



# Life Matters

Discussing life matters,  
because life matters

May 2022

Editor & Writer: Jim Burke

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

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<https://coalition-for-life-of-iowa.square.site/>

## Leak Triggers Discussion

This month, someone leaked a February draft of the majority opinion for the Dobbs case in the U.S. Supreme Court. This led to many people speaking out regarding leaks, the integrity of the court, and proposing plans going forward regarding the abortion issue.

Unrelated to that, a public notification was issued regarding a lawmaker who often cites her faith as justification for her rigorous push for laws that promote abortion, despite being in stark contrast to the teachings of the Church from the very beginning. The timing was coincidental with the other abortion news, but added to the abortion discussion.

On another matter, we will have at least one opening on our board, starting in July. If there's any way you would like to help us achieve our mission, we would love to hear from you. We would appreciate whatever help we can get. We have other positions that would also help us transform our culture into a culture of life!

- Coalition Board

# Upcoming Events

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**Second Tuesdays**  
7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

**CFLI Board Meetings (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays)**

Get involved in our organization!

**Where:** Contact us.

**More:** [coalitionforlife@gmail.com](mailto:coalitionforlife@gmail.com)

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**Tue, June 7**  
7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

**Primary Election**

Remember to vote!

**Where:** Your local voting place.

**More:** <https://linncountyelections.org>

*We are planning events for fall  
and winter.*

*We encourage pro-lifers to pray  
for an end to abortion  
throughout the summer, and  
especially for the current court  
cases.*

*Please also pray as we look to  
fill some positions on our board,  
and consider if you would be  
willing to fill such a position.*



## Possible Changes

### Unionizing Planned Parenthood?

Planned Parenthood merged several regional affiliates in the past decade or so, which led to a multi-state organization with hundreds of employees. Many of their employees don't work there very long; Planned Parenthood has high turn-over (the rate of replacing employees who are no longer employed there).

High turn-over can be a sign of poor compensation or treatment of employees. Sometimes it can arise from simply drawing in employees seeking a first job or a job while in college. But it can also lead to an employer not feeling like they have to improve, because employees don't stick around long enough to demand change.

Planned Parenthood likes to ally itself with many causes, even those that wouldn't make sense at first. In this case, their employees are looking to unionize for the affiliate in this region. Time will tell if they unionize or not.

### Shifting Abortion Sites?

The Planned Parenthood affiliate that includes Iowa also includes the Dakotas, Minnesota, and Nebraska. Although they don't have any facilities in North Dakota, they get very close because they have a site in Moorhead, Minnesota, which is just across the river and state line from Fargo, North Dakota.

Fargo is home to North Dakota's only abortion provider, the Red River Women's Clinic. North Dakota has a trigger law that will make abortion illegal 30 days after the overturning of Roe vs. Wade. With the concerns of abortion providers of the Dobbs case likely overturning Roe, abortion providers have contingency plans in place.

The Red River Women's Clinic has land secured in Moorhead, so they would have similar access to women as they have today, just a few miles to the east. If the clinic ever stops doing abortions, Planned Parenthood has made it clear that they would start doing abortions in Moorhead.

### Executive Orders?

The Biden administration has suggested the possibility of issuing executive orders that would benefit the abortion industry in the event that Roe vs. Wade gets overturned. The details of such orders are not clear at this time. Executive orders cannot contradict anything in law, but they can add restrictions or ensure that funds or services are provided, perhaps with some priority, over the current way of doing things.

### Reservations?

One of the very disappointing ideas brought up in discussion among abortionists is the possibility of getting abortion sites on reservations—as in the land that is outside the jurisdiction of the federal and state governments, reserved for native populations. Such people are already treated in ways that lead to significant poverty. Will the abortion industry take advantage of them to sell abortions, even targeting the indigenous people? 🤔



## Government Update

### National

Please continue to pray for a good outcome of the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* case. We expect a ruling within the coming month.

Someone made an unprecedented leak of the draft majority opinion from February. The leak is a serious concern, since the court is supposed to be independent—not influenced by outside forces that don't follow judicial processes. In fact, it's illegal to protest outside of the homes of the justices, but even that has been happening.

Things are looking like *Roe vs. Wade* could finally get overturned, which would return abortion matters to the legislative branches of both the state AND FEDERAL governments. Most people say it would send matters back to the states, but the reason abortion advocates try to pass a law in Congress to codify *Roe* or worse is that such a law could still take effect. *Roe* wasn't a law, but an interpretation of the Constitution.

That interpretation, combined with the *Doe* ruling handed down at the same time as the *Roe* decision, and later modified by the *Casey* decision has kept every abortion regulation a matter of asking permission of the court. The court made rules not in any law, first inventing the trimester system, and later the viability standard. Because the court made up the rules that didn't exist in any laws, and limited the state's ability to pass laws, that sent every regulation back to the court. Reversal moves policy back to the legislatures.

### Texas

Also pray regarding the Texas Heartbeat Act that allows anyone to report an abortion that takes place beyond a certain gestational period. Many other states have been proposing or passing into law similar laws. So, the outcome of the Texas case will provide a precedent for the other states. That could make a few laws either stand or fall, based on this decision.


### Iowa

The MOMS Bill passed, which will begin funding pregnancy resource centers with a total of \$500,000.

Another bill was passed that addresses forced abortions. After the Iowa Court of Appeals overturned a conviction involving an attempted abortion via abortion pills back in 2017, because it wasn't proven whether the abortion took place or not, this bill closed the loopholes to prevent future repeats.

No ruling has been made in the Iowa Supreme Court case involving a challenge to the Planned Parenthood of the Heartland v. Kim Reynolds case from a few years ago. If the court overturns their prior ruling, it would diminish the need for the Protect Life Amendment, but not necessarily eliminate it..

The Protect Life Amendment cannot progress until 2023 at the earliest or 2024 at the latest.

Remember to vote in the primary elections on Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>. 



## Pro-Life Challenge



Please pray for God to work in the lives people, in particular:

Jenifer (pro-lifer with health issues);  
Çantana (pro-lifer);  
Central Minnesota's PP sites; UNI Students for Life; lawmakers & judges

## VOLUNTEER



## Help Us!

Use your skills to help pro-life efforts, and invite friends and family to attend our events. Invite them to help us out. Many hands make for light work!



## Religious Flack

The Catholic Archbishop of San Francisco made public the notification made to the Speaker of the House of Congress and priests regarding her ability to receive the Eucharist. For non-Catholics who don't know what that is, the Catholic teaching about the Eucharist is that bread and wine become the body and blood of Jesus, while maintaining the appearance of bread and wine. Some other denominations agree with this, while others differ. But for a person of the Catholic faith, this real presence of Jesus is important to understanding this issue.

This refusal of the Eucharist has led to many people claiming the Church is being political or inconsistent regarding other lawmakers who approach public policy differently. While the Church teaches that abortion is an intrinsic evil—one that is never justified, most other social issues have very different approaches to addressing them. While some people might support programs to address hunger at the federal level, others might want state or local levels to handle it. Some people would prefer personal acts of charity or for

non-profit organizations to get involved. So, the singling out of abortion avoids inconsistency.

To receive the Eucharist, one must be in the state of grace, lacking unconfessed mortal sin. The tree of life in Eden was kept from Adam and Eve after they fell from grace in order to prevent them from an eternal life of sin—separation from God. During the Exodus, excess manna that prefigured the Eucharist would become wormy, just as the dead become worm food. In the New Testament, St. Paul writes about how some people have become sick or even died after receiving the Eucharist unworthily. The Eucharist can bring healing for the sick, but it can act like poison for those who lack God's grace through mortal sin.

This is not permanent, since just as the many people Jesus healed repented and were healed, people today can repent and receive the Eucharist. Grave public sin that's persistent, even after several discussions and warnings can lead to protecting the sinful by withholding the Eucharist, just as God did in Eden for the good of Adam and Eve. 🕊

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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

P.O. Box 864  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406