

January/February 2008

Care Net Report

www.care-net.org



Sanctity of Human Life

CARE  NET



ABORTION REDUCES CRIME?

I received an email recently from my friend Susan. Her friend, “a Christian,” and a law student, was reading the best-seller

Freakonomics wherein economists Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner “make the case” that abortion reduces crime. Her friend argued that abortion is having a positive effect on society. Susan ended her email, “*sigh*....why should I be debating this with Christians?”

Good question. Well, first of all, the assertion that abortion reduces crime has not been proven. University of Maryland economist and author John Lott has gone to great lengths to disprove that conclusion. But, right or wrong, the bigger issue here is, “Is murder of innocents justified when it has the potential to reduce crime?”

If Susan’s friend believes abortion is wrong because it represents the taking of a life, but it’s in some way also justifiable because it is eliminating unborn potential criminals, why not already-born potential criminals? No one is making the case that school shootings have a positive affect on society as long as they occur in sectors of society which tend to produce more criminals. But that is exactly what proponents of this view are saying. The point is, homicide rates are never analyzed by sociologists and deemed positive in any way -- because they represent the murder of human beings. What proponents of the “abortion may be a positive factor in society” school are really failing to acknowledge, then, is the full value and personhood of an unborn human. Once this point is made the debate really becomes one of the personhood and rights of an unborn child.

Susan chose to argue from adverse consequences. She responded to her friend that “Abortion has also led to higher child abuse/neglect” but said, “That didn’t seem to persuade him. He felt like the crime rate stuff is enough to show abortion may be having a positive effect on society.”

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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).

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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.

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WWW.CARE-NET.ORG

Susan is on to something here – that abortion does have larger ramifications. Social scientists from the University of New Hampshire cite abortion as one of the underlying causes responsible for the increasing child homicide rate, a rate equal to the teenage homicide rate (*Washington Post*, “Infants now murdered as often as teens,” 12/2/07). The de-valuing of human life trickles down to children outside the womb, even to their mothers, leading to another adverse consequence of abortion...

The pregnancy-murder connection. Murder is the number one reason pregnant women die each year. The father and would-be protector in an act of rebellion against his calling and against God, says, “Abort the baby or I’ll abort you.” It’s the Scott Peterson syndrome. (For the woman who listens to her man and agrees to an abortion against her own wishes or judgement, the relationship - marriage, engagement or cohabitation – in many cases ends after the abortion. See “Can Relationships Survive after Abortion?” by Theresa Burke at www.afterabortion.org)

So, even if you buy the argument that wiping out a generation of poor or minority kids reduces crime, how can the murder of innocents ever be justified? This kind of argument coming from a supposed believer brings shame on the name of Christ and reveals a utilitarian view of mankind – the exact opposite view of how Christ sees us. Such thinking is not borne of walking with the gentle Savior who commanded his followers to “let the little children come to me.” Nor is such a view consistent with Scripture’s claim that every human is created by a holy, intelligent, and glorious Creator, and in his image. Not to mention that it flies in direct opposition to God’s explicit command “Thou shalt do no murder.”

Certainly we expect to deal with such arguments when we dialogue with nonbelievers, and when we do, we anticipate that we will start with assumptions about humanity which are diametrically opposed.

But when a supposed “Christian” makes a case for eugenics in the form of abortion based on a recent sociological study, we in the body of Christ must not remain silent. Paul warns of those who, claiming to be wise, became fools. To Timothy he warns of those who “promote false speculations rather than stewardship from God that is by faith...by swerving from these, [they] have wandered into vain discussion...”

It is vain discussion for Christians to speculate about the upside of taking innocent human life. We are stewards, as families and societies, of our children, and we serve, love, and honor the neediest of our members, be they children or women in crisis, by faith and in obedience to God. For the genuine Christian, there is no other option.

This January we observe Sanctity of Human Life Sunday (SOHLS, the day established by Care Net way back in 1981). On the cover of Care Net Report is one of the two brochures that are available for your church and pregnancy center to distribute in observation of SOHLS (to order log onto www.sohls.org). As we pause at this time to reflect upon our role in ending abortion by helping women choose life, I wanted to take a moment to thank each one of you for the prayers and the sacrificial financial and volunteer support you give day in and day out to Care Net.

Matthew J. Waters

Matthew J. Waters
Editor, Care Net Report



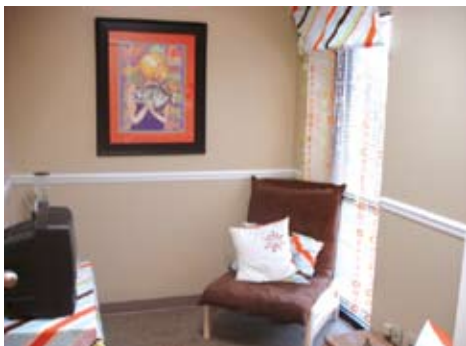
P.S. I'll make note of a children's book I recently received called Sweet Baby written by Linda F. Lewis, a friend of Care Net. The picture book

is suitable for children 2-5 as it tells little ones who created all things. To order a copy, log onto <http://www.authorhouse.com/BookStore/ItemDetail-bookid-34237.aspx>. Sweet Baby is \$12.10 and is available online only.

CLIENTS' TEEN ROOM SPEAKS TO POST-MODERNS

By Katie Traylor

BIRMINGHAM, AL -- "Peace if at all possible, Truth at all costs." The words of Martin Luther hang just above the TV/VCR at Pregnancy Test Center in Birmingham and provide a reminder that in this room girls are given the opportunity to hear the truth, maybe for the first time.



Hip, Groovy, Fun. These are all words that can be used to describe the Teen Room at Pregnancy Resource Center. After attending a client marketing workshop at the Care Net conference, executive director Jeannie Franks and client services manager Aundree Montgomery, decided their center could benefit from having a room designed with young clients in mind. Montgomery remembers, "The speaker shared that we should make sure our center is inviting to everyone and also appealing to a target age range." A newly decorated counseling room, Montgomery and her team decided, would help clients under the age of twenty-two to make an immediate connection and this would allow them to communicate more freely and comfortably with a volunteer counselor.

Montgomery began to pray for the new look that would appeal to the target audience. With a budget of only \$100, the center was able to purchase furniture, pillows, curtains

and beads from Target. Fun colors and funky patterns were a must as she splashed color and character into this counseling room. Montgomery's daughters donated two lava lamps, and as a finishing touch she included a couple of magazine-style New Testaments.

Clients loved the room immediately. "The other counseling rooms are more formal, and this room is more in the genre of what girls are used to," Brandie Highfield, Volunteer Coordinator, explains. According to the center, the Teen Room has been a success because both counselors and clients like to use the room. "We have had a lot of positive feedback," says Franks. Counselors like using the room as a means to help clients feel more comfortable and at ease. Clients describe the room as cool and comfortable and have said that they feel "safe" and "at peace."

The positive response to the teen room has encouraged the Pregnancy Resource Center Vestavia team. Montgomery acknowledges that the room took a little longer for the "more mature" volunteers to get used to, but she would recommend all centers consider updating their counseling rooms. Montgomery says, "I think it will help in putting the clients at ease, so that they are not only more open to 'hear' what we are sharing, but perhaps 'listen with their hearts'." And that is invaluable when the

PRO-LIFE LEADERS LEARN MEDIA STRATEGIES AT A CARE NET SPONSORED TRAINING

By Kristin Hansen

Over the last several years, pro-life gains and pregnancy center advancements have spurred attacks and increased scrutiny from the media and abortion advocates. When it comes to interacting with the media, Care Net has played a unique role. Situated outside the nation's capital, Care Net often serves as a national voice for the pregnancy center movement. In fact, we were recently interviewed and featured in a *Time* magazine cover story about pregnancy centers in February of this year, not to mention the *Los Angeles Times*, *Chicago Tribune*, and other major media outlets.

Care Net is also called to equip its pregnancy center affiliates to engage the media with wisdom and confidence. Every media interview is truly an opportunity for pregnancy centers to be a beacon of hope to those who are facing an unplanned pregnancy; however, this must be done with wisdom and counsel. Every year, Care Net offers an intense media training for pregnancy centers at its national conference as well as individual advice for centers throughout the year.

Because of our increased presence as a movement, Care Net is taking its media training and preparation to the next level. In November, Care Net, together with Americans United for Life, sponsored a media training in Arlington, Virginia for the purpose of developing a "SWAT" team of media spokespeople. A talented, pro-life,

"Fortune 500" media trainer prepared a select group of pro-life leaders – pregnancy center directors, medical professionals, people who have experienced a past abortion, researchers, and attorneys – on how to best represent the pro-life and pregnancy center movement while interacting with the media. The event was conducted in a group format in a private TV studio and allowed participants to learn from each other's expertise. As a result, participants emerged with a unified strategy for pro-life messaging and increased experience for future media interactions.

Keep an eye out for Care Net and pregnancy center spokespeople in the news and please keep us in your prayers for wisdom as we seek to be a compelling and winsome voice on behalf of the work of pregnancy centers.



CARE NET WELCOMES NEW AFFILIATE PREGNANCY CENTERS

1. Espanola, NM
2. San Clemente, CA
3. New York, NY
4. Owosso, MI
5. Sumter, SC
6. Milwaukee, WI (Branch Office)
7. Raleigh, NC (Branch Office)
8. Rincon, GA



WALES GOEBEL

founder of Sav-A-Life crisis pregnancy centers and pioneer in the pro-life movement.

CNR: Welcome, Wales Goebel.

GOEBEL: Thank you Matt. Glad to be here.

CNR: Tell readers who you are and how you got your start in pregnancy center ministry. What was a catalyst for your involvement?

GOEBEL: In 1980 I started Sav-A-Life, but it goes back to 1978. I had a lot of opportunities to speak on college campuses, and the purpose was to give the Gospel. And one evening I was speaking to one of the sororities, and I made this point: I said to them, you know, you young people, you come away from home and you are no longer under the responsibility of your parents. Sometimes you go a little bit overboard with your freedom. And I said a lot of the things can occur that can hurt you later on. One is alcohol -- it is very prevalent in the organizations you are involved in. I talked to them about drugs -- that you might find it here where you might not have found it before. The other thing is that pregnancies are way up, and I said you need to be careful because what is going to happen if you do have a boy that encourages you to have sex and you do have sex anytime? You are stuck with the pregnancy; normally the boy won't be there for you. One girl that heard me spoke to my wife Jean, and Jean told me that I needed to talk to her. Her father, I remember, was a doctor. She was, as she

said, a good girl, but she had got involved with a fraternity/sorority dinner and drank a little.

CNR: And one thing led to the other.

GOEBEL: She got pregnant. She didn't want to tell her parents. That's what she was afraid of. She wondered what we could do to help her. And we couldn't do anything. Not much later, I was invited up to Washington, to a meeting held by the Religious Roundtable.

CNR: Ed MacAteer.

GOEBEL: Yes. Their conference had different topics and I saw this one that said "Pro-life Issues." I went in and sat down, and I sat down next to a lady in the middle of a room that would hold about 500. And she and I were talking, having a good chat, and as they were about to start, I looked around and I was the only guy in the room. I thought I had better leave. And the lady I was sitting next to said it would be encouraging if you would stay. So I stayed.

The speaker was Dr. Carolyn Gerstner from Scottsdale, Arizona. She and her husband were Ob/Gyn doctors. They showed us the pictures from Life magazine featuring the Lennart Nilsson photographs of unborn babies. Well, I had never seen those, and my heart was burdened for the unborn. After it was over I told Mrs. Gerstner, "I don't know what in the world I can do. But I'm going to try to do something." And she patted me, and said, "You will."

So I came back to Birmingham and found that my board and my spouse opposed my involvement in the pro-life cause. One of my board members, the biggest financial donor, was so opposed to me getting involved he said to me that if I pursued this, then I could not count on his support. I pleaded with him, telling him there is nobody in this state that is doing this. And I said these kids are hurting and these children are dying. But he didn't see that.

CNR: What happened next?

GOEBEL: The next question I asked him was, "Will you support me financially?" He said "No, I can't do that." So that was a blow. So then I had two staff members that had been with me for years and they came and spoke to me, and they said I believe you're way out of line.

CNR: Out of line?

GOEBEL: Out of line. They believed I needed to stay with my calling. And I said "What is my calling?" I believe God can change your calling. But they didn't. So I wrestled with it and I finally went around to about nine churches where I had spoken - evangelical churches - and I asked him the question, what I'd like to do is come to your church and tell your people about abortion. They said it was too controversial. And I thought, probably like Martin Luther when he was facing the court, am I the only one right? Am I the only one that is right? Nobody that I talked to agreed with me. I went and I talked to my pastor who asked me, "Do you feel God has called you?" And I said, "Frank, God undoubtedly has called me because no one else wants to do it." He said, "Then you need to do it."

So it began to fall in place. So I wrote my prayer letter, that I had planned to do

something; I didn't know what I was going to do. I had no idea what I would do about possibly starting a ministry whereby I could assist girls facing crisis pregnancies.

Well, when the letter went out, Dr. Paul Peary called me. He said, "Wales, I got your letter. Come down and talk to me." So I went down and met with him and his colleagues. They were all pro-life doctors. And Paul said, "I've been praying for 10 years for someone like you. You are going to need a doctor. We are going to volunteer our services."

CNR: So the first Pregnancy Resource Center outreach opened here in Birmingham, Alabama?

Goebel: Yes, actually at my office over here at Pumhouse Road.

CNR: After meeting resistance by evangelicals, what did you do?

GOEBEL: I went over to Our Lady of Sorrows - a Catholic church. And I went in, and I wanted to meet the priest and tell him I'm interested in the life of these unborn children. And I said, "I'm concerned that I can't find any evangelical Protestant churches that are concerned about it."

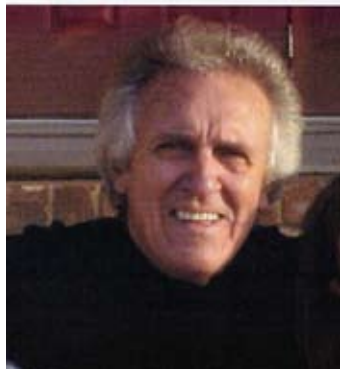
CNR: That's amazing.

GOEBEL: He said to me that life is always important to the Catholic. He said, "Mr. Goebel, I'd like to recommend that you go to Chicago." I asked him why. He said, "The Catholics are going to be having a conference up there on this very subject." And it was going to be in about two weeks. Well, I was going to be somewhere, so I called on a friend to go to Chicago on my behalf. He went, and when he came back he gave me a video of this woman having an abortion—

CNR: The Silent Scream.

GOEBEL: That's right.

CNR: It is interesting that you went to Our Lady of Sorrows. Joe Brown, our founder, was writing for Christianity Today magazine at the time of Roe v. Wade. And he wrote a little op ed - decrying this decision by the Supreme Court. And later he found himself decrying the state of the evangelical church because they were not doing anything about it. And the Christian Action Council was started with the help of several Catholics who said, "We need the Protestants involved, Joe." So they grabbed Joe Brown, and they said, "Start this thing," and they had Francis Schaeffer get the ball rolling too. And C. Everett Koop.



"I don't know what in the world I can do. But I'm going to try to do something."

GOEBEL: That's right. I read Schaeffer's book. A lot of those things. You know you get into it all of a sudden. You begin to read, and you begin to see what is really happening. And finally my church, which up to that time had been a little bit wishy-washy, got behind my effort to help girls in crisis. So that was how actually Lifeline Village came about. It was for that purpose.

CNR: Lifeline Village is the adoption agency.

GOEBEL: Lifeline Village is the home and Lifeline adoption agency came in 1981. Now all of this was happening when Jerry Falwell was getting his start. Falwell called me and

said, "I'm coming to Birmingham and I want to see you." And so I met him at the Civic Center. So Falwell said, "Wales, tell me about the Pregnancy Resource Center. And so I told him that God had put it on my heart. And he said he wanted to do something like that. He said, "I would like to move you to Lynchburg. And we'll put pregnancy centers up all over the country." And I said, "I'm not interested in being the one to implement that plan. If you want to send some of your people down here to Birmingham, we will train them." So he sent down about 10 people. Two of them stayed with Jean and me. That was about the time Bob Foust [currently serving Care Net as Regional Consultant] called and said, "I'm a preacher in West Virginia. I need to get involved in Pregnancy Resource Centers." So I told him to go to Auburn.

CNR: Wales, you have shared how Sav-A-Life Pregnancy Resource Centers got started, and how the Holy Spirit moved you, Jerry Falwell, and a Catholic priest. How many centers ended up under the Sav-A-Life umbrella?

GOEBEL: Well, when I left, there were 70. That's when I left. So you have these 70 pregnancy centers, and I was doing work through about the mid-80s. And in 2005, a group called Care Net called me... and the rest is history.

CNR: Wales, thanks for the time.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

UNITED KINGDOM

"Weaker" Twin Survives Attempted Abortion

BIRMINGHAM – After two attempts by doctors to end his life in the womb, Gabriel Jones refused to die and was born along with his twin brother.

The twins' mother, Rebecca Jones, told the *Daily Mail*, "It really is a miracle. Doctors carried out an operation to let Gabriel die - yet he hung on. It was unbelievable."

When Rebecca and Mark Jones' twin boys were at 20 weeks gestation, doctors told them that a scan showed Gabriel had an enlarged heart and was only half the size of his brother.



They said that Gabriel's condition could threaten the life of his brother and that he was unlikely to survive outside the womb. Gabriel and Ieuan are now both seven months old, weighing, respectively, 12 lb 6oz and 15 lb.

At the first attempt to end Gabriel's life, doctors tried unsuccessfully to sever his umbilical cord, but it proved too thick to cut. Doctors then decided to cut the placenta in

two to separate the two brothers' food and oxygen supplies, but were stunned to find the boy's heart still beating the next day. Rebecca told the *Daily Mail* that dividing the placenta had redistributed the children's nutrition supply, allowing Gabriel to grow stronger.

Gabriel and Ieuan were born by Caesarean section five weeks after the surgery.

The UK's *Daily Mail* carries a two-page photo spread showing Ieuan and Gabriel holding hands. Both children are perfectly healthy. Doctors had told the boys' parents that Gabriel would not be able to live after birth and that it would "be kinder to let him die in the womb."

Rebecca Jones told the *Daily Mail*, "Doctors carried out an operation to let Gabriel die - - - yet he hung on. It was unbelievable. When I felt him kicking madly the morning after the operation, I suddenly knew that he was going to hang on."

"There is such a strong bond between them," she said. "They are always holding hands and if one cries, the other reaches out to comfort him. Doctors tried to break their bond in the womb, but they just proved it couldn't be broken."

(Source: London Daily Mail, 11/3/07 By Luch Laing and LifeNews.com, 11/5/07, by Hilary White)

MISSOURI

Guilty Verdict in Pregnant Woman's Death

KANSAS CITY - A woman whose attorneys had argued that she was delusional when she killed an expectant mother, cut the baby from her womb and took the infant home, was found guilty.

Jurors convicted Lisa Montgomery, 39, of kidnapping resulting in death in the 2004 attack on 23-year-old Bobbie Jo Stinnett in the northwest Missouri town of Skidmore.

The jury deliberated for about four hours before rejecting Montgomery's insanity

defense. Jurors could have acquitted her outright or found her not guilty by reason of insanity. Prosecutors said they plan to seek the death penalty.

After the verdict was read, Montgomery dried her eyes and one of her attorneys patted her back. Her husband, Kevin, and Stinnett's husband, Zeb, showed no emotion.

Defense attorneys claimed Montgomery was suffering from pseudocyesis, which causes a woman to falsely believe she is pregnant and exhibit outward signs of pregnancy. They portrayed her as a victim of severe mental illness whose delusion of being pregnant was being threatened, causing her to enter a dreamlike state when the killing took place.

They also argued that she had post-traumatic stress disorder brought on by mental, physical and sexual abuse in her childhood.

Federal prosecutor Roseann Ketchmark called the pseudocyesis claim "voodoo science" during closing arguments.

"It's not pseudocyesis or post-traumatic stress disorder," Ketchmark said. "And even if you wrap them up and put delusions around them, it's not insanity."

Ketchmark said Montgomery plotted the slaying and abduction and took pains to cover up that planning after she was caught.

"She knows she's not pregnant," the prosecutor said. "It's no delusion. It's deceit and manipulation."

Montgomery had undergone a tubal ligation in 1990 after the birth of her fourth child. But soon after, she began falsely reporting a series of pregnancies. In 2004, she claimed to be due in mid-December.

Ketchmark said Montgomery believed her ex-husband, Carl Boman, would expose that

she was lying about being pregnant and use it against her as he sought custody of two of the couple's four children. A custody hearing had been set for January 2005.

Montgomery's mother and sister also had been telling Montgomery's husband and his parents that it was impossible for her to carry a child.

As Montgomery's purported Dec. 13, 2004, due date approached, she began conducting Internet searches on Stinnett and researching different aspects of childbirth. The defense portrayed those efforts as evidence that she believed she was pregnant; the prosecution called them proof of premeditation.

Prosecutors said Montgomery used a rope to choke Stinnett, who was eight months pregnant. But Stinnett was conscious and trying to defend herself as Montgomery used a kitchen knife to cut the baby girl from the womb, prosecutors said.

Montgomery was arrested the day after the killing after spending the morning showing off the infant as her own in her hometown of Melvern, Kansas.

Montgomery's attorneys and a spokesman for Stinnett's family declined to comment. Stinnett's baby is living with her family.

"The only good thing that comes from this tragedy is that little Victoria is a healthy baby and is reunited with her family," U.S. Attorney John F. Wood said.

After initially denying the crime, Montgomery told investigators she had taken a knife, rope and umbilical cord clamp with her to Stinnett's home. Montgomery said she had thought she was leaving the home when "something out of character" happened and "then this took place."

Attorneys are to start arguing Wednesday whether Montgomery deserves the death penalty.

(Source: Associated Press, By Andale Gross. Writer Heather Hollingsworth contributed to this report, 10/22/07)

MASSACHUSETTS

Abortion Death Case Slowly Progressing

HYANNIS — Eileen and Tom Smith had just sat down to watch the evening news when they received a call no parent ever wants to get. The woman on the other end of the line was hysterical. She said the Smiths' 22-year-old daughter, Laura, was in the emergency room at Cape Cod Hospital. The doctors were looking for next of kin.

And there was more. Laura Smith had been pregnant for 13 weeks. And, earlier that day, she had been at a clinic that provides abortions.

As it turned out, the Sandwich resident had already died by the time she arrived at Cape Cod Hospital, hospital spokesman David Reilly said.

Just what killed Laura Smith is still pending — a fact that evokes frustration for Eileen Smith and her husband, Tom. And since that horrible phone call on Sept. 13, Eileen Smith has made it her mission to find out who, if anyone, can be held accountable for her beloved daughter's death.

Laura Smith's passing has also ignited the local and national anti-abortion movement. Two weeks after she died, Operation Rescue, a national organization, called for a criminal investigation. "The Anchor" newsletter of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Fall River, which includes Barnstable County, reported on the death in its Oct. 12 issue, according to diocese spokesman John Kearns. Smith's story was also picked up by the Christian Newswire.

Eileen Smith wants more information about what led to her daughter's death. She is now represented by a Boston lawyer who filed a complaint for discovery Oct. 4 in Barnstable Superior Court to obtain medical records and autopsy results.

Named in the court complaint are Cape Cod Hospital, the state medical examiner's office, Cape & Island Center for Women's Health at 68 Camp St., and gynecologist Rapin Osathanondh, a state-licensed physician with offices at 68 Camp St. and in Brookline.

Osathanondh did not respond to two phone messages left on his cell phone requesting an interview. His attorney also did not return a call requesting an interview. A *Times* reporter also went to the women's health clinic, but Osathanondh was not available.

In the next few days, Smith plans to file for administrative control over her daughter's estate, she said Thursday. A parent does not automatically have access to a deceased, adult child's medical records, according to attorney Frank Riccio of Braintree, who serves on a health law panel of the Massachusetts Bar Association.

Abortions in Massachusetts

Number of abortions:

2004: 24,366

2005: 23,268

Source: Massachusetts Department of Public Health

Once the parent becomes the administrator of the estate, then that person can file for medical records through federal medical privacy law authorizations, Riccio said. Smith is also interviewing medical professionals and friends, searching the Internet and medical databases and reading her daughter's diary to try to get some answers, she said.

"We didn't even know our daughter was pregnant," said Smith, a former Sandwich resident who now lives in Florida.

She said her daughter was engaged and her fiance knew about the pregnancy.

FATAL CLINIC VISIT

On the day she died, Laura Smith went to the women's health clinic with her friend Karen Trott of Dennisport, for the first of two appointments that day, Trott said.

Smith received an initial treatment, to prepare for the abortion that would take place later in the afternoon. She was not allowed to drive, so the two women spent the day together, with Trott driving, running errands and talking, Trott said.

"I couldn't eat all day long because she couldn't eat."

At around 4 p.m. Smith and Trott returned to the clinic and waited for Smith to be called into the office.

Trott left for a short time at around 5 p.m., thinking the procedure would be done in about 15 minutes. When she returned she waited and waited, becoming increasingly upset, she said.

"And then all of a sudden (an assistant) comes out and says she's not breathing," Trott said. "And I was like, what do you mean she's not breathing?"

Rescuers from the Hyannis Fire Department were sent to 68 Camp St. at 5:49 p.m. on Sept. 13, performed CPR on an unnamed patient and transferred the person to Cape Cod Hospital, according to a fire official. He could not reveal the name of the patient because of medical privacy laws.

Trott drove to the hospital as well and asked to see Smith but wasn't allowed to do so. When she asked about Smith's status, she was told, "It doesn't look good."

It was Trott who called Eileen and Tom Smith.

The state medical examiner hasn't determined the cause of Smith's death, a state spokesman said. And Cape & Islands District Attorney Michael O'Keefe is awaiting those results before determining whether further action should be taken, he said.

Eileen Smith met with Osathanondh in the lobby of the Boston Harbor Hotel in

Boston about 10 days after Laura's death.

Smith said she learned from Osathanondh that her daughter had a suction-type abortion, and that she was anesthetized during the procedure. She saw the waiver her daughter signed, the permissions she gave and the list of drugs she was given, Smith said.

She declined to give further details, citing the court case.

Abortion-related death is rare in the United States, according to government statistics.

Source: Cape Cod Times, By Mary Ann Bragg, 10/21/07

VIRGINIA

Man Gets Five Years for Causing Girlfriend's Abortion

Hampton -- A Virginia man has been sentenced to five years in prison for trying to cause his girlfriend to have an abortion. Daniel Riase, 21, was charged with trying to poison his girlfriend and administering a drug with the intention of causing an abortion or miscarriage.

Riase was arrested on February 25 when he spiked his girlfriend's drink and caused the abortion.

Hampton Police Cpl. Allison Good indicated that Riase allegedly crushed two misoprostol pills, used in the abortion drug RU 486, and put them in the drink of his 19-year-old partner I-Sharii Best. He purchased the drugs online.

After consuming the drink, Best began to bleed and drove herself to Sentara Careplex Hospital in Hampton. There, medical officials confirmed she had a miscarriage about 11 weeks into the pregnancy.

Best had considered an abortion and, in fact, had made and later canceled an appointment before Riase spiked the drink.

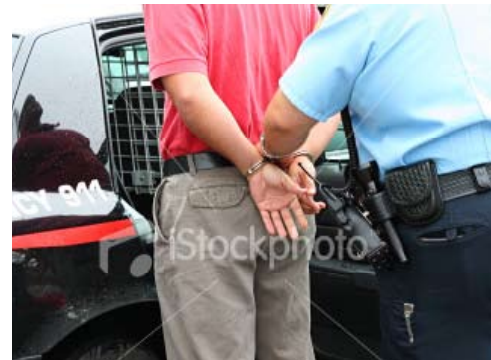
She thought she had had a miscarriage

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

naturally, but later found an email on Riase's computer with a receipt for the purchase.

Best previously said Riase wasn't happy when she told him in January that she was pregnant with his child. He had talked frequently about not wanting to be a father, she said, and had pressured her to have an abortion but she refused.

The dispute over the abortion led to a fight where Riase hit Best and it led to assault charges,



but she later dropped them when he pretended to be interested in the baby and appeared supportive of her health and well-being.

"I'm angry, and I'm upset, and I'm still a little shocked that it went this far," Best said at the time. "He was acting like he was being supportive, but he was just putting on a front all along because he had already ordered the pills."

Best, who attends Old Dominion University, said she was "excited" about the pregnancy.

Riase pleaded guilty to one count of aggravated malicious wounding leading to the involuntary termination of a woman's pregnancy and one count of adulterating a drink.

According to the *Daily Press* newspaper, Hampton Circuit Court Judge William C.

Andrews III sentenced Riase to 35 years in prison. Riase will serve five of the years and the other 30 are suspended.

Riase must be on good behavior for 20 years or face additional prison time, he must have a DNA sample given to the state for its criminal records, and he is on supervised probation indefinitely.

"I was surprised that he could be sentenced to life in prison," Best told the *Daily Press* before the sentencing hearing. "But I hope they do lock him up for a while because he needs to know what he did was wrong."

Officials charged him after Best taped a phone conversation in which he admitted to buying the pills and putting them in her drink. (Source: *LifeNews.com*, By Steven Ertelt, 10/16/07)

Worldwide Illegal Abortion Study Relies on Bogus and Biased Information

The abortion fundamentalists at the Alan Guttmacher Institute have an ax to grind. Guttmacher styles itself the "research arm of Planned Parenthood," but it may more properly be called its lobbying arm.

In its new report on abortions worldwide, Guttmacher makes several claims. These fall into two broad, overlapping categories. The first consists of ploys to raise more funds for the population control-abortion crowd. The second, intended to pander to radical feminists, consists of veiled pleas to legalize abortion, couched in the form of arguments.

Guttmacher claims that the number of induced abortions worldwide declined from nearly 46 million to under 42 million between 1995 and 2003. "Significantly, the abortion rate for 2003 was roughly equal in developed and developing regions ... despite abortion being largely illegal in developing regions."

In actual fact, neither Guttmacher nor

anyone else knows how many abortions have been performed worldwide in this year or any other year. Guttmacher's numbers may be reasonably accurate for countries with socialized medicine, like Great Britain, where accurate records are kept. But for other developed countries, like the United States, they are at best educated guesses. Abortion may be legal, but its proponents have kept it deliberately shrouded in secrecy.

As far as the numbers given for the developing world, they are simply bogus. Take the case of Colombia, for example. In the hysteria surrounding the effort to legalize abortion there, the feminists kept advancing higher and higher numbers. The numbers of illegal [hence "unsafe"] abortions spiraled upward at a dizzying pace—250,000, 300,000, 450,000. All fantasy.

I interviewed the Vice Minister for Health of Colombia on September 28th of this year. She informed me that, since the legalization of abortion in that country on May 10th of last year, the Ministry for Social Protection's health clinics had performed approximately 50 abortions. Not 50,000, or 5,000, or even 500. Fifty. This is several orders of magnitude smaller than predicted.

Why, you may ask, does the Guttmacher crowd play fast and loose with zeros? Because they are deliberately exaggerating the magnitude of the problem in order to create a "health crisis." After all, the more women they can claim have "unsafe" abortions, the more women they can claim die as a result. The numbers are merely chips in a high-stakes poker game to legalize abortion-on-demand worldwide.

Another Guttmacher claim is that the number of abortions has "fall[en] most where abortion is broadly legal." "On the whole, the abortion rate decreased more in developed countries, where abortion is generally safe and legal on broad grounds ... than in developing countries, where the procedure is largely illegal and unsafe." This statement is speculative at best, since there are no hard numbers where clandestine abortions are concerned. Again,

Guttmacher invents absurdly large numbers of "unsafe abortions," which then enable it to claim that the abortion rate plummets with legalization (and the collection of real statistics).

"We know, and the new evidence confirms yet again, that the best way to make abortion less necessary is to help women avoid unwanted pregnancies in the first place." Or so says Guttmacher. Yes, well, in China the number of abortions has declined from 15 million to only 9 million, not because of the wider availability of contraceptives, but because so many women have been sterilized. The same is true in Vietnam and several other countries which have seen government-run sterilization campaigns.

Guttmacher's final claim is that "unsafe abortion remains a major global health challenge." Dr. Sharon Camp, president and CEO of the Institute, maintains that "... we know that the crucial first step in making abortion safer is to legalize the procedure, ensuring that it is performed by skilled providers under the best possible conditions. It's high time for policymakers worldwide to renew their commitment to women's health by addressing these crucial issues."

Legalized abortion is never "safe" for



OUR MINISTRY

OPTION LINE REPORT



Columbus, OH – Reprinted below are conversations that took place involving the Option Line Call Center & Website. Actual names have been changed to protect the client identity.

AN EMAIL TO OPTION LINE

Hey,
It's me again well you probably don't remember talking to me but anyway I just wanted to thank you guys for the support and advise you gave me earlier in my pregnancy. Just for an update I had a beautiful little girl on September 4, 2007 she's perfect I love her to death. I also decided I didn't want her father in her life because well one he raped me and I don't want him to do the same to her and two he's a really bad person. But me and my daughter are both doing really good and getting by fine. I stayed in school and plan to graduate. Well thanks again for all your guys support. This is my daughter Lilly (Picture removed from email)

AN EMAIL TO OPTION LINE

Hello,
I am struggling deeply at the moment with an unplanned pregnancy. I am not one of those who knew instantly that they wanted abortion. I guess, if I am honest, I want the baby but am flooded by the knowledge that I cannot have it. The hurt and pain which I would cause are immeasurable. The father is insisting on a termination. Despite all of this, I spend every waking moment not knowing which decision to take. I cry reading about abortion and just know that it

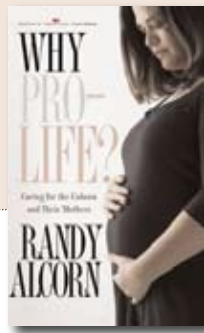
is not something which sits easily with me. If you have any words of advice, I would be very grateful! with many thanks,
Caroline

After receiving the e-mail, one of our Option Line consultants compassionately responded to Caroline's cry for help. Often we don't know what happens, but in this case Caroline was moved to write back a month later and tell us what her decision was...

Dear Monica,
I wanted to drop you a quick line to thank you for your kind help a few weeks ago and for putting me in touch with some centres in France. Despite total lack of support from the father, I have decided to keep the baby and am now 11 weeks. Thank you again,
Caroline

The Option Line Call Center & Website are jointly operated and owned by Care Net and our friends at Heartbeat International.





ALWAYS BE PREPARED TO GIVE AN ANSWER

By Todd Dickinson

WHY PRO-LIFE?

By Randy Alcorn

Eternal Perspectives Ministries

2004 (120 pages)

In 1 Peter 3:15, we are called by the apostle to “always be prepared to give an answer to anyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.” While this instruction referred to our hope and belief in Jesus Christ, it is sound advice to those of us who believe in and have hope for the pro-life cause.

With his book *Why Pro-Life?* best-selling author Randy Alcorn offers pro-lifers blocks of sound reason with which to build the foundation of their beliefs. He also gives pro-choice and undecided readers many reasons for pause as they reflect on their own positions.

He begins by asking the question: Why talk about abortion at all? Citing an example from his own experience, he tells of being asked by a high school social sciences teacher to speak to his class from the pro-life position. Alcorn’s visit followed a presentation to the class from a representative of the National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL).

Upon arriving for his talk, the pro-choice teacher informed him that after hearing from the NARAL speaker, his students had voted 23-1 in favor of the

pro-choice stance.

Undaunted, Alcorn presented his case for the humanity and rights of unborn children. He showed intrauterine photographs demonstrating the development of the unborn at the earliest stages that abortions are performed.

After class, the teacher said to him, “If I were to take another vote, the outcome would be different. Minds were changed.” He then added a statement which Alcorn found remarkable: “You know, until today, I had never heard the pro-life side of this argument.”

Hence the need for an apologetic resource like *Why Pro-Life?* to encourage lifers to engage the culture of death and get in the debate with confidence.

Whether that debate revolves around the question of when life begins, or the right to an abortion when the pregnancy is due to rape or incest, or the health of the mother, Alcorn lays out the arguments for the pro-life standpoint in a logical, well-reasoned volume.

Interestingly, Alcorn, who is a Christian, doesn’t make many arguments from the Bible in this book. (He reminds readers that he has done that elsewhere). Instead, he uses medical science, psychological studies, and a healthy dose of common sense. Given the fact that two-thirds of the abortions in America are performed on those who claim to be Christians, maybe this is the best approach.

(continued on page 20)



TRUTH ON AISLE FOUR

My friend only meant to run into the store for a loaf of bread. What she got was something altogether different.

While maneuvering through the carts on the bread aisle, she ran into a woman who had been through an incredibly difficult season: her husband had passed away, she had endured breast cancer, and her daughter-in-law had tragically died in a fire just before Christmas.

“How have you been?” The words stuck in my friend’s mouth.

“All I can tell you is that right now I’m hanging on to the words in II Chronicles 20. When an enormous swarm of enemies was coming against King Jehoshaphat, do you know what he did? His response was not to succumb to panic or sit down in defeat. He prayed. And I feel like he was speaking for me when he ended his prayer by confessing to the Lord, ‘We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you.’”

The encounter on aisle four yielded a crystallized statement of the woman’s worldview, a biblical worldview that informed her daily living. On January 20, we will stand together on Sanctity of Human Life Sunday to again voice our biblical worldview of human life. In our churches and places of worship, the proclamation of Sanctity of Human Life Sunday by the President is a platform for the Church to repeat from the pulpit what God says about what it means to be part of the human family.

On that Sunday, Care Net distributes 1.5 million brochures that reaffirm the fact “that an individual human life is absolutely unique, inviolable, irreplaceable, non-

interchangeable, not substitutable, and not meldable with other lives,” as Dr. Paul Ramsey so clearly states. Could I challenge you to examine new ways that you can be involved in protecting the unborn, the weak and the elderly? Could Sanctity of Human Life Sunday 2008 serve as an occasion of recommitment and intentional outreach in our own lives?

How tragic that a few weeks after we celebrate the birth that changed history, we mourn the ruling that denies birth to millions, but I pray daily that you will be encouraged in the fierce fight for the sanctity of human life. And I pray that we will all be like the woman who used the grocery cart as a pulpit for sharing her worldview as we use every means available to speak truth in our communities.

John Stott, in *Issues Facing Christians Today*, says, “All our philanthropic work—that is, work inspired by love for human beings—depends on our evaluation of them. The higher our view of their worth, the more we shall want to serve them.” I am so grateful for the thousands of staff and more than 25,000 volunteers who put feet to their biblical worldview by service to local crisis pregnancy centers.

I am so grateful for your compassionate—and many times sacrificial—giving, which allows us to implement creative ways to serve the women and men who are coming to our centers. For those scared and uncertain, vulnerable and hurting ones who come through the doors, call on the option line, or send a text message, I say thank you. What you are accomplishing in view of eternity is yet to be told.

In Him,

Melinda W. Delahoyde

MEDIA PROVIDES COVER FOR PLANNED PARENTHOOD

As much as liberals decry major corporations that act as if they're above the law, they're always quiet when the subject is Planned Parenthood, America's number one corporate provider of abortions. During its 2005-2006 fiscal year, the Planned Parenthood Federation of America performed a record 264,943 abortions, reported a tidy profit of \$55.8 million – and received a record high in taxpayer funding of \$305.3 million.

This is one corporation the media hold in the highest regard. They're not “merchants of death.” That would be the tobacco companies, or gun manufacturers, or hamburger joints. These are the heroic “providers” of “a woman's right to choose.”

They're also sleazy in their business practices. In Aurora, Illinois, Planned Parenthood planned to build the biggest abortion clinic in the country, but they lied by omission to the city. Throughout the construction process, the McDonald's of the abortion industry applied for permits by listing the owner as “Gemini Office Development,” not as Planned Parenthood. ABC News to the rescue! Barbara Pinto

filed a report on the September 19 “World News,” suggesting black was white. “Planned Parenthood denies they've deceived anyone,” she stated, adding that their spokesman in Chicago said they were “entirely truthful.” Pinto proceeded to blame Aurora's officials for being dimwitted: “None of the city officials or elected officials were aware that Planned Parenthood would be the tenant in this building. That, despite the fact that plans they approved included a surgical center, bulletproof glass and numerous security cameras.” ABC ended by quoting the clinic's neighbors wishing the pro-lifers would stop protesting: “I just wish that they'd go home. I'm tired of seeing their signs.”

Down the highway in Kansas, Johnson County District Attorney Phil Kline just filed 107 charges against Planned Parenthood, charging that its clinic in Overland Park, Kansas performed unlawful late-term

abortions. Kansas state law holds that abortion is legal only when a doctor affirms that the baby is not viable to live outside the mother's womb. If the baby can live, then two doctors must attest the abortion is necessary for the woman's physical or mental health. That's why clinic records are an issue.

The 23 felony counts allege that Planned Parenthood submitted false “pregnancy termination reports” to a court on August 21 in response to a subpoena. District Court Judge James S. Vano agreed there was probable cause to think crimes had been committed and set a November 16 court date.

Planned Parenthood faces more than \$2.5 million in potential fines.

But you'll not see a story virtually anywhere on this budding scandal because the press studiously avoids scrutiny of its liberal sacred cows – or focuses its guns on that person who would dare to get in their way. They'd lionize a state official attacking crisis pregnancy centers that try to talk women out of abortions. But investigate the abortion industry, and you're a national disgrace.

In 2005 Kline was demonized by glossy national magazines like GQ as the man “who will do anything to stop abortion.” In that GQ article, his local Planned Parenthood adversary, Peter Brownlie, was allowed to make the ridiculous claim that, “Planned Parenthood, by its efforts to prevent unintended pregnancies, has prevented more abortions than any anti-abortion group that has ever existed. They talk. We do.”

So pro-lifers should applaud Planned

Parenthood – for not killing every baby it encounters.

Now comes another ABC News story on its website, with a fresh liberal tilt. ABC's Emily Friedman began by suggesting Kline was “either an agenda-driven prosecutor operating outside the law or one of the best friends the anti-abortion rights movement has ever had.”

Not only are pro-lifers not “pro-life,” they're not even “abortion foes.” They're now – in a news report, remember -- “anti-rights.” Friedman unloaded the critical comments of liberals: not just Planned Parenthood's Brownlie, but Kansas professor Burdett Loomis (whom even she noted was a strategist for the Democratic governor of Kansas in 2004), and Kim Gandy, the boss of the National Organization for Women, who lionized Dr. George Tiller, the champion of hideous third-trimester abortions, as “one of the very few who has the courage to do this kind of work.”

A Kline spokesman tried to rebut the claims of “critics,” but it was hopeless. The overall tone of the piece was how Kline is not only ruining the “choice” of third-trimester abortions for desperate women, his pro-life agenda is ruining the Republican Party on the plains. ABC's expert analyst, Professor Loomis the Democrat, who concluded the article: “I think even within the Republican Party, this is a guy who has probably outlived his welcome.”

Planned Parenthood is a formidable force in national (and state) politics. One major reason is networks like ABC, news outlets that don't really care whether this corporation plays by the rules, as long as the abortion assembly line keeps running.

(Source: LifeNews.com, 10/24/07, By Brent Bozell. Bozell is the founder and president of the Media Research Center, a watchdog organization.)



the baby being aborted, of course. Neither is there any reason to assume that the legalization of abortion will instantly bring medical facilities up-to-date and start money pouring into rural clinics. Abortion, legal or not, is an invasive medical procedure with the potential for many complications and health risks.

This is Guttmacher's first global review of abortion since 1995, perhaps because its numbers the first time around were so risible that they were disinclined to

attempt it again. But with pro-aborts in the Congress determined to kill the Mexico City policy, and to give money to International Planned Parenthood Federation and other abortion-performing groups, it probably seemed like an excellent time to trot out the same old tired arguments.

(Source: *LifeSiteNews.com*, By Steven Mosher, 10/12/07. Mosher is president of the Population Research Institute.

Book Report (continued from page 19)

Alcorn's stated hope is that in reading this book, pro-choice minds are changed, fence-sitters are convinced, and pro-lifers strengthened. At only 120 pages, it is a highly readable, fact-packed, engaging vehicle for thought that may just accomplish all three of his goals.

Perhaps the best reason for using this book to polish up your pro-life argument is found in the last sentence of chapter one. It reads: If abortion really does kill children and harm women, then there is too much at stake to stand on the fringes and do nothing.

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