



# Footprints

## THE NEWSLETTER OF Right To Life New Zealand

*Defending life from conception to natural death*

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## Jacinda Ardern Government – A Threat to Family, Women and the Unborn

Right to Life warns that we now have a government whose social and moral agenda represents a clear threat to the natural order of our society.

**That the natural order on which a healthy society is built, rests on a foundation comprising the natural family of exclusively one woman and one man. That foundation is under even greater threat with a new leader whose social agenda includes further deconstruction of time-honoured norms.**

It is 75 years since New Zealand had a Prime Minister who was not married and that was Michael Joseph Savage. A Prime Minister because of their position of leader of our nation is a role model. It is therefore of concern that Jacinda Ardern chooses to co-habitat with a man who is not her husband. This sets a very bad example and gives entirely the wrong message to our children and grand-children, that marriage is not necessary. Now that she will be representing New Zealand on the international stage her domestic arrangement will reflect badly on New Zealand's reputation.

Jacinda Ardern made a public commitment on national television during an election debate that on becoming Prime Minister, that she would bring a government bill to Parliament to decriminalise abortion, such a move will be met with fierce opposition. She wrongly believes that the killing of our unborn children should not be a crime and that this killing should be a health service. The proposed legislation will encourage further exploitation, coercion and abandonment of women, disguised all in the name of choice.



Jacinda Ardern also supports the law to be changed to allow doctors to give patients a lethal injection or assist in their suicide. Her support for the killing of patients is a dire threat to the most vulnerable members of our community, the aged the disabled and the seriously ill.

Right to Life requests that Jacinda Ardern reflects on the values of the great Labour leaders of the past, like Michael Joseph Savage, Peter Fraser, Walter Nash, Arnold Nordmeyer and Norman Kirk, all of whom had the greatest respect for the natural family and for the sanctity of life for every human being from conception to natural death.

### ***In His Hands***

***Read the story behind this painting, on page nine***

**FOOTPRINTS**

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

# Right to Life urges Community to also Mourn the 500,000 Lost in War on Unborn

**In commemorating ANZAC Day we mourn those who have given their lives in war in order that we may be free. There were more than 18,000 New Zealanders who lost their lives in World War 1 and 11,625 New Zealanders killed in World War II, a total of more than 29,000. We must never forget the sacrifice that they made in order that future generations may live in freedom and enjoy their inalienable right to life. Throughout our nation there are monuments commemorating their sacrifice.**

Let us not though forget that there are more children murdered in the womb each year in New Zealand than the total casualties inflicted on New Zealand in the Second World War. In fact forty times more unborn children have been murdered in their mother’s wombs since 1977 than have been lost in all wars NZ has ever fought in.

It is an illusion though that we are now living in peace and free from war. Today we are engaged in another bloody war, not with a foreign aggressor but in a war against a new enemy, our own children. Why do we feel threatened by our own children in the womb the weakest and most defenceless member of the human family? Pregnancy is not a disease, Why has the womb become a battleground more violent than Gallipoli? Why does Family Planning want to open up a new front in this war on women and the unborn by changing our laws so that it is no longer a crime to kill an unborn child and there killing to be called a reproductive health service.

Since the passing of the Contraception Sterilisation and Abortion Act in 1977, there have been more than 500,000 children killed in the womb in New Zealand. These children were deemed to be of little worth and their presence a threat to society. They are unnamed, worthy only of being a number in our abortion statistics. No tombstone marks their last resting place and their mortal remains are deemed to be medical waste to be incinerated in the same callous manner as the disposal of the Jews after slaughter at Nazi extermination camps during the Second World War.

Right to Life asks when is the government going to stop the war against our own children?

This civil war has the full approval and support of our government, who ensure unlimited funding and who have turned our Public Hospitals into killing centres. The government disguises their true horror, by calling it an “essential core health service”. and a ‘termination of pregnancy service’ or TOP for short to disguise the true horror of this genocide.

These children were not a threat to society; they came bringing gifts to enrich our society. All that they sought was to be allowed to love and to be loved. This internecine war is also one waged against women, who are its second victims. New Zealand will continue to grow in violence and never know true peace nor can we claim to be a just society while we continue making war against our own children

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# Why is Abortion in the Crimes Act?

The Prime Minister the Right Honourable Jacinda Ardern made a public commitment in an election TV debate that on becoming Prime Minister that she would bring a government bill to Parliament to decriminalise abortion and that there would be no review of the current abortion legislation. She said that abortion was not a crime and should not be in the Crimes Act. She also claimed that abortion was making criminals out of women, this claim is incorrect. Right to Life has written to the Prime Minister several times asking her to explain why women are being made criminals, she refuses to respond to any correspondence from Right to Life.

The Contraception Sterilisation and Abortion Act 1977 and an amendment to the Crimes Act 1961 with the inclusion of section 187A which listed the limited grounds for abortion regulated the performance of abortion in New Zealand. Since 1977 more than 500,000 innocent and defenceless children in the womb have been killed under a law which was intended to protect them and their mothers, the second victim of abortion. The question should be, should the law protect the right to life of New Zealanders in their first nine months of life? The Prime Minister, supports the decriminalisation of abortion; she claims that abortion is not a crime. Right to Life believes that it is important that we understand why abortion is in the Crimes Act Section VIII, Crimes against the Person and why it would be a great injustice to women and to the unborn to remove abortion from the Crimes Act and treat abortion purely as a health issue.

Section 183 Procuring abortion by any means, states that the unlawful killing of the unborn child is a serious crime and that on conviction an offender may be imprisoned for a term not exceeding 14 years. This section recognises that the unborn child for the purposes of this act is from the moment of implantation a human being endowed with human rights, its foundation right being a right to life. It is also an acknowledgement that the state has a duty to protect the right to life of the unborn child its future citizen. Those who support the decriminalisation of abortion claim that the inclusion of abortion in the Crimes Act makes women criminals, this is false. Section 183 states, that a woman or girl may not be charged as a party to this section.

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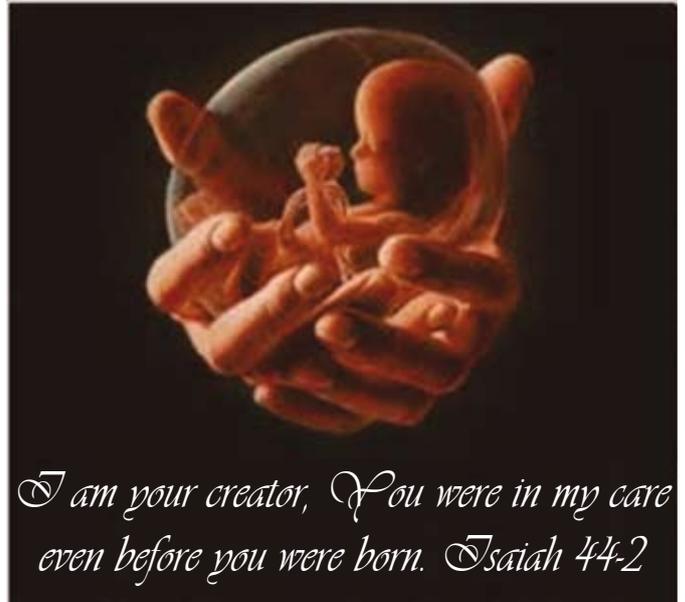
**The removal of abortion from the Crimes Act should be strongly opposed.** The unborn child would effectively be recognised as the property of the mother who would have the sole right to decide whether her child lives or dies. It would mean that a woman could seek an abortion for any reason including, because the child was the wrong sex, usually female, this would be discrimination against women. Decriminalisation would extend the grounds of disability to allow abortion for minor disability; this would be discrimination against the disabled. Should abortion be decriminalised as it is in Victoria, Australia a woman would have the right to abort her child up to 24 weeks gestation without being required to give a reason. After 24 weeks two doctors would be required to agree that the abortion was appropriate.

It should be remembered that the current abortion laws are those recommended by the Royal Commission on Contraception Sterilisation and Abortion in its report to Parliament in 1977. The Commission was appointed by the Rowling Labour government in 1975. The Prime Minister Bill Rowling made a commitment to the community in 1975 that the recommendations of the Commission on abortion law would be implemented in legislation. The Commission said, upholding the status of the unborn child. "From a biological point of view there is no argument as to when life begins. Evidence was given to us by eminent scientists from all over the world. None of them suggested that human life begins at any other time than at conception"

They went on to say, "From implantation to birth, changes which take place in the unborn child are of a developmental nature only. There are no changes of a qualitative nature. The three events suggested as being of significance, namely quickening, viability and brain development are no more than stages in that development are not indicative of any qualitative changes in the developing fetus which would make it non-human at one point of time and human at another."

In rejecting the argument that some degree of development should be reached before the unborn child be accorded status the Commission said, "If some stage of physical or mental development has to be accepted as indicating whether or not human life is in being, so a stage may be reached at the other end of life where a person who has become senile or has lost consciousness may be disposed of."

If we as a society deny the humanity of the unborn, then logically we may one day deny the humanity of those who are suffering from dementia and Alzheimer's. The denial of the humanity and right to life of the unborn is a threat to the right to life of every citizen.



# Euthanasia is a Dangerous and Unwise Social Policy

**David Seymour MP, leader of the ACT party is seeking support from Parliamentarians to have his contentious End of Life Choice bill passed at its first reading, expected to be in March 2018. It would then be sent to a select committee which would receive submissions from the community.**

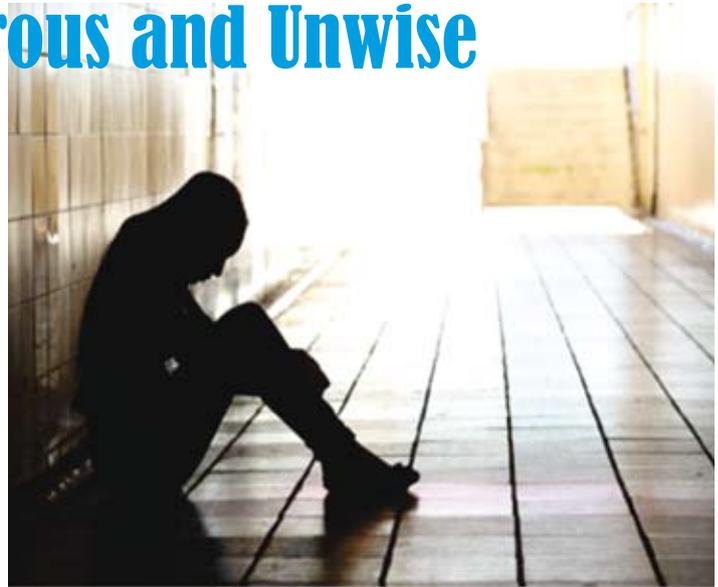
**Right to Life is opposed to this bill and strongly urges citizens to contact their local MPs requesting that they vote against this bill. Euthanasia is opposed by the World Medical Association, the New Zealand Medical Association, the Australian & New Zealand Society of Palliative Medicine, the New Zealand Nurses Organisation and Palliative Care Nurses all of whom wish to uphold their ethics to cure and not to kill.**

We believe, that in the interest of the community the bill should be defeated. It should share the same fate as the two previous attempts to pass legislation that would change the Crimes Act to allow doctor assisted suicide. The first was Michael Law's "Death with Dignity" bill in 1995 that was defeated 61 to 29. The second "Death with Dignity" bill in 2003 was defeated 60 to 58.

Assisting in suicide or terminating the life of a patient with a lethal injection are serious crimes under the Crimes Act. These laws are there for the protection of the most vulnerable members of our community, the aged, the disabled and the seriously ill; we remove them at our peril.

We believe that that Parliament does not have authority to legislate to empower the strong to kill the weak. Should this bill be passed it would be a very dangerous precedent, as a future Parliament could withdraw the protection of the law from another group of vulnerable people such as those with dementia and Alzheimer's.

Those who support the bill claim that it needs to be sent to a Select Committee to provide the community with the opportunity to make submissions. They claim that public opinion polls reveal that there is 70 per cent support for euthanasia in the community and that the community wants to have the opportunity to have a conversation on this issue. Right to Life challenges this contention. On the 15th of June 2015 a petition on assisted suicide and euthanasia was presented to Parliament by the Honourable Maryan Street and 8,974 others, it was referred to the Health Select Committee for consideration and the hearing of submissions. The Committee received an unprecedented 21,277 submissions and heard nearly 1,000 oral submissions. A careful analysis of all the written submissions by the Committee revealed that 16,411, 77 per cent were opposed to assisted suicide and euthanasia. Those who heard the oral submissions confirm that an overwhelming number were also strongly opposed. We believe that the Health Select Committee and the community has engaged in this conversation for more than two years.



The written and oral submissions constitute the most authentic expression of public opinion on the issue of euthanasia and the careful analysis of the written submissions reveal an overwhelming rejection of euthanasia by the people of New Zealand. The 48 page report of the Health Committee to Parliament reflected the strong opposition of those who made submissions. The Committee refused to make any recommendation to introduce legislation to allow doctors to kill their patients or assist in their suicide. Supporters of euthanasia are refusing to accept the manifest opposition of the people and are arrogantly determined to inflict their agenda on the nation over the opposition of the World Medical Association, the New Zealand Medical Association, the Australian & New Zealand Society of Palliative Medicine, the New Zealand Nurses Organisation and Palliative Care Nurses all of whom wish to uphold their ethics to cure and not to kill.

How can Parliament be serious about reducing the horrific suicide rate in New Zealand which is the second highest cause of death? In 2016/17 606 people committed suicide. We have the highest youth suicide rate in the OECD, suicide is always wrong it hurts families and it hurts communities. The government has a Suicide Prevention Strategy to reduce suicides, Right to life asks how can members of parliament seriously support the government's suicide prevention strategy and at the same time support the End of Life Choice bill which if passed will have the government paying doctors to kill their patients or assist in their suicide. If passed the legislation would recognise that there are some lives not worthy of living. The message that Parliament will be giving to the community and youth is that Parliament approves of suicide and recognises your right to kill yourself if you are finding life intolerable.

There is no need for doctors to kill the patient in order to kill the pain. New Zealand has world class palliative care which is ranked third in the OECD. The community should be aware that this bill is a wolf in sheep's clothing we release it into our community at our peril. The agenda of the pro-euthanasia movement is to engage public sympathy.

# Why has the Feminist Movement Betrayed Women?

**More than a century ago, the same women who fought for women's rights and for the rights of slaves to be free also fought to protect women and children from abortion. Right to Life and the pro-life movement today stand with women to protect women and children.**

**Abortion betrays the basic feminist principles of nonviolence, non-discrimination and justice for all. Abortion is a reflection that we have not met the needs of women—and that women have settled for less. Women deserve better.**

**Feminism was born of abolition. All people are equal. Not all choices are equal. We envision a better day, a day when womanhood is celebrated, mothers are supported, fatherhood is honoured and every child is cherished.**

The feminist movement has the responsibility of promoting protection of the human rights of women from conception to natural death, the foundation right being the right to life. The feminist movement should be at the forefront in seeking protection of women in the first nine months of life in their mother's womb. It was in the 1970s that the feminist movement was infiltrated by those who promoted abortion. It is important that those who are now promoting a dangerous anti life and anti-feminist agenda are exposed and challenged.



Family Planning when founded in the 1950s was opposed to abortion. It now claims to represent the interests of women and genuinely believe that women will not be emancipated and truly free until the law is changed to make it no longer a crime to kill an unborn child. They also believe that the stigma associated with the killing of the innocent and defenceless should be silenced by making the killing of the unborn "a reproductive health service."

**Family Planning is aware that many women having an abortion are subject to coercion and domestic violence; why are they silent?**

Right to Life advocates unconditional support for women who lovingly place their babies into the arms of adoptive couples. We applaud birthmothers, who say that "adoption can be an empowering option for women."

We stand in solidarity with women who have been betrayed by those they count on the most, with women who have underestimated their own strength, with women who have experienced abortion and are silent no more, with young men and women who mourn their missing siblings. We mourn with those women with child who naively went to Family Planning seeking help and were offered 'assistance' and were encouraged to terminate the life of their precious child. We mourn with men who weren't given a choice or who contributed to an abortion that they now regret.

All this is unthinkable. As we work together toward that vision, pro-life feminists hope that our sisters who promote abortion will one day realize that unborn children are not property either and that violence against them is equally unacceptable. Let us not have to spend another 150 years establishing that the children we bear are also persons.

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*"Abortion is the last in a long line of non-choices. If the child is unwanted, whether by her or her parents, it will be her duty to undergo an invasive procedure and an emotional trauma and so sort the situation out. The crowning insult is that this ordeal is represented to her as some kind of a privilege. Her sad and onerous duty is garbed in the rhetoric of a civil right."*

**Germaine Greer (The Whole Woman, Doubleday, 1999)**

# Is the Prime Minister Serious About Child Poverty?

**Child poverty begins in the womb and the absence of marriage and the abandonment of women is the major cause of child poverty.**

Right to Life commends our new Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, for making the elimination of child poverty a top priority for her government. The Prime Minister has appointed herself as the Minister for Child Poverty Reduction. We wish her well but question her qualifications for undertaking this important task given she is unmarried, has no children and is only 37 years of age.



Right to Life asks why does she continue to deny that the major cause of child poverty in New Zealand is the breakdown of the traditional family as the societal norm, lack of marriage and the abandonment of women. The evidence for this is overwhelming, but there appears a refusal to accept this. Society has always known that the best prevention for child poverty was for children to be raised by their biological mother and father within a committed marriage of exclusively one man and one woman.

212,000 children. Many of these solo mothers have been abandoned by their husband or the father of their children. It is believed that many of these mothers long for the security of having a husband and a father for their children. It is disappointing that Ms Ardern does not support the traditional family and marriage and expresses no empathy with these solo mothers who are heroic and sacrificial.

Single parent families make up 28 percent of all families with dependent children. These families are the poorest in New Zealand. 51% of children in poverty live in single parent families. Single parents have the lowest home ownership rates and the highest debt ratios.

The ultimate poverty that can be inflicted on a child is to be deprived of one's life while still in the womb. The Prime Minister refuses to acknowledge that the unborn are children and are the weakest and most defenceless members of the human family.

It is inconsistent for the Prime Minister to appoint herself Minister for child poverty reduction, while ignoring the plight of children in the womb. She has unwisely made a public commitment to bring a government bill to Parliament to decriminalise the killing of the unborn to make it no longer a crime to kill an unborn child. Should such a bill be brought into law then effectively the child becomes the property of its mother. This is reminiscent of American slavery where the Negro was the property of the slave owner. The Prime Minister is mistaken in believing that in supporting the decriminalisation of abortion she is taking a genuine feminist position; sadly she is not. She should be aware that the early feminist movement in the United States was totally opposed to abortion which was seen as violence against women and the unborn.

Right to Life earnestly requests that the Prime Minister cease discriminating against children in the womb and become an advocate for all of our children both born and unborn.

*How things have changed at Family Planning, in the 1950s it was opposed to abortion. Pamphlets from 1952 answering a question about abortion:*

*Q: "Is abortion birth control?"*

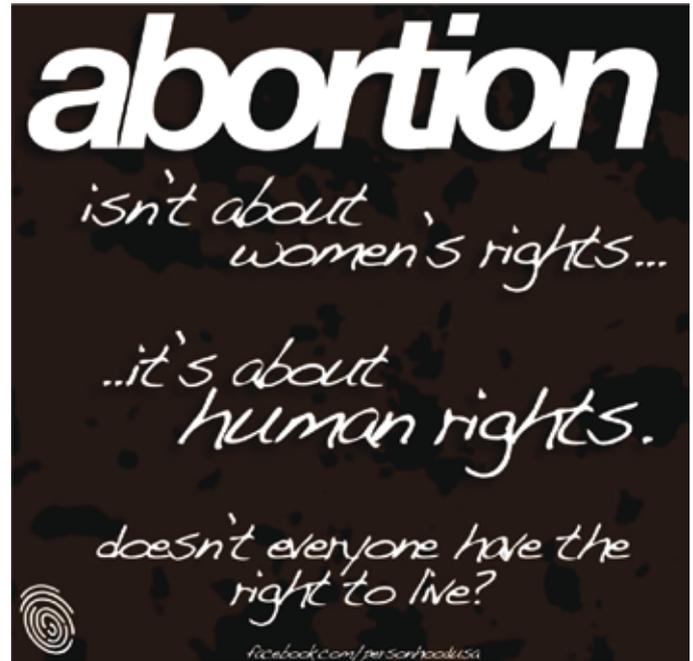
*A: "Definitely not. An abortion requires an operation. It kills the life of a baby after it has begun. It is dangerous to your life and health. It may make you sterile, so that when you want children, you can't have them. Birth control merely postpones the beginning of life, abortion kills life."*

# Abortion Statistics – More Women Choose Life for Their Baby in 2016

In 2016 there were 12,823 abortions reported in New Zealand. This represents a three per cent decrease on the 13,155 abortions reported in 2015. This is the lowest abortion total in 25 years. Right to Life welcomes the continued decrease and applauds the heroic and sacrificial women who chose life for their precious infant. They deserve the generous support of the whole community. Right to Life also grieves with the women who were so often abandoned by the father of their child in the time of the woman's greatest need and coerced into an abortion that was chosen for her. It is a cruel mockery and a charade for society to pretend that it is "a woman's right to choose." "Choosing" an abortion is a decision of despair and a cry for help.

The abortion statistics are an indictment on our Parliament which sanctions and funds the killing of the innocent as a core health service with unlimited funding and no waiting list, our women deserve better. The statistics disguise the reality that every child violently dismembered in the womb of the child's mother is an unrepeatable miracle of God's loving creation.

The statistics are also an indictment on the media which have generally ignored the media release on abortion statistics made by Statistics NZ. Is it not a tragedy that the media considers the tragedy reflected by the statistics of little interest and not worth even a mention? It was Joseph Stalin who said the killing of one human being is a tragedy and the killing of tens of thousands just a statistic. Since 1977 more than 500,000 children have been violently killed in their mother's womb, a massive violation of human rights. Why is the media so coldly indifferent to the killing of New Zealand children in their first nine months of life, why to are the Churches silent?



Right to Life requests that the government introduce abstinence sexuality programmes to replace Family Planning school sex education programs which encourage promiscuity with abortions arranged without the knowledge or consent of parents as a backup for failed contraceptives.

**Repeat abortions totalled 4,679, 3,009 were having their second, 1,075 were having their third, 396 were having their fourth, 129 their fifth, 43 their sixth, 14 their seventh and 13 their eighth or more. Right to Life believes that these statistics are under reported. Studies conducted in the United States, reveal that repeat abortions are actually 50 per cent of the total abortions reported.**

## Key Facts Abortion Statistics 2016

- The general abortion rate was 13.5 abortions per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years, down from 14.2 per 1,000 in 2015.
- Women aged 20–24 years had the highest abortion rate (21 abortions per 1,000 women aged 20–24 years), down from a high of 41 in 2003.
- Most abortions (64 percent) were a woman's first abortion.
- 57 percent of abortions were performed before the 10th week of the pregnancy.
- 18 percent of known pregnancies (live births, stillbirths, and abortions) ended in an abortion.

*“Political language is designed to make lies sound truthful and murder respectable, and to give an appearance of solidity to pure wind.”*

# NZ's Silent Holocaust- A loss to the Economy of \$20 Billion

**The loss of 500,000 Unborn New Zealand Children between 1978 and 2016. The Result: A Loss to the Economy of \$19,750,000,000**

It is fitting that as we commence a new year that we should pause and reflect again with grief and remorse on the 500,000 innocent and defenceless children who have been killed in their mother's wombs, since the passing of the Contraception Sterilisation and Abortion Act in 1977. The killing of these children is a violation of human rights and a crime against humanity. Their names are unknown and no grave stone marks their resting place. They were deemed to be unwanted and by some a threat to our community. Their discarded and broken human remains have been treated as "medical waste" to be incinerated. Their final resting place the local landfill. Shame on us! – for we are all guilty as our silence convicts us.

Each child is a unique and unrepeatable miracle of God's loving creation, each endowed at conception with human rights, the foundation right being an inalienable right to life. As a nation, we should weep for our children who came seeking only to love and to be loved. They came endowed with talents to enrich our nation.

It is fitting that we should grieve for our beloved dead, brothers and sisters who were murdered in their mother's wombs. It is important that we remember those who were not allowed to be born. "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." Their demise should fill us with grief. We should recognise them as members of our human family and God's precious infants, children who were lovingly knitted together by their Creator in their mother's womb.

**Right to Life asks, Why is there a deafening silence from the churches?**

It is also sobering to consider the financial loss to our community of these precious lives that were deemed to be of little worth. The Transport Department places a value to the economy on the loss of an individual life through motor accident, as at June 2014, being \$3.95 million VOSL value of statistical life. On this valuation the loss to the economy of the 500,000 lives lost is \$19,750,000,000. This figure is conservative as many of these unborn children would have gone on to marry and have children and many of these children would have also gone on to have children.

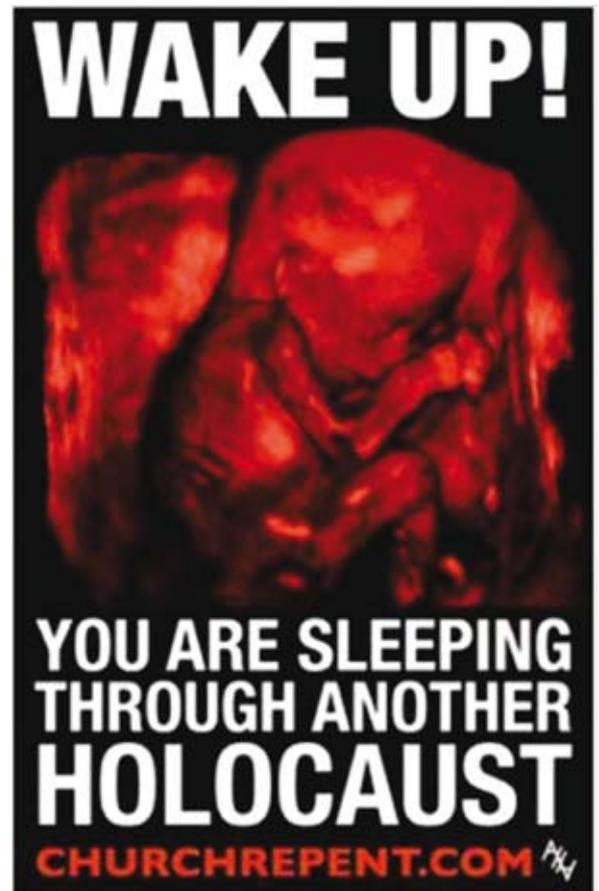
How many of these children would have gone on to contribute to our nation as homemakers and mothers, doctors, nurses, professionals, scientists, plumbers and carpenters. For a nation that has a birth rate of 1.9 and below the replacement birth rate of 2.1 we as a nation are destroying our future.

We should also mourn for the mothers of these children who were in many cases abandoned by the father of their child, subject to violence and coercion and left with little choice. Many too were coerced and seduced by Family Planning who told them that it was not a baby just 'a clump of cells, the contents of the uterus' and were told the lie that an abortion, a reproductive health service was fourteen times safer than allowing their child to be born. They are now suffering a lifetime of grief and pain for the loss of their child.

Right to Life must again and again keep asking, where are our churches? Why are they not speaking out about the atrocious holocaust that is abortion? Why is it that all we hear from them is a deafening silence?

The deaths of the innocent are an indictment on a nation that greets their murder with silence and permits their killing by government agencies under government approval. We should be overwhelmed with shame that this silent holocaust is condoned and funded by our society. In 1968 there were 1,968 adoptions, in 2015 there were only 152 adoptions.

It is estimated that there were only 20 local non family adoptions. Why does the government refuse to promote adoption as a loving option? The answer: It is now more politically correct to kill the child. God will not be mocked we are reaping what we have sown.



## PUT LIFE INTO YOUR WILL!

When writing or updating your Will in the future, give thought to saving a life and put aside something for Right to Life New Zealand. Just inform your solicitor or include a section in your Will.



# Government's Disfunctional Child Policy Exposes Women to Coercion and Violence

**Right to Life is disappointed that the government is now giving a message to fathers of the children of solo mothers that they do not have an obligation to provide for their children. The government is revoking the requirement of solo mothers to divulge the name of the father of their child. Fathers have a serious moral and legal obligation to provide financial support for the children that they have fathered. The state also has a serious moral obligation to ensure that fathers meet their obligations.**

**The law requiring fathers to support their children was passed by a National Government in 1990, the penalties for non-disclosure were increased by a Helen Clark Labour Government in 2005.**

The Minister of Social Development, Carmel Sepuloni lacks credibility when she says that the legislation discriminates against women and against Maori. Green Party Jan Logie, undersecretary for Justice stated that the name of the father was, "frankly none of the state's business." The Minister should note that the law is working, in 2004 there were 19,443 solo parents who were receiving a weekly \$28 reduction in their benefit because they had refused to divulge the name of the father of the child, this had reduced to 13,616 parents in 2016.

The legislation was passed by National in 1990 and the penalties for non-disclosure of the father's name was increased by the Helen Clark government in 2005. The Labour Minister of Social Development, the Honourable Steve Maharey in August 2004 said in Parliament:-

**"It is a rort, and I have said time and time again in this Parliament that fathers must front up to their obligations, and we will make sure they do, as much as we can."**

The community has a right to know why the government is supinely implementing this socially destructive policy of the Green party that Labour has meekly agreed to in their agreement for confidence and supply. The government also has a serious duty to protect the taxpayer. The Minister's intention to remove this requirement is in fact a massive discrimination against the taxpayer who is required to support the upbringing of the children of irresponsible and cowardly men.

The government in implementing the socially irresponsible child policy of the Green party is giving a dangerous message to predatory men that they can exploit and abandon women and their children with impunity. The new policy will expose solo mothers to increased coercion and violence, it will encourage fatherlessness and child poverty. Right to Life expects that it will result in a substantial increase in solo mothers being coerced into refusing to divulge the name of the father.

Solo mothers are our community's heroines who are heroically bringing up children without the help of a husband, they deserve the full support of the community and the government to ensure that fathers meet their obligations to their children.



## In His Hands

### THE STORY BEHIND THE PAINTING ON THE FRONT PAGE

I imagined a precious little unborn baby when pregnancy has reached about 26 weeks.

I wanted to present the value and potential of every new life. To emphasise baby's individual personhood, I changed the face to that of a six-month old baby. His or her unique DNA programming has been in place since the moment of conception. Now all the incredible body systems are in order.

The only things that are needed are time and loving nurture.

Baby is happily basking in divine light and is free from fear, cradled in God's strong and gentle hands.

The symbols of His love and Jesus' sacrifice on our behalf came as the painting developed.

The words, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you;"

found in Jeremiah 1 v 5, kept going through my head.

I hope 'In His Hands' will encourage those who face carrying their baby through to childhood.

I also hope and pray that this painting will bring comfort to those who have lost a baby.

Artist: Graham Braddock

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

## News in Brief

### Gender Identity Program

Right to Life is opposed to the gender identity sexuality program introduced into New Zealand schools in 2015. It has been introduced under the pretext of addressing bullying of transsexual students. It teaches children that it is their choice whether they wish to be a boy or a girl. It encourages children to dress in the clothes of the opposite sex if that suits them. Right to Life has sought and was refused a copy of the evaluation of this contentious Inside Out program from the Ministry of Social Development, a complaint has now been laid with the Ombudsman.

This is a very contentious program; the gender identity programme was designed by Rainbow Youth. This is the most intrusive and destructive programme of social engineering that has ever been imposed on our community. The new gender theory claims that the biological sex of individuals as man or woman is irrelevant to their identity but represents a "dictatorship of Nature" against their own self-definition, a dictatorship from which they must be freed. A person's identity is instead determined by his sexual orientation and is therefore flexible, changeable and diverse. This program is being promoted internationally by the LGBTQ movement which claims that there are now 112 genders that our children can choose from. This program is based on ideology not science. It is of the utmost importance that parents have information on the evaluation of this contentious and dangerous program which seeks to reorganise society.

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### Police Prosecution Unlawful Abortion

In 2013 RTL laid a complaint with the CIB in Christchurch against a lady doctor who had admitted giving a lethal drug RU 486 to three women for an unlawful abortion. Following a complaint to the Medical Council for unethical practice she was tried and found guilty by the Medical Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal. Dr N had also committed a crime which these professional bodies and the Abortion Supervisory Committee had refused to report to the Police for a case to be brought to the High Court. The case could not proceed until the court had lifted permanent name suppression. The request of the Crown Law Office for the name of the doctor was refused by the High Court on the grounds that none of the professional bodies had seen fit to prosecute this doctor therefore RTL should not be given the opportunity to pursue a prosecution. Justice has been denied for three unborn children who were denied their right to life.

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### Right to Life National Petition Opposing the Decriminalisation of Abortion.

RTL with the generous support of the Catholic Legion of Mary and dedicated pro-life activist brothers Tony and Don Brebner have conducted a successful national petition in churches. The petition is still open and has attracted the support of more than 15,300 petitioners. Copies of the petition may be downloaded from [www.righttolife.org.nz](http://www.righttolife.org.nz) Parliamentary Services have advised that the wording of the petition precludes it being presented to Parliament until a bill to decriminalise abortion is actually before Parliament. The Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, has publicly pledged to present a bill early in 2018. Right to Life will vigorously oppose this bill.

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*"Rescue those who are unjustly sentenced to death, don't stand back and let them die." "Human life begins at conception and every human being has been endowed by its Creator with an inalienable right to life." Quotes from Psalm 139, "For You created my inmost being You knit me together in my mother's womb." "I praise You because I am fearfully made your works are wonderful, I know that full well."*



## News in Brief *continued*

### Abortion Supervisory Committee

RTL conducts an ongoing correspondence with the Committee seeking increased legal protection for unborn children and their mothers. We recently challenged the continued appointment of Dr Helen Paterson a certifying consultant of Dunedin who publicly supported and was now campaigning for “a woman’s right to choose abortion” for any reason. Dr Patterson’s views are incompatible with the CS&A Act which prohibits the appointment of a certifying consultant who holds the view that abortion is a woman’s right to choose. The Committee is acting unlawfully in continuing her appointment.

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### Parliamentary Health Select Committee

Right to Life made a substantial written and oral submission opposing euthanasia to the Health Select Committee considering the petition of the Hon Maryan Street proposing legislation that would allow doctors to kill their patients or assist in their suicide. RTL also wrote to every Member of Parliament seeking their support to oppose the contentious euthanasia bill of David Seymour MP, leader of ACT.

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### Minister of Foreign Affairs

RTL is lobbying the government to cease funding the International Planned Parenthood Federation [IPPF] and the United Nations Family Agency which are at the forefront in promoting worldwide contraception, sterilisation and abortion. The IPPF performed nearly one million abortions in 2016.

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### Right to Life Prayer Vigil –Thames Hospital

A group of pro-life members had been praying weekly for about five years outside the Thames Hospital where unborn babies were killed. The Thames Coromandel District Council had issued a permit in 2016 in the name of Right to Life for pro-life people to pray outside the Thames Hospital on a Friday morning. This permit was opposed by members of the Green party who gathered to disrupt those praying. Right to Life obtained a legal submission to present to the Thames Coromandel District Council supporting their right of free speech and assembly. RTL also organised an on line petition of 1,170 that was presented to the council in support of the human rights of those in the vigil. The council have now confirmed their approval of pro-life members exercising their right of free speech and assembly. The Green party are expected in this term to present a private member’s bill or alternatively support a government bill seeking to outlaw people praying or assembling within 150 meters of abortion clinics. Right to Life will vigorously oppose any move to restrict our human rights.

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### Southern Cross Hospital Abortion Licence

Right to Life learnt in May from the Abortion Supervisory Committee as the result of an Official Information Act request that the Southern Cross Hospital at Rotorua had applied for an abortion licence .RTL immediately wrote to the CEO of Southern Cross to oppose the application. RTL also made a media release opposing the application for a licence. The immediate result was that the CEO had the application withdrawn.

This is the second time that Southern Cross have applied for a licence for one of their hospitals to kill babies in the womb. It is pleasing that both applications were withdrawn following protests from RTL. We are committed to ensuring that Southern Cross upholds a culture of life and opposes a culture of death.

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*For the question remains, do women want abortion? Not like she wants a Porsche or an ice cream cone. Like an animal caught in a trap, trying to gnaw off its own leg, a woman who seeks an abortion is trying to escape a desperate situation by an act of violence and self-loss. Abortion is not a sign that women are free, but a sign that they are desperate.*

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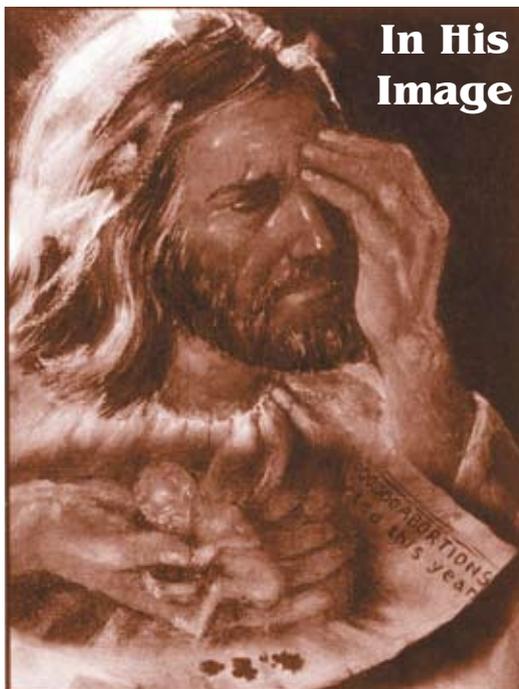
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**In His  
Image**

**'Father forgive them for they do not know what  
they are doing.'** (Luke 23:24)

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accepts evil is as  
much involved in  
it as he who helps  
to perpetrate it.*

*He who accepts  
evil without  
protesting  
against it is really  
co-operating*

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