

# Life Matters

Discussing life matters,  
because life matters

April 2013



Editor: Jim Burke

## Upcoming Events

Monday, Bridgehaven Banquet  
May 6 Collins Road Marriott  
Doors open at 6pm

Weekend, Roses for Moms  
May 11-12 at local churches

Tuesday, CFLI Board Meeting  
May 14 (monthly)

Tuesday, CFLI Board Meeting  
Jun 11 (monthly)

Weekend, Honoring Father  
Jun 15-16 at local churches

## Melissa Ohden Event

Hundreds of people listened to Melissa Ohden's testimony in February. She revealed how she came to learn of the abortion that was meant to take her life and what has happened in her life since then. Melissa quoted a priest that said, "Who says that prayers go unanswered?" Then, she told of how the man prayed outside the facility where she was aborted, around the time she was aborted, asking God to spare the life of a child from abortion. It was a very moving talk.



Kermit Gosnell Trial

What Few Hear

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# Morning-After Pills Available OTC?

In early April, a judge issued an order to distribute the Morning After pills as over-the-counter (OTC) drugs. The drug can work in three ways, one of which causes abortions.

Years ago, when chemical forms of birth control were considered, they started with men. The side effects weren't likely to result in ongoing sales, so they tried women. A few women died, so they lowered the dose. Women still die from the low-dose pills today.

Morning After pills are high-dose pills. The order makes it so women can acquire the pill without visiting a doctor.

In all likelihood, this will lead to bad consequences. For one, in the abortion debates over the years, we hear of incest and rape. Usually, it involves a man imposing his will over a woman or child. In the

past, the woman had to visit a doctor, which might help identify the crime. Now, the man could buy the drug to cover up the crime.

Girls of any age can buy the drug. The drug can lead to the belief that they can't get pregnant. With most forms of birth control, that mindset leads to a higher rate of pregnancy, most of which are unintended. The unintended nature of it leads to more abortions. But this drug can cause abortions on top of that.

How long will it take for people to get women to take it without knowing they are taking it? Date rape drugs already get slipped into drinks. If someone intends to act without consequences, it seems very likely this drug will be abused to cover up crimes.

When people focus more upon the pregnancy, they



can overlook the spread of disease. The increase activities that often arise from use of contraception increases the risk of contracting a disease.

The CDC estimates the number of sexually-transmitted infections is 110 million. That's more than 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the population! Keep in mind, the population consists of a large number of people who are not sexually active, such as young children.

We will see the consequences of this judge's ruling. It seems likely the outcome will not benefit society.

# The Kermit Gosnell Trial

## Media Avoids Coverage – Case Reveals Common Problems

Often, life issues can trigger discussion on many avenues. But the Gosnell trials could fill newsletters for months, if not years.

Kermit Gosnell performed abortions for several decades in Philadelphia, PA. He faces murder charges of one of a few of his clients that died, plus several children that survived his abortions. The testimonies went on for weeks, describing how children would move around and scream, and then he would end their lives.

It didn't take long for pro-life advocates to notice the amazingly silent media. Usually, the national media picks up on cases of multiple murders. Yet, some reporters justified ignoring the case because it's a local story. All stories are local, but mass murder gets attention.

Some reporters said the case was so gruesome they couldn't report it. Either they couldn't bring themselves to describe what Gosnell did, or the story might disgust viewers. Yet, the



media describes the actions of many other killers. They even bring up the holocaust or other genocide at times.

Only a few admit what many pro-life advocates allege. They admit that the case paints abortion in a negative light, and the pro-abortion bias of the media leads to a virtual blackout of the case.

This does not surprise people who have observed the national March for Life and compared it to the media coverage. Nor does it surprise people who hear of the "anti-abortion rights activists" that worked to save the life of Terri Schaivo.

For many who are aware of the case, some wonder if Gosnell's abortion facility and practices are commonplace in the industry or a rare exception. Several sources

suggest this is normal for the abortion industry.

In chapter 11 of the *40 Days for Life* book, the author described mold, dried blood, unsterilized equipment, rusty equipment, etc.

Carol Everett managed abortion facilities in Texas until converting to the pro-life side. Over the years, she's revealed how equipment wasn't properly sterilized, since it took too long for the volume of abortions they performed.

In the book, *ProLife Answers to ProChoice Arguments*, Randy Alcorn reveals how the few times abortion facilities are inspected, the problems found usually remain long after the inspection. Sadly, few inspectors ever check abortion facilities. In states like Texas, efforts to regulate the abortion industry as the medical industry led people to realize that 95% of abortion facilities do not comply!

Gosnell's business is typical, not the exception!

## Bridgehaven Banquet

Have you ever wondered how you could help a pregnancy support center? Do you want to know how Bridgehaven helps pregnant women in the community? Join Bridgehaven as they celebrate the 30th Anniversary of their center!

Steve Arterburn will serve as the keynote speaker. Steve is the author of *Every Man's Battle*, national speaker, and *New Life Live* radio show host. Learn more about Steve at [www.newlife.com](http://www.newlife.com).

On Monday, May 6th, the



doors open at 6pm, and the program runs from 6:30-8:30pm at the Cedar Rapids Marriott on Collins Road. The program is for adults only and not appropriate for children of any age, including infants.

If you wish to attend the annual banquet, then contact Leanne at 364-8967, or email her at [leanne@bridgehavencr.org](mailto:leanne@bridgehavencr.org) as soon as possible.



## Appeal of Sue Thayer's Lawsuit

After the dismissal of Sue Thayer's lawsuit against Planned Parenthood of the Heartland, Sue has filed an appeal. For people that have heard Abby Johnson's story about leaving Planned Parenthood, they know that other employees of Planned Parenthood don't always come forward with what they know. Even Abby knew two other co-workers that sounded supportive, until they showed up to testify on Planned Parenthood's behalf.

Sue faced a similar challenge, but has found others to confirm

what she alleges. As previously reported in an earlier issue of this newsletter, evidence from our local Planned Parenthood suggests some of the things she alleges occurred here as recently as last year. That goes beyond the dates her case covers, and beyond the facilities the Planned Parenthood affiliate owned at the time of the things Sue observed.

Injustice occurs when we ignore fraud. We hope this case receives a fair hearing and proper consideration.



## Pro-Life Challenge



### Make a Pro-Life Sign

Create a pro-life sign with a positive message. We use signs several times a year. Try to focus on how we can help, offer alternatives, and other messages you find approachable if you saw it.



### Sign Help

People often make design errors that make it hard to convey the message. The text is too small, wrong color, too thin, etc. We can offer design suggestions if you ask; just email us!

## 40 Days for Life

40 Days for Life had a very successful spring campaign! We saw the local Planned Parenthood reduce hours by 10 hours per week. We endured the cold, snow, and wind.

We quickly organized a mid-point rally to allow participants to hear from a national 40 Days for Life leadership team member. We usually organize kick-off rallies and closing/ victory rallies. But this was our first mid-point rally. The weather was bad, as usual, but people showed up. Even Des Moines cancelled an event, due to weather.

Soon after the mid-point rally, we learned of the reduced hours. We found out within a week of the rally! Within a week of learning they reduced hours

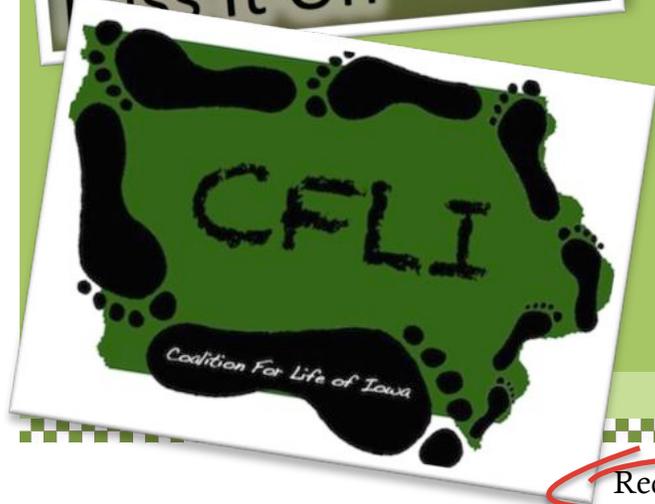
by at least 9 hours, although our sources suggested it was supposed to be 10 hours, they finally updated the sign on their front door to reflect their real hours. The sign confirmed the 10-hour per week reduction. That leaves them with only 26 hours per week.

We would love to see even more people get involved for the fall campaign. We welcome anyone willing to assist us in organizing it. If you like to plan events, interact with people in other churches, or ask others to join in the activities you already do, we could use the help.

Summer gives us more time to coordinate efforts for fall than we have to coordinate spring campaigns.

The photo shows just a few of the people that showed up for the mid-point rally.





## Spread the Word!

Do you know other pro-life people that might like to subscribe to this newsletter?

- Tell them about it
- Forward a copy to them
- Print a copy to hand to friends

Do you have ideas you want discussed in future issues? Contact us with your suggestion. We may consider including your article if you prefer to write your own.

Did you spot some issues with this newsletter that really bug you? Then perhaps you'd like to help edit it. Contact us to see how you can help.

We welcome advertisers for a reasonable price.

## Remember, Life Matters!

Request electronic copies by email: [coalitionforlife@gmail.com](mailto:coalitionforlife@gmail.com)

## Coalition for Life of Iowa

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