



MISSOURI RIGHT TO LIFE

Transforming society to respect and protect all innocent human life.

Disappointments and distractions will be what we encounter this election cycle. Be prepared!

Those who want to stop us from ending abortion will do anything to distract us.

We must stay on track to change the U.S. Supreme Court!

Words cannot express the disappointment pro-life Missourians feel regarding our Congressmen and Congresswomen who voted to continue funding Planned Parenthood through the Consolidated Appropriations Act. With its passage in late March, Planned Parenthood will again receive about \$500 million in taxpayer money.

Special thanks to Missouri Congressman Billy Long (R-7) and Congressman Jason Smith (R-8) for their “no” votes on the Consolidated Appropriations Act.

Pro-life Missourians and conservatives in general are watching the promises made by elected officials. The pro-life base is decidedly apprehensive supporting those who send our tax dollars to organizations that would starve, suffocate, poison, or dismember children in the womb.

To achieve enactment of legislation to block funding of Planned Parenthood or accomplish other major pro-life gains -- very importantly appointments to the U.S. Supreme Court -- we need the election of several additional reliably pro-life United States senators.

Pro-life voters in Missouri can help accomplish that goal.

Do not be distracted by deceptions from Democrats in this election cycle.

For instance, Claire McCaskill’s “no” vote on the Consolidated Appropriations Act was a deception that does not represent her true position of total support of Planned Parenthood and the right for a woman to choose to kill her baby. The true Claire McCaskill prevented the Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act from coming up for a vote in the U.S. Senate. The

true Claire McCaskill is okay killing a baby at 5-months gestation if the baby’s mom does not want her.

So while we will not be deceived by the abortion-supporting Claire McCaskill, we will also not keep accepting disappointments with the continuance of spending our tax dollars on abortion.

We expect more from our pro-life majorities. We expect better than the current Consolidated Appropriations Act.

Meanwhile, we remain on track to send a true pro-life senator to Washington D.C. in November to make a 60 vote threshold in our U.S. Senate. Missourians will deliver the pro-life vote to oust the deceptive Claire McCaskill, defund Planned Parenthood, and change the make up of the U.S. Supreme Court.

**DEFUND
Planned
Parenthood**

Did You Know?

A Government Accountability Office (GAO) study, requested by more than 120 members of the House and the Senate, found that over a three-year period more than \$1.5 billion in tax dollars went to three of the largest abortion “providers” in the world: Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Marie Stopes International, and International Planned Parenthood Federation.

nationalrighttolifenews.org/news/



Special Election June 5, 2018

A special election has been called for Missouri State Senate District 17 (southwest Clay County)

Missouri Right to Life PAC’s endorsement in this race is

Kevin Corlew (R)



Fact or Fiction

In *The Washington Post* fact-checker section, Michelle Ye Hee Lee reported on her investigation of the question, "Is the United States one of seven countries that 'allow elective abortions after 20 weeks of pregnancy?'"

In her words, "This statistic seemed dubious at first, because it seemed extreme for just seven countries out of 198 to allow elective abortions after 20 weeks of pregnancy. But upon further digging, the data back up the claim."

The law of the United States on abortion is more extreme than almost every other nation on earth.

excerpt - The Witherspoon Institute
2/22/18

Archbishop Condemns Pro-Abortion "Cafeteria Catholics" Who "Pick and Choose" What Teachings They Like

November 2018 will mark the beginning of Catholic Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann's new leadership of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Pro-Life Activities Committee. November also will determine the political fate of those whom Naumann has labeled "cafeteria Catholics."

For example, former vice presidential candidate Tim Kaine, who is running for re-election in the U.S. Senate, embraces pro-abortion policies despite calling himself a Catholic. Naumann has not been afraid to keep members of his church accountable, even if those members are political leaders.

"In the Oct. 4 vice presidential debate, Senator Kaine acknowledged he was blessed with great Irish Catholic parents and grew up in a wonderful faith-filled family. ... I wish that was the end of the story," Naumann posted on his Catholic archdiocese's website during the 2016 election.

He concluded his post by saying, "Unfortunately, the vice-presidential

debate revealed that the Catholic running for the second highest office in our land is an orthodox member of his party, fully embracing his party's platform, but a "cafeteria Catholic," picking and choosing the teachings of the Catholic Church that are politically convenient."

Naumann's passion for life shines when he boldly confronts leaders for not adhering to their decreed faith. He began in 1984, when another Catholic vice presidential candidate, Geraldine Ferraro, also vocally supported abortion, Catholic Citizens reports.

"It really saddened me, after her selection for this high office, that immediately she started to basically contradict the clear teaching of the Church in terms of abortion," Naumann stated at the time. "That did motivate me at that point. I partially credit Geraldine Ferraro as providing negative inspiration for me!"

Later in 2008, Naumann responded to former Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius' support of abortion by demanding that she cease taking communion.

He also severed his diocese's ties with the Girl Scouts because of the club's connection with Planned Parenthood, and instead endorsed American Heritage Girl Clubs, which are more conservative.

National Right to Life Committee President Carol Tobias remarked, "I would not be surprised to see [the archbishop] holding various people accountable — and not just politicians and legislators."

Indeed, despite his confrontation of political leaders and organizations, he displays a fatherly compassion for families who have been affected by abortion. Naumann said his mother's experience of raising him and his brother on her own motivates the compassion he shows to others in that situation.

He said, "[M]y personal background gave me a greater sensitivity to women facing a pregnancy under traumatic circumstances."

The archbishop endeavors to minister to women who may have had an abortion in his congregation, pointing them to programs like Project Rachel that tend to the emotional needs of women in this situation.

"So whatever we can do for women who are having an untimely pregnancy — how can we, as Church, surround them with love? I think my own experience gives me a lot of motivation in that area,"

he stated.

Naumann also invests in the next generation, leading bus loads of young people to the March for Life every year, and spending time with college students through various programs.

His fierce yet compassionate commitment to life granted him the position of chair of the U.S. Bishops' pro-life committee, a position that has traditionally been held by cardinals.

Editor's note: Archbishop Naumann will be the Prayer Breakfast Speaker at the NRLC Convention 2018 in Kansas City.

LifeNews 3/21/18

Obama's HHS Mandate Suffers Major Defeat

The Obamacare Health and Human Services (HHS) mandate forcing Catholic non-profits to provide coverage for abortion-inducing drugs, contraception, and sterilization was dealt a lethal blow by U.S. District Court Judge David Russell.

He issued a permanent injunction stopping the federal government from enforcing the mandate against the Catholic Benefits Association (CBA). He also issued a declaratory judgment, holding that the mandate was illegal; it violated the Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

Judge Russell's ruling not only binds the Trump administration (which was opposed to the HHS mandate anyway), but all future administrations. Catholic employers who belong to the CBA are now free from attempts by the federal government to coerce them into providing morally offensive healthcare coverage.

This is a smashing victory for religious liberty and a stunning defeat for the pro-abortion industry and its allies.

Catholic League 3/28/18



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From the President ~

EXACTLY WHAT THE DEVIL WANTS US TO DO

After 45 years of legal abortion in the United States, it's easy to get frustrated, angry, and depressed.

Innocent children are being killed by barbaric means on average every 30 seconds in America. We're watching women suffer severe physical, emotional, and spiritual consequences from their abortions. Planned Parenthood receives half a billion dollars from our taxes every year, and then spends tens of millions of dollars to elect radical, pro-abortion candidates -- with *our* money!



Steve Rupp

The press continually prints stories on us "anti-choice" people, saying that we hate women and do nothing for born children.

We see clergy gathering at abortion mills to bless the "sacred work going on inside this building." Colleges across the country go into attack mode when they discover a pro-life student in their midst. Legislation is passed that would save the lives of beautiful children in the womb and, within days, the courts strike down the law.

With great disdain, Tom Perez, Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, stated that pro-life people are not welcome in the party.

Through undercover videos, Planned Parenthood was caught dissecting human children and then selling their lungs, livers and brains. Instead of a national uproar, the videographer exposing these heinous crimes was charged with 15 felonies.

It's maddening. And it's easy to be consumed by the constant flood of negatives. It's easy to get burned out. It's easy to quit. I've been there. That's exactly what the devil wants us to do. That's when I turn to God.

In my quiet time with Him, I vent my frustrations. I ask why? It's through Him that I realize I'm not in charge. He is. I'm reminded of St. Teresa of Calcutta's words, "God does not require that we be successful, only that we be faithful."

And things start to come into perspective. I start hearing the birds sing. I start noticing the flowers blooming. I start to smile more. I count my many, many blessings. I start to picture my laughing grandchildren when I push them on the swing, or my wife's beautiful, joyful face, ignoring her arthritic pain. I know that Christ is at my side. And I come back to the fight for Life filled with His presence. I come back to be faithful to Him. He will measure "success" in His way, not mine.

In this Easter Season, may Jesus' victory of life over death through the Resurrection inspire mothers to also choose life over death for their children.

Alleluia! And may God bless you for all that you do for Life!

In Your Service,
Steve Rupp

Do you hear the screams of the babies?

Micaiah Bilger
LifeNews

“You know fetuses can’t scream, right? I transect the cord first so there’s really no opportunity even if they are far enough along to have a larynx.”

Dr. Leah Torres
Abortion Doctor

Every now and then, abortionists will admit publicly to the horrifying reality of what they do to unborn babies.

On March 11, Leah Torres, a Utah abortionist who is active on Twitter, responded with gruesome detail to someone criticizing her work.

When someone asked Torres if she hears the screams of the babies who she aborts, she replied:

“You know fetuses can’t scream, right? I transect the cord 1st so there’s really no opportunity, if they’re even far enough along to have a larynx. I won’t apologize for performing medicine. I’m also a ‘uterus ripper outer,’ if that’s how you’d like to describe hysterectomy.”

The sickening reality of abortion that Torres callously exposed sparked an immediate backlash on Twitter.

David Daleiden of the Center for Medical Progress said Torres’s reputation as a boldly unashamed abortionist was one of the reasons why they did not do any undercover investigations in Utah.

In the undercover investigations that Daleiden and his team did pursue, they listened to abortionists talk over dinner about crushing babies’ heads, joke about babies’ eyeballs falling out and discuss pulling apart unborn babies limb by limb.

National Review Editor Charles C. W.

Cooke responded to Torres with a sarcastic barb about promoting herself.

Human Coalition’s Lauren Enriquez predicted that abortionists’ work one day will rank up at the top of human rights abuses, along with Nazi doctor Josef Mengele.

African pro-life advocate Obianuju Ekeocha urged Christians to pray for the conversion of abortion activists like Torres.

Abortions are brutal, gruesome procedures that kill nearly 1 million unique, living unborn babies in America every year. Recently, pro-life state lawmakers across the country have been drawing attention to the barbarity of abortion through legislation to ban dismemberment abortions.

So far, Alabama, Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Texas and West Virginia have passed laws prohibiting abortionists from dismembering living unborn babies. At least as many others are working to pass similar legislation.

Just one of many abortion methods, dismemberment abortions involve “knowingly dismembering a living unborn child and extracting such unborn child one piece at a time from the uterus through the use of clamps, grasping forceps, tongs, scissors or similar instruments that, through the convergence of two rigid levers, slice, crush or grasp a portion of the unborn child’s body in order to cut or rip it off . . .” according to the National Right to Life Committee. They are common in the second trimester.

St. Louis Planned Parenthood Abortion Business Hospitalizes 2nd Woman in 11 Days — 69 Overall

In a report from Operation Rescue, just eleven days after a Planned Parenthood patient was transported from their St. Louis abortion facility on February 24, an ambulance transported yet another Planned Parenthood patient to a hospital emergency room.

This represents the sixty-ninth medical emergency documented by Operation Rescue at this facility in the past eight and a half years.

This all comes as the City of St. Louis Board of Aldermen is attempting to pass Board Bill 34, which would create an eight-foot buffer zone that would prevent those offering practical assistance to women entering Planned Parenthood from doing so. An earlier vote on the bill was postponed and, at press time, a new vote date is planned for April 16.

The proposed buffer zone is considered by pro-life groups to be unconstitutional because it would create a solid line that pro-life advocates could not cross. This would prevent sidewalk counselors from handing literature to those entering Planned Parenthood who actually want the information.

“Due to the dangers posed by Planned Parenthood in St. Louis, the proposed buffer zone would prevent pro-life activists from offering warnings and practical help to women so they won’t become the next unwilling visitor to the emergency room,” said Operation Rescue President Troy Newman. “Instead of protecting Planned Parenthood, the aldermen should be thinking of ways to protect women and their babies from this very dangerous Planned Parenthood abortion business.”

You stood for LIFE . . .

. . . at March for Life 2018



Missouri Right to Life joins hundreds of thousands at the 2018 March for Life.



Pro-lifers gather by one of the 2018 Missouri Life Caravan buses ready to hit the road. Vince Burkemper has captained this bus since 2001, bringing faithful soldiers to the March for Life.



The 2018 March for Life once again brings thousands of young pro-lifers to D.C. As they say, "We are the pro-life generation!"



March for Life participants from Villa Ridge, Sullivan, and the East Central Area Chapter-MRL ready to head to Washington.

. . . at "Show Me Life" Pro-Life Action Day



Hundreds gather to lobby their legislators and hear National Right to Life President Carol Tobias tell them, "The pro-life movement is made up of the salt of the earth. You are the best of America. You are the best of Missouri."



Students for Life at Pro-Life Action Day show the pro-life message continues to be in good hands!



(Left to right) MRL PAC Chairman Dave Plemmons, Executive Director Susan Klein, NRLC President Carol Tobias, and MRL President Steve Rupp at Pro-Life Action Day.

Thank you for helping good things happen!

Pro-Life Across Missouri

save the date

Saturday, April 21 **Defenders of the Unborn Annual Banquet**, Orlando Banquet Center, Maryland Heights. For information email defenseless68@gmail.com or call 314-346-9052.

Friday, April 27 **MRL Hannibal Chapter Respect Life Dinner**, 6 p.m., Calvary Baptist Church. Guest Speaker Judge Chris Donnelly, Sr. whose work on the board of Southside Pregnancy Care Center, as a counselor with Restoration Ministries, and at the Life Training Institute makes him uniquely qualified to promote a positive pro-life message. For information, contact Geri Graves 573-795-6559 or email graves3@charter.net

Saturday, May 19 **St. Louis Respect Life Mass**, Cathedral Basilica, 8 a.m., followed by a rosary walk to PP.

Thurs - Sat June 28-30 **National Right to Life Convention**, Overland Park KS -- just next door! Info at nrlconvention.com/

Sunday, Dec. 2 **MRL Ed Fund Gala Banquet For Life**, Frontenac Hilton Hotel, Saint Louis, 5 p.m. Guest Speaker Jason Jones, a dynamic speaker with an incredible personal story of abortion and conversion.

Sedalia Chapter-MRL spreads the message of life



Sedalia Chapter-MRL Co-Chairs Philip Sherman and Bonnie Diefendorf share the pro-life message at the Harmony Baptist Association Mission & Ministry Banquet.

Tell us your story!



Over our 44 years, Missouri Right to Life has heard numerous stories of people whose lives have been impacted in a positive way by the work of MRL. If you are one of those people who was

able to choose life or have other compelling stories, please send us an email and let us know your story.

We are developing new promotional materials for MRL and would like to tell your inspiring story of courage, of life-altering decisions, of help you received at just the right time.

Please email us at righttolife@missourilife.org. Send us your name, contact information, and a brief version of your story.

An Advance Directive for a Natural End of Life

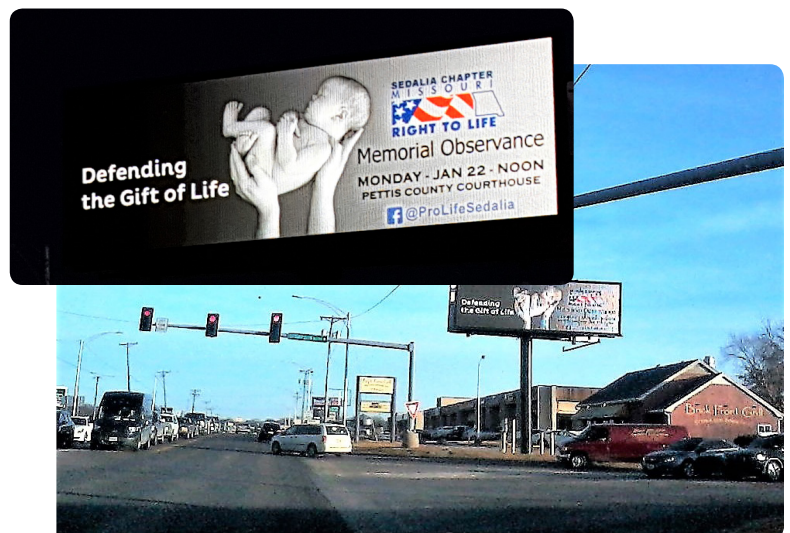
Missouri Right to Life is offering a form for a Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care for Missourians to consider. (It may not achieve its intended effect in other states with different laws.) Rather than using broad, somewhat misleading checklists, as many forms offered on the Internet do, the MRL form allows you to instruct your Health Care Agent in the pro-life principles that you want him or her to use when the time comes.

Feel free to download the form from MRL's web site (<http://missourilife.org/policies/livingwills.html>). Study either the full article on advance directives or the short outline of the principles of MRL's form, "Advance Directives for a Natural End to Life: a Summary."

A Reminder ~

Your next newsletter will have Missouri Right to Life Political Action Committee's major-party candidate information for the August 7th Primary. It will include MRL PACs' ratings and endorsements.

July 11th is the last day you may register to vote in the August 7th Primary.



At a busy intersection in the heart of town, the Sedalia Chapter's billboard invites the community to join them for the January 22nd memorial of the Roe v Wade decision. (Inset closeup of the billboard)

Missouri Right to Life (MRL) is our state's oldest and largest grassroots pro-life organization. It was organized as Missouri Citizens for Life in the early 1970s in anticipation of the infamous U.S. Supreme Court Roe v Wade decision. Carl Landwehr, Ann O'Donnell, and others traveled across the state looking for those who would help mobilize a "citizens for life" organization in response to the likely legalization of abortion in our nation.

Our first president was Ray James. Then Mary Ann Johaneck, Ann O'Donnell, and Kathy Edwards each served terms as president of Missouri Right to Life. Many have followed, including MRL's longest-serving president, Pam Fichter, who held this challenging position for eleven years! Each has served with determination to restore respect for life.

Missouri Right to Life is composed of three organizations: the main nonprofit corporation called "Missouri Right to Life," the MRL Political Action Committees (PAC), and an affiliated nonprofit corporation called "Missouri Right to Life Educational Fund."

Missouri Right to Life works to:

- educate citizens about pro-life issues;
- pass legislation that promotes and defends the sanctity of innocent human life from the inception of biological development through natural death;
- organize and promote effective witness among its members across the state;
- maintain Political Action Committees dedicated to electing office holders who share our mission and will work to pass pro-life laws.

Because of the importance of our members and volunteers at the grassroots level, regions and chapters are vital components of Missouri Right to Life. They help to carry out its work in every area of the state and, in turn, give it the strength of a statewide grassroots organization. The more effective that Missouri Right to Life is, the more the lives of unborn babies and all whose lives are threatened are benefited.

Memorials & Honorariums

*In memory or in honor of a loved one or a friend,
these gifts were made to Missouri Right to Life.*

In honor of ~

Jan Boyle

Neil Venneman

In memory of ~

Mary Therese Ismert

Barbara Rogers

Given by ~

Louise & Jack Boyle

Kathy & Joe Venneman

Given by ~

K of C Kansas City Council 527

Paige & Randy Clinton

Missouri Right to Life thanks those who honor their deceased loved ones or who celebrate an important event by making a gift to MRL.

*Perfectly
LIFE*

Counting on you!

Please support the life-affirming mission of Missouri Right to Life.

Legislative Session Moves Forward

Thank you to all who came to Pro-Life Action Day at your Missouri State Capitol on March 13! It was a successful day! Your presence always energizes pro-life legislators to keep pro-life laws moving through the legislative process.

At press time...

The 2018 Legislative Session has been successful to date with the passage of the extension of tax credits for those who donate to Pregnancy Resource Centers and Maternity Homes. These bills need to move through the committee process either in the House and/or the Senate and then move to passage by the whole body before they can go to the Governor.

Two Custodial Parent Notification prior to a minor having an abortion (HB 1383) has passed the House, had a Senate hearing, and is headed to the Senate floor for debate.

The "Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act" is expected to pass the House and move to the Senate for consideration. HB 1266 ensures that babies at 5-months gestational age are not killed by abortion. By 20 weeks, pain receptors have appeared throughout the body. Connections between the thalamus and cortex begin to appear as early as 20 weeks gestational age and the structures required for pain perception are present. It is possible that the pain perceived by an unborn child is more intense than that perceived by mature newborns.

Please call your State Senator and ask him/her to work to get HB 1266 and HB 1383 passed!

Session ends Friday, May 18. So please call today!

The budget bills have been amended with pro-life language to ensure that Planned Parenthood or any subsidiary that would forward money to Planned Parenthood cannot receive our tax dollars.

There are many other good pro-life bills that MRL is working on so this list is just a highlight. Weekly updates are on the MRL website (www.missourilife.org) and may be accessed on the Legislation then 2018 Legislation tabs.

Please pray for our legislators as we move into these last weeks of the 2018 legislative session!

Inside ~

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See You In Kansas City!

National Right to Life Convention 2018

June 28, 29, 30

**Sheraton Overland Park
Overland Park, KS**

The National Right to Life Convention is the essential pro-life educational and training event of the year. National experts on life issues gather in one place to equip the pro-life grassroots with the knowledge and skills they need to advance our cause.

Learn from the best, mingle with like-minded people, hear and meet amazing speakers, and leave feeling rejuvenated and ready to go home, get to work and save lives!

Registration, schedule, and hotel information at nrlconvention.com/

Network

Meet other pro-lifers!

Learn

Learn from over 300 speakers and sessions!

Advocate

Immerse yourself into the premier pro-life community!

Have Fun

Save lives and have fun doing it!