



LIFE--LINES

A publication of Rochester Area Right to Life Committee, Inc. Education Fund: Spring issue: 2012

Obamacare and conscience rights violations

As repugnant as many Americans find Obamacare Congressional responses to it have been leisurely at best. Recently, attention was paid to the mix of birth control, religion and politics contained in Obamacare. Senate Republicans attempted to overturn the Obama order that most employers or their insurers cover the cost of contraceptives.

Right to Life takes no position on contraception. But it does oppose those forms of contraception which are known as “abortifacients.” These drugs do not prevent the union of sperm and egg to create a human being. Abortifacients work to make the mother’s uterine lining unavailable for the newly conceived human to implant, thus ending the life of the baby.

On 1-20-12 the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) reaffirmed the rule that nearly all health care plans must cover sterilization, abortifacients and contraception. There was a narrow exemption for “religious employers” which failed to cover the majority of faith-based organizations, including hospitals, universities and charities. Thus, only if the “religious employer” employed and serviced only people of its religion would the organization be exempt from providing the services which contradict their religious beliefs.

On February 10th, the Obama Administration made this rule final. Enforcement will now be delayed for a year against religious nonprofit organizations, e.g. charities, hospitals and colleges, that were not exempted. More regulations to “accommodate” them were promised but these promises would continue to force the religious organizations to violate their religious convictions. Consider the following:

- The original rule violating religious liberty was finalized, not changed: The definition of “religious employer” remains as issued in August, 2011. The definition excludes religious charities, hospitals and colleges because they serve people of other faiths.
- HHS has promised some type of “accommodation,” after the election: HHS has claimed need of an additional year to develop regulations to “accommodate” religious affiliated charities, school and hospitals still outside the “religious employer” exemption. The additional rules effects will not be evident until after the election, which will be citizens’ only real opportunity to hold the Executive Branch accountable.
- The promised “accommodation” would still force pro-life institutions to violate their beliefs: In the promised “accommodation,” if an employee of these religious institutions wants coverage of contraception or sterilization from the insurer, the objecting employer will still be forced to pay for it as a part of the employer’s insurance plan.. Since there is no other source, the funds to pay for that coverage would come from the premiums of the employer and fellow employees, including those who, in conscience, object.
- Objecting insurers, secular employers, for-profit religious employers or individuals have no exemption: All employers, insurers and individuals, not just religious employers, are threatened by the mandate. All insurers, will have to provide coverage to any employee wanting it. Thus, all individuals who pay premiums have no alternative to subsidizing that coverage.” United States Conference of Catholic Bishops; Bulletin Insert: Sweeping HHS Mandate stands, Violating Conscience Rights and Religious Liberty. Congress Must Act to Fix the Problem.

Final Obamacare rule: \$1 abortion surcharge

On March 13 a decision was announced to maintain the original arrangement allowing taxpayer funding of abortion. This ignores the Hyde Amendment that no federal money be used to pay for abortions. As of 1-1-14, abortion plans will be required to collect a separate \$1 abortion surcharge from each payer. Payers will learn about the abortion surcharge only at enrollment time as no insurance plans will be allowed to disclose the abortion surcharge in their advertising. Gilbert;

LifeSiteNews.com *Obama health care rule final: \$1 abortion surcharge from premium payers; 3-13-12.*

Senate not upholding religious freedom

The Senate voted on 3-1-12 against restoring the religious liberty protections for employers opposed to being forced to pay for birth control or abortifacients in their employee health plans. Democrats including NY Senators Schumer & Gillibrand opposed Republicans to defeat the *Blunt Amendment* 51-48. ►

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Senate not upholding religious freedom continued

The *Blunt Amendment* text used language from the *Respect for Rights of Conscience Act* which would amend the Obama health care law to prevent imposition of regulatory mandates that violate the religious or moral convictions of those who purchase or provide health insurance. <http://www.lifenews.com/2012/03/01/senate-defeats-blunt-amendment-to-stop-obama-hhs-mandate/>

Sen. Roy Blunt R-Mo, said the debate “won’t be over until the administration figures out how to accommodate people’s religious views as it relates to these mandates.” He added, “This is a debate that might be settled at that building across the street,” referring to the Supreme Court.

Catholic Bishop William Lori of Bridgeport CN chairs the bishops Ad Hoc Committee on Religious Liberty. He said: “We will continue our strong defense of conscience rights through all available legal means. Religious freedom is at the heart of democracy and rooted in the dignity of every human person. We will not rest until the protection of conscience rights is restored and the First Amendment is returned to its place of respect in the Bill.” Both Bishop Lori and Matt Bowman, legal counsel of the Alliance Defense Fund referred to the *Blunt Amendment’s* companion, the *Fortenberry Amendment* H.R. 1179 as the next legislative goal. Both forecasted more legislative efforts to maintain respect for American’s consciences and individual religious rights. **National Catholic Register**; *Senate Showdown*; Vol. 88; No. 6 March 11- 2012

Obama birth control mandate “to pay for itself”

U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary, Kathleen Sebelius, a Roman Catholic, echoed President Obama’s recent defense of his birth control mandate for religious employers. The claim is that no one really pays for birth control because reducing the number of people born will lessen the health insurers’ costs in the long run.

At a House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health hearing on Obama’s 2013 budget proposal, Rep. Tim Murphy R-Pa asked Sebelius, “Who pays for it? There is no such thing as a free ride.” Sebelius said: “The reduction in the number of pregnancies compensates for the cost of contraception.” Murphy continued: “So you’re saying by not having babies born, we’re going to save money on health care?” Sebelius defended contraception as a “critical preventive health benefit for women and for their children.” Gilbert: **LifeSiteNews.com**; *Sebelius reiterates Obama: birth control mandate pays for itself because fewer babies are born*; 3-02-12

Sebelius, as HHS Secretary, has the authority to mandate coverage of anything he/she adds to a “preventive services” list. The recent HHS edict was the result of contraception being added to that list. The list is fluid and solely left to the Administration’s whim. There is no statute preventing an abortion mandate.

The next logical step is abortion coverage. Even in its 2010 passage, Obamacare contained new “streams of federal funding for abortion.” The Obama Administration vigorously opposed pro-life amendments, e.g. Stupak-Pitts Amendment to remove abortion funding from the bill. Also the Obama Administration was willing to allow a government shut down unless full federal funding for Planned Parenthood was in place. There is no doubt the Administration would have no qualms about mandating abortion coverage. Bair, **LifeNews.com**; *Sebelius: Fewer babies born will save health care costs*; 3-11-12

Employers non-compliant with Obamacare face fines

Should employers objecting to supporting drugs that could cause abortions for their employees fail to pay, hefty fines will be likely. They are projected to be as much as \$2,000 per employee or \$100 each day for employers who refuse to comply with the Obama mandate. The daily fine amount was determined by the Congressional Research Service.

If a group health plan or insurance carrier did not provide contraceptive services according to the guidelines, it is anticipated that the plan participant could undertake making a claim for that benefit. Also, if failures to provide contraceptive coverage were to continue during a period of examination for tax liability, these failures will be penalized at a cost not less than \$2,500. Cost for a greater number of violations would be no less than \$15,000.

Commerce Committee Republicans said: “Implementing a federal mandate that violates the conscience of an individual or organization... is in direct violation with the First Amendment. Imposing a fine on these individuals pours salt in the wound.” They computed that a charity or hospital with 100 employees choosing “to exercise its religious rights instead of complying with the Obamacare mandate, could be subject to a \$3.65 million annual fine.”

Hannah Smith, Senior Legal Counsel on the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty said most religious employers would not be exempt from the health care mandate unless they: (1) have the primary purpose of inculcating religious values, (2) primarily employ people of its own faith, (3) primarily serve people of its own faith, (4) fall within a certain tax-code provision. The Becket Fund has undertaken lawsuits on behalf of (1) Belmont Abbey College, likely to be charged \$340,000 annually, (2) Colorado Christian University, predicted to face a \$500,000 annual fine, (3) Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN) anticipating a \$620,000 annual fine and (4) Ava Maria University likely to be fined \$340,000. Ertelt; **LifeNews.com**. *Obama mandate could fine religious groups \$2,000 per employee*; <http://lifenews.com/2012/03/06/obama-mandate-could-fine-religious-gr..> 3-08-12.

United Way 2012 Campaign

The 2012 United Way Campaign encourages donors to contribute to the general fund and choose which area you would like to support. For sure, each area does include valuable services which United Way funding benefits.


Rochester Area Right to Life Committee is not a United Way agency. However, donors can contribute to RARTL's mission of educating the public about the realities of abortion, infanticide and euthanasia and the help available to those facing these three life challenges.

Below is a copy of the donation form section on which anyone wishing to provide support to RARTL's mission will be able to use to donate to RARTL. RARTL will then receive the funds, minus a United Way charge for bookkeeping, RARTL is most grateful for whatever Rochester area pro-life people contribute to support its pro-life work.

LIVE UNITED 

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YES this is my community and I want to support my Community Fund.

 Give to United Way's Community Fund today and **Constellation Brands** will double your gift! For more information please visit uwrochester.org/challenge.

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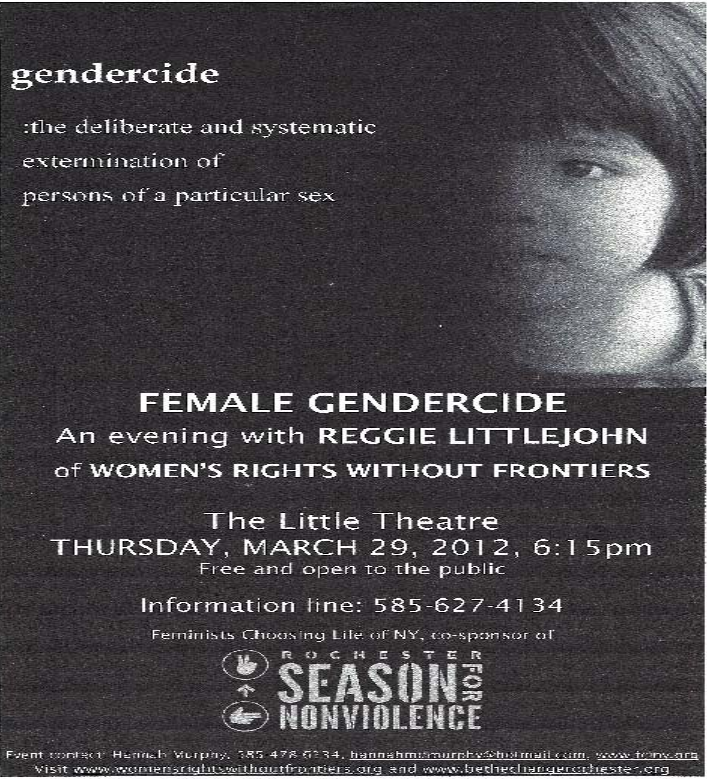
Your gift will be divided equally if you check more than one area.

Please give \$ to this organization or this United Way: **Roch. Area Right to Life ID# 1087**
\$ to this organization or this United Way: _____ ID# _____

Designation information can be found at uwrochester.org/donorchoice.

Please do not release my information to the organization(s) to which I designated.

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gendercide
:the deliberate and systematic extermination of persons of a particular sex

FEMALE GENDERCIDE
An evening with **REGGIE LITTLEJOHN** of **WOMEN'S RIGHTS WITHOUT FRONTIERS**

The Little Theatre
THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 2012, 6:15pm
Free and open to the public

Information line: 585-627-4134
Feminists Choosing Life of NY, co-sponsor of

**SEASON FOR NONVIOLENCE**

Event contact: Hannah Murphy, 585-478-6134, hannahmurmurphy@chfny.org, www.chfny.org
Visit www.womensrightswithoutfrontiers.org and www.bethedharnage@rochester.org

Presentation by **Reggie Littlejohn** will cover forced abortion in China, where a one-child policy is the country's required birth control practice. Ms. Littlejohn will also participate in the Saturday, March 31 **Break for Life** student event described on page 6.



U. S. Supreme Court to hear Obamacare challenges

As had been expected, in November the Supreme Court agreed to hear a challenge to ObamaCare in response to a lawsuit brought by 26 states and the National Federation of Independent Businesses. Thus far, lower court opinions have been mixed regarding the constitutionality of Obamacare.

In accepting the case, the Justices allotted 5½ hours for oral arguments which is substantially more than the typical one hour of face time given most cases. The longest segment will be the two hours devoted to the “individual mandate,” the requirement that just about every American obtain health insurance by 2014 or pay a penalty. Another hour and a half will focus on how much of Obamacare must fall if the mandate is declared unconstitutional. The administration would want limited deletions while the plaintiffs want the entire law overturned. For another hour the justices will address the question of whether the High Court can or should get involved at any time before the mandate goes into effect in 2014 and a person fails to get insurance or pays a penalty. The final 60 minutes will focus on the law’s expansion of Medicaid “which the states claim is an unlawful coercion by the federal government since they must expand the program or drop out completely.”

If the Supreme Court upholds Obamacare as constitutional and announces it in the middle of a campaign year, the GOP base would be outraged, thus stimulating voter turnout in November to elect a Republican Congress and president to repeal Obamacare. A ruling against Obamacare might inspire Democrats to turn out and vote against the court but they could accomplish little else. Andrusko; **National Right to Life News**; *Supreme Court agrees to hear challenges to Obamacare*; Fall 2011.

98 of Catholic women use contraceptives?

Above is the claim of the Obama Administration as they attempt to have contraceptive support included in Obamacare. Their claim needs some examination. First question to them must be “what defines being a Catholic?” It would seem that a minimal criteria would be those who practice their faith regularly rather than picking and choosing what and when to do selectively.

A 3-10-12 survey of 1,000 women of varying age groups and generations showed that these women, 96.4%, at least attend Mass weekly, just 18% were using contraceptives. A large percent of the readers were using a “natural method” of family planning. 8.4% of the women polled claimed to be single and not sexually active. Of the total 1,000 surveyed, 5.7% (N = 58) used the pill, IUD or other hormonal contraceptive; 4.9% (N = 49) used a barrier method and 7.3% (N = 73) had been sterilized or had their partner sterilized. Only 2% gave a medical reason for using the Pill. Of interest is that of the 73 women who used sterilization as birth control, more than half, i.e. 44, regretted it.

Many of the women surveyed claimed using one of three modern, highly-researched methods of natural family planning, i.e. the symptom-thermal method, Creighton Model Fertility Care System, Billings Ovulation Method. 58.6% claimed use of a method of natural family planning and 13.6% claimed use of no method of family planning. Some have mistakenly thought of natural family planning as a form of contraception. It is not, as can be learned from the descriptions of differences between contraception and “responsible parenthood” as presented in *Humanae Vitae*.

This survey of defined practicing Catholics is a challenge to the Guttmacher Institute claim that 98% of Catholic women use contraceptives. <http://www.catholicists.com/2012/02/15/results-98-Of-non-massgoing-women-w-3-10-12>

Larger than a “Catholic issue”

The media has attempted to present this as a “Catholic issue.” But Dr. Richard Land, president of the Southern Baptist Convention’s Ethics and Religious Liberty (ERLC) said: “We want this law changed, or else we’re going to write our letters from the Nashville jail, just like Dr. King wrote his from the Birmingham jail.” Johnson; *LifeSiteNews.com*; Feb. 8, 2012.

Galen Carey, vice-president for Government Relations for the National Association of Evangelicals said: “The HHS rules trample on our most cherished freedoms and set a dangerous precedent. Freedom of conscience is a sacred gift from God, not a grant from the state.” A 12-21-11 letter to President Obama about the proposed stripping away of the freedom of conscience was signed by leaders from the Orthodox Jewish, Southern Baptist, Christian and Missionary Alliance, Assemblies of God and Wesleyan faiths. The letter stated “religious organizations beyond the Catholic community have deep moral objections...to the requirement that health plans they purchase must provide coverage of contraceptives that include some that are abortifacients.” Johnson; *LifeSiteNews.com*; Feb. 2, 2012,

Komen resumes Planned Parenthood funding

The Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation has turned breast cancer awareness into a national cause. Its goal is support of women and families in the fight against breast cancer. The Komen goal followed “a policy of giving no funds to organizations under investigation.” Historically it had given funds to Planned Parenthood for “breast cancer prevention until Planned Parenthood became the subject of a congressional investigation to determine whether it uses public funds to pay for abortions.” Use of federal money for that purpose is legally prohibited.

Ending Planned Parenthood’s funding was announced by the Komen Foundation in December 2011. Of course the lavishly funded Planned Parenthood objected. They waged an intense campaign which included hundred of thousands of emails and messages on social media. Komen was criticized. Pro-choice New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg vowed to donate \$250,000 to Planned Parenthood which reportedly raised about \$4 million in three days following the Komen fund withdrawal. Simultaneously pro-life persons, including Komen Foundation previous and new donors, applauded Komen’s funding cut of Planned Parenthood.

Then on February 3rd Komen did a reversal and announced it would restore the \$750,000 Planned Parenthood funding. Komen apologized for the controversy it had provoked, vowing not to “wade into ‘anyone’s politics.’” Komen will be amending its grant criteria to saying the “investigations must be criminal and conclusive in nature, and not political.” The evaluation of C-Fam was that “It was little more than a hostage-taking by an abortion bully.” There is ample evidence that Komen’s action was not based on disapproval of Planned Parenthood. However, said C-Fam, “Planned Parenthood told the Komen Foundation, ‘Either you give us money or we will destroy you.’”

The Susan G. Komen Foundation is America’s most influential breast cancer foundation. Planned Parenthood claimed that Komen’s funding provided breast cancer screening and education at 19 clinics in “rural and underserved communities.” Komen announced “We will continue to fund existing grants, including those of Planned Parenthood, and preserve their eligibility to apply

for future grants...” A Komen spokeswoman told the Associated Press that Komen “wanted to maintain a positive relationship with Planned Parenthood.” Inevitably, it will be likely that donations given to the Komen Foundation, with no notice to the donor, could be given to Planned Parenthood. Fraga; **Our Sunday Visitor**; *Komen reversal dismays pro-life supporters*; 2-19-12.

Ultrasounds now required for abortion seeking Virginia women

Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell on 3-7-12 signed a bill requiring abortionists to perform an ultrasound on women seeking abortion. They must also offer the pregnant women the opportunity to view the child in their womb. Governor McDonnell did note that the ultrasound law “does not legally alter a woman’s ability to make a choice regarding her pregnancy”

Planned Parenthood whined that this was an extreme measure designed to “shame” women seeking to abort their child. The bill also generated a firestorm after Democratic opponents claimed the measure to be the equivalent of “rape” for requiring women to undergo invasive transvaginal ultrasounds. McDonnell did relent and ordered the bill amended to make it clear that it does not mandate vaginal ultrasounds which opponents called “medically invasive” although they are considered standard medical care prior to an abortion.

The Virginia law, as of July 1st, will require women seeking abortion to have an abdominal ultrasound. Virginia abortionists not complying with the law will pay a \$2,500 fine per violation. Women living within a hundred miles of the clinic sought to perform the abortion must wait 24 hours after the ultrasound examination before having the abortion. Victims of rape or incest who reported the attacks to police will be exempt.

Virginia is the 24th U.S. state to require abortion-seeking women to be given the opportunity to view their child’s ultrasound image. New York State regrettably does not require ultrasound testing although it is available across the state. Lewis; **DemocratandChronicle**; *Pre-abortion rules bill signed by VA governor; 3-8-12*; Gilbert; **LifeSiteNews.com**; *Virginia governor signs ultrasound bill originally decried by pro-aborts as ‘rape’ measure; 3-8-12*

Abortion used as birth control in NY City

The New York City Department of Health reported that a 41% of pregnancies in the city ended in abortion. That is nearly double the national 24% rate. One of every four abortions is done on women aged 20-24, with half being African American and a quarter being Hispanic. Most lived in Bronx and Brooklyn.

The liberal cry is that there would be fewer abortions with greater birth control access. That is ridiculous, given at least 60 NY City organizations as well as school health clinics are passing out free condoms. There is no denying abortion is birth control and a financial windfall for Planned Parenthood and other abortion clinics. Ertelt; **LifeNews.com**; *New York figures: Abortion not rare, used as birth control*; 1-14-11

Media bias in abortion-mental illness coverage

Dr. Priscilla Coleman, professor of Human Development and Family Studies at Bowling Green State University, published a 2009 study in the **Journal of Psychiatric Research**. The study found a high incidence of mental health issues in post-abortive women. Following an editorial criticizing the study done by the journal's editor-in-chief the mainstream media reported that abortion's negative psychological impact had been "debunked."

Dr. Coleman's study joined 21 others, incorporating data from 877,181 women. She called her analysis, published in September 2011 in the **British Journal of Psychiatry** "the largest estimate of mental health risks associated with abortion in the world literature." "There is not one study that would show that [if] people who have mental problems" have "an abortion, it makes their mental health better." Dr. Martha Shuping, a North-Carolina-based psychiatrist, told LifeSiteNews.com. "No, all the studies show it makes it worse." Coleman wrote that women are put at risk by the widespread silence about findings such as these. "The victims of this irresponsible journalism are the millions of women, who have not easily moved beyond an abortion, suffered psychologically, and found very little assistance from the medical and psychological community."

Coleman's paper was initially criticized for an error in some data inaccurately cited. She was accused of improperly including in her study women who were mentally ill before obtaining an abortion. The error, fully acknowledged by Coleman, did not change the overall response patterns. The **JPR** editor-in-chief and one of the researchers Coleman cited in her study claimed "Coleman et. al. (2009) analysis did not support their assertions that abortions led to psychotherapy..." Despite that criticism, the journal did not retract Coleman's article as the critics requested. The critics suggested that future studies should compare when ending unwanted pregnancies by abortion with women carrying the child to term.

Coleman will continue her research; see [WeCareExperts.com](http://www.WeCareExperts.com). She believes significant distress affects at least 20% of women who have aborted. "These women are everywhere and their voices are echoed in honestly collected and reported data." Johnson; **LifeSiteNews.com**; *Researcher: coverage of abortion-mental illness link 'an excellent example' of media bias*; 3-12-12

Pro-life events

March

23 Friday; 12-1:00 pm; National Rally for Religious Freedom; Federal Building, 100 State St; to oppose the HHS mandating employers' conscience violations by providing free contraceptives, sterilization and abortifacients through health plans.

23 Friday 11:15 – 12:10 **Renewing our Legacy**: silent procession (with no signs or banners) showing non-support of the HHS mandate; from St. Mary's Church, East Gibson & Main Street, Canandaigua to Courthouse Square. Details available: <http://www.stmarycanandaigua.org/> and Deacon Claude at clester@dor.org

23 Friday: Opening of pro-life movie **October Baby** at Regal Cinema Henrietta 18; 525 Marketplac Drive

29: Thursday 6:15 pm: **Female Gendercide: an evening with Reggie Littlejohn** The Little Theatre; Free; Open to public;

31: Saturday Second presentation: Susan B. Anthony Carriage House; 19 Madison Street; Rochester. Event Information line: 585-627-4134 or contact Hannah Murphy: 585-478-6134 or www.womensrightswithoutfrontiers.org.

31: Saturday; **Break for Life** 11am – 5pm for high school and college students. Workshops, displays, speakers, e.g. Bishop Matthew Clark, Reggie Littlejohn. Register at www.mcquaid.org/page.cfm?p=1342 or call Mr. Chris Hood: 256-6169.

April

6 Good Friday: 9:00 am **Prayer Service** at McQuaid Jesuit High School Chapel 1800 S. Clinton Avenue followed by The **Stations of the Cross in Reparation tor Abortion** followed by Stations led by priests, deacons and religious outside of a nearby abortion facility. Please call Amy or Bob Dorscheid (732-8994) if you have questions.

10: Tuesday: **Embryo adoption lecture**: Reginald Finger, M.D. 4-5:30 pm at CompassCare office: 300 White Spruce Blvd.

May

3 Thursday: **Rescue Rochester – National Day of Prayer Outreach** at Morris and Rebecca Wortman's Abortion Clinic; 2020 South Clinton 8:00 am – 10:00 am and at Planned Parenthood; 2824 Ridge Road W: 11:30am – 12:30 pm

July

11-15 **Monroe County Fair Booth** Workshops planned to train new volunteers to staff tables. Call office for information

August

8-11 Wednesday – Saturday (rain dates 22-25) **RARTL Garage Sale** Please save items in good condition to donate to sale

Suggested prayers

*Please become a **prayer partner**. Spend 5-10 minutes daily in prayer about life issues to provide a 24-hour prayer shield over our area. Join in the following monthly prayer themes that*

March: the respect given new plant life in Spring be also given to innocent human life;

April: the celebration of life at Easter continues throughout the year;

May: new graduates from all academic levels use what they have learned in ways that are respectful of all with whom they will become involved.



IN MEMORIAM

Catherine, Kathleen and Joseph Hoysic
William Hoysic

Pepsi and others making products based on fetal cells

Pepsi has been contracting with a research firm that uses fetal cells from aborted babies to test and produce artificial flavor enhancers. This seems to be of no concern to the Obama administration as it has said nothing as it might have on February 28th. On that date the Security and Exchange Commission (SEC) ruled that PepsiCo's use of aborted fetal remains in their research and development agreement with Senomyx "to produce flavor enhancers falls under 'ordinary business operations.'"

Pepsi is not the only company making products relying on cells from babies killed in abortions. PepsiCo responded to shareholders upset by its reliance on Senomyx. The document shows other companies also use fetal cells. One example was Merck, the pharmaceutical company that "manufactures many controversial vaccines that are created with cell lines from aborted fetuses." Pfizer, Inc. another pharmaceutical company has also used fetal tissue to create products.

Both Merck and Pfizer have had shareholder proposals requesting formation of a committee "to more fully explore the ethical and business implications of further research involving cells...that are the result of the destruction of human embryos." Both these and other companies ignored the shareholder proposals as the activity being challenged related to "product research, development and testing."

When fetal cell research was first allowed, there was little attention to it as it was used to develop medicines and skin creams. As we can now see the growth of the use of fetal cells into beverage flavor enhancer research, will enhancement of Pepsi's Frito-Lay,

Nestle and Kraft products follow? Pepsi must be asked to end contracting for research using unborn babies' cells.

Pepsi has received complaints, but has thus far been unresponsive. They must continue to hear from people asking them to end their contracts with Senomyx as it is known to be testing food additives using fetal cells from abortions. Contact: Pepsi:

Jamie Caulfield, Sr. VP PepsiCo, Inc.
700 Anderson Hill Road; Purchase, NY 10577
(914) 253-2000

<http://cr.pepsi.com/usen/pepsiusen/cfm?time=5189878>

LIFE-LINES SUBSCRIPTION

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Donation not required, but most welcome

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Enclosed is donation of \$ _____

RATL MEMORIAL/HONOR TRIBUTE

*You are welcome to remember an event/achievement or a deceased loved one with a memorial/honor/tribute, tax-deductible, donation to the **RARTL Education Fund**. A card in your name will be sent to the family/person you designate; contribution amount is confidential.*

Mail form & check payable to RARTL Education Fund to RARTL; 675 Ling Road; Suite 3; Rochester, NY 14612

Enclosed is gift of \$ _____ in memory/honor

Of/for _____

(occasion) _____

My/our name _____

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City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

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Address _____

City _____ St. _____ Zip _____

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**Abortion is not health care
for mothers or children**

“After-birth abortion: why should the baby live?”

Australia-based bioethicists, Alberto Giubilini and Francesca Minerva wrote an article with the above title. Their article appeared in the **Journal of Medical Ethics**. They wrote:

“Abortion is largely accepted even for reasons that do not have anything to do with the fetus’ health. By showing that (1) both fetuses and newborns do not have the same moral status as actual persons, (2) the fact that both are potential persons is morally irrelevant and (3) adoption is not always in the best interest of actual people, the authors argue that what we call ‘after-birth abortion’ (killing a newborn) should be permissible in all cases where abortion is, including cases where the newborn is not disabled.”

The philosophical argument of the Australians, fairly similar to that of Peter Singer, appeal to the idea that death is in the best interest of children with disabilities, family “burdens,” and economics. The authors acknowledge that people with Down syndrome “are often reported to be happy.” Justification of killing them at or after birth is rationalized by calling the child “a burden.”

Thus the fact that a fetus has the potential to become a person who will have an (at least) acceptable life is no reason for prohibiting abortion, Giubilini and Minerva wrote. They state that when circumstances occur after birth such that they would have justified abortion, what “we call after-birth abortion would be permissible.” To them, while the unborn baby and the newborn are human beings and “potential persons,” they have no “moral right to life.” Being merely human apparently counts for nothing.

Margaret Somerville, founder of the Centre for Medicine, Ethics and Law at McGill University asked why the outcry over infanticide and silence about abortion. Somerville offered the following insight:

“I suggest that a more existential perception also differentiates those who accept abortion and possibly infanticide, from those who do not: this is whether the transmission of life, the coming-into-being of a unique new human being, involves a mystery that must be respected. If we perceive that mystery, we look at both the unborn child and the born one with amazement, wonder and awe just because they exist, and act accordingly. If we do not perceive it, we can make recommendations such as those outlined in Dr. Giubilini and Dr. Minerva’s article.

Andrusko; **National Right to Life News Today**; “After-birth abortion”: another step in the campaign to soften resistance to infanticide; 3-7-12