

The Rose



THE PROVINCIAL NEWSLETTER FOR ALBERTA PRO-LIFE ALLIANCE ASSOCIATION

JUNE 2007

Still pushing the pill

Towards the end of May two interesting and inter-related news stories appeared just a day apart. The National Post reprinted an Associated Press story about a birth control pill just approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) which would eliminate women's menstrual cycle. The drug, Lybrel, taken continuously will stop periods "indefinitely and prevent pregnancies." What's not to approve of?

By Joanne Byfield

A day earlier, the *Globe and Mail* ran a story about the results of a study conducted in a lake in northern Ontario. Researchers "spiked" the lake with trace amounts of synthetic estrogen to see what would happen to the fish. The male fish began to produce eggs instead of sperm and became indistinguishable from the females. Within a year the population began to decline and after several years had almost vanished. The story talks about the impact on wildlife, especially fish, and did mention briefly that research was needed on the effects on humans. However, lead researcher Dr. Karen Kidd said she didn't think women "should stop taking the pill out of worry for wildlife." She just thought municipalities should figure out how to filter the water more effectively.

A month earlier, the *Globe* was in a near panic over the pet food scandal in which tainted dog food, most of it originating in China, sickened or killed many dogs. The newspaper ran an online poll asking people if the government was doing enough to cope with the

crisis. However, when a study finds that a "whiff" of estrogen, to use the *Globe's* own words, can destroy fish populations, there appears to be no panic to warn women that the little pill they take 21 days a month might not be contributing to a healthy future.

How healthy then is Lybrel, the latest drug created to suppress the natural functioning of the female body. CBC quoted one expert from Saskatchewan who applauded the FDA decision as a signal that the agency and the American government were finally listening to women who did not want to be bothered with a monthly period. The new pill was just another option for women along with traditional pills, patches, injections and abortions. It does cause irregular spotting and bleeding and some women continue to bleed for a year. It also makes it difficult to know if you're pregnant because the first signal for most women is a missed period. I'm also curious about the women, half of the total, who dropped out of the trials partway through. None of this bothered CBC's expert. He was fervently hoping that Health Canada would follow the FDA (He's no anti-American) and approve the latest "choice" for Canadian women.

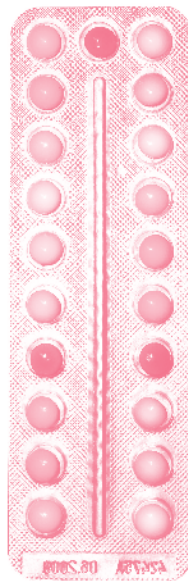
So just what are women "choosing" when they choose the birth control pill, regular or the new full-time version?

Earlier in May the *National Post* ran a column by Andrea Mrozek, manager of research at the Institute of Marriage and Family Canada, entitled "The pill and cancer: What women should know." Ms. Mrozek cited the research of Dr. Chris Kahlenborn who found that using the pill at a young age and before having children, increases a woman's risk of breast cancer by 44%. About 80% of Canadian women use the pill at some point.

The column pointed out that despite the fact that Dr. Kahlenborn's meta-analysis was published in the Mayo Clinic's peer-reviewed journal, his work and message have been largely ignored. The usual suspects—the Canadian Cancer Society and the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada—downplay the risk as "slight." Would that be slight, as in the amount of estrogen our northern Ontario scientists put in the lake and destroyed the fish population?

Ms. Mrozek points out that "A woman's lifetime risk of breast cancer has risen—from one in 22 in the 1940s to about one in eight today. Something is going on with our bodies. It's worth asking why."

It may not be worth it to the pharmaceutical companies who market the pill and to the thousands of women who have decided that ingesting the pill beats having a baby, or, horror of horrors, having a period.



Repeat rate for abortions held at 40% in 2004

Alberta Health and Wellness released figures in response to a Freedom of Information request from Alberta Pro-Life on the repeat rate for abortions in the province. The repeat rate is not included in the published statistics.

According to the department, of the 10,836 abortions recorded in 2004, 4,291, or 39.5%, were repeats. (The totals vary from the Alberta Reproductive Health report issued earlier this year but the discrepancy may be due to women from outside the province who come to Alberta for abortions.)

There were 129 women in 2004 that were listed in the category of "four or more previous abortions." One teen under the age of 15 recorded her second abortion. Seventy-eight teens between the ages of 15 and 17 had repeat abortions, including two who had their third and one girl who had her fourth abortion before her 18th birthday. In total, 327 teens had multiple abortions in 2004.


The data we received does not indicate whether these abortions were done in hospitals or private for-profit clinics but since the clinics perform over half of all the abortions in the province, some of these repeats must occur there. It would appear that the counseling they claim to do at these clinics is not too effective at reducing pregnancies or abortions (but pretty good for clinic business.) What we do know is that taxpayers covered the full financial cost of all of these abortions even though more than three-quarters of us do not support paying for all of them.



Bless our Dads

Fathers are a gift from God. So are Dads, Papas, Pères, Grandpas, Opas and all the other pet names we have for our father-figures. So to all of you, no matter what you are called, Happy Father's Day and God bless you.

Ken Epp, MP
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What is Alberta Pro-Life?

Alberta Pro-Life represents the pro-life position at the provincial level. We inform citizens, lobby politicians and work with local and national groups to effect change in our society.

Our members include individuals who have joined Alberta Pro-Life and local groups throughout the province who are either affiliates or amalgamated with us.

If you wish to become a member or would like more information about our activities, call our office at:
 Phone (780) 421-7747 Fax (780) 421-7749
 or toll free at: 1-877-880-5433
 e-mail: apl@albertaprolife.com
 Website: www.albertaprolife.com

Executive of Alberta Pro-Life
 President – Henny van der Gugten
 Spruce Grove hvander Gugten@canadasurfs.ca

Vice-President – John Harder
 Calgary harderj@telus.net

Treasurer – Erna Moedt
 Taber emoedt@telus.net

Secretary – Irene Vanderveen
 Edmonton maplacement@shaw.ca

Directors of Alberta Pro-Life

Gerrit Top	High River	
Alie Vogelzang	Barrhead	
Corry Morcos	Edmonton	ctmorcos@hotmail.com
Erich Wagner	Drayton Valley	albertatank@msn.com
Karen Richert	Leduc	rriichert@telus.net

Staff Contacts for Alberta Pro-Life

Jan Stefanic (office)	780-421-7747 apl@albertaprolife.com
Joanne Byfield (home)	780-628-7177 jbyfield@cruzinternet.com



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 CANADIAN ADDRESSES TO:
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Turning the tide on euthanasia

By Alex Schadenberg

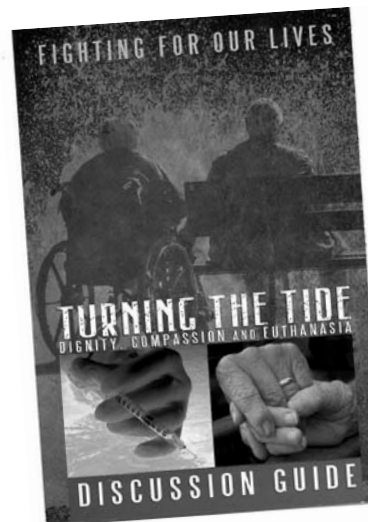
The new DVD on euthanasia and assisted suicide entitled *Turning the Tide*, produced by the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition and Salt and Light television media foundation is now available.

Turning the Tide was designed to change the way secular society perceives the issues of euthanasia and assisted suicide. Secular society views the issues of euthanasia and assisted suicide to be issues related to autonomy whereas *Turning the Tide* shifts the focus of the issue.

Turning the Tide uses personal stories to focus on the vulnerability of the person when one experiences disability, depression or symptoms related to degenerative and/or end of life conditions. The video also focuses on issues related to pain and symptom management and proper end-of-life care.

Groups that have viewed *Turning the Tide* have been incredibly impressed by the production quality of the video and the profound comments by the people featured in the DVD.

Catherine Frazee, disability studies professor at Ryerson University comments in *Turning the Tide* that: "People like to frame this debate in the language of autonomy, or individual choice. They'll say to me



that it's all right, you can say no, but other people will want to say yes, but I don't think individual autonomy should ever be permitted to trump the safety and well-being of the community." Wesley Smith comments in *Turning the Tide* that: "You have a situation in Canada and certainly in the United States, where people are having difficulty getting access to ... good pain control, good psychiatric involvement and good social services. Are we going to say that the answer for these problems is assisted suicide?"

Senator Sharon Carstairs, former chair of the Special

Senate Committee on Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide answers the question on why people want euthanasia and assisted suicide by stating: "Sometimes the pain is just too horrible, but we can deal with that. The other reason is ... they want their personal dignity. Well that says something pretty awful about each and every one of us. Why have they lost their sense of dignity? It is because we have made them feel less than dignified."

Jean Echlin, winner of the Dorothy Lea award for excellence in palliative care in 2004 comments

Continued next page

Job opportunity in Edmonton

Alberta Pro-Life is looking for a part time office assistant, minimum 20 hours a week in the Edmonton office. Duties include general office support with database management and word processing. Candidates must be proficient with MS Office software and email applications. Wages will be based upon experience, and only those candidates that fit the description will be contacted. Previous experience with pro-life issues an asset. Email your resume to apl@albertaprolife.com.

Meet Jan Stefanic

From the desk of the Executive Director

Hello, everyone. Jan Stefanic here and I'm so glad to be aboard. I have lots to learn yet, but I'm enjoying everything so far! Thanks to Patty for the time she can spare to do some training. She is a fountain of knowledge.

Patty and I had a great dinner together and had a blast. I know she has done some terrific work for Alberta Pro-Life, and I look forward to the challenge of moving this organization forward.

Just to let you know a bit about me, I worked for World Vision in Senior Management for the Donor Development Department, and traveled internationally with them as well. I had the privilege of working in their Development Projects in Central America for ten days. That is a trip I will forever hold close to my heart! I have also worked in an Inner City Mission Women's Ministry, and I have a diverse background in Sales and Marketing.

I strongly feel a call from God to be here at Alberta Pro-Life. My heart for children and especially the unborn is HUGE. As a mother of two wonderful children myself, I couldn't imagine my life without them! I know there are great things to come as we move forward for such a worthy cause. So despite the craziness I feel at the moment, I'm happy to be here.



Jan Stefanic is the new executive director of Alberta Pro-Life.

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Euthanasia (continued)

in *Turning the Tide* that: "I could never advocate for someone to commit suicide when I can offer them pain management and symptom management right where they are."

Turning the Tide features: Bobby Schindler (Terri Schiavo's brother), Wesley Smith (Attorney, International Task Force on Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide), Catherine Frazee (former chair of the Ontario Human Rights Committee), Adrian Dieleman (counselor, rehabilitation clinic for spinal cord injuries in Hamilton), Jean Echlin (palliative care nursing consultant), Senator Sharon Carstairs (Senator from Manitoba), Alex Schadenberg (executive director, Euthanasia Prevention Coalition), Reg Hancock (spinal cord injury survivor) and more.

A Discussion Guide for small group or classroom presentations has been designed for use and included with the DVD package. The discussion guide enables groups and individuals who share our concerns about vulnerable people to organize effective presentations on the issues. It is our hope that *Turning the Tide* will be used to facilitate many discussion forums throughout North America.

The *Turning the Tide* DVD package includes the DVD, the Discussion Guide, a recording sheet and all the resources that are necessary for making a presentation on euthanasia and assisted suicide.

The *Turning the Tide* DVD package can be ordered from the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition for \$50.00 for 1 package, \$70.00 for 2 packages, or \$100.00 for 4 packages by contacting the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition at: Box 25033, London ON, N6C 6A8, email: info@epcc.ca, or calling: 1-877-439-3348. Further bulk rates exist upon request.

the Back Porch

The Back Porch is a ministry to abortion-minded women and men and is located across the street from the Morgentaler Clinic in Edmonton. We offer alternatives to abortion for those who come into the Back Porch and are uncertain whether they want to proceed with an abortion. Our volunteers keep a journal to record their experiences. Here are two excerpts from our journal:

"A middle-aged woman came in...quite distraught and looking for the clinic...She said her daughter was in there...She said she had a daughter in the hospital right now about to have a baby and this one about to have an abortion. I said that she was really going to need some help and counseling. She agreed and was teary-eyed...She said she was torn between being with the one having a C-section and the one having an abortion. She said the one in the hospital had lots of support but no one knew about the one having an abortion...I gave her pamphlets and urged her to make sure the girl got some counseling."

"A young East Indian man came in wanting information while he waited for his wife...His wife is about 10 weeks pregnant...Some time back she got angry with him and took a pill (an Advil) and thought it had done damage...Even though she had an appointment for an abortion, he was hoping the clinic would be able to give her an idea of what the baby looked like...He knew that what they were doing was killing their baby...I gave him brochures to take with him and he looked at some while we talked...He wasn't sure if her procedure was already in progress but I could see that he needed to go over there and try to intercept the procedure if possible...Melissa and I watched him go over and into the clinic...He came out and was pacing in front of the clinic...I saw him and his wife (I suspected) walking towards their car without the manila envelope (the envelope contains post-abortion information)...As they drove by they both waved with ear to ear smiles on their faces. [Later] They both walked in smiling and laughing. They were excited and were keeping their baby."

"Purity & Chastity"

Josh Nugent

Completing his Masters at the University of Calgary, and the past campus pro-life president, he coaches basketball at St. Mary's College.

"Defending the Pro-Life Position"

Stephanie Gray

Seasoned pro-life speaker who has successfully debated well-known abortion advocates. Many have credited her captivating and inspiring presentation with changing their minds on abortion.

"Flings, Crushes & Romance"

Beverly Hadland-Turner

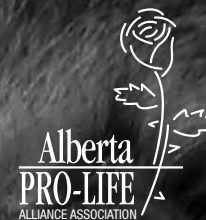
Author of the national bestseller "Hang on to your Hormones. Founded "Straight Talk" to promote chastity as a positive alternative to the prevailing sex related problems among our youth.

ASLAN Pro-Life Youth Conference 2007

"Life, Sexuality and True Love"

Saturday September 29, Assumption School, Cold Lake, AB,
8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Cost \$10.00/person before Sept. 15.

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Through the Back Door

By Chuck Colson

From BreakPoint, May 4, 2007, reprinted with permission of Prison Fellowship, www.breakpoint.org.

Doctors Turn Against Abortion

Most of you know that the Supreme Court recently handed the pro-life cause an important victory by upholding a ban on partial-birth abortion. The Court may have banned only one method of abortion, but now we have hope that perhaps there will be additional legal restrictions on abortion in the future.

But we must remember that there are other fronts in the battle for human life besides the law. One front is the hearts and minds of those who would perform abortions: that is, doctors.

As the BBC recently reported, "The Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists says there has been a big rise in the number of doctors who are 'conscientious objectors.'" In other words, doctors in the UK just do not want to do abortions any more. In fact, the number of willing abortionists is dropping so rapidly that pro-choicers are complaining of an "abortion crisis."

Analysts offer various explanations. Katherine Guthrie of the Royal College suggests, "You get no thanks for performing abortions. You get spat on. Who admits to friends at a dinner party that they are an abortionist?" But we have good reason to believe that the reasons go even deeper than that. James Gerrard, a general practitioner in Leeds, says, "Out of the six

doctors in our practice, three of us object to abortion. I had made up my mind on abortion before entering the medical profession. I feel the foetus is a person and killing that foetus is wrong."

So it's not just about being ostracized. It is an "unprecedented moral revolt," according to This Is London. Guthrie says, "The Department of Health is really worried." Ann Furedi of the British Pregnancy Advisory Service explains why: "Within five to seven years, a woman's ability to get an abortion will be more shaped by the service's ability to provide them rather than the state of the law."

Isn't this remarkable? The very group that has the most to gain from abortions is turning away from them. They know better than anyone else exactly what an abortion is—and they want nothing to do with it. And because they are the ones most directly involved, they are having even more impact than the government could ever dream of having.

As I have said many times on "BreakPoint," Christians must be engaged in politics and government. But as we labor in the political arena, we have to work in

the culture to change hearts and minds and to promote an understanding of the sanctity of life.

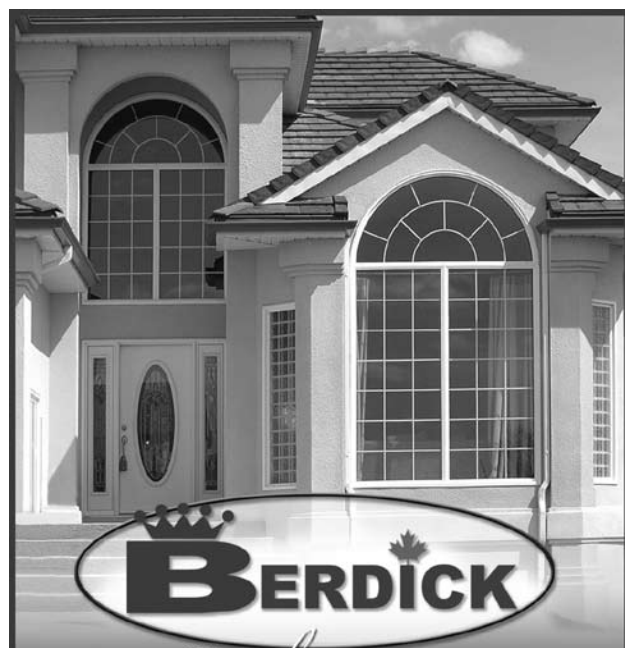
Maybe you remember the scene from *Amazing Grace*, that marvelous movie about William Wilberforce, in which Wilberforce and his friends come up with fresh new strategies for getting rid of the slave trade. Instead of working directly to outlaw it, which was getting them nowhere, they did an end run around their opponents, finding a way to put financial pressure on the owners of the slave ships—and the trade started to dry up. When the front door would not open to them, they sneaked through the back door—and they got results.

It's as simple now as it was then: If doctors will not do abortions, that trade, also, will dry up. A back door is opening for us, and pro-lifers need to make sure we take advantage of it, by supporting those physicians who make the right choice.

And you can help by talking to your own physician about this. Nothing less than life is on the line. And if the British doctors are changing their minds, certainly it can happen here.



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Courage to Serve

By Joanne Byfield

This is a column I never wanted to write.

After ten years as executive director of Alberta Pro-Life and several years before that running the Committee to End Tax-Funded Abortion (CETFA), Patty Nixon has moved on to new challenges and greener pastures (She's managing a garden centre in Edmonton.)

Her tenure at APL was productive: we increased our memberships, raised our profile within the province and the work done here often had an impact across Canada within the pro-life movement.

She generated ideas—the "unaborted" T-shirts and hoodies, the "Facts and Myths" brochure on tax-funded abortion (copied in two other provinces), our great website, our quarterly tabloid newsletter, our weekly e-update, our postcard campaign, to name just a few—and saw them through to completion.

She built a network of friendships and contacts in her years working with board members and groups from communities throughout the province. It's a network that can be contacted and activated relatively quickly and easily when needed.

For many of us, it is hard to think of Alberta Pro-Life without Patty Nixon. For more than a decade, she has been the heart of the organization.

I feel a particular loss. It was Patty who dragged me into pro-life work in 1994 when she approached me about working with the Committee To End Tax-Funded



Abortions (CETFA). I reluctantly agreed to be the spokesperson for CETFA. We had quite a run for a couple of years—frustrating, exhilarating, and fun—and we became close friends from that experience.

In 1997, she dragged me, again somewhat reluctantly, into APL. She'd been there almost a year and was recruiting board members. I've been involved ever since working side by side with her. Except for times when one of us is on vacation, I don't think a week has gone by when we haven't spoken almost daily on the phone or by email. We'd often be in touch several times a day. We took trips together to visit pro-life groups throughout the province, went to conferences together and shared our latest "kid" experiences and more recently, pictures of our grandkids.

I'm always the reluctant one you'll notice and I'm reluctant still to see her go. However, she has left us with a strong organization, a good reputation, a solid financial base and a great track record. More importantly, she has been an outstanding role model for all of us of someone who truly does have the "courage to serve."

She served us faithfully and well for a decade. We thank Patty for her time and her many talents and we wish her all the best in her new career.

We will do our best to continue to build and strengthen Alberta Pro-Life and by the way, Patty, we are always on the lookout for new board members who have some pro-life experience. (I could probably give you a reference.)

Special Report Sexual Health of Minors



The Current Reality

Sexually transmitted infections on the rise

In the past several months we have heard reports of a resurgence of syphilis in Alberta. The Alberta government issued a media release on March 9, 2007 titled "Syphilis outbreak – cases continue to rise in Alberta." The release warned Albertans about the "significant rise" in cases, more than 200 in 2006 which represented a 40% increase over 2005. These included teens "as young as 15." The province has also recorded nine cases of babies born with the infection over the past two years. These babies, warned Dr. Ameeta Singh, Infectious Diseases Medical Consultant with Alberta Health and Wellness, "will have health problems and the situation could have been prevented." The release noted that the government was launching a public awareness campaign to "remind all Albertans to practice safer sex with the use of a condom."

Another sexually transmitted infection, human papillomavirus (HPV), has also figured prominently in the news over the past few months. Several factors have contributed to the heightened focus: one is the high rate of infection, its link to cervical cancer—HPV causes about 99% of cervical cancer cases according to the Public Health Agency of Canada (<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/>

http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/iyh-vsv/diseases-maladies/hpv-vph_e.html)—and finally, the introduction and promotion of Gardasil, the new and controversial vaccine against HPV.

There are over 100 strains of HPV and it is the most common sexually transmitted infection (STI). The Public Health Agency of Canada estimates that up to 75% of sexually active people will contract at least one HPV over their lifetimes. Some of the symptoms, like genital warts, are treatable but HPV is not curable. Many people have no symptoms at all and are unaware they are infected and infecting others. HPV can be transmitted to babies during childbirth.

Gardasil, a vaccine to prevent HPV infection, was approved last year by Health Canada. In February 2007, the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) recommended it be administered to all females aged 9 to 25. The federal government in its March budget allocated \$300 million to assist provinces with provision of the vaccine. Many parents and health officials have raised objections to the idea of such a widespread and expensive immunization campaign. Some health officials and at least one physician who spent over a decade working to develop the vaccine have expressed concerns about providing the vaccine to such young girls. Dr. Diane Harper says it is unnecessary and warns that unless all those being immunized are first tested for HPV, the program will not succeed.

The Public Health Agency of Canada estimates that up to 75% of sexually active people will contract at least one HPV over their lifetimes.

The Public Health Agency of Canada also reports increasing rates of genital Chlamydia (from 269.5 per 100,000 people in 2005 to 307.9 per 100,000 in 2006) and gonorrhoea (46.7 per 100,000 in 2005 to 59.5 per 100,000 in 2006). In terms of total number of cases, the province recorded 4,414 cases of genital Chlamydia between January and June 2005. In the same six month period in 2006, the number increased to 5,197. The number of cases of gonorrhoea increased from 664 in the first six months of 2005 to 1,004 in the same period of 2006. According to the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada, Canadians between the ages of 16 and 24 have the highest rate of STIs in the country. (<http://sexualityandu.ca/professionals/sti-table1.aspx>)

The Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada says that Canadians between the ages of 16 and 24 have the highest rate of STIs in the country.

Special Report

Special Report Sexual Health of Minors

Teen pregnancy and abortion

In addition to STIs, there are several other factors that affect the health and welfare of our teens, and especially young girls. These are the number of unplanned or unwanted teen pregnancies and the teen abortion rate.

In the latest edition of Alberta Reproductive Health: Pregnancies and Births publication (2006), the province recorded 1,425 pregnancies among girls 17 and under in 2005, including 47 among girls under 15. That total increased from 1,406 in the 17 and under category in 2004. The under 15 teen pregnancy rate was higher in 2004 at 65.

The same publication reported on abortions. In 2005, there were 705 abortions performed on girls aged 17 and under, which included 32 girls under the age of 15. In 2004, there were 688 abortions on teens 17 and under including 35 for girls under 15. Much more disturbing are the statistics on repeat abortions among teenagers. According to a Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) inquiry by Alberta Pro-Life, there were 79 teens aged 17 and under who had repeat abortions in 2004: one girl under 15 had her second abortion in that year. In total, 75 teens had their second abortion, two had their third abortion and 1 girl in the 15 to 17 year-old category had her fourth

abortion. These are shocking statistics and should provoke serious re-evaluation of the messages our children are receiving in the media, our schools and our homes.

The physical and emotional trauma on these young girls can be enormous. A study of 41,039 post-abortive women by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of

Ontario found that in the three months following the abortion, the women had a four-times higher rate of hospitalization for infections, a five-times higher rate of surgery, and a five times higher rate of hospitalization than a comparable group of women who did not have abortions. (Ostbye T, Wenghofer EF, Woodward CA, Gold G, Draighead, J. Health services utilization after induced abortions on Ontario: A comparison between community clinics and hospitals. American Journal of Medical Quality 2001. May;6 (3): 99-106.)

Many studies have found that longer term effects of abortion include an increased risk of subsequent premature and/or low birth weight babies, depression, alcohol and drug abuse, and increased risk of breast cancer. (Ring-Cassidy E, Gentles I. Women's Health after Abortion: The Medical and Psychological Evidence. deVeber Institute. 2003.)

All of these elements—the increasing rates of STIs, teen pregnancy and abortions—contribute to higher health care costs within the province and the country. Aside from the economic considerations, these alarming trends are affecting the mental and emotional health of our children, and ultimately eroding our families and society.

The Messengers and their Message: Use Condoms

Children receive information from a host of sources. Families, friends, teachers, media all play a role in the formation of attitudes. We know that more and more explicit and graphic sexual images and content are depicted in the mass media and that our children spend a great deal of time watching TV and movies and interacting on the internet. Our public schools include comprehensive sex education programs. There are many other groups, both medical and educational, that provide information and “guidance” to youth on sexual health.

Governments too are involved in public education programs. The Alberta government has responded to the increase in STIs with a public information campaign including radio and television ads. The ads warn about the threat of HPV and urge them to practice “safer sex.” The ads do mention that having sex with multiple partners increases risk. Raising awareness about these diseases and urging people to get tested is a good idea and we appreciate the government's initiative in this area.

However, the reality is that the message “practice safer sex” leaves people, and especially teens, with the idea that having sex outside a committed and faithful relationship can be healthy. That message is neither positive nor accurate. For most kids, “safer sex” probably means “use condoms”, if it has any meaning at all. It is unrealistic to think they will go to accurate websites to get informed and very few will ask their parents.

Condoms, even when properly and consistently used, do not protect against STIs. At best, they reduce the risk. (For detailed information go to <http://www.medinstitute.org/content.php?name=FactsAboutCondoms>) To reduce risk, condoms must be used every time one has sexual intercourse and used properly. Studies consistently show that both men and women have a poor track record on consistent and proper condom use.

Another influential group in the area of sex education is Planned Parenthood—now known by several other names too, including Sexual Health Access Alberta (formerly Planned Parenthood Alberta), and the Calgary Sexual Health Centre, an affiliate of the Canadian Federation for Sexual Health (formerly Planned Parenthood Federation of Canada). Here in Alberta we also have Planned Parenthood Edmonton and another provincial group called the Alberta Society for the Promotion of Sexual Health (ASPSH).

These groups are very influential in the messages delivered to our children through the schools. Planned Parenthood makes presentations in our schools and is listed as a resource and partner in many educational and health brochures. ASPSH, which includes among its directors two representatives from Planned Parenthood groups in the province, is a partner in the website, “Teaching Sexual Health.” The site includes lesson plans and other curriculum aids for school boards throughout the province.

Among the Planned Parenthood programs promoted in the province is the “Give a *uck” condom carrier. The device looks like a keychain but holds two condoms, “a tube of lube” and according to Planned Parenthood Alberta's website, it “increases the chances of having protected sex.” The Edmonton PP group promotes “Queer parenting” through surrogacy, “alternate fertilization” and adoption. It advises teachers that they should be “sex positive” and gives them tips on helping children's “sexual growth.” It even gives them lesson plans for various topics, including “Values clarification.”

These groups receive the majority of their funding

from various levels of government, including the Alberta government. According to filings with Canada Revenue Agency posted on the internet, the government of Alberta in 2006 supported Sexual Health Access Alberta to the tune of \$65,000 in 2005. The Calgary Sexual Health Centre received \$9,315 from the province and the Edmonton group took in \$45,734 from provincial coffers. ASPSH is funded by the Wild Rose Quarterly Grants Program and the Alberta Lottery Fund. We don't know how much ASPSH receives because they are not listed in the CRA's directory. (You can search the charitable returns at

http://www.craarc.gc.ca/tax/charities/online_listings/charity_listings-e.html)

The philosophy of these groups with respect to sex education is reflected in the statement on the Teaching Sexual Health website:

We believe that sexual health education honours the self-worth and dignity of the individual and does not discriminate against race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, ethno-cultural background or disability. Education in sexual health needs to be structured so that attitudinal and behavioural changes arise out of informed choice. Effective sexual health education encompasses a lifespan approach, providing information, motivational support and skill-building opportunities that are relevant to people at different ages and stages in their lives. It instills awareness of the impact of one's own behaviour on others, stressing that sexual health is an interactive process that requires respect for the self and others. (TeachingSexualHealth.ca)

Here is how this approach gets transmitted to kids on the group's website targeted to teens.

“Is it bad to have sex when you are 13?”

- Only you can decide when you are ready to have sex. There is no magical age when it is suddenly okay. When considering having sex at any age, it is important to think about the potential consequences. Ask yourself:
- What are my reasons for wanting to have sex? Do I feel lonely? Am I being pressured? Do I love my partner?
- Will my moral, religious and family values be affected by my decision? Will I feel guilty or bad afterwards if I have sex?
- How will I protect myself from pregnancy and sexually transmitted infection (STI)? Do I trust my partner? Are we close? Can we talk about safer sex and birth control? If birth control fails are we ready to deal with an unplanned pregnancy?
- Sometimes talking to a parent or an adult you trust can help in determining if you are ready to become sexually active or not.

[http://www.teachingsexualhealth.ca/parentstudent/pages/juniorhigh.html#Questions_About_Sexually_Transmitted_Diseases_\(STDs\)/_Sexually_Transmitted_Infections_\(STI\)_](http://www.teachingsexualhealth.ca/parentstudent/pages/juniorhigh.html#Questions_About_Sexually_Transmitted_Diseases_(STDs)/_Sexually_Transmitted_Infections_(STI)_)

It is interesting to contrast this fuzzy approach with a government message on teen smoking.

Smoking Message to Parents

“It's never too early to talk about tobacco. When you talk to your kids about not using tobacco, you can give them more than just good advice, you can give them a solid defense strategy to say “no.” Remember that kids often seem to be defying authority when what they really want are tips they can use to help them resist peer pressure. To learn more, see How to Talk to Your Kids About Smoking. (AADAC)” (<http://yourhealth.calgaryhealthregion.ca/Topic.jsp?GUID={27B64127-F4DA-4C46-A8E4-B511B5B2A7CD}>)

Special Report Sexual Health of Minors

The smoking message is a clear "Don't do it." The focus in the case of teen sex is self-esteem and choice. When we are talking about teen pregnancy, abortion and sexually transmitted diseases or infections causing death, is that the appropriate approach? More importantly, is that what parents expect of our education system and our government?

What do parents expect?

A May 2007 Zogby survey of 1,000 parents in the U.S. found that 61% of them said they would support

A May 2007 Zogby poll of parents found that most wanted their children to abstain from sexual activity before marriage and preferred a sex ed program that reinforced that message.

abstinence education over comprehensive sex education. At the outset, these parents of children aged 10 to 16 were asked if they supported comprehensive sex education or abstinence education. Half supported the former and only 40% supported the latter. When they

learned what comprehensive sex ed included (teaching how to properly use condoms, teaching alternatives to intercourse like showering together and masturbation, and that abstinence, although mentioned, usually occupied less than 5% of the time and focus), only 30% still supported the comprehensive approach. Most parents wanted their children to abstain from sexual activity before marriage and build strong and healthy relationships with others and they preferred a program that reinforced that message. The majority, 59%, supported government funding for abstinence education while 22% supported funding for comprehensive sex education and 10% believed neither should be funded.

It would be interesting to know what Alberta parents think their children are learning in school on this subject and what message they want their children to learn about sexuality. Are Alberta parents likely to have wildly different opinions than the American parents in the Zogby survey? If the Albertans share similar ideas, is it possible to ensure that our schools, health authorities and institutions, and our tax dollars support the values and messages that parents are trying to instill in their children?

What Can We Do?

About school sex education programs?

Get the message out to parents. Encourage your neighbours, friends and family members to get informed about what their children are being taught in school. They might find out that the message conflicts directly with their own values, beliefs and expectations. If the school is doing a good job and supporting and amplifying the family's own message, encourage and support the teachers.

Parents are the primary educators of children. Surveys of teens have shown that they consider parents a very strong influence on their attitudes towards sex. (<http://www.medinstitute.org/content.php?name=faq#listitem1766-7464>) Children who have a close relationship with their parents and who talk to them about sex are less likely to engage in risky behaviours, wait longer to initiate sexual activity and have fewer partners. These parental and family messages are blunted and confused if our schools and government authorities are promulgating a conflicting message.

If the children are getting a conflicting message, parents need to take charge. In Alberta right now, parents must give written permission before a child can participate in school sex education classes. Don't sign if you don't like the program and encourage others to do the same. If enough parents refuse to allow their children to participate, the school will have to change. Be ready with suggestions for speakers or other teaching aids that present positive and healthy messages. Check with your church or with local pro-life groups. Many of them do school presentations. The Medical Institute for Sexual Health (www.medinstitute.org) offers a number of resources in this area.

About the HPV vaccine?

Don't be pressured into a decision without informing yourself. The approved vaccine, Gardasil, was only tested on women between the ages of 13 and 25. In late May Judicial Watch reported that the U.S. FDA received reports of three deaths and 1,600 "adverse events" related to the Gardasil vaccine. Gardasil is expensive (approximately \$400 for three shots) and provides no protection if the woman already has HPV.

Clinical trials have shown it is effective for at least 5 years but may require a booster after that. Families should be free to choose whether this vaccine should be administered or not.

About government programs promoting condoms instead of abstinence?

Urge your elected officials to determine the health care costs of treating sexually transmitted infections and paying for abortions that result from teen premarital sexual activity. This would include the direct costs of the treatments or procedures but also the indirect costs associated with complications, such as infertility, depression, subsequent risky behaviours, etc. Albertans should know the full toll that these have on the health care system. This will help to determine whether the message promoting self-esteem and choice is actually a healthy message for teens.

Talk to your municipal, provincial and federal politicians and urge them to stop funding Planned Parenthood (under whatever name) and other groups and programs that undermine teen sexual health. Albertans who want to support the kinds of programs implemented by Planned Parenthood can make donations to the group. It is unfair to use tax dollars (or lottery money that flows to government) to promote a message that violates the beliefs of many families. In addition, there is no evidence that these programs promote sexual health and if the statistics show anything, it is that our current activities do nothing to reduce STDs, teen pregnancies or abortions. With rising rates of STI and an overall increase in abortion rates and repeat abortions, our sex education programs could be one of the factors leading to a decline in teen sexual health.

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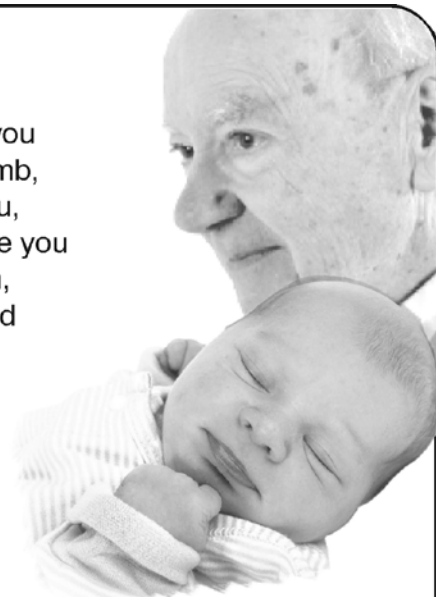
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Jer 1:5



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What pro-life means to me

By Astride Wenigerova-Noga

To understand what pro-life means to me, visualize this:

Imagine a street full of people, walking and doing their own stuff. Most of them are happy, some nervous, some burdened, some whistle, some are listening to their CDs. Some are chewing gum, some lick ice cream. It is a nice day.

Somewhere there is also a lonely child, looking around and up to the sky. The child does not understand much of the street around, but is happy and confident.

At once a man comes, grabs the child and wants to kill him. The child cries, begs for mercy, tries to kick off the man or run away, but is no match for him. The child will be killed if nobody helps.

Now I happen to be in this street. While people are just passing by this murder, some shaking their heads that this should not be done, but hurrying by, I cannot but try to help the child. I too scream for help to ladies with well done nails and make-up. I try to turn their attention away from the store windows and their boyfriends and children and toward this tragedy.

I call on men as I try to kick the murderer and bite him and beg them for help. Some promise to come later, they are on the way to their child's birthday party or concert. Some call me names like "militant, fundamentalist, crazy old bag." Nobody wants to help us! Some pass on their comments. They tell me I am wrong to fight and that I should go to the nearest phone booth and phone the police station. Others quarrel with

them—"No, she should phone 911." Some tell me how stupid my physical fight is. They recommend I go first to the gym and get physically fit and then learn karate. Some even kick me and the child.

This fight goes on for hours. People pass by, some never stop. They could not care less. Some curse the killer and continue walking away. I am afraid. I am so lonely. I am not a match for the killer. I cry to Jesus, most people laugh, some silently pray and walk away. This is not what they want to see. They are so sensitive, so emotional. My behaviour is so impolite and unladylike and I am so loud and the child screams too and the killer is so powerful. I realize I will never get help for the child against the killer. I have no idea why the child is still alive. Somehow I know, I feel that while I fight and scream, the man is unable to finish the murder. I don't understand why it is so, but this encourages me. Again and again I get a bit more strength to continue and I know I must continue. I must continue so I continue. Only God is keeping me and the child on our feet and fighting.

It is now supper time. The street is empty. People went for supper. I fight the killer and he holds the child tight but cannot reach for the knife.

Somehow I hear from far away, noise like ours—screams for help from a child and a woman. What is this? In a split second I see at the far end of the street, the same scene—a woman trying to protect a child from a killer. She screams and kicks and prevents him from using his knife.

At once, I feel so happy. I am not alone. I continue. I see at the end of the street a small man approaching the killer and wrestling the knife out of his hand. The child runs. The woman kisses the man's feet. The killer beats on him and uses his cell phone (the small man is not a match for him). Sirens sound and finally police arrive. They handcuff the man who helped the woman and thrust him in the police car. The woman runs to me crying. I understand from her weeping that they arrested the man for stealing the killer's knife. The woman tries to help me. She seems to have the same determination of despair. We still are no match for the killer but somehow, while we struggle and scream and pray, while looking so untidy, so unladylike, somehow the fight goes on. One child escaped and this one is still alive.

Somehow, we both know, this woman and I, that in many other streets children were killed because nobody cared. We mourn deeply that we were unable to help them, but at least we might help this one. There is always one more live child. God help us, because this world has no heart. The love of many became cold and their hearts are warm in their own fat!

But there is this one woman beside me and there was a man who helped us. Somebody else might join us. Who knows?

This is what it means for me to be pro-life.

Astride Wenigerova-Noga lives in Beaverlodge, Alberta.

Life Canada Update

Our executive director, Carroll Rees, resigned in mid-April. Carroll worked for us for four years and did a wonderful job keeping us on track and carrying out projects such as the ABC website, our newsletter, organizing the polling and a host of other activities. We appreciate all her efforts on our behalf and wish her well in her new job. We are seeking a replacement for Carroll and hope to have this done by June.

Our board met for two days in March to do some short- and long-term planning. This was a very productive and useful meeting. We are proceeding with our January 2008 educational campaign to coincide with the 20th anniversary of the Supreme Court decision that removed all legal restrictions on abortion. The campaign will include postcards, billboards, print ads and possibly radio ads. We will remind Canadians that there are no legal restrictions on abortion in Canada and urge people to reconsider that policy. We hope to send out the materials for this campaign to all the member groups this month. Please consider getting involved with this campaign. It is a great opportunity to take the pro-life message to the larger community.

We are also involved in the October billboard campaign promoting awareness of the link between breast cancer and abortion. We hope that many groups

will participate in this campaign which directs people to the www.AbortionBreastCancer.ca website. We have two different billboard messages as well as print ads for your local newspapers. Please consider helping to get this message out to your community.

LifeCanada will again be commissioning a poll on Canadians' opinions on abortion. This will be our sixth annual poll. We would like to add a question about unborn victims of violence legislation to see if Canadians support the idea of amending the Criminal Code to allow police to charge people with murder if they kill an unborn child in the course of injuring or murdering a pregnant woman. Right now, it is not considered a crime to kill the baby. We will be asking groups if they would like us to add that question to our four other questions. (We currently ask if they would like to see legal restrictions on abortion, if they support informed consent laws, parental consent laws and if they support the current policy of using tax dollars to pay for most abortions.)

We are also working to get our materials and website translated into French. We have a person who is doing the translations for us so bit by bit we will eventually have our materials in two languages.

We are also preparing an online pamphlet on all of our poll results so that our members can download this information. It will show the trends over the six years of polling. Because it is online we will be able to update it each year without incurring printing costs and groups can download current information when they need it. In response to a member request, we are also working on an abortion booklet for youth. We hope to have these ready by fall.

We're also promoting our "No Show Gala Cruise," a fundraiser for us. You can check out all the details of this event at our website, www.lifecanada.org. Tickets for this fun event are \$35 or 10 for \$350. We'll send a CD of a talk by Fr. Robert Spitzer on euthanasia that he presented at the national conference. We also ask that you send us pictures of your No Show Gala Cruise for us to post on our website.

Finally, don't forget the national pro-life conference which will be held in New Brunswick this year from October 25-27 in Moncton. You can check out the details at <http://www.dvmrl.knows.it/>.

*Joanne Byfield, Alberta director
LifeCanada/VieCanada*

Life Digest

This Life Digest includes items that originally appeared in our weekly E-Updates. Many of our members do not receive the updates and will not have heard about these stories.

Morgentaler lawsuit begins in New Brunswick

Last month in a courtroom in Fredericton, a lawsuit brought by Henry Morgentaler against the New Brunswick government began. Morgentaler is suing the province to force taxpayers to pay for abortions performed at his private, for-profit clinic. The province pays only for abortions performed in hospitals by a gynecologist. Morgentaler runs a chain of clinics across the country and like the one in Edmonton, they are funded by taxpayers. The lawsuit alleges that the N.B. regulations are unconstitutional, even though there is no constitutional right to a tax-funded abortion. Pro-life supporters were outside the court house when the trial opened on Wednesday. Peter Ryan, executive director of New Brunswick Right to Life said, "We're here because our voice has been excluded from the court hearing. We were twice denied intervener status, which means the right to life will not be heard in court. The government will not speak about the 6,000 children killed at the abortion clinic since 1994."

Pope Benedict reaffirms duty of politicians to support life

Following meetings with the Catholic bishops in Rome, Pope Benedict XVI released an Apostolic Exhortation to the Church entitled, "Sacramentum Caritatis", the Sacrament of Charity. In it he says, "Worship pleasing to God can never be a purely private matter, without consequences for our relationships with others: it demands a public witness to our faith."

Evidently, this is true for all the baptized, yet it is especially incumbent upon those who, by virtue of their social or political position, must make decisions regarding fundamental values, such as respect for human life, its defence from conception to natural death, the family built upon marriage between a man and a woman, the freedom to educate one's children and the promotion of the common good in all its forms. These values are not negotiable. Consequently, Catholic politicians and legislators, conscious of their grave responsibility before society, must feel particularly bound, on the basis of a properly formed conscience, to introduce and support laws inspired by values grounded in human nature." You can read the entire document at http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/apost_exhortations/documents/hf_ben-xvi_exh_20070222_sacramentum-caritatis_en.html#INTRODUCTION.

Who are these people?

The Canadian delegation at the United Nations has done it again. In a *Calgary Herald* column in April, Andrea Mrozek, manager of research and communications at Institute of Marriage and Family Canada (www.imfcanada.org), reports that a resolution to ban sex selection abortions worldwide was derailed by our country's team. According to Ms. Mrozek, the Canadians "wanted to alter the text so substantially that the countries formerly supporting the resolution could no longer and withdrew it entirely." The Canadian delegation at the UN is notorious around the world for

its rabid defence of abortion rights. Who are these people and how do they get appointed? More importantly, do they ever report to the House of Commons on their activities or solicit direction from our elected representatives on how to vote on such issues? Would our MPs vote against banning sex selection abortions, which overwhelmingly target girls? Would your MP? You might want to politely ask your MP if he or she has ever given direction to the UN delegation on how to vote on such issues. You can get contact information for your federal MP at <http://www.parl.gc.ca/information/about/people/house/PostalCode.asp?Language=E&source=sm>

U.S. Supreme Court says no to partial birth abortion

In a 5-4 decision, the United States Supreme Court ruled that the ban on partial birth abortions did not violate the constitution. The decision was hailed by pro-life supporters and denounced by abortion advocates. Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who dissented from the majority decision, described the ruling as "alarming." Opponents also said it would lead to further restrictions on abortion and warned that the decision could restrict all abortions after 12 weeks. Partial birth abortion is a procedure usually used in late abortions. The baby is delivered feet first but before the baby's head emerges, the doctor punctures the skull with scissors and drains the contents before completing the delivery. This ensures that the baby will be dead when born. Peter Mansbridge, on CBC television news, described it as a victory for "anti-abortion" forces. He said the court banned the "so-called partial birth abortion" procedure. So-called? Read the description, Peter.

British docs say abortion limit should change

The May 3rd issue of the British medical magazine, *Pulse*, reported on the results of a survey of general practitioners which found that 20% of the 300 doctors who replied thought abortion should not be legal and 24% said they would not refer for abortion. More surprising, over half of those who supported abortion believed the 24-week limit should be reduced. Also, the *Daily Mail* newspaper in Britain reported this week that the British Health Minister Caroline Flint is worried that her bill to amend the law on fertilization and embryology will be used by some MPs to include an amendment reducing the legal limit of abortions from 24 weeks to 20. In a leaked memo to Prime Minister Blair, the health minister said that she had obtained advice that such amendments "could not simply be ruled out as a matter of scope."

The *Pulse* article can be access at <http://www.pulse-i.com/articles/fulldetails.asp?aid=12712&pageno=&searchphrase=abortion&CATEGORY=&ARTICLETYPE=&submitted=1&ISSUEDATE=0>. (Note: You must register for this site but it is free.)

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News from groups

CALGARY PRO-LIFE ASSOC.
Ph: 403-243-0691
pro_life@telusplanet.net

CAMROSE PRO-LIFE
Ph: 780-672-7110
gailschulte@hotmail.com
Camrose & District Pro-Life is commissioning an artist to create a sculpture reflecting the precious gift of human life. The original artwork, designed by Helena Mulligan of Grande Prairie, was inspired by the scripture, "I have carved you on the palm of my hand" (Isaiah 49:16). The sculpture will be completed this summer and placed in the heart of our community. Donations to make this project a reality are gratefully accepted. Contact Connie at 672-2354. See Calendar for details on our Summer Social and our annual meeting.

CHOOSE LIFE ATHABASCA
Ph: 780-675-4442
hdleicht@x-wire.net
Athabasca Choose Life is a small group but an active one. Our President, Ron Gordon, has been on a talking tour to Lac La Biche and Slave Lake planting seeds for pro-life chapters in these areas. As a result, a new chapter is being started in Lac La Biche, and, probably at a later date, in Slave Lake. We want to have a more public face in our community and to this end we are manning a food booth for our famous "Magnificent River Rats Festival" on the Canada Day weekend. Plans are in the works for a musical presentation in the fall, both as a means for more visibility and as a money-raiser for our association. We pray that God will bless these undertakings and raise up more people who will take a stand for the unborn and the women who are so often deceived by the rhetoric of abortion supporters.

C.H.I.L.D. Citizen's Helping in Life's Defense
Ph: 780-962-8108
srossi053@yahoo.ca
C.H.I.L.D. held its first event, "Celebrate Life with Chocolate", on Thursday May 3rd, at the Pioneer Centre in Spruce Grove. Prior to the evening's event, Stephanie Gray spoke at St. Thomas Aquinas High School in Spruce Grove to about 50 Religious Ed. students. Later that evening, forty loyal supporters headed out in the pouring rain to take in our captivating speaker Stephanie, co-founder and director of the Canadian Centre for Bio-ethical Reform (CCBR). Stephanie equipped us with the strategies and apologetics of pro-life. An informative question and answer period followed. Theresa de Rox composed and sang a heartfelt musical expression, which capped the evening off on just the right note. The silent auction proceeds helped to offset the cost of the evening, as did donations



Stephanie Gray

at the door. And of course . . . the chocolate was delectable! We are so grateful to everyone who helped to make this evening the huge success that it was. Our AGM covered projects from past years, elections, our new, improved brochure, and a reminder that we will be breaking for the summer months. Monday, June 18th, 7 pm, will be our last meeting until September. (Monday, Sept.17) Call Tracey @ 968-0574 for more info.

We would encourage people to stop by the Pioneer Cemetery (Hwy. 16 @ Pioneer Rd.) to visit the Rachel Mourning Statue and offer prayers for both the unborn and their parents. We are still working towards placing a billboard on Highway 16, between Spruce Grove and Stony Plain. This has been a year of learning and growing amongst our newly formed group. We look forward to the year ahead, as we work together in bringing the sanctity of life to the forefront! Have a great summer everyone!

DRAYTON VALLEY RESPECT FOR LIFE
Ph: 780-542-7546
mlsmith2@telus.net
Drayton Valley Respect for Life held their annual spring brunch on April 21st, 2007. Our speakers were Valli Adams and Joanne Byfield from the Back Porch. Approximately 60 people attended to hear about this exciting new ministry that takes place right across the street from the Morgentaler abortuary in Edmonton. Our billboard project is back on the front burner! We now have approval from the town on our location and are working on construction of the sign. Look for this billboard to go up some time this summer.

EDMONTON PROLIFE
Ph: 780-425-1637
edmpl@interbaun.com
www.edmontonprolife.org

FORT McMURRAY PRO-LIFE
Ph: 780-791-0306

GRANDE PRAIRIE VOICE FOR LIFE
Ph: 780-538-3344
vfl@telusplanet.net

HIGH RIVER PRO-LIFE
Ph: 403-652-7975
highriverprolife@shaw.ca
High River Pro-Life had a fundraising tea for Canadian Centre for Bio-Ethical Reform (CCBR) with Stephanie Gray presenting. We had a great turnout and thoroughly enjoyed the presentation. We also held a Mother's Day Writing Contest, inviting school aged children to write a letter or essay on the topic, "Why I Need a Mom". We put an ad in the paper

and sent the contest information to the local schools and churches. Several teachers from both the public and Catholic schools that had their classes write for the contest. There were four age categories and the winner from each group won flowers and chocolates for his/her mom. The winning entries were printed in the local paper on Mother's Day weekend. (The *High River Times* printed them for free!)

LAKELAND PRO-LIFE
Ph: 780-639-3601
rlirette@telusplanet.net

Last fall the Lakeland Pro-Life had two great speakers. Inspiring author and dynamic speaker, Carmen Marcoux of Saskatoon, SK gave a special presentation on "Chastity, Purity and Courtship". She spoke to parents and homeschoolers one evening and to the Assumption School students & staff the next day. Her novel "Arms of Love" is a compelling witness to the universal call to holiness and how we, despite our failings, can live out that call. Her new book is "Surrender". Don't miss it. Go to courtshipnow.com to order your copy. Carmen's 15-year-old daughter Hanna sang three songs that went along with the theme of her talk. The students really enjoyed her singing. Some said she was so filled with the Holy Spirit.

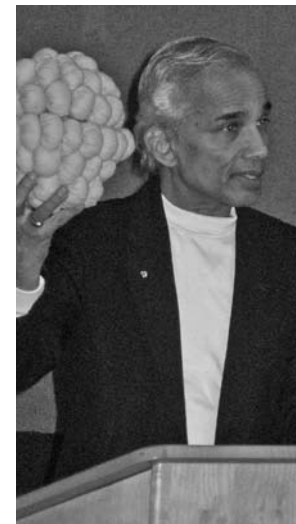
Lucie is a member of Mi Casa Ministries and speaks on the Gospel of Life. She uses her art to promote devotions to our Lady of Guadalupe and shares her personal journey from despair to healing as an encouragement to others. Through this ministry Lucie wishes to emphasize our dignity and sacredness as children of God the Father, made in His image and likeness. Lucie Tettamente, a member of Mi Casa Ministries, brought the official Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe, an exact replica of the one in Mexico City, which was given to Christine Foisy-Erickson for Canada. She spoke at our Prayer Breakfast in the morning and then spoke at three churches and to students at several schools. Each talk was geared for the specific group and went very well. She would have needed more time to speak to all who wanted to hear her message. She has a good pro-life message that she passes on to her audience in a very gentle way. We plan to invite her back next school year.



Carmen Marcoux, Hannah and Kelly Henderson

LETHBRIDGE & DIST. PRO-LIFE
Ph: 403-320-5433
lprolife@shaw.ca

Our Annual General Meeting was held on February 8, 2007. The evening featured Dr. Clem Persaud, who is a retired professor from the Biotechnology Faculty at the University of Victoria. He spoke on stem cell research, addressed the issues of embryonic stem cell research and discussed adult stem cell research. The evening also included a banquet and a silent auction. Dr. Persaud also conducted a noon



Dr. Clem Persaud

hour presentation on stem cells at the Lethbridge Public Library. Our display at the Southern Alberta Teachers' Convention was visited by both male and female teachers, with many of them picking up valuable and free resources for their classrooms, including the Celebrate Life/Pure Life curriculum (which our organization developed for grades kindergarten to grade 12). The winner of Elsie Alexander Scholarship 2007 is Corina Mulder, a grade 12 student at Calvin Christian School in Monarch. The topic for this year's essay contest was stem cells. Her essay was chosen from among four entries by the scholarship selection committee.

News from Groups Continued

Corina is active in her school and community, doing volunteer work and sharing her passion for pro-life issues. Best wishes, Corina, as you enter the University of Lethbridge's education program and train as a teacher, one with a heart for pro-life! Educational and awareness presentations have been made to schools and churches, and churches have borrowed our display as a way to inform their congregations about pro-life issues.

Thank you to volunteers who have helped with mail-outs, folding brochures, bagging Young One models, putting

contact information on the back of brochures, preparing resources for the Resource Center and assisting during the Annual General Meeting/Silent Auction. It is great to have a team of very dedicated volunteers whose work behind the scenes is instrumental in the pro-life ministry.

MEDICINE HAT PRO-LIFE
Ph: 403-527-7434
gibach@telusplanet.net

PEMBINA PRO-LIFE
Ph: 780-674-2952
bdening@telusplanet.net
About 100 people, including a large contingent of youth, came to our Annual

General Meeting to hear our guest speaker Dr. Clem Persaud. He gave a wonderful presentation on stem cells and on some of the latest areas of research on reproductive technologies. Dr. Persaud, a resident of Victoria, is an excellent presenter and uses great models to demonstrate what stem cells are and how cloning works. His message is that scientists have moved rapidly in this area of research but we have been "slow to scrutinize the ethics." When one does examine the ethics, the conclusion is inescapable that embryonic stem cell research destroys human life. His talk elicited questions and comments

and it was a very good evening.

RED DEER PRO-LIFE
Ph: 403-340-2229
bonnie@rttinc.com
We will have a booth at the Westerner Fair Days from July 18 - 22 in Red Deer. We invite everyone to drop in and say hello. Our next meeting will be at St. Mary's Church at 7:00 on June 26. Call 340-BABY to confirm. We will be participating in the Life Chain again this fall. Our Annual General Meeting was held on May 16 at the Deer Park Activity Centre. After enjoying hotdogs we had our meeting. We are excited to announce our new executive:

President: Charmaine Hollings, Vice President - Christine Moore, Recording Secretary - Melanie Homan, Corresponding Secretary - Marie Ottosen, Treasurer - Donald Ottosen, Pastoral Liaison - Pastor Schuelke, Education Coordinator - Cathy Cole, Membership Coordinator - Ed Shields, Alberta Pro-Life Representative - Adriana Lagrange. The Knights of Columbus generously presented us with a check for \$1100.00 for the purchase of new fetal models. We thanked Valli Adams from ALIES and Henny van der Gugten, President of Alberta Pr-Life for joining us and enjoyed listening to Valli give a talk about the "Back Porch". We put an ad in the *Red Deer Advocate* for Mother's Day weekend and hope to have signs in the inside of City buses this fall. Our new education coordinator is

looking forward to doing presentations to schools, churches etc. Parents ask your schools to invite us to do a presentation. We are able to direct our educational presentations to all age groups. For more information call 340-BABY.

TABER PRO-LIFE
Ph: 403-223-8452
emoedt@telus.net

We are still looking for a president. One local member is doing a great job filling in but we'd like something more official. Taber Christian Store has our library at the store for people to borrow books, etc. Come, check it out. We will be having our annual Life Chain on October 7th at the Taber Civic Center north of Safeway at 2 pm.

Calendar of Events

June 15-16 Catholic Organization for Life and Family (COLF) is hosting a conference on Theology of the Body called "Towards a New Sexual Revolution" in Edmonton at the Shaw Conference Centre. For more information, contact colf@colf.ca or phone (613) 241-9461, ext. 162.

June 16 The Back Porch Yard Sale. ALIES (Alberta Life Issues Educational Society) which operates the Back Porch will host the sale from 8 am to 5 pm to raise money for this important ministry across from the Morgentaler Clinic. We are asking for your donations (no clothing please) toward this effort. Call 421-9941 for more details and come join us at the sale.

June 26 Red Deer and District Pro-Life's monthly meeting at St. Mary's Church at 7 pm. Call 340-BABY to confirm.

July 5 Camrose & District Pro-Life summer social will be held on Thursday, July 5 at 7:00 pm at 150 Mount Pleasant Drive. Please bring lawn chairs, a snack, and the whole family. For more information, call Connie at 672-2354.

July 18-22 Red Deer and District Pro-Life will have a booth at the Westerner Fair Days in Red Deer. We invite everyone to drop in and say hello.

July 19 Edmonton Prolife will once again have an information booth at Capital Ex. We will need over 60 volunteers to make this fun, public education opportunity a reality. This is a very relaxed way to spread the prolife message. Your admission is paid for and you are welcome to enjoy the day at Capital Ex prior to and after your shift! If you would like to volunteer for a shift please call Karen at 425-1637.

September 5th Look for the Drayton Valley Respect for Life booth at the Community Registration night at the Omniplex 6-9 pm.

September 27 Camrose & District fall meeting is tentatively scheduled for 7 pm on Thursday, Sept. 27 at 58 Montcalm Avenue. For more information, call Gail at 672-2066.

September 28-30 Lethbridge and District Pro-Life will be at the Southern Alberta Women's Show. For more information, contact Jackie at 403-320-5433.

September 29 A.S.L.A.N. Youth Pro-Life conference in Cold Lake. See ad page 3.

October 1-7 Siege of Jericho is seeking people who will pray the rosary one hour per day during the first week of October to end abortion. There is also a Perpetual Rosary Crusade which seeks Canadians who will pray the Rosary for one hour a week all year so that every hour of every day someone is praying the Rosary to end abortion. For more information or to sign up for the Siege of Jericho or the Perpetual Rosary Campaign, contact Wally O'Hara at Ephphatha House, Box 17, Site 320, RR3, Stony Plain, AB, T7Z 1X3, or phone 780-963-0896 or email ephphatha@explornet.com.

October 7 International Life Chain Sunday held in many Alberta communities. Dates may vary since this is Thanksgiving weekend. We will have complete listings in the September issue of *The Rose*.

October 19 & 20 "Science and Ethics of Early Human Life" with Rev. Dr Tad Pacholczyk, Neuroscientist and Ethicist in Calgary. Call (403) 218-5505 for more information.

October 25-27 National Pro-Life Conference in Moncton, New Brunswick. This event is hosted by Moncton Right to Life and co-sponsored by LifeCanada and Campaign Life Coalition. The theme is "From sea unto sea- for life." For details about speakers and special events go to <http://www.dvmrl.knows.it/>.

JOHN HARDER P.ENG

**OILFIELD
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Calgary, Alberta

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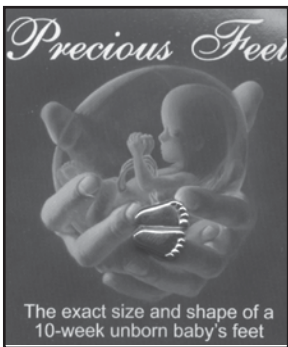
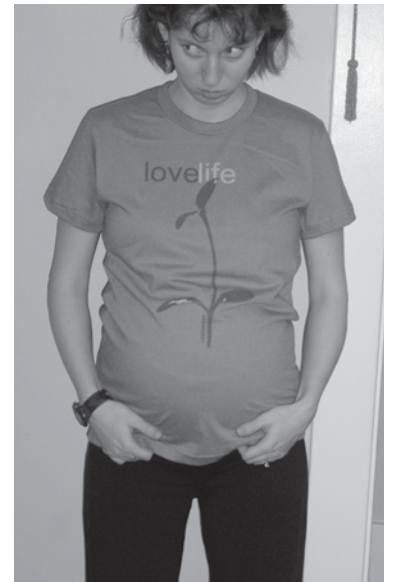


Wearing a message

When was the last time you wore a pro-life message? If you can't remember, we can help you fix that! By "wearing a message" you can get great unique opportunities to talk to people about your pro-life position that you maybe would not be able to do otherwise. Whether it is just a small precious feet pin on your lapel or purse handle, or the huge "choose life" message on the hoodie below, these items are 100% guaranteed to be the perfect solution to pro-life conversation starters.

We want to hear your story!

Please send us your stories about times when you've experienced exactly what we're talking about. We'll do our best to publish as many as we can... and if you're not camera shy... we are "always" looking for cool & funky unaborted pics to put in our newsletter or up on the official unaborted.com website.



The exact size and shape of a 10-week unborn baby's feet



PRECIOUS FEET PINS

These popular 10 week feet pins come with a tiny brochure that tells about the baby at the 10-week stage. An excellent tool to hand out to young people without having to say a word.

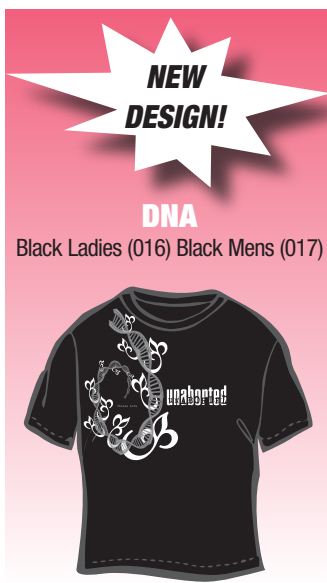
PRECIOUS FEET AWARENESS BRACELET

These rubberized bracelets are popular with the younger teens—and have the imprinted the words "Life is precious" along with the 10 week foot-



PRECIOUS FEET LANYARDS

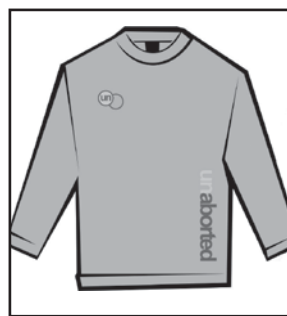
These handy shoelace style key holders—have the "precious feet" printed on them at the 10 week actual size, and come in white.



DNA
Black Ladies (016) Black Mens (017)

"UNABORTED" T-SHIRTS & HOODIES

Check out www.unaborted.com to see actual colors of T-shirts and Hoodies.



"Funky un" T-shirt

Long sleeves. Colors available: Pink (001) or Brown (002).



"Lovelife" T-shirt

Short sleeves. Colors available: Green (013).



"Thank God" T-shirt

Short sleeves. Colors available: White (006) or Light Blue (007).



"Wake-up" T-shirt

Short sleeves. Colors available: Olive (008) or Army (009).



"Trad un" T-shirt

Short sleeves. Colors available: Eggplant (003) or Brown (004).

"Trad un" Hoodie

Colors available: Asphalt (005).



"Choose Life" T-shirt

Short sleeves. Colors available: Asphalt Ladies (010), Asphalt Mens (011)

New Color!

Olive Green Ladies (014)
Olive Green Mens (015)

"Choose Life" Hoodie

Colors available: Asphalt (012).

ALBERTA PRO-LIFE ORDER FORM

QTY.	ITEM	PRICE	TOTAL
___	Feet Pin	\$4.00	___
___	Bracelet	\$3.00	___
___	Lanyards	\$5.00	___
___	Magnets/sticker	\$3.00	___
___	Pro-Life 101	\$8.00	___
___	Precious Unborn Human Persons	\$8.00	___
___	Breast Cancer	\$9.00	___

T-SHIRTS AND HOODIES

All T-shirts available in girls & guys sizes – i.e. a small girl size is equivalent to a size 5. Hoodie sizes are unisex

QTY.	ITEM #	SIZE	GIRL or GUY Size (check one)	TOTAL
			<input type="radio"/> Girl <input type="radio"/> Boy	
			<input type="radio"/> Girl <input type="radio"/> Boy	
			<input type="radio"/> Girl <input type="radio"/> Boy	
			<input type="radio"/> Girl <input type="radio"/> Boy	
			<input type="radio"/> Girl <input type="radio"/> Boy	
			<input type="radio"/> Girl <input type="radio"/> Boy	

T-shirt price \$20.00 Hoodie Price \$50.00
Please add a donation of \$5.00 towards shipping & handling

For large quantities (25 or more), please contact the office at (780) 421-7747 to place your order.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Prov _____
Postal Code _____ Ph.# _____
Email _____

Annual membership fee (\$25.00) \$ _____
 Donation \$ _____
 Total amount of products \$ _____
 Total Payment enclosed \$ _____

Please make cheque payable to: Alberta Pro-Life Alliance Association, P.O. Box 11479, Edmonton, AB T5J 3K5.
Alberta Pro-Life Alliance Association is not a registered charity and thus unable to issue tax receipts for donations.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

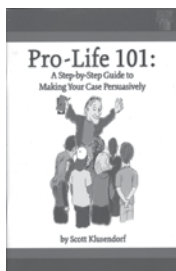
CHEQUE

CARD # _____

EXPIRY DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____

Books



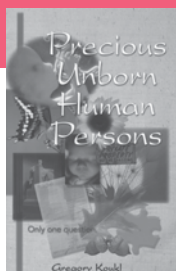
PRO-LIFE 101

By Scott Klusendorf
One of the best pro-life tutorials available! A must read for everyone interested in this issue.



BREAST CANCER – RISKS AND PREVENTION

By Dr. Angela Lanfranchi & Dr. Joel Brind
Written to help women understand the risk factor of abortion and breast cancer. A great booklet to give to your local doctors!



PRECIOUS UNBORN HUMAN PERSONS

By Gregory Koukl
A well-reasoned discussion on what it means to be human.