



MISSOURI RIGHT TO LIFE

Transforming society to respect and protect all innocent human life.

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Missouri Right to Life “Keep Missouri Pro-Life!” Action Day

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

Missouri State Capitol ~1st Floor Rotunda

We need you to ACT!

- Come to Jefferson City on Wednesday, March 8, 2023, for Pro-Life Action Day to encourage your legislators to pass pro-life legislation.
- Registration begins at 10:00 a.m.
- Lobby your legislators and join the noon rally with our special guest.

Vicky Hartzler “The Gift of a Forever Home”



Vicky has long been an avid supporter of adoption and of easing the process of adopting by helping parents cut through the red tape that complicates efforts to bring moms and dads together with children to form permanent families. From her days as a State Representative in Jefferson City through her years in the U.S. Congress from Missouri’s 4th District, she worked to make finding loving families for children a priority.

Vicky is blessed to be a mother through adoption and proud to be a strong advocate for pro-adoption legislation.

Transportation will be available from many areas of the state.

Contact the Missouri Right to Life State Office, 573.635.5110, for specific transportation options. Visit www.missourilife.org or telephone the state office for all Lobby Day information.



local Walgreens or CVS pharmacy: at 40daysforlife.com/apply.

(Editor's note: the Missouri Attorney General has assured us that he will vigilantly monitor all situations to ensure that Missouri's abortion ban is observed.)



40 Days for Life makes announcement on CVS and Walgreens

CVS and Walgreens are set to trample Planned Parenthood as the largest abortion chains in America...

...now that they will distribute the very dangerous RU-486 abortion pills that stop heartbeats and kill babies up to 10 weeks' gestation.

After the Supreme Court overturned Roe, woke corporations relentlessly virtue-signaled their support for abortion.

But Walgreens and CVS aren't just virtue-signaling ... they're turning their stores into abortion facilities.

CVS stopped selling tobacco but now, along with Walgreens, will deal painful self-induced abortion drugs from the drive-through window!

This unprecedented attack on babies deserves an unprecedented response as the need for abortion pill reversal skyrockets.

If there's a dedicated abortion facility in your city, that's the best place to stand vigil. But if there's not, apply to lead in front of your local abortion-dispensing pharmacy location this February 22-April 2:

Leading a 40 Days for Life campaign in front of a pharmacy can:

- Save lives through your witness and abortion pill reversal;
- Empower pro-life pharmacists at CVS and Walgreens;
- Send a message to pharmacy executives that dealing in death is *not* a good business decision;
- Educate your community on the dangers of chemical abortion for both women and babies.

As the country and the world trend pro-life, out-of-touch executives are sprinting to the wrong side of history. Nobody wants to buy a candy bar or a greeting card from a business that kills babies.

Send a message by applying to lead a 40 Days for Life campaign in front of your

www.lifenews.com/2023/01/19/new-poll-shows-72-of-women-support-pro-life-laws/

New poll shows 72% of women support pro-life laws

A strong majority of Americans support stronger pro-life laws, according to a new poll released just days before the annual March for Life. More than two-thirds of Americans (69%) would support ending all abortion no later than the first trimester, including nearly three out of four women (72%) and nearly half (49%) of all surveyed Democrats.

The poll found 44% of people want increased abortion restrictions, including not allowing abortion at all (8%), allowing abortion only to save the life of the mother (10%), or in the case of rape or incest (26%). Only one in five voters believe abortion should be available at any point in pregnancy, without restriction.

The Marist poll, sponsored in partnership with the Knights of Columbus, shows a strong pro-life majority more in line with recent Republican pro-life legislation than the Democratic Party platform, which calls for taxpayer-funded abortion until birth. Additionally, the survey, conducted earlier this month, found:

- 78% of Americans oppose forcing taxpayers to fund abortion overseas;
- 60% of Americans oppose forcing taxpayers to fund abortion in the United States;
- 94% oppose sex-selective abortions (because of the child's sex);
- 77% say people with religious objections should not be legally required to carry out abortions
- 60% of Americans oppose aborting a child because the child has been diagnosed with Down syndrome;
- 55% say employers with religious objections should not be forced to pay for abortion coverage in their employees' insurance; and
- 91% of Americans, including 88%

of Democrats, support the work of pro-life pregnancy resource centers.

Those results show a Republican legislative agenda is in the mainstream -- or perhaps slightly behind -- public opinion. (See complete poll report at [LifeNews link](#))



<https://www.liveaction.org/news/sound-of-music-life-abortion/>

Real-life 'Sound of Music' heroine chose life, refused abortion

The heroine of *The Sound of Music* was told by her doctor to have an abortion because her unborn son was thought to be disabled.

The story of the von Trapp family, their musical prowess, and how they escaped Nazi Germany is well known, but less well known is the story of how Maria von Trapp refused to abort her tenth child, Johannes.

In *The Story of the Trapp Family Singers*, Maria von Trapp details that, shortly after her family moved to the US in the late 1930s, she found out that she was pregnant with her last child. She visited a doctor complaining of severe back pain.

She wrote "Your wife cannot have another child; he informed my husband; 'at least, not until the kidneys are back to normal. They are both badly infected ... The child has to be removed, of course, immediately'".

Maria was unimpressed with the doctor's recommendation that she have an abortion and said to him, "What do you mean, of course? That is not of course at all. On the contrary, it is absolutely out of the question—we are Catholics, you know." Despite the doctor's insistence, Maria bravely refused to consider ending the life of her unborn son. She writes about when she eventually went into labour: "I had to squeeze [my husband's] hand very hard, and time seemed to stand still. Then I heard a funny little squeak ... At that minute a full chorale downstairs started: 'Now thank we all our God!. Why it's a boy!' The predictions of the doctor proved beautifully wrong, and Johannes promises to be a fine American boy."

Later, when Maria learned about the abortion provider's (Planned Parenthood) notion of an 'unwanted child', she thought of her son's birth.

Thank you for spreading the message of Life!

From the Director of Communications & Development ~

This year we encourage you to Keep Missouri Pro-Life!

Communicating the many aspects of what Missouri Right to Life does is not always easy or simple because we work to protect all stages of innocent human life, from inception of biological development through natural death. This includes educating, legislating, and activating informed members.

With two new MRL Directors here to serve in Education, Communication, and Development, we have so many new updates to share with you! Here's a taste of what you can expect from MRL in 2023.

- A Stronger presence in educational speaking engagements and events that invite you, right where you are, to take part in Missouri's pro-life movement and positions. Invite us!
- A Strategic Voter Voice outreach plan to you, our members, in protecting our Missouri Constitution by ensuring that unborn children in Missouri receive the best protection in the country. This is vital to protect our state from outside influencers who do not have our best interest at heart. We are on the front line right now more than ever!
- An engaging and robust social media presence that is meant to excite you and invite you to talk about pro-life causes. Quality social media posts also help everyone see that the pro-life community, especially MRL, is positive, loving, and values the life of the baby's mom and dad too! These posts will help answer questions and invite you to upcoming events! Look for us on Facebook and Twitter for now.
- Educational podcasts are en route! MRL is currently installing the podcast equipment and software, while lining up our topics and speakers for the next 2 years. We are working on podcasts and videos to come out soon. These podcasts will begin in audio format, then lead into video podcasts in the future. The purpose is to invite guest speakers to join us in sharing with you the latest pro-life topics and events and to engage with our viewers by answering questions that we have been hearing from them. It is also a fun way to invite you to become an active and even more informed member of Missouri Right to Life!

Please invite us into your local communities to speak, share, host friend-raising events and more! It is through your local communities that we can continue to truly make a difference and keep a pro-life voice in Missouri during 2023 -- and forever!



Sherry Lee

Gratefully,
Sherry Lee

PASSED! The Born Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act

Missouri Congresswoman Ann Wagner announced the reintroduction of the legislation

Former Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi blocked this life-saving legislation for years, despite over 80 Republican attempts to bring this bill to the floor for a vote. Finally, on January 10 there was a vote, and this common-sense bill was passed.

Congresswoman Ann Wagner from Missouri's 2nd District announced the reintroduction of the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, with House Majority Leader Steve Scalise (R-LA), and Representative Kat Cammack (R-FL) joining as original cosponsors.

In reference to the bill, Congresswoman Wagner said, "All children should have the right to receive lifesaving care, especially those who survive an abortion. The Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act will provide commonsense protections for innocent children and their mothers and will ensure all babies receive the essential care they need at an incredibly vulnerable moment."

Thank you, Congresswoman Wagner! Missouri pro-lifers are proud of you for once again standing for the sanctity of life!

From National Right to Life ~

On the 50th Anniversary of Roe v. Wade

On January 22, 1973, the United States Supreme Court handed down the devastating Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton decisions, and thus introduced abortion on demand in the USA. On June 24, 2022, the Court in Dobbs v. Jackson overturned these cases, finding no constitutional right to abortion. Nevertheless, it left us with 64,443,118 deaths of innocent unborn babies. The updated list of abortion statistics are available at <https://www.nrlc.org/wp-content/uploads/23StatsFS.pdf>

To give you an idea of how many lives have been lost since Roe v. Wade, the blacked out states on this map represent a population of 64,323,828 — less than the number of babies who died due to Roe v. Wade.

We do not know what those children, had they been allowed to live, would have grown up to be or the number of lives they might have saved. But we do know this if we do not continue this battle and protect innocent human life, the map will have more blacked out states next year, and the year after, and the year after that.

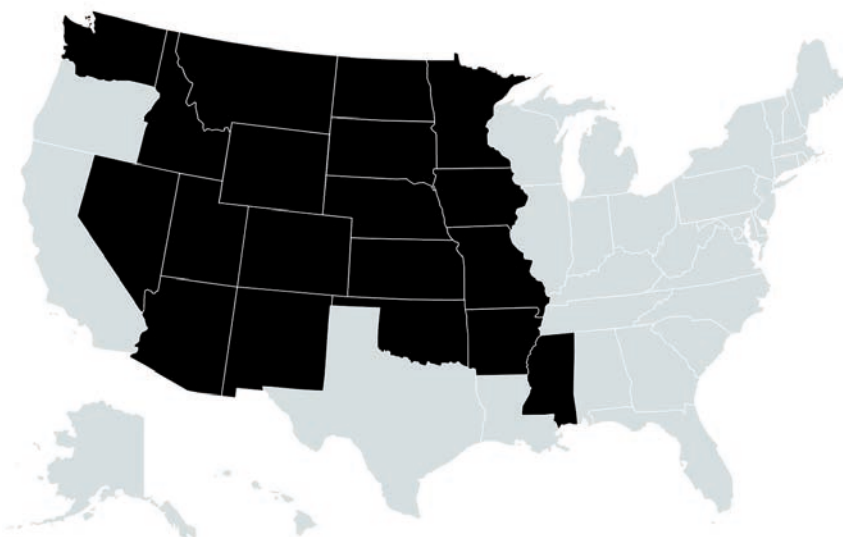
Frivolous Lawsuit Filed Against Missouri's Law Banning the Deaths of Thousands of Innocent Preborn Babies

Some pro-abortion "religious" leaders have filed a frivolous lawsuit against Missouri's law to protect pregnant moms and unborn babies in their mothers' wombs. This life-saving law bans abortion unless the mother's life is in danger.

The Missouri Supreme Court ruled in 2019 in the Satanic Temple's lawsuit against the state of Missouri (Doe v. Parson, 567 SW 3d 625) that Missouri's pro-life law regulating abortion "does not adopt any religious tenet." Clearly the claims of these pro-abortion "religious" leaders fall under that ruling.

Missouri Attorney General Andrew Bailey has announced that he will defend Missouri's pro-life laws from this lawsuit:

"I want Missouri to be the safest state in the nation for children, and that includes unborn children. As Attorney General, I will protect the Constitution and defend the right to life with every tool at my disposal. In Harris v. McRae, the U.S. Supreme Court rejected arguments like those raised in this case, and the Missouri Attorney General's Office has won on similar claims at the Missouri Supreme Court. We look forward to doing it again. I will never back down from this fight."



Welcome to the MRL Team....



Sherry Lee Director of Communication & Development

Sherry Lee currently serves as our new Director of Communication and Development for Missouri Right to Life.

Mrs. Lee comes to us from Museum of the Bible as both Curator of Development and Coordinator of Library Connections internationally. Sherry presented Museum of the Bible to the International Federation of Libraries in Poland, *Outside the Walls of Museum of the Bible: Interreligious Dialogue, Library Initiatives and Societal Solidarity (ifla.org)*, (IFLA Poland 2017). Mrs. Lee created the 4 Pillars of Museum of the Bible's Artifact Highlights Exhibit for development events, was content creator and Curator of Museum of the Bible's Ark Encounter Exhibit, *Ark Encounter - Museum of the Bible Exhibit - Bible Buying Guide*. Sherry established and curated Museum of the Bible's largest Talmud Collection, *Home - Sofer Collection - LibGuides at Oklahoma Christian University (oc.edu)* outside of Israel located within the library of Oklahoma Christian University in Edmond, Oklahoma. Sherry has co-curated acquisitions for all floors and many traveling exhibits of Museum of the Bible since 2015, *One of Fodor's Best Museums in DC | Museum of the Bible*.

Mrs. Lee also served in the Armed Forces as a Behavioral Science Specialist for 10 years and worked with Paralyzed Veterans of America and Sherry Klein Arts LLC continuing as a Behavioral Science Specialist. Sherry's service to the military community involved counseling, psychometry, Gulf War Syndrome interviews and analytics. Sherry then used these skills to help active soldiers and veterans through life transitions in and out of their service time.

Sherry's true passion can be summed up in helping every voice be heard in a meaningful way. For Mrs. Lee, the task at hand is to help Missourians see the value of a life, and to understand their important role in Keeping Missouri Pro-Life in 2023 throughout all stages of innocent human life.



Sara Walsh Director of Education & Development Education Fund

Sara R. Walsh serves as our new Director of Education & Development for Missouri Right to Life Education Fund.

Previously she served as State Representative for Missouri's 50th House District (Southern Boone County and parts of Cole, Cooper and Moniteau Counties). She was elected to serve as Missouri House Majority Caucus Chair (2020-2022) and served on numerous House committees. In the past, she has worked for the Missouri Pharmacy Association, the Missouri Auditor's Office, and National Newspaper Association.

Sara holds bachelor's and master's degrees. She has served as a past Board Member for Missouri Right to Life, and has been active in pro-life volunteer efforts her entire adult life. Sara is an active member of First Assembly of God in Jefferson City, Missouri.

When asked for her thoughts on Missouri Right to Life's mission, Sara shared the following:

"Some say religion and politics should never be discussed. However, the creation of our very lives and the conception of our nation's history are dependent upon these two essential areas: God who creates and gives us the Right to Life, and government that secures the Right to Life.

"As a born-again believer who accepted Christ as my Lord and Savior at a very young age, I have always known that life is God-breathed, and unique, and precious... and that God has a purpose for every single life from conception until natural death. As a child, I grew up with the Missouri Right to Life newsletter on my family's coffee table. As a lifelong pro-life conservative, I had the honor and privilege to be sent by the people to the Missouri Capitol to serve as a State Representative for the past five years. And, as a Past Treasurer of Missouri Right to Life, I can tell you that Missouri Right to Life's statewide education efforts on pro-life issues are second to none.

"I invite all to join me in prayer that our Creator of Life will guide our efforts as we step forward in faith and in truth. And, as we grow, may the Lord strengthen us and grant us greater opportunities to achieve our mission of eternal significance: to protect Missourians at all ages and levels of development."



Missouri Affiliate of National Right to Life

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~ March for Life 2023 ~



Prolifers on one of the Life Caravan buses from the St. Louis area on the way to March for Life in Washington, D.C. What an experience these bus rides always are!



Missouri pro-lifers at the Legislator's Meeting prior to participating in the 2023 March in Washington, D.C.

Missouri Right to Life joined over 100,000 pro-lifers from across the country on January 20 in Washington D. C. to speak for the sanctity of life. This is the first March for Life since the Supreme Court overturned Roe v Wade.

This January marked the 50th year since the U.S. Supreme Court ruled on Roe and forced states to legalize the killing of unborn babies in abortions. In June, however, the high court reversed its infamous decision and began allowing states to protect unborn babies' lives again. Missouri became the first state to ban abortions following the decision.

Reflecting on this year's historic march, Carol Tobias, president of National Right to Life, said the pro-life movement has huge new opportunities to protect innocent human lives through education and legislation.

"As tens of thousands march today to remember Roe and the loss of life since 1973, we praise the work of pro-life people who give of their time, energy, and finances to help women facing unexpected pregnancies. Those efforts have saved millions of lives and, post-Dobbs, will save millions more," Tobias said.

Memorials & Honorariums

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



<i>In memory of ~</i>	<i>Given by ~</i>
Ann Marie Bohnert	William Bohnert Jr.
Ralph Glosemeyer	MO Right to Life - East Central Area Chapter
Mr & Mrs Norbert Kellner	Mr & Mrs Robt. Hildebrand Mr & Mrs Matthew Kellner
David Metherd	John Hock
Jezeloaj amd Manassah	Stephen Sharum
<i>In honor of ~</i>	<i>Given by ~</i>
Pam Manning	Nick & Patti Manning
Steve Rupp	Rachel Henson

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



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

~ Thomas Carlyle

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.

Pro-Life Across Missouri

save the date

- Wed., March 8 **Pro-Life Action Day**
State Capitol Jefferson City MO
See front page for information
- Thurs., March 30 **Randolph County “Celebration of Life” Banquet** - Moberly Municipal Auditorium, 6:00 p.m. Guest Speaker Melissa Ohden. Reservations by email to therese.sander@gmail.com
- Fri., April 14 **Western Region’s “God’s Masterpiece”** - a pro-life ladies event, Lee’s Summit Community Church. Visit MRL-WR.org for information.
- Wed., April 26 **Midwest March For Life**
Jefferson City. Information at midwestmarchforlife.com
- June 23 - 24 **NRLC Convention** - Pittsburgh PA
Info at <https://nrlconvention.com/>
- Thurs., Sept. 7 **MRL Banquet & Program** - St Charles. Stay tuned for complete information

Take a look!

Please be sure to return your membership for 2023!

You know that Missouri Right to Life depends on you! If you haven’t done so, please return your recent membership mailing or use the envelope enclosed with this MRL News. Thank you so much for being part of our pro-life family for joining us in supporting LIFE!

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES ~

The best resource for staying current with pro-life legislation in our state capitol is found on Missouri Right to Life’s webpage, missourilife.org. On the site, click on “Legislation” at the top of the homepage, then “Current State Legislation.” This will open links to the most current and to past legislative updates.

Need an Informed and Interesting Speaker for Your Pro-Life Event?



MRL State President Steve Rupp has been a busy man, speaking at multiple chapters, church groups, and universities. The above pictures are just two of his recent events. On the left, he is with Mary Rasco after speaking to the Lincoln County-MRL chapter. On the right, Steve visits with the Truman University Students for Life.

Missouri Right to Life has many excellent speakers who would be happy to visit your group and share information on any pro-life topic that interests you. You may schedule a speaker by contacting the state office at 573-635-5110. We’d be happy to hear from you!

Inside ~

- See you at Pro-Life Action Day
- Bravo, Congresswoman Wagner
- Meet MRI's new team members
- Need a Pro-Life Speaker?

Valentine's Day is full of stories of chocolates, flowers, romantic love, and even broken hearts.

However, we believe Valentine's Day is an opportunity to celebrate another important kind of love. Today, let's celebrate all parents who live unconditional love by embracing life.

We especially celebrate adoptive parents, foster parents, stepparents, and those moms and dads who chose life in difficult circumstances.

Do you know parents who continually display unconditional love? Are there people you know who have lived pro-life values by opening their hearts to a child through adoption or foster care? Have your own children impacted your heart and taught you about love?

Just a few things to think about as we celebrate Valentine's Day!



Spring Campaign dates - February 22 - April 2

Locations in Missouri/eastern Kansas/western Illinois

Columbia MO

711 N. Providence Rd. Columbia, MO

St. Louis MO

No sites this campaign. Check back for the fall campaign!

Granite City

1602 21st St. Granite City, IL

Overland Park

4840 College Blvd. Overland Park, KS

Knowing that "with God, all things are possible," people of faith and conscience unite in 40 days of prayer and fasting. The visible, public centerpiece of 40 Days for Life is a focused, 40-day, non-stop, round-the-clock prayer vigil outside a single Planned Parenthood center or other abortion facility in your community. It is a peaceful and educational presence. Those who stand witness during the campaign send a powerful message to the community about the tragic reality of abortion.

