



Life Matters

Discussing life matters,
because life matters

June 2015

Editor: Jim Burke

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**We welcome newcomers
to our meetings and
events**

An Eventful June!

June brings with it changes in law and rulings on court cases. This month's issue provides an extended report on such activities. We know it's important to stay updated on what's going on in Iowa and around the country.

Regardless of the outcome of our government, there is much we can do. With Planned Parenthood's continuing to provide webcam abortions, it keeps people throughout the state active in promoting pro-life ideals. Although we hope for a day when abortion no longer occurs in Iowa or anywhere else, abortion helps us recognize where society fails people. It also gives us a chance to do good things for others.

We are planning our activities for fall. We want to reach many more people than in the past. We could use your help in promoting our activities and planning them. This is the best time of year to join us in planning activities.

We continue to implement proven methods of achieving that mission as effectively as possible.

- Coalition for Life of Iowa Board

Upcoming Events

TUE
Jul 7

7 p.m. – 8 p.m.

CFLI Annual Meeting

Get involved in the decisions that guide our organization!

Where: St. Patrick’s Common Grounds Coffee Shop
120 5th St NW, Cedar Rapids, IA

More information: coalitionforlife@gmail.com

Our Annual Meeting is the meeting where we elect our board members and executive board members for the year ahead. We also perform the normal duties of our monthly board meetings.

If you are interested in joining our board, please contact us. Even if you only want to help, we’d love to hear from you!

TUE
Jul 28

7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

CFLI Working Meeting

Get involved in planning the activities for our organization!

Where: St. Patrick’s Common Grounds Coffee Shop
120 5th St NW, Cedar Rapids, IA

More info: coalitionforlife@gmail.com

TUE
Aug 11

7 p.m. – 8 p.m.

CFLI Board Meeting

Get involved in the decisions that guide our organization!

Where: St. Patrick’s Common Grounds Coffee Shop
120 5th St NW, Cedar Rapids, IA

More information: coalitionforlife@gmail.com

TUE
Aug 25

7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

CFLI Working Meeting

Get involved in planning the activities for our organization!

Where: St. Patrick’s Common Grounds Coffee Shop
120 5th St NW, Cedar Rapids, IA

More info: coalitionforlife@gmail.com



Father-Son Grill-Out

On Father’s Day weekend, we hosted a Father-Son Grill-Out. We couldn’t have hoped for a day with better weather. The month had so many rainy days, yet the day brought moderate temperatures and no rain during our event.

We had plenty of food for everyone. The games were a hit with the children, and some of the adults got a workout, too.

Although the event ran smoothly, turnout was lower than anticipated. While we honor mothers with roses on Mother’s Day, we try to host events for fathers on Father’s

Day. If you have suggestions or ideas for next year, we would love to reach more fathers in a meaningful way with whatever we do next year. We have rotated our events for fathers. We have handed

things out at churches, we have had a father-daughter dance, and now the father-son grill-out.

We are grateful for the efforts of our event planners.



Board of Directors

The board of directors for the Coalition for Life of Iowa has been hard at work. We are establishing goals that will help guide us in the years to come.

Our annual meeting is coming up quickly. At our July meeting,

we will elect our executive board and fill the terms of board members that expire this year.

Since the pro-life movement addresses much more than just abortion, we seek the right

balance of priorities. We need the right strategies to maximize our effectiveness in defending the sanctity of human life from conception throughout all stages.



Updates on Court Cases & Bills

As is often the case, this was a busy month for lawmakers across the nation. The biggest development for Iowa was kept for last.

Iowa Ultrasounds

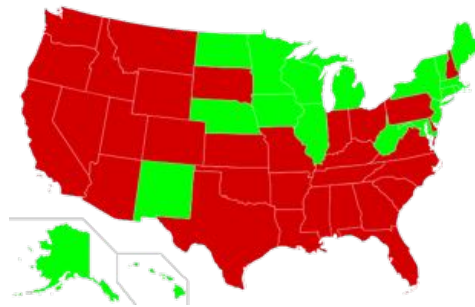
Much of the wording from the ultrasound bill (HF573) made it into SF505, which passed the House and Senate and is in the hands of the Governor. Once signed into law, it will take effect on July 1. These portions of this bill are the most pro-life legislation passed in Iowa within the last 20 years. It's unlikely this law will be challenged.

Federal Bills

HR7 (**No Taxpayer Funding for Abortions Act**) and HR36 (**Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act**) still sit, waiting for the Senate to act upon them.

Nebraska Death Penalty

Nebraska's legislature overrode their Governor's veto to abolish the death penalty in their state. This makes 19 states that prohibit use of the death penalty.



"Capital punishment in the United States"
Green=No Death Penalty; Credit below

Colorado Attack

A mother was attacked in Colorado. Her unborn child was cut out of her and died. Planned Parenthood didn't want to protect women or the mother's choice to keep her child. Their lobbying efforts killed the bill that would make such things illegal. They withdrew their support for a Colorado lawmaker who supports

abortion, because she opposed this bill. Sadly, the cause of death was considered a miscarriage, despite the intentional taking of life.

Texas Standards

A Texas law requiring facilities providing surgical abortions to adhere to the same minimum standards of surgical facilities has withstood appeals by abortion providers. The law came about following the Kermit Gosnell trials, where it became clear just how subpar the abortion industry is. Abortion is the most common surgical procedure performed, and abortion providers are clearly performing surgical procedures. Women often assume abortion providers and their facilities are held to the same minimum standards you would find with other doctors and hospitals. But prior to this law in Texas, that was not the

Updates on Court Cases & Bills

(Continued from prior page)

case, nor were most facilities inspected periodically.

Texas used to have more than 40 abortion facilities before the law was passed. Only seven meet the criteria in the law. While this has the effect of closing the vast majority of abortion facilities, we should focus on the origins of the bill. Abortion providers should be ashamed of being so substandard that being held to the minimum standards real doctors and surgical facilities have met for many years cause them to close. They are so far below the minimum standards that they realize it is not worth the massive investments needed in order to comply with the standards they previously avoided.

Abortionists want the reputation of being a medical professional, but when held to the same standards, most of them fall short. Women deserve better.

Although making the taking of life safer does not address the humanity and rights of the unborn, the law takes abortionists to task for the many ways they fail women.

In Texas and Iowa, standards have been too low for too long!

Iowa Webcam Abortions

The Iowa Supreme Court issued its ruling on the webcam abortion ban. Only six of the seven justices ruled on the case, but the six ruled unanimously to strike down the ban. This means webcam abortions will continue in the state of Iowa.

Webcam abortions keep the abortion facilitator at a distance, while making the mother into an abortionist. Planned Parenthood of the Heartland devised them in 2008 as a way to bring abortions to rural communities.

Webcam abortions use the RU-486 pill, which has killed some mothers. It's particularly lethal in cases of tubal pregnancies. As a result, it's critical to perform an exam for the safety of the mother. One of the rules judged as unconstitutional is the rule the board of medicine established to ensure this happens. The media pointed out the fact that all the justices were men prior to the ruling, as if to anticipate the upholding of the abortion ban. But when they ruled in the media's favor, we didn't hear about how these men ruled against the health and wellbeing of women.

The rule requiring a physician's presence was also struck down.

The justices deemed it unnecessary, and an undue burden. Travel is often cited as a burden. Making women drive as far as they drove seven years ago is considered a serious burden in the minds of the justices. Planned Parenthood created a similar "burden" when they closed most of their facilities in NW and SW Iowa, since women would have to drive a similar distance as if this rule was enforced. Yet, they helped argue that the rule was a great burden.

Planned Parenthood presently requires clients to sign a form saying they consent to a surgical abortion in case the webcam abortion fails. They know how serious it can be if things don't go well. Yet, the justices also considered the rule to require a follow-up appointment to be burdensome and unconstitutional.

Mothers in rural areas will still get to: Take a deadly drug; never meet their abortion facilitator in person; go home to finish the work themselves; deal with blood, pain, and a dead baby; determine if the blood and pain is life threatening; call for help if they aren't hiding the abortion; and hope help reaches them in rural areas in time.



16th week of development



Author: Dr. Monica Minjeur

Stages of Life: Weeks 13 - 16

This 4th month of life for the developing baby has many exciting changes that are developmentally necessary for survival outside of the womb, even though. This is officially the start of the second trimester and during the month, baby will grow to be three to five ounces and measure approximately five inches from crown to rump.

Muscle development is especially crucial this month. The neck becomes longer and head becomes more erect,

causing baby to stretch often. The muscles of the back are becoming stronger and constantly practicing movements. Muscles of the face produce expressions including a smile, grimace, and even chewing and sucking motions. Babies can wiggle their toes and fingers as well as suck their thumb.

Lungs are also developing and breathing movements are visible including hiccups and swallowing which are crucial milestones. The ears

and eyes are now appropriately positioned and taste buds are forming on the tongue. Eyes practice movements side to side and can even perceive some light, though the eyelids stay closed. Vocal cords develop, even though they won't make much noise for a while yet. Visible hair growth begins on the top of the head as well as eyebrows and a fine, downy hair called lanugo that covers and protects the body until birth.

Pro-Life Challenge



Attend Prayer Flash Mobs!

Prayer flash mobs are our main activity during the latter half of summer. Join us in praying for an end to abortion and for the best interests of everyone facing life decisions.



Volunteer!

We have seen some amazing results in the past few years, but we could do so much more with your help! See how you can help make a big difference!



Another PP Closes!

Planned Parenthood opened a small facility in the heart of downtown Des Moines just two years ago. Planned Parenthood suggested that the ‘clinic’ would treat colds and other things that are outside of their normal expertise. It wasn’t open many hours per week, and their focus was the same as it is at other facilities. We can speak of it in past tense, because it is closed!

The Planned Parenthood facility did not perform abortions. But any facility that doesn’t perform abortions tends to refer clients for abortions. Many services build the trust of clients, and that allows them to feed their big profit centers.

The closing of this facility leaves 13 Planned Parenthood facilities in Iowa. Only three remain in the Des Moines area. The red markers on the map indicate

facilities where surgical abortions occur. Yellow markers indicate facilities where medical/webcam abortions occur. Blue markers indicate facilities that refer for abortions.

Each of Iowa’s ten largest metropolitan areas have Planned Parenthood facilities. Then there is a gap. Burlington and Keokuk each have facilities despite their smaller populations. Dubuque continues to operate for only a few hours per week. It was notorious for bleeding money before they poured money into a new facility a few years ago.

Somehow, they struggle to keep facilities open despite lucrative webcam abortions, government subsidies, client payments, corporate donors, and personal donors.

CFLI Board

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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.

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Coalition for Life of Iowa

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