



Transforming society to respect and protect all innocent human life.

Sanctuary Cities for Life!

By Gerard Nieters
Legislative Director

In case you are unaware, there is a movement afoot to create sanctuary cities for the protection of the lives of unborn babies. In fact, 33 Texas cities have already passed ordinances declaring themselves to be a "Sanctuary City for Life." And the ordinances don't just say so. They actually prohibit abortions from being performed in those cities. Even more encouraging, Planned Parenthood filed a couple of lawsuits against these Texas ordinances, but both cases were dismissed.

The movement is spreading to other states as well. Nebraska and Ohio have sanctuary cities. Now, it is Missouri's turn. We have heard from our members who desire to make their cities "Sanctuary Cities for Life".

We are currently working with the Texas attorney who is one of the primary initiators of this effort and who is a principal drafter of these ordinances. We have an initial draft of an ordinance which we are reviewing and analyzing to insure it is consistent with Missouri statutes, that it is enforceable as to its prohibition of abortion, and that it is defensible against legal attacks.

We expect this draft proposal to be finalized very soon, and we will then make it available to anyone who wishes to present this to their city councils. We anticipate a wave of Missouri "Sanctuary Cities for the Unborn" before this year is over.

If you are interested in making your city a "Sanctuary City for Life," contact me through the MRL state office, 573.635.5110, to discuss the process.

God bless you all in your pro-life efforts!

Planned Parenthood continues to receive our tax dollars through the Medicaid program

June 2020 through July 2021 and counting....

After reading the following, you can read the entire timeline of how the Missouri Senate and the House of Representatives have responded to the Missouri Supreme Court's decision in June of 2020 to not allow defunding of Planned Parenthood to be placed in the budget.

Following are Questions Pro-Life Missourians Have for Missouri Pro-Life Leaders:

Question 1: After the 2021 Regular and Special Session:

Is Planned Parenthood still receiving our federal tax dollars via reimbursements from the State through Medicaid?

NOTE: They know the answer to this is "yes" because it was stated as a fact on the Senate and the House floors.

Question 2: What did you do to stop the funding of Planned Parenthood in the Federal Reimbursement Allowance (FRA)?

NOTES:

2A. A good vote in regular session does not count. That bill died at the end of the regular session.

2B. A stand-alone bill in special session in the House did not help. Per the Senate actions there was no indication that the Senate had any intention of taking it up. As a matter of fact, the actions of the Senate showed every indication that they would NOT take up a pro-life fix for the FRA. The House should have held the vote on Senate Sub #3 to SB 1 until after the Senate took up the stand-alone pro-life bill (HB 2).

Many legislators are claiming that medical funding to help thousands was too important to risk.

Question 3: Are our pro-life legislative leaders OK with funding the killing of innocent babies as long as other people get healthcare?

There was no need to choose one over the other. The House and the Senate could have included defunding language of Planned Parenthood *and* passed the FRA in one bill.

The urgency to pass the FRA also included public funding going to Planned Parenthood. The legislature did not separate or restrict those who would be receiving our public tax dollars through the FRA, just that it was "urgent to fund all provider services that the FRA reimburses for." One of those recipients of the FRA funding is the nation's number one abortion provider, Planned Parenthood.

The timeline of the failure of the Missouri Senate and the House of Representatives to defund Planned Parenthood can be found at this link:

<https://www.missourilife.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/2021-Timeline-of-Attempt-to-Defund-Planned-Parenthood.pdf>



www.liveaction.org/news/spain-assisted-suicide-bishops-protecting-life/

As Spain legalizes assisted suicide, Catholic bishops call for protecting life

As Spain becomes the fifth nation in Europe to allow assisted suicide, Catholic Spanish bishops are calling for conscientious protections as well as a “strong movement” to protect life.

“Causing death can never provide a solution to problems of suffering,” said Bishop Luis Arguello, secretary-general and spokesman of the Bishops Conference of Spain. “The conscientious objection of health workers not wishing to participate in this process must also be respected, while everyone entering a medical facility must be assured this is a place where personal care is exercised.”

In December 2020, Spain's Parliament voted in favor of legalizing euthanasia. Then in March 2021, the Spanish Senate approved the Organic Law Regulating Euthanasia, which went into effect in June. The law allows any Spanish citizen facing a chronic and incurable illness to be euthanized within 40 days of a certified and repeated request, according to *The Tablet*. This essentially sends the message to people living with chronic illness or disability that they are better off dead, and as Bishop Arguello said, will put "added pressure" on patients who feel as though they are "a burden to their families."

Disturbingly, the law also allows a family member or doctor to sign a euthanasia petition when a patient is considered incapacitated.

Multiple studies show that people who seek assisted suicide do so not because they want a so-called “dignified”

death, but because they are dealing with depression and hopelessness, and fear of being a burden to their loved ones.

Additionally, many people who are told they have a terminal illness and qualify for assisted suicide can actually survive for many years.

Jeanette Hall was 55 when she was told she had terminal cancer and just six months to live. She thought she wanted assisted suicide, but her doctor convinced her not to do it. She has since lived for more than 20 years with treatment.



www.lifenews.com/2021/07/09/33rd-texas-city-bans-abortion-declares-itself-a-sanctuary-for-the-unborn/

33rd Texas city bans abortion, declares itself a “Sanctuary for the Unborn”

The City of Centerville, Texas, just became the 33rd in the United States to ban abortions by passing a Sanctuary City for the Unborn ordinance.

On July 7, the city council unanimously approved the pro-life ordinance in a 5-0 vote, according to *Texas Scorecard*.

Mayor Nolan Ray Goolsby said he supported the pro-life ordinance against the recommendations of the city attorney and state municipal leaders.

Mark Lee Dickson, director with Right to Life of East Texas and founder of the Sanctuary Cities for the Unborn Initiative, said they later learned that the city attorney is married to an abortion activist and former Planned Parenthood board member.

Dickson said leaders of Centerville (population 892) received hundreds of petitions from residents urging them to pass the ordinance.

He said one came from Carly Hickman, who shared how her mother, single and caring for two young children, found herself pregnant for a third time despite having had her tubes tied.

“The reality is not lost on me that I was the prime target for an abortion,” Hickman said. “... I could have been aborted, but [I] obviously wasn’t. Thirty years of marriage later, my parents went on to have three more children after me ... a total of 17 grandchildren altogether, and one more on the way! So, lest you think that just one life is saved when the unborn are protected from abortion, think again.”

The Centerville ordinance makes it unlawful for any person to procure or perform, aid or abet an abortion at any stage of pregnancy in the city.



<http://ifrl-blog.blogspot.com/2021/06/ap-poll-shows-strong-opposition-to.html>

AP Poll shows strong opposition to second and third trimester abortions

A poll released by the Associated Press in late June shows that most Americans believe abortion should be restricted or banned after the first trimester.

Unfortunately, 61% of Americans said that abortion should be legal in most or all circumstances during the first trimester. Encouragingly however, 65% said most or all second trimester abortions should be illegal. This increased to 80% in the third trimester.

For second trimester abortions, the poll found that, “34% say they should usually [19%] or always [15%] be legal, and another 30% say they should be illegal in most but not all cases.”

Regarding third trimester abortions, 26% said that they should be illegal in most cases, 54% said that they should be illegal in all circumstances.

Statistics from the pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute indicate that over 100,000 abortions killed unborn babies in the second trimester or later during the year 2017 alone. Clearly government policy on abortion does not reflect public opinion.

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



Pam Manning, Editor
Missouri Right to Life
573-635-5110
www.missourilife.org

~ From the Vice- President

Be the One!

Terry Beatley started Hosea Initiative after a rare 2009 interview with Dr. Bernard Nathanson, the *regretful* co-founder of the National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL). Terry accepted the pro-life mantle of Dr. Nathanson and promised to teach Americans how to *be the one* to share the truth of how he used 8 points of propaganda (one of which was “The Catholic Strategy”) to deceive citizens with the lie that abortion is “women’s healthcare”.

Together with his colleague, Lawrence Lader, they founded NARAL and led the NARAL team in selling its dream of abortion on demand by using this 8-point propaganda strategy. Dr. Nathanson told Terry Beatley that they tried to get Planned Parenthood to help NARAL advance the abortion movement, but they declined until seeing the profitability of abortion.



Therese Sander

Once on board with Dr. Nathanson, Planned Parenthood has exploited the 8-point strategy to catapult itself into such a power player in our culture, that few dare cross it. But David Daleidon was not one of those people. He went undercover to interview people in the abortion industry and blew the whistle on Planned Parenthood. The videos released by his Center for Medical Progress revealed Planned Parenthood’s grisly business of trafficking in body parts from aborted babies. That’s what caused the public outcry of citizens demanding the defunding of Planned Parenthood and fed the abortion-free sanctuary city movement in this country to get local municipalities to make a public statement that *abortion providers are not welcome in their town*.

Unfortunately, as we just witnessed in the recently ended special session of the Missouri Legislature, when NARAL and Planned Parenthood flexed their muscle, pro-life majorities did nothing to prevent these abortion providers from receiving our tax dollars. A major part of the special session was our effort to defund Planned Parenthood. Yet the Senate explicitly voted down the pro-life language amendment to the Federal Reimbursement Allowance (FRA) renewal bill that would have accomplished that, and subsequently twice refused to take up the separate stand-alone bill that would also have defunded Planned Parenthood.

NARAL’s 8-point strategy — with Dr. Nathanson as its medical spokesperson — powerfully changed the cultural tide on abortion in a few short years. Two generations have been born and grown up since then and most people in the current generation of young adults have never heard of Bernard Nathanson or know his story of conversion to the pro-life movement.

Join Terry Beatley via ZOOM and let her teach you about NARAL’s 8-point strategy in the comfort of your own home. Go to <https://www.hosea4you.org/> and scroll down the home page where you’ll find information about “Tuesday’s with Terry” in the big yellow bordered box.

Be the one who will learn and then share the truth about this 8-point strategy!

In Respect for Life,

Therese Sander

Every human being is unique and possessed of inherent dignity, regardless of age or condition. Missouri Right to Life upholds the basic right to life of every innocent person from inception to natural death. Since its founding, Missouri Right to Life has been as active in striving to protect human life from euthanasia as in working to protect unborn children from abortion.

Reprinted below are the thoughts of Wesley J. Smith, Chair and Senior Fellow at the Center on Human Exceptionalism. He has written often over the years of the many risks posed to human life including end-of-life threats. This article was originally published by the National Review on June 5, 2021.

Computer Program Developed in Canada to Predict When Seniors Have 6 Months to Live

By Wesley J. Smith

As if we needed further evidence that medicine is growing increasingly impersonal, the *Canadian Medical Association Journal* has published a study that claims a computer program can predict when seniors have six months to live.

From the *Global News* story:

“Amid a lack of proper support for Canadians receiving home-based support towards the end of their lives, a new risk calculator is helping predict how long seniors have left to live.

“The Risk Evaluation for Support: Predictions for Elder-Life in the Community Tool — dubbed ‘RESPECT’ for short — can predict death within six months, and was developed using data from more than 491,000 community-dwelling adults aged at least 50 years who used home care between 2007 and 2013.”

Always with the acronyms to hide utilitarian protocols and procedures. Euthanasia in Canada is called MAID (medical assistance in dying), and now, RESPECT. Good grief.

“The RESPECT calculator allows families and their loved ones to plan,” said Dr. Amy Hsu, investigator at the Bruyère Research Institute and lead author of the study.

“For example, it can help an adult [or] child plan when to take a leave of absence from work to be with a parent or decide when to take the last family vacation together.”

Or it could be used to restrict care and/or push euthanasia. As one Canadian bioethicist noted:

“If the calculator would ever be introduced to Canada’s healthcare system, Bowman believes that it would be

interfaced with the country’s medical assistance in dying (MAID), and could possibly shape the attitude of palliative care and end of life decisions.

“It will also shape the attitude of health care workers and it also raises a deeper question of who will interface with the broader question of what types of life are worth living and who decides, which is profoundly important stuff,” he said.

Ya’ think?

People don’t die by the numbers. Much depends on the kind of care they receive, their mental states, and individual differences that can be immeasurable. Even the study’s authors note a very big problem.

People don’t die by the numbers. Much depends on the kind of care they receive, their mental states, and individual differences that can be immeasurable.

“As with many prediction models, RESPECT is less well calibrated at the extremes of the distribution. In particular, we found that RESPECT overpredicted the mortality risk of patients in our top 3 risk bins.”

Oops.

The idea that crucial and intimate decisions about patient care could soon be driven by a computer-modeling system — rather than individual assessments — is very alarming. And it will often be wrong. I know of several patients given six months or less to live who got kicked out of hospice because their health improved unexpectedly. This includes the humorist Art Buchwald, who left hospice when he didn’t die from kidney failure and lived long enough to write his last book.

But then, with the quality-of-life ethic taking hold in medicine throughout the West, a “follow the science!” approach would make it much easier for clinicians, socialized-medicine bean counters, and family to abandon frail patients to comfort-care-only regimens — or worse — and still get a good night’s sleep.

Federal Appeals Court Unanimously Upholds Dismissal of Lawsuit Claiming Equal Rights Amendment Was Ratified

Extends Unbroken 40-Year Losing Streak For ERA-Resuscitation Legal Claims

On June 29, a three-judge federal court of appeals panel unanimously upheld the dismissal of Equal Means Equal v. Ferriero, one of two ongoing lawsuits that implausibly claim that the federal Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) has been ratified and is part of the U.S. Constitution.

“Today’s ruling continues an unbroken, 40-year losing streak by advocates of the ERA-is-alive cult in the federal courts, before federal judges of every stripe of judicial philosophy and political background,” said Douglas Johnson, director of the National Right to Life Committee’s ERA Project.

The lawsuit ruled on today was brought by Equal Means Equal, a pro-ERA advocacy group, with several allied plaintiffs. EME sued the Archivist of the United States for declining to certify the ERA as part of the Constitution after the Virginia legislature purported to “ratify” the ERA in January 2020, ostensibly thereby crossing the 38-state ratification threshold (a dubious claim widely accepted by the news media). The lawsuit argued that the 1979 ratification deadline that Congress included in the 1972 ERA Resolution was unconstitutional, and that the Archivist’s refusal to certify the ERA harmed women as a class and the plaintiffs individually.

On August 6, 2020, federal district Judge Denise Casper, an appointee of President Obama, dismissed the Equal Means

Equal lawsuit, ruling that the plaintiffs had not shown the type of injury required to establish standing. Equal Means Equal’s attorney, Wendy Murphy, then filed a cert petition at the U.S. Supreme Court, urging the court to consider not only the standing issue but the question of whether the ERA was indeed part of the Constitution. The Supreme Court rejected the cert petition in October 2020, with not a single justice recording a dissent. EME then pursued a conventional appeal in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, which produced today’s unanimous ruling upholding Judge Casper’s dismissal.

“The federal constitutional questions that the plaintiffs’ complaint raises concerning the legal status of the ERA are significant,” the panel said. “To be fit for adjudication in federal court, however, they must be raised in a suit that satisfies the requirements of Article III.” The ruling was written by Chief Judge Jeffrey Howard, who was appointed by President George W. Bush; he was joined by Judges Sandra Lynch, appointed by President Clinton, and David Barron, appointed by President Obama.

In a separate lawsuit brought by the attorneys general of Virginia, Nevada, and Illinois (Virginia v. Ferriero), U.S. District Judge Rudolph Contreras (an appointee of President Obama) on March 5, 2021 ruled that the deadline included by Congress

in the Proposing Clause of the 1972 ERA Resolution was constitutional, and the ERA therefore expired more than three decades ago. The legislative actions by Nevada (2017), Illinois (2018), and Virginia (January 2020) were not real ratifications because they “came too late to count,” Contreras ruled. Contreras also said that the Archivist of the U.S. was justified in refusing to certify (“publish”) the ERA as part of the Constitution, and indeed that the claim (made by the three attorneys general) that the Archivist should ignore the deadline was “absurd.”

Missouri Right to Life and National Right to Life oppose the 1972 ERA because it is likely to be employed as a textual constitutional foundation for judicial rulings that would invalidate virtually any state or federal law or policy that impedes access to abortion, or even that has a “disparate impact” on the availability of abortion, including any restrictions on government funding of elective abortion.

Missouri Right to Life celebrates this recognition by the Federal Courts that the ERA ratification deadline is and has been expired for many years and that any recent ratifications are invalid. Hopefully with this decision, we will no longer have the specter of the ERA and its threat to significant life-saving legislation hanging over our heads.

From NRLC News Today 6/30/2021

Missouri Attorney General Asks U.S. Supreme Court to Review Missouri’s Law Prohibiting Abortions of Unborn Children with Down Syndrome

On July 1, Missouri Attorney General Eric Schmitt filed a petition for writ of certiorari in Schmitt v. Reproductive Health Services of Planned Parenthood of the St. Louis Region, asking the Supreme Court of the United States to review Missouri’s law prohibiting abortions of unborn children with Down syndrome.

“My son Stephen has shown me the inherent beauty in life, and he brings immense joy and love to his loved ones and those around him. Since taking office, I’ve fought to protect all life, including the unborn. A prenatal diagnosis of Down syndrome should not be a death sentence,” said Attorney General Schmitt. “It’s my hope that the Supreme Court will grant our petition for writ of certiorari and hear this critically important case.”

The petition presents three questions for the Supreme Court’s review:

- Whether Missouri’s restriction on abortions performed solely because the unborn child may have Down syndrome is categorically invalid under Casey and Roe v. Wade, 410 U.S. 113 (1973), or whether it is a valid, reasonable regulation of abortion that seeks to prevent the elimination of children with Down syndrome through eugenic abortion?
- Whether Missouri’s restrictions on abortions performed after eight, fourteen, eighteen, and twenty weeks’ gestational age are categorically invalid, or whether they are valid, reasonable regulations of abortion that advance important state interests?
- Whether the “penumbral” right to abortion recognized in Roe v. Wade, 410 U.S. 113 (1973), and partially reaffirmed in Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey, 505 U.S. 833 (1992), should be overruled?

The 50th convention of National Right to Life



Herndon VA was the site of the fiftieth National Right to Life convention, and MRL was there! Along with Kansans for Life, MRL sponsored the Prayer Breakfast with featured speaker Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz, Ex. Director of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty.



At the convention, Missouri Right to Life board member Jasha McQueen gave a well-attended and informative workshop, "Frozen Embryos: The Modern Slavery Issue."

MRL's Spring "Fore Life" Golf Tournament



Memorials

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

In memory of~

Mick Effertz
Harry Fabick
David J Rohan
Galen Royle
William L Wings

Given by~

Donna Effertz
Tom & Pam Fichter
Mary Ann Rohan
Donna Royle
William Johnson

In honor of~

Joe & Shari Hoette's
50th Anniversary

Given by~

Judy Club
Paul & Norma Delanty
Dave & Marsha Hoette
Roy & Carol Hoette

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



Celebrate a lifetime of giving...

... by giving *beyond a lifetime!* Invest in your vision – a world in which every human life is protected and respected.

Yours is a Legacy of Life and Love

Your decision to enact a planned gift to Missouri Right to Life (MRL) and/or the MRL Education Fund (tax deductible) reflects your commitment to grassroots pro-life work across Missouri. It is a gift that lives on – and saves lives.

For more information or to request a confidential consultation, contact Missouri Right to Life at 573-635-5110.

**"One life,
a little gleam
between
two
eternities."
~ Thomas Carlyle**

Aug. 12 - 22 **Missouri State Fair, Sedalia.**
While visiting the State Fair, be sure to stop by our Missouri Right to Life booth in the Varied Industries Building. It is staffed by hard-working, faithful MRL-Sedalia Chapter members. They'd love to see you!

Aug 20 - 22 **Healing The Pain of Abortion One Weekend at a Time, A Rachel's Vineyard Retreat.** St. Louis. Contact Cynthia Haehnel or Mary Varni, 314.406.0815 or email hopehealing@archstl.org

Fri., Sept. 17 **MRL-Western Region Golf Tournament.** Eagles' Landing Golf Course, Belton MO. For more information call 816.353.4113.

Sept. 22 - Oct. 31 **Fall 40 Days for Life.**
Missouri and surrounding area vigils -
Columbia 711 Providence Rd.
St. Louis 4251 Forest Park Ave.
Fairview Heights IL 317 Salem Pl.
Overland Park KS
4840 College Blvd.

Thurs, Oct. 14 **Western Region Voice for the Voiceless Banquet** at Stoneycreek Conference Center, Independence. Dr. Alan Keyes Keynote Speaker. Contact info: 816.353.4113 or email mrl-wr@att.net.

In the rush to do all that must be done in our fight for life, we often stop and remind ourselves that you and we together are Missouri Right to Life, and without you the work would be so much more difficult.

So . . . thank you for all you do in defending life, keeping this special mission in your prayers, responding to our pleas, and making the donations that keep the doors open and the mission progressing.

God bless you mightily!



Thank You!

Randolph County Right to Life Banquet



Keynote Speaker Terry Beatley at the Randolph County-Missouri Right to Life Banquet.

Randolph County-Missouri Right to Life held their banquet, "Be The One", at the Moberly Municipal Auditorium on April 22nd. Several hundred gathered to join in pro-life camaraderie and to learn from keynote speaker Terry Beatley. Her talk is outlined in Therese Sander's letter on page 3 of this newsletter.

Thanks to all who attended and to those who worked to make the pro-life celebration possible!

Inside ~

- Special Session Wrap
- Sanctuary Cities
- Another court rules ERA dead
- AG Schmitt asks for SCOTUS review of Missouri law

If not for love...and a helping hand...

By Maria V. Gallagher
Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation

I gazed at the photo, overwhelmed by the sight.

It was a picture of a precious newborn baby girl — a girl who could easily have not been here, were it not for a woman who was willing to reach out to a pregnant woman with love, compassion, and hope.

The girl's mother had scheduled an abortion. Her baby girl is alive because the appointment was never kept. Why? The woman had changed her mind. Why? She'd been empowered to make a life-affirming decision by the support offered by another mother at a crucial juncture.

The photo captured the baby girl sleeping peacefully, unaware of the drama that led to her birth.

We often focus — and rightly so — on the number of abortions which take place in a given year. Nearly 900,000 unborn babies in the U.S. were not as fortunate as this little one.

But today I celebrate the lives that have been saved by courageous mothers who stared death in the face, and said,

“Not today,” and turned the other way. I salute these nameless moms who have braved the uncertainty represented by crisis and who gave birth in an act of personal and family triumph.

I commend the people who have accompanied them along their journey, whether they be husbands or boyfriends, mothers or siblings, or strangers who become fast friends.

I applaud the pregnancy resource centers which supply the diapers and day care referrals, formula and friendship, to make the days brighter, the path easier.

Whenever a new child enters the world, it is cause for celebration. As the poet Carl Sandburg once wrote, “A baby is God's opinion that life should go on.”

Today let us think of mothers and babies and those who stand by them as the model of mutual interdependence. I am grateful for those who work tirelessly to ensure that mothers and their babies have a chance for their own photo shoots, with a lifetime of grace-filled times to follow.

