

# Life Matters

# Discussing life matters, because life matters

May 2023

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We welcome newcomers to our events and meetings

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

# Summertime

In the latter half of this past year, we saw lawmakers quickly push for abortion law changes in states across the country. Some states waited for their normal sessions. Some states aggressively allowed abortion early this year, while we are now seeing many states protecting lives.

On Mother's Day, we again honored mothers with real roses. Thank you, mothers, for all that you have done, continue to do, and will do. We also appreciate fathers for what they do. Father's Day is just around the corner. We used to try to do events for that, but it was hard to get good turn-out.

We continue to discuss changes we will make in our activities for next year. We again point out that we need help, mostly your time and effort. We need people who can help out, and those who are willing to organize activities, and those who are willing to invite their friends and families to get involved with them. Life Matters: A Coalition for Life of Iowa Newsletter

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Upcoming Events	
<b>Second Tuesdays</b> 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	CFLI Board Meetings (2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays) Get involved in our organization! Where: Contact us. More: <u>coalitionforlife@gmail.com</u>
<b>Sat, June 24</b> 1 p.m. start	Iowa March for Life [in June] Celebrate the anniversary of the end of Roe! Where: Iowa State Capitol, outside on the West Steps 1007 E Grand Ave, Des Moines, IA 50319 More info: <u>https://pulseforlife.org/iowa-march-for-life/</u>
Sept 27 – Nov 5 1-hour time slots	40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil Join us in praying for an end to abortion in a peaceful prayer vigil! Where: Sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood 3425 First Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA More info: <u>https://www.40daysforlife.com/cedarrapids</u>
	Will you help us organize activities? If so, please email us.

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## Abortion: Nearly 1 Year After Dobbs

We are less than a month away from the 1-year anniversary of the Dobbs ruling that overturned Roe vs. Wade and Planned Parenthood vs. Casey. What has happened in this year?

Abortion advocates had it easy for nearly half of a century with the Roe precedent protecting their stance. That disappeared in June of last year. Abortion advocates rallied their supporters by casting fear that their rights were at risk. Some states quickly sought to legalize all abortions, rather than continuing something closer to the typical stance of the general public.

Pro-life states enacted protections for life. People were told that women would seek unsafe abortions. But some pro-lifers gave women the benefit of the doubt that most women would NOT break the law. According to a Bloomberg report, pro-life laws caused a **96% drop in their abortion rates!**  People live an average of 275 miles further from abortion providers, in large part due to the many Southern states banning most abortions.

Pro-life statisticians calculated that at least 32,250 lives have been saved within just the first six months following the Dobbs ruling. With more states passing pro-life laws and cultural changes, the rate should continue to improve.

NPR reported that Planned Parenthood will restructure their national office. Dozens of staff members will lose their jobs. Many of them are deemed some of their movement's brightest minds. Of their national workforce, the cuts could lead to 10% - 20% of their workforce losing their jobs.

Planned Parenthood still makes the bulk of their profits from abortion. With the major drop in abortion revenue, it's really cutting into their profits. Despite being classified as a non-profit organization, that's just a tax status. They still seek profits.

This has led them to push more in their other lucrative business involving cross-sex hormones and helping with sexual mutilations. If people can be affirmed in wanting to appear as a gender they are not, then they will pay for hormones for the rest of their lives. If they pay someone to physically mutilate them, then they will depend on hormones for the rest of their lives in order to make the altered body function somewhat like it would if they were that gender. By creating pharmaceutically-dependent clients, they can create longer-term income per client than abortion generates, even if the revenue up front is much smaller.

We should expect Planned Parenthood to escalate their lobbying for "gender affirmation" to create dependent clients.

We must step up our efforts. @

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### Government Update

#### Iowa

Iowa's session ended without any laws regarding abortion being passed. However, they did increase funding that will help mothers in need through pregnancy resource centers.

Iowa's Heartbeat Law has been appealed, having the hearing in the Iowa Supreme Court in April. We hope to have a ruling in June or July.

If it goes in our favor, we will protect most lives in the womb. If it doesn't, there's a chance there could be a special session to pass a new Heartbeat Law, or it may wait until next year.

#### Texas/National

U.S. District Judge Matthew Kacsmaryk ruled against the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in a case involving how they approved the RU-486 abortion pill. The U.S. Supreme Court has allowed the pills to be distributed while courts handle the appeals. Another district court judge made an opposite ruling, which now places the districts in conflict. That makes it easier for the U.S Supreme Court to accept such a case.

#### <u>Nebraska</u>

After Nebraska's failure to pass a Heartbeat Law, they tried again and passed protections for life at 12weeks. That law went into effect upon their governor's signing it into law. There were promises of legal challenges, but so far, we are not aware of any challenges being filed.

#### South Carolina

After South Carolina's failure to pass a near-total protection for life in the womb, they tried again and passed a Heartbeat Law. That law went into effect upon their governor's signing it into law. Legal challenges were raised, and a judge prevented enforcement while it goes through the courts after just a day of enforcement.

#### North Carolina

North Carolina's legislature overrode their governor's veto so they could protect life in the womb beginning at 12 weeks. That law will go into effect on July 1<sup>st</sup>, unless legal actions prevent that.

#### <u>Virginia</u>

With the South protecting most lives in the womb, abortion advocates have their eyes set on Virginia. With all other Southern states having passed laws to protect human life in all or most cases, Virginia is the outlier. Their abortion funds in that state face some strain, because many people from Southern states go to Virginia. Their governor, senate, and house all have majorities that suggest they could pass pro-life laws in the year ahead.

#### Pray About Legal Challenges

There are seven states with legal challenges that could make a big difference if judges/justices end up siding with protecting life. The laws were passed to protect life, and it would help if people prayed for good outcomes. Those states include: Iowa, Indiana, Ohio, Wyoming, Utah, Arizona, and South Carolina.

### Pro-Life Challenge



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

Çantana (pro-lifer); Rockford, IL abortion site; Central Minnesota's PP sites; UNI Students for Life; lawmakers & judges; for the Iowa heartbeat law to go into effect; for the repose of the soul of abortionist LeRoy Carhart



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!

# Boycotts Can Work

Recent months have led people to watch a few companies in terms of how they react to public backlash and to see how profits are affected by people claiming to boycott those companies. Many boycotts are done half-heartedly, involving too few people for too little time to cause change in a company. Some people don't let companies know they are boycotting them, so they may misattribute bad sales to other things.

Anheuser-Busch has done quite badly ever since they chose someone to promote their Bud Light brand of beer back in March. Since then, sales of Bud Light have tanked significantly. It's not the only product made by the company, but the value of their company based on the stock market value (market cap) is down more than 25% and is accelerating in the fall as it plummets toward losing 1/3 of its prior value.

Target is seeing some backlash from some of their bad choices, too. They market so heavily to children with products that promote lifestyles involving bodily mutilation and some that cast the devil in a positive light. Their company pays for abortions and travel to get abortions. They've had serious issues for decades, but they continued to do well in retail sales. Even when they changed their policies regarding their bathrooms a few years ago in a way that was handled horrendously, enough people continued shopping there, so the company saw little need to change. People may like shopping there, but they are getting fed up with the serious issues with the company.

The successful boycott of Anheuser-Busch is giving people some hope that boycotting can work to push back against many years of incremental changes for the worse. Pro-lifers often struggled with boycotts, despite having many successes.

When most makers of smartphones and major computer companies support abortion, you either have to avoid most technology or not boycott so seriously. Individuals can watch their spending, but a coordinated boycott can work best when there are just a few targets that many people can rally behind, rather than all companies at once. @

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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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