

Ohio Passes Historic “Heartbeat Bill”

In a quiet ceremony this afternoon (April 11), Ohio Governor Mike DeWine signed into law Substitute Senate Bill 23, the “Human Rights and Heartbeat Protection Act.” The law will take effect in 90 days.

“Governor DeWine continues his lifelong commitment to protecting the unborn with his signature on one of the strongest Pro-Life bills in our nation,” remarked Margie Christie, President of the Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio (RTLACO) and Executive Director, Dayton Right to Life. “This law will protect tens of thousands of pre-born Ohioans from the horrors of abortion.”

The law prohibits the performance of an abortion upon detection of a fetal heartbeat using standard medical procedures, usually at around six weeks gestation. The law provides a waiver of the requirement should the mother's life be in danger and an abortion is the medically-necessary procedure to protect her life. Violations by medical providers are a fifth-degree felony, and possible fines by the State Medical Board of up to \$20,000 can be levied. A provision of the law provides funding for adoption and foster care assistance, utilizing fine monies surrendered by providers.

The Ohio Department of Health is directed to write rules within 120 days of the law's enactment to create the standards for detection of the fetal heartbeat.

“We are confident Governor DeWine's Health Director, Dr. Amy Acton, will write solid rules to implement this life saving law,” stated Molly Smith, President of Cleveland Right to Life and RTLACO President-Elect. “The Governor has been consistent in his pro-life principles, which we greatly appreciate.”

From Right to Life Acton Coalition press release, April 11, 2019.

A Record Year for the Garage Sale



Thanks to so many volunteers, donors, and shoppers, our annual garage sale in Russia set a new record, raising more than \$10,000 for the activities of Right to Life. Your generosity is amazing!

Congratulations to Mark Ball of Houston, winner of the 50/50 raffle.

Special thanks to Maria Hoehne and the entire Russia community for their strong support of this annual event.

Thrift Shop Report

February

156 Customers
2 Work-to-earn shifts

March

154 Customers
1 Free unit

Doctor Admits Many Euthanized without Request

2

All is not good in the Belgian euthanasia lobby as leaders and advocates argue about organ donation by euthanasia and euthanasia without request. An article by Simon Demeulemeester and Jeroen de Preter published in *The Knack* last year concerns comments by euthanasia doctors Marc Cosyns and Wim Distelmans. In response to Ivo Poppe, a nurse who admitted to killing 10–20 people, including his mother, Cosyns told the Belgian media that each year there are 1000 assisted deaths without request.

Cosyns only restated the data from a study published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* (April 19, 2015) indicating that 1.7% of all deaths (more than 1000) in the Flanders region of Belgium, were hastened without explicit request in 2013. An earlier study found that 1.8% of all deaths in the Flanders region of Belgium were hastened without explicit request in 2007, meaning that the problem has been consistent.

Distelmans, the chair of the Belgian euthanasia commission, attempts to cover up the data from the study by stating that ending of life without consent occurred before euthanasia became legal and is only done when a physician has “no choice.” Distelmans says (google translated): “Doctors in particular who stood with their backs against the wall. Their decision was always well-considered and well-reasoned. If a nurse was involved, it was purely to provide technical assistance, for example by installing an infusion. It is unthinkable that nurses would administer a euthanatic drug on their own.”

Distelmans not only tries to cover up the data from the NEJM study, he covers up the data from a study that was published in the *Canadian Medical Association Journal* (May 17, 2010) indicating that in 2007, nurses participated in 248 euthanasia deaths with 120 of those deaths being done without the explicit consent of the patient. The data also indicated that nurses participated in 12% of the euthanasia deaths with a request from the patient and 45% of the euthanasia deaths that they participated in were done without the request of the patient.

By Alex Schadenberg, March 12, 2019, <https://alexschadenberg.blogspot.com>.

“Unplanned” Film Boosts Quitting Abortion Workers

Abby Johnson’s powerful conversion story is moving hearts inside the abortion industry. Chuck Konzelman, who is a co-writer/co-director of “Unplanned,” the new film detailing Johnson’s life, said nearly 100 abortion workers have reached out to them in the past few weeks because they are thinking about quitting, *The Western Journal* reports.

Johnson quit her job at Planned Parenthood a decade ago after watching an ultrasound-guided abortion and seeing the unborn baby fight for its life. Now, she runs a ministry called And Then There Were None, which provides support for abortion industry workers who want to quit. Since the ministry began, Johnson said they have helped nearly 500 abortion workers quit.

Konzelman told a U.S. Senate Judiciary meeting Wednesday that 94 abortion workers have reached out to the ministry since they released the film. Konzelman said Johnson wanted the film to realistically portray abortion workers, many of whom, as she once did, go into the job truly believing they are helping women. “Abby was very firm that she wanted this film to be a love letter to those trapped in the abortion industry,” he said.

The film opened in theaters nationwide at the end of March. “Unplanned” opened in fourth place during its first weekend. It earned a surprising \$6.1 million on opening weekend and stayed in the top 10 in its second week at the box office.

Excerpted from Micaiah Bilger, LfeNews.com, April 12, 2019.



For all who are involved in the abortion industry; may they come to see and embrace the truth and find healing and peace by escaping from the culture of death.

40 Days for Life Campaign Saves 446 Babies... and Counting

The largest Lenten 40 Days for Life campaign is in the books and we have 446 confirmed reports of babies saved from abortion! And reports are continuing to come in!

Marcus in Memphis, Tennessee brought his girlfriend to Planned Parenthood for an abortion. He didn't want her to abort their baby, so instead of accompanying her inside the building, he stopped to talk with Meg, the sidewalk counselor on duty. Meg promised help and urged Marcus to text his girlfriend to come out of Planned Parenthood to talk.

"A few minutes later, she came out!" said Jessie, the Memphis leader. "She was smiling and said she wanted to go to the pregnancy center."

Marcus was smiling "ear-to-ear" too. "He said he was going to be the best dad to this baby," Jessie said. "He talked about how much his baby meant to him."

Before departing, Marcus even joined the vigil!

Cincinnati, Ohio

Heavy street traffic prevented a young woman from exiting the Planned Parenthood in Cincinnati. The delay provided a prayer volunteer with an opportunity to offer help.

"I approached her and called to her, 'Is there anything we can do to help you?'" the vigil participant reported.

"I changed my mind," the young mother replied. "I didn't do it. It's a baby!"

The 40 Days for Life participant gave her some information on local pregnancy help centers. Before driving away, the expectant mom smiled and said, "I'm going to get some pre-natal vitamins."

Spring Valley, New York

Vigil participants in Spring Valley got a powerful reminder that abortion isn't always a matter of "choice."

When an abortion-bound woman saw people praying for her and read their signs offering help to empower her to choose life, she decided NOT to have an abortion.

The man with her went berserk. The situation turned so ugly that police came to tell the man he could not force the woman to have an abortion.

"Please pray for this brave woman as she has said YES to LIFE," said Eileen, the local leader.

We thank God for this woman's courage and for her choice for life. But this disturbing incident also reminds us that—though 40 Days for Life has ended—our work to end abortion in our communities is not over.

From 40 Days for Life Blog, April 15, 2019. 40DaysforLife.com.

**In memory of Harold Dammeyer,
In whose honor a memorial donation was made to Right to Life.
+ May he rest in peace. +**

Membership Matters: About *Your* Organization

Whether you're a brand-new member or a decades-long veteran of the pro-life movement, we are grateful for your membership. Here are a few facts about Right to Life that may help you to appreciate the organization:

- ❖ Right to Life of Shelby County is made up of more than 500 dues-paying families, representing more than 1000 members in Shelby County and the vicinity. Of these, about 75 are lifetime members, having made a long-term commitment to RTL.
- ❖ RTL was founded in 1974, just one year after the *Roe v. Wade* decision. The organized pro-life movement was born in Ohio, and Shelby County was one of the earliest local groups.
- ❖ The thrift shop, which supports mothers and families as they care for their young children, has been a central part of RTL from the beginning. Since moving to our present location about twelve years ago, our capacity to serve and our number of clients have increased substantially.
- ❖ RTL sponsors a wide array of public awareness and educational programs. Over the years, we have been a pro-life presence at county fairs, health fairs, community festivals, and parades. We've sponsored a post-abortion healing program, and pro-life lectures, forums, and vigils. We've published letters and ads in local newspapers, erected road signs, and provided information on political issues and candidates.

None of this would be possible without you, our members. Right to Life is *your* organization, and we welcome not only your support but also your input as we continue to build a culture of life in our community and beyond.