



# Footprints

THE NEWSLETTER OF  
Right To Life New Zealand Inc.

*Defending life from conception to natural death*

December Issue Vol 16, No. 3, 2009

Circulation 2000/Target 5000

## Family Planning Seeks Licence to Kill Unborn Children

***There is a War against our Unborn Children and Family Planning has Chosen Hamilton as the next Battlefield***

The Family Planning Association made an application to the Abortion Supervisory Committee [ASC] on the 29 July 2009 for an abortion licence to kill unborn children up to 9 weeks gestation at its Hamilton clinic. It is their intention to perform medical abortions using the lethal drug Mifegyne RU486. The Association had previously announced in a media release in March that the Council of Family Planning had resolved to seek an abortion licence for its 30 clinics in New Zealand.

Dame Margaret Sparrow stated that, "Safe and accessible abortion services are an integral part of good reproductive health care," she claimed; "Applying for this licence is consistent with that philosophy of access and choice." It is time for New Zealand to wake up, we are engaged in a war against our children and Family Planning have chosen Hamilton as the latest battle ground in this war. This war will be coming to your area soon. The Waikato District Health

Board has announced that they support the application for an abortion licence for the Association's Hamilton clinic. Right to Life supports the courageous citizens of Hamilton who have opposed the plan of Family Planning to kill the unborn children of the Waikato at their Hamilton clinic. They have called upon God's intervention through 40 days of prayer outside the Family Planning clinic On Friday 23 October a group of citizens organised by Sue Rowe of the Nationwide Abortion Prayer Network Team held a prayerful and peaceful vigil outside the Family Planning clinic in Hamilton. The team have also organized petitions to Parliament opposing the granting of an abortion licence to Family Planning. There are two petitions, one for residents of the Waikato to sign and the second for persons outside the area covered by the Waikato District Health Board. Readers are encouraged to support

**continued on page 3**



***"To make abortion even more available and to equate it with other means of family planning is a backward step in terms of reducing the number of abortions on New Zealand."***

The New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference  
November 20, 2009

### IN THIS ISSUE

Family Planning Seeks Licence to Kill Unborn Children	1-3
Down Syndrome - Search and Destroy	2
Abortion Supervisory Committee	3
New Study - Mental Health Issues	4-5
Dr Philip Nitschke (Dr Death)	5
Court of Appeal -Judicial Review	6
News in Brief	6-8
World News	9-15

**FOOTPRINTS**

is the quarterly publication of  
Right to Life New Zealand Inc.

Editor: Ken Orr

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

*The Officers:*

President: Peter Coleman

Vice Presidents: Ken Orr,  
Philip Creed

Treasurer:

*Other Committee Members:*

Henry Allison, Herman Jansen,  
John Collier, David Malcolm,  
Andy Moore

**PATRONS**

Emeritus Bishop John Cunneen D.D.  
Father Patrick Kennedy  
Rev. J. A. Haverland B.A., B.D., Th.M.  
Councillor Carol Evans Q.S.O., J.P.  
Dr. Norman MacLean, O&G  
Mrs Nina Barry-Martin

*ASK A FRIEND!*

Subscription to this Newsletter is free  
with membership of this society

**YES I would like to JOIN**

- \$10 Single     \$12 Family
- \$15 Group

NAME:.....

ADDRESS:.....

PHONE:.....

Cheques to be made payable to  
and subscription may be sent to:

Right to Life New Zealand Inc.  
P.O. Box 668,  
CHRISTCHURCH 8140  
Phone: (03) 385 6111  
Fax: (03) 386 0447  
Email: rtl@right-to-life.org  
Web Page: [www.righttolife.org.nz](http://www.righttolife.org.nz)

*"Woe to you  
if you do not  
defend life"  
John Paul II*

# Down Syndrome, Search and Destroy - National Programme

The screening of unborn babies for Down syndrome with a new national screening programme is a further manifestation of a culture of death. It is a search and destroy programme that has as its sole objective the termination of the lives of unborn children.



Human life begins at conception and at that point the newly conceived life is endowed by its Creator with inalienable human rights, the foundation right is a right to life. Our human rights are both inalienable and universal. The termination of the life of the unborn child is a violation of the human rights of the unborn child. A child does not forfeit its right to life because it has Down syndrome. An abortion is the ultimate discrimination against those with a disability.

This is eugenics which proclaims that only the perfect have a right to be born. The screening programme is a further major step on the slippery slope. The government seeks to conceal the true purpose of the programme by calling it a "quality improvement" rather than national screening programme. The government states that it is providing a service to families by giving them a choice whether to terminate the life of the child with Down syndrome or to allow the child to be born. We should be aware that this is part of a strategy of social conditioning. Right to Life contends that the government has decided that children with Down syndrome are not valued or wanted in our community. Its intention then, is to encourage families to abort children with Down syndrome. The insidious option to terminate the life of the child will ultimately become a duty to kill the child before birth.

With the acceptance of eugenics ultimately it may be expected that with the rationing of diminishing health resources that health care for the disabled will be restricted.

The screening programme denies that unborn children with Down syndrome have an important contribution to make to the family and society; they should be valued, loved and respected.

The government should withdraw the screening programme and promote a culture of life by ensuring that families that have unborn children with Down syndrome receive compassion and are given all the encouragement, support needed to bring their child to birth. After the birth of their child they should be provided with the services necessary to assist them in providing for the special needs of their child. Right to Life made a media release on the 10<sup>th</sup> November on this important issue.

continued from page 1

these petitions. They may be downloaded from our Society's web site [www.righttolife.org.nz](http://www.righttolife.org.nz) The Catholic Bishops Conference have issued a media release on 20 November, opposing the granting of an abortion licence to Family Planning stating, "In 2008 nearly 18,000 New Zealanders were killed by abortion. To make abortion even more available and to equate it with other means of family planning is a backward step in terms of reducing the number of abortions on New Zealand." The Bishops have also written to government Ministers expressing their concern.

Right to Life has made a written submission to the ASC opposing this application. It is known that the ASC at the time of this newsletter going to print, that approval for a abortion licence had not been given. Right to Life has also written to the Minister of Health, the Hon Tony Ryall requesting that government funding not be given to Family Planning to perform abortions. The Minister replied on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November; "that neither the Minister of Justice nor I can influence the Committee's decision. I cannot guarantee that a district health board will not choose to contract with a Family Planning Association Clinic to provide these service should the Association be granted a licence. The Minister had previously advised that "the Association would have to put forward a formal proposal asking for funding and no proposal has been received. I would expect the Ministry of Health to discuss any proposal with me." A further letter has been sent to the Minister asking why the Minister cannot exercise control by refusing government funding to Family Planning. A letter was sent in October to every Member of Parliament expressing our Society's opposition to the granting of abortion licences to Family Planning and to government funding for Family Planning to perform abortions. It is disappointing that of the 19 MP's who responded only two expressed concern or opposition to Family Planning being granted abortion licences or government funding for abortions.

## Abortion Supervisory Committee

The Abortion Supervisory Committee provided our Society under the Official Information Act with details of the fees paid to the top 20 certifying consultants for the year ended 30 June 2009. Certifying consultants receive a fee paid by the Justice Dept of \$135 for a consultation with a woman seeking an abortion. The fee for a telephone consultation by the first consultant, with the second consultant is \$35. The fees are payable regardless of whether or not the woman proceeds to an abortion. Right to Life is opposed to the government paying what is in effect blood money for authorising the killing of an unborn child. It is noted that 98% of requests from women for an abortion are approved.

### Top 20 Payments to Certifying Consultants and Number Justified/Not Justified End of Year ended 30 June 2009

	Total Payments (GST Exclusive)	Justified	Not Justified
1	195,927.06	1363	5
2	160,785.00	1213	11
3	155,349.04	1227	11
4	151,098.12	1122	8
5	134,055.01	868	3
6	131,625.01	972	22
7	130,815.04	976	1
8	127,575.09	844	22
9	126,493.24	823	5
10	122,445.01	570	1
11	113,400.09	743	3
12	112,860.06	771	4
13	104,234.04	774	3
14	95,748.02	768	2
15	94,365.02	493	19
16	90,180.00	570	0
17	86,512.03	600	20
18	85,455.00	623	10
19	81,945.05	524	29
20	81,405.05	593	10

## Induced Abortions by Complications

The Committee advised that for the year ending December 2008 that there were 97 complications reported following an abortion i.e. a rate of 0.5% of the 17,940 abortions performed in 2008. There were 17,843 abortions without a reported complication. The major complications reported were, retained placenta/products, 43, Haemorrhage [500ml or more], 16, perforation of Uterus and other, 3. Right to Life contends that the low numbers of complications is astounding and believes that there is substantial under reporting.

# New Study Shows 85 Percent of Women Say Abortions Cause Mental Health Issues



*Professor David Fergusson*

Washington, DC (LifeNews.com) -- A new report from researchers at the Christchurch Health and Development Study at the Otago University Christchurch medical school in New Zealand indicates 85 percent of women who had abortions report negative mental health issues as a result. The report is the latest from Professor David Fergusson and his team showing abortions cause problems for women.

The University of Otago team examined the medical history of over 500 women and concluded having an abortion generally "leads to significant distress in some" women who have them.

It noted women reporting adverse reactions to their abortions were up to 80 percent more likely to have mental health problems and risk of mental illness was "proportional to the degree of distress" associated with the abortion.

The study, which appears in the latest issue of the *British Journal of Psychiatry*, examined data from women who had been interviewed six times between the ages of 15 and 30 and who were asked if they were pregnant and, if so, the outcome of the pregnancy.

More than 85 percent of women reported negative reactions to their abortions including sorrow, sadness, guilt, regret, grief and disappointment. The study revealed that women who have abortions face more negative mental health problems resulting from that pregnancy outcome as



compared with women who keep their baby and carry to term. Women having abortions had rates of mental health problems "approximately 1.4 to 1.8 times higher than women not exposed to abortion." The study as a whole, under-reported the abortions that they had. Through comparisons with data for the general population, it was apparent that women in the study reported only 85 per cent of the abortions that they actually procured.

Ultimately, Fergusson and his team said there is little justification for saying that legal abortions should be promoted on the basis of a improving a woman's mental health.

"Collectively, this evidence raises important questions about the practice of justifying termination of pregnancy on the grounds that this procedure will reduce risks of mental health problems in women having unwanted pregnancy," the team wrote.

The team said the study showed no reason to "support strong pro-choice positions that claim unwanted pregnancy terminated by

abortion is without mental health risks."

The new study is a follow-up to a study done in 2005 which revealed that women who have abortions are more likely to become severely depressed.

The original 2006 study found some 42 percent of the women who had abortions had experienced major depression within the last four years. That's almost double the rate of women who never became pregnant. The risk of anxiety disorders also doubled.

According to the study, women who have abortions were twice as likely to drink alcohol at dangerous levels and three times as likely to be addicted to illegal drugs.

"this evidence raises important questions about the practice of justifying termination of pregnancy on the grounds that this procedure will reduce risks of mental health problems in women having unwanted pregnancy,"  
Professor David Fergusson.

continued from page 4

A second study Fergusson's team released found that women who had abortions had rates of mental health problems about 30% higher than other women. The conditions most associated with abortion included anxiety disorders and substance abuse disorders.

The authors concluded that anywhere from 1.5 to 5.5 percent of all mental health disorders seen in New Zealand result from women having abortions.

British Victims of Abortion, which helps women who suffer medical and mental health problems after an abortion, has welcomed the results of the new report.

Margaret Cuthill of BVA commented: "What we at British Victims of Abortion hear in the counseling room confirms the truth of Professor Fergusson's results."

## Dr Philip Nitschke, [Dr Death]

Dr Nitschke, in July conducted public meetings in Dunedin, Nelson, Wellington and Auckland. Right to Life wrote to the management of the four venues where Dr Nitschke was scheduled to speak, to express disappointment that that they were prepared to provide him with a venue to promote suicide and asked them to cancel Dr Nitschke's meeting. The scheduled meeting for Christchurch was cancelled after the YWCA commendably withdrew its venue after learning the purpose of the meeting. The Auckland City Council which owned the Auckland venue, advised that it would be a violation of the New Zealand Bill of Rights to refuse to hire their venue to Dr Nitschke. It was the intention of Dr Nitschke to launch a controversial drug testing kit for the lethal barbiturate drug Nembutal. This drug is a Class C prohibited drug. It is unlawful for any person, unless one is a veterinary surgeon, to purchase, import or have in ones possession, this drug. Dr Nitschke, continues to encourage persons to commit a crime by traveling to Mexico to purchase the drug or to order it on the internet and then unlawfully smuggle it through Customs into New Zealand. Section 58 of the Crimes Act states that it is a criminal offence to incite, counsel or assist in suicide. It is contended that Dr Nitschke is also in violation of this law.

Dr Nitschke promotes suicide, self murder as a human right even for depressed teenagers. Dr Nitschke has a right to free speech; he has no right to use that freedom to undermine the common good by promoting a culture of death.

Dr Nitschke conducts public meetings around the world, He was recently prohibited by the Singaporean government from entering Singapore to conduct meetings promoting suicide. In other countries he has frequently had venues withdrawn when it has been known what his objectives are. Dr Nitschke was prominent in having the law changed in the Northern Territory of Australia to allow for assisted suicide. He was personally responsible for assisting in the suicide of four persons in that Territory before the law was changed by the Federal government.

Right to Life laid a complaint in early July against Dr Nitschke with the Christchurch Police, on the grounds that his activities were arguably unlawful. The Police refused to investigate our complaint on the grounds that the government had seen fit to allow Dr Nitschke to enter the country and have placed no restrictions on his movements. Right to Life has now written to the Minister of Internal Affairs requesting that action should be taken by government to protect the community by restricting Dr Nitschke's future entry into the country to conduct meetings to promote suicide and the violation of the law. A letter was also sent to the Hon Peter Dunne, Associate Minister of Health, who has the portfolio of dealing with suicide prevention. A submission was made on what the government could do to stop Dr Nitschke from encouraging vulnerable people from committing suicide and asked what the government would do to uphold the right to life and protect people from committing suicide. The Minister replied on 30<sup>th</sup> September and thanked our society for taking the time to share our views with him. A second letter has been sent to the Minister asking him to respond to our questions.



Dr Philip Nitschke

*If you think abortion is murder, then act like it*

## News in Brief

### Court of Appeal – Judicial Review

The hearing in the Court of Appeal in the matter of the Judicial Review of the performance of the Abortion Supervisory Committee will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of May 2010. The Committee has appealed several of the major findings of the judgment of Justice Miller in the High Court on 9 June 2008. The judgment found that “there is reason to doubt the lawfulness of many abortions authorised by certifying consultants. Indeed the Committee itself has stated that the law is being used more liberally than Parliament intended” Justice Miller stated that; “In my opinion, the statistics and the Committee’s comments over the years since the Court of Appeal made that observation, do give rise to powerful misgivings about the lawfulness of many abortions. They tend to confirm Dr Forster’s view that New Zealand essentially has abortion on request.” The Court held that the Committee does in fact have the power to review and scrutinise the decisions of certifying consultants and to require them to keep records and question them on the use of the mental health ground to authorise 98% of the abortions in New Zealand.

The Committee seeks the reversal of the judgment in respect to the following specific grounds.

It is claimed that there was no evidential foundation for the Judge’s findings that, “There is reason to doubt the lawfulness of many abortions authorised by certifying consultants.”

It is claimed that there was no evidential foundation for the Judge’s finding that “The approval rate [for abortions] seems remarkably high, bearing in mind that under section 187A, the consultants

must form the good faith opinion that continuance of the pregnancy would result in serious danger to the mother’s health.”

The Committee claims that the Court erred in law in concluding that the Committee’s functions under the Act empower

it to form its own opinion about the lawfulness of certifying consultant’s decisions.

Right to Life is confident that the Court of Appeal will uphold the judgment in respect to these important issues. Right to Life has cross appealed and will re-present our case denied in the High Court for the legal recognition of the status of the unborn child as a human being and a person endowed by its Creator with human rights, the foundation right being the right to life. Secondly there will be the opportunity to put before the Court of Appeal the issue which the Royal Commission considered important, whether abortion counsellors should be independent from abortion providers. We will also be seeking declaratory orders, previously denied by Justice Miller in his second judgment given on the 3<sup>rd</sup> August following a brief hearing on the 20<sup>th</sup> July to hear submissions on the issue of declaratory orders.



*Peter McKenzie, CNZM, QC.  
Counsel for Right to Life*

### The Canterbury District Health Board

The Canterbury District Health Board, in response to an enquiry from Right to Life under the Official Information Act, advised that during the financial year 2008 – 2009, 2436 women accessed the service. 40% of these women received counseling. 40% of the women who received counselling services, did not terminate their pregnancy. 173 women came from Southland, 64 from South Canterbury and 40 from the West Coast.

*“Abortion stops a beating heart.”*

## News in Brief *(continued)*

### Telecom and the Lotteries Commission Fund Family Planning

Right to Life is disappointed that the following organizations are promoting a culture of death, by making substantial financial grants to the New Zealand Family Planning Association. The following amounts were given in 2007; Telecom New Zealand \$50,000, the Lotteries Commission, \$134,799 and Merck Sharp & Dohma, \$101,084. Right to Life wrote to these organizations in November to express concern at their financial support for Family Planning which has publicly stated that it is its intention to apply to the Abortion supervisory Committee for an abortion licence for each of its 30 clinics in New Zealand. In our letter to Telecom we stated, "In July the Association applied to the Committee for an abortion licence for its Hamilton clinic. Our Society will vigorously oppose this and future applications for an abortion licence. An abortion licence is in effect a licence to kill. Your organisation has an enviable reputation for integrity and service to the community. For your organisation to continue to provide annual grants to the Association that intends to operate 30 abortion clinics in New Zealand would be damaging to your organisations reputation.

We request that in the interest of protecting the reputation of your organisation, the lives of unborn

New Zealanders and the health and welfare of vulnerable women that you give consideration to terminating grants to the Family Planning Association." Telecom New Zealand replied stating, "That it was not prepared to enter into a debate on the particular issues you have raised. Traditionally Telecom has provided support to a range of community organisations, reflecting our wide involvement in New Zealand communities. These communities span a range of ethnicities, socio-economic demographics and political viewpoints." The response of Telecom is disappointing. Members and supporters are encouraged to contact Telecom to express their concern. In the event that Telecom continues to dismiss our Society's opposition to their support of Family Planning and a culture of death, concerned members and readers are encouraged to boycott Telecom by seeking another telecommunications provider.



### Right to Life Prayer Vigil – Family Planning Christchurch

Right to Life organized a prayerful vigil outside the Family Planning clinic on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November. The demonstration included placards opposing Family Planning's plans to seek abortion licences for its 30 clinics. Further prayerful demonstrations are planned for the new year. It is important that the public are made aware that Family Planning is the strident voice for a culture of death in New Zealand.

*“Unborn children are God’s precious infants, every child is made in the image and likeness of God and is a unique and unrepeatable miracle of God’s loving creation.”*

## News in Brief *(continued)*

### **Prolife NZ**

Right to Life was pleased to join with Voice for Life in providing financial support to Prolife NZ, a Canterbury University based student Pro-Life organization, for a stall at the three day Canterbury AMP show. The display was very popular, with the foetal models being of great interest. A film on the development of the unborn child was screened and proved popular. To uphold the right to life of unborn children and oppose the plans of Family Planning to kill unborn children in its clinics, Prolife NZ has organized a prayerful demonstration outside Parliament which will proceed to the Family Planning clinic in Wellington on Friday the 27<sup>th</sup> November in Wellington. Similar demonstrations are to be planned for other centers, in the new year.



*Andy Moore and helpers*

Prolife NZ also organized a day of solidarity with the unborn on October the 20<sup>th</sup> at Canterbury University and other universities in New Zealand. Many students gave up their voices in solidarity with the voiceless unborn by wearing red armbands and by wearing duct tape over their mouths. The Pro-Life Day of Silent Solidarity was started in the United States in 2004, by the pro-life group Stand True. Students from over 3,200 schools and campuses around the world will be participating in the moving event this year. This is the second time that the event has taken place in New Zealand. Pro-life groups Right to Life, Voice for Life and Family Life International worked together to coordinate the event in New Zealand.

### **Government Funding**

#### **International Promotion of Contraception and Abortion**

Right to Life wrote to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon Murray McCully in September to express concern at the government giving \$6 million to the United Nations Population Fund [UNFPA] and \$2 million to the International Planned Parenthood Federation in 2009. Both these organizations vigorously promote contraception and abortion worldwide and support China's infamous one child family policy with forced abortions. China's family policy includes forced sterilisations, heavy punitive fines, loss of educational benefits for their children and loss of employment. These are appalling violations of human rights.

The Minister replied; " Reproductive health conditions are the leading cause of death and illness in women worldwide. Access to family

planning services is essential to reduce poverty and promote economic growth. Independent investigations found no evidence that UNFPA had supported coercive abortion practices in China." New Zealand was committed to not promoting abortion as part of "reproductive Health Services" in accordance with the conclusions of the 1994 United Nations Conference on Population and Development. It is noted that a United States State Department delegation to China in 2001 found overwhelming evidence of UNFPA's involvement in the human rights violations of China's one child family policy. Right to Life is disappointed in the Minister's reply. It is disappointing that a change in government does not mean a change in policy.

*"In an abortion two things die, an unborn child and the mother's conscience."*

Mother Theresa of Calcuta.

## World News

### Euthanasia Bill Unexpectedly Defeated in South Australia

ADELAIDE, South Australia, November 18, 2009) - In a surprise victory for pro-life advocates, South Australia's Upper House has narrowly voted down an amendment to their palliative care legislation that would have legalized euthanasia.

The bill was proposed by Greens member Mark Parnell. It was expected to pass 11-10, with the support of independent member Ann Bressington, the swing vote. Bressington opted to abstain, however, after amendments she had sought failed. This abstention would have resulted in a tie, meaning that Upper House President Bob Sneath would vote to pass the bill.

In the end, however, member David Ridway announced, to the shock of pro-life observers, that personal reasons had led him to change his mind, and he voted against the bill.

### 4th Pro-Life World Congress Call Abortion 'Mega-Genocide'

The representatives of national and international pro-life organizations who gathered in Saragossa, Spain from November 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009, According to the organizers 1.2 million people attended the march and rally in Madrid on Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> of November to proclaim "Every Life Matters" in the Fourth Pro-Life World Congress, have issued a statement - the so-called Declaration of Saragossa - that has condemned the slaughter of the unborn by abortion as a "mega-genocide." The declaration in the rights of the unborn child and protection for the family was later presented to the Spanish government. A message of solidarity and support from Right to Life New Zealand was read to the assembled marchers together with messages from 60 pro-life organizations from around the world.

Comparing the six million "legal" deaths in the Nazi concentration camps, which constitute the international crime of genocide, to the "eight hundred million deaths, provoked, up to the moment, by means of 'legal' abortions, in the countries of the world that have authorized it," the Declaration states that "for its number and extension" abortion "constitutes a crime against humanity, a mega-genocide."

The Declaration identifies the UN and its agencies, various international organizations such as the Rockefeller, Ford, Gates, and Soros Foundations and the International Federation of Family Planning (IPPF), as well as "the current president of the United States of America and the bureaucracy of the European Union, among other groups of global power," as the main elements that encourage, "sometimes in a direct way and sometimes using euphemisms," this mega-genocide.

The pro-life representatives make a distinction between the lives lost to direct abortion, and the "hardly determinable number of

victims" of "diverse contraceptives capable of killing human beings in their first days of life," such as intrauterine devices (IUDs), the "morning after" pill, systemic use contraceptive pills, injectable or subdermal implants, and the chemical abortifacient drug misoprostol.

Artificial fertilization also falls within this category of "invisible mega-genocide," since, according to statistics, only 4% of embryos conceived in "extracorporeal fertilization" (e.g. IVF) are born.

Demanding respect for life from conception to natural death, the Declaration calls for the promotion of rational solutions, respectful of life, for human needs, the penalization of abortion, euthanasia, eugenic practices and the manipulation of human life, and the protection of conscience of doctors and health care workers who refuse to participate in the killing of innocent human life.

The Declaration concludes with the warning that, "A society that tolerates with indifference the mega-genocide of abortion, be it surgical or chemical, loses the most elementary sign of humanity, and sooner or later it will be inclined to damage in a violent way some other human rights of its citizens.



## World News (continued)

### Royal College Betrays Mothers and Abandons Unborn Children

Right to Life New Zealand is disappointed that the Australian and New Zealand Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists are at the forefront in seeking to have the killing of unborn children decriminalised in Queensland. The College is promoting a culture of death. Citizens in other States and in New Zealand committed to upholding a culture of life and protection for the right to life of unborn children should be alert to the threat that the Royal College represents. The Royal College has been lobbying the Queensland State government to repeal sections 225 and 226 of the Criminal Code. Dr Ted, Weaver, President of the Royal College has stated that his College wants abortion decriminalised. This strident support for the decriminalisation of abortion follows the College's successful vigorous lobbying last year to have the Victorian Labour government pass the infamous Abortion Law Reform Bill that decriminalised abortion in Victoria.

If the Royal College were successful in Queensland, it would no longer be a crime to kill an unborn child. Abortion would become solely a health issue. A woman would be permitted to seek an abortion for any reason if a doctor agreed. There are an estimated 14,000 abortions each year in Queensland; it is acknowledged that there is abortion on demand with the majority of the termination of lives being on normal healthy babies for social reasons masquerading as psychiatric.

Decriminalisation raises serious human rights issues. Unborn children are the weakest and most defenceless members of the human family. The State has a duty and an interest in

providing effective legal protection for the human rights of unborn children, who are future citizens. Members of the Royal College have a special duty and privilege to be the protectors of mothers and their unborn. It is not in God's plan that doctors should decide who will live and who shall be killed.

Unborn children are a unique and unrepeatable miracle of God's loving creation. It is indeed sad that the College could betray this trust, deny the inalienable right to life of their tiny and helpless patient and deny the distressed mother the care and compassion that she needs to bring her child to birth.

In 1948 in response to the atrocities committed by doctors in Nazi Germany, who said in defence, "we were only following orders," the World Medical Association, meeting in Geneva passed the following Declaration; **"I will maintain the utmost respect for human life from the moment of conception, even under threat, I will not use my medical knowledge contrary to the laws of humanity."**

Right to Life New Zealand calls upon the College to uphold this Declaration and its noble traditions of protecting mothers and their infants in the womb by withdrawing its support for the decriminalisation of abortion. Right to Life released a media release on the 20<sup>th</sup> September on this issue. A letter expressing concern at their advocacy for the decriminalisation of abortion has also been sent to the Royal College.



### Australia Poll Finds Majority of Australians Pro-Abortion, Change From 20 Years Ago

**Canberra, Australia (LifeNews.com)** -- The results of a poll taken during the 2007 elections in Australia, have been released and they show that a majority of Australians support abortion. The findings, from the Australian Election Study, are based on polling 1873 voters during the elections two years ago. According to the Brisbane Times newspaper, 57 percent support legal abortions while 33 percent take a pro-life position by opposing virtually all abortions except those in "special circumstances" like rape and incest. Another 4 percent of Australians want all abortions made illegal. That 57-37 percent split is a significant change from 20 years ago when a similar poll found just 38 percent agreed with legal abortions. The study shows a lower level of support for abortion among Catholics, with just 45 percent saying they back legal abortions. Members of conservative evangelical denominations like the Baptist Church and Pentecostal Church are even more likely to oppose abortion



## World News (continued)

### President Obama Also Kills Bush Executive Order for Adult Stem Cell Research

**Washington, DC (LifeNews.com)** - President Barack Obama did more recently than just approve federal funding of embryonic stem cell research that requires the destruction of human life. He also rescinded an executive order President Bush put into place, funding adult stem cells and new research with iPS cells.

President Bush in June 2007, vetoed a Congressional measure that would have required embryonic stem cell research funding. Instead of signing the bill, President Bush issued an executive order to press for more research into ways of obtaining embryonic stem cells without harming human life. The order was intended to ultimately fund research into alternatives" to destructive embryonic stem cell research such as altered nuclear transfer (ANT), "regression" (reverting differentiated cells into stem cells), and other methods.

Bioethics attorney and watchdog Wesley J. Smith says the Obama decision to also reverse this executive order shows Obama is really the anti-science president, not his predecessor.

### Senator Edward Kennedy – Promoter of Culture of Death



Senator Edward Kennedy

It was fitting that the late Senator Edward Kennedy as a baptised Catholic should have been accorded the privilege of a Catholic funeral. Edward Kennedy was the most prominent Catholic politician in the

United States Senate and served in the Senate as a representative of Massachusetts for a period of 40 years. He was hailed as the Lion of the Senate, the champion of the underdog and the marginalised in society. For these noble efforts he should be applauded.

It should also be known that Edward Kennedy has given great scandal to the Catholic Church and to Christians of all denominations. He was one of America's most notorious opponents of Catholic

morality in his support for the killing of unborn children by abortion, his support for taxpayer funded abortion, and support for embryonic stem cell research, birth control and same sex marriage. He profoundly helped to advance the culture of death and other developments harmful to life, family and faith in America. In much of his political life he defied and undermined the teaching authority of the Catholic Church, his example was sadly not one of a faithful Catholic or Christian politician. Ted Kennedy had a lot of innocent blood on his hands as he went to his judgment, as do all people who advocate or stand aside in silence at the destruction of the innocents. Archbishop Raymond Burke, Prefect of the Vatican's Apostolic Signatura, in an address stated that funeral rights should not be given to pro-abortion Catholic politicians. He also said "neither Holy Communion nor funeral rites should be administered to politicians who support abortion or same sex marriage." "It is not possible to be a practicing Catholic and to conduct oneself in this manner."

*"Hence the reference which we as Christians ought to show to human beings at every stage of existence. That is why we cannot regard unborn children as less members of the human family..."*

Rowan Williams,  
Archbishop of Canterbury.  
15 December 2008 – Christmas greeting to Anglicans.

## World News (continued)

### **Reproductive rights' to top of U.S. foreign policy agenda, Secretary Clinton says**

Houston, Texas, Mar 30, 2009 / 10:24 am (CNA).- Speaking at Planned Parenthood Federation of America's national conference in Houston in March, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton announced that promoting "reproductive rights" –including abortion- will be at the top of the government's international agenda.

After being honored by Planned Parenthood with the Margaret Sanger award for her "work on behalf of women's health and reproductive rights," the Secretary of State said "I have to tell you that it was a great privilege when I was told that I would receive this award. I admire Margaret Sanger enormously, her courage, her tenacity, her vision." Sanger, the founder of Planned Parenthood, was openly sympathetic with to Nazi Germany's eugenic practices and was strongly committed to preventing blacks, Hispanics and poor people from reproducing.

Praising the organization that endorsed her after during her unsuccessful bid for the 2008 Democratic presidential nomination, Clinton said that "the overarching mission of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America and the cause of reproductive freedom that you continue to advance today is as relevant in our world now as it was a hundred years ago."



*Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton*

"Yet," she continued, "we know that Margaret Sanger's work here in the United States and certainly across our globe is not done. Here at home, there are still too many women who are denied their rights because of income, because of opposition, because of attitudes that they harbor. But around the world, too many women are denied even the opportunity to know about how to plan and space their families. They're denied the power to do anything about the most intimate of decisions."

"I want to assure you that reproductive rights and the umbrella issue of women's rights and empowerment will be a key to the foreign policy of this Administration," she assured as the crowd applauded.

### **Project Rachel – Post Abortion Counselling**

Project Rachel, a post-abortion reconciliation ministry of the Catholic Church, has been bringing spiritual healing to those affected by abortion since 1984. It is this year celebrating its 25 anniversary. Project Rachel has done a wonderful job educating priests over the years to be able to be more sensitive and more understanding of the pain and trauma experienced by women who have had an abortion inflicted on them. The process is one of helping women to process the anger toward other people involved, to move to forgiveness of self and others, to be reconciled with God and with her baby. The Project Rachel ministry commenced in the Milwaukee diocese in the United States and has been adopted throughout the world, including here in New Zealand. It has been a blessing for the Church and for wounded women who have found peace in the mercy of God. May God continue to bless this important ministry.

*"A nation that kills its own children is a nation without a future."*

Pope John Paul II to the Polish nation, 1996.

## Priests for Life – Fr Frank Pavone -USA

I know because one of the chief architects of the strategy to legalize abortion – Dr. Bernard Nathanson ... the same man who has become a member of the Church and an outspoken champion of the unborn –told me what it was that allowed his fellow abortion extremists to succeed.

In the 1960s Dr. Nathanson was anything but pro-life. Back then he was an abortionist. By his own admission he killed thousands of babies. He helped launch NARAL and played a major role in devising the strategy that paved the way for Roe v Wade and legalized abortion-on-demand throughout all nine months of a woman's pregnancy.

That strategy was to vilify the Church because he knew that the major obstacle blocking the path to legalized and socially tolerated abortion was the Catholic Church. Period.

So he and his co-conspirators set out to silence the bishops and undermine the Church's moral teaching authority. They attacked the Church relentlessly. They portrayed the Pope, the bishops and the priests as villains. They fed outrageous lies to members of the news media ... who then reported those lies as facts. Lies about the number of women who died in so-called "unsafe" abortions. Lies about the number of illegal abortions taking place in America. And most especially, lies that claimed that most Catholics at the time wanted abortion law reform.

And yet, in spite of their bravado, Dr. Nathanson admits that he and his fellow abortion supporters feared that the clergy would mount a massive, nationwide outcry that would challenge the false claims the abortion supporters were making and ultimately defeat them.

Which leads me to the secret Dr. Nathanson revealed to me ... words that haunts me to this day ... and the reason why I've sent you this critically important email alert. He told me:

***"We would never have gotten away with what we did if you (the clergy) had been united, purposeful, and strong."***

And that, my friend, is the terrible mistake God's people made forty years ago.

**The Catholic clergy was SILENT!**



Father Frank Pavone

---

## Finland 20 Percent of Women using Mifegyne RU 486 Face Medical Complications

Compared with Surgical Termination of Pregnancy, Planned Parenthood says "Our monitoring shows that mifepristone medication abortion continues to be a safe abortion option." The distributor of Mifeprex (the trade name for RU 486) says that "Mifeprex is 92-95% effective for safely ending early pregnancy."

But a new study from Finland says that 20% of the women using the abortion pill suffer at least one significant complication. Nearly 4% reported two or more complications or "adverse events."

The study, "Immediate Complications after Medical Compared with Surgical Termination of Pregnancy," appeared in the October 2009 issue of the journal *Obstetrics & Gynecology*. A team of Finnish Researchers headed by Maarit Niinimi of the Oulu University Hospital looked at all abortions, surgical and chemical, performed up to 63 days after gestation, in Finland between January 1, 2000 and December 31, 2006.

To identify and tally the complications, researchers looked at all abortion patient inpatient and outpatient visits occurring within 42 days after the abortion. A national health records system enables researchers to track the medical outcomes with individual patients over time.

Researchers found that 15.6 % percent of those undergoing chemical abortions hemorrhaged, 1.7% encountered infection, and 6.7% had incomplete abortions {Lifenews}

## World News (continued)

### International Planned Parenthood Federation

(NEW YORK – C-FAM) International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) has just released its annual performance report for 2007-2008 and boasts of pushing its abortion agenda among its member associations in traditionally pro-life countries throughout Africa, Latin America and the Islamic world.

IPPF asserts that “access to safe legal abortion is a public health and human rights imperative” and that the organization’s goal is to achieve “a universal recognition of a woman’s right to choose and have access to safe abortion.”

### China – Turkish Studies Reveal Higher Breast Cancer Risk From Abortion

Chinese researchers have issued a new study indicating women who have had an abortion face a 17% higher chance of contracting breast cancer than women who carried their baby to term. This follows a new Turkish study done on women in Turkey who had abortions which found a 66% increased risk of contracting breast cancer



*Hamilton pro-life women in peaceful protest at Family Planning Clinic.*



*Pro-life Canterbury students demonstrate in silent solidarity with unborn children.*

*“Before I formed you, I knew you; and before you were born I sanctified you”*

Jeremiah 1.

# ? WHY CAN'T WE ? "AGREE TO DISAGREE?"

The solution that some propose to the divisive controversy over abortion is that the opposing parties in this dispute should simply "agree to disagree." This is presented as a reasonable option. It does not require that either side change its views, but simply agree to allow the different views, and the practices that flow from them.

Sorry, but this is a proposal we in the pro-life movement can't accept.

First of all, to ask us to "agree to disagree" about abortion is to ask us to change our position on it. Why, after all, do we disagree in the first place? When we oppose abortion, we disagree with the notion that it is even negotiable. We do not only claim that we cannot practice it, but that nobody can practice it, precisely because it violates the most fundamental human right, the right to life. To "agree to disagree" means that we no longer see abortion for what it is - a violation of a right so fundamental that disagreement cannot be allowed to tamper with it.

To "agree to disagree" is to foster the notion that the baby is a baby only if the mother thinks it is, that the child has value only if the mother says it does, and that we have responsibility only for those we choose to have responsibility for.

Certainly, there are many disputes in our nation about which we can "agree to disagree." Various proposals, programs, and strategies can be debated as we try to figure out how best to secure people's rights. But these legitimate areas of disagreement relate to how to secure people's rights, whereas the abortion controversy is about whether to secure or even recognize those rights at all. We can agree to disagree whether certain government programs should be allowed, but not whether acts of violence should be allowed. "Agree to disagree" seems like a neutral posture to assume, but it neutralizes what can never be neutral: the right to life itself

Furthermore, the abortion dispute is not merely about conceptual disagreement. It's about justice. It's about violence, bloodshed, and victims who need to be defended. In the midst of a policy permitting 4,000 babies a day to be killed, to "agree to disagree" means to cease to defend the absolute rights of the victim.

We don't fight oppression by "agreeing to disagree" with the oppressor. It is precisely when the oppressor disagrees that we have to intervene to stop the violence. The fact that the oppressor does not recognize the victim as a person does not remove our obligation to the victim. In the face of injustice, we are not simply called to disagree with it, but to stop it.

The proposal to "agree to disagree" presumes the issue is about people disagreeing over abortion, not about people being killed by abortion. The proposal shows how invisible the unborn victim remains.

It is a false solution indeed.

**Sign** the UN Petition  
for the **UNBORN CHILD**



Please refer to  
Right to Life's Website for link  
[www.righttolife.org.nz](http://www.righttolife.org.nz)

**The deafening silence of many churches will be construed as consent for the state sanctioned and funded killing of God's precious infants.**

## Pregnant Need to talk?

PH (03) 338 3057  
OR 0800 773 462

Call us - we care!

24 HOURS A DAY  
7 DAYS A WEEK

We can help you consider your options. A free and confidential service, by telephone or face-to-face. Advocacy and support with adoption.

**PCS** Pregnancy Counselling  
Services Incorporated

[www.pregnancy-cs.org.nz](http://www.pregnancy-cs.org.nz)

Text 2TXTPCS 021-2898-727



When a woman loses her unborn child through abortion she suffers a deep wound... The effects of abortion can alter a woman's view of herself, her experience of womanhood, maternity, her present and future relationships, her world view.

P.A.T.H.S. offers trained support for those hurting from a recent or past abortion.

Ph: (03) 379 7710

For more information or to send donations please write to:

Carolina Gnad  
P.A.T.H.S. Co-ordinator  
PO Box 1557, ChCh

### Billings Method of Natural Fertility Regulation

99% effective if understood  
and followed according to the  
science of the method

Successful in achieving  
pregnancy  
and avoiding IVF

Professional tuition available

Phone 351-3227

### PRAYER changes hearts

WEEKDAY VIGILS

Mon Wed Fri 6.30 - 7.30am

Friday 4.30 - 5.00pm

Christmas Day 6.30 - 7.30am

*Outside Lyndhurst*

ALL WELCOME

Organised by independent prayer group

ROSARY PRAYED

### FAMILY LIFE INTERNATIONAL

Promoting the  
sanctity of life  
and the dignity of the  
family through  
worldwide research,  
education and  
service

Learn how to help rebuild

the Culture of Life

Ph 09-279-2413

(Auckland) or

Ph 03-351-3225

(Christchurch)

email: [life@fli.org.nz](mailto:life@fli.org.nz)

## MISSIONARIES FOR LIFE

Caring women and men are required for peaceful approach to women entering Lyndhurst. To pray, hand out information to women considering abortion or train as sidewalk counsellors. This ministry does save mothers and babies from abortion.

**If you could spare one hour a week or less frequently please contact:  
Maria or Sandra 351-3225**

Join us at LYNDHURST

for an ecumenical

PRAYER VIGIL

Sunday 21st February 2pm

## PRAYER VIGIL

Join us at  
St Mary's Church

Manchester Street

Tuesday 16 February 2010 7pm

Monday 24 May 2010 1pm

## CELEBRATE THE GIFT OF LIFE

and make reparation for abortion,  
pray for the conversion of hearts  
and the spiritual healing of women  
through prayer

ORGANISED BY FAMILY LIFE INTERNATIONAL



Permit Post

NEW ZEALAND

Permit No. 1346

If unclaimed within 14 days please return to Right to Life, New Zealand Inc., P.O. Box 668, Christchurch 8140