



PARISH 'LIFE' NEWS

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St. Gabriel Pro-Life Committee

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Seeing Abortion



Bishop Barron

The legal protocols now in effect in NY, DE and a number of other states allowing for the butchering of a child in the womb at any point in his or her nine-month gestation—and indeed, on the clinic or hospital table, should the child by some miracle survive the abortion—have sickened much of the country. And they have allowed people to see, in unmistakably clear terms, the full implications of the twisted "pro-choice" ideology. If a mother

chooses to bring her baby to term and to be born, that child is, somehow by that choice, the subject of dignity and worthy of the full protection of the law; and if a mother chooses otherwise, even a newborn baby struggling to breathe on an operating table can be murdered and discarded like so much garbage. Biology and metaphysics be damned: our subjective decisions determine reality—and the result is state-sanctioned infanticide. So obviously insane, so clearly dangerous, so unmistakably wicked are these laws that they are causing many people to reconsider their position on abortion. "Unplanned," the story of Abby Johnson's wrenching transition from director of a Planned Parenthood (PP) clinic to vocal opponent of abortion, has proven to be a surprisingly popular film, despite its rather grim theme and despite considerable institutional opposition. The film opens with the event that proved decisive for Abby Johnson herself. As director and administrator of a PP clinic, she was certainly aware of what was happening on the premises, but she had rarely been involved in an actual abortion. One afternoon, she was summoned to the operating room and asked to hold the device that allowed the doctor to see the ultrasound image of the child in the womb. As the physician went about his work, Abby could clearly see the child resting comfortably and then reacting violently as a suctioning device was inserted into the womb. To her horror, she then saw a tiny arm sucked off, only to reappear, moments later, as a bloody soup in a catheter next to her. As she watched, unable to take her eyes off of the horrific display, she saw the severely wounded baby continuing to evade the device, until a leg disappeared, then another arm, and finally the baby's head. And again, the remains of the living child surged like slush into the catheter. With that, she ran from the room, vomited in the bathroom, and resolved to dissociate herself forever from PP. The film makes clear that she had heard arguments against abortion all of her life, for her parents and husband were ardently and vocally pro-life, but she made the decision after she saw what it meant to end the life of an unborn child. In 1850, lots of good and thoughtful people defended the institution of slavery. Now, only insane people would. In 2019, lots of decent and thoughtful people defend the pro-choice position. One can only hope that these recent laws, and this viscerally disturbing film, will hasten the day when only insane people would. [The Pilot](#), 4/10/19

UNPLANNED—a Final Tally

During its first two weeks in theaters, UNPLANNED ranked among the top 10 of all movies being shown. Week three saw it drop to number 11. By mid-April, total gross at the box office was \$17,538,220 (film studios receive about 55% of gross revenue). The movie reportedly cost \$6 million to make. The Options Line [1-800-712-HELP], run by Heartbeat International's Abortion Pill Rescue Network, reported an increase in calls by nearly 30% since the film's debut and are declaring it no coincidence. The movie changed many hearts, converted a number of people, and saved an unknown number of babies—all while being financially successful. God is good—all the time. [American Life League](#), 4/26/19

Most New Yorkers Reject Late-Term Abortion

In the wake of a new law that allows abortion at any time during pregnancy, [a new survey](#) conducted by the Marist Poll for the Knights of Columbus finds that the overwhelming majority of New York State residents oppose late-term abortion. In fact, a majority of New Yorkers would limit abortion to—at most—the first three months of pregnancy. The majority opposition to late-term abortion, and support for abortion restrictions was strong even though most New Yorkers identify as pro-choice (62% to 34% pro-life). The numbers are in line with the national survey results, which found in February that Americans opposed abortion after 20 weeks by 71% to 18%. Abortion after 20 weeks is opposed by New Yorkers by a margin of 75% to 20% (i.e., 71% who would ban abortion after 20 weeks plus 4% who would ban the procedure altogether).

[ChristianNewsWire](#), 4/1/19



PROJECT MUSTARD SEED

The letter recipient for this month is:

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Gannett has been on The Boycott List for quite some time now. We last wrote to them in July 2014. Let us remind them that we have not forgotten they support Planned Parenthood. Please see their website for a complete list of all of their publications. Thank you and God bless you all for your efforts!

Pope Welcomes Choir of Persons with Dementia

Fifteen elderly persons with Alzheimer’s disease came to Rome for a five-day pilgrimage with Cardinal Jozef De Kesel, archbishop of Mechelen-Brussels. They form part of the “Rainbow Choir” at a home for the elderly in Bonheiden, Belgium. The Rainbow Choir, which has about 50 members in total, was founded in 2010, right after Christmas. Filip Zutterman, a lay chaplain, usually announced the birth of Jesus Christ to the residents of the center on Christmas Eve, but the latter could not concentrate enough to understand the meaning of the Good News, and most of them could not stay awake. “One day, I started singing Christmas songs, and they suddenly woke up... Therefore, I decided to sing more often,” Zutterman — now choirmaster of the Rainbow Choir — told the Register at the end of the concert they performed April 4 at the Basilica of Sts. John and Paul on the Caelian Hill. “I think that the fact of putting together our frailties and mutually accepting them is the most beautiful ‘hymn,’ the harmony most pleasing to God, a ‘rainbow’ — not of perfections, but of imperfections!” the Pope said. “By singing together, the residents create a bridge to their past—a past in which they were still in good shape, physically and mentally,” Cardinal Josef De Kesel told the Register. This unprecedented pilgrimage, the Cardinal said, is a clear and convincing invitation to society not to exclude people who are considered “useless.” Such rejection, in his opinion, is one of the greatest dangers of our time. [NCR](#), 4/10/19

Pro-Life Community Clinics Receive HHS Grant

A \$5.1 million Title X Family Planning grant was made to the California-based Obria Group. According to a press release from Obria, it is “a nonprofit affiliate network that operates 21 health clinics and 11 mobile clinics in five states with 78 licensed medical professionals providing comprehensive health care services including: pregnancy testing and counseling, prenatal care through delivery, HIV/AIDS testing, pregnancy ultrasound, breast and cervical cancer testing, well-woman care and pap smears, STD testing and treatment, sexual risk avoidance education, adoption referral, and post-abortion support. Obria clinics do not provide contraceptives and do not perform abortions, offering women and their families healthy, life-affirming care.” While giving the grant to Obria, Health and Human Services (HHS) stripped funding from four PP affiliates (PP Southwest Ohio Region, PP of the Great Northwest and the Hawaiian Islands, PP South Atlantic, and PP of Wisconsin) that operate clinics in Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, North Carolina, Ohio, Washington, Wisconsin and Virginia. [American Life League](#), 4/5/19

A Nurse’s Role in Assisted Suicide

The American Nurses Association (ANA) currently opposes assisted suicide, but the ANA is now proposing that nurses be required to assist patients in ending their lives or to write a referral to someone who would. The Coalition of Christian Nurse Practitioners finds that the proposed policy would violate nurses’ religious and moral convictions, undermine their religious liberty and political freedoms and compromise their integrity by requiring their participation in administering medication, arranging referral to a supportive provider or speaking of Physician-Assisted Suicide in positive terms. A patient's voluntary request for physician-assisted suicide does not make it ethical or permissible. The idea of a nurse acting as an accomplice by encouraging the transfer of a lethal dose of medication is morally repugnant to the foundational principles of nursing and those who value the innate dignity of human beings [ChristianNewWire](#), 4/8/19

Adult Stem Cells Cures AIDS

Understandably, all the attention in response to an article posted March 4th in the journal “Nature” was captured in the headline in many ensuing stories: “Second HIV patient is in long-term remission, a decade after the first [patient].” The second patient, whose identity has not been disclosed, was able to stop taking antiretroviral drugs, with no sign of the virus returning 18 months later. What was completely ignored is the source of the stem cells that were responsible for this long-term remission from HIV infection—they were adult stem cells. [Nature](#), 3/5/19