

Family & ProLife News Briefs

April 2025

Roots of Abortion Support Run Deep

Shocking Sale of Aborted Baby Organs

"Planned Parenthood was way more disturbingly comfortable with ... harvesting and selling aborted baby hearts and lungs, livers, and brains, than I thought they were going to be" said David Daleiden on his undercover discoveries of Planned Parenthood, on SBA's latest podcast "*Exposed*": *Abortion in America*. You can hear Daleiden's eyewitness account of the **carnival of horrors** that is Planned Parenthood. And you can make sure others hear it too by sharing it as found on all major podcast platforms like YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xjmZUhNnrYs>

Abort Babies b/c "Birth is Too Expensive"?

Colorado legislators are pushing a controversial legislative agenda that would expand abortion, including taxpayer-funded abortions for low-income women and unrestricted **abortions up to birth**, arguing that killing babies would save the state money in the long run. "A birth is more expensive than an abortion," said state Rep. McCluskie during a recent hearing. She argued that funding abortions would reduce costs associated with childbirth & subsequent care, positioning the policy as a cost-saving measure for the state. Opponents argue the measures prioritize cost over human life. Data cited by pro-life groups indicate **heightened risks for women in late-term abortions**, including a 7.2 deaths per 100,000 rate from amniotic fluid embolism at 21 weeks or later, compared to negligible risks earlier in pregnancy. [excerpt from Steven Ertelt, Democrat Says Killing Babies in Abortions Saves Money, www.LifeNews.com, 3/28/25]

Women who have abortions have a much higher rate of **depression** and psychiatric hospitalizations, and are six to seven times more likely to commit **suicide** than women who have not. Abortion is not really compassionate for women. [excerpt from Sarah Terzo, Abortionist Celebrates Killing 21 Babies in One Day, LifeNews.com, 3/26/25]

The Kentucky Science Center is red-faced ...

... after kids at a March 21 health event got handed explicit coloring books featuring genitalia and Planned Parenthood propaganda. Heather Terry, of Elizabethtown, said her 9-year old daughter came home from a school field trip with the book. "My concern was the material itself and the **content inside** for my child personally. I feel like that's something I should have control over -- when she sees and how she gets that information, not just given out freely because she walked up and someone says 'Here do you want a coloring book?'" The Science Center has since apologized after parent backlash, banned Planned Parenthood from future events, & promised to keep a sharper eye on the swag bag. **Lesson learned**: Don't invite an organization known for aborting kids. [Mike Olson, Planned Parenthood gave kids explicit coloring books, www.notthebee.com, 3/28/25]

This monthly newsletter is used by dozens of churches as a bulletin insert and as a handout. Since 2013 it has had over 30,000 readers and is now posted on three diocesan websites. To receive each month's free issue in your inbox, email Frank Tinari, Ph.D. at tinarifr@shu.edu

The Pill's Disastrous Effect on Society

Since its introduction in 1960, the birth control pill has had a profound and largely negative impact on society. It promised women control over their fertility, but this promise turned out to be an illusion. Instead of empowering individuals, birth control has contributed to **rising divorce rates**, a decline in marriage, and a growing **devaluation of motherhood** and family life. It has fueled the rise of promiscuity and led to a weakening of traditional values of strong relationships and family structures. Furthermore, the pill has contributed to societal shifts that have lowered the standards for relationships and increased dissatisfaction in marriage. A new fact sheet, *The Law of Unintended Consequences: The Societal Impact of Birth Control*, explores the far-reaching negative effects of birth control, revealing its deep and lasting consequences on both individuals and society. View the full fact sheet at the Population Research Institute's website www.pop.org

Five decades of practically unlimited abortion

... have created a culture in which most U.S. adults believe **abortion should be legal** under at least some circumstances. But cultures that abandon any transcendent foundation default to a materialist worldview. The U.S. has a therapeutic culture in which the well-being of individuals is the highest criterion of right or wrong. Anyone who hopes to change some aspects of that culture must find trends that can be turned positive.

A sign of one such trend is an opinion piece published in a Nashville newspaper by Veronica Tadross, a freshman in public policy at Vanderbilt Univ. titled, "Why **I, a feminist in college, believe birth control is anti-woman.**" Tadross points out that users of the pill risk an increased incidence of blood clots, migraines, & other adverse effects such as mood swings and weight gain. Besides these negative consequences, the pill creates an environment in which men can abuse women. "I refuse to go on birth control when doing so means assuming a potential risk that a man is not willing to take. Holding men accountable for consequences that are inherently their fault is the only way the feminist movement will succeed in the 21st century."

Despite all the decades of propaganda about sexual freedom, Tadross finds women who divert their sexual organs from their intended purpose often end up being exploited by men. She might be surprised to learn that Pope Paul VI predicted exactly this outcome if artificial contraception were to become widely accepted by society. In his 1968 encyclical *Humanae Vitae*, he wrote "... a man who grows accustomed to the use of contraceptive methods **may forget the reverence due to a woman**, and, disregarding her physical and emotional equilibrium, reduce her to being a mere instrument for the satisfaction of his own desires, no longer considering her as his partner whom he should surround with care and affection." On her own she arrived at the same conclusion: Artificial birth control in the form of the birth-control pill is wrong.

An alternative to the pill is natural family planning. The advanced **Marquette method** of NFP uses a smartphone-size device to directly monitor female hormones, and allows the woman to pinpoint the time of ovulation with unprecedented

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Five decades of abortion (continued from p. 1) accuracy. Compared to artificial contraceptive devices and drugs, NFP requires more effort: regular systematic checking of biological signs on the part of the woman and a willingness to forego intercourse at certain times on the part of both partners. Complying with such a program is harder than having the woman take a pill each day, or receive an injection a few times a year. But, in the proper context, showing young women the actual onset of their fertility could have a profoundly positive effect on their attitudes toward sexuality. Even a thoroughgoing modernist woman might have more respect for a man responsible enough to take “no” for an answer when “yes” might mean an unwanted baby.

Widespread availability of artificial contraception has led to an increase, not a decrease, in abortions. If we run Pope Paul VI’s argument backwards, supposing artificial contraception becomes less popular than NFP, we might well see a long-term decline in the number of abortions once the culture adjusted to the new status quo. [excerpt, Karl D. Stephan, *Changing the Culture of Contraception*, *Human Life Review*, Winter 2025]

If any being is alive and has human DNA, then he or she is human and has every right to respectful treatment and, if in the U.S.A., equal protection under the 14th Amendment of the Constitution. [excerpt, letter to editor, Mike Kerner, *National Catholic Register*, 3/26/25]

After Abortion, Grief Very Common

Following an abortion, grief is much more common, and more intensely felt, than relief, according to a new study of a random sample of American women. These new findings starkly contradict the claim of Planned Parenthood that “Over 95% of people who have had abortions say that they mostly felt relief after their abortion.” Its two prior studies relied on small samples of women recruited to participate at their abortion clinics. “This is a reflection of self-censure bias,” said the new study’s author, David Reardon, director of the Elliot Institute.

To avoid the self-selection bias, Reardon conducted a random national survey of 1,925 women 41 to 45 years of age. 21.2% of those surveyed admitted a history of at least one abortion, which is very close to the 23.7% lifetime abortion rate estimated by the Guttmacher Institute. Of these, 70% reported feeling pressured to abort by other people or circumstances. These pressures were strongly linked to women reporting that their abortions were inconsistent or contrary to their own values and preferences.

Reardon believes the findings should **revise abortion provider advertising and informed consent procedures.** “Women should be told that if they feel any pressure to abort, or have maternal or moral conflicts with it, negative feelings are more likely than relief. And in many cases, these negative reactions can last for decades. Anything less is deceit.” This new study is part of the Unwanted Abortion Studies funded by the **Charlotte Lozier Institute**. [excerpt, Elliot Institute News, Grief is more common than relief after abortion, new study, 3/28/25, www.elliottinstitute.org]



NJ Teachers Need Not Pass Basic Skills Test

New Jersey passed Act 1669 as part of the state's 2025 budget that went into effect on Jan. 1, 2025. Individuals seeking an instructional certificate will **no longer need to pass** the Praxis Core Test, a basic skills test for reading, writing, and math (**6th grade level**). Just a few months prior, a similar law was passed that established an alternative pathway for teachers to sidestep the testing requirement. The New Jersey Education Association (NJEA), a teachers union, was a driving force behind the bill and called the testing requirement ‘an unnecessary barrier to entering the profession.’ NJEA is associated with the National Education Association (NEA). [Harris Rigby, New Jersey teachers are no longer required to pass basic literacy tests, www.Notthebee.com, 1/6/25]

High School Great Books Summer Programs

The Summer Program is open to rising high school seniors. A complete application includes: 1) Application form, 2) One letter of recommendation, 3) High school transcript through sophomore year. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis in the order in which they are completed. Applicants are usually informed of the admissions committee’s decision 1-2 weeks after they are complete. When a program fills, students accepted to that program will be placed on a waiting list. Begin your application by choosing the campus you wish to apply for, **California or New England**. [www.thomasaquinas.edu]

Surviving IVF

Our research shows that for every one embryo who survives IVF, about nine will be destroyed in the IVF process. While there were 413,776 successful IVF cycles, approximately 4,965,312 embryos (that is, preborn children) were destroyed to achieve that level of “success.” This costs millions of innocent lives. **The term embryo is simply a stage in a human being’s life.** Embryo, fetus, infant, baby, toddler, teenager, adult: All are the different moments of life. These facts, shown in a video https://youtu.be/J_uINl6uGP0, are continuously ignored by the public & by our lawmakers, who ignorantly call IVF “pro-life.” [email excerpt, Judie Brown, American Life League, 2/21/25]

There is Hope After Abortion

It’s common but often unspoken - to grieve the loss of a child by abortion. It may seem that nothing can fill the emptiness of one’s heart. Be assured that there is forgiveness, hope and **healing**. Many women and men have participated in diocesan Project Rachel Ministries and been transformed by God’s merciful love.

If you or someone you know is suffering after abortion, confidential, non-judgmental help is available from **Project Rachel Ministry**. To find the nearest diocesan ministry, visit the “**Find Help**” map on www.HopeAfterAbortion.org.

Project Rachel is a Catholic diocesan-based network of specially trained priests, religious, counselors, and laypersons who provide a team response of care for those suffering in the aftermath of abortion. In addition to referring for Sacramental Reconciliation, the ministry provides an integrated **network of services**, including pastoral counseling, support groups, retreats and referrals to licensed mental health professionals. It is open to people of all faiths or no faith. For more information on abortion healing and to find help for you or someone you know, visit “Hope After Abortion.”