



Footprints

THE NEWSLETTER OF
Right To Life New Zealand Inc.

Defending life from conception to natural death

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RIGHT TO LIFE CHARGES GOVERNMENT WITH GENOCIDE

Right to Life wrote to the Prime Minister on 18 August 2010 with a complaint that the government's antenatal screening programme for Down syndrome is genocide, a crime against humanity, which is a violation of the United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. The letter was referred by the Prime Minister's office to the Minister of

The case against the Government of New Zealand for genocide towards people with Down syndrome

Health for a response. The Health Minister, Tony Ryall replied on 4 October and advised that the government has no plans to cease the screening programme, which is being provided to give women information and choice. He ignored the allegation of genocide. Right to Life, together with a group of twelve individuals who have much loved children with Down syndrome, laid a complaint with

the Human Rights Commissioner, who rejected the complaint. He deemed that the screening programme was not discrimination. A complaint of genocide has now been lodged with the Human Rights Review Tribunal.

We have requested that the Director of Human Rights Proceedings represent us. The Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide at the United Nations has been notified of the proceedings.



" Article 2 of the Convention defines genocide as any act committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial or religious group as such."

The screening programme was "quality improved" in February 2010. It is funded by the State and targets all pregnant women in their first trimester on the basis of providing information to women to make decisions about their pregnancies, including abortion. People with disabilities are the only group of people in New Zealand targeted for selective abortion. Down syndrome, and other conditions that are targeted, are genetic conditions that have no cure.

Right to Life contends that the basis of first trimester screening is to enable woman to have an abortion within the 20 week timeframe if an abnormality is detected. Other positive reasons for prenatal diagnosis, such as parent education, hospital selection and delivery management, do not require testing during the first trimester and can be safely left until the later stages of pregnancy.

The practice of genetic screening is eugenics through selective abortion. It proclaims that only the perfect have a right to be born. It sends a message that children with Down syndrome are not valued or wanted in our community. Anecdotal evidence is that mothers with an unborn child diagnosed with Down syndrome are automatically offered an abortion.

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

Society Report

Right to Life is grateful for the generous financial support of its members and supporters. New members are always most welcome and supporters are invited to be actively involved in the pro-life movement by making application for membership by completing the application form on page two of this newsletter. Our Society also invites members and supporters to consider providing financial support to the Society for its work of defending life by making automatic payments. You can also donate online via our website or send a cheque to us. Our Society's bank account number is 030802 0787992 00. Please advise our treasurer Paul Christenhusz, at our Society's address, PO Box 668, Christchurch, of your name and address in order that a receipt may be forwarded to you at the end of the financial year. In your charity please consider a bequest in your will to help our Society continue its work to promote a culture of life and oppose a culture of death.

For information on important national and international life issues and our Society's actions you are invited to visit our Society's excellent website at www.righttolife.org.nz Our Society is indebted to Chris O'Brien, our web master for his dedication and expertise in maintaining this excellent site. Members are invited to receive their Society's newsletter, Footprints electronically in preference to receiving a copy by mail. Requests may be made by email to admin@righttolife.org.nz

All for Life Conference – Nelson

There were nearly 200 enthusiastic pro-life people present at the second All for Life Conference in beautiful Nelson. There were representatives from many pro-life groups who gathered to share ideas, provide encouragement and mutual support. Archbishop Charles Bolvo, the Papal Nuncio in New Zealand gave a warm encouraging key note address that highlighted the Catholic Churches commitment to the promotion of a culture of life. Dr David Reardon, the Director of the renowned Elliott Institute in the United States gave two informative addresses on spiritual healing following abortion. Other speakers spoke on natural family planning, the progress of the judicial review of the performance of the Abortion Supervisory Committee, educating young people on respect for life and the beauty and blessings of chastity. It was encouraging to see many young enthusiastic people at Conference. There were also many doctors, nurses, doctors, teachers and counsellors present. All those present were encouraged by the positive and confident atmosphere that permeated this event. The Conference serves a very important purpose in creating unity, understanding and cooperation within the pro-life movement. The organisers were Dr Joseph Hassan, his wife Cushla, Dr Ate Moala and other members of the team. They are to be warmly congratulated and applauded for their vision, sacrifice and organisational skills that made this wonderful conference the outstanding success that it was. It was evident that this Conference was abundantly blessed by God.



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The insidious option to terminate the life of the child could ultimately become a duty to kill the child before birth.

Genocide is the killing of people based on their genetic constitution, *Geno* – “genetic constitution” and *Cide* – “killing of”. The legal definition is covered under the UN Convention and is an international crime. Article 2 of the Convention defines genocide as:

“any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such:

(d) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;”

Intent is legally established through the test of foresight of particular consequences and a desire to act so that those consequences occur. Although the Government states that the reduction of births of people with Down syndrome is not the purpose of the programme, it is clear that they had foresight that this would be a consequence. They have proceeded to act on this basis without any attempts to mitigate the rate of abortions. The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court states in Article 6, Genocide; **“For the purposes of this Statute, “Genocide” means any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such”: [d] “Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group”**. Article 30 Mental Element states, **“Unless otherwise provided, a person shall be criminally responsible and liable for punishment for a crime within the jurisdiction of the Court only if the material elements are committed with intent and knowledge. For the purposes of this article, a person has intent where: [b] In relation to a consequence, that person means to cause that consequence or is aware that it will occur in the ordinary course of events”**. This Statute provides substantial support for our Society’s charge of genocide because the government is well aware that the national screening programme will result in the abortion of 90 per cent of babies with Down syndrome.

Government documents confirm that the programme would prevent births of people with Down syndrome via selective abortion, leading to the destruction, in part, of that group through a significant reduction in the number of their births. In the Memorandum to Cabinet dated 23 October 2007, it is stated:

“There is the potential for activities associated with improving the quality of antenatal screening for Down syndrome to have a negative impact on

people with disabilities, including....decrease in the number of babies born with Down syndrome. International experience suggests that as a result of screening and diagnostic tests, up to 90 percent of women who receive an antenatal diagnosis of Down syndrome will choose to terminate their pregnancies”. (our emphasis in bold)

The memorandum also says:

“The purpose of screening is to provide women with information about their pregnancy to enable them to make informed choices. This information may help women to decide whether to continue with or terminate the pregnancy”.

This Programme was introduced by the Ministry of Health following advice from the Ministry’s National Screening Unit [NSU]. Documentation obtained under the Official Information Act from the Ministry of Health included the document *Summary of Key Informant Interviews Antenatal Down Syndrome Screening Final Report* which states that, **“The programme will be cost beneficial for the population and the health system**. The

scan highlighted literature that supported the premise that the economic costs of screening outweigh the high costs associated with the long term care needs of an individual with Down syndrome.”

People with Down syndrome are a stable and permanent group of people and fall within the status of a protected group under the UN Convention. The UN’s Akayesa judgement, relating to genocide in Rwanda states:

“The Chamber found that it was necessary, above all, to respect the intent of the drafters of the Genocide Convention which, according to the travaux préparatoires, was clearly to protect any stable and permanent group”.

People with Down syndrome are also genetically linked through their commonality in having a third 21st chromosome and share the same physical characteristics. They can be defined as both an ethnical group and a racial group, both of which relate to people distinguished on the basis of common genetically linked characteristics and physical characteristics. The screening programme is based on the premise that people with Down syndrome can be distinguished by their third 21st chromosome.

Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group is established through the use of selective abortion. The question arises as to whether genocide



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is limited only to cases where abortion is imposed on women. As the Convention defines genocide in terms of "killing members of the group", since "measures intended to prevent births" clearly includes induced abortion, and since abortion involves the intentional killing of the unborn, then the Convention's reference to "imposing measures" cannot be interpreted in a way that would limit its application to women who are forcibly aborted.

The Human Rights Review Tribunal has also been asked to determine whether the screening programme discriminates against people with Down syndrome. Part 1A of the Human Rights Act 1993 prevents the government from discrimination on the basis of disability. The presence, form, presentation and management of the programme sends a clear message to people with Down syndrome that their lives are not valued and reinforces discrimination towards them, clearly breaching the Human Rights Act. A decision is expected in the New Year if the Director of Human Rights Proceedings will represent our Society and the families concerned with the application.

The Human Rights Review Tribunal has also been asked to consider whether the programme is lawful in terms of the Crimes Act 1961. Under that Act abortions are excused for rare and serious reasons.

Documentation obtained (from the MOH) under the Official Information Act...

"highlighted literature that supported the premise that the economic costs of screening outweigh the high costs associated with the long term care needs of an individual with Down syndrome."

In relation to foetal abnormalities, Section 187A (1)(aa) of the Crimes Act 1961 states that an abortion may be authorised where "there is a substantial risk that the child, if born, would be so physically or mentally abnormal as to be seriously handicapped". Down syndrome is not a serious handicap. It is internationally recognised as a mild to moderate developmental delay.

Right to Life's view is that aborting an unborn child based on a diagnosis of Down syndrome is a crime under the Crimes Act 1961.

People with Down syndrome are loved and valued members of their families and are active participants in the educational, social and recreational activities of their community. Women who have an unborn child diagnosed with Down syndrome need and deserve the support and compassion of the community to accept their child as a valued and loved member of the family and community. The Government should promote a culture of life by ensuring that families who have unborn children

with Down syndrome receive compassion and are given all the encouragement and 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.

Article authored by, Mike Sullivan, of Whangarei, father of a much loved and valued child with Down syndrome and a member of Right to Life New Zealand Inc.

Court of Appeal – Judicial Review of Performance of Abortion Supervisory Committee

The long awaited hearing of the appeal to the Court of Appeal in Wellington of the Abortion Supervisory Committee was heard on 5 & 6 October 2010 Presiding was Justice Robert Chambers, together with justices Arnold and Stevens. Right to Life cross appealed and made substantial submissions on the personhood of the unborn child and the need for abortion counselling to be separate from abortion providers. Right to Life is very grateful to our counsel, Peter McKenzie QC and Dr Ian Bassett for their passionate dedication to the cause of life, their excellent submissions and eloquent presentation. The judgement of the Court has been reserved and is expected before the end of February. Please continue to pray for God's blessing on the Court as they deliberate over their judgement.



For you created my inmost being, you knit me together in my mother's womb. Psalm 139 v13.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As 2010 draws to a close, there is much work in the pro-life cause which is required to bring our country to a real sense of caring for unborn children. Firstly, there is our ongoing court action in the matter of the claim to uphold the Contraception, Sterilisation and Abortion Act 1977. This was heard at the Appeals Court on 5th and 6th October in Wellington, and needs your prayers, and support financially. A President's appeal form is enclosed with this newsletter. We need to raise \$30 000 for the court actions which will take place. Please be generous in assisting us in this court action, which is most important for the unborn.

Secondly there is our legal action commencing against the Family Planning Association, in the matter of their seeking licenses for the 30 Abortion Clinics which they propose to setup throughout New Zealand. We are going to take this matter to the Courts, to seek clarification on Section 21 [2] (b) of the CSA Act, as to whether these clinics as proposed are unlawful, in contravention of this clause in the law which requires licensed abortion facilities to provide surgical care facilities post abortion. This too is an extremely important matter as if successful Family Planning would be able to initiate a whole new regime of killing unborn children in New Zealand. (Medically using the RU 486 Abortion Pill.)

Thirdly, there is now a new front on the battle for life, which is the deliberate targeting of pregnant women by selective abortion of children with Down syndrome, following ante-natal screening. This screening is voluntary, but there is a fear that the women offered screening who are identified as possibly carrying a child with Trisomy-21 the technical name for Down syndrome genetic condition, will be pressured to end their pregnancy via abortion.

Although labeled as a quality improvement, the proposed regime for screening and effectively weeding out disabled children from the population by aborting them, is a diabolical plan founded on the idea of improving the genetic quality of the race – in other words it is eugenics. This is an old idea, proposed by Margaret Sanger, founder of the IPPF, and later upheld by the Nazi regime in their euthanasia programs – the creation of a superior race of people, free from genetic defects.

Make no mistake, those who play down this screening procedure as simply a routine health check, are deeply mistaken. The thinking behind it is seriously wrong ethically, and morally, and it is indefensible. Our society has complained to the Health Commissioner and the Human Rights Commissioner and now with the Human Rights Tribunal. If this fails our intention is to take this complaint as one of genocide towards the Down syndrome community, and place it with the United Nations Commission on Genocide.

Some good news to report – our committee member and spokesman Kenneth (Ken) Orr has been awarded a Papal Medal by the Catholic Bishop of Christchurch, Barry Jones DD. The presentation of the Pro Ecclesia and Pontifice medal on Saturday 13th November to Ken, is the recognition of his many years of hard work and service to the pro-life movement in New Zealand and to the church, in which he is an active participant. Receiving this medal, Ken stated that he saw it as a recognition of the work done by all those in Right to Life and the pro-life movement, not just himself. To which we add our agreement. Well done, Ken! May your presence continue to grace our meetings.



Emeritus Bishop John Cunneen DD

Right to Life advises with sadness the passing of Emeritus Bishop John Cunneen who passed to eternal life on November 9, 2010 at Nazareth House after a long illness. He was the eighth Bishop of Christchurch. Loved and respected priest, and Emeritus Bishop of the Diocese of Christchurch. His funeral was on November 17 and he was interred in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. Bishop John was a very supportive Patron of Right to Life and we will miss his untiring support for the Society and the pro-life movement.

*Rescue those being dragged to their death,
do not delay to come to their aid. Proverbs.*

Dr Peter Stone – Conflict of Interest regarding antenatal screening for Down syndrome



Dr Peter Stone

Right to Life wrote to the Minister of Health, Hon Tony Ryall on 5 November 2010 requesting that Dr Peter Stone be removed from the Technical Working Group [TWG] for antenatal screening for Down syndrome and other conditions. Dr Peter Stone, is Professor of Maternal

and Fetal Medicine at the Auckland University. The TWG was established in June 2010 to provide advice to the National Screening Unit [NSU]. Dr Peter Stone has been involved in assessing the practice of antenatal screening for Down syndrome in New Zealand, and advising on the delivery of antenatal screening for Down syndrome for the NSU over a number of years. It is the view of this Society that Dr Peter Stone is clearly biased in favour of the abortion of unborn children with Down syndrome. We requested that he be removed from the TWG and not be involved in antenatal screening for Down syndrome and other conditions in any capacity.

Dr Peter Stone is an abortion certifying consultant, an active advocate for the decriminalisation of abortion, an active advocator for foetal abnormality as a ground for abortion after 20 weeks and is a shareholder and director of Istar Ltd, the sole importer of the abortion pill Mifegyne RU 486 into New Zealand. These factors present serious conflicts in providing professional advice to the NSU. He was also the chairman of the now defunct Standards Advisory Committee that was established by the Abortion Supervisory Committee and He was also the chairman of the National Screening Advisory Group.

The advice provided by the TWG has considerable influence in the provision of screening programmes that impact on the lives of unborn children. It is the view of this Society that those persons appointed to this Working Group should have;

- A recognition that human life begins at conception;
- A respect for the sanctity of life of unborn children from the moment of conception and
- Hold views that are consistent with the New Zealand Disability Strategy's vision of a non-disabling society.

They should recognise that at the moment of conception each new human being is endowed by its Creator with human rights, the foundation right being an inalienable right to life.

Unborn children are the weakest and most defenceless members of the human family. They are deserving of our respect and protection. Our Society is very concerned that Dr Stone is a member of this important advisory group which provides advice that has serious implications for the lives of vulnerable unborn children. It is our opinion that Dr Stone is an unsuitable person to be appointed to the TWG as his professional views represent a serious threat to the lives of vulnerable unborn children who are deemed to have a genetic disorder. We also believe that his presence represents a conflict of interest. In support of our submission we drew to the Minister's attention the following information.

Dr Peter Stone is an abortion certifying consultant and is believed to perform late term abortions.

Dr Peter Stone was in 2008 the keynote speaker at the 5th New Zealand Abortion Providers Conference. In his address he stated that he considers abortion a health issue and supports the decriminalisation of abortion. He supports the law being changed to allow for abortions after 20 weeks gestation for fetal abnormality.

Dr Stone is a shareholder and director of Istar Ltd, the sole importer of the abortion pill Mifegyne RU 486. It is interesting that the name of this company is very similar to Ishtar the ancient Babylonian goddess of fertility, love, war and sex. Like the Greek Aphrodite and Northwestern Semitic Astarte, Ishtar was a love goddess, all of whom were "as cruel as they were wayward".

Dr Peter Stone advocates the selective abortion of unborn children diagnosed with Down syndrome. At the NSU workshop



The goddess Ishtar

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on screening for Down syndrome on 29 April 2004 he made a presentation and outlined the objectives of prenatal screening. One of these was stated in the fifth power point slide, third bullet as:

Allow couples at risk of anomaly to embark on having a family, knowing they may avoid the birth of seriously affected children through selective abortion.

Dr Peter Stone, in a report dated February 2006 from the NSU co-authored by Diane Austin, identified concerns that antenatal screening had failed to reduce the numbers of babies born with undiagnosed Down syndrome, stating;

“ Mounting evidence in New Zealand has shown that not only is this becoming an increasingly expensive and labour intensive approach but has failed to reduce the numbers of babies born with undiagnosed Trisomy 21” ... Dr Peter Stone

Our Society commends the Ministry of Health for introducing the New Zealand Disability Strategy, which seeks to uphold acceptance of those born with a disability and to recognise the positive contribution that persons with a disability make to society. The appointment of Dr Peter Stone to the TWG is, in our view, in conflict with the objectives of this Disability Strategy. In view of the governments support for the Disability Strategy we request that the Minister advise our Society, why Dr Peter Stone was appointed by his Ministry to the TWG when the NSU were clearly aware of his support for the selective abortion of unborn children diagnosed with Down syndrome.

In summary Right to Life believes that Dr Peter Stone should be precluded from membership of the TWG for antenatal screening for Down syndrome and other conditions because:

- Of his expressed desire to increase the number of abortions of unborn babies diagnosed with Down syndrome;
- His support for the selective abortion of unborn children diagnosed with Down syndrome;
- His involvement with the killing of unborn children;
- His support for the decriminalisation of abortion;
- His role as an abortion certifying consultant;
- His role as a shareholder and director of Istar Ltd and
- His failure to declare his conflicts of interest to the NSU.

Right to Life submitted that it would be in the best interest of unborn children and their mothers that Dr Peter Stone be removed from membership of the TWG. We also submitted that he should not be appointed in the future to any other committee that is involved with advising the Ministry of Health on issues concerning antenatal screening. We concluded by asking the Minister what action he would take to answer our concerns.

Conflict of Interest - Family Planning Representative on Abortion Supervisory Committee

It has been established that Dr Rosemary Fenwicke, a member of the Abortion Supervisory Committee was at the time of her appointment in June 2007, by the Governor General on the recommendation of Parliament, a member of the New Zealand Family Planning Association. This information was obtained under the Official Information Act from the Minister of Justice. Prior to her appointment she was the Medical Director of the Central Region for the Family Planning Association. She is currently an abortion certifying consultant and an abortionist at the Level J Abortion facility at the Wellington Hospital. Right to Life had previously written to every Member of Parliament including the Minister of Justice requesting that she not be reappointed. Family Planning have an anti life philosophy it is of great concern, that Dr Rosemary Fenwicke has had the opportunity during the past three years to promote the philosophy of the Association on the Abortion Supervisory Committee. Right to Life is determined to do everything possible to ensure that Family Planning is never again represented on the Committee. Dr Fenwicke resigned from the Abortion Supervisory Committee on 25 June 2010.



Dr Rosemary Fenwicke

If you think abortion is murder, then act like it

News in Brief

The Demon of Child Sacrifice & the Valley of Slaughter June 2010 By Thomas J. Euteneuer

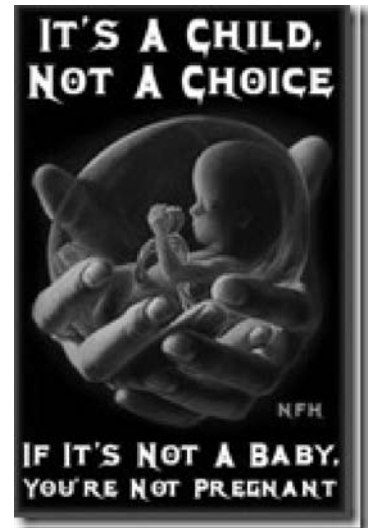


The Rev. Thomas J. Euteneuer is president of Virginia-based Human Life International, which has affiliates and partners in 87 countries around the world. A trained exorcist, Fr. Euteneuer has been authorized to perform the ancient rite in several dioceses in the U.S. Those who are uncomfortable with the thought and talk of demons have a decision to make: Remain in the dark and ignore a basic teaching of the Church regarding spiritual warfare or open your eyes and join the rest of us in the fight against the demons who are working evil in our midst. One such wicked work is the dirty business of abortion. No human activity glorifies Satan and his minions more than abortion.

Abortion is fundamentally a business — a business based on a perverse concept of human rights. Abortion is a commodity cleverly marketed to women under the ideological rubric of “free choice” that draws in huge profits from the deaths of innocents. The abortion industry is a profit-driven, raw killing machine. The enormous amount of cash it generates is the “lifeblood” that perpetuates its existence.

The spiritual dimension of this grisly business, however, is its systematizing of ritual blood sacrifice to the god of child murder who, in the Old Testament, is called Moloch. This demon of child sacrifice appears in many forms and cultures throughout history — Phoenician, Carthaginian, Canaanite, Celtic, Indian, Aztec, and others — but it is always the same bloodthirsty beast that demands the killing of children as a form of worship. This demon seeks public endorsement and ever new expressions of killing to increase its “worship.” In some of the ancient forms of these evil practices, huge drums were beaten beside the places of sacrifice as the rituals proceeded. These drums were used to drown out the screams of the victims who were being sacrificed on the altars.

The practice of child sacrifice was universally condemned as an abomination by the prophets of the Old Testament. Ezekiel said to the people of Israel: “The sons and daughters you had borne me you took and offered as sacrifices to be devoured by them [false gods]! Was it not enough for you to play the harlot? You slaughtered and immolated my children to them, making them pass through fire” (16:20-21). Jeremiah was equally unequivocal in his opposition to this evil: “They have built high places to Baal [Moloch] to immolate their sons in fire as holocausts...such a thing as I never commanded nor spoke of... Therefore, the days will come when this place will no longer be called Topheth, or the valley of the son of Hinnom, but rather, the valley of Slaughter” (19:5-6). It is interesting to note that the Hebrew word for “valley” is *ge*, and so the name “Valley of Hinnom” is *ge-hinnom*, whence we derive the word “Gehenna.”



Hon Steve Chadwick

The Hon Steve Chadwick in June 2010 proposed a Private members Bill to decriminalise abortion. Right to Life wrote to every Member of Parliament requesting that they oppose the proposed Bill.

The proposed Bill subsequently failed to gain cross party support and has been withdrawn. Right to Life believed that the proposed Bill was instigated by the New Zealand Family Planning Association. Our Society has since learnt that the Honourable member was a member of the Steering Committee for the Rotorua Family Planning Association and established the Family Planning Association clinic in Rotorua.



Hon Steve Chadwick MP

Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, before you were born I set you apart, I appointed you as a prophet to the nations. Jeremiah 1v5

News in Brief *(continued)*

Judicial Review – Medical Council Guidelines

A hearing was held in the High Court in Wellington in October 2010 to hear the case of a group of pro-life doctors for a Judicial Review of the guidelines proposed by the New Zealand Medical Council in their draft document, "Beliefs and Medical Practice". The guidelines require that doctors who are being consulted by a woman who is pregnant and pregnancy should be told an option and to provide the abortion. Should the woman of her child she should be would be prepared to arrange a woman who is pregnant to trimester of her pregnancy. The pro-life doctors are challenging these guidelines on the grounds that they violate the conscience of good doctors who faithful to the Hippocratic tradition wish to protect the unborn child from being killed. The doctors contend that the conscientious objection of doctors is protected by section 46 of the Contraception Sterilisation & Abortion Act 1977. The Judgement was reserved. This is very important issue for the practice of medicine and for the care of patients, for every doctor is aware that when he is caring for a woman who is with child that he has the duty and privilege of caring for two patients, the mother and her unborn child.

"To compel or coerce individuals to sacrifice their core convictions at the altar of government contrivances is an offense of the worst kind."

who is ambivalent about her that having an abortion is woman with information on want to terminate the life referred to a doctor who an abortion. It is normal for be ambivalent in the first

Congratulations to a Pro-life Hero – Cardinal Raymond Burke

Tuesday, October 19, Pope Benedict XVI named Raymond Burke, archbishop emeritus of St. Louis and current Prefect of the Supreme Tribunal of the Apostolic Signatura, as one of 24 archbishops who was made a cardinal of the Catholic Church during the consistory in November.

All faithful Catholics and pro-life and pro-family individuals around the world have joyfully greeted the news of this great honour.

Archbishop Burke is an unrelenting champion of the rights of the unborn, the natural family, and orthodox Catholicism. He is viewed as a personal hero and the staunchest of allies by those who are active in promoting authentic Catholic education, as well as those within the pro-life and pro-family movements.

Archbishop Burke has never hesitated to make bold public statements in defence of Catholic orthodoxy and the culture of life, or to take public action against the culture of death. Notably, Archbishop Burke is one of the bishops who have upheld and defended Cardinal Ratzinger's clear instruction that persistently pro-abortion politicians or public figures must not be admitted to communion until they publicly repent. He was also one of the 88 U.S. bishops who spoke up against Notre Dame's decision to honour President Barack Obama at last year's Commencement ceremonies.

As a cardinal, Archbishop Burke will not only be elevated as one of the princes of the Church, but will be placed among the ranks of those who could become our future pope.

Archbishop Burke deserves enthusiastic congratulations for this honour and needs our encouragement to continue to be a shining example of how a faithful bishop can boldly speak out and effectively lead in today's world.

Archbishop Burke deserves enthusiastic congratulations for this honour and needs our encouragement to continue to be a shining example of how a faithful bishop can boldly speak out and effectively lead in today's world



Cardinal Raymond Burke

"If personhood is established, the case for legalized abortion collapses, for the fetus' right to life would be guaranteed by the 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution" Roe V Wade, majority decision written by Justice Blackmun in 1973. in the United States Supreme Court.

News in Brief *(continued)*

The Abortion Supervisory Committee has confirmed that Dr Fenwicke considered this application from Family Planning during her time as a Committee member.

It is contended that Doctor Rosemary Fenwicke's involvement in this consideration constituted a substantial conflict of interest. The granting of abortion licences has very serious implications for the lives of unborn children and for the health and welfare of women. That a member of the Committee who was also a member of the Family Planning Association should allow herself to be involved in consideration of an application from Family Planning for an abortion licence is a very serious matter. It is of concern that the Committee does not concede that there was a conflict of interest and dismisses Dr Fenwicke's involvement as inconsequential. The Committee in a letter to Right to Life stated,



"As the application is still under consideration, any association Dr Fenwicke had with the Family Planning Association has no impact on the final decision that rests with the current members of the ASC."

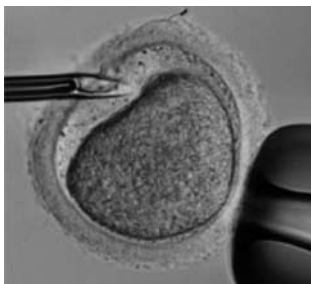
The Committee advised our Society that Dr Fenwicke resigned from the Committee with effect from 25 June 2010. The fact that Dr Fenwicke has resigned is totally irrelevant to our Society's charge that there was a conflict of interest.

The Abortion Supervisory Committee has the statutory duty to oversee the working of the abortion laws in New Zealand. It is answerable to Parliament and ultimately to government. The Committee presides over the termination of the lives of nearly 18,000 unborn children each year. It is of the greatest importance that, the operations of this important Committee is conducted by a Committee that is free of any conflict of interest. To ensure that the public can have confidence in this Committee, Right to Life requests, that the Minister of Justice, Hon Simon Power instigate a Ministerial enquiry. Right to Life issued a media release on this important issue, the Society also wrote to the Minister of Justice expressing concern and requesting an enquiry.

Abortion Supervisory Committee – Informed Consent

Right to Life wrote to the Committee on 21 September 2010 requesting that women seeking an abortion be fully informed by ensuring that they are told that an abortion "**Will terminate the life of a whole, separate, unique, living human being.**" The Committee advised that they had taken note of the proposal but is not currently considering our proposal. This information is legally required to be given in the State of South Dakota. When this truth is known, very few women will choose to kill their children. Our Society first took this important request up with the Committee in 2008 and is disappointed with the Committee's response. It is intended to take this matter up with the Committee again in the near future.

Embryonic Stem Cell Research – Ministry of Health



Right to Life wrote to the Minister of Health, Hon Tony Ryall on 29 July on the issue of embryonic stem cell research. This letter was following up previous letters to the Minister on this issue. In 2008 the Advisory Committee on Assisted Reproductive Technology recommended to the Minister that the estimated 7000 "spare" embryos stored in IVF clinics in New Zealand be used for research. Embryonic stem cell research entails the destruction of the embryo. Our Society is totally opposed to this recommendation as it is a violation of the right to life of the embryos. Life begins at conception and at the moment of conception the human embryo is endowed by God with human rights, the foundation right being the right to life. Every human embryo should be accorded the respect due to the human person. The Minister

replied on 24 August and advised that "*I am still considering my position on this very complex and sensitive issue.*" Members of the pro-life movement are requested to write to the Minister urgently expressing concern and opposition to the proposal. The address is Minister of Health, Parliament Building, Wellington, no stamp required.

News in Brief *(continued)*

Green Party Upholds Right to Life of Dairy Calves but not Humans

It is disappointing that the Green Party has a profound difficulty in understanding and accepting the inalienable right to life of every human being from conception. The Party commendably upholds the right to life of dairy calves but not that of innocent and defenceless unborn children. Are dairy calves more valuable and important than our own unborn children? At the moment of conception every human being is conferred by the Creator with a right to life, this right is inalienable and universal. Dairy calves also have a right to life but not comparable to a human beings right to life, they deserve respect as party of God's creation.

The Green Party Animal Welfare spokesperson, Sue Kedgley, on the 2nd August in a media release stated, that the Minister of Agriculture should ban "this inhumane and cruel practice" in the dairy industry of inducing cows to give birth to premature calves. Why is it that the Green Party strongly opposes a drug used to abort dairy calves and yet approves of the abortion murder pill, RU 486, used in the inhumane and cruel practice of killing unborn babies by starvation in the first nine weeks of life?

"Under the Vet Code vets have a specific duty to protect animals and alleviate their suffering. Vets are deliberately inflicting suffering". It is estimated that 200,000 cows are induced each year. Why is it that the Green Party criticises vets for aborting dairy calves but remains silent when doctors prostitute their profession, ignoring the Hippocratic tradition to have the greatest respect for unborn children and kill unborn children in their thousands every year?

The Green Party has a radical policy supporting the killing of unborn children. It states, "Women's right to control their bodies is non-negotiable". This policy ignores the truth that while women have a right to control the own body, they do not have a right to kill their child which is a unique and separate individual with its own DNA and blood group.



Television rightly shocked the nation with graphic pictures of aborted dairy calves in their death throes. Why has Television consistently refused to show our community the harrowing and heart rendering graphic pictures of aborted babies? Television has a duty to reveal the truth to society and expose the violence perpetrated against women and their unborn children.

The Green Party has many excellent policies to protect the environment. The Party should be aware that the first duty of the state is to provide effective legal protection for the right to life of every citizen from conception to natural death. The state does not exist to preside over the destruction of human life. The Party should recognise that the unborn child is the weakest and most defenceless member of the human family. It is a great tragedy that the Green Party has not exercised its eloquent advocacy on behalf of our unborn children. In defence of the nearly 370,000 unborn children killed before birth since 1977, there has been a deathly silence. In the event that the Party continues to ignore its responsibility to protect human life, rejects the rights of unborn children and ignores their desperate plight it forfeits its right to be represented in Parliament.

First they came for the disabled

By [Kurt Kondrich](#), USA.

Many people do not realize that the first people targeted for extermination in Germany in the 1930's were the disabled. Under the secret T-4 program, individuals with disabilities were labeled "life unworthy of life" and "useless eaters." The Nazi medical community would identify, target, and then terminate the "unfit" members of society, which included those with mental and physical disabilities. Gas chambers and lethal injections were two of the methods employed to rid society of these imperfect members, and the remains were cremated. Smoke could be seen rising over towns that used these facilities, and students in one German town referred to the gray trains that transported targeted individuals as "killing crates."

Today, there is a silent eugenic movement that has resulted in 90%+ of children identified prenatally with Down syndrome to be targeted and then terminated. Although there are no railroad cars or smoke stacks in the distance, the results are the same as the "Killing Crates" of the 1930's. Advances in genetic testing, society's obsession with perfection, and the removal of God from misguided nations have fueled this "smokeless and trackless" targeted termination of individuals this lost world desperately needs. It is said that "History repeats itself," and my hope and prayer is that this spiritually blind nation and world opens its eyes before it is too late. First they came for the disabled, and "What did you say or do?"



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