



# Life Matters

Discussing life matters,  
because life matters

April 2016

Editor: Jim Burke

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

## Energizing!

We are approaching the time of year when pro-life events traditionally occur at a less frequent rate. That's what most people see anyway. But this is when we get a chance to prepare for bigger and better things for the fall and coming year.

We may get a chance to catch our breath from the flurry of activity that often starts in October and doesn't let up until April. But most people don't see the planning and efforts we do during the summer months. Some people think they are too busy to do more things, yet the people who do the most are often the people who already think they are busy. Have you ever wanted to see the pro-life effort accomplish more than it already has? We would love to bring in new people with new ideas. Many hands make light work!

We intended to include certain types of articles that would form a series. We still plan to do so in future months, but many other things came up worth reporting.

- Coalition for Life of Iowa Board

# Upcoming Events

<b>Mon, May 9</b> 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	<b>Bridgehaven Banquet</b> Melissa Ohden is this year's keynote speaker! Her story is amazing! <b>Where:</b> Cedar Rapids Marriott 1200 Collins Rd NE, Cedar Rapids, IA <b>More info:</b> <a href="http://bridgehavencr.org/events/banquet">http://bridgehavencr.org/events/banquet</a>
<b>Tue, May 10</b> 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	<b>CFLI Board Meeting</b> Get involved in the decisions that guide our organization! <b>Where:</b> St. Patrick's Common Grounds Coffee Shop 120 5th St NW, Cedar Rapids, IA <b>More info:</b> <a href="mailto:coalitionforlife@gmail.com">coalitionforlife@gmail.com</a>
<b>Tue, May 24</b> 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	<b>CFLI Working Meeting</b> Get involved in planning the activities for our organization! <b>Where:</b> St. Patrick's Common Grounds Coffee Shop 120 5th St NW, Cedar Rapids, IA <b>More info:</b> <a href="mailto:coalitionforlife@gmail.com">coalitionforlife@gmail.com</a>
<b>Tue, June 14</b>	CFLI Board Meeting
<b>Tue, June 28</b>	CFLI Working Meeting
<b>Tue, July 12</b>	CFLI Board Meeting
<b>Tue, July 26</b>	CFLI Working Meeting
<b>Tue, Aug 9</b>	CFLI Board Meeting
<b>Tue, Aug 23</b>	CFLI Working Meeting
<b>Tue, Sep 13</b>	CFLI Board Meeting
<b>Tue, Sep 27</b>	CFLI Working Meeting
<b>Sep 28 – Nov 6</b>	40 Days for Life
<b>Tue, Oct 11</b>	CFLI Board Meeting
<b>Tue, Oct 25</b>	CFLI Working Meeting
<b>Tue, Nov 8</b>	CFLI Board Meeting
<b>Tue, Nov 22</b>	CFLI Working Meeting
<b>Tue, Dec 13</b>	CFLI Board Meeting
<b>Tue, Dec 27</b>	CFLI Working Meeting



## Real Health Care

Our recent Going Natural conference went exceptionally well. Our speakers refined their presentations from past events that were rated very highly by the people who attended the past conferences.

It was the first time I attended the event, although I had heard many of the speakers speak previously. Many of our speakers spoke again a week later at an event that raised funds to educate other people.

Medical schools usually rate natural family planning (NFP) methods based upon the worst and most outdated methods. Instead of 0-0.5 percent failure rate, they report a 25% failure rate.

This leads most doctors and nurses to ignore anything else that relates to NFP. The medical advances associated with the Creighton Method lay waste.

A couple faced with infertility went to many other doctors during a period of 3-4 years and almost ran out of options. They considered in-vitro fertilization (IVF), which costs more than \$10,000 and has moral concerns. But someone referred them to a FertilityCare clinic. The solution that eluded other doctors was easily solved with a single vitamin supplement. They were pregnant within a few months.

Another doctor didn't recognize the clear signs that peopled trained in the Creighton Method would have recognized as a predictor of an impending miscarriage. Sadly the miscarriage resulted.

Women deserve doctors who know about advancements that have been made during the past 40 years. Society deserves such life-affirming healthcare.

We would like to see more doctors and practitioners use these methods. If you know doctors who address reproductive health, but don't know about these methods, please ask them if they would be interested

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## Government Update

### Iowa

An attempt to defund Planned Parenthood at the state level failed. An amendment was made in the Iowa Senate to accomplish the defunding. It came to a vote. But the vote resulted in a tie vote, which meant the amendment did not pass. The Iowa Senate is presently the most challenging part of getting pro-life legislation passed, since it usually leads to a vote that's short by at least one vote.

### Federal Government

There has been little action taken in the past month at the federal level of government.

HR7 (No Taxpayer Funding for Abortions Act) still sits, waiting for the Senate to act.

### U.S. Supreme Court

The U.S. Supreme Court ruling on the **Whole Woman's Health v. Cole** case is not expected for a while. No Senate confirmation hearings have occurred to confirm a justice to replace Antonin Scalia.

### Elections

This is a critical year for elections. We do not endorse specific candidates or political parties. But it's important that each of us perform our civic duty to vote. There are many people on each ballot; not everyone is running for President.

Perform research on candidates for each level before voting. Remember that the people who win local and state elections are often the people who run for federal offices later. Every vote in every race matters!





## Real Health Care (continued)

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in learning about these methods.

You don't have to know too much about it. But know that things like the 25% rate are deceptively wrong. For one, NFP can be used to become pregnant—not just avoid pregnancy. So people using NFP who intentionally have a child might increase the “failure rate” even though it was successful. The old rhythm method of counting days, which worked for women with perfect cycles had a failure rate of roughly 25%. Not everyone has a perfect

cycle, so failures are common with that outdated system.

Rather than report each NFP method individually, they get lumped together with the worst rate. It's like saying all pain relievers are bad at dealing with migraines, even if a subset of such drugs that focused on migraines worked really well.

The few times they determine failure rates of specific methods includes other flaws. NFP expects abstinence during fertile times if couples expect to avoid pregnancy. But some studies allowed use of

condoms, which also have a higher failure rate.

The few studies that examine NFP methods fairly show better results than most other methods of avoiding pregnancy. But as mentioned earlier, it offers benefits in helping attain pregnancy and address health issues that are often overlooked or masked by oral contraceptives.

The speakers were amazing, and I'm always inspired by their talks. We are grateful that we have such a great combination of speakers on the topic within a short distance of Cedar Rapids.



## Suicides Increase

The suicide rate increased 24% from 1999 through 2014. The pace increased after 2006.

Assisted suicide advocates stepped up their efforts in 2006. They tried to convince the public that there are situations where it is better to affirm a decision to kill oneself instead of helping that person with whatever issues they face. As society started to support assisted suicide, the general suicide rate increased.

Obviously many factors could play a part in the increased rate of suicides. But when people begin to believe that it might make more sense not to help someone and/or

promote suicide, that doesn't help. The victims may also find themselves identifying with the arguments put forward to justify taking one's own life. If we put ourselves in their places, when other people believe the situation you are in is worthy of suicide, who are you to disagree?

If an entire culture could be diagnosed for mental or medical issues, it would seem that our culture might be easily diagnosed with depression. While some of us seek to affirm life, instill hope, etc., many people prefer to promote death as a solution to every problem.

There is a severe pessimism plaguing society. Yes, we each face challenges. There are many reasons people might choose to commit suicide. The reasons often sound reasonable to the person with such thoughts.

Evil thrives in isolation, and wants people to keep their problems to themselves so they lose all hope and kill themselves. People tended to help when someone reached out for help when contemplating suicide. The effects of any attack on life affects all life. While assisted suicide presently focuses on a few people, advocacy for it hurts others.



## Pro-Life Challenge



## Attend Prayer Flash Mobs!

Join us for our prayer flash mobs this summer! If you aren't being notified of them, contact us.



## Pray for Pro-Life Leaders!

Pro-life leaders often face challenges, such as David Daleiden. Pray not only for him, but all pro-life leaders!



## Goliath Versus David

The California attorney general's office raided David Daleiden's home earlier this month. David is the head of the Center for Medical Progress (CMP), and the man behind the videos revealing Planned Parenthood's baby body part sales. Pro-lifers were quick to note the significant contributions Planned Parenthood made to the attorney general's campaign.

David had more video footage in his home that hadn't been released. It seems like Planned Parenthood has great

influence. CMP followed the same practices used by journalists who try to get undercover footage of wrongdoing.

The biased media tried to make it sound like he did something wrong. But if David is found guilty, then virtually all undercover reporters should face similar charges. Most of them create a fake ID in order to protect their identity and ensure that no one will realize it's an undercover investigation.

There is no need for them to search his home based upon the evidence against him.

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## Spread the Word!

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

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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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