

Care Net National Conference (p.8) • The Ballad of John and Lorena (p.26)

November/December 2007

# Care Net Report

[www.care-net.org](http://www.care-net.org)

the other victim

CARE  NET



## A VERY DEVASTATED MOTHER

*I am writing you this letter in the hope that you can share it with other young women who find themselves in the same situation I was in.*

*I am 19 years old and almost a year ago I found myself pregnant with my second child. I was afraid of what everybody else would think of me having another baby.*

*When I was laying on the table in the abortion clinic, I said "No," but it was too late, the nurse had already injected me with drugs, and before I could say "No" a second time, I was asleep.*

*From that day forward I have had a pain in my heart that I know will never be healed. I have to face each day knowing that my child will never see the things I am seeing. I'll never hear my baby cry, never see him (or her) smile. On January 25<sup>th</sup>, a part of my heart and a piece of my soul died along with my baby.*

*Abortion seemed like the easy way out, but it's not. Abortion is not the answer. The only thing I can do now is pray every day for my salvation.*

*Sincerely,  
A Very Devastated Mother.*

This letter, and countless thousands like it, have been written over the years. They used to be anonymous, but today more women add their names to the letters. And not only are they including their name, but more and more are going so far as to sign affidavits telling courts how abortion affected them negatively. The organizing force behind that effort is the Texas-based Justice Foundation ([www.operationoutcry.org](http://www.operationoutcry.org)), which served as a clearinghouse collecting nearly 2,000 signed affidavits. The pain

*(continued on page 3)*

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**CARE NET REPORT**, a bi-monthly publication, has a three-fold mission. It aims to notify and update supporters involved in the work and mission of Care Net. Secondly, it raises public awareness and provides factual information on the complex and often tragic issues surrounding crisis pregnancies. Finally, it seeks to encourage Christians in their daily faith walk by reviewing music, literature, and other resources they may find valuable for the short journey here as "foreigners and exiles" (1 Peter 2:11).

### CARE NET NATIONAL OFFICE

P.O. Box 1644  
Merrifield, VA 22116

### CARE NET MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Care Net is to facilitate the delivery of valuable, life-affirming, evangelistic ministry to people facing unplanned pregnancies and related sexual issues.

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### LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK.

Your letters must include your name and address if intended for publication and may be edited for space or clarity.

### CARE NET REPORT EDITOR

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each woman described was recognized by the Supreme Court in the recent *Gonzales v. Carhart* decision regarding partial-birth abortion.

Yale Law professor Jack Balkin said, “The new rhetoric of pro-life forces [that abortion hurts women] is no longer just rhetoric. It is now part of Supreme Court doctrine. That is big news.” Very big indeed. When the Supreme Court did this, pro-abortion forces shuddered and did what they do best: dispatch their PR teams to the liberal media and their liberal allies in Congress to turn the truth upside down.

Thus, the *New York Times Magazine* and multiple other print outlets, as well as PBS, cranked out their predictable “Why Post-Abortion Trauma is a Ruse” news stories. End of story, right? Thankfully, no.

As long as abortion is legal, there will be devastated mothers and fathers who will share their stories. One organization, called Silent No More ([www.silentnomoreawareness.org](http://www.silentnomoreawareness.org)), comprises a very vocal group of women and men who carry signs at various rallies that say, “I regret my abortion.” Many thousands more have traveled to the National Memorial for the Unborn in Chattanooga, Tennessee ([www.memorialfortheunborn.org](http://www.memorialfortheunborn.org)) to express their grief. It is there that brass plaques are made as a memorial to lost babies and those involved in the abortion. One plaque reads, “I do love you now. Mom.” Another says, “I loved you too late.” Others read, “A bud on earth blooms in heaven,” “Daddy’s little girl,” “Forgive me. I love you,” and “Until we meet and hold hands.” One says, “My only child.” Each is heart-wrenching.

Congressman Henry Waxman (D-CA), chairman of the Government Oversight Committee, is convinced that pregnancy centers are making this stuff up, and in his report issued last year, he concluded that Post-Abortion Trauma is a myth. I wonder how the Congressman would reply if told that

Planned Parenthood affiliates acknowledged Post-Abortion Trauma way back in September 2003 to *Glamour* magazine?

In this November/December edition of the Care Net Report, we focus on the reality of Post-Abortion Trauma (PAT).

Our Council for Life Interview profiles Linda Cochrane, winner of Care Net’s 2007 Dr. Harold O.J. Brown Sanctity of Human Life Award. Cochrane, author of *Forgiven and Set Free*, recently debated former Planned Parenthood president Faye Wattleton on the PBS news program NOW. The Movie Report examines the new documentary *I Was Wrong*, featuring Norma McCorvey, a.k.a. Jane Roe. Our Book Report features the introduction to *Forbidden Grief*, written by Teresa Burke. The Guest Commentary features Dr. David C. Reardon’s work on the tragic case of Lorena Bobbitt.

So, yes, abortion does hurt women. But it doesn’t stop there. You will notice the new Care Net ad on the back cover of this *CNR* that will be appearing in military newspapers as part of our Combined Federal Campaign fundraising effort – wherein federal employees can designate a portion of their paycheck to support Care Net. On the ad we say, “Abortion hurts everyone,” because that is exactly what it does. Take rapper Flipesyde’s song “Happy Birthday” (found on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)) for instance. He says, “I wonder about your skin tone, the shape of your nose, the way you would have laughed, if you talked fast or slow. I think about it every year, so I picked up a pen. Happy birthday, I love you whoever you’d have been.” Maybe Rep. Waxman could ask Flipesyde or Lorena Bobbitt or any of the 2,000 women who signed affidavits to testify on Capitol Hill about the “myth” of Post-Abortion Trauma?

In other big news, Care Net has a new President, Melinda Delahoyde. We feature the press announcement on page five. Melinda discusses this transition in a new section

called President's Report. We also share an update on the Touchdown Cities project in Philadelphia and Atlanta, as well as the results of our 2007 National Donor Survey, photos from our National Conference in Louisville, Kentucky, and much more.

Thanks again for all your support.



Matthew J. Waters  
Editor, Care Net Report



Production Manager Todd Dickinson (L) and Matt Waters, Editor, (R) conducting Care Net Report Press Check in Topeka, Kansas.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Your recent issue was beyond encouraging. And a bit convicting as well. We have been telling two to three generations that they are no better than the animals. That in order to really count in this world you have to look like a movie star or be perfect physically. We have told them that those that are not perfect are undesirable. And now with the ability to detect birth defects before birth, the undesirables can be "eliminated" (to use a pro-abortion euphemism). I pray that you will always shine the light of the gospel of God's grace for all to see.

– Stephen DeBorde

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I am a Christian and I felt led by the Lord Jesus Christ to write regarding the petition to Planned Parenthood. I did not sign the petition because I believe in following the example of Jesus who did not answer His accusers. No lie can stand. So as Christians, we do not need to waste time responding to them.

– Minister Sylvia Dandridge, Indianapolis, IN

Just a quick note and small donation to thank you for sending the copy of Care Net's founder, Dr. Harold O. J. Brown's op/ed, No More Lies. I'm so glad to receive it and hope to have a few folks in some of our prayer groups read it thoroughly.

– Patricia E. Lundberg, Linonia,, NY

## CARE NET WELCOMES NEW AFFILIATE PREGNANCY CENTERS

### AUGUST

1. Pikeville, KY
2. Westbend, WI
3. Trenton, TN- Satellite
4. St. Joseph, MO
5. Las Vegas, NV- Satellite
6. Orlando, FL- Satellite
7. Kearney, NE

### SEPTEMBER

1. Ft. Wayne, IN- Satellite

*A satellite pregnancy center is a branch office of the main CPC.*



## OUR MINISTRY

## CARE NET NEWS

### NEW LEADERSHIP ANNOUNCED: MELINDA DELAHOYDE APPOINTED AS INTERIM PRESIDENT

LANSDOWNE, VA – The Care Net Board of Directors has announced that Melinda Delahoyde, a lifelong servant of the organization, will follow Kurt Entsminger as interim President of Care Net. The Board has begun its formal search for a new leader. Entsminger, who announced his resignation last month, served Care Net for ten years, first as General Counsel and then as President since 2003.

“The work of Care Net has grown and flourished under the leadership of Kurt Entsminger,” said Mark Joseph, Chairman of Care Net’s Board of Directors. “We are deeply grateful for Kurt’s years of service, and we know that he will continue to be used in mighty ways.”

During Entsminger’s tenure, the network of Care Net pregnancy centers has grown from 650 to over 1,100, the Option Line national call center has helped more than half a million people and new partnerships have been formed that strengthen the pregnancy center movement.

“As we enter this transition, the Board of Directors and staff are firmly committed to the mission and direction of Care Net and to furthering the growth of initiatives,

resources and partnerships that will support women facing unplanned pregnancies,” Joseph said.

“What a privilege to step into this role at such an exciting time for Care Net and pregnancy centers,” said Delahoyde. “Care Net has a dedicated staff team who love the organization and are committed to its mission of serving people in crisis by providing them with life-affirming options through its networks. I am eager to support their efforts.”

Formerly Care Net’s Board Chair Emeritus, Melinda Delahoyde brings with her 25 years of experience in the pro-life movement and at Care Net. She has served as Board Chairman, consultant and staff member in several capacities. She originally joined Care Net to serve as the director of special projects before becoming a member of the Board of Directors.

*An accomplished writer, Melinda is author of Fighting for Life, co-editor of Infanticide and the Handicapped Newborn, and contributing author to three additional books, including one with philosopher Francis A. Schaeffer and another with publisher Thomas Nelson.*



## OUR MINISTRY

## CARE NET NEWS

### 2007 SURVEY RESULTS SURPRISE CARE NET

BIRMINGHAM, AL - Over 3,000 Care Net supporters responded to the 2007 National Donor Survey, and many of the results surprised ministry leaders. An overwhelming majority (80%) believes Care Net should “involve itself in politics” or “be actively involved politically.” Another surprise was the nearly 50/50 split who answered that they “appreciate Care Net pregnancy centers because they share the Gospel of Jesus Christ” and “because they help to save the lives of unborn babies.” Interesting too is the fact that over half of Care Net donors do not use the internet at all. This concurs with the recent Pew Internet & American Life Study that found 31% of Americans are “heavy users

of internet” and 20% are “middle-of-the-road users—checking email.” A full 49% of the population have “few tech assets—folks with little access to, and less use for, high level communications on the internet or the cell phone.”

Donor opinion of our mission, and how well we are carrying it out, is of vital importance to us. If you are interested in participating in our larger Donor Survey, please call or write/email Care Net at the following address: Care Net Donor Survey c/o Care Net Report, 200 Century Park Dr., Suite 116, Birmingham, AL 35226, [mwaters@care-net.org](mailto:mwaters@care-net.org), 205-979-7909, ext. 103.

### 2007 CARE NET NATIONAL DONOR SURVEY RESULTS

#### 1) Which of these best describes your religious affiliation:

- 48% Evangelical Protestant
- 21% Catholic
- 6% Charismatic
- 7% Mainline Protestant
- 18% Other

#### 2) Which of these best describes your age:

- 6% (18 to 35)
- 15% (36 to 50)
- 27% (51 to 65)
- 52% (Over 65)

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#### 3) Which statement below most closely describes your position about the morality of abortion:

- 56% Abortion is wrong in all circumstances.
- 32% Abortion is wrong in all cases except when necessary to save the life of the mother.
- 10% Abortion is wrong in all cases except those involving rape, incest or the life of the mother.
- 2% Abortion is morally acceptable only if performed early in the pregnancy.
- 1% Abortion is morally acceptable whenever a woman chooses this as her best pregnancy option.

**4) Which statement most closely describes your position on the work of pregnancy centers:**

- 41% I most appreciate Care Net pregnancy centers because they share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- 21% I most appreciate Care Net pregnancy centers because they offer compassionate care to women.
- 38% I most appreciate Care Net pregnancy centers because they help to save the lives of unborn babies.

**5) Which of the following Care Net programs and initiatives would you deem most important:**

- 46% The Option Line 24/7 Call Center & Website connecting women in need to local pregnancy centers.
- 20% The Urban Initiative planting new pregnancy centers in underserved inner city communities.
- 12% The Center of Tomorrow program helping all pregnancy centers to implement innovations and best practices.
- 23% The Care Net initiatives assisting pregnancy centers to add medical services such as ultrasounds.

**6) Which of these best describes your political party affiliation:**

- 74% Republican
- 4% Democrat
- 14% Independent
- 8% Other

**7) Which statement most closely describes your position on what role Care Net should play in advocating political positions:**

- 17% Care Net should avoid politics and focus upon helping individual women by supporting pregnancy centers.
- 36% Care Net should involve itself in politics but only as necessary to protect and advance the interests of pregnancy centers.
- 47% Care Net should be actively involved in politically advocating all pro-life positions including ending legalized abortion.

**8) Which of these best describes your position on Care Net pregnancy centers seeking government funding:**

- 33% Pregnancy centers should not seek or receive any government funding.
- 52% Pregnancy centers should seek government funding only when this will have no impact on the evangelistic mission.
- 16% Pregnancy centers should seek to maximize all government funding opportunities.

**9) Do you use the Internet on a regular basis?**

- 48% Yes
- 52% No

Thank you for making

# CARE NET'S 2007 NATIONAL PREC

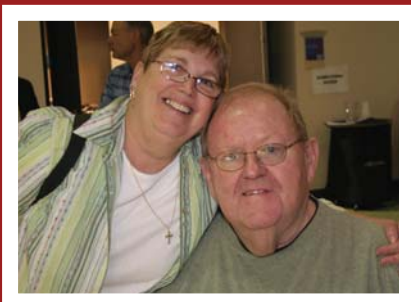
*in Louisville, Kentucky and*





# EGNANCY CENTER CONFERENCE

by an outstanding event that educated, equipped, and challenged.



CARE  NET

MINISTERING THE HEALING *Compassion* OF CHRIST

## OUR MINISTRY

### COUNCIL FOR LIFE INTERVIEW



### LINDA COCHRANE

**2007 Winner of Dr. Harold O.J. Brown  
Sanctity of Human Life Award**

**CNR:** Welcome Linda Cochrane.

**MRS. COCHRANE:** It's a pleasure and an honor.

**CNR:** We are admirers of your work in the post-abortion field and wanted to talk with you because not only are you the most recent recipient of our 2007 Dr. Harold O. J. Brown Sanctity of Human Life Award, but we are devoting this current issue of the Care Net Report to Post-Abortion Trauma (PAT). Linda, can you tell readers what Post-Abortion Trauma is?

**MRS. COCHRANE:** It is a grief experience, it is a loss, it is a death and it is traumatic because of the sin involved that people are dealing with. This is not a culture where people can really deal with the effects of abortion. There is no funeral and family does not come to help you get through. Abortion is done in secret. So a lot of people walk around with unresolved grief with nowhere to turn. Some believe it is a form of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, which is defined as a chronic inability to process thoughts, emotions or feelings about a traumatic event.

**CNR:** Does that happen?

**MRS. COCHRAN:** Yes. There are many

similarities, like flashbacks. We have counseled many women who have been depressed and suicidal.

**CNR:** Not unlike soldiers returning from war.

**MRS. COCHRANE:** Yeah, yeah, with nowhere to process it. The thing that traumatized many of them was the killing of women and children; people that they had not expected to fight and kill.

**CNR:** Pregnancy centers and the entire pro-life movement, are under fire for holding the position that Post-Abortion Trauma exists. What are your thoughts about that?

**MRS. COCHRANE:** Abortion has only been legal in our country for a little over 30 years. No one expects adverse reactions from a legal procedure. Women think, "Why am I uptight since this was legal and this is my right? Why am I hurting?" It is a contradiction to say, "Choose abortion" and "Abortion will leave you devastated." If it is legal, why do I feel so bad?

**CNR:** With the exception of crisis pregnancy centers, where can one go to find help?

**MRS. COCHRANE:** Well, we would like to think our churches would be a great place, but for many women the church is no better at handling this than is the local abortion clinic. An approach that most churches take is "Don't mention abortion." Women do

not have a place to really say, “Listen, I have had an abortion and I feel bad,” or if they do, when they go to their counselor’s office, he too has no idea what to say. That leaves pregnancy centers. Women come to us and say, “My counselor told me that I made the right choice at the right time, which has not helped me.”

**CNR:** As a spokesperson for Care Net, you recently represented us in a nationally televised debate that aired on the new PBS program called NOW. You debated Faye Wattleton, the former President of Planned Parenthood. In that debate she said, basically, that Post-Abortion Traumas did not exist. Any comments?

**MRS. COCHRANE:**

Well, it is probably because she has not seen it. Can you imagine being a battle-scarred Iraq war veteran, dealing with post-war stress, and going back to Iraq to find healing? No one returns to the scene of the crime to find healing. Soldiers don’t look to Iraq for healing from Iraq. You are not going to go back to the abortion clinic and look for healing there. I suppose that Faye Wattleton has probably never really seen Post-Abortion Trauma. But to say it totally does not exist and that we are making it up is really denying the stories and experiences of thousands, of hundreds of thousands of women.



**CNR:** The Supreme Court in *Gonzales vs. Carhart*, the case that dealt with the recent partial-birth abortion decision, considered Post-Abortion Trauma when they made their

decision upholding the ban on partial-birth abortion. This sent the pro-abortion side into a panic. According to the pro-abortionists, when the Supreme Court says it, it may as well be Moses on Mt. Sinai. So the Supreme Court legitimized your work, and since then the abortionists have gone to great lengths to turn the truth upside down and say, “No, Post-Abortion Trauma is not true, pro-lifers are making it all up.” Hence, you have got liberal Democrat Henry Waxman and his Congressional investigation looking into Post-Abortion Trauma, you have PBS and the New York Times Magazine all worked up as well.

**MRS. COCHRANE:** Yeah, they are nervous. They were very nervous when that decision was made. Even if they were not for partial-birth abortion, they want to reverse it because they believe it is chipping away at *Roe v. Wade*. It was the testimony, the affidavits, of nearly two thousand women that the Court examined and all of a sudden there was the voice of ...

**CNR:** Their clients.

**MRS. COCHRANE:** Yes.

**CNR:** One of the reasons Care Net chose you to receive our award was your book *Forgiven and Set Free*, a Bible study. How did that come about?

**MRS. COCHRANE:** In 1984 I was a new Christian, only six months old in the Lord, and I was led to write about my abortion experience. The Bible touched me and healed me. And as a psychiatric nurse I was trained to look for answers, and I was thrilled to find the answers to my psychiatric problems, you know, emotional disorders, mental, whatever you want.

**CNR:** In the Bible, in the scriptures.

**MRS. COCHRANE:** In the Psalms. What to do with anger, guilt, grief, depression. I was like, “Wow, this is exactly what I am dealing with.” David nailed it for me. He was writing exactly how I was feeling. In 1986, Curt Young, then President of Christian Action Council, got in touch with me and asked for a copy of my study. My study had to go through an approval process, and sitting on top of that process was none other than Dr. Harold O.J. Brown, the founder of Christian Action Council and Care Net.

I do remember everybody telling me, “Oh, we will have to have Harold O.J. Brown look this over and, you know, he is really more tuned in.” I just was awed by him. He was very, very proper, but had a good sense of humor too.

So when he told me that he looked it over theologically and it met with his approval, I was shocked. Because by then, people had told me, “You are not supposed to write a Bible study if you did not go to seminary. You are not a pastor; you are not supposed to write Bible studies.”

And so, I was expecting him to find errors. And they found none. He said I had interpreted the Scriptures the right way and told me they were applicable and that I did not take them out of context. Oh, it was such a comfort.

**CNR:** Changing gears...Aspen Baker, president of Exhale, who dubs her group a “pro voice” organization [Exhale is a non-Christian group based in San Francisco that maintains a national talkline dedicated to listening to those who need to speak on a variety of issues, such as how “racism, sexism, homophobia, classism, etc...can affect each person’s experience with abortion.”], claims that her phone number is the one women hurting from abortion should call, as women will receive nonjudgmental counseling or advice. She would say we are judging people. You and I deal with forgiveness and wrongdoing. Is it okay to do that?

**MRS. COCHRANE:** Are you trying to rouse me up, Matt?

**CNR:** I am being a bit provocative...

**MRS. COCHRANE:** Well, it worked.

**CNR:** ...but this is the charge levied against us.

**MRS. COCHRANE:** What Baker and Exhale do is make excuses. So, maybe you did not really hurt from the abortion. Maybe you already hurt from the abuse you experienced as a child or maybe you hurt from the break up of the relationship that resulted from the abortion. They will not admit that there was something lost, there

was a child, there was a life, and now there isn’t. [They say that simply acknowledging] that the woman made the initial decision to abort is a judgment. But to say Post-

“Can you imagine being a battle-scared Iraq war veteran, dealing with post-war stress, and going back to Iraq to find healing?”



Abortion Trauma does not exist is to make a judgment, right? She is doing exactly what she is accusing us of. The very idea of Exhale is, what are you exhaling from? Something you did. So, Exhale is acknowledging that something happened in the abortion clinic. They won't say what.

**CNR:** A slight disservice, no?

**MRS. COCHRANE:** If you call and you say, "I hurt from abortion," Exhale will give you what I call a spiritual Band-Aid. They tell you that you made the right choice at the right time, it is okay, you know, you did not really take a life, and you don't need to listen to your religious mind set or your inner conscience. Pregnancy centers don't tell women, "You killed your baby" either. What we hear women say to us is, "I killed my baby." And we listen to what they are saying and point them to the most pivotal event in human history, the death and resurrection of Christ.

**CNR:** If abortion is overturned, Linda, do you advocate putting women who have had an abortion in jail?

**MRS. COCHRANE:** Oh no. No, that is never how it was when abortion was illegal. The ones that were prosecuted were the abortionists. They never went after the women. That was never the case, so women are, in a way, the victims of this. They are being sold a lie, they are being scammed into believing that abortion is a good choice, a healthy choice, the right thing to do.

**CNR:** What is your take right now where the movement is on this issue? Where is this debate going?

**MRS. COCHRANE:** Well, I think it must ultimately be led by the Church. The

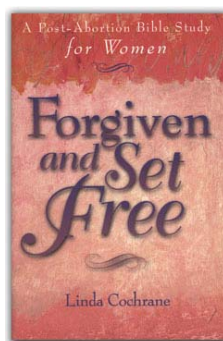
Church is the one place in civilization that has made us more humane, from slavery to suffrage. The Church can end abortion, coffee cup after coffee cup, sitting and talking in people's kitchens. It started to change minds about slavery, and started to change minds about civil rights. The Church must lead. What we need to happen in the Church is a unified voice and a lot more outward-looking instead of inward-looking. Many churches are building themselves up and not fully out there on this issue. That is why I love pregnancy centers, because I feel like we are out on the mission field.

**CNR:** You are the Executive Director of...

**MRS. COCHRANE:** Hopeline Pregnancy Resource Center in Danbury, Connecticut. We have four offices up here in Connecticut where I have been for 11 years. I served two years in the crisis pregnancy center in Poughkeepsie, so it's been 13 years.

**CNR:** Linda Cochrane, thank you for joining us and best wishes in Connecticut.

**MRS. COCHRANE:** Thank you.



*Linda Cochrane's book, Forgiven and Set Free is available by calling Care Net at 1-800-237-5030. The cost is \$9.00.*

## NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

### ITALY

#### *Abortion Blunder Rekindles Debate*

A botched abortion in which a healthy twin fetus was terminated instead of its sibling with Down syndrome has reignited a fierce debate over how the abortion law is applied. “What happened in this hospital was not a medical abortion but an abortion done for the purposes of eugenics,” Senator Paola Binetti, a medical doctor and member of the national bioethics committee, wrote in the newspaper *Corriere della Sera*. The Vatican’s newspaper attacked the practice of aborting malformed fetuses, and anti-abortion campaigners seized on the case. The abortion was performed on a 38-year-old woman from Milan in her 18th week of pregnancy. Doctors said the mistake occurred because the fetuses had shifted positions after an ultrasound scan. Italian news agencies said the woman later had the remaining fetus aborted, and then reported the doctors to the police. The health minister, Livia Turco, said the abortion law would not be changed. It allows abortions up to 90 days from conception, and afterward if the fetus is malformed.

(Source: Excerpted from *AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE*, 8/28/07)

### NEBRASKA

#### *Woman Sues Planned Parenthood after Abortion*

Lincoln – A 40-year-old woman has filed a lawsuit saying she almost

died after a botched abortion at the Planned Parenthood clinic in Lincoln.

The lawsuit filed on behalf of “Jane Roe” alleges negligence and battery by Planned Parenthood of Nebraska and Council Bluffs and a clinic doctor.

The lawsuit states that when the woman complained of pain and asked



staff to stop the procedure, they refused and forcibly held her down. While in the recovery area, the woman continued to complain of pain and suffered three seizures.

Court documents show the woman was taken to a local hospital, where she underwent emergency surgery, including a hysterectomy. The local Planned Parenthood chapter issued a statement saying patient safety is its top priority.

(Excerpted from *KMTV-CBS 3 News, Omaha, NE*, 9/23/07)

### NEW JERSEY

#### *Abortion Center Business Increases*

Cherry Hill – Women in the Atlantic City area have been traveling to Cherry Hill to get abortions after the state’s health department officials closed the Alternatives Abortion Center in June after finding multiple health code violations.

The problems at the Alternatives Abortion Center were so profound that state officials could not let it stay open.

Officials found the abortion center had problems with infection control issues, poor documentation and record-keeping and problems with the facility itself.

Since the closing, women are making the trip north to Cherry Hill, a Philadelphia suburb, which has the next closest abortion center, the Cherry Hill Women's Center.

"We have seen a spike in patients traveling from the shore area," Jennifer Moore Conrow told the Press of Atlantic City.

"It's very valuable to have a local provider," Conrow told the newspaper. "For one, this is definitely a time-sensitive (procedure). But, also, patients are normally nervous coming in and these patients from the shore have it worse because they're traveling out of their comfort zone."

Elizabeth Barnes, the vice president of the Cherry Hill abortion business, told the Press that she was worried New Jersey residents would worry that all abortions centers in the state had health code problems because the Alternatives business and another in Englewood have been closed.

"We were concerned that the closure of the (Atlantic City) facility would make it seem like there weren't any safe clinics to go to," she said.

Health officials say they don't have enough inspectors to cover all of the medical centers in the state.

As a result, Cherry Hill Women's Center has not had a proper state health inspection since December 2004, and other abortion centers have gone longer.

Barnes told the *Press* newspaper that the Cherry Hill abortion center recently had an inspection but that the state has not published the results. She said officials found problems with improper documentation and temperature control issues.

The 2004 report found dirty, dust-covered poles used for IVs and "white scum" on them as well as not having proper anti-hypothermia drugs in place and improper infection control records.

The Cherry Hill Women's Center reportedly issued a corrective report to the

state a month later fixing the problems.

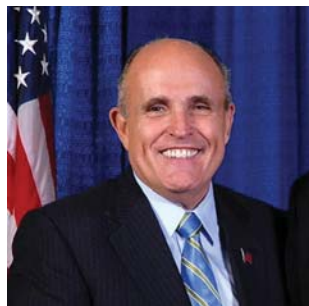
Meanwhile, the newspaper says the Alternatives abortion center is still closed and has been for two months and that state Health Department spokesman Tom Slater said it has yet to correct the problems.

The state normally fines centers \$2,500 a day for every day they are closed and do not fix the issues inspectors find. As of now, Alternatives owes \$167,000 in fines over its health violations. (*Excerpted from LifeNews.com, By STEVEN ERTELT, 9/3/07*)

## POLITICAL REPORT

### *Churchgoers' Support for Giuliani Perplexes Religious Right*

The most surprising recent national polling result was an answer given by Republicans who attend church weekly when Gallup asked their presidential preference.



A plurality chose Rudy Giuliani, a Catholic who in 1999 said: "I don't attend regularly, but I attend occasionally." Their choice raises deep concern among prominent conservative Republicans who feel it would be a serious mistake for leaders of the religious right to scorn the former mayor of New York.

This is threatening to become a major problem because, contrary to the conventional wisdom, Giuliani has stubbornly kept first place in national surveys of all Republican voters. His elevated status cannot be written

## NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

off as merely superior name identification. He no longer seems uncomfortable as a Republican and dominated the presidential debate last week in Dearborn, Michigan. The real possibility that Giuliani might actually be the GOP nominee led a group of religious conservatives, meeting in Salt Lake City Sept. 29 under the leadership of James C. Dobson of Focus on the Family, to consider a third-party alternative.

But the situation is not a simple confrontation between the Christian right and Giuliani. The Gallup data suggest that Dobson and the Salt Lake City group may be out of touch with rank-and-file churchgoers. A well-known social conservative, who asked that his name not be used, is disturbed by Dobson saying he could not vote for Giuliani under any conditions. Apart from being the lesser of two evils against Sen. Hillary Clinton, Giuliani seems to be the positive choice of millions of religious Americans.

In an aggregation of 1,690 interviews with Republicans and Republican-leaning independents in four Gallup surveys during August and September, Giuliani led with 27 percent (to Fred Thompson's 24 percent) among those who said they attended church once a week. Even more startling was the result of interviews with adult voters without regard to party preference. Among churchgoing Catholics, Giuliani led with a plus-38 favorable rating (trailed by Sen. John McCain with a plus-29 and Clinton bringing up the rear with a minus-9).

There is not much in Giuliani's background to attract religious conservatives. After he changed from being a George McGovern Democrat in 1972, his successful 1993

campaign for mayor opposed term limits, school choice and an end to rent controls. He consistently has been pro-choice on abortion, pro-gay rights (including gay marriage) and pro-gun control. How anybody that liberal can be the apparent choice of the religious right is attributed by Republican pollster Frank Luntz to Giuliani's reputation for fighting terrorism. "He has turned security into a social issue," Luntz told me.

That does not fully explain the strong support for him by practicing Catholics. Giuliani says he was raised Catholic but declines to say whether he practices the religion today. When Archbishop Raymond Burke of St. Louis said he would refuse communion to Giuliani because of his position on abortion, the candidate merely said, "Everybody has a right to their opinion." There is no evidence that he attends mass apart from funerals and holidays.

Giuliani's opponents blame his otherwise inexplicable support from churchgoers on the veils of ignorance that in time, they say, will be lifted from the eyes of voters. One Roman Catholic who supports another candidate told me he thought Giuliani's strong Catholic backing was mainly the product of his Italian surname. Other skeptics predict his churchgoing support will fade.

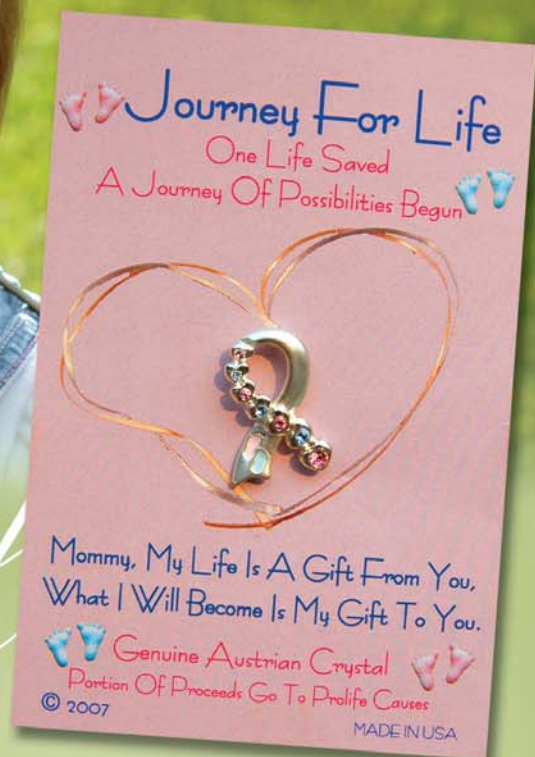
But what if the support holds? Veteran conservative Gary Bauer of the Campaign for Working Families does not want to follow Dobson's rejectionist course, which could pave Clinton's path to the Oval Office. "If [Giuliani] is nominated," Bauer told me, "the leaders of the values voters movement need to sit down and do everything possible to avoid a split that would guarantee a disaster for social, economic and foreign policy conservatism. It would require some serious discussions."

*(Excerpted from Chicago-Sun Times, By ROBERT NOVAK 10/15/07)*





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## OUR MINISTRY

### OPTION LINE REPORT



COLUMBUS, OH. - Below is a recent e-mail conversation a Care Net Option Line consultant had with a client regarding adoption.

**CLIENT** (3:37:11 PM): Hello?

**OPTION LINE** (3:37:18 PM): Hi how can I help you?

**CLIENT** (3:37:24 PM): Hi...

**CLIENT** (3:37:36 PM): I'm a teenage father.

**CLIENT** (3:38:07 PM): And I was wondering if you could give me some helpful answers...

**CLIENT** (3:38:15 PM): My girlfriend is just recently pregnant.

**CLIENT** (3:38:20 PM): We're on very good terms.

**CLIENT** (3:38:40 PM): We would never consider abortion, because we both want to do everything in our power to rectify our mistake.

**CLIENT** (3:39:24 PM): We want the best for the child, but we're not sure we are equipped to be adequate parents.

**CLIENT** (3:39:30 PM): And..

**CLIENT** (3:39:36 PM): We're considering adoption.

**OPTION LINE** (3:39:38 PM): Ok...

**CLIENT** (3:40:33 PM): We're afraid...

**CLIENT** (3:40:37 PM): I mean.

**CLIENT** (3:40:49 PM): We don't know what sort of life an adopted child faces?

**OPTION LINE** (3:41:12 PM): I think you quite possibly talked to the best person you could have in this situation...lol....Im adopted:-)

**CLIENT** (3:41:24 PM): That's good to hear.

**CLIENT** (3:41:40 PM): How was your experience as an adopted child?

**OPTION LINE** (3:42:06 PM): My situation is a little different than a typical adopted child.... which is what makes the possibility of adoption so amazing

**OPTION LINE** (3:43:07 PM): there are soooo many different types of adoption from an open adoption where you have as much contact as you want with the child to a closed adoption where you would have no contact. Thats completely yours and your gf's decision. Not to mention there are little loopholes to that as well, like guardianship, which is what I went through.

**OPTION LINE** (3:44:08 PM): As the birth parents you have all the rights in choosing the parents, from their hair color to their religious preference. You also have the

opportunity to change your mind as well.

**OPTION LINE** (3:44:36 PM): For my personal experience, I had an amazing childhood!

**CLIENT** (3:44:52 PM): That's a relief to hear.

**OPTION LINE** (3:46:21 PM): My maternal grandparents adopted me. So not only did I get to stay within my family I was given a life that my birth mother could not have given me, great school, anything I wanted (yes I was slightly spoiled), opportunities to do things like travel to other countries. I also go to have a relationship with my birth mother, which is great, I actually am going on vacation with her and my grandparents tomorrow:-)

**CLIENT** (3:46:43 PM): {nods}

**CLIENT** (3:49:43 PM): Really... the main concern we have... We have friends that were adopted that were sent from foster home to foster home all their lives, because, for some reason, they could not find their way into a permanent adoptive home. Can this be avoided? Will there always be available couples looking to adopt?

**OPTION LINE** (3:50:15 PM): My situation was a little complicated, and yes there were some downsides, for example my birth father chose not to be apart of my life, but I never felt like I lacked as far as parents, I've called my grandparents mom and dad since birth, and always had a great father figure. On top of that, I have another mom through my birth mom

**OPTION LINE** (3:51:02 PM): Yes it can, I'm 24, and the adoption care system has

actually changed a great deal since I was born. There are constantly couples looking to adopt and that's something that you actually can make sure of. Like I said you have all the right when it comes to placing your baby in adoption.

**CLIENT** (3:53:18 PM): Well, thank you very, very much. I feel considerably better, knowing all this.

**CLIENT** (3:53:32 PM): Have a wonderful day.

**OPTION LINE** (3:54:41 PM): If you would like you can actually call our 1-800-395-4357 number, and we can direct you to a facility in your area that would have a lot of information about adoption and would be able to put you in contact with adoption agencies in your area.

**CLIENT** (3:55:22 PM): I'll keep that number handy. Thank you again.

**OPTION LINE** (3:55:39 PM): Anytime!:-)  
The Option Line Call Center and Website are jointly operated and owned by Care Net and our friends at Heartbeat International.



## OUR MINISTRY

# URBAN INITIATIVE REPORT

## TOUCHDOWN CITIES CAMPAIGN SCORES BIG

*Care Net is excited to announce the imminent opening of two pregnancy centers in underserved urban areas, one in downtown Philadelphia, the other in downtown Atlanta. The Touchdown Cities Campaign, which was launched in August of 2007, focuses on raising awareness of the plight of inner city women who are at high risk for abortion and inspiring individuals and groups to meet the need for urban pregnancy centers in their communities.*

PHILADELPHIA, PA- The New H.O.P.E. Pregnancy Center of Philadelphia is one step closer to opening its doors due to monies raised in Care Net's Touchdown Cities Campaign.

Located in the heart of downtown Philadelphia, this location is within a

two mile radius of five abortion providers. According to Steering Committee Chair, Frank Robinson, "Care Net has really come alongside of our efforts and given us the boost we needed to get the job done. Without their assistance, we would be looking at a six-to-twelve-month delay in serving women in our community with the message of life."

Care Net's assistance has come in many forms. An appeal letter sent to the donor base describing the need in Philadelphia raised over \$75,000 for this pregnancy center. But an even more creative assistance project took place in September shedding



new meaning on the nickname, the City of Brotherly Love.

Joining Care Net's effort in Philadelphia were a group of volunteer builders known as Carpenters For Christ. Traveling from Alabama, Virginia and Philadelphia, fourteen men arrived at the future site of the New H.O.P.E. Pregnancy Center. Awaiting them was a 200-year-old dilapidated building needing extensive renovations, as well as a blueprint and 400 2x4's, 270 sheets of fire resistant dry wall, 4,000 square feet of fiberglass insulation, and 46 electrical boxes, among other things. Undaunted, the Carpenters went to prayer and then to work.

**TOUCHDOWN CITIES**  
A CARE NET CENTER DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

New Care Net President Melinda Delahoyde will be

joining Pastor and former Philadelphia Eagle Herb Lusk for the grand opening of the center. The New H.O.P.E. Pregnancy Center will fall under Lusk's broader ministry called People for People, that currently operates a charter school, an early childhood development center, a federally insured credit union, a welfare-to-workfare program and other social services and training in downtown Philadelphia.

The New H.O.P.E. Pregnancy Center has recently completed its volunteer training and has a target opening date of January 2008.



ATLANTA, GA- Similar efforts are underway in Atlanta to open a downtown pregnancy center. The Care Net Pregnancy Resource Center of Atlanta, located directly across the street from Georgia State University, has the distinction of previously being a Planned Parenthood Clinic. This strategic location will meet the needs of a wide variety of women living in the inner city. According



*Care Net Pregnancy Resource Center of Atlanta Board of Directors. Back: Tracey Van Dyke, Tom Mason and Katrina Wilson  
Front: Tiffany Aholou and Janice Bentley*

to executive director, Shealeta Murden, “We have reclaimed enemy territory and are daily preparing ourselves for the battle ahead. God is bringing in the resources and we are confident that this center will be seeing clients within the next few months.” Care Net’s Touchdown Cities Campaign has raised up leaders and supporters for this vital ministry. The center has scheduled a volunteer training seminar for January and will be seeing clients shortly thereafter.

*For more information about Care Net’s Touchdown Cities Campaign and future Touchdown City locations, contact Director of Urban Center Development, Lorey Kelley at [lkelly@care-net.org](mailto:lkelly@care-net.org).*

## CARPENTERS FOR CHRIST AT WORK IN PHILADELPHIA



## ABORTION HURTS

### **FORBIDDEN GRIEF**

#### **THE UNSPOKEN PAIN OF ABORTION**

By Theresa Burke with David C. Reardon  
Acorn Books, 2002 (Hardback, 336 pages;  
Paperback, 314 pages)

*[Editor's Note: The excerpt below is from the Introduction.]*

As a young graduate student, I was assigned to lead a weekly support group for women with eating disorders. It was there that I first observed how abortion is a forbidden grief.

It all began with Debbie. She cautiously and fearfully confided to the group that she was having flashbacks to an abortion that had happened several years earlier. She was also having recurring nightmares involving a baby.

These intrusive memories were bad enough. Her anxiety was made worse, however, by her ex-husband. He would phone and leave messages on her answering machine, calling her a "murderer," describing the abortion in vivid and horrifying detail. Debbie found this extremely disturbing not only for herself but for her three children, who would often hear the incoming message.

After these phone calls Debbie would become quite agitated. On numerous occasions she became suicidal. She

repeatedly cut her wrists with a razor blade and often ended up in the emergency room of the local hospital.

Debbie had always struggled with weight issues, but her eating disorder became full-blown after the abortion. She was severely anorexic. Her story sparked a series of confessions within the group.

Beth Ann said she knew how Debbie felt because she, too, had undergone an abortion. "It would kill me if someone kept reminding me about it. It's something I try to forget about. Your husband is a horrible man," Beth Ann said with contempt.

Diane immediately jumped in with an irritated hiss. "---- him! We have a right to control our bodies and decide if we want their ----- interfering with our bodies. To hell with him!"

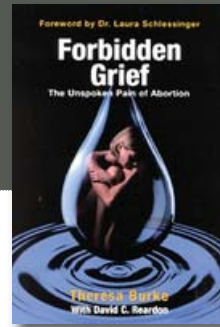
The other women were silent.

"Diane, you seem quite angry," I observed. "Has anyone hurt you like that?"

Diane dismissed the idea with explicit certainty. "Nobody hurts me!" she stated.

"Especially men! That's why I had my abortion, so the ----- couldn't screw with me and mess up my life. And you know what? It was the best thing I ever did. Taking control of your life is nothing to feel guilty over and ---- anyone who tries to tell me to feel otherwise. ---- them all!"

At that moment, Judith, obviously



very upset, got up and left the room.

As Judith closed the door, Sarah, normally quiet and reserved, politely asked Diane to watch her mouth. She told her that her relentless use of the f-word was probably offensive to some and it showed a lack of class.

Diane quickly retorted, “---- you, ya prude! You guys are all a bunch of ----- prigs.”

I began to feel quite inadequate and wondered how to proceed with the meeting...

We ended the meeting early that night.

When I got home, I called Judith, who had walked out of the meeting, to make sure she was okay. Judith said she was sorry for leaving so abruptly, but then added, “I hate the subject of abortion and wish that we could focus on eating disorders instead.”

I asked her if she, too, had experienced an abortion. After a prolonged silence, she murmured, “It was a long time ago. I really don’t want to talk about it.”

The events of that evening weighed on my mind for the entire week. Our group discussion had not even remotely helped any of these women to address their tremendous anxiety about their past abortions. We had only scratched the surface.

Six out of the eight women in our group had undergone abortions. The other two had been sexually molested as children. The common denominator in their histories was a traumatic event, abortion or sexual molestation, which some were not even able to verbalize...

The issue of abortion was clearly a threatening topic for our group. Those who could speak about it could only do so by angrily blaming others. In subsequent

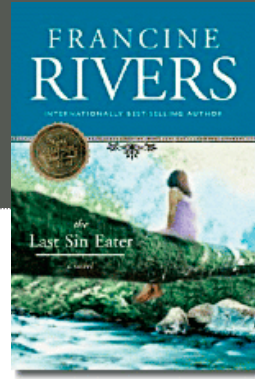
discussions, all six women indicated that their abortions were perhaps the most difficult decisions they had ever made. At the same time, however, they denied that their abortions had any significant effect on their lives. This “no big deal” claim, however, was in striking contrast to the intense emotions and avoidance behavior that I had observed. Clearly, a lot of unexplored and unresolved feelings were being denied, repressed, or suppressed.

Unfortunately, however, I was not permitted at that time to delve more deeply into my group’s obvious difficulties with past abortions. When I shared my assessment with my supervisor, a psychiatrist, he became irritated and defensive. He emphatically told me that I had no business prying into people’s abortions. I pointed out that it was Debbie who had raised the issue because of her flashbacks. He insisted that Debbie’s flashbacks were a psychotic reaction caused by a medication she was taking. I questioned this and pointed out that her abortion had been a very traumatic experience and her flashbacks sounded more like post-traumatic stress disorder. When I suggested it might be helpful for her to talk about it, the psychiatrist looked me straight in the eye and said, “This is a support group for eating disorders . . . not abortion.” He firmly instructed me not to bring up the subject again.

*Forbidden Grief: The Unspoken Pain of Abortion* is available by calling the Elliot Institute toll free 888-412-2676. Additional material is posted on their website, [www.afterabortion.org](http://www.afterabortion.org) or by contacting Elliot Institute, PO Box 7348, Springfield, IL 62791-7348.

## YOUR WALK

# BOOK REPORT



### WHAT CAN WASH AWAY MY SIN?

Reviewed by Kay Sanford

#### **THE LAST SIN EATER (MOVIE EDITION)**

By Francine Rivers

Tyndale Publishing, 2007 (Paperback:  
352 pages)

Once a secular romance author, Francine Rivers encountered Christ in 1986. She then turned her writing skills into a gift for glorifying the Lord. Known for titles such as *Redeeming Love*, *And the Shofar Blew* and *The Atonement Child*, *The Last Sin Eater* is truly a story of freedom.

The book (and companion movie produced by Michael Landon Jr.) is set in the Appalachian Mountain region in the 1850s and revolves around an ancient religious ceremony brought over by first generation Welsh immigrants. The story's main protagonist is Cadi, a 10-year old girl who is on a quest to find forgiveness for her sins. Cadi is carrying the burden of her sister's accidental death. The story begins with the death of Cadi's grandmother and the eerie ritual that follows. The community names one man "the sin eater," and his job is to attend funerals and "eat" the sins of the deceased- symbolized with bread and wine. Cadi looks at the sin eater, which is forbidden, and decides that she is going to find him so that he can eat her sins too...while she is still alive.

*The Last Sin Eater* is a story of Cadi's journey through bondage, enlightenment, and eventually freedom. Mirroring Cadi's journey is that of our own, and like our lives, Rivers' stories have new and exciting twists and turns, as well as connections between characters that would not have been guessed. Rivers' challenge to us is to rigorously pursue freedom from sin in the true sin eater, Jesus Christ.



Care Net's Kay Sanford and author Francine Rivers at a book signing during the 2007 Care Net National Pregnancy Center Conference.



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## YOUR WALK

# MOVIE REPORT



## ALL HAVE SINNED AND FALLEN

### *I WAS WRONG*

Reviewed by Matthew Waters

Aspen Baker, president of Exhale, a “pro-voice” group, would probably tell Norma McCorvey, aka Jane Roe, that the new film based on her life is awfully judgmental. After Baker’s self-admitted abortion, she said she, “wanted a chance to talk through her thoughts and feelings about it, and get support. The only post-abortion agencies I found were Christian-religion based and they had a very one-size-fits-all approach. Specifically, their counseling demanded that I acknowledge the abortion as a mistake, seek forgiveness from God and participate in activities to end abortion.”

Aspen is right. McCorvey and thousands of other women affected by abortion might reply, “No, Aspen, the ‘choice’ you made was either right or wrong – and to ‘talk about it, work through your feelings and find support’ is to admit something very significant happened the day of your abortion. Until you find the closure that only Christ can give, you will never stop talking about it.”

*I Was Wrong* is Norma’s story, and it is as close to closure as one can get on this side of heaven. McCorvey, now showing her age, shares a deeply disturbing story.

If you close your eyes and listen to her, she sounds like a desperate young woman. And the story she shares depicts the time in her life when she was. Unfortunately for her, her youthful decision did not just affect those around her. Her fateful decision to tell a lie condemned the lives of millions who followed her lead—and an older McCorvey is painfully aware of the consequences of her action.

McCorvey says, “I told them (Faye Waddington, the attorney representing Planned Parenthood) I was raped. I lied about a rape so I could get an abortion. I was pregnant a third time, my second time out of wedlock. I never had an abortion.”

The mini-biographical sketch follows McCorvey’s journey to the Supreme Court and her life that followed. Sadly, after the court decision, her life sank further into the pit. “I drank a lot. I cut my wrists. I ran out into oncoming traffic. I was not a happy person.”

Eventually McCorvey publicly revealed her identity as Roe, and became a full-fledged advocate for abortion. She was immediately hailed a hero. But the drinking continued, as did the suicidal behavior.

*I Was Wrong* takes a turn when Pastor Flip Benhem, head of Operation Rescue, enters the scene. He and his band of pro-

*(continued on page 29)*

## YOUR WALK

GUEST COMMENTARY  
BY DAVID C. REARDON

# The Ballad of *John and Lorena Bobbitt*



*[Editor's Note: On June 23, 1993, Lorena Bobbitt made headlines around the world. The reason: she cut off her husband's penis as he lay sleeping. Late night comedians had a heyday, but almost no one heard the story behind the story.]*

*What was never revealed was this: three years prior, almost to the day of the incident, Lorena was taken to an abortion clinic by her husband John. Lorena did not want the abortion – it was forced. The Elliot Institute, led by Dr. David Reardon, published more details in the Post-Abortion Review; for those of you who would like access to all of Reardon's work on the Bobbitt case, it can be found at [www.afterabortion.info/PAR/V4/index.htm](http://www.afterabortion.info/PAR/V4/index.htm). CNR has excerpted material from the seven articles found on the website.]*

### BOBBITT MYSTERY UNRAVELED

People were shocked, and grimly amused by the nature of her attack. Still, the aspect of this incident which perhaps most captivated the public was its psychological mystery. People could easily understand how an enraged woman might strike back at an abusive husband, and even attempt to kill him. But why, everyone wondered, had Lorena confined her attack to his penis? And what did she mean in her statements to police when she explained that her husband was selfish and wouldn't give her an orgasm? Did this mean that she mutilated her husband simply because he didn't satisfy her sexually? Or, as the defense claimed, was she just an abused and psychologically unstable person who, on that particular night, could not control an "irresistible impulse?"

Lorena's defense lawyers claimed the answers to these questions would never be fully understood. But actually, even at the time of the trial, Lorena's lawyers had far better answers to these questions than they chose to reveal. It would not be accurate to label this lack of full disclosure a "cover-up," since defense lawyers are under no obligation to reveal everything they know. But it is fair to say that the most important insights gained in this case have not been fully revealed to the general public--until now.

I will attempt to show that the key to understanding the many otherwise

outlandish aspects of this case can only be found in understanding how Lorena was traumatized by a coerced abortion.

At the time of her abortion, Lorena exhibited at least eight of the high-risk factors which reliably predict post-abortion psychological maladjustments. The resulting psychological trauma devastated Lorena and created a cycle of violence and abuse between her and John, which destroyed their marriage. This culminated in Lorena's attack on John's sexuality exactly three years after the abortion—at a time when Lorena was suffering from a major post-abortion anniversary reaction which included anxiety attacks, depression, flashbacks, and psychosomatic symptoms.

### **THEIR DEEPEST WOUND: AN ANALYSIS**

Lorena Bobbitt's abortion was unwanted. It violated her moral beliefs and signified the destruction of her dream to have a family -- just like the one in which she had grown up. It was an attack on her self-identity and her maternal self.

By understanding how her abortion traumatized Lorena, we can understand why she mutilated John in the way she did. From this perspective, it can be seen that everything Lorena did that night had great significance, at least on a subconscious level.

Because the effects of the abortion on Lorena and John were multidimensional, the following discussion will look at the incidents of that night from several different angles.

### **ANNIVERSARY REACTION**

The most obvious connection between the abortion and the cutting incident is one of time; the attack occurred almost exactly three years to the day after the unwanted abortion. This is highly significant. Studies at both the Medical College of Ohio and the Elliot Institute have found that between 30 and 50 percent of women who suffer from post-

abortion psychological disorders experience increased physical or emotional reactions on the anniversary dates of the abortion or due date of the child.<sup>1</sup>

Anniversary reactions often include major depression, anxiety, headaches, abdominal cramping, eating irregularities, sleeping difficulties, gastrointestinal symptoms, or complaints relevant to the reproductive system. The symptoms which Lorena reported to Dr. Inman on June 18th clearly follow the classic pattern reported for post-abortion anniversary reactions. The emotional stress associated with this anniversary reaction increased the risk that Lorena would experience a "mental snap" at this time.

It is also likely that Lorena experienced symptoms of an anniversary reaction in June of 1991 and 1992. While symptoms at these times were not specifically discussed in the testimony, we do know that in June of 1991 Lorena had a pregnant customer at her salon. She recalled that seeing this woman touched her deeply. Lorena started telling the woman how happy she was for her that she would be having a baby. She then began explaining to her how sad she was in her marriage and how her husband would beat her. The only testimony regarding specific events of June 1992, when John was gone, is the claim of John's family members who testified that Lorena frequently called him begging him to return.

### **WHO WAS MOST GUILTY?**

After John and Lorena were both tried and acquitted, a reporter asked Lorena, "So, Americans want to know, who was the guilty party?" Without any hesitation or guile, Lorena answered, "We both were. We're both guilty." (Even in this answer, we may be hearing echoes of Lorena's guilt over the abortion.)

Few would argue with her answer. Still, what frustrates me most is that there is a

*(continued on page 28)*

third party, one who has never been named, who is more liable for what happened to the Bobbitts than either Lorena or John.

The most guilty party of all was the abortionist who negligently performed an unwanted abortion on a patient who was clearly at high risk of experiencing severe post-abortion maladjustment. The abortionist not only failed to protect Lorena from John's pressure, he or she also failed to explain to John that a coerced abortion would traumatize Lorena, cause her to develop deep emotional resentments against John, would most likely make her emotionally detached, self-destructive, and sexually frigid toward him.

In short, the abortionist and clinic counselors should have told Lorena and John that if they went through with that abortion, it would very likely destroy their marriage.

The abortionist did not explain these facts to Lorena or John. This proves that either the abortionist was negligently ignorant and incompetent, or the abortionist deliberately concealed relevant information from the couple and carelessly exposed them to known and avoidable risks.

While the abortionist could never have predicted that Lorena would end up cutting off John's penis on the third anniversary of the abortion, everything else was predictable. Lorena matched at least eight characteristics which reliably predict psychological maladjustments after an abortion. It should have been obvious to anyone who was familiar with the literature, which an abortionist is obligated to be, that abortion would cause emotional harm to Lorena, and consequently cause injury to her marriage and John.

This was unquestionably a contraindicated abortion. There was no medical justification for performing it, and there was every ethical reason for refusing to do so, no matter how much John may have insisted upon it. The only proper medical

recommendation, in this case, would have been a referral to marital counseling.

### THE GREATEST GUILT AND GREATEST TRAGEDY

So, Lorena, if you are ever asked again who the guilty party was, it is proper to say that you and John both share in the guilt. But most of all, the guilt falls upon your abortionist--someone who, in principle, was under a physician's obligation to protect your physical, mental, and marital health. Instead, he or she was nothing more than a medical prostitute who performed a contraindicated abortion simply because you had the money to pay for it. Neither you nor John could possibly have known all the havoc your unwanted abortion could cause to your lives. It was the abortionist's job to protect you, but instead he or she deliberately and knowingly exposed both of you to great injury.

The greatest tragedy of all is that hundreds of abortionists like yours, Lorena, are doing the same thing to other couples every hour of every day. And they will continue to do so until they are finally made liable for all the injuries they have inflicted on millions of women, men, and families in our nation.



*Originally published in The Post-Abortion Review 4(2-3) Spring & Summer 1996. Copyright 1996 Elliot Institute, PO Box 7348, Springfield, IL 62791-7348. Additional*

*material is posted at [www.afterabortion.org](http://www.afterabortion.org). David C. Reardon, Ph.D., director of the Elliot Institute. He is widely recognized as one of the leading experts on the aftereffects of abortion on women, a field in which he has specialized since 1983. He is the author of numerous books and popular and scholarly articles on this topic.*

lifers set up shop next to the abortion clinic where McCorvey worked. As McCorvey was going into the clinic one day, Benham shouted out to McCorvey, “You know you are responsible for the deaths of 35 million unborn babies!” The film then cuts back to McCorvey, who distinctly remembers the moment with a faint smile, her first in the film.

Benham recalls, “The next day Miss Norma was walking into the clinic and I asked her, ‘Miss Norma, what are you going to do today?’ She said, ‘I don’t know.’ But this was the first time she ever said anything to me. I asked her to sit down on a bench that used to be right here for a moment. I said, ‘Miss Norma, yesterday I told you that you were responsible for the deaths of 35 million babies. Will you forgive me for saying that? I should not have said that.’”

Benham’s admission broke the ice and Norma’s heart was touched for the first time in a long time.

The film is most powerful as it captures McCorvey’s transition from symbol of abortion rights activist to Christian, and eventually pro-life advocate, and it manages to accomplish this in 30 short minutes. This is a credit to the tight editing done by the Dutch film company, EO International.

According to Joyce Zounis, who also makes an appearance in the film, the Dutch company paid for and produced all of the footage and editing, and added the excellent soundtrack. In the end you have an unequivocally pro-life, Christian, historical film that traverses multiple themes – from repentance to redemption.

Additionally, the film lends a great deal of perspective to those who may be newcomers to the pro-life movement. For those who have been in the movement for years, the grainy black and white footage of the 1973 ABC News segment, and the photos displaying a variety of clothing fashions from the 60s to the 80s remind viewers that the modern right- to-life issue is almost half a century old.

Also, it is a credit to the film that it is family friendly; no grotesque images of aborted babies appear. But it does have Ms. McCorvey’s memory detailing her experience as an abortion clinic worker, and those details are grisly.

*I Was Wrong is available by calling Care Net at 1-800-518-7909, ext. 103. The cost is \$20 and this includes shipping and handling. The film is unrated and runs approximately 30 minutes.*

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(Back)





### THERE IS A TIME FOR EVERYTHING...

I cannot tell you how honored I am to be the new President of Care Net. Many of you know I have served for years – as a board member back when we were the Christian Action Council, later as Board Chair for Care Net, and lately as Board Chair Emeritus, calling and visiting many of you who support the ministry of Care Net. For those of you whom I have not been given the chance to meet, I hope this brief message serves as an introduction and an invitation to write, call or email me directly at any time.

Before moving on, however, I must tell you how deeply grateful I am to Kurt Entsminger for his years of hard work and the visionary and strategic leadership he gave Care Net. Kurt notified the Care Net board of directors several weeks ago that he had prayerfully decided to leave, and in fact he is stepping out on faith trusting God to provide a new opportunity for service.

Under Kurt's tutelage, Care Net grew from a network of 650 pregnancy centers to over 1,100; the Option Line Call Center & Website has become a tremendous resource to women in crisis and to the local crisis pregnancy centers who serve them; and Care Net's financial position has never been stronger. For that, we are grateful.

As we look to our future, several thoughts come to mind:

#### **OUR MISSION IS SECURE**

Our board and staff are committed to the ministry direction we have taken over the

past four years. We will strengthen and nurture our current programs and initiatives and provide new resources that will take us forward in facilitating evangelistic, pro-life ministry using the network of crisis pregnancy centers, the Option Line Call Center & Website, and other opportunities as they avail themselves.

#### **OUR TEAM IS COMMITTED**

The Care Net national staff, our consultants, pregnancy center directors and staff, and over 25,000 volunteers are committed to Christ and to our mission of sharing the love and truth of Jesus Christ in word and deed. Truly, the entire Care Net team embodies a spirit of care, compassion, and service that is deeply inspiring and encouraging.

#### **OUR FUTURE IS STRONG**

God, in His grace, has brought tremendous growth in recent years. We see a renewed commitment to prayer within the pro-life movement. We see partnerships and alliances that promote unity and a stronger outreach to women and our culture. We look to Him for our guidance, and we trust in His strength to pursue the opportunities and open doors for ministry that will save lives and heal hearts. In God, our future is strong.

Thank you. You are such an encouragement to all of us at Care Net. We are here to serve you. We ask you to join us as we seek God's wisdom.

In Him,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Melinda W. Delahoyde". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional but personal style.

Melinda W. Delahoyde, President

Dennis Jernigan and Care Net  
*Saving Lives Together*



Dennis Jernigan with the Option Line Consultants

Join recording artist Dennis Jernigan in furthering the work of Care Net by becoming a Care Net Caring Partner today. Caring Partners are monthly partners who use a major credit card or personal checking account to participate in the work of our ministry.

Sign up to be a Caring Partner today and receive a copy of Dennis Jernigan's CD, "I Cry Holy". Call 800-518-7909 to sign up today.



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