



Pro-Lifers Offer Downtown Witness at Life Chain

Around one hundred local pro-lifers turned out for the Life Chain on the court square in Sidney, Sunday, October 5. Widely recognized as Respect Life Sunday, the date also falls within the 40 Days for Life observance, which encourages prayer and efforts toward ending abortion and all violations on the dignity of human life.

After RTL program director Kevin Schmiesing welcomed participants, the Rev. Steve Chapman, Pastor of Sidney Wesleyan Fellowship, opened the ceremony with a prayer. Christy (Trisler) Peterson then gave a spirited rendition of the speech that won her first place in this year's local Right to Life Oratory Contest and third place in the state contest.

Attendees then took up pro-life posters and lined the streets of the court square, providing a prayerful witness to passing motorists. After the group re-gathered at the courthouse, RTL membership committee representative Elizabeth Barhorst offered brief comments on the importance of being a member of the RTL organization. The event closed with a reading of Psalm 139, "You knit me in my mother's womb."

Immediately following the Life Chain, many attendees gathered at the Thrift Shop for an Open House celebrating the completion of RTL's recent renovation. Thank you to all members who attended, and to all those who assisted with the Life Chain and Open House.

From India: More Evidence for Abortion-Breast Cancer Link

The following is an excerpt from Steven W. Mosher, Population Research Council Weekly Briefing: 2014 (v16, September 18), where Mosher reports on data from new studies sent to him from a friend, Brent Rooney. Mosher summarizes the data from a chart that we do not include here. Visit www.pop.org for more information.

Looking at the data Brent had sent me from his office in Vancouver, British Columbia, I could see why he was so excited. He had found twelve recent studies in the medical literature, all carried out on the Indian subcontinent, that looked into whether there was a link between prior abortions and breast cancer. And all twelve found that women who had had prior abortions were at an increased risk of developing breast cancer.

Let me repeat that: each and every one of these studies done on the Indian subcontinent suggested a link between abortion and breast cancer. Before your eyes glaze over, focus on the third column, the "Odds Ratio." This is the key indicator here because it represents the odds of developing breast cancer if you have had a prior abortion (compared to the odds of developing breast cancer if you haven't). Note that all twelve studies have an Odds Ratio greater than 1.0, indicating increased risk.

But get this: the average Odds Ratio for these twelve studies is 5.54. That means that the breast cancer risk for Indian women who have had prior abortions is five and a half times that of women who have not. Continued on page 2

January March for Life

Shelby County RTL will again be organizing a bus to travel to the National March for Life, January 22, 2015 in Washington, D.C. As in recent years, we will attend the Youth Rally and Mass for Life prior to the March.

Details are still being determined, but further information will be sent via e-mail to members and will also be available on our web site sometime in December.

Clothing center report

In August, 152 clients purchased items, 19 used certificates from classes, and 13 received free items. In September, 195 clients purchased items, 21 used certificates from classes, 22 received free items, and 2 were referred to the women's center.

Another way to put it is that you have a 554% increased risk of developing breast cancer if you have had a prior induced abortion. That's pretty scary, isn't it?

Abortion-rights activists, who like to argue that abortion has no lasting health risks, will find it very, very difficult to explain away such numbers. It's not surprising that in recent years, when the topic of the ABC link comes up, many offer perfunctory denials and then quickly change the subject.

Another reason why these findings are so important is that women in India and neighboring countries are simply ideal subjects for studies of the ABC link. They marry early, do not use the pill, have multiple pregnancies, and breastfeed their babies. In other words, all of the other major risk factors for breast cancer are ... absent.

Many women in countries like the United States, Australia, and Great Britain, on the other hand, all engage in other behaviors—besides abortion—that can cause breast cancer. They marry late or not at all. They use oral contraceptives when young and go on Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT) when older. They have only one or no full-term pregnancies. And they do not breastfeed.

When these “confounding factors”—as they are called—are present, they make it difficult to sort out just how much induced abortions raise a woman's lifetime breast cancer risk. But they are largely absent in India, so the ABC link comes through loud and clear. In fact, the ABC link these Indian studies confirm is stronger than other risk factors for breast cancer that we know of, such as advanced age, having a family history of breast cancer, or being childless.

These new Indian studies have come to light not long after the publication of a huge meta-analysis of 36 (thirty-six!) studies done in Mainland China. This study also showed a statistically significant risk of breast cancer following abortion. For Chinese women who have had one or more induced abortions the increased risk was 44% (Odds Ratio 1.44). The risk jumped to 76% for women who had had two or more previous abortions.

As Dr. Joel Brind, perhaps the leading authority on the Abortion-Breast Cancer link, notes, “The [China] study confirmed the results I and my co-authors from Penn State Medical College had reported in 1996 in the British Medical Association's epidemiology journal.” The Brind et al study showed an increased risk of 30% (Odds Ratio 1.3).

There are reams of reliable data. There are—literally—dozens of studies showing that women who undergo induced abortions have a significantly increased risk of developing breast cancer down the road. And yet.... The abortion movement continues to whistle past the graveyard—where the bodies of women who have died from abortion-induced breast cancer are buried. It continues to try and discredit the mounting evidence of an ABC link by claiming, “Weak associations can turn up by chance and are therefore random and meaningless.”

Well, the associations revealed in the Indian and Chinese studies were not weak at all, but statistically very robust. Women deserve to know that they are at significantly greater risk of developing breast cancer if they undergo an induced abortion.

Why doesn't the abortion movement—which claims to have the interests of women at heart—warn them about this risk? Why do they continue to concoct flawed arguments, and publish flawed studies, in an attempt to discredit an ABC link that has now been clearly proven?

In memory of

Adelle Henke, longtime member of RTL;

Patricia DeMange, who made countless baby quilts
for RTL through the years; and

Karl Naseman, longtime member and husband of former
RTL board member Sally Naseman;

In whose names memorial donations were made.

+May they rest in peace.+

It's fairly obvious to me that the deniers are more concerned about promoting their own dogmatic beliefs than they are about saving women's lives. The radical feminists believe that women need to be liberated from childbearing. The radical abortion movement believes that Planned Parenthood needs to make money. And the radical environmentalists believe the planet needs to be relieved of its burden of humanity.

They are irresponsibly advancing their own deadly agendas at the expense of science and women's lives. What's scientific and liberating about that?

We pray in thanksgiving for successful 40 Days for Life events. We pray for more and stronger pro-life political leaders to emerge from this year's elections. We pray for the leaders of our nation and our religious leaders; grant them wisdom and the courage to seek justice for all persons at all stages of life.



Sandra Cano, Doe of Doe v. Bolton Abortion Case, Passes Away

When most Americans think of abortion, they frequently refer to the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court case that legalized it. However, it is a lesser known case that helped make abortion so prevalent: Doe v. Bolton. Sandra Cano, the "Mary Doe" of the infamous case, never wanted an abortion. But, like Norma McCorvey, the Roe of Roe v. Wade, she was used to topple pro-life laws across the country. Cano had been critically ill in a hospital outside of Atlanta dealing with throat cancer, sepsis and heart failure. On September 30, she passed away.

As the companion case to Roe v. Wade, the Doe decision saw the high court define "health" to include "all factors — physical, emotional, psychological, familial, and the woman's age" that may prompt someone who have an abortion. Pro-life groups have since opposed health exceptions in any pro-life legislation because it would essentially allow for all abortions to remain legal. Cano eventually filed a lawsuit seeking to overturn Doe v. Bolton but was unsuccessful.

Father Pavone of Priests for Life recalled that during a 1997 event at the National Memorial for the Unborn in Chattanooga, TN, Sandra said: "I pledge that as long as I have breath, I will strive to see abortion ended in America." Calling her statement "a lasting hope for our nation," Father Pavone said: "Sandra's work to overturn that devastating decision that was based on lies will not end with her death. When life ultimately triumphs over death, Sandra will share in that victory."

Cano told the Catholic Register, "It's a nightmare to be connected to a case that I never wanted to be connected to. Doe v. Bolton allows abortion up to the ninth month. This case takes children's lives."

"Back in 1970," Cano begins, "I had a very complicated marriage and had two children in foster care. I was pregnant and wanted to get my babies back from foster care. I was poor, uneducated and ignorant. My life was very unstable. I was in a survival state. I went to Atlanta Legal Aid to get a divorce. Whoever was there to try to help me, I trusted. That's how I became unknowingly involved with Doe v. Bolton. Never once did I know that we were going to kill babies. I can't understand how a case like this could go to the Supreme Court without anyone knowing or speaking to me to find out if what the attorney was presenting to the court was true. I was so ignorant I didn't know that there were two cases that legalized abortion. I ran away to Oklahoma to keep from having an abortion. They knew I was against abortion. Grady Memorial Hospital said I had gone before a panel of nine doctors and nurses to seek an abortion. I never sought an abortion. The hospital has no records because I never went to the hospital. It was only later that I learned that, through Margie Pitt Hames, I had sued Georgia Baptist Hospital to have an abortion."

The Register asked how she discovered the truth and she replied, "On and off over the years, I would come forward, but when you don't have money or people willing to help, a lot of people think you're someone off the nut wagon. In the 1980s, I talked to an Atlanta Journal and Constitution newspaper reporter. She told me I had to prove who I was.... They told me that I would have to go to the court to have my records unsealed. Someone at the court showed me how to petition the court to unseal the records."

"They connected my name to a case that I never knew about in the beginning, never participated in, never believed in. I carried a guilt for many, many years. I was just a pawn," Cano told The Blaze. By Steven Ertelt, LifeNews.com, 9/30/14. Edited for space.

Senate Action Needed to Stop Massive Abortion Funding in Obamacare

Despite a promise President Obama made to lawmakers and the American public in a special joint session of Congress on healthcare reform that, "under our plan, no federal dollars will be used to fund abortion," a new report released by the non-partisan Government Accountability Office (GAO) shows well over 1,000 health care plans under Obamacare pay for abortions with taxpayer money. The House of Representatives has passed the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act (H.R. 7), which would apply the traditional Hyde Amendment policy to all federal programs, including the Obamacare premium-subsidy program. Continued on page 4

No Taxpayer Funding of Abortion Act Continued from page 3

But pro-abortion Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid refuses to schedule a vote on it.

The Congressional Budget Office has estimated that between 2015 and 2024, \$726 billion will flow from the federal Treasury in direct subsidies for Obamacare health plans. NRTL'S Douglas Johnson said these massive subsidies for abortion-covering plans amount to a sharp break from decades of federal policy under the Hyde Amendment. Attempts to include Hyde-like language in the Obamacare law were initially successful in the House but were ultimately blocked by President Obama and his allies in Congress. According to Johnson, the author of so-called "compromise" language that paved the way for enactment of the law, then-Sen. Ben Nelson (D-Nebraska), said in 2009 that "you have to write two checks: one for the basic policy and one for the additional coverage for abortion. The latter has to be entirely from personal funds."

He said the Nelson "two check" system turns out to be not merely a flimsy gimmick, but a vanished mirage. Although the GAO confirmed that the law requires "issuers to collect from each enrollee in a QHP [Qualified Health Plan] covering non-excepted [elective] abortion services a separate payment for coverage of these services," the Obama Administration is not enforcing such a requirement. Not a single one of the 18 insurance companies that are selling abortion-covering plans, and that responded to the GAO, actually were collecting a separate payment from enrollees for elective abortion coverage.

According to National Right to Life, despite assurances that there would be plans available in each state that do not fund elective abortions, the GAO found that in five states – Connecticut, Hawaii, New Jersey, Rhode Island, and Vermont – every insurance plan currently sold on the exchange covers elective abortion. In addition, abortion-covering plans dominated the exchanges in California (96% cover elective abortion, 86 plans out of 90), Massachusetts (98%, 109 plans of 111), New York (95%, 405 plans of 426), and Oregon (90%, 92 plans of 102). By Steven Ertelt, LifeNews.com, September 18, 2014. Edited for space.