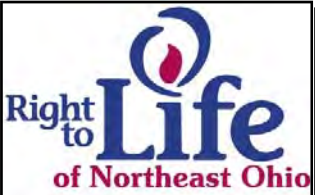


LifeLINES



Winter
2023

Changing day by day, Executive Director Sarah McGervey

In the Winter Newsletter it was mentioned the two groups were working to put amendments to Ohio’s Constitution on the ballot. They have now joined to become one group called Protect Choice Ohio. They are currently in the process of gathering over 413,000 signatures by July 5 to put a severely pro-abortion, pro-sex change amendment in Ohio’s constitution under the disguise of “healthcare.” This group is collecting signatures at various locations throughout the week and on weekends. They have been referring to our coalition as being funded by dark money, and lying falsifying information regarding the outcomes of this amendment should it be voted on.

According to an article written by the Center for Christian Virtue (CCV) on March 15, 2023, the ACLU has been telling local media that laws regarding parental rights and consent “should not be enforced.” In fact the ACLU attorney Jessie Hill stated in regards to this amendment “Would mean that laws that conflict with it cannot be, should not be enforced.” This means that all the laws in Ohio regarding parental consent and notification for minors will be erased if this amendment goes through.

There are also some very important words to remember when educating your friends and neighbors about the gravity of this amendment; “individual.” The amendment does not specify any minimum age. Also the words; “including but not limited to;” are used to describe the reproductive decisions that every individual will have the right to make and carry out. It is these words that open the door to puberty blockers and sex change surgery on

minors.

The pro-abortion group is determined to tell potential signers that sex change is not mentioned anywhere in the amendment. You need to be careful. There are also reports that in Medina supporters of the amendment were knocking on doors and asking residents if they were pro-life or pro-choice. If they were pro-life, they would tell them that is what they are signing for. This is a lie.



Protect Women Ohio

Protect Women Ohio is the pro-life group, and we are absolutely NOT SIGNING anything.

It is imperative that we all work together to fight this amendment. We need every single pro-life person to step up and help out. It will cost approximately \$50 million dollars to fight this. In Michigan, pro-lifers raised approximately \$22 million, the pro-abortion side spent roughly twice as much, and most of their funding was from out of state donors. If you can help financially in any way, you can send payments to your local right of life organizations for Protect Women Ohio, or visit www.protectwomenohio.com.

If you are not able to give financially, I invite you to give of your time in prayer and action. Protect Women Ohio is praying everyday at 7:14 am and pm in the spirit of 2 Chronicles 7:14 “If then my people, upon whom my name has been pronounced, humble themselves and pray, and seek my face and turn from their evil ways, I will hear them from heaven and pardon their sins and heal their land.”

Re-building the culture

Our culture is broken and needs rebuilding. I have spoken with staff from various pregnancy resource centers and listened to the various ways they help their clients. I ask them what the take away is from their conversations with these women. One common thing I've been told is the destruction of the family and family values. Many women have come from traumatic home lives, where often times the father was either not present, was abusive, or had a substance abuse issue. He did not demonstrate to them what a strong man is. This, however, is the primary character of what to look for in a man. Many women begin a pattern of behavior looking for love in men who have not been taught what real masculinity is. Pregnancy resource centers offer many services such as; mommy bootcamp, men's ministries, child care, and abstinence education to help safely avoid unplanned pregnancies. What they have found is that clients often did not know what abstinence was, let alone it being an option. They assumed based on media and cultural norms that sexual activity was the way to show care for a romantic partner. They never knew that abstinence was an option in a relationship.

This did not shock me at all because most movies and shows these days are full of innuendo and sexual scenes. I listened to a talk recently in Cleveland about how this messaging is seeping into the homes. Parents are trusting that children's shows are innocent and pure, and let their children watch YouTube and Disney+ unsupervised. The speaker explained how he was caring for his nephews and watching a movie with them. The movie was perfectly fine and innocent, but the short videos

after the movie displayed inappropriate material. He had actually walked away after the movie, and happened to over hear it from the next room. He was horrified and turned it off.

Parents, you need to monitor your children's entertainment. You need to protect your children from the unsuitable messages they are hearing. You need to be involved or they or risk damaging them. You need to protect them. This is especially true with the upcoming abortion ballot issue.

Bringing America Back to Life

Right to Life of Northeast Ohio members had the opportunity to attend the *Bringing America Back to Life* convention in March. One speaker that stood out to me was Alex Schadenberg. He spoke about assisted suicide in Canada and the United States. One of the individuals he referenced in his speech was a 23 year old man who was requesting physician assisted suicide. He found a doctor



who was willing to assist him, but his mother wrote so many letters to the editor and publicly stated the doctor's name and how wrong it was, it resulted in no doctor wanting to assist him. His mother effectively saved his life.

Alex said the various reasons for people requesting assisted suicide ranged from chronic pain, diabetes, depression, and even include homelessness. There was a paralympic athlete, in Canada who requested a chair lift for their home. Instead they were offered euthanasia. Can you

believe that? Someone requesting a stair lift so they can access their own home better and the response was essentially death as an alternative. Their story was used in a commercial to sell clothing later on. It is disgusting that when someone is struggling with life even a little bit that the government solution – is to offer them death! alive. This is an abomination!

The solutions Alex mentioned are much more obvious and reasonable, such as outwardly showing care for others, and offering authentic community. Do you remember only a few years ago, when neighborhoods were full of life: people talking on porches, kids riding bikes, people out taking walks? An article in *The Atlantic* by Julie Beck titled "Ignoring people for phones is the new normal," describes this.

We need to improve our behaviors and social skills. It will be a challenge, but it is worthwhile to achieve. I briefly witnessed a change in behavior during Covid. When shutdowns began in 2020, all scheduled activities were put on hold. It seemed awful, but then I noticed something I had not seen in years: people taking walks in the neighborhood and talking to one another. The local lake, which usually only had a few people swimming and playing, was now crowded with canoes, paddleboards, picnics, etc. People were chatting at their front porches, and hosting front yard birthday parties. Human interaction was truly happening again. This was beautiful to see! We need this to happen all the time. ■



Because of the volume of news since Roe v. Wade and its companion case, Doe v. Bolton fell on June 24, 2022, we will cite the headlines from various sources as we did in our last issue, so that interested readers may consult the original articles on the internet. All the following were published in 2023, so only the day and month will be cited, along with following abbreviations for source names: LA = Live Action, LN = LifeNews, LSN = LifeSiteNews, OR = Operation Rescue. Article titles will be listed without quote marks. Words in square parentheses [] have been added to help understanding.

Good News

- Illegal and dangerous: 22 state attorneys general urge FDA to end new abortion pill rule. LSN 1/23.
- Pro-life pregnancy centers in Tennessee to receive up to \$100 million from Governor. LSN 2/9.
- Pro-life lawmakers sign amicus brief supporting lawsuit against Biden FDA abortion pill rules. LSN 2/14.
- 20 states condemn FBI memo targeting pro-life Catholics. LN 2/21.
- Kansas Attorney General stops Walgreens from selling abortion pills. LN 2/21.
- Kentucky Supreme Court affirms state abortion bans can stay in effect. LSN 2/21.
- Planned Parenthood director complains half of abortion customers don't show up when pro-life people pray. LN 2/24.
- Florida judge rules 15-week abortion ban can keep saving babies. LN 2/24. (Good news in the sense that at least older babies are saved. But we must recognize that a baby is equally dead no matter at what point in the mother's pregnancy it is aborted.)
- Virginia Republicans defeat Constitutional Amend. to legalize abortions up to birth. LN 2/27
- 35 states sue the FDA concerning chemical abortion. OR 2/28.
- 19 state AG's warn major retailers that mailing abortion pills is still a crime. LSN 3/1.
- Walgreens will not sell abortion pill in 20 states after Republicans threaten lawsuits. LN 3/3.
- Nevada city officials deny Planned Parenthood



application to open abortion biz. LN 3/11

- [Pensacola, FL] is now abortion free after three abortion businesses close. LN 3/11.
- Utah Governor signs bill banning all abortion clinics. LN 3/16.
- Utah Governor Spencer Cox signs bill eliminating abortion centers. LSN 3/16.
- Wyoming Gov. Mark Gordon Signs Bill Banning Abortion Pills [and] allows the Human Rights Act banning abortion from conception to become law. LN 3/18.

Bad News

- Maryland Gov. Wes Moore will spend \$3.5 million to train abortionists to kill babies. LN 1/19
- Minnesota Democrats push bill to legalize infanticide, let babies die who survive abortions. LN 2/18.
- Virginia Democrats pass Constitutional Amend. to legalize abortion up to birth. LN 2/20.
- Abortion tourism on the rise in Florida despite the end of Roe v. Wade. LSN 2/23.
- Underground network caught shipping massive load of dangerous abortion pills to America. LN 2/24.
- 12 states file lawsuit against FDA to protect access to abortion drugs. LSN 2/27.
- Pro-abortion governors from 20 states form alliance to protect abortion. LA 2/25. (The states are: CA, CO, CT, DE, HI, IL, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, NJ, NM, NY, NC, OR, PA, RI, WA, WI).
- FBI Director Chris Wray defends sending 30 armed agents to arrest pro-life father Mark Houck. LN3/1.
- Ted Cruz slams Merrick Garland [U.S. Attorney General] for letting violent abortion activists threaten SCOTUS Judges. LN 3/1.
- Merrick Garland says DOJ not prosecuting attacks on pro-life groups because they happen at night LN 3/1. [Yet two different pro-abortion groups have left their names at the sites of their vandalism. See our Winter 2023 issue for more details].
- Planned Parenthood customer charged with assaulting 88-year-old pro-life man. [The victim suffered a

(Continued on page 4)

I am sure many of you have heard the saying far too often that “pro-lifers are only pro-life until the baby is born.” We have also heard the “rape and incest” exceptions. I am very fortunate to have witnessed an adoption of a baby boy conceived in rape, and born into foster care. Several years ago, two friends of mine who are a great married couple started the journey to become foster parents in a foster-to-adopt program. They have one biological child who is preschool aged, one unborn child, one in the process of being adopted and as of March 20, they officially adopted their youngest son.



In Ohio we have a lot to be thankful for in regards to fostering and adoption. A few years ago, Ohio passed the Family Forward Initiative. This law gives extremely low interest loans to parents to pay for upfront costs in adoption. This past January, Ohio passed the Ohio Adoption Grant Program. It provides \$10,000 to families adopting a child; \$15,000 to any adopting families who

are already providing foster care, and \$20,000 to families adopting a child with special needs. This is great news for adopting families who have previously avoided it because of funding.

There are also different types of adoptions such as: closed, partially open and totally open adoptions. In a closed adoption, the biological parents give their babies completely over to the adoptive families without conditions. In a partially open adoption, the birth parents can receive photos and updates about their children’s lives. In an open adoption the birth parents may possibly have limited physical contact.

There are at least 30 families waiting to adopt for every child in need of an adoptive family. If you have ever thought about fostering or adoption, I encourage you to look into this program. This could be your way of showing the world that pro-life is not simply anti-abortion, it is also giving a child the life they deserve in a loving family. There are so many children whose lives could be changed for the better, and you could be that change. ■

(More Good News/ Bad News....continued from page 3)

punctured lung and other injuries].

- FBI tagged pro-life Americans as threats after Supreme Court overturned Roe. LN 3/2.
- Washington [state] advances bill to create sanctuary for abortion, transgender drugs and surgeries. LSN 3/2.
- Campaign pushes “incredibly dangerous” abortion drugs on college campuses. LN 3/6.
- New U.S. Navy policy provides travel costs, paid leave for elective abortions. LSN 3/7.
- Walgreens renews pledge to sell dangerous abortion pills everywhere possible. LN 3/7. [Walgreens said they would sell the pills in states where legal. CVS and RiteAid also said they would sell the pills].
- New York Gov. Kathy Hochul threatens pharmacies if they don’t sell abortion drugs killing babies. LN 3/10.
- ◆ Abortion activists threaten judge who could block abortion pill nationwide. LN 3/14.
- ◆ Supreme Court asks for more protection after abortion activists threaten them. LN 3/14. [The justices requested almost \$5.9 million to increase both personal and cybersecurity. On March 1, AG Merrick Garland admitted that it’s a federal crime to protest outside a judge’s home with the intent of influencing his/her opinion. Yet the demonstrations outside conservative Justices’ homes have continued since a draft of the Roe v. Wade decision was leaked. Reports also note that some conservative Justices have received messages indicating “we know where you live and where your children go to school.”]
- ◆ Antifa attacks pregnancy center that abortion activists firebombed last year. LN 3/16.
- ◆ New law Biden signed could force employers to offer “abortion leave” after babies are killed. LN 3/16. ■

Orwell's 1984: Almost Here

In June 1949, English author George Orwell's novel 1984 was published. It described what he thought the political world might look like 35 years later. He saw it as divided into three major world governments. Oceania was made up of North and South America, the British Isles, Australia and South Africa. Eurasia was dominated by the Soviet Union and stretched from Portugal to the Bearing Strait, while Eastasia included China, Japan, and the Pacific islands.

The totalitarian government of Oceania had eliminated all religious beliefs, with leftist thought called "Ingsoc" being the governing ideology promulgated by "Big Brother." All citizens were under constant surveillance, since two-way "telescreens" were everywhere, and one was never certain when they might be being observed. Citizens of Oceania could be arrested for "thoughtcrime" which was any thought not in tune with the ideology of the government. Thought crime could be detected because of constant surveillance, both in private and public spaces. It might be revealed by facial expressions, or what one said, whether awake or asleep. In addition, the government had numerous spies, which might include one's friends and family.

Thought Crime in the UK.

Although later than Orwell predicted, individuals in some communities in the British Isles have been arrested for their private thoughts. In late 2022, some jurisdictions passed Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO) which draw a zone of 150 meters

around abortion clinics. With some variation, persons within the zone are not allowed to "inform, advise, influence, persuade, pray, offer help, or express an opinion regarding abortion." As of 3/20/23, we are aware of four individuals who have been arrested for what amounts to thought crimes.

In November 2022, in Bournemouth, on England's southern coast, local woman Livia Tossici-Bolt was praying quietly with a friend in a public space when she was warned by patrol officers that their prayer could cause "intimidation, harassment or distress" to others.

On 11/24/22, also in Bournemouth, Adam Smith-Connor was standing silently with his back to a clinic to respect others' privacy, and was approached by officers. When asked what he was doing, Smith-Connor stated he intended to pray for his unborn son, who had died in an abortion he had helped procure over 20 years ago. The officer said he was sorry for his loss, but that he was in breach of clause 4a which forbade prayer, and "acts of disapproval."

Similarly, in Birmingham, Isabel Vaughan-Spruce was praying silently to herself near an abortion clinic which was closed. She carried no signs, did not display a rosary, and was not speaking to anyone, until she was approached by patrol officers. She was questioned, searched, photographed, and arrested, being charged with four counts of failing to comply with the local PSPO.

In February, 2023, Fr. Sean Gough, a Catholic priest, was standing near a closed clinic, carrying a sign saying "Praying for Freedom of Speech" to protest the previous arrests of pro-lifers. He had also

(Continued on page 6)



parked his car which displayed a small sign saying “Unborn Lives Matter” within the restricted zone. Fr. Gough was also searched, arrested and interrogated by police. Apparently, the British Prosecutorial system and the Judiciary are more fair-minded than British legislators, since as of this writing, these cases have been dismissed. Isabel Vaughan-Spruce, who has been active in the pro-life movement, has apparently decided to test the law further, since she was arrested a second time early this year for praying silently outside an abortion clinic. (Readers may read her thoughts about such laws by going to: “I’ve Been Praying at Abortion Clinics for 20 Years to Save Babies, And I’m Not Stopping Now” on the internet at LifeNews.com on 2/27/23.

Thought Crimes in the U.S.?

Thus far, we are unaware of anyone being arrested for harboring outlawed private thoughts in the U.S. However, there have been many instances of Big Brother Woke barring persons from public spaces, or shouting them down for their expressed thoughts. Furthermore, two recent cases occurred after the March for Life in January and affected persons who displayed their thoughts on their clothing.

Students and their chaperones from Our Lady of the Rosary School in Greenville, SC decided to wear light blue wool caps to attend the March for Life in Washington, D.C. on January 20th. Groups often wear distinctive clothing so they can

keep track of their members in the large crowds attending the March. The caps had the words: “Rosary” and “Pro-Life” on them.

After the March, at least 9 students and 3 parents decided to visit the **Smithsonian Air and Space Museum**. Shortly thereafter, they were approached by two female security guards and were told they would have to remove the caps or leave. They were told the museum was a “neutral zone” so they could not express such thoughts. Other museum staff mocked the group, using expletives. A male security guard approached rubbing his hands together with a big smile on his face saying, “Y’all are about to make my day. ... You’ve been told multiple times to take your hats off... you need to take them off or leave.” Other visitors had clothing displaying slogans or words on other topics, but did not receive similar instructions.

The group left and some of their members contacted the American Center for Law and Justice (ACLJ), a national legal organization. It initiated a lawsuit against the Museum, indicating that it had violated their rights under the First (speech) and Fifth (equal protection) Amendments to the Constitution and the Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

After he received a letter signed by 14 U.S. House Republicans demanding an explanation of what had occurred, Smithsonian Secretary Lonnie G. Bunch III responded that “This was an aberration and not reflective of Smithsonian values and practice of welcoming all visitors regardless of viewpoint.” ... “The instruction to

visitors to remove their hats was a mistake—a misinterpretation of what was permissible. It was not a willful violation.” A news report also stated that the Smithsonian agreed to a court order that prohibits it from discriminating against future guests because of their beliefs. The museum also apologized to the students of Our Lady of the Rosary School. In a similar incident, three unrelated groups wearing shirts, buttons or hats with pro-life thoughts on them, visiting the **National Archive Museum**, were told not to enter the building, or to take off or cover up the pro-life attire. Two of those desiring to enter were a grandmother and her granddaughter. They contacted the ACLJ.

On 2/17/23, after being contacted by the law firm, the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) consented to a preliminary injunction in a religious discrimination lawsuit, promising not to target pro-lifers in the future. Acting Archivist head Debra Steidel Wall indicated that the incident was contrary to NARA policy, and that the contract security chief who issued the “no pro-life message” rule had been fired. The National Archives noted that the pro-life visitors did not break any policy or rules, stating that, “as the home to the original Constitution and Bill of Rights, which enshrine the rights of free speech and religion, we sincerely apologize for this occurrence.” The Museum also offered to provide a personal tour to the grandmother and granddaughter, and to issue them a personal apology. ■

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Six states have lost this battle, Ohio refused to be number seven! You can help –go to

www.protectwomenohio.com





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www.RightToLifeofNortheastOhio.com

Our Mission

*Protecting the sanctity of human life from
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*Abortion
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Euthanasia & End of Life Decisions*

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Building the Culture of Life

Our Strategies

Educate with the facts concerning life issues
Legislate by promoting laws protecting innocent
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Unify those seeking to defend life
Multiply our voices to increase in strength

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