



Thanks to You Another Successful Pro-Life Action Day!

Pro-life Missourians from across the state gathered in Jefferson City on March 12th for the annual Missouri Right to Life "Show Me Life" Pro-Life Action Day. Action changes things and the actions of those attending helped with efforts to save the lives of the most vulnerable among us.

Thanks to everyone who came to stand up for life and visit your legislators! Your attendance is more important now than ever before!

And thanks to Governor Parson, Lt. Governor Kehoe, Secretary of State Ashcroft, Attorney General Schmitt, Treasurer Fitzpatrick, and all the pro-life state legislators who addressed the crowd at our noon rally.



"You're fighting for people you'll never know, you'll never meet, and you'll never see. You're the soldiers who are fighting every day for the unborn."

*Missouri Governor Mike Parson
at MRL "Show Me Life" Pro-Life Action Day*



Be a Voice for the Voiceless!

Join the Pro-Life Communication Network!

Legislators tell us that listening to their constituents is very important to their decision-making process. After almost 45 years of working in the legislative arenas, we know that's true.

Pro-life constituent participation is critical to passing pro-life legislation!

To enhance our lobbying efforts, Missouri Right to Life has initiated the Pro-Life Communication Network to update you on state and national legislative efforts, public policy situations, and action alerts.

With your agreement, we send you a text or email informing you of a need to contact your U.S. or state elected officials.

This network, with the touch of one button, will give you the ability to contact these important individuals with a pro-life message or request.

Please join the Pro-Life Communication Network!

- Go to: <https://www.votervoice.net/MOLIFE/home> and enter your email address and zip code for email alerts.
- To receive text messages, please text MOLIFE to 50457.

You have our guarantee that your private information will be used for no other reason than this Pro-life Communication Network and will never be shared or used for any other purpose.



Life Links

<https://www.liveaction.org/news/trump-expansion-mexico-city-policy/>

Trump Administration announces expansion of policy cutting overseas abortion funding

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announced in a press conference Tuesday that the Trump administration is making changes to the Mexico City Policy which bans federal funding for any foreign organization that commits or promotes abortion. In addition to forbidding the funding of organizations that commit or promote abortion, Pompeo said the State Department now “will refuse to provide assistance to foreign NGOs (non-governmental organizations) that give to other foreign groups in the global abortion industry.”

This move “protects more unborn babies around the world than ever before,” said Pompeo. “This is decent. This is right, and I’m proud to serve an administration that protects the least amongst us.”

He continued by stating that the “vast majority” of the agencies comply with the rule and continue to work with the government of the United States.

“We will enforce a strict prohibition on backdoor funding schemes ... American taxpayer dollars will not be used to underwrite abortions,” said Pompeo.

In 2017, the Trump administration announced the “Protecting Life in Global Health Alliance” policy which appropriated \$8.8 billion through federal agencies and departments to organizations that comply with the reinstated Mexico City Policy. Former President Barack Obama had rescinded the Reagan-era policy during his first week in the White House.

Pompeo also announced that funds will be prohibited from supporting lobbying for or against abortion. Contributions to the Organization of American States, a regional forum for political discussion, policy analysis, and decision-making in Western Hemisphere affairs, will be reduced.

“In light of recent evidence of abortion-related advocacy by an arm of the Organization of American States, I directed

my team to include a provision in foreign assistance agreements with the OAS that explicitly prohibits the use of funds to lobby for or against abortion,” said Pompeo. “The institutions of the OAS should be focused on addressing crises in Cuba, in Nicaragua, and in Venezuela, not advancing the pro-abortion cause.”



<https://www.lifenews.com/2019/03/29/police-looking-for-abortion-activist-who-brutally-assaulted-an-elderly-pro-life-man/>

Police looking for abortion activist who brutally assaulted an elderly pro-life man

San Francisco police are still looking for the person who attacked an elderly pro-life man outside a Planned Parenthood abortion facility.

A video of the assault went viral after LifeNews.com shared it. It shows Ron, the 85-year-old leader of 40 Days for Life San Francisco, being knocked to the ground and kicked repeatedly by an unknown man in black.

Ron told NBC Bay Area that the same man came three times that week to harass them or try to steal their things. On March 21, the day of the incident, Ron said he tried to stop the man from stealing their 40 Days for Life banner. That is when the video began.

“I tried to keep him from taking it and that was it,” Ron told the news station. “Then he knocked me down and kicked me.”

Ron, who has bruises from the attack but is back praying outside Planned Parenthood, said their pro-life group has never experienced such violence.

“We were just here praying as we always do during the day,” he said. “The violence is pretty rare. It does happen but this is the worst.”

San Francisco police estimate the incident occurred around 3:45 p.m. March 21 outside the Planned Parenthood abortion facility in Valencia, the *San Francisco Gate* reports. The suspect in the video appears to be a young, white male; he was wearing all black and riding a bicycle.

“The victim is an 85-year-old male, and the suspect approached him and attempted to steal the victim’s banner,” Officer Robert Rueca told reporters. “The victim was using the banner for a planned protest. The victim attempted to stop the suspect from taking the banner. That’s when the suspect assaulted the victim.”

<https://www.nrlc.org/site/communications/releases/2019/013019saus/>

National Right to Life releases Annual State of Abortion report

The National Right to Life Committee has released The State of Abortion in the United States 2019. In addition to summarizing key legislative developments in the states and at the federal level, the sixth annual report analyzes data on the annual number of abortions in the United States. The report also dissects the 2017-2018 annual report of the nation’s abortion giant, Planned Parenthood.

“Nearly 61 million unborn children have died as a result of the Supreme Court’s 1973 *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* decisions,” said Carol Tobias, National Right to Life president. “However, through the right-to-life movement’s determination to protect mothers and their children, we continue to see evidence that our efforts to educate America about the unborn child’s humanity, and our efforts to enact protective pro-life legislation, are having a tremendous impact in moving our nation away from *Roe* and *Doe*’s deadly legacy.”

Key highlights from the report include:

- Based on data from the Guttmacher Institute and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and estimating figures for subsequent years (2015-2018), National Right to Life now estimates 60,942,033 abortions have been performed in the United States since 1973.

- Planned Parenthood, which reported over \$1.6 billion in revenues in 2017-2018, while posting over \$240 million in “excess revenue,” is estimated to have made nearly \$160 million performing 332,757 abortions, well over one-third of all abortions in the United States annually.

- State legislatures continue to be successful in enacting pro-life legislation that extends protections to unborn children and helps their mothers. These laws include protections for pain-capable unborn children, laws banning dismemberment abortions of living unborn babies, and efforts to steer state funding away from organizations that perform abortions, such as Planned Parenthood.

The report is available from the National Right to Life Communications Department at <http://www.nrlc.org/uploads/communications/stateofabortion2019.pdf>.



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From the Legislative Director ~

Where Are The Pro-Life Democrats?

Missouri Right to Life is a non-partisan organization. We support candidates that hold a consistent ethic supportive of life at every stage of development, from conception/inception until natural death. Our issues transcend party.

So where are the pro-life Democrats? How did the party go bankrupt? The National Democrat Party platform is aligned with the abortion industry, supporting abortion on demand, without restriction or regulation, all the way through to the birth of the baby. New York became the seventh state to pass a statute allowing this when *Roe v. Wade* is reversed. Furthermore, the Democrat Governor of Virginia, who happens to be a pediatric neurologist, recently made a statement justifying infanticide. The very thought of it is repulsive.



Jerry Nieters

The Democrat platform also calls for funding of all abortions via tax payer dollars which requires you and I to pay for abortion. And these abortion payments are not limited to abortions in our own country – the platform calls for the promotion of and funding of abortion around the world. How could pro-life Democrats allow such a platform?

Consider this. In 1998, there were 22 pro-life Democrats serving in the Missouri legislature. Missouri Right to life actually endorsed 33 pro-life Democrats in the general election that year. In 2013, there were only 7 pro-life Democrats in the Missouri House of Representatives. After the 2014 elections, that number was reduced to 3, and before the 2015 legislative session began, that number was down to 1, as 2 of the 3 elected pro-life Democrats had switched parties.

Sadly, there was not a single Democrat eligible for a MRL PAC endorsement in the 2018 general election. There may be a tendency on the part of pro-life Democrats to believe that MRL is a partisan organization and, thus, disregard its endorsements. However, MRL PAC uses the same criteria to evaluate every candidate, regardless of party. If pro-life Democrats are disappointed with the lack of Democrats endorsed by MRL PAC, we suggest you contact the Democrat candidate of your choice and ask them why they are not pro-life. Also, you might encourage pro-life Democrats to run for office.

We saw some reason for hope in July, 2018, when the Missouri Democrat Party briefly adopted a platform “welcoming a diversity of views on abortion.” Unfortunately, the party quickly reversed its position to require all candidates adopt a pro-abortion position in order to receive party support. However, MRL is encouraged by the fact that three Democrats recently voted in favor of HB126 as amended, the most comprehensive pro-life legislation in the nation and now awaiting a vote in the Missouri Senate.

Pro-life Democrats, make your voices heard! Don't allow the party to support a platform that promotes abortion without limitation and requires abortion to be paid for by your tax dollars. Let your representatives know that they will not have your support if they do not support the protection of life!

In your service,

Jerry Nieters

~ *The Least of These* ~

The various late-term abortion legalization proposals and policies introduced this year bring us to a crucial time of choosing.

~ by Wesley J. Smith

There has been much righteous criticism of the forty-four Democratic senators who thwarted a bill that would have protected babies who survive abortion from death-by-neglect and infanticide. In a nutshell, the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act would have required simply that all born babies — whether wanted or not — be treated equally by requiring any healthcare practitioners present when a baby survives abortion to “exercise the same degree of professional skill, care, and diligence to preserve the life and health of the child” as they would “render to any other child born alive at the same gestational age.” It would also have required abortionists to ensure that surviving babies be transported immediately to a hospital for care, and would have outlawed “an overt act” meant to kill “a child born alive,” i.e., infanticide.

That most senate Democrats thwarted the bill's passage moves abortion advocacy beyond “choice” to establishing a concomitant right to a dead fetus or baby (as the case might be).

That most senate Democrats, including six presidential candidates, thwarted the bill's passage moves abortion advocacy beyond “choice” to establishing a concomitant right to a dead fetus or baby (as the case might be). The bill's defeat also reflects a growing bigotry against the moral value of babies with disabilities, a stunning repudiation of the sanctity/equality of human life ethic.

The senate bill's defeat coincided with the enactment of a New York law that allows post-viability abortion, and which also repealed a statute that required proper medical care for babies who survive abortion. Vermont is very close to enacting the most extreme abortion license in the world, creating a “fundamental right to an abortion,” without any limitations as to viability, time of

gestation, method of termination, or reason — no “health of the mother” pre-empt in the Green Mountain State!

The excuses given by pro-abortion/infanticide advocates for refusing to pass the federal law — and justifying passage of the new late-term abortion licenses — generally reflect profound biases against babies with disabilities. Thus, Virginia Governor Ralph Northam — a pediatric neurologist — infamously endorsed a (failed) late-term abortion legalization bill on the (false) claim that such terminations only involve babies with serious health difficulties and disabilities, in his words, “cases where there may be severe deformities” or when “there may be a fetus that's non-viable.”

How is Northam's death-by-neglect prescription any different morally than the old Roman practice of exposing

disabled babies to the elements? The only difference I can see is that Northam would keep doomed babies “comfortable” in bassinets. The

ultimate outcome would be the same.

Killing disabled babies is not just an ancient practice. During World War II, German doctors committed infanticide, which was considered a “healing treatment” that prevented suffering. “Baby Knauer”—the first disabled baby to be killed under cover of law in Germany—was born with serious disabilities, including blindness. His parents wrote Hitler a letter asking that doctors be permitted to put their child “to sleep.” Hitler sent his personal physician, Karl Rudolph Brandt, to verify the facts and assure the infant's doctors that they could kill the child without legal consequence, which they did. In 1973, Baby Knauer's father was quoted by Robert Jay Lifton in *The Nazi Doctors*, as recalling appreciatively that “the Führer

had granted us the mercy killing of our son. Later, we could have other children, handsome and healthy, of whom the Reich could be proud.”

Hitler's infanticide policy was kept a secret from the German people, and unlike Baby Knauer, most infanticides took place without parental consent. After the end of the war, infanticide of disabled babies was universally condemned a crime against humanity. Some German doctors who participated in the pogrom were hanged.

That moral opprobrium is dissipating. Disabled babies are again being killed by doctors — this time in the Netherlands. Only rather than occurring furtively in the shadows, baby killing is practiced openly under a bureaucratic infanticide guideline known as the Groningen Protocol (after the Groningen University Medical Center).

The Protocol establishes three categories of killable babies:

1. The baby has no chance of survival.
2. The baby “may survive after a period of intensive treatment but the expectations for the future are very grim.”
3. The baby does “not depend on technology for physiological stability” but has “suffering [that] is severe, sustained, and cannot be alleviated.”

In other words, Dutch doctors lethally inject babies with serious disabilities who do not need intensive care — those denigrated as having an “unlivable life” by Dutch infanticide apologists.

The various late-term abortion/infanticide legalization proposals and policies introduced this year — and the concomitant refusal to ban infanticide by Democrats in the senate — bring us to a crucial time of choosing. Will we embrace the sanctity/equality of life values of the (let us hope temporarily)

- continued next page

The Least of These (cont.)

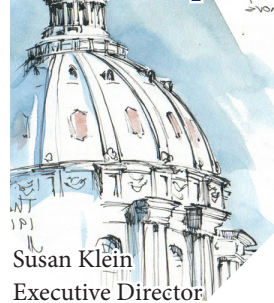
defeated Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act? Or instead, will we careen down the anti-life path blazed by New York and Vermont's late-term abortion laws, Governor Northam's advocacy for a "discussion" after a baby survives abortion, and ultimately — why not, if the above are accepted — active infanticide of unwanted babies as practiced in the Netherlands?

In all of this, I am reminded of the "Parable of the Sheep and Goats," with a contemporary addendum: "When did we abort you, Lord? When did we neglect you to death when you survived your abortion? When did we commit infanticide upon you when you were born disabled?"

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did to the least of these, you did unto me."

Wesley J. Smith is a senior fellow at the Discovery Institute. His latest book is Culture of Death: The Age of "Do Harm" Medicine. This column appeared at First Things.com and is reprinted with permission.

Report from the Missouri Capitol



Susan Klein
Executive Director

writing of this newsletter, we are working to move this legislation through the Missouri Senate and send it to the Governor for his signature.

HB126 as amended has multiple provisions including a new version of the heartbeat bill noting stages of development at 8, 14 & 18 weeks gestational age with severability clauses at each step, the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, which bans abortion at 20 weeks when unborn children are capable of feeling pain. The Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act is in effect in 16 other states.

HB126 as amended also enacts the "Right to Life of the Unborn Child Act," a "trigger ban" on all abortions in Missouri contingent upon the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*.

Other provisions of the bill: a requirement that the second custodial parent be notified when a minor seeks an abortion, a ban on abortions for race, gender, or a Down Syndrome diagnosis, and an increase in the

At the end of February, the Missouri House third read and passed HB126 as amended by a vote of 117 to 39. This is the strongest pro-life bill ever attempted in the United States. At the

medical malpractice insurance requirements for those performing or inducing abortions, bringing it in line with medical standards for other surgical procedures.

And finally, HB126 as amended obligates abortion facilities and family planning agencies to provide Missouri's printed informed consent information to a woman if they refer her to an out-of-state abortion facility.

The language of HB126 as amended reflects the scientific truth of the humanity of the unborn child. Missouri will not stay silent while other states approve infanticide and celebrate the ability to kill innocent human lives, both unborn and born. We look to our pro-life majorities to take up and finally pass HB126 as amended!

Make no mistake, pro-abortion forces will use every tool, including the filibuster and the courts, to try to stop this life-saving legislation.

Other great work being done by our pro-life legislators is preventing funding for human cloning, embryonic stem cell research, and abortion services with our state tax dollars in our state budget.

Also in the budget is funding for great programs to help women in crisis situations choose life for their unborn child and get help for them during and after their pregnancy. These programs are: the Alternatives to Abortion Program, the Show-Me Healthy Babies Program, and a new pilot program to help pregnant women who are addicted to opioids get off drugs.

Please pray for our legislators as they move this life-saving legislation and these pro-life budget provisions to final passage! Call your Senators and ask them to pass HB126 with all these life-saving provisions!

You can help others learn, participate, and love the pro-life story!

Your commitment has enabled significant advances in life-saving educational, legislative, and political efforts across Missouri.

And maybe ... just maybe ... you could do even more!

Although the people in your life may be pro-life, they may not have ever had anyone present them with the opportunity to save lives by direct involvement in the pro-life movement. Your friends, your church family, and your political club members might just need a little encouragement to join you in saving lives!

By inviting Missouri Right to Life to come to your church, political club, or community group to speak or to set

You can help others save lives!



**Missouri Right to Life loves
to share the pro-life story!**

up a pro-life information table, you have opened the door for more lives to be saved by growing the pro-life family.

To schedule a speaker or a display for your event, contact any of the following:

MRL-Eastern Region for the metro St. Louis area at 314.434.4900 or email mrl.eastern@yahoo.com.

MRL-Western Region for the Kansas City metro area at 816.353.4113.

For other areas of the state, contact the MRL state office at 573.635.5110 or email righttolife@missourilife.org. They will put you in touch with those in your area.

Let's schedule a date for *your* church or group to help save more lives!

Saturday, April 27 Pro-Life Walk/Run - Memorial Park, Jefferson City. Registration 8:30 a.m., race 9:00 a.m. Call 573.644.6635; online registration available at www.friendsofphc.org.

Sunday, April 28 Defenders of the Unborn Spring Banquet - Orlando Banquet Center, St Louis. For tickets, access <https://stl-defenders.com/> or email defenseless68@gmail.com

Sunday, May 12 MRL-Western Region Annual Carnation Sale - Mother's Day. To participate or for information, call 816.353.4113.

Friday, May 17 MRL-Western Region Golf Tournament - Eagles' Landing Golf Course, Belton MO. Registration at 11:00 a.m., shotgun start at 12 noon. To participate or for information, call 816.353.4113.

Saturday, June 8 MRL Statewide Meeting - 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Pleus Hall, 1206 McCarty St., Jefferson City.

Friday, July 26 MRL-Eastern Region Fore Life Golf Tournament - Links at Dardenne, O'Fallon, MO. Lunch/Registration 11 a.m., shotgun start 12:30 p.m. Benefits MRL Education Fund. For information, 314.434.4900 or email mrl.eastern@yahoo.com.

Memorials & Honorariums

In memory or in honor of loved ones or friends, these gifts were made to Missouri Right to Life.

In memory of ~

Mike Blevins
Alicia M. Brauer
Jane Eggering
Lisa Therese Fister

Billy Stanley Hoover

Given by ~

Elizabeth Westhoff
John & Audrey Brauer
Elizabeth Westhoff
Miff Knapp
Mike & Diane Siebert
Randy Mariani
Pat Redington

In honor of ~

Neil Venneman

Given by ~

Joe & Kathy Venneman

Good-News Message from the 40 Days for Life-Columbia team:

It is with great joy that we share that Columbia Planned Parenthood has lost another employee due to the 40 Days For Life prayer presence.

A volunteer texted the campaign leader the good news, "A PP employee told me she quit today. She said there was too much inner turmoil and she just couldn't deal with it. And she has not changed her mind!" The team noted the employee drove to the front of the building, gave something to a co-worker, and got back in her car. She then shared the news with the sidewalk advocate as she drove off the parking lot.

What a blessing! We have noticed that her job is listed as well as another job opening for the Columbia facility. Might it be that another person is leaving Columbia PP soon? Columbia Planned Parenthood has been the site where employees don't last very long — many times less than six months. They also have had nine abortion doctors leave during 40 Days For Life's ten year presence on the sidewalk in Columbia.

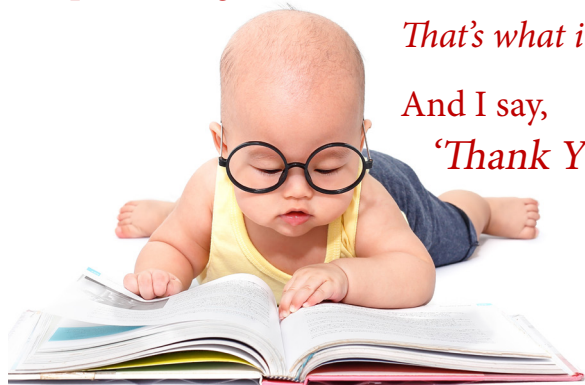
We have been watching and praying in particular for this employee as well as each one who could potentially be another Abby Johnson story of conversion and redemption. God answered those prayers!

We hope that she has contacted Abby Johnson and her ministry "And Then There were None." She was given information from the sidewalk advocates about the help Abby offers to former abortion clinic workers."

"Please make a donation to Missouri Right to Life, the states oldest and largest grassroots pro-life organization."

That's what it says!

And I say,
'Thank YOU!'





Picture this You standing for Life!



Olivia Pieknik and Ellie Dillon (left picture) and Mary Thouvenot and Cindy Reznikov (right picture) are a few of the volunteers who spread the pro-life message at the MRL-Eastern Region booth at the February St. Louis Working Women's Survival Show.



Above (left to right) MRL President Steve Rupp, MO Governor Mike Parson, MRL Executive Director Susan Klein, and MRL Legislative Director Jerry Nieters meet to talk over legislative hopes for the 2019 session.



Above - The ever-faithful MRL-East Central Area Chapter members stand in prayer and petition at Planned Parenthood during spring 40 Days for Life.

(Right and below) March to the Arch was a huge success for the many pro-life groups and individuals who came together to walk from Planned Parenthood to the arch declaring "Life Is Beautiful!"



Above (left to right) Maggie Tebeau of Coalition for Life, MRL-Eastern Region Board Member Donna Bambao, and Congresswoman Ann Wagner after a meeting in late February where Congresswoman Wagner met with the pro-life community to discuss her important legislation, The Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act.

Below - Longtime MRL member and Western Region board member and volunteer Sandie Colbert bows her head in prayer at the 2019 Pro-Life Action Day.



Photo: St Louis Review



Above (left to right) Congresswoman Vicky Hartzler, MRL Executive Director Susan Klein, and MO State Representative Sara Walsh at the Moniteau County Lincoln Days.



“Me ...Still Me” is a wonderful way to illuminate the continuum of human life from the womb to the crib

~by Dave Andrusko
National Right to Life News

The beauty of being a genuine grassroots movement is that often times some of the very best ideas come from pro-lifers motivated by the pro-abortion actions of their governmental officials and love for their children.

Nichole Rowley wrote to NRLC about what is called “Me ...Still Me,” a delightful way to show everyone, including pro-abortionists, there is perfect continuity between a baby in the womb and the baby born after 40 weeks.

According to Nicole, “Me ...Still Me” strives to save unborn children from abortion by utilizing two of the most powerful weapons in the pro-life arsenal: ultrasound photos and newborn photos.

“Me ...Still Me” started when Rhode Island Governor Gina Raimondo (radically pro-choice) sent me a ‘Welcome Baby’ greeting card after my son was born,” she explained. “I mailed the card back to Governor Raimondo along with my son’s ‘Me ...Still Me’ photo (ultra-

sound and newborn photo side by side) with ‘Me ...Still Me’ written across.”

Abortion advocates, Nicole wrote, “attempt to dehumanize the unborn in order to normalize abortion. We combat the lie of dehumanization by showing a side-by-side photo of the child in the womb (Me) and outside the womb

(...Still Me), clearly presenting the continuum of human life from the womb to the crib.”

These two photos and three words beautifully sum up the pro-life message “and it becomes impossible to deny that abortion kills beautiful children,” Nicole added.

Using an app, (editor’s note: the Facebook page is www.facebook.com/LoveMeStillMe) combine an ultrasound photo and a photo of your child after birth, side-by-side.

Then write “Me” over the ultrasound photo and “...Still Me” over the photo of your baby after she or he is born. Post to the “Me ...Still Me” group page and send to your local legislators!

Nicole sent along the two photos we’ve posted that she sent to Gov. Raimondo and other legislators.

Nicole encourages pro-lifers to join the “Me ...Still Me” group page and kindly share with others. “Together we are even more powerful!”

