



Life Matters

Discussing life matters,
because life matters

May 2018

Editor: Jim Burke

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



The Coalition for Life of Iowa (CFLI) invites you to bring your family to the Father's Day Family Bike Ride. It will be Sunday, June 17 from 2:00 - 5:00 pm at the Cedar Lake Trail. CFLI will be serving free food and water by the pavilion on Shaver Road. CFLI honored Mothers with long stemmed roses on Mother's Day at churches. We look forward to honoring Fathers at this event. Please bike safely. We hope to see you there!

- Lisa Gignac

Upcoming Events

Second Tuesdays
7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

CFLI Board Meeting (2nd Tuesdays)

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 info: coalitionforlife@gmail.com

Fourth Tuesdays
7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

CFLI Working Meeting (4th Tuesdays)

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

Sun, Jun 17
2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Father's Day Bike Ride

Go biking with your dad or husband! Bring the family!
Where: Pavilion on Shaver Road near Cedar Lake
Cedar Rapids, IA
More info: http://lifeiowa.org/Fathers_Day.html

Sun, Jul 22
5 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Humanae Vitae 50th Anniversary

Learn beautiful teachings about marriage and sexuality from experts!
Learn of accurate predictions of what results when society ignores it.
Where: St. Pius X Catholic Church
4949 Council St NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402
More info: <http://www.dbqarch.org/humanae-vitae>



Sunday June 17 2 PM - 5 PM
Cedar Lake Trail

Free Food and
Water by Pavilion
on Shaver Rd.



Sponsored by Coalition for Life of Iowa

HUMANAE VITAE

50th Anniversary



Archdiocese of Dubuque Celebration & Dinner
Sunday, July 22, 2018 – 5:00-7:30 PM
St. Pius X Catholic Church – Cedar Rapids
Keynote Speaker: Dr. Janet E. Smith

Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds will sign 6-week abortion ban, America's ...
 WQAD.com - May 4, 2018
 Potentially historic legal battle ahead of new abortion law
 KCCI Des Moines - May 4, 2018
 Gov. Reynolds signs 6-week abortion ban into law
 kwwl.com - May 4, 2018

Heartbeat or 6 Weeks?

When Iowa's Heartbeat bill passed the legislature and was signed into law, I couldn't help but notice the way Planned Parenthood and the media spun the response. The heartbeat bill protects life whenever a heartbeat is detected.

Planned Parenthood wouldn't want to react by admitting that a heartbeat is present in the "clump of cells" they destroy whenever they perform abortions. They had to remove the mention of the heart. They chose to refer to the bill as a 6-week abortion ban.

Some people are probably thinking that the heart starts to beat much earlier than six weeks. Six weeks is measured from the last menstrual cycle, whereas we often measure the timing of the heartbeat from the

start of the child's life at conception.

So when Planned Parenthood voiced opposition to the bill because most women don't even know they are pregnant at the time the bill would prohibit abortions, they effectively admit that the majority of the abortions they provide stop beating hearts. But they never mention the heart.

The media echoed Planned Parenthood in terminology and concerns. They even referred to the law as the "most restrictive abortion ban" in the nation. If focusing on abortion, yes, it was the most restrictive law. But the focus was protecting life. The law is the most protective law from that perspective.

It will be interesting to see whether they degrade their methods of identifying heartbeats or not. Some of the best methods detect hearts beating even earlier than 21 days into development.

I tried to keep my eyes open for any articles about the Iowa law being the most protective, since it protects human life from the moment a heartbeat is detected. But that particular combination just never arose.

It's nice to stay informed. But many people who have given up cable TV and certain other forms of media have great perspectives on the shift in media and culture. Consider what media you consume.



Government Update: Heartbeat Law Passes!

Iowa made national news. The Iowa House of Representatives debated SF359 for many hours on May 1st, and passed it with an amendment that was added late in the process. It was literally passed in the 11th hour (it was about 11:11 pm). The Iowa Senate passed the bill a few hours later (around 2:20 am). It was a late night for anyone listening to the debate or staying up for the results of the votes.

The bill protects life from the moment a heartbeat is detected. This leads to a prohibition of most abortions, while making a clearly defined boundary that's based on human development. It doesn't say life begins with the heartbeat, so later laws could shift that

the timeline of protection.

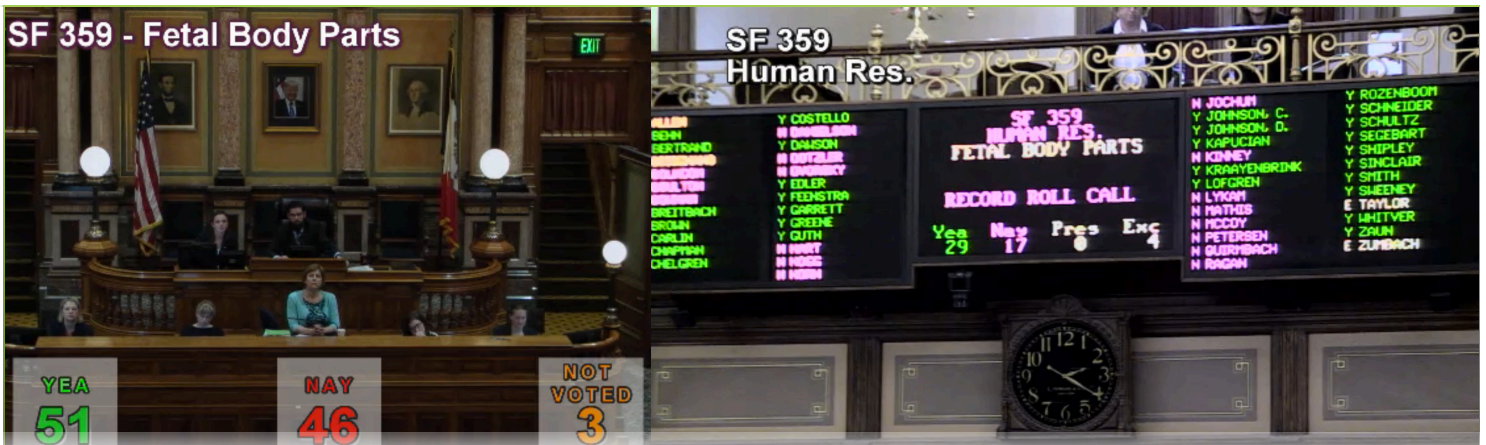
Some lawmakers were concerned about the so-called hard cases, while others were concerned about the flack they might take for passing such a bill without some exceptions. The only way to get the bill passed was to amend it for exceptions for the life (not mere health) of the mother, and to allow abortions in cases beyond the control of the child. These circumstances include rape, incest, or if they are disabled.

After passage of the law, people on the other side of the issue didn't even seem to be aware of the exceptions. The media didn't really even focus on them. They focused entirely on the significant number of abortions that would no longer be allowed by the law.

There were concerns about the cost to defend this law. But arrangements were made to have the Thomas More Society defend the law at no cost. That is the same organization that helped the Coalition for Life of Iowa when we were seeking tax-exempt status with the IRS.

The law has been challenged by: the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), Planned Parenthood, and the Emma Goldman Clinic. They intend to keep their case at the state level, where they believe it will have a better chance of working, and where it wouldn't result in a nationwide precedent.

We shouldn't expect any immediate changes as a result of this law. It will take a while to go through the courts. But it's good news!



How They Voted

Iowa House

Ayes, 51:

Baxter
Bergan
Best
Bossman
Carlson
Cownie
Deyoe
Dolecheck
Fisher
Fry
Gassman
Grassley
Gustafson
Hagenow
Hager
Hanusa
Heartsill
Heaton
Highfill
* **Hinson**
Holt
Holz
Huseman
Jacobsen
Jones
Kaufmann
Kerr
Klein
Koester
Landon
Lundgren
Mohr
Mommsen
Moore
Nunn

Paustian
Pettengill
* **Rizer**
Rogers
Salmon
Sexton
Sheets
Sieck
Taylor, R.
Upmeyer
Vander Linden
Watts
Wheeler
Wills
Worthan
Windschitl

Nays, 46:

Abdul-Samad
Anderson
Baltimore
Bearinger
* **Bennett**
Bloomingdale
Breckenridge
Brown-Powers
Cohoon
Finkenauer
Forbes
Gaskill
Hall
Heddens
Hein
Hunter
Isenhardt
Jacoby

Kacena
Kearns
Kressig
Kurth
Lensing
Mascher
Maxwell
McConkey
McKean
Meyer
Miller, H.
Miller, P.
Nielsen
Oldson
Olson
Ourth
Prichard
* **Running-Marquardt**

Smith, M.
Smith, R.
* **Staed**
Steckman
* **Taylor, T.**
Thede
Wessel-Kroeschell
Winckler
Wolfe
* **Zumbach**

Absent or not voting, 3:

Bacon
Baudler
Gaines

* Represents Linn Co.

Iowa Senate

Yeas, 29:

Behn
Bertrand
Breitbach
Brown
Carlin
Chapman
Chelgren
Costello
Dawson
Edler
Feenstra
Garrett
Greene
Guth
Johnson, C.
Johnson, D.
Kapucian
Kraayenbrink
Lofgren
Rozenboom
Schneider
Schultz
Segebart
ShIPLEY
Sinclair
Smith
Sweeney
Whitver
Zaun

Nays, 17:

Bolkcom
Boulton
Bowman
Danielson
Dotzler
Dvorsky
Hart
* **Hogg**
* **Horn**
Jochum
Kinney
Lykam
Quirnbach
* **Mathis**
McCoy
Petersen
Ragan

Absent, 4:

Allen
Bisignano
Taylor
Zumbach

Iowa Governor

Kim Reynolds
signed the bill into
law.



Ireland Votes To Deny Rights

About 30 years ago, Ireland passed a constitutional amendment to protect life in the womb. It was their 8th amendment. It originally passed by a 2-to-1 margin.

As the years passed since then, there have been some efforts to weaken such life protections. But only recently did it turn into a vote of the people.

Pro-lifers around the world were watching as the Irish voted on the matter of repealing the 8th amendment. If it passed, their lawmakers promised swift action to pass laws to provide unrestricted abortions for the first 12 weeks of pregnancy, and they would permit taking the lives

of disabled children in the womb after that. If it failed, then abortion would remain illegal.

George Soros poured money into the effort to pass the repeal. Celebrities like those in the band U2 also voiced support for abortion, even after decades of being known for trying to stop other human rights abuses. All of the political parties in Ireland turned against children.

Most of the world could testify to the harm abortion has brought upon society. Ireland had maintained the best survival rates of pregnant mothers. This makes sense, since doctors were focused on saving the lives of both mother and child. Most other nations toss abortion into the mix, making it so doctors

can give up on saving lives. With that approach, it's no wonder that our doctors aren't as good as those in Ireland today.

But the significant effort to push the passage of this referendum, the people of Ireland voted in favor of the repeal by a margin of 2-to-1. This saddened people across the world. We know what is in store for their future, and it's not good.

Women thought they'd gain respect, but the opposite occurs. The same is true about love. The pro-life movement is awakening, but the massive shift in 30 years shows what happens if we become complacent!

Pro-Life Challenge



Help us out!

The pro-life movement is experiencing greater success than we've seen in the past several decades. But with success brings an even greater need for help. Please help us build a culture of life!
Volunteer!



Invite Friends!

Invite friends and family to attend our events. Invite them to help us out. There are many needs. The harvest is plenty; harvesters are few. Many hands make for light work!



Ready to Lead?

With so many things happening that alter the situations in the pro-life realm, we could use some additional help. If you have a real heart for advancing the pro-life cause—protecting life—then please consider joining our board or consider helping to lead or help with some of our activities.

Summer is our time to prepare for the activities we do each fall through spring. We naturally experience some turnover as people move or other circumstances arise. We want to remain strong in these ever-changing times.

We know changes in laws will almost certainly weaken the businesses that perform

abortions. But it also leads to a stronger rallying cry for them to gain energized supporters who will try to counteract our efforts.

When people see lots of positive results, it's easy to lay back and take it easy. But when the other side cranks up their efforts, it often leads to things going back to some status quo.

Progress is only temporary unless we continue our mission to defend the sanctity of human life from conception throughout all stages with prayer, education, and raising awareness. We would love it if you would use your talents to help us continue the good we've already accomplished.

CFLI Board

Jean Biermann
Rich Brandt
Jim Burke (Vice President)
Mary Cherion
Sue Martinek
Tim Mason (President)
Pat Semelroth
Bonnie Yount (Secretary)
Russell Yount (Treasurer)



Spread the Word!

Do you know other pro-life people who 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.

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Remember, Life Matters!

Request electronic copies by email: coalitionforlife@gmail.com

Coalition for Life of Iowa

P.O. Box 864
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406