Winter 2014-2015, Volume 2

Year

2002

2006

2012

2013

2014

Euthanasia

Nearly 5,000

over 6,000

expected

Deaths

1,882

1,923

4,188

Holland's slippery slope: 650 babies per year

US euthanasia advocates can use Holland as an example. And so can the people who are opposed to euthanasia.

A story in Breitbart shows the slippery slope of euthanasia in Holland. Dutch ethicist Theo Boer had earlier said that he didn't think there was a cause for concern. He said at the time, "A good euthanasia law, in combination with the euthanasia review procedure, provides the warrants for a stable and relatively low number of euthanasia."

That was in 2007. Now he says he was wrong. The table to the right shows some of the data that might have caused him to change his mind, with over 6,000 projected euthanasia deaths in 2014.

Just as a comparison, Holland's population is 16,844,000, smaller than New York's 19,746,227.

In New York State in 2012, the sixth highest cause of death in the state was pneumonia, with 4,325 deaths. Euthanasia in Holland is taking more lives than that each year.

One of the more horrifying aspects is that each year as many as 650 babies are euthanized.

It is worth noting that in Holland not all euthanasia deaths are voluntary, either.

www.health.ny.gov/statistics/vital_statistics/docs/leading_causes_of_death_nys_2012.pdf \precedot www.census.gov/quickfacts/table/PST045214/12,36,39,42 \precedot www.populationpyramid.net/netherlands/2015/ \precedot www.breitbart.com/london/2015/01/02/650-babies-euthanized-in-the-netherlands-each-year-under-right-to-die-law/

Glasgow midwives must participate in abortions

It's no secret that doctors generally don't like to do abortions. In the UK, a significant number of doctors, especially the younger ones, are delegating abortions to nurses and midwives to carry out. Some occur in labor wards.

Two labor ward midwives, Mary Doogan and Connie Wood of Glasgow, object and took their fight to court. They insisted the conscience clause meant that they should not be assigned to abortions. They were concerned that with more abortions being done in labor wards, midwives were increasingly likely to be forced to risk their jobs and, potentially their professions, if they refused to participate.

According to the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC), the UK Supreme Court, in its December 17 decision, "rejected the opportunity to uphold the right of conscientious objection for senior midwives who refuse to supervise abortions performed on a labour ward."

SPUC added, "It will create a second-class status in midwifery for those who only deliver babies and don't kill them."

The two midwives said that the decision renders the conscience clause meaningless for senior midwives in a labor ward.

Some of the provisions also bode ill for doctors who, as a matter of conscience, do not do abortions.

SPUC has paid the midwives' legal expenses throughout the case.

www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/news/2014/12/conscientious-objection-and-the-worrying-implications-of-the-glasgow-midwives-case www.spuc.org.uk/news/releases/2014/December17

Planned Parenthood:

In 2014, it killed 327,653 babies,487 more than in 2013. It received \$528.4 million from government grants and reimbursements.

In 2013 its President Cecile Richards' total compensation was \$492,200.

www,freedomoutpost.com/2015/01/planned-parenthood-announces-murdered-327653-babies-2014-pro-life-movement-witnessing-implosion-abortion-cartel/

US birthrate hits historic lows

The National Center for Health Statistics, a part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, has released numbers for 2013 births in the US. A record low of 62.5 births per 1,000 women aged 15 to 44 is the lowest since the government began tracking birthrates in 1909. At that time, the number was 126.8, more than twice the current number.

Of the 3.93 million births in our country, more of them are taking place with older mothers. Birthrates for women under 30 have fallen while the rates have risen for women over 30. Pre-term birthrates (birth before 37th week of pregnancy) have fallen since 2005. The rate of twin births increased in 2013.

The number of births for in vitro fertilization (babies conceived in a dish) is at a record high of over 61,000. Births for moms over 44 rose 14% compared to 2012.

Since the birthrate high in 2007, the rate has fallen by about 10%. Lower fertility means that the US population will have less growth, aside from immigration. Fewer children means less consumer spending, fewer workers, and a smaller tax base to fund benefits for the elderly. https://www.newsmax.com/US/US-birthrate-older-moms/2014/12/04/id/611036/



Chile's abortion ban improves women's health

In 1989, Chile banned abortion. Since then, maternal deaths have decreased by 69.2%. Personhood USA comments, "That puts Chile in second place for the lowest maternal mortality rate in the Americas (that's right, even better than the United States)."

Women have not, contrary to expectations, been forced into illegal abortions; the number of women hospitalized due to complications of abortion has decreased. Support programs are credited with the prevention of many illegal abortions. http://personhoodusa.tumblr.com/post/104948742993/this-country-banned-abortion-and-now-abortion
Other sources are listed in www.eurekalert.org/pub-releases/2014-11/mi-tca110614.php

Population control of brown people Melinda pledges \$300 million

Population Research Institute (PRI) has commented in the past that the UN expends a lot of effort in limiting population growth in "brown peoples" countries. The people of those countries say they want clean water and help with the diseases that kill their children, for example. What the UN wants to give them is birth control, followed by pressure to increase access to abortion.

There is no right to abortion in any UN document. However, UN bureaucrats, interacting with representatives from countries that would like UN help, insist on changes in "family planning" policy and laws as conditions for UN grants.

PRI says: "... Melinda Gates is the driving force behind a multi-billion dollar population control campaign primarily based on pushing Depo-Provera on women of color. Her partners include the major players in the business of reducing human fertility, groups like Pfizer, the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), USAID, and the UN Population Fund."

The London Family Planning Summit kicked off the campaign in July, 2012. Melinda Gates pledged \$300 million herself and raised \$2 billion more through fundraising among representatives of other countries. She said "... women need access to contraceptives."

Pfizer manufactures Depo-Provera, a three-month injectable contraceptive. They have announced plans to expand their production by 50%.

www.c-fam.org/friday_fax/no-international-human-right-to-abortion/ \dots www.pop.org/content/melinda-gates-wants-help-women-around-world

Life-Lines, published 4 times per year by Rochester Area Right to Life at 675 Ling Road, Suite 3, Rochester, NY 14612
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RARTL is a single-issue, nonsectarian, pro-life organization that focuses
on abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia, which are all immediate threats to innocent human life.

USAID and sterilization camps in India

The Population Research Institute (PRI) has published a report showing apparent American funding of sterilization camps and other "family planning" programs in India, specifically through the foreign aid agency USAID.

Sterilization camps have been in the news lately because of the death toll and hospitalizations that have occurred. Unsanitary conditions, rusty instruments, and reused needles and gloves predict such outcomes.

Samples of other unsavory program features include:

- a lack of informed consent: women consent to procedures but are not told that the procedure renders them sterile.
- a lack of consent: insertion of IUDs with no consent at all.
- women bribed with cash incentives into sterilizations.
- "integrative reproductive and child health camps" that provided transportation to the camps, but only for those who had agreed to be sterilized.
- campaigns to convince women to give birth in hospitals, where they can find themselves with an IUD after delivery.
- health workers pressured to meet targets, including targets for female sterilization.

It is relatively straightforward to document program features that are abusive, like the ones above. However, tracking the financing is much more difficult. USAID, a swarm of government and nongovernment organizations in the US and India, and many well-known private donors provide the funding for "family planning" programs.

USAID has in the past denied having anything to do with the sterilization camps or, more recently, with "involuntary sterilization."

PRI says that the current process "seems only to have added to the exploitation and suffering of India's women."

Read the details in the two-part report at:

Part 1: http://pop.org/content/usaid-funding-sterilization-camps-india

Part 2: http://pop.org/content/usaid-funding-sterilization-camps-india-1#ftn.id394062

Mass for Life

On January 18, the Most Reverend Salvatore Matano, Bishop of Rochester, was the principal celebrant and homilist at a beautiful Diocesan Mass for Life at Sacred Heart Cathedral. The purpose was "to give thanks to God for the gift of human life and to pray for the legal protection of unborn children." The collection helped to pay for buses going to Washington for the March for Life.

At the reception that followed, Ms. Izzy Hunzek sang "In Innocence" as a testimony to the dignity of unborn children. You can hear her sing it in this video (www.youtube.com/watch?v=fk7X7FpmnK8) and introduce it on tour (www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pei-CIXAt4U).

Three more videos for you

Wonderful, thought-filled videos by pro-lifers – check them out!

A warm fuzzy: "Crescendo"

www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=CafJJ NETvqM

Suspenseful: "This Time" The dancers are Rochester's own Life Ballet

www.youtube.com/watch?v=vdYPjpl5pI0

Insightful winner of a student video contest: "A mother's dream"

www.youtube.com/watch?v=O-0eO2c5ofo&feature=player_detailpage



Assisted suicide is coming to New York if Sen. Brad Hoylman has his way

Prompted by the very public suicide of Brittany Maynard, Sen. Brad Hoylman (D – Manhattan) intends to introduce a bill that would protect assisted suicide in the New York State Legislature. He says his bill will be very much like the laws currently on the books in Oregon, Washington, and Vermont. He also says that there will be "strong protections" in place for patients, such as the requirement for more than one doctor to be involved.

Hoylman uses vague descriptions such as "death with dignity" and "aid in dying" rather than more accurate terminology like "physician – assisted suicide". He finds the accurate term offensive to patients who only have six months or less to live.

He says he has received "overwhelmingly positive feedback from legislators and constituents alike." However, "Not Dead Yet," a national disability rights group, opposes legalizing assisted suicide. Diane Coleman, president and CEO, says that no safeguards can ever truly prevent abuses.

She says, "As a disability rights advocate for over 40 years as well as a person living with a disability, I am deeply troubled about the Maynard media swarm. ... Assisted suicide legalization isn't about Brittany Maynard. It's about the thousands of vulnerable ill, elderly and disabled people who will be harmed if assisted suicide is legalized."

Pro-life groups uniformly oppose assisted suicide, for a variety of reasons, all of which have to do with protection of vulnerable patients and the preciousness of human life.

www.forbes.com/sites/cjarlotta/2014/12/16/physician-assisted-suicide-death-with-dignity-qa-with-nys-sen-brad-hoylman/www.cnn.com/2014/11/03/opinion/coleman-assisted-suicide/index.html?hpt=hp_t4

Action needed

Sen. Hoylman says he has received overwhelmingly positive feedback. Please make sure that <u>your state senator</u> receives feedback opposing assisted suicide. Find out where he/she stands.

The legislation has not yet been submitted to the Senate, so there is no bill number and there is no specific wording to oppose. However there are some general principles that need to be voiced.

Consider these random thoughts:

Suicide is not healthcare. Killing a patient is not healthcare. Palliative care is healthcare. Assisted suicide drugs are cheap compared with treating a terminal illness, a significant factor in times of tight budgets.

Win-win adoption bill vetoed

by Susan LeDoux

Just in time for a not so Merry Christmas, Governor Cuomo vetoed the Adoption Tax Deduction Bill (S.3382-A), citing budgetary concerns. This bill would have provided a personal income tax deduction for all fees and expenses incurred with adopting a foster care child in New York.

Rev. Jason J. McGuire, Executive Director of New Yorkers for Constitutional Freedoms, commented that this bill would encourage adoption by eliminating prohibitive expenses.

McGuire refutes Cuomo's budgetary excuse for the veto, saying that decreased foster care costs would more than make up for the slight lost tax revenue. He concluded, "Gov. Cuomo should remember that his decision regarding the Adoption Tax Deduction Bill has made it more difficult for foster children in New York, to be united with 'forever families.' We were hoping to encourage these kids with an early Christmas gift, but the State of New York has a Grinch for governor."

http://www.albanyupdate.com/media-center/press/719-governor-grinch-steals-christmas-from-foster-care-kids

Washington: Pain-Capable Act reintroduced

On the first day of the new Congress of 2015, Representatives Trent Franks and Marsha Blackburn reintroduced the Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act in the US House. The House had passed this bill in June 2013 but was not acted on in the Senate — one of the many bills that then Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid refused to bring to the floor.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell is now expected to bring it to the floor in the Senate when it is introduced there.

This bill would protect unborn children from abortion beginning at 20 weeks fetal age, the age when research has demonstrated that children are capable of feeling pain.

Critics such as the pro-abortion website RH Reality Check dismiss the idea of fetal pain as "a discredited notion." To the contrary, abundant information on the reality of fetal pain can be found at www.doctorsonfetalpain.com. Far from being a discredited notion, fetal pain is a major consideration for doctors doing surgery on unborn children.

www.national right to life news. org/news/2015/01/pro-abortion ists-respond-to-re-introduction-of-pain-capable-unborn-child-protection-act

Assemblyman Bill Nojay

by Susan LeDoux



As radio host and New York State Assemblyman, Bill Nojay has a bird's eye view of the political landscape, and he shared his observations at RARTL's 2014 dinner meeting.

He painted a picture of the tug of war between forces that want to protect individual rights and those that feel the government should be the grand

regulator. We are soldiers in a cultural war as well, fighting for the right to life from conception to the grave, care for the disabled, and no rationing of health care.

Nojay warned his listeners, "If we aren't involved, others will be." We must re-gird ourselves, re-enter the battle and not give up the primacy of individual rights over government.

Julianne Warren Speaks

by Susan LeDoux

Julianne Elizabeth Warren spoke at RARTL's 2014 annual dinner meeting about her life with Down syndrome and her passion for saving babies. With her parents, Reverend Mike and Jean Warren, in the audience, she told of her birth in 1994 and how small and sickly she had been. She knows God healed her to be a blessing to her parents.



"God made me who I am. I have a life to live; a life to love," Julianne said. "We don't want babies and children killed...Killing children is murder. God hates murder. We want the killing to end."

This remarkable young woman has a mission and a message.

"I want to stand for what's right in my life. We are fighting with love, fighting with God's power. Children are a blessing — they need a Daddy and Mommy. Don't be afraid. God is with you all the time."

Finland: suicides doubled after abortion

Abortion advocates do not want to admit that abortion does bad things to women.

Finland adopted guidelines for post-abortion mental health evaluations, hoping to decrease the number of suicides after abortions in Finland. They had found earlier that the suicide rate among post-abortive women was three times higher than women in the general population and six times higher than women who gave birth.

The study found that, after the voluntary evaluations, the decrease in the suicide rate was not statistically significant. These concerns were echoed in a report from Australia in 2013.

Abortion advocates just do not want to admit that abortion itself does bad things to women.

www.afterabortion.org/2014/suicides-after-abortion-remain-high-despite-better-screening-guidelines/

Dismemberment abortion ban in Kansas - Prime education!

Many legislative bills, whether they are passed into law or not, produce public education during the debate concerning them. These bills make very concrete things that the pro-abortion side would prefer nebulous. A bill in the Kansas State Senate called "The Unborn Child Protection from Dismemberment Abortion Act" is such a bill. It allows pro-lifers to talk about a baby in terms of the violence that occurs in abortion.

"Dismemberment abortion kills a baby by tearing her apart limb from limb," said National Right to Life Director of State Legislation Mary Spaulding Balch, J.D. "Before the first trimester ends, the unborn child has a beating heart, brain waves, and every organ system in place. Dismemberment abortions occur after the baby has reached these milestones."

Kudos to National Right to Life's affiliate Kansans for Life.

www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/news/2015/01/groundbreaking-dismemberment-abortion-ban-in-kansas-kicks-off-right-to-life-movement-2015-legislative-agenda/

Pro-lifers should be proud

The Guttmacher Institute, the research arm of Planned Parenthood, says that 27 states can be considered hostile to reproductive rights, because of their restrictions on abortion. Guttmacher, perhaps for fundraising purposes, professes its unhappiness that in the "last four years, states have enacted 231 abortion restrictions." The restrictions include such provisions as waiting periods, parental involvement laws, and sex selection abortions. Their numbers may or may not be accurate, but, yes, pro-lifers should be proud.

www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/news/2015/01/pro-abortion-guttmacher-institute-warns-of-growing-hostility-to-abortion-rights/

US healthcare costs – why so high?

Recently the tire company Firestone found it necessary to very quickly set up Ebola treatment facilities at their large processing plant in Liberia.

With cargo shipping containers and plastic wrap, they improvised a 23-bed Ebola unit. They used hazmat suits and respirators, intended for working with hazardous materials and chemical spills, to protect health care workers. They established procedures for donning the protective gear and removing it safely.

Once the unit was set up, no healthcare workers there contracted Ebola. Furthermore, no members of the Firestone community contracted it from any Ebola patient who was being quarantined or treated in the unit.

It is worth noting that the Firestone facility can handle three times more Ebola patients than all the healthcare facilities in the US put together. Furthermore, what Firestone did in 48 hours would have taken 18 to 36 months for a company in the US. The delay is entirely due to regulations in the US. No cost estimate was given in the article but one can surmise that Firestone's facility was much cheaper than would be a similar US facility.

http://americanactionforum.org/uploads/files/insights/What Ebola Tells Us About Our Health Care System.pdf?mkt tok=3RkMMJWWfF9wsRokvKr MZKXonjHpfsX56eUvWK%2B0lMI%2F0ER3f0vrPUfGjl4FTMRg1%2BSLDwEYGJlv6SgFQrLBMa1ozrgOWxU%3D

Cancelled: euthanasia of a healthy prisoner

Healthy rapist and murderer Frank Van Den Bleeken was supposed to be dead by now. A convicted prisoner in Belgium, he had despaired of being able to control his criminal urges after being refused psychiatric treatment, and had requested euthanasia.

The Belgian courts scheduled him to be killed on January 11. However, all the doctors who agreed to perform the euthanasia have allegedly withdrawn.

As of press time, the Belgian government has announced that it will send him to "a new psychiatric facility in Ghent" and will afterwards send him to the long-term treatment facility in the Netherlands that he had originally requested.

www.noeuthanasia.org.au/blog/2189-stay-of-execution-for-belgian-prisoner.html

Guilty: of having Down syndrome

Robert Gensiak was born with Down syndrome. He died at age 32 weighing 69 pounds.

He was later described by the Lackawanna County District Attorney as "the worst case of neglect I've seen in the last 26 years." The DA said Gensiak's caretakers, his mother and two sisters, "basically let this young man rot to death."

Gensiak had Down syndrome and was helpless, which cost him his life.

His mother and sisters were tried and convicted. All three received prison terms.

Arc of Northeastern Pennsylvania held a small memorial service, with a plaque in his memory. The plaque says, "Every voice shall be heard."

Arc and those who remain behind must be the voice of Robert Gensiak, who had no voice of his own.

www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/news/2014/11/voiceless-in-life-robert-gensiaks-mourners-determined-his-voice-will-be-heard/

Some Swiss nursing homes forced to accommodate assisted suicides

by Susan LeDoux

The personal choice to die by assisted suicide in a government-funded Swiss nursing home in Neuchâtel now takes precedence over the rules of the nursing home or the conscientious objections of its managers.

The legislature of the Swiss canton of Neuchâtel voted overwhelmingly to force these homes to allow representatives of the assisted suicide group "Exit" to advertise their services. If a patient chooses to use their services, personnel are required to set aside a room where Exit staff will help him end his life.

The law establishes some conditions. The disease must be serious and incurable (but apparently not terminal), and other end-of-life options must be discussed. Last year the French Exit group offered its services to elderly people who did not have a terminal illness but wished to die.

According to one report, between the French and German Exit groups, 614 people have ended their lives.

Euthanasia advocate Jack Kevorkian" wrote in the journal *Medicine and Law* (1986) that laymen should be permitted to assist suicides. Today, Scotland's pending assisted suicide legislation proposes the creation of a new profession—the "licensed suicide facilitator" — who would be permitted to assist suicides of those found medically eligible by a doctor."

www.weeklystandard.com/articles/kevorkian-s-vision_820657.html

www.bioedge.org/index.php/bioethics/bioethics_article/11221

Suggested prayers

Please become a **prayer partner**. Spend 5-10 minutes daily in prayer about life issues to provide a 24-hour prayer shield over our area. Join in the following monthly prayer themes:

February: That those experiencing unwanted pregnancies will not be deceived by the death-producing lies that surround them.

March: That pro-life volunteers will not lose heart and will continue to fight tirelessly for the voiceless unborn. **April:** That God's peace, love, and mercy will surround the chronically and terminally ill, along with their caregivers.

In Memory

Edwin "Ed" Oftedahl by June and Jev Zicari Francis J. Beahan by Stella Beahan





In Honor

Eric, a grandson, a student at West Point and Michael, a preengineering student

by James Byrnes

Patricia and Fred Amato

by Deacon Dick and Rose Marie Lombard

Wilda and Henry Liana

by Wilda Yakish

Stacy Mooreland

by Jean Birch

RTL MEMORIAL/HONOR TRIBUTE

deductible donation to the RARTL Education Fund. A card in your name will be sent to the family/person you designate; contribution amount is confidential.

Mail form & check payable to RARTL Education Fund to RARTL; 675 Ling Road; Suite 3; Rochester, NY 14612

Enclosed is gift of \$_______ in memory/honor

Of/for _______ (occasion) _______

My/our name _______ Address _______ State _______

Zip ______ Phone _______ Please notify _______ Address _______ St. _____ Zip _______

You are welcome to remember an event/achievement or a

deceased loved one with a memorial/honor/tribute. tax-

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Events of interest to pro-lifers

Saturday, March 28, 2015 Catholic Women's Conference "Body, Mind, and Soul" at Aquinas

Institute http://rochestercwc.org/

Friday, April 3 Good Friday Stations of the Cross in Reparation for Abortion Starts with 9 AM prayer service at McQuaid Jesuit, followed by peaceful prayerful procession led by priests, deacons, and religious. Bob and Amy Dorscheid (585) 732-8994

Saturday, April 11 RARTL Oratorical Pro-Life Contest, for details see page 8.

Saturday, April 18 10 AM the Cultura Vitae
Oratorical Contest for students in grades 6-10
.Scholarship awards to Chesterton Academy of Rochester
and St. John Bosco Schools will be given at each grade
level. Contact Colleen Richards, Headmaster, at
crichards@johnboscoschools.org, or call (585) 348-9401.

Saturday, April 18 Break for Life at McQuaid Jesuit Saturday, May 9 NYSRTL Oratorical Contest in Albany for local RARTL winner.

Thursday through Saturday, July 9 – 11 National Right to Life Convention (and NRLC Oratorical Contest) in New Orleans

July 31 – August 2 – Camp Esther – pro-life boot camp for teens in Utica. Details at www.nysrighttolife.org/youth

July 9 – August 14 National Right to Life Academy - Five-week summer training course in Washington, DC, for pro-life college students. www.nrlc.org/academy

Saturday, October 17 NYS Right to Life Convention, this year in Rochester.

Reminder: RARTL will print out specific references for you if you do not have access to a computer. Call Pat at (585) 621-4690.

Rochester Area Right to Life Committee, Inc., Education Fund 675 Ling Road; Suite 3 Rochester, New York 14612

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High School Juniors and Seniors! Pro-Life Oratorical Contest

Create a short pro-life speech (5-7 minutes) on abortion, infanticide, euthanasia, or stem cells, and present it at the

Rochester Area Right to Life Oratorical Contest

Saturday, April 11, 2015 10 AM to 12 Noon Greece Assembly of God (750 Long Pond Road, Rochester 14612)

In addition, the winner has the right to go to the state-level contest in Albany on May 9, competing to be the one to represent New York at the National Right to Life Convention

July 9 – 11 in New Orleans, Louisiana!

First place prize \$300 Second place prize \$100 Third place prize \$50 Freshman? Sophomore? Or younger? We have special opportunities to allow younger students to participate in a non-competitive way for practice. No age limits.

There is no charge, but you must register in advance.

Application forms: RARTL (585) 621-4690 or www.righttoliferoch.org or RARTL@righttoliferoch.org