



## ***Censorship of Missouri Right to Life in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch leads to op-ed for MRL President***

On August 26, the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* ran a letter to the editor from Missouri Right to Life President Steve Rupp.

But the *Post-Dispatch* censored the letter!

He wrote that Planned Parenthood's annual report shows that over 50% of their revenue is from abortions. The paper changed that to "a quarter of its revenue." When asked about the censorship, the *Post* responded by calling it "editing" because he is entitled to his own opinion, but not to his own facts. However, the *Post's* figure came from an article they found on the Internet, whereas Mr. Rupp's figure came from Planned Parenthood's own Annual Report. Because the *Post* selectively removed the correct information, the MRL President was allowed to write an op-ed for the paper which appeared on September 11 and is reprinted below.

---

### **Planned Parenthood deflects attention away from abortion**

Planned Parenthood says that abortion is only 3 percent of its business. According to their 2015/2016 annual report, clinic income — Non-Government Health Services Income — was \$306.8 million. Planned Parenthood performed 328,348 abortions in that same time frame. At an average of \$600 per abortion (a very conservative figure) that is \$197 million in abortion income. Abortion income (\$197 million) divided by total income (\$306 million) comes out to 64 percent. So, abortion represents not 3 percent of Planned Parenthood's business, but a whopping 64 percent. Why the deception? Why is Planned Parenthood trying to minimize the dominant role abortion plays in their overall business?

One can speculate, but a pretty good guess would be that they want the general public to concentrate on anything but abortion. Women's rights, legislation, "hateful pro-lifers," the president, anything but abortion. Why? Because they know that abortion is one of the most devastating procedures one human being can perpetrate against another human being. Abortion is ghastly. If every American learned today what actually happens in an abortion, it would end tomorrow. It is that horrible. And that's why Planned Parenthood wants us to look the other way.

And that's what motivates us at Missouri Right to Life. We simply want to save innocent children from suffering horrible deaths by abortion. Planned Parenthood never talks about this. Never.

On the way to making abortion unthinkable in America again, we also counsel mothers who suffer physical consequences of abortion including infertility. We work with mothers and fathers who suffer emotional trauma associated with abortion. We fight the legislative battles that might save a child's life. We work with organizations that care for children and their families. We educate people on the realities of abortion. Which brings us to ask the question, "What is abortion?"

Because Planned Parenthood and a willing press have been so successful in their strategy to deflect attention away from abortion, most Americans have no idea what happens in the different types of abortions. They don't even know that there are different types of abortion. Dr. Anthony Levatino, a former abortionist, is trying to change that. Dr. Levatino performed more than 1,200 abortions before a significant event in his life changed him forever. Now pro-life, Dr. Levatino educates people at [www.abortionprocedures.com](http://www.abortionprocedures.com) on what happens in first trimester, second trimester and third trimester abortions. If you're strong enough to handle the truth, go to this site. You'll hear truth and as Scripture says, "The truth shall set you free."

At Missouri Right to Life we strive to educate people on the facts because we know the facts surrounding abortion are gut-wrenching and life-changing. We grieve for those who don't know — or who don't want to know — the truth. I have been

blessed to speak to thousands of people about this truth. Time and again I hear, "I didn't have any idea they did those things. I'm shocked. I want you to know that I now consider myself pro-life." That's truth in action.

It's no wonder that Planned Parenthood wants you to believe abortion is not the issue. It's no wonder that they will use false numbers that make abortion sound like it's no big deal. But abortion is a big deal. America has been duped into looking the other way for 44 years since abortion was legalized. Since then, nearly 60 million innocent children in the womb in America have lost their lives to abortion. But ultrasound technology and people like Dr. Levatino are changing the landscape. Today it is impossible to deny the humanity of the child in the womb.

Planned Parenthood may say that he or she is a fetus or the product of conception, not a child. No pregnant Mom ever exclaimed, "Guess what everybody, we're having a fetus!" No, she says, "Guess what everybody, we're having a baby!" And we all say, "How is your baby?" "Have you named your baby yet?" "How far along is your baby?" Deceptive language doesn't change that he or she is a baby.

Missouri Right to Life will fight the deception coming from Planned Parenthood. But those battles are not why we do this. We do this because we value every human life, born and unborn. That's the truth, and the truth shall set you free.



## Woman Profoundly Regrets Aborting Her Baby: "If I Hadn't Taken That Pill His Name Would be Jude"

Abortion regret is something abortion activists like to pretend doesn't happen.

But it does frequently.

Jamie Berube, a blogger at Your Tango, is one of the countless women who does.

Thinking back, Berube said she deeply regrets aborting her baby, a child who she believes was a boy. She even gave him a name, Jude.

Berube shared that she didn't plan to have sex on the night she became pregnant. She and her boyfriend "John" gave into the mood of the evening, and her unborn child's life and death were the results.

Why she turned to abortion, Berube did not say. But her boyfriend did not seem very supportive. When John asked how she felt about the abortion, she said she passed it off as not a big deal. Internally, though, Berube said she was in anguish.

At the abortion clinic, Berube said she had the chance to see an ultrasound. Being very early in her pregnancy, she said she could "hardly make out anything" on the screen but she still knew that she was looking at her baby.

"... simply knowing there was the beginnings of a human behind that photo made it hard to breathe," she wrote.

John took her to the abortion appointment, but he did not stay with her as she had hoped. Instead, he dropped her off at her best friend Sarah's house. She said he told her that he was proud of her before he left, and then pulled away when she tried to kiss him. Berube said she knew at that moment that their relationship was over.

Sitting in Sarah's house waiting for her to get home, Berube said her thoughts turned to self harm. She said Sarah was the only one who saved her from hurting herself.

She said she talked with Sarah that evening about her baby:

*"I have a feeling it would have been a boy,"*

*I said softly before taking a sip of Gatorade. His name would have been Jude. Amory Jude. After Amory Blaine in 'This Side of Paradise,' but he'd go by Jude so he wouldn't have to tell his friends his mom named him after a literary character and possibly get made fun of. I looked at Sarah in the eyes. 'Because if I kept him, I'd never let anyone pick on him... ever.' A tear fell onto the Gatorade bottle in my lap.*

Since then, Berube said her feelings have not changed. She still deeply regrets aborting her unborn child and wishes that her child was alive today.

She wrote:

*I've done a lot of 'bad' things in my life. I've made choices that will forever haunt me no matter how much money I shell out for a shrink. But the choice that I made on that day, the choice to sign my name on a piece of paper that would give my consent to terminating a pregnancy is chief among the ones I regret most.*

*Yes, I regret my abortion.*

*I regret not thinking through it more carefully. I regret not considering that I might have been a really great mom. And I regret that there's no amount of regret that can reverse the decision I made.*

While nothing can bring back her unborn baby, Berube and women like her can find help and healing through post-abortion counseling programs. One of the most well known, Rachel's Vineyard, offers weekend retreats across the world for any member of the family who is dealing with the pain and regret of an abortion.

~LifeNews.com 9/6/17

## Medical Center Sued for Refusing to Perform Assisted Suicide on Patient

As is always the case with the . . . radicals, they are never content with floating comfortably close to the islands of reason. No, for the bastion of conservatism is there. So, upon achieving a "victory" in the name of progress, social justice, or equality, they always quickly move on to the seemingly never-ending next leap deeper into the sea of liberal insanity.

In that sea, of course, are many dangerous sharks.

The most recent plunge deeper . . . comes to you out of San Francisco where children are suing a hospital on behalf of their now deceased parent, for not killing aforementioned parent while they were still living, battling cancer.

Currently, no hospital or doctor can be forced to perform an assisted suicide. This lawsuit outrageously seems to advocate that somehow not assisting in the death of another should be a crime and is a form of abuse.

How twisted is that?

The attorney the family is using is the same attorney (Kathryn Tucker) who has filed numerous other pro-assisted suicide cases around the country. The suit claims, according to the *San Francisco Chronicle*, that Judy Dale died an agonizing death when she could have been given "pain-relieving medication" under California's brand new aid in dying law.

This is a clear misrepresentation of the truth. Lethal prescriptions administered with the intent to kill are not pain relieving. Pain-relieving medication is different. The children of Dale are also claiming that the hospital assured Dale that assisted suicide was certainly an option for her, but then failed to follow through on their promise. The underlying argument behind this claim is that by not agreeing to comply with an assisted suicide request, you are abusing a patient. The reality is that physician assisted suicide is a recipe for elder abuse.

This is a scary claim, and while this case is almost certain to be dismissed like the majority of Kathryn Tucker's other unsuccessful suits, it illustrates just how far the left wants to go.

They don't want assisted suicide to just be legal, they want you to be able to be punished for patient abuse for failure to comply with a suicide request. Your only other option might be to give up your medical career and profession. Those in the medical field are supposed to be engaged in the business of saving lives, not taking them.

Death is not the answer.

~California Family Council 9/12/17



**National Right to Life Affiliate**

Missouri Right to Life News  
P. O. Box 651  
Jefferson City MO 65102

Pam Manning, Editor

**Contact Missouri Right to Life**  
**573.635.5110**  
**righttolife@missourilife.org**

*From the Assistant Executive Director~*

## ***Pro-life Reflections***

When I came to what was then Missouri Citizens for Life, MCL, almost 28 years ago, the pro-life issue consisted of trying to end abortion or at least restrict it as much as possible. In addition, there were a few, very tragic cases of infanticide and starvation and dehydration of disabled people.

The pro-life legislative, political, and societal landscape has changed greatly in the last quarter century. Many of you have been working in the pro-life cause much longer than I. You don't need me to tell you how things have changed. Suffice it to say, the attacks on life are widespread and from many different directions.

After a pro-life conversion and a lot of prayer, I came to MRL with the firm conviction that this was the mission field in which God wanted me to work. I'm not sure I would have managed all these years without that belief.

A pro-life co-worker, who was considering a job change, once asked me for advice. I told her that if what you're doing for the pro-life cause is fun, or financially rewarding, or comfortable ... then you're probably doing the wrong thing. If you are a missionary, sent to this work by God, then chances are it's going to be difficult, painful, and sacrificial. That does not mean that there won't be times of great joy and satisfaction as well.

Holding an MBA from the MU School of Business and having worked for almost 5 years in a managerial position with State Government, frankly, I was pretty egotistical about my worth, skills, and talents.

One thing I have learned over all these years: there is really no place for ego in this fight for life.

When this is truly a mission from God, and we know it, then we can make ourselves leave our egos at the door. Our actions are for the good of the people we serve, the pre-born baby, the elderly, and the disabled. We have only one agenda: promote legislation and programs that will save the most lives.

We see egos get in the way of the good works of so many people. Whether it's the legislator embroiled in scandal, the priest or preacher who has lost his way, other pro-life leaders with hidden agendas, the bank employee whose overspending brings him to times of great temptation. There are multitudes of examples that we hear on the news every day.

Over these many years Missouri Right to Life has been faced with many challenges. As lobbyists, Susan Klein and I have walked through the halls of the capitol thinking that life-saving legislation was going to "die on the table." We have had disagreements with leadership over state policies that we believed hampered our goals. Through it all, and in our humility, God has taken care of us personally and taken care of the work that we do.

As I retire from the position of Executive Director and take on new roles at MRL, I can only look back and be so grateful to God for the opportunity to serve this fine organization and the people in it.



Patty Skain

In Your Service,  
*Patty Skain*



# Debunking the Myths about Down Syndrome Abortions in the United States

## The Down Syndrome Guild of Greater Kansas City addresses the actual stats

For years, the myth has been spread that 92% of babies with Down syndrome in the US are aborted; however, recent research shows the termination rate is much lower and dropping.

### What is the actual termination rate?

According to a survey of 24 studies across the U.S. that were done between

1995-2011, we know the following:

*...this myth risks*

*creating a culture*

*that is less likely to*

*accept and value*

*children with*

*Down syndrome,*

*and it's based on*

*false information.*

The weighted average of the surveys from the Natoli study\*\* show that the termination rate is actually about 75% among those who get a confirmed diagnosis with an amniocentesis or CVS.

Only about 2%

of women in the US get an amnio or CVS, so any termination rate only applies to that group. Termination rates also vary significantly depending on the age of the mother, race/ethnicity, gestational age, and where the mother lives. Evidence shows "termination rates have decreased in recent years, which may reflect progress in medical management for individuals with Down syndrome and advances in educational, social, and financial support for their families."

### Where did that termination myth come from?

The 92% termination rate came from an older summary of termination rates that only included US studies from the 1980's and also included international figures where termination rates are higher.

### Why is the termination myth harmful for expectant parents?

Quoting the inaccurate 92% termination rate is usually meant to elicit shock and revulsion that so many babies with Down syndrome are aborted. Sadly, many expectant parents say that when they hear that 92% of babies with Down syndrome are terminated, it actually makes them

feel alone, as though they would be in a small minority by choosing to continue a pregnancy.

Therefore, this myth actually runs the risk of prompting more terminations by making expectant parents feel isolated.

### Why is the termination myth harmful for all of us?

This myth also infects our culture leaving many people saying in public forums, "If the vast majority of people terminate a pregnancy when they find out the baby has Down syndrome, then Down syndrome must be really, really bad." This leaves parents of children with Down syndrome feeling like they have to justify their decision to continue a pregnancy when questioned by those around them. Fundamentally, this myth risks creating a culture that is less likely to accept and value children with Down syndrome, and it's based on false information.

### What can we do to make sure expectant parents get the support they need?

Down syndrome advocates and organizations can make sure expectant parents get accurate, up-to-date, balanced information and support immediately after receiving a diagnosis. They can distribute the Lettercase *Understanding a Down Syndrome Diagnosis* books that have the credibility of being reviewed by the national medical organizations (lettercase.org); they can link to the National Center for Prenatal and Postnatal Down Syndrome Resources, including Down Syndrome Pregnancy, from their website (downsyndromediagnosis.org); they can provide direct support and baskets to expectant parents; they can host support breakfasts quarterly for those who are new to a diagnosis. This insures that expectant parents receive materials immediately from their doctors or online which show the potential of children with Down syndrome, and they feel welcomed into a supportive organization as soon as they are ready.

*\*\*Natoli et al. 2012. Prenatal diagnosis of down syndrome: systematic review. Prenatal Diagnosis. 32, 142-153.*

## In Missouri -

## Federal Appeals Court Blocks Sachs' Pro-Abortion Ruling

Planned Parenthood has begun killing babies in their Kansas City abortion facility and has vowed to open other baby-killer businesses in Columbia, Springfield, and Joplin.

The blame for this lies at the feet of activist pro-abortion Federal Judge Howard Sachs. He achieved retirement status in 1992, but now takes a limited number of cases.

Judge Sachs ruled that MO's Director of the Department of Health and Senior Services issue new abortion clinic licenses or be held in contempt of court.

In mid-September, Missouri Attorney General Josh Hawley and his staff achieved a victory before the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals as the Court decided that all of the 8th Circuit Court Judges will hear the appeal of Judge Sachs' decision to strike down Missouri's abortion clinic regulations.

Additionally, the Court decided that Missouri's regulations will remain in place and enforced while the appeal is pending.

Congratulations and thank you to Attorney General Josh Hawley and his staff for this victory before the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Remember though, the battle is not over. *Keep praying!*



### Missouri Right to Life Political Action Committee

### Special Election November 7, 2017

Special elections have been called for three Missouri legislative districts.

### Missouri Right to Life Political Action Committee Endorsements

**Senate District 8** (portion of Jackson County)  
**Mike Cierpiot (R)**

**House District 23** (northwest Jackson County)  
**David Martin (R)**

**House District 151** (Stoddard County and western Scott County)  
**Herman Morse (R)**

Paid for by Missouri Right to Life PAC, Patricia Skain Treasurer.  
Not authorized by any candidate or candidate committee.

# Missouri

## ABORTION STATISTICS 1973 - 2016

Statistics from the Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services.  
Graph prepared by Missouri Right to Life.

### Legislation Saves Lives

The Missouri General Assembly has passed over 46 pro-life laws since the 1973 Roe v. Wade U. S. Supreme Court decision. Missouri Right to Life has been a leader in writing, lobbying, and passing these pro-life statutes. Through Missouri Right to Life Political Action Committee, pro-life voters have been informed and have consistently elected pro-life majorities which make these life-saving legislative successes possible.

Among pro-life laws in Missouri statute are those that require: ♦ only physicians perform abortions ♦ hospital privileges required for abortionists ♦ parental consent before minor's abortion ♦ ban public funding of abortion ♦ ban partial-birth abortion ♦ 72-hour reflection period before an abortion ♦ tax credits for pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes ♦ establishment of Alternatives to Abortion program ♦ Safe Place for Newborns Act ♦ ban abortion of viable infants ♦ ban web-cam abortions ♦ whistleblower protection for abortion clinic workers ♦ annual on-site, unannounced inspections of abortion clinics ♦ no marketing of baby body parts from abortion.





## Missouri Right to Life announces new Executive Director

The Board of Directors is pleased to announce Susan Klein as the new Executive Director of Missouri Right to Life. Patty Skain, former executive director, has assumed the role of Assistant to the Executive Director.



Susan Klein

Susan Klein originally came to Missouri Right to Life in 1997 to serve as Executive Director. She then assumed the position of Chief Lobbyist and will continue to serve in that role as she also leads Missouri Right to Life as Executive Director.

Susan speaks in media interviews, leads many teaching and speaking engagements, works with language on legislation, and testifies at Missouri House and Senate hearings. Susan knows every aspect of the political process and has been instrumental in the writing and passage of all the pro-life laws passed since 1997.

Susan ran for State Representative in 1996 with the intent to make a difference in public policy that affects the citizens of the State of Missouri.

She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and a Master of Arts degree in Communication from the University of Central Missouri.

We look forward to many more successes as we all work together to protect innocent human lives from inception to natural death!



Barton County Chapter-MRL stood for *LIFE* this summer at the Lamar Free Fair. Thanks for being there!

## *In Missouri -*

### **Lawsuit Links Abortion to Satanist Beliefs**

The Christian Broadcasting Network News (cbnnews.com) reports that Planned Parenthood in Missouri has a new ally in its battle for increased abortion access: the Satanic Temple.

The religious and politically active national Satanist organization is backing the powerful abortion provider with state and federal lawsuits designed to challenge Missouri's informed consent and 72-hour-waiting period laws.

Planned Parenthood has been fighting in court this year in the state to keep abortion clinics from having to follow outpatient surgical center standards, and the Satanists are fighting to increase abortion access on another front.

The Satanic Temple says a pregnant woman in Missouri, "Mary Doe," wasn't able to carry out a "religiously motivated" abortion because of these laws.

The group argues in court that the state laws violate her right to religious practice under the state's Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

Missouri state laws require abortion providers to give patients the opportunity to view an ultrasound image of their unborn child and offer them a booklet that describes the development of children in the womb. They also require a 72-hour wait before an abortion.

Doe told the court that she adheres to Satanist beliefs which include: a person's body is inviolable and subject to her will alone; a person must make decisions regarding their health based on their best scientific understanding of the world; unborn babies ("non-viable fetus") are not separate human beings but a part of their mother's body.

A Cole County circuit court judge threw out the case in December, noting that patients are not forced to have an ultrasound or read the booklet.

But the Satanic Temple is back in court again this month.

The *Kansas City Star* reports that the state Court of Appeals began hearing arguments by the Satanists against the state laws on September 11 and were scheduled to hear additional arguments by the Satanists later in the month.

Susan Klein, executive director of Missouri Right to Life, told CBN News that she's confident overall that Missouri will continue to advance pro-life issues.

She said her organization is focused on passing right-to-life laws and enjoys the support of a "super-majority" of pro-life lawmakers in the state as well as a pro-life governor and attorney general.

## ***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 ~***

Cornelius  
& Alice Westerman

### ***Given by ~***

Anonymous

### ***In memory of ~***

Jean Vincent Herold  
Catherine Kleinschmidt  
Paul Mills

### ***Given by ~***

Vickie Dow  
Ascension Church  
Respect Life Committee  
Mary Ann & Gerald Fussner  
and Family  
Deborah & Norbert Nenninger

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

# Pro-Life Across Missouri

## save the date

**September 27 - November 4** 40 Days for Life Fall Campaign in Columbia, St. Louis, and Kansas City.

**October 28** Life Network and My Life Clinic Walk4Life and 5K Run - Columbia, Gordon Shelter at Stephens Lake Park. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. Event Begins at 10:00 a.m. More information at: [lifenetworkfriends.com/walkforlife](http://lifenetworkfriends.com/walkforlife)

**November 2** Missouri Right to Life-Western Region "A Tribute to Life Banquet" - Adam's Mark Hotel, Kansas City. Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased online: [mrlwesternregion.org](http://mrlwesternregion.org), by phone 816.353.4113, by email [mrl-wr@att.net](mailto:mrl-wr@att.net).

**November 11** Missouri Right to Life Annual Membership Meeting - Pleus Hall, Immaculate Conception Parish, Jefferson City, 9:45 a.m.

**November 11** Statewide MRL Leadership Meeting - Pleus Hall, Immaculate Conception Parish, Jefferson City, 10:00 am.

If she could, she'd say,  
"Thank you."

Giving never feels  
so good as when you  
know it's saving lives.

When you send a donation in the enclosed  
envelope to Missouri Right to Life, that's  
what you're doing!

You make a difference!

And we do say, "Thank you!"

**COME JOIN THE CONVERSATION!**

MISSOURI  
**BLOG**  
RIGHT TO LIFE

[missourilifenews.wordpress.com](http://missourilifenews.wordpress.com)

facebook

[facebook.com/MissouriRighttoLife/](https://facebook.com/MissouriRighttoLife/)

### Sedalia Chapter-MRL once again at the Missouri State Fair!

For many years, members of the Sedalia Chapter-MRL have put into action Missouri Right to Life's vision statement, "transforming society to respect and protect all innocent human life," by manning a booth for the ten-day run of the Missouri State Fair. Thank you once again to the many volunteers who make this happen. Not an easy task, and we so appreciate all of you being there to speak for *LIFE*!



(Left to right) Bonnie Diefendorf and Louise Rouchka take their turns at MRL's State Fair booth. Thanks, Bonnie and Louise!



Isn't it great to see these youngsters (and mom, of course) manning the MRL State Fair booth! The VanLeer family and their friend, Shea Smith, hold the fetal models which so clearly show the humanity of the unborn baby. Thanks to all of you!

**Inside -**

- *Censorship of MRL in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch*
- *Lawsuit Links Abortion to Satanist Beliefs*
- *Meet MRL's New Executive Director*

***Save These Dates!***



**45TH ANNUAL NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE**  
**Washington, D.C.**

**Thursday, Friday, Saturday January 18-19-20, 2018**

Registration information at [www.missourilife.org](http://www.missourilife.org)

Have questions? Need additional information?  
Want to sponsor someone to go on the trip?

In the St. Louis metro area, call Missouri Right to Life-Eastern Region at 314.434.4900 or email [mrl.eastern@yahoo.com](mailto:mrl.eastern@yahoo.com). In other areas, call the MRL State office at 573.635.5110.

**Missouri Right to Life**  
**“Show Me Life” Pro-Life Action Day**  
**Tuesday, March 13, 2018**  
**Missouri State Capitol ~ 1st Floor Rotunda**



**“Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot,  
nothing is going to get better. It's not.”**

*Dr. Seuss The Lorax*

**Plan to come to Pro-Life Action Day to encourage your legislators to pass pro-life legislation, then join the noon rally for inspiration, information, and instruction for the best pro-life action!**

**Annual Missouri Right to Life Membership Meeting**  
Saturday, November 11, 2018 9:45 a.m.  
Immaculate Conception Parish ~ Pleus Hall, Jefferson City MO