only just begun. The defendant is the abortion license in America."**

**- Professor Robert George**

have to think about abortion, the more pro-life are their conclusions.

Well, abortion has certainly been in the news recently: the Gosnell conviction, the atrocities in Cleveland, the exposes on Planned Parenthood, the discovery of another Gosnell in Texas. By the time you receive this edition of the MCFL News, there will probably be more examples.

The media is gleefully pointing out that public opinion has not changed much during the Gosnell trial. They are bragging because that is the result of their not covering the trial. Unless one dug around on the internet or received MCFL's emails, one did not hear about the horrors - let alone the trial itself. That is also true about the Planned Parenthood lobbyist who testified to the Florida legislature that the life of a baby who survived an abortion should depend on the decision of the mother and her doctor, about facilities in Delaware and Florida which have just been closed by health authorities, or about the Texas Gosnell who twists off the heads of babies who survive abortion - just like killing chickens.

The media and the pro-death lobby have hung themselves on their own petard over the Castro case on Cleveland. They featured it to take away interest from some of the presidential scandals. Then it developed that the monster had caused five abortions by stomping on one of the women. We found out because the District Attorney announced

who tore living children from the safety and sweetness of their mother's wombs to suffer a few seconds of incomprehensible horror before they were rended into pieces."

Earlier, Dunn had said, "They must be made to become Kermit Gosnell. To wear the Gosnell mask, to wield the Gosnell scissors ... Like 'lynch', 'boycott', and 'Bork', 'Gosnell' must become an all-purpose noun, verb, and modifier. It must be used in every case of brutality, cowardice, and hypocrisy by a public figure involving abortion. They must be Gosnellized, each and every one of them. The reporter who fails to tell the story will be 'pulling a Gosnell.' Any pro-abortion law will be a 'Gosnell Act'. A politician accepting payoffs from the industry will be 'Gosnellled up. Any public figure playing the hypocrite on abortion will be in 'Gosnell country'. The scissors must become their emblem.

As usual, Massachusetts was in the forefront when **Dr. Kenneth Edelin** was convicted of murdering a baby before *Roe v Wade*. The conviction was overturned because the court decided the baby was still in his mother's womb - Edelin was a few inches smarter than Gosnell.

Tragically, all these situations provide proof of what we in the pro-life movement have known for years. Nationally, many abortion facilities lack any state oversight and purposely dispose of records to avoid prosecution.

Are there similar situations occurring



President Fox welcomes Respect Life Walk participants at the National Shrine of Our Lady of La Salette in Attleboro on April 28. Jon Niven and Lift Ministries provided a program of inspirational music before the Walk began.

in Massachusetts? We can't be sure - because Massachusetts has essentially NO regulations. In the 1970's, Massachusetts Citizens for Life was instrumental in passing a law which required, among other things, that abortion facilities have fire extinguishers and elevators that would accommodate stretchers. This sensible law was overturned. Massachusetts does not even require these basic

abortion rate in the country! More than 22,000 babies are killed in our state every year. That has to stop! We desperately need our state to actively protect the lives and health of mothers and their babies.

Massachusetts Citizens for Life is starting a campaign to make the Massachusetts Department of Public Health reveal whether or not they have any standards or do any inspections of abortion facilities. We will be pressing them to answer these questions and to apply the same standards to abortion facilities as they do to other ambulatory medical facilities.

As we embark on this endeavor over the next few weeks we hope that you will get involved in our effort. You can make a difference!

Now that the general public is aware of the Gosnell atrocities, we have the opportunity to shed light on other Gosnells who are operating in the shadows, possibly right here in Massachusetts.

Massachusetts has the 9th highest



Members of the MCFL Fitchburg-Leominster Chapter Chris Hanley, Joe Hamel and Sheila Puma at their fetal development booth at the Leominster High School Wellness Fair on April 20. Hanley and Maria Cristina Fernandez coordinated the booth with the help of veteran pro-lifers Hamel of the MCFL Board, Puma, and Marcie Allain.

# An Interview With New Outreach Director Matt Hanafin



New MCFL Director of Outreach Matt Hanafin and his mom Judy man the registration tent at the Respect Life Walk on April 28.

**MCFL News:** Would you share your background with us?

**Hanafin:** I come from a very large, pro-life family, but it wasn't until I was a sophomore in high school when I started to become active in the movement. A coworker said she was pregnant and that her boyfriend didn't want her to have the baby. Naively, I assumed she was giving the baby up for adoption. It wasn't until after she left the job that another coworker said she was planning on having an abortion. It tormented me thinking there was a possibility I could have helped this young woman, and possibly saved that unborn child's life. I learned quickly that there is a difference between calling yourself pro-life and actually being pro-life. From that moment on, I educated myself on pro-life issues and read everything I possibly could. My aunt asked me to co-chair a MCFL chapter, which began my involvement with MCFL. The pro-life ideology consumed me, and quickly began to define who I was, and who I am.

**MCFL News:** MCFL is proud to have such a talented young Outreach Direc-

tor. Would you share your accomplishments with us?

**Hanafin:** I just finished my undergraduate degree at Merrimack College studying Business Administration majoring in management and minoring in Political Science. I am graduating with a 3.9 GPA. I recently accepted an award from Merrimack's Girard School of Business and International Commerce for having the highest GPA as a management student. I was also the Vice President of Merrimack's Business Honor Society, Sigma Iota Epsilon, and was the co-founder of Merrimack's pro-life group on campus.

While attending school as a full time student, I was also working two jobs. I worked at a local bank in my hometown, while also working as the Data Clerk for MCFL. I also served on MCFL's Board of Directors and Executive Board.

**MCFL News:** What are some of the most important or compelling things that motivate you?

**Hanafin:** The thing that motivates me the most is the humanity of the unborn. I am not satisfied with living in a world

that thinks it is morally permissible to take the life of an innocent human being. Abortion is truly the greatest injustice this country, and this world, has ever seen. Once my eyes were opened to the reality of abortion, I knew that I would never be able to turn my back on it because in my opinion, apathy is worse than ignorance. My objective is to try and work to create a culture of life where we love both mother AND child, and stop the culture that is pitting parents against their children.

**MCFL News:** Is it true that young people are more strongly pro-life?

**Hanafin:** There is no doubt in my mind that the people of my generation are predominately pro-life, and certainly more pro-life than the previous generations. The former president of NARAL Pro-Choice America, actually stepped down as President of the pro-abortion organization because she witnessed the hundreds of thousands of pro-life youth at the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. The pro-abortion lobby is petrified that the younger generations are not only personally opposed to abortion, but actively opposed to abortion.

Hundreds of pro-life groups are popping up on college and high school campuses around the country telling their peers the facts about abortion – facts they will not hear from their professors. Pro-life academies, like the [National Right To Life Summer Academy](#), which I am a proud alumni member, and the MCFL Summer Academy, are attracting students to become activists.

**MCFL News:** What is your new position at MCFL?

**Hanafin:** My role as the new Director of Outreach and Development is to work with current MCFL chapters, work with other activists to start new chapters, develop strategies to grow MCFL's membership, and work on various projects



Matt Hanafin

and fundraising events. If anyone is interested in starting a chapter, they can contact me at [mhanafin@masscitizensforlife.org](mailto:mhanafin@masscitizensforlife.org)

**MCFL News:** As the youngest member of the MCFL Board of Directors, how do you hope to shape the future direction of MCFL?

**Hanafin:** My goal is to increase our membership base by working with the youth as well as young established adults. A lot of individuals in the state of Massachusetts are pro-life, but in order to promote the pro-life agenda, individuals need to support pro-life organizations. MCFL is THE pro-life organization in Massachusetts, and we need the financial support of these individuals to accomplish our pro-life goals.

**MCFL News:** What else is there about your life that readers might enjoy learning about?

**Hanafin:** I am one of about fifty individuals from around the country to have attended National Right to Life's Summer Academy, a program that every pro-life college student should look into.

## Murphy Presents MCFL's Pro-Life Legislation for 2013



MCFL Lobbyist Eva Murphy

"MCFL continues to promote common-sense legislative measures at the state level through our elected representatives in the House and Senate on Beacon Hill," began MCFL lobbyist Eva Murphy as she laid out proposed pro-life legislation for the 2013 session. "Our focus this year is on several familiar bills: A Woman's Right to Know ("Laura's

Law"), sex selection in abortion, a state ban on partial-birth abortions, and a measure to prevent state tax monies paying for abortion."

Continued Murphy, " 'Laura's Law' (H. 1565), is about informed consent. When considering an abortion, women should be given much more information than is required by law at present. They need to know about the consequences of abortion, the availability of the ultrasound procedure, and the alternatives to abortion, including measures of support for continuing the pregnancy and giving birth to the child.

"MCFL opposes sex-selection abortions. According to current surveys, abortions of female unborn children are much more numerous than of male unborn children. The attitudes of some Third World countries (Korea, India, and China, for example) are becoming more common in the USA partly because of

high immigration populations. Bill H. 1567 is a reminder that we should value all unborn babies, regardless of gender."

Bill H. 1452 would prohibit partial-birth abortion. Explained Murphy, "Partial-birth abortion has been outlawed at the federal level, but states have seen the need to insure that their own governments prohibit the horrific procedure.

"Taxation. Wouldn't it be gratifying to be able to check a box on your state tax form, for the option to support a good law rather than to have your taxes eventually pay for someone's abortion? Bill H. 2542 would support the current Baby Safe Haven Law, where desperate parents can leave newborns safely and confidentially at designated areas."

Murphy continued, "MCFL is also supporting H. 1404, Rep. Brad Jones' bill to specify that when a pregnant woman is the victim of a homicide, her unborn child is a second victim and, H. 1930,

Rep. DeMacedo's bill on pain-capable unborn children undergoing abortion.

"We also oppose certain bills that others have filed concerning sex education. The Health Curriculum Frameworks bills (H 366, H 421, H 450 and S 202, S 209) need to be countered and kept from going forward. We need to support certain bills that would repeal the Transgender Law (H 1479) and prohibit the Transgender Law from applying to private spaces such as school bathrooms and locker rooms (H 1354). We also need to oppose a bill requiring equal access to all public places (H 1589) and a bill to make it difficult for children confused about their sexual orientation and gender identity to get appropriate counseling (H 154)."

[2013-2014 Legislative Agenda](#)



# Get Real

BC Law School, 9 AM - 4 PM  
JUNE 29, 2013



## 2013 Convention and Annual Members Meeting

### MCFL 2013 Convention Theme "Get Real"

The Gosnell trial, another Gosnell in Texas, the gruesome abortions in Cleveland, scandals and closings at Planned Parenthood, and the concern about lack of standards and regulations in Massachusetts all bring us back to basics. We will explore the latest on why we are pro-life - opposing abortion and euthanasia, why women have abortions, what are the consequences, what are the barriers to decent care and accessible counseling, the current legal situation, and more.

Massachusetts Citizens for Life is launching a drive to make the Department of Public Health reveal their regulations, if any, and inspection policies, if any. The goal is for the department to treat abortion facilities the same as ambulatory surgical facilities.

### Schedule

8:30 - 9:00 AM Registration and Coffee

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Morning Presentations

12:00 - 1:00 PM Lunchtime Presentations

1:00 - 4:00 PM Afternoon Presentations

Annual Members Meeting

4:00 PM Annual Meeting Begins

[Directions to BC Law School](#)

### MCFL 2013 Convention and Annual Meeting

#### REGISTRATION COSTS

#### 2013 CONVENTION/ANNUAL MEETING

(Includes coffee, lunch, afternoon snack and materials)

- \$35/Person
- (\$5 rebate at the door for MCFL Voting Members)
- \$15/Student

ANNUAL MEETING  
Election of At-Large Directors

[Click to Register](#)

### Confirmed Speakers

- Mary Girard, R.N.
- Prof. Jackie Nolan Haley, Esq.
- Rev. Jurgen Liias
- Phil Moran, Esq.
- Prof. Scott Fitzgibbons, Esq.

## Through the Eyes of a High School Student

### The 2013 Respect Life Walk Experience

My name is Kelly Coluci, and I am a 17-year-old senior at Burlington High School in Burlington, MA. I have attended the Respect Life Walk my entire life. These walks, along with the pro-life cause itself, are very important to me, and I am dedicated to standing up for innocent lives. After talking with my peers, I have found that many people are misinformed about abortion and other life issues. They are completely unaware of the effects, or the processes, of abortion, and in some instances, I have found people who do not even know what an abortion is. I was in awe when I realized this, and it caused both me and my sister to think of ways to help spread a culture of life.

When my older sister, Kayla, was a junior in high school, and I was a freshman, we decided to start a pro-life group called "Student Lifeline Club" at our high school. A lot of issues came up regarding having this club in a public school, but we were persistent and it was officially recognized by the school the following year when she was a se-

nior, and I was a sophomore. Once we got it started, we got a decent amount of people to join the group, and we encouraged people to come to the meetings regardless of their prior stance on the issue. We became the first public school in Massachusetts to have a pro-life club for students. This club not only affected those who were members, but it started conversations about abortion to be talked about all over the school, and even on social media sites. Some students changed their views on abortion, others became more open to the pro-life position, and rarely, others got upset.

I believe more students should start pro-life clubs in schools, and students should advertise the Respect Life Walk as a way to educate their fellow peers on the pro-life cause.

One of the major fundraising events the Student Lifeline Club took part in was the Respect Life Walk. We were able to fill an entire bus with students, were introduced to the crowd, and helped lead the procession. In our club we were adamant about advertising this walk more than any other activity or fundrais-

er that took place. The great speakers and the people who walk are unparalleled in their encouragement, support, and information. The Respect Life Walk not only raises awareness about abortion, but it also raises funds for numerous beneficiaries that help pregnant mothers and children in need. As an active participant in the annual walk, I have also participated in collecting donations and sponsors for the Respect Life Walk and the pro-life cause for both MCFL and Heartbeat Crisis Pregnancy Center, a pregnancy resource center in my hometown.

My goal is to try and educate as many people as possible on the topic of abortion and to involve as many supporters as possible in the Respect Life Walk. I



Burlington Lifeline Club at the 2010 Respect Life Walk.

also hope to reach out to support organizations such as Massachusetts Citizens For Life to help and provide guidance to anyone who may need assistance. Abortion takes the life of an innocent child, and it is my generation that is going to make a difference. We can end abortion in this country, and restore a culture that respects all human life.

# MCFL Summer Academy Gearing Up for 2013 Season



Participants at the 2012 MCFL Summer Academy enjoy pizza before beginning a session on public speaking.

MCFL will again be running the Summer Academy for rising high school students with the 2013 session starting on July 10 in Warren. The Summer Academy is six weeks, one afternoon or evening a week. MCFL has the best speakers on the basic topics such as fetal development, stem cell research, Roe v. Wade, federal and state legislation, lobbying, apologetics and more.

The Academy will train the students to be informed pro-life Ambassadors to their schools, churches, peer and other

communities. The Summer Academy was specially designed to enable empower students to engage popular culture with practical answers to questions they might be asked as they return to school in the fall.

So that we may provide a thorough formation, our preference is for students who can and will commit to attending all, or at least most, of the sessions.

An award certificate will be conferred during the last session, which will also serve as a "commissioning ceremony" for these MCFL Ambassadors.

In order to present a thorough overview of the main life issues, the pro-life movement, and the various ways that these students can and should get involved, we will hold eight weekly sessions. With the exception of the first and last, sessions will normally consist of a 45 minute expert presentation of content, and a 45 minute interactive workshop, with 30 minutes allotted at the beginning for informal fraternizing over pizza and soft drinks.

## 2013 Summer Academy Dates: Warren

Wednesdays, July 10– Aug 14

Time: 6:00 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Tuition: Free for pro-life high school students

[More information on the 2013 MCFL Summer Academy](#)



## 2013

### Summer Academy Topics

#### WEEK 1: Wednesday, July 10

Topic: Prenatal Development and Abortion – how to share this information with your friends

#### WEEK 2: Wednesday, July 17

Topic: Consequences of Abortion – personal testimony. Pro-life counseling and Pregnancy Resource Centers

#### WEEK 3: Wednesday, July 24

Topic: Legislative Process and specific legislation in Massachusetts, meet local legislators

#### WEEK 4: Wednesday, July 31

Topic: Doctor-Prescribed Suicide and End of Life Issues

#### WEEK 5: Wednesday, August 7

Topic: Moral questions in the areas of life and reproduction

#### WEEK 6: Wednesday, August 14

Family and guests invited to ceremony and October Baby

Call to Ambassadorship: Conferral of Awards and Commissioning as Ambassadors

Movie: October Baby

## Keeley Receives the Ruth Pakaluk Pro-Life Youth Award



Tommy Keeley with his mother Esther and father Tom at the Cathedral of St. Paul in Worcester on April 8.

Tommy Keeley of Braintree received the Ruth V.K. Pakaluk Pro-Life Youth Award from the College of the Holy Cross at the Cathedral of St. Paul in Worcester on April 8. Keeley is a graduating senior at Holy Cross and is an alumnus of [St. Sebastian's School in Needham](#). The award, named in honor of former MCFL President Ruth Pakaluk, honors a student who has shown outstanding witness to the value of human life. Keeley was chosen for the award by Worcester Diocese Bishop Robert McManus.

Keeley took over as co-chair of [Holy Cross Students for Life](#) with the goal of making the bi-weekly meetings

more discussion-based. Said Keeley, "Our meetings were mostly about going to the March for Life and then talking about it afterward. We wanted to give students more of a reason to attend. We would listen to a song that had a pro-life message and read an article from *Wall St. Journal* or the *New York Times* and discuss them.

"We brought in local speakers such as people from [Worcester's Problem Pregnancy](#) who would talk about what they offered to help women. Some of the students also had relatives involved in sidewalk counseling who would come to our meetings and tell us what they did to help save lives. We showed the pro-life

movies *Bella* and *October Baby*. In the spring, we brought in an outside speaker.

Continued Keeley, "A Cemetery of the Innocents with crosses representing aborted children gave us an opportunity to engage people on campus. We didn't have any opposition in creating the display, instead we had many fruitful discussions with people who disagreed with us.

"One of my rugby teammates who came to meetings said he was pro-choice but admitted to being unsure about his position. He ended up by becoming pro-life.

"The motto of Holy Cross Students for Life is: 'Defending life from the womb to the tomb.' We had discussions on other life issues such as capital punishment, unjust war and euthanasia."

The pro-life ethic is strong in the Keeley family. Tommy is the youngest of Esther and Tom Keeley's five children and has four older sisters.

"Everyone's been involved in pro-life in one way or another," Esther Keeley said. "Our daughter Megan was President of Teens for Life and we've gone to the March for Life in Washington, D.C. as a family. We've all prayed in front of abortion clinics."

"Tommy's four sisters had an influence on him. With the girls attending the Montrose School and Tommy at St. Sebastian's, they are part of the John Paul II generation. Their great love for John Paul motivated them so much that they were compelled to attend his funeral. He

impacted the lives of so many young people," Esther Keeley remarked.

Life goes on for the Keeley family. After graduation, Tommy will work for a finance firm specializing in portfolio management software. Esther and Tom will soon welcome their tenth grandchild.

"The most effective way to change someone's position from pro-choice to pro-life is to talk to them respectfully," concluded Tommy Keeley. "I heard someone say that you have to love people into the movement. Maybe sit down and pray with them."

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# At-Large Candidates for MCFL Board of Directors

Election at Annual Meeting, Saturday, June 29, 2013, B. C. Law School, 4:00 pm



**Peggy Bradford**

**Peggy Bradford** is a life-long resident of Chicopee and holds a B.A. from the College of Our Lady of the Elms. She served as chair of the College Pro-Life Chapter, becoming involved at the age of 17. From 1983-1986 she was the first Office Director at the Pioneer Valley Office of MCFL. She has a background in legal work as a paralegal. Peggy was Chicopee Chapter Chairman from 1982-1988. Currently on the Pro-Life Commission of the Diocese of Springfield, she has been employed as a teacher, Director of Religious Education, Federal Census Worker and pastoral minister. Most recently, she served as Western Mass Field Director against Doctor Prescribed Suicide. Her interests are in fundraising, education and legislation.

**William Donovan** is the oldest of six siblings, two brothers and three sisters, growing up in Roslindale. He will have been married to Annmarie (Sheridan) Donovan for 40 years this October. They are parents to three boys.

William received an Honorable Discharge from the U.S Navy SeaBees and has been a member of the Knights of Columbus for 45 years. He works for Brodie Toyota Lift. A communicant at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Walpole and Walpole resident, William is the current Culture of Life Director for the Mass. State Council Knights of Columbus and a past State Deputy of the Knights of Columbus in Massachusetts.



**Bridget Fay**

**Bridget Fay** has graduated from Tufts with a degree in engineering and from Washington and Lee Law School. She has been volunteering her legal skills with Massachusetts Citizens for Life. Bridget brings a valuable point of view to the movement.

"Immediately after graduating from law school, I worked as a research assis-

tant to a pro-life professor at my university, focusing on partial-birth abortion. I would love to do more work directly with the pro-life movement."



**J. David Franks**

**J. David Franks**, Ph.D., is a member of the full-time faculty of Saint John's Seminary in Boston, teaching courses in systematic and moral theology. He also serves as the vice president for mission of the Seminary's Theological Institute for the New Evangelization, which provides whole-person formation for laypersons. He and his wife Angela co-host a series for CatholicTV called "Christian Witness." They are the parents of Caterina, John-Paul, Thérèse, Benedict, Maximilian, and Cecilia Rose. David's scholarly interests include integrating the theology of Hans Urs von Balthasar with the achievement of Saint Thomas Aquinas, as well as showing the centrality of family and the right to life for social justice.

I have been proud to serve as Chairman of MCFL's Board for the last couple of years. I am eager to continue in the great work the Board and all MCFL members have been undertaking to revitalize our beloved organization, especially through the establishment of new chapters and reaching out to younger generations. I am eager for the work because it is more necessary than ever that the solidary love you all live out be extended to new hearts, by innovatively redeploying the pro-life cause in a way that is, we might say, new in ardor, means, and expression. In this brutalizing culture, there can be no healing without a vigorous pro-life movement, re-dedicated to the principle that there is no more urgent social justice cause in the history of the world than the restoration of the right to life of the innocent in law. The future of the American Republic is at stake, for a people can remain free only so long as it transcends itself in love for the sake of the most powerless.



**Joe Hamel**

**Joe Hamel**, with his late wife Joan, who died in 2003, has been a member of MCFL since 1972. He was a founding member of the Natick Chapter, later joined the Wellesley Chapter, and now is a member of the Greater Framingham Chapter.

In January 1992 at the Interfaith Assembly for Life in Boston, the Hamel family received the Family of the Year Award. Joe gives out bumper stickers at the MCFL Walk for Life on Boston Common and at the March for Life in Washington D.C. He attends National Right to Life Convention every 4 years.



**Matt Hanafin**

**Matt Hanafin** was elected to the MCFL Board of Directors after his freshman year of college, and has continued to serve on the board for the past three years. While on the board, Matt has been an advocate for youth involvement in the pro-life movement, and says, "The youth are not the future leaders of the pro-life movement, they are today's leaders of the movement." He is one of fifty college students to graduate from the National Right to Life Academy, a five week program for pro-life college activists around the country, in Washington, D.C.

Matt is a member of MCFL's media committee where he specifically works to develop MCFL's social media outlets to spread the organization's mission to younger generations. He was elected to the Executive Board in 2012, is also a member of MCFL's Speakers Bureau, and is a recent graduate of Merrimack College.



**Beth Joyce**

**Beth Joyce** works in Compliance at Boston Children's Hospital, and is an RN and has an MBA. She is a member of St. Theresa of Avila's in West Roxbury, where she is a Lector. She has also served as a Lector at St. Paul's in Cambridge and St. Mary of the Hills in Milton.

## 2013 Candidates

**William Donovan (I)**

**Bridget Fay (I)**

**David Franks (I)**

**Joe Hamel (I)**

**Matt Hanafin (I)**

**Sandi Martinez (I)**

**Ed Nazzaro (I)**

**Danielle Olsen (I)**

**Patricia Stewart (I)**

**Peggy Bradford**

**Beth Joyce**

**Steve Mooney**

**Kerry Pound, MD**

She has taught CCD and has served as a Eucharistic Minister. Beth is taking courses at the Theological Institute of the New Evangelization, St. John's Seminary's program for the whole-person formation of the laity.

Beth's passion for the pro-life cause is rooted in compassion for the unborn child and the often fear-filled mother. Loving the mother will help cast out the fear. Early education all throughout the formative years about the pro-life message is essential, especially focusing on the teen years--where love can replace fear and where birth can replace abortion as the normal and natural expectation. A focus on the goodness and reality of the baby needs to take the spotlight in the public dialogue.

**Sandi Martinez** has shown her commitment to traditional values through her campaigns for the State Senate seat in the Third Middlesex District of Massachusetts, as a member of and former State Director for 11 years of Concerned Women for America, and as a regional director for the Coalition for Marriage and Family. A former President of the Mass. Republican Assembly and a two-term elected Republican State Committee-woman, Sandi believes, "government needs to be accountable to we the people."

She is producer and host of "Speak Out", an issues oriented local access TV Show with over 100 shows to date, and is very interested in using the media to further the pro-life cause.

# Slate for MCFL Board of Director's Election



**Stephen Mooney**

**Stephen Mooney**, an attorney specializing in tax, estate planning, probate and bankruptcy, is admitted to the bar in Massachusetts and New York. Steve negotiated license agreements with most of the Fortune 100 and co-authored Digital Rights Management: Business and Technology. A citizen of Ireland and the US, Steve received a B.A. from the University of New Hampshire, a J.D. from Fordham Law School and an LL.M (Taxation) from Boston University Law School. He is currently enrolled in the Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) program at the Theological Institute for the New Evangelization (TINE) at St. John's Seminary in Brighton where the ongoing, though not quite yet complete, divorce of the civil law from the natural law has become clearer to him.

For Steve, the problem is nicely summarized in A Canticle for Leibowitz: "To minimize suffering and to maximize security were natural and proper ends of society and Caesar. But then they became the only ends, somehow, and the only basis of law--a perversion. Inevitably, then, in seeking only them, we found only their opposites: maximum suffering and minimum security." Steve believes that law and culture have come to "foster a materialistic and mechanistic understanding of human life" (Benedict XVI, Caritas in veritate). Pope Benedict goes on to ask the very practical question for us: "How can we be surprised by the indifference shown towards situations of human degradation, when such indifference extends even to our attitude towards what is and is not human?" Steve strongly believes that by helping to foster a wider recognition that moral truth is the proper basis for civil law, MCFL can help the world embrace a culture of life.



**Ed Nazzaro**

**Ed Nazzaro** helped establish A Woman's Concern, a Pro-Life Crisis Pregnancy Center, in Revere. He is a stalwart of MCFL's North Suburban Chapter and served as the Chapter Director from 1996-

1997. He serves on the Parish Council of Immaculate Conception in Revere and is the pro-life representative and Rose Drive coordinator for the parish. He helped to organize the Dana Concerts at St. Mary's in Franklin in 1997 and West Roxbury in 1998. For several years he has helped organize the registration table at the Respect Life Walk for Mothers and Children. Ed is part of a team trained by the Archdiocese of Boston to give talks on end-of-life issues.



**Danielle Olsen**

**Danielle Olsen** works for the Archdiocese of Boston in the Office for the New Evangelization of Youth and Young adults. Through her position she is able to serve the pro-life cause by organizing a pilgrimage for young people to the D.C. March for Life each year for the Archdiocese and encouraging participation among youth and young adults for the annual MCFL Respect Life Walk. Danielle's passion for the pro-life movement was cultivated as an undergraduate at The Catholic University of America (CUA), where she studied theology and psychology. She organized campus events to raise awareness of pro-life issues and frequently participated as a prayer team member and sidewalk counselor at Planned Parenthood. She was mentored by Msgr. Edward Riley, founder of Helpers of God's Precious Infants, during annual retreats.

I would like to serve on the MCFL Board because I believe in the dignity of each person, and that life, in its every condition, is a gift from God, to be safeguarded. As the Jewish philosopher Levinas notes, the human body, in its very powerlessness, commands, "Do not murder me." I recognize the importance of political action and prudence in moving our country away from a culture of death to becoming one that respects life and promotes laws that allow for the development and happiness of every person. My desire is to continue to encourage my peers and younger generations to be more actively involved in this most crucial of all humanitarian causes.

**Kerry Pound**, MD, studied Bioethics at Georgetown before going to Oxford on a Rhodes Scholarship to study Philosophy and Theology for a second B.A. She then completed a medical degree at McGill University prior to moving to Boston for residency in pediatrics at Mass General Hospital. She currently works as a pediatric ER physician in Salem. Kerry lives in Marblehead with her husband

and three children.

Although Kerry has been pro-life throughout her life, it was during her time at Georgetown, where she took a feminist bioethics course, that she came to realize that abortion not only hurts babies, but also women. Since then, she has tried to speak out regarding the damage abortion does to women. She has a passion for promoting an authentic feminism and for revitalizing the body politic through a re-commitment to thoughtful discourse and dialogue.



**Patricia Stewart**

**Patricia Stewart** of Norwell, is an experienced trial lawyer turned pro-life health care advocate. She has created a user-friendly system for patients and caregivers seeking faith-based choices for medical care in her book, "The Health Care Decision Guide for Catholics," 2nd rev. ed. (Sweet Apple Press 2010), which bears the imprimatur of Seán P. Cardinal O'Malley, Archbishop of Boston.

Currently, Pat advises clients and instructs lay and religious groups on advance health care planning and end of life care. In 2012, she served MCFL affiliated committees as legal advisor and speaker, opposing legalization of doctor-

prescribed suicide in Massachusetts. Her efforts included testifying before the House Judiciary Committee, TV interviews, and organizing a statewide project of voter education for Councils on Aging.

"I am seeking re-election to the Board to further my commitment to using the law to serve pro-life interests. I believe that my focus on the later stages of life will fill out the range of pro-life issues to which MCFL is devoted and reflect its pledge to promote respect for human life at every age. It would be my privilege to serve MCFL in this capacity."

## Is June the Month to Renew Your MCFL Membership?

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# How I Became Pro-Life: The Reality of Post-Abortion Syndrome

By Donna Rodgers

The culture of death encourages women to choose whether or not to give their child life by proposing motherhood-on-demand. I became fiercely pro-life after walking a rocky road to motherhood. With four grown children, I know mothering's agonies and ecstasies. Before I became a mother, I unwittingly lived at the crossroads of Oblivion and the Culture of Death. Tragically, I refused to learn my address.

When *Roe v Wade* was decided in 1973, I was a student at Smith College. As young feminists we parroted each other, saying choice was better than lack of choice. Trips to Planned Parenthood in Springfield were a rite of passage in my dorm. A friend and I spent an entire day on the bus, talking about sexual freedom and birth control. Friends whispered about taking "abortion vacations" when birth control or failure to plan resulted in an inconvenient pregnancy. Did we believe that our right to choose would somehow prevent a later emotional reckoning?

Men and women really do regret their abortion experience. Post-abortion syndrome can take over one's life and manifest itself as a terrible burden of "what-ifs?" The decision to abort wreaks havoc on a couple's relationship. Post-abortion infertility, a terrible consequence experienced by several of my friends, may also tear couples apart.

In 1979 I was engaged and learned that I was pregnant. I told my fiance. My fiance, divorced with two children, said our bond was too new to take on the rigors of a new baby and that our financial situation was too precarious.

He reminded me of the need to support his own two children. He said he would leave me if I had the baby.

The next day I asked my secretary for an abortion referral. She said, "Listen to me. I was pregnant once and I aborted my child. I wish I hadn't done that. Think about it!" I didn't listen to her, but I have had many years to think about it. "Choice" is so easy in today's world. Taking deliberate pains to think about what choice entails is critically important to each mother and her unborn child.

I considered how my parents, friends and employer would view me as a single mother. My parents weren't prepared to take us in. I went to a former boyfriend for help because my fiance couldn't get time off from work.

We experienced the violence and trauma of abortion offered by Cook County Hospital in 1979. No pre-abortion counseling or ultrasound was offered. About a dozen women were waiting their turn with the doctor. Dilation was painfully achieved by inserting a series of rods into my unanesthetized cervix. As I screamed in pain, the doctor said, "The cervix has no nerve endings." He then used a scalpel to complete the abortion. I passed copious amounts of "tissue" afterward. The doctor told me it was normal. It did not feel normal.

On my wedding about a month later, I still suffered the after-effects of choice. My entire family begged me not to go through with the wedding. I contemplated divorce before the wedding even occurred. On the morning of the wedding, my first cousin pressed \$140 dollars into my hands and whispered, "Run." I did not take her advice.

Guilt and pain can keep people together. The act of sacrificing my first child to a brutal husband seemed like a perverse kind of glue. The marriage was troubled from the start, but I didn't want to admit the terrible choice I had made. My calls home dwindled and I almost never visited my parents.

I became pregnant a second time and this choice was easier than the first. My husband's two children still needed new clothes, modeling lessons and new cars. We told friends I was going to the hospital to remove a cyst.

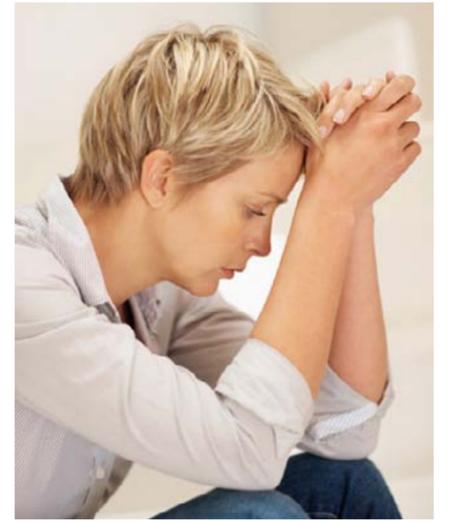
Women having multiple abortions is quite common. Statistics from the Center for Disease Control say that about 45 percent of women have had at least two abortions.

My third pregnancy occurred at about seven years into the doomed relationship. The former love of my life had reappeared, announcing that he was getting a divorce. We conceived a child soon after our reunion. In a daze, I went to the hospital to abort the child without telling my loved one that I was pregnant. Six months later, I sent him away to deal with my guilt and shame alone.

He regretted the decision I had made without telling him. He asked, "Why couldn't you have just had the baby? Was that so hard?"

In my progressive experience, I deliberated less each time as I asserted the right to choose. I didn't think of the child, instead, I thought about my job and things I believed I could control.

I became a mother for the first time after our eighth anniversary. In classic post-abortion syndrome fashion I desired pregnancy almost immediately. Even though our baby was healthy I



worried that she might die. Later, after our twins were born, I worried about their ability to thrive and worried that they too, would die.

Years later, after starting a home business and helping my children become successful adults, post-abortion syndrome reared its ugly head. Friends had congratulated me on "great motherhood," but a long-overdue divorce occurred.

The culture of death wants women and families to believe that abortion allows us to take control of our reproductive destiny. Abortion did not provide me with control. Rather, abortion provided regret and unanswerable questions about the children I lost. The "what if?" of regret is a very hard burden to bear. I don't recommend it.

Help is available for those suffering the aftermath of an abortion experience:

Archdiocese of Boston: [Project Rachel](#)  
Elliot Institute: [After Abortion](#)  
Or Call: 1-800-5WE-CARE

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## Vermont Passes Doctor-Prescribed Suicide Bill

### Most States Continue to Reject the Deadly Practice



**Vermont's list of rules for doctors writing lethal prescriptions will expire in 2016. After that, doctors will be able to establish any protocol they wish.**

The roller-coaster ride that was the debate on a bill legalizing doctor-prescribed suicide in Vermont has resulted in passage of a law that has even [fewer protective guidelines than the state of Oregon](#). Vermont is now the third state in the country where doctors may write lethal prescriptions.

[Senate Bill 77](#) permits a doctor to write

a lethal dose of medication for some with a "terminal condition," defined as having six months or less to live. The law lacks all the safeguards that were debated during the Massachusetts ballot initiative: a doctor's prognosis of six months is often a guess and is frequently wrong, there is no requirement for psychological testing to see if the patient is capable of

making a 'voluntary' decision, and once the lethal dose is picked up at the pharmacy, there is no oversight, no requirement for the death to have a witness.

In 2016, a "streamlined procedure" replaces the formal application process further endangering vulnerable patients and opening the door to abuse. S. 77 removes penalties for being present when a person self-administers a lethal dose of medication or for not preventing the patient from taking a lethal dose.

MCFL President Anne Fox said, "The final vote in the Senate came because an outspoken opponent of DPS flipped. So the Senate originally passed a bill that didn't change the way things are now. Then the House passed Oregon-style language," she said.

"Our hope was that the Senate would hold out so that the two bills would have to go to Conference Committee to be reconciled – which held great hope. The vote on Tuesday May 7, was okay. On Wednesday May 8, language was added and passed which makes Vermont language worse than Oregon. That language was accepted by the House, so the last

hope of it being rejected in the Conference Committee is gone."

The bill will now go to Vermont Governor Peter Shumlin who is expected to sign the bill. Vermont Right to Life said, "What has been sent to his desk for his signature is a poorly-crafted and dangerous bill that has been described as 'facilitating euthanasia.' He is ultimately responsible for whatever loopholes, lack of safeguards and for any misuse or abuse that can and will occur.

"The Bill that was passed by the House earlier in the session was drastically changed by the Senate and made far more dangerous. Senator Claire Ayer, author of the new Senate version, admitted that the newly amended S. 77 was 'made on the fly' and has been repeatedly described by others as a 'hodgepodge.' There was no Committee testimony taken on the bill after the changes were made."

Bioethicist Wesley Smith told [Life News](#), "Please notice the trajectory: As the doctor-prescribed death movement advances, its proffered restrictions get progressively weaker. Whether it's here

# Suicide Bill Approved in Vermont, Rejected Elsewhere

or overseas, the death on demand ultimate destination is the same."

Connecticut debated two bills, Assisted Suicide (S.B. 48) and Death with Dignity (HB 6217) that would change Connecticut law to allow doctor-prescribed suicide. Suicide opponents countered with a bill introduced by Sen. Michael McLachlan, Penalty for Assisted Suicide (SB 229) to make doctor-prescribed suicide a Class A felony. The bills were referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Another bill, drafted by the Public Health Committee in March, eventually died in committee on April 5. The suicide advocacy group Compassion and Choices, was denied in its request for an up or down vote on the bill.

In New Jersey, Bill A 3328, "The Death with Dignity Act," was introduced in the legislature on September 2012 along with a Senate Companion bill, S2259. The bill sought voter approval to legalize doctor-prescribed suicide. In February, the Assembly Health and Senior Services released the bill from committee by a vote of 7-2 with 2 abstentions. The New Jersey Alliance Against Doctor-Prescribed Suicide is urging people to call their state legislators.

Suicide opponents in Maine saw a victory. In early May, the Health and Human Services Committee rejected 10-2 a bill similar to the bill introduced in Connecticut.

Montana saw attempts by both sides to change the law and to clarify the confusing legal situation in the state. A

2009 court decision denies the rights of citizens to doctor-prescribed suicide, but protects physicians from prosecution by allowing them to use patient consent as a defense.

Bill SB 2020, a suicide legalization bill supported by Compassion and Choices, was defeated in the Senate Judiciary in February.

Montanans Against Assisted Suicide supported HB 505, a bill to protect vulnerable patients from doctor-prescribed suicide. Supported by physicians and Not Dead Yet, a disability rights group, the bill passed the House in February. Hearings were held by the Senate Judiciary Committee in March. The bill was defeated by a vote of 27-23 in mid-April.

Steven Ertelt quoted a Washington Examiner report showing that billionaire George Soros has been funding advocacy groups such as Compassion and Choices. "There is no grassroots cry for assisted suicide. It's an illusion. Receiving \$1 million from the Soros Foundation, Compassion and Choices has been trying to convince Connecticut lawmakers that it would be in their best interest to promote 'death with dignity' in the state."

Troubling is Soros's involvement in funding for palliative care. Soros gave \$2.7 million to the Partnership for Palliative Care in 2010. Enabled by Soros's money a Chicago conference entitled "Heights of Compassion: Bridges to Choice," found suicide advocates and palliative care specialists coming together

to find "common ground."

In Massachusetts, Rep. Louis Kafka again filed a bill to permit doctor-prescribed suicide or 'compassionate aid in dying.' "Right now, no Public Health

Committee hearings have been scheduled on H. 1998," said MCFL lobbyist Eva Murphy. "We will be checking to see if it will come up for any discussion in this legislative session."

## Letters to the Editor

### The Democratic Party is Failing the Unborn

Although the following story begins as many fairy tales do, it is far from a fairy tale. Sadly and tragically, it is true.

Once upon a time, the Democratic Party was known as "the party of the little guy." Now, it is known as "the party of abortion" and not without reason. For the primary plank in the platform constructed during last year's Democratic National Convention (which resembled a pro-abortion pep rally) called for abortion on demand, i.e. the killing of preborn human beings (little guys and gals) for any reason at all. That abortion kills human beings is not a religious view, not a personal opinion, but an irrefutable scientific fact.

In 1978, there were 125 pro-life Democrats in Congress who took positions strongly opposing induced abortion, the direct and deliberate destruction of the most defenseless members of our human family, the innocent unborn. Today, at last count, there are only 17 Congressional Democrats who will speak for those little ones unable to speak for themselves.

Each year in our country abortion, the only socially acceptable crime against humanity, takes the lives of more than a million unborn Americans. About half a million of these abortions are performed or provided by some of the same people who, before they began working in the billion dollar business, stated that "an abortion kills the life of a baby after it has begun."

We, American taxpayers, annually pay \$500 million to destroy our own descendants - and we call ourselves a "civilized" society! "Barbaric" would be a more accurate adjective. For a civilized nation, rather than fund anti-life organizations that push the negative non-answer of abortion, would assist pro-life groups that provide real and positive solutions for women with problem pregnancies.

Is anybody there? Does anybody care? Does anybody see what I see? The answer is Yes. It's not just me. There are millions of other members of an indefatigable, unstoppable pro-life movement made up of not merely oldsters like me, but also by many youngsters who will continue to fight for and defend our Declaration of Independence -described, Creator-endowed, "unalienable" right to life of all human beings, born and preborn.

While a pro-life victory in this forty-year-old war being waged against the unborn may not occur in my lifetime, the 1973 Supreme Court-issued license to kill will eventually be revoked when enough really pro-life voters, regardless of party, elect enough really pro-life politicians, regardless of party. It is then that pro-life crusaders will prevail, for no longer will America be a land where only the planned, the perfect, and the wanted are permitted to be born. Our holocaust and our genocide will be history, and it is at that time that our story will have a happy ending.

*Richard A. Carey writes from Needham*

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## Memorials

### Sylvia Rowe

By The Griebel Family

### Anne Smith Fitzpatrick

By Ken and Anne Fox

### William (Billy) McDermott

By Ken and Anne Fox

### Brian Pratt

By Lynda Pratt

### Janet D. McCarthy

By the MCFL Board of Directors  
The MCFL Staff  
MCFL North Suburban Chapter

### Tom Hamill

By MCFL Board of Directors  
Ken and Anne Fox

### Thomas Kenna

By Phyllis Cherone

### Joyce Marie Dunn Higgins

By Ken and Anne Fox  
Claire Dondis

### Barbara Wilke, RN

By the MCFL Board of Directors

### Triplets Isaiah, Jacob and Noah

By Jack and Becky Perazella

### Sheila Catherine Beirne, age 6

Daughter of Cathy Olohan's daughter, Sheila, and her husband Gerard

By Brian and Betsy White, Ken and Anne Fox

### Roger Dupont

By Ken and Anne Fox

### Judge Joseph R. Nolan

By the MCFL Board of Directors

### Ed Lundrigan

By Ken and Anne Fox

### Marie "Ferne" Kelly

By the MCFL Board of Directors

### Pauline Kelly Rogers

By Ken and Anne Fox

### Imelda Moran

By the MCFL South Shore and Peggy McCormick Chapters

### Pauline Kelly Rogers

By Ken and Anne Fox

### In honor of

### Katrina and Adam Ripka

By Jack and Becky Perazella



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# Respect LIFE WALK

to aid mothers and children




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