



MISSOURI RIGHT TO LIFE

Transforming society to respect and protect all innocent human life.

JOIN US FOR A CELEBRATION OF LIFE:

Prayer and praise on the anniversary of the overturn of Roe v Wade

Celebration of Life
"Keep Missouri Pro-Life" - Post Roe v. Wade
June 24, 2023
10:30am-12:30pm
First Floor Capitol Rotunda

Pray at the Capitol for Life

Celebration Reports:
✓ *Show-Me Healthy Babies*
✓ *Alternatives to Abortion*

Maternity Home Tables

Pregnancy Help Center Tables

✓ *Pro-Life Prayer Cards*
✓ *Prayer by Local Pastors in 15 Minute Intervals*

Take Home:
✓ *Hands and Feet Pins*
✓ *Informative Handouts*





<https://www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/2023/05/never-too-early-to-remind-us-unborn-children-are-already-part-of-the-family-4/>

“Never Too Early” to remind us unborn children are already part of the family

Once again, I saw what I’m guessing will be the most powerful, if indirect, pro-life message I will encounter today while jogging on the treadmill.

I was able to read the chyron that ran underneath an ad for a car. Even without hearing the music, it was easy to sense the intimacy of a very pregnant young woman and her husband in an ad captioned, “Never Too Early.”

As it turns out, this was the abbreviated version; the longer version, which I looked at this afternoon, was even more powerful.

The message—after all, this is a commercial—is that some things will last a long time. Here’s how the car dealer explains what is taking place:

An expecting couple is anxious to welcome their child to the big, amazing world and to get a head start with their Subaru Outback. As Julie Doiron’s “Beneath the Leaves” plays, the pregnant mother stands in front of crashing waves to show her baby the ocean before the couple drives to a forest and walks hand-in-hand while listening to the sounds all around them. With so much they want to show their baby, they need a car that will last long enough for them to see it all. Over a decade later, the family pulls up to the same ocean spot in their Outback and the mother and father let the daughter race to explore it all.

“There is so much they want to show their baby...” Indeed.

In the extended version, the mom makes a series of comments that illustrate how close, how bound up, mother and unborn child actually are.

For example, it begins with her announcing to her baby girl, “This is the ocean.” It is our ocean—yours, mine, and dad’s.

Next, while sitting on a chair on the beach, she is listening, presumably to music, through headphones. She places the headphones on either side of her abdomen to give her unborn baby an early lesson in music appreciation.

Later, while they are driving, she joshes, “She definitely likes spicy,” and she and her husband laugh.” What the mom eats, so, too, does her baby.

Then, deep in a forest, Mom looks up into the sky. “Just listen,” she advises. She is drinking in the beauty that surrounds them both and wants to share it.

Then, back in the car, she asks, “What else can we show her?” To which her husband smiles and responds, “It’s a big world.”

I understand it’s only a commercial to convince you and me to buy an automobile. But this one-minute-long ad packs in a litany of messages.

- We are in this together, Mother, unborn child, and father.
- What affects one of us is not confined to just one of us.
- Love lasts far longer than any car will. Love lasts a lifetime.

<https://www.nrlc.org/communications/planned-parenthoods-latest-annual-report-the-abortion-giant-is-relentlessly-all-about-abortion/>

Planned Parenthood’s latest annual report: The abortion giant is relentlessly all about abortion

WASHINGTON — Planned Parenthood released its 2021-2022 annual report on Monday, and it shows that, despite the COVID pandemic which caused lockdowns across the country, Planned Parenthood performed the second-highest number of abortions it has ever performed.

The service figures in this latest annual report cover October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021—before the U.S. Supreme Court’s June 2022 decision in *Dobbs v. Women’s Health Services*.

Current trends would appear to put the percentage of U.S. abortions performed at Planned Parenthood somewhere north

of 40% with the organization performing 374,155. This gives Planned Parenthood a commanding share of the nation’s abortion market.

“It is obvious, given the volume of killing, its enormous budget, and its aggressive abortion advocacy, Planned Parenthood is relentless in promoting unlimited abortion for any reason,” said Carol Tobias, president of National Right to Life. “Despite lockdowns during COVID and health care that was deferred for many Americans during the pandemic, Planned Parenthood continued to perform abortions at a near-record rate.”

Planned Parenthood took in a record \$1.9 (\$1,906.7) billion in revenue making the abortion giant one of the nation’s most profitable “non-profits.”

Of the \$1.9 billion in revenue, \$670.4 million, or 35% of Planned Parenthood’s revenue came from taxpayers in the form of “Government Health Services Reimbursements & Grants.”

“Planned Parenthood likes to bill itself as an ‘advocate for women’ but its latest annual report makes clear that the promotion and continued performance of abortion is the primary ‘service’ for which they advocate,” said Randall K. O’Bannon, Ph.D., director of Education and Research for National Right to Life, one of the right-to-life movement’s most authoritative experts on the abortion giant.

Most of Planned Parenthood’s expenses went toward “medical services,” which came in at about \$1 billion. It is impossible to estimate how much of these expenses were for performing abortions because Planned Parenthood does not make these numbers public and the prices for abortions vary regionally at Planned Parenthood affiliates. In addition, the cost of different abortion procedures varies based on how old the unborn baby is at the time of the abortion, making even general calculations impossible.

Planned Parenthood’s annual report also shows that prenatal services and adoption referrals, already rare at Planned Parenthood, were the lowest numbers in over a decade.

*Just 6,244 women received prenatal care at Planned Parenthood clinics in 2021.

*Just 1,803 women were referred for adoptions.

.... *It will take all of us to win this fight....*

From the President ~

As we approach June 24, 2023--the first anniversary of the United States Supreme Court's Dobbs decision to overturn Roe v. Wade, I reflected on the events of the past year.

First, it was jubilation. YES! We had a victory on a national scale. It felt good. It validated what all of us knew--Roe was a horrible decision. There is some justice after all.

Shortly after the euphoria, reality set in. Now what? The abortion industry was, and is, livid that killing innocent children was being challenged.

And they went to work, utilizing our sympathetic social media, a willing press and mega donors to demonize pro-life people and our values as extreme. They said women will die. Freedoms will be lost. Democracy is at stake. They lied.

But their lies and the millions of dollars behind them convinced voters in half a dozen states to defeat pro-life initiatives and promote abortion. These defeats took my breath away.

Missouri Right to Life was instrumental in making Missouri the first state in the union to ban abortion after Roe was overturned. That also angered the abortion industry. They recently filed Initiative Petitions in Missouri to enshrine abortion into our state constitution. Reading these petitions makes your blood run cold.



.... *Fundraising events are now more important than ever....*

From the Vice President ~

"Roe v. Wade was my death sentence," Melissa Ohden told the audience of nearly 150 people gathered at the Moberly Municipal Auditorium for Missouri Right to Life's Randolph County Chapter Fourth Annual Celebration of Life Banquet. Melissa Ohden survived her mother's saline infusion abortion and was left to die. The crowd came to the banquet because they wanted to hear how she survived.

This year's banquet had the largest attendance yet and brought in the most contributions. When we hosted our first banquet four years ago we contacted a speaker who had appeared previously at a Hannibal Chapter pro-life dinner. She graciously chose to not request a fee to come and speak. All we had to do was cover expenses. That gave us the seed money to do a banquet the next year.

Fundraising events are now more important than ever as Missouri Right to Life is facing the challenge of a pro-abortion ballot issue and MRL's state headquarters will need resources to engage in this battle to protect and defend our life-affirming pro-life laws and Constitution.

For our first banquet, the highest dollar sponsor level we offered was only \$500. Each year we added higher levels to choose from. This year, we took our cue from the Eastern Region's wildly successful banquet last September, took a deep breath, and added a \$10,000 and a \$5,000 sponsorship level in

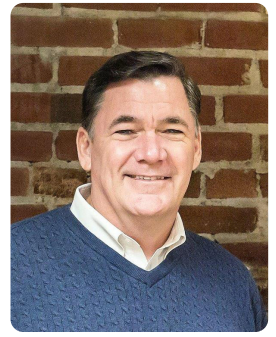
If passed, our ban would fall. Abortions, with no restrictions, would not only be legal up to the moment of birth, but YOU, the taxpayers of Missouri, would pay for them. If that's not enough, anyone could perform abortions. Anyone! And abortionists would not be held liable for maiming, and even killing, the mother. Is that how the abortion industry defines "women's health care"?

Missouri Right to Life has been preparing for over a year to fight this battle. Our "Keep Missouri Pro-Life" committee has been doing polling, research, education, fundraising, and much more to meet this threat head-on. We're organizing a coalition of pro-life organizations and people across our state. It will take all of us to win this fight.

What can you do? First, and most importantly, pray. Pray fervently. Get with your local Missouri Right to Life Chapter, or contact our state office at 573-635-5110, and offer to help. And, ask your family and friends to join you.

Together we will defeat this evil. Thanks for all that you do for Life and God bless!

Steve Rupp



Steve Rupp
MRL President

addition to the others. That seemed like a lot of money for a rural area, but we were blessed with one donor in each category. Ultimately, we were able to send a total of \$18,500 to MRL's state headquarters from our proceeds.

I had spoken with someone from Michigan Right to Life, where they suffered a tremendous setback when a pro-abortion ballot issue in their state passed last November. The advice she shared was to start right now establishing a relationship with the local media so they view you as a credible source. Taking that advice to heart, I visited with the reporter for the Moberly Monitor Index, invited her to cover the banquet, and even gave her a complimentary ticket to the meal. The result, was an incredibly positive article on the front page of the paper which has a print edition once a week. I encourage all of MRL's chapters to host their own pro-life banquet to benefit MRL's state headquarters.



Therese Sander, MRL Vice President, speaking at the MRL Randolph County Chapter Banquet, Mar. 30.

Therese Sander

Missouri 2023 Legislative Session Wrap Up

It Was A Bittersweet Session



The House and Senate completed their work for the 2023 Legislative Session. It was a bittersweet session and we definitely have our work cut out for us for next year.

1. The House and Senate passed pro-abortion Senator Lauren Arthur's SB 106, which includes the requirement for us all to pay for post-partum care for women for up to 12 months after "the end of her pregnancy". This includes the following: childbirth, stillborn, miscarriage and elective abortions. Pro-life language not included.

2. The House and Senate passed SB's 45 and 90, Senator Elaine Gannon's and pro-abortion Senator Tracy McCreery's combined bill, which includes the requirement for us all to pay for post-partum care for women for up to 12 months after "the end of her pregnancy". This includes the following: childbirth, stillborn, miscarriage and elective abortions. Pro-life language not included.

3. BUDGET BILLS – The House and Senate passed the following funding for the Alternatives to Abortion and Show-Me Healthy Babies programs:

HB 10: Department of Mental Health and the Department of Health and Senior Services

Note: *If your legislator says they have banned monies for abortion, technically that is true. However, if you ask if they have banned public dollars from going to the nation's largest abortion provider, Planned Parenthood, that is not true. Planned Parenthood can still receive funding because abortion is banned in Missouri. Read the language here:*

Section 10.576. To the Department of Mental Health
 For medical and health related services performed by any clinic, physician's office, or any other place or facility in which abortions are performed or induced other than a hospital, or any affiliate or associate of any such clinic, physician's office, or place or facility in which abortions are performed* or induced other than a hospital

From General Revenue Fund (0101).....	\$0
From Federal and Other Funds (Various).....	\$0
Total.....	\$0

Section 10.956. To the Department of Health and Senior Services
 For medical and health related services performed by any clinic, physician's office, or any other place or facility in which abortions are performed or induced other than a hospital, or any affiliate or associate of any such clinic, physician's office, or place or facility in which abortions are performed* or induced other than a hospital

From General Revenue Fund (0101).....	\$0
From Federal and Other Funds (Various).....	\$0
Total.....	\$0

*Editor's Note: Abortion is illegal in Missouri, so this language does not defund Planned Parenthood.

HB 11: Department of Social Services

A. Funding For the Alternatives to Abortion Program:
 Section 11.165

From General Revenue Fund (0101).....	\$2,033,561
From Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Federal Fund (0199).....	6,300,000
From Department of Social Services Federal Fund (0610).....	50,000

For Public Awareness for the Alternatives to Abortion Program:
 From General Revenue Fund (0101)..... \$275,000

Note: Other monies were set aside in this program for marriage and fatherhood initiatives.

B. Funding for the Show-Me Healthy Babies Program:
 Section 11.815

From General Revenue Fund (0101).....	\$15,136,244
From Title XXI - Children's Health Insurance Program Federal Fund 11 (0159).....	48,503,932
Total.....	\$63,640,176

4. The Resolution to Protect our Constitution and "Keep Missouri Pro-Life" did not pass. It was watered down by some Missouri House and Senate members and, in its final form, it did not include concurrent majority language to give more Missourians a voice in protecting our Missouri Constitution. The House and Senate have next legislative session to pass pro-life legislation to protect our Missouri Constitution and fix the way changes to our Missouri Constitution can be done. You will be hearing more about this in the days and months ahead.

5. Pray for our State Officials and our Legislators as we continue to work to "Keep Missouri Pro-Life"!

6. Pray for Missouri Right to Life as we speak the truth and stand for life to "Keep Missouri Pro-Life"!

7. We will be doing an analysis of the flurry of bills passed in the final days and hours of the legislative session. Watch for more information from Missouri Right to Life as we review all these bills.

MRL Communication & Development Update

By Sherry Lee
Director of Communication & Development

This Winter and Spring of 2023, Missouri Right to Life has been out in the community even more, speaking to groups while also being at the Capitol during session. MRL is in regular communication with our legislators and has delivered your legislative bill cards sent in during session following MRL's Statewide Pro-Life Action Day at the Capitol. Thank you all for coming!

Great work from so many of you who provided pro-life comments opposing the abortion-on-demand initiative petitions filed by the pro-abortion campaign committee "Missourians For Constitutional Freedom" on March 8, 2023! We have now entered into an era in which we must be diligent to KEEP MISSOURI PRO-LIFE in our hearts and in our votes.

HERE ARE 4 ACTION STEPS TO HELP YOU COMMUNICATE PRO-LIFE VALUES:

- 1.** Ask yourself, Why Am I pro-life? If you aren't sure what being pro-life really means, look up what abortion is and what it does. Decide for yourself what you believe. MRL would love to hear your pro-life stories, questions and thoughts: Sherry.L@missourilife.org.
- 2.** Join Missouri Right to Life and fellow Missourians at the Missouri Capitol June 24, 2023 from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in the First Floor Rotunda for the one-year celebration of Roe v. Wade being overturned!
- 3.** Legislative issues. Definitions and language do matter when reading legislative wording, so be careful to not be deceived. Missouri already has life of the mother protection in place. New proposed ballot language is not necessary for the health and life of both mother and baby. BOTH are important to us too!
- 4.** Get ready to vote to KEEP MISSOURI PRO-LIFE in our future Missouri elections.



Missouri Right to Life is made up of you, the members who believe that all innocent human life, at every stage, is valuable and worth defending. MRL continues to speak up for babies and for our elderly. Pro-lifers can proudly share the good news about how life is precious. MRL stands against embryonic stem-cell research, abortion, infanticide and euthanasia. MRL STANDS FOR carrying babies to term, adoption, adult stem cell research (vs. embryonic) and giving full life of care to our loved ones.



MRL's Susan Klein and Dave Plemmons (left, center) visit with Senator Jill Carter at Christian County Lincoln Days.



MRL representatives pictured with U.S. Senator Josh (wife Erin and daughter Blaise) Hawley (center), at Missouri Lincoln Days, Springfield, Feb. 11.



Melissa Ohden, founder of the Abortion Survivors Network, speaking at the MRL Randolph County Chapter banquet, Mar. 30.

Missouri Right to Life Throughout the State

NOTE: Visit MRL fair booths in your local communities and at the Missouri State Fair this summer!



MRL's Susan Klein and Dave Plemmons (left) with Missouri Congressman Eric (& Angie) Burlison at Christian County Lincoln Days in Nixa, Apr. 29.



MRL staff celebrated a great Missouri Right to Life Western Region ladies' event, God's Masterpiece, April 14 at Lee's Summit Community Church! Hosted by Linda Verhulst (center) and Western Region!



Left to right: MRL Vice President Therese (& Ted) Sander, Susan Klein, and Melissa Ohden, at the MRL Randolph County Chapter Banquet, Mar. 30.



Memorials & Honorariums

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



In memory of ~
Tom Thompson

Given by ~
Brenda Rathmann

In memory of ~
Joe & Frances Simon
& Lucy Hainworth

Given by ~
Michael & Joy Simon

In memory of ~
Mary Ellen Nolan

Given by ~
Jim Nolan

In memory of ~
Alicia M. Brauer

Given by ~
John & Audrey Brauer

In memory of ~
Robert A. Landgraf

Given by ~
Robert J. Landgraf
& The Landgraf Family

In memory of ~
Carolyn Sue Landen

Given by ~
East Central Area
Missouri Right to Life

In memory of ~
Rita A. Keady

Given by ~
Judith G. Feigenbutz

In honor of ~
His Grandson Danny

Given by ~
Jim Nolan

In memory of ~
Shirley Maune

Given by ~
East Central Area
Missouri Right to Life

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

Sat., June 10

Holts Summit - MRL Statewide leadership meeting at Cedar Grove Baptist Church, 119 Thompson St. Social time 9:00-10:00 am, meeting time 10:00 am-2:00 pm.

Friday, Saturday
June 23-24

Pittsburgh - National Right to Life Convention, the essential pro-life educational event bringing together the grassroots to learn and encourage one another! Visit NRLConvention.com for more info.

Sat., June 24

Jefferson City - MRL Celebrate Life Prayer Service. Missouri State Capitol 1st Floor Rotunda. 10:30 -12:30 p.m. Anniversary of the Dobbs decision, overturning Roe v. Wade. See front page of this newsletter for more info.

September 7

St. Charles - MRL Eastern Region Keep Missouri Pro-Life Banquet & Program. For more info, see Page 3 of this newsletter and visit MRLbanquet.com

September 27 -
November 5

Columbia - Fall 40 Days for Life Campaign - Is your church, youth group, or organization looking to adopt a day or multiple days to join trained prayer supporters on the sidewalk? Now is a good time to start planning! There are prayer opportunities year-round! Call 573-821-5130 for more information.



MRL Sedalia Chapter volunteer working the exhibit in March at the event fair at State Fair Community College.



A great crowd was in Jefferson City for April's Mid West March for Life. Pictured above (left to right), Dave Plemmons, MRL Board Member, Susan Klein, MRL Executive Director, one of the speakers at the rally, and Vic Rackers, MRL Capital Chapter, President.

2023 Pro-Life Action Day at the Missouri State Capitol

Pro-life Missourians joined together on March 8th in Jefferson City to celebrate life and to urge their representatives and senators to pass pro-life legislation. The message to the crowd from the speakers at the noon rally was clear -- don't give up, keep fighting, push harder, dig deeper, we're winning.... for LIFE! Thanks to all who were there!



The pro-life crowd in the Capitol Rotunda for the noon rally was encouraged and inspired by all the speakers. Missouri Right to Life's featured guest was Congresswoman Vicky Hartzler who shared her family's personal heartfelt story on the topic of adoption.



What a beautiful day for the March on the Arch! Pictured is Cathy Gilmore (left), and Pam Fichter, MRL Board Member (right). Loving women AND loving pre-born children is such a wonderful cause.



P. O. Box 651
Jefferson City MO 65102-0651

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*Champion of Life
Award Recipient*

Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke

*Keep
Missouri
Pro-Life!*



*Featured Speaker
Actor Jim Caviezel*

SAVE THE DATE

Missouri Right to Life Banquet & Program

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2023

For more information go to
MRLBanquet.com



St. Charles Convention Center
St. Charles MO