

# RIGHT TO LIFE NEWS

#### NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2012

# Ongoing protest at Victorian Parliament

## They need your help!



The banner which spanned 180 metres

At the start of 2012, Dave Forster a veteran pro life activist and member of the Helpers of God's Precious Infants organised with his daughter Therese to start a pro life banner protest.

The protest was to take place on MacArthur Street behind the Victorian Parliament House, commencing upon the first sitting day of Parliament for 2012.

The plan was to stage a demonstration that escalated throughout the year by using a banner identifying the number of surgical abortion deaths in Victoria, where the banner kept getting longer as the abortion numbers continued to increase.

Dave used Bureau of Statistics figures for Victoria from previous years as the basis for the number of surgical abortion deaths that would occur in 2012. Dave's growing protest involved pro lifers peacefully holding up a green 'garden shadecloth' banner with simple painted white crosses to represent every unborn baby killed by surgical abortion in Victoria over the course of a year. Dave estimated that there would be at least 17,000 such abortions in one calendar year in Victoria alone. To accommodate this number of crosses, the green banner would need to expand progressively until it would be about one hundred and eighty metres long.

The banner was to be displayed from about 8am to 9.30am on each Parliamentary sitting day.

The aim was to get across an important message to Victoria's parliamentary representatives. To be specific, they were responsible for failing to act against the growing abortion holocaust in Victoria, and also many of them were responsible for legalising the worst and most liberal abortion laws in Australia, and amongst the worst in the western world.

The protests were intended to occur every parliamentary sitting day from February until December 2012. Almost all of the members of the lower and upper house arrive at Parliament House by car and drive in the MacArthur Street back driveway between 7.30am and 9.30am. They can't help seeing and noticing a demonstration like this, growing right before their eyes. They also can't help but have noticed how much the banner has grown from February to November 2012.

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Dave Foster

When it started, the banner required about five people to hold it up. Now it requires about thirty two people. At the most recent demonstrations, exactly that number of protesters turned up, after Dave had made a concerted effort to contact as many people as he possibly could.

You may be interested to know that some of the feminist and pro abortion elements in State Parliament are not at all happy about the protest. They have recently sought the assistance of Protective Services and Security Staff to threaten to move the protest away to the front steps of Parliament House, on the basis of alleged complaints about the banner being set up on the footpath and forcing pedestrians to walk onto the road. Unfortunately for them, the footpath on MacArthur Street is not defined as part of the Parliamentary Precinct. The upcoming sitting days are 13-15 November 2012, 27-29 November 2012 and 11-13 December 2012. Are you able to help Dave with holding the banners? He can be contacted on email address: MForster Forster <m dforster@yahoo.com.au>

Paul Johnson Committee Member

The RTLA office will close over Christmas & New Year – closing Wed 19 Dec at midday and re-open Tue 8 Jan 2013.

## A.G.M. 2012 Results

The A.G.M. was held in heated circumstances at the Right to Life office in East Brunswick, Melbourne, on 20 November 2012. The meeting closed 6 ½ hours later at 12.30 a.m. and the result of the ballot for office bearers was an overwhelming victory for Margaret Tipe and her team.

Office Bearers: Margaret M Tighe (President)
Dr Toni Turnbull (Vice President)

John Dynan (Treasurer)

Mary Collier (Secretary)

Committee Members: Ewan McDonald Paul Johnson

Dr Katrina Haller Meloney Schuiling Lucia Doyle (PCA) Trudi Aiashi

To those who voted – many thanks for your support Top priority is to get back to the real work of saving lives

## **Heartbeat Ball -**Saturday 16 Feb 2013

The Heartbeat Ball 2013 is a joint initiative coordinated by Right to Life member Meloney Schuiling and Right to Life Australia.

This ball is to raise funds for Pregnancy Counselling Australia which is an arm of Right to Life Australia, working with mothers in crisis pregnancies. Please buy a ticket for the 'Heartbeat Ball' which will be held on Saturday 16th Feb 2013, 7pm-12am at Elizabethan Lodge (Blackburn North).

There will be a delicious 3 course meal, unlimited drinks, entertainment, raffle and auction (\$85 per ticket/ \$80 concession). For those who attended last year's PCA dinner you will remember the wonderful band who donate their services and were a highlight of the evening.

Funds raised will help save babies' lives, so please invite your friends and join us.

If you are an artist, photographer or have a business and can contribute towards the auction or raffle please email Meloney Schuiling (heartbeatball2013@gmail.com). For tickets call 93850100

## **A Human Interest story**

One day we received a package at our office. The man making the delivery was blond with blue eyes and was wearing a bright yellow tee-shirt. He was well built and looked as though he spent many hours in the gym.

As he waited for our signature he casually asked, "What is this place? Is it an abortion clinic?"

After we recovered from the initial shock of the question we told him about us. He stopped what he was doing and looked thoughtful. He proceeded to tell us of his first experience with abortion. He and his then girlfriend decided that being young and pregnant was not for them at that time; so that was that, an abortion was performed.

He continued to tell us that several years later another girlfriend, who was Irish, was pregnant. "I suggested a termination," he told us. "But", he continued, "She said no and she had the baby: a beautiful little boy who is now seven years old. She's been away to Ireland with him and although she and I still have our differences, I can't wait to see him again; he's just a beautiful little boy!"

Taking his leave, he admitted that occasionally he does think with regret of that first child whose life he and his then girlfriend did not accept.

Margaret Tighe

## Thanks from Fiji M.P.

In the September October newsletter we reported a plan of the infamous Dr Philip Nitschke to open a euthanasia clinic similar to "Dignitas" (in Switzerland). Fortunately the Fiji government has opposed the plan in Fiji.

The following is a copy of a letter sent to Margaret Tighe from Dr Jiko Luveni, Minister for Social Welfare, Women and Poverty Alleviation, in Fiji.

Dear Ms Tighe

### re: Rejection of Establishment of an Euthanasia Clinic in Fiji

Thank you for your letter dated 5th September, 2012 on the subject captioned above.

On behalf of the people of Fiji, I would like to thank you very much for bringing to our attention the intention of Dr Philip Nitschke to link up with Fiji on such a 'horrendous proposition'.

Your concern and care for the people of Fiji on the repercussions of Dr Nitschke is very much appreciated.

With best regards

J*Luveni* Dr. Jiko Luveni

Minister for Social Welfare, Women and Poverty Alleviation

## The U.S. Elections

Not good news for the prolife movement! Ouite apart from the re election of the pro-abortion President Barack Obama who will continue to fund Planned Parenthood, amongst other measures, the general impression has been given by the proabortion media, that the reason that Obama won the women's vote was because he is pro abortion!

Of major concern is the defeat of two Republican senators who were caught out with unfortunate comments on abortion and rape. In principle they were right in not justifying abortion for rape victims but they dealt with the matter very awkwardly.

Another major concern is that the U.S. Senate votes for members of the Supreme Court and as the president nominates new justices, Obama will certainly choose pro abortion justices. And that will mean that the overturning of the Roe v Wade recedes further in the distance.

**Margaret M Tighe** 

## Are the pro aborts getting worried?!

Recently we have seen items in the media that are clearly designed to remind us of the so called "bad old days" before abortion in Victoria was legalised.

First there was the article in Fairfax Media's Good Weekend magazine, that told of the misfortune of Irish women who still have to travel to the U.K. for their abortions.

Then there was the article by well known feminist, Anne Summers, published in The Age newspaper recently, which gave a graphic account of her abortion carried out by some sleazy abortionist doctor in Melbourne. Ms Summers, at the time, was a young university student from Adelaide.

And, finally there was the mini drama screened by A.B.C. T.V. on Thursday November 1st - "Dangerous Remedy" which was the story of the late Dr Bertram Wainer, Melbourne's leading abortionist, who, with his second wife, Jo Wainer, established the infamous Fertility Control Clinic in East Melbourne.

The film portrayed Wainer as the "hero" of the pro abortion movement. It was he who stated that the infamous ruling by Supreme Court judge the late Mr Justice Menhennitt, in 1969, had given the "green light" to the pro abortion movement. Justice Menhennitt in judging the case of a Geelong abortionist, declared that an abortion was lawful "if it was carried out in order to prevent serious damage to the physical and/or mental health of the woman – that not being the normal dangers of pregnancy."

Ironically, Wainer proved to be correct because the then premier, Rupert Hamer, certainly did give "the green light" to Victoria's abortionists. He told me in just so many words, that he agreed with the infamous U.S. Supreme Court decision on abortion in 1973, that swept away that country's abortion laws. Hamer also told me that the government could not question whether or not a doctor was "acting in good faith." This was in 1979. And so the abortion flood gates were opened. The abortion epidemic just grew and grew until today, through the infamous Abortion Law Reform Act 2008 babies can be aborted up till birth!

No doubt some Victorian M.P.s have been made aware of the current abortion holocaust by our lobbying and by the effective protest outside the parliament.

Let's keep up our opposition to the killing!

**Margaret Tighe** 

# Greens try to overturn ban on euthanasia

The Age. 19/11/12. Richard Willingham

EUTHANASIA will be thrust on to the national agenda again with the Greens set to introduce laws that would overturn a ban on the territories legalising the controversial practice.

Greens senator Richard Di Natale, a doctor, will today

announce that the party is drafting legislation that would wind back a 1997 Kevin Andrews bill that banned the Northern Territory, ACT and Norfolk Island from allowing euthanasia. Mr Andrews, now shadow minister for families, introduced the legislation in 1996 after the Northern Territory's approval of euthanasia. Then prime minister John Howard allowed a conscience vote.

Asked last year, Prime Minister Julia Gillard said Labor MPs should be granted a conscience vote on euthanasia. Senator Di Natale said there was clear public support for euthanasia and that territories were a good place to test social reforms because they were more open-minded and had a wider range of voices. "This is an issue that deserves a conscience vote," Senator Di Natale said. ...Former Greens leader Bob Brown tried twice to repeal Mr Andrews' law but his bills were never put to a vote.

The Victorian senator has raised the issue with the Greens' sole ACT Assembly representative, Shane Rattenbury, who was positive about raising the issue in the ACT. Mr Rattenbury holds the balance of power in the ACT Parliament and in exchange for supporting the Labor government has been given the Ministries of Territory and Municipal Services, Corrections and Housing.

Whilst Senator Di Natale's bill is not ready yet, when federal parliament resumes next February we must prepare to lobby senators either by mail, in person or by email. Instructions will be sent to you with the January / February 2013 Right to Life news.

#### **Abortion & Ireland**

The small country of Ireland has constantly resisted attempts to legalise abortion. To their credit the people of Northern Ireland have also resisted the siren song of baby killing, despite the UK's abortion bill of 1967. Abortion in Northern Ireland is only strictly allowed for the life of the mother as is the case in Eire.

Tragically, at least 4000 Irish women travel to the UK to have their unborn aborted each year. Articles in the press since the death of an Indian woman living in Ireland, who was mis-carrying her 17 week old baby, have raged against the so called injustice of the woman being denied an abortion.

The reality is that as she had septicaemia she may well have died anyway, with or without an abortion. Indeed Ireland has the lowest maternal mortality rate in the world and they haven't legalised abortion!

The truth is, that should the Irish government give in to the demands of the pro-abortion lobby over the death of this woman, the abortion flood gates will open and the incidence of abortions will reflect the unacceptably high rate experienced in countries like the UK, US and Australia.

Which could lead us to say-

"Never before have so many died for so few!"



## News from around the world

### Morocco

#### Abortion rights yacht in Mediterranean

Annaliza Borg 07.10.12 [independent.com.mt] Moroccan police on Thursday escorted from its waters the small yacht carrying women's rights activists Women on Waves, after anti-abortion protesters jeered them on land.

Women on Waves, claim to prevent unsafe abortions and unwanted pregnancies by providing "sexual health services."

A Dutch group sailed the boat which is equipped to provide "safe, legal, medical abortions" up until six-and-a-half weeks of pregnancy.

Abortion in Morocco is illegal. Moroccan officials had said that the boat would not be allowed into the harbour and police sealed the port for what they called "military maneuvers", denying journalist access. "We are here because we cannot accept these values, the values of massacre", said 23-year-old protester Abdessamad Zilali. "It is not part of our tradition to kill the unborn."

The Women on Waves boat was invited to Morocco by a local women's rights organization seeking the legalization of abortion in this North African kingdom.

## **United Kingdom**

## Abortion law: David Cameron has "no plans' for new rules [www.bbc.co.uk 6 October 2012]

The government has "no plans' to bring in new laws governing when a woman can legally have an abortion, Prime Minister David Cameron has said.

The PM spoke after Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt told the Times he personally favoured a move to halve the abortion limit from 24 weeks to 12.

The 24-week limit applies to England, Wales and Scotland.

Abortion is illegal in Northern Ireland except in exceptional medical circumstances, such as when the mother's health is at risk.

Mr Hunt told the paper: "My view is that 12 weeks is the right point for it."

The PM said he "personally" favoured a "modest reduction" from the current limit of 24 weeks.

Home Secretary Theresa May and Women's Minister Maria Miller backed a change to a 20-week limit

Gynaecologist Professor Wendy Savage said: "The number of abortions that take place over 20 weeks is very small."

"I think the majority of the population think that if somebody has got a foetus that, if born, will have a severe disability they should have the right to choose whether or not to continue with that pregnancy," she said.

There were nearly 190,000 abortions for women in England and Wales last year, according to Department of Health figures.

#### Sweden

#### Nobel Prize in medicine awarded to Sir John Gurdon and Sinya Yamanaka

CNN Wire Staff 11/10/12 2012 [CNN.com] The 2012 Noble Prize for Physiology or Medicine was awarded Monday to Sir John B. Gurdon and Shinya Yamanaka for their discovery that mature, specialised cells can be reprogrammed to become immature cells

capable of developing into all tissues of the body.

"These ground-breaking discoveries have completely changed our view of the development and cellular specialisation", the Nobel Assembly said.

Separated by more than 40 years, the work of Gurdon and Yamanaka led to a practical medical use for stem cell research that sidesteps the main argument by anti-abortion opponents.

Now embryonic-like stem cells can be created in the laboratory from adult cells of the same organism, rather than using aborted foetuses or embryos, explained Visar Belegu, a stem cell researcher at the Hugo W. Moser Research Institute, part of the Kennedy Kriegar Institute in Baltimore.

For example, a person suffering from Parkinson's disease can have personal iPS cells created from their blood. Those cells, can then be used to make new dopaminergic neurons that can be implanted to replace the cells damaged by the disease.

#### **United States**

The Beginning of the End of the Abortion Industry. Tim Drake 23/10/12 [www.catholic-

worldreport.com].

Over the past five years, growing numbers of US abortion workers have left the industry.

For former Planned Parenthood director Abby Johnson, the turning point came when she asked to assist with an ultrasound-guided abortion.

"Abortions are typically performed blind," explained Johnson, who served as health director for Planned Parenthood in College Station, Texas. "The doctor takes the suction instrument and probes until he thinks he's gotten everything."

What Johnson saw on-screen would forever change her life.

On October 6, 2009, one week and two days after participating in the abortion, Johnson left Planned Parenthood.

Johnson isn't the first to have experienced a Saul to Paul like moment leading to a departure from the abortion industry.

In recent years the exodus from the abortion industry has increased. Over the past five years alone, at least 70 abortion workers have had a change of heart and mind and have left the industry.

Workers feel trapped psychologically by the lies they are told, and end up believing themselves.

"The veil of lies is so thick," said Green. "The euphemisms that surround the culture of death make it psychologically accessible."

#### Nurses oppose assisted suicide

Wesley J.Smith 28/10/12 [www.nationalreview.com] The American Nursing Association has a draft opinion out reiterating its opposition to euthanasia and assisted suicide:

"The American Nurses Association (ANA) is strongly opposed to nurses' participation in assisted suicide and active euthanasia because these acts are in direct violation of The Code of Ethics for Nurses (The Code 2001), the ethical traditions and goals of the profession, and its covenant with society.

The Code (2001) speaks of nurses' commitment to the inherent: "worth, dignity and rights of all human beings irrespective of the nature of the health problem. The worth of the person is not affected by death, disability, functional status, or proximity to death."

This is a hugely important point but typically, one

the media continually ignore or refuse to see in their emotive and one sided coverage of this crucial cultural issue.

## News from the US Elections Pro-Abortion President Barack Obama Defeats Mitt Romney

LifeNews.com | 11/7/12

In a disappointing night for pro-life advocates, proabortion President Barack Obama defeated pro-life candidate Mitt Romney in the race for president.

Romney was unable to capture the battleground states necessary to defeat the pro-abortion president. Although he captured Republican states like North Carolina and Indiana, he was unable to win key states like Ohio. Other states like Michigan, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and others that Romney hoped to be able to pick up from the Obama column did not come through for him.

The differences between the two candidates on abortion were stark.

Because a federal Human Life Amendment to the Constitution is an extraordinarily difficult long-term prospect, overturning Roe v. Wade is the only real method of achieving legal protection for unborn children any time soon. When it comes to Roe v. Wade, Obama has repeatedly voiced his support for the infamous abortion decision while Romney had repeatedly said he wants it overturned.

Romney assembled a team of pro-life, conservative legal heavyweights to advise him on the legal matters.

## Pro-Life Leaders react to re-election of President Barack Obama

LifeNews.com | 11/7/12 Share

Leading pro-life advocates were disappointed by the news that pro-abortion President Barack Obama was re-elected to another four-year term.

Kristan Hawkins, the president of Students for Life of America, urged pro-lifers to not give up.

Voters in Massachusetts appear to have prevented the state from becoming the third to legalize assisted suicide when they considered

LifeNews.com | 11/7/12

With 87% of all votes recorded, Question 2 at the ballot box ... (Prescribing Medication to End Life)... is behind 51-49 percent, losing by about 29,000 votes out of approximately 2.5 million cast.

The Catholic Church was among the most outspoken opponents of Question 2. Boston Cardinal Sean O'Malley urged parishioners to vote against the measure: "Laws must not be born out of emotions. Laws need to reflect the moral law, the common good and the protection of the most vulnerable."

The Massachusetts Medical Society, the statewide professional association of physicians with more than 24,000 members, also declared its opposition

Lynda M. Young, past president, testified "Assisted suicide is fundamentally incompatible with the physician's role as healer. "Instead of participating in assisted suicide, physicians must aggressively respond to the needs of patients at the end of life. ... Patients must continue to receive emotional support, comfort care, adequate pain control, respect for patient autonomy, and good communication."