

CHEMICAL ABORTION

NORTHERN KENTUCKY INDEPENDENT DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD EQUALLY SPLIT: ONE-HALF PRO-LIFE/ONE-HALF PRO-ABORTION

Background History

As NKRTL reported in its February, 1998 Newsletter, the **NKIDH Board** voted overwhelmingly on September 17, 1997 to approve the distribution through its facilities of the abortifacient pill, denominated "morning-after" pill. Overwhelming medical evidence had been presented by NKRTL and its representatives that the pill did indeed operate post conception, and prevented implantation of the newly-conceived human being, and therefore was an abortifacient, and not a contraceptive. (See page 2.)

Robert C. Cetrulo, President of NKRTL, Dr. Arthur Kunath, President of Catholics United For the Faith, Dr. Richard G. Gautraud, President of Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Physicians For Life, and Fred H. Summe, President of Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Lawyers For Life, sought meetings with all of the local county judges, who make the appointments to this Board. The only one who responded was **Campbell County Judge-Executive Ken Paul (D)**, who met with them and assured them that he would attend the next meeting and vote against this pro-abortion policy, and that he would prevail upon his appointees to do likewise.

Kenton County Judge-Executive Clyde Middleton (R) and **Boone County Judge-Executive Ken Lucas (D)** did not respond to our requests either to meet with us, or to attend the next Board meeting and vote Pro-Life. As County Judge-Executives, they are automatically members of the Board.

The only other agency actively participating in these Pro-Life efforts was **Pregnancy Center of Northern Kentucky**, although NKRTL had specifically solicited support from the **Catholic Diocese of Covington** and the **Diocesan Pro-Life Commission**.

Translating Majority Will Into Public Policy

The 1998 NKRTL **Candidate Questionnaire** included the question: "If there should come before you the question of appointment or confirmation of an individual to any board, agency, or committee, etc., which does or could perform, counsel, refer, or fund abortion (including chemical abortions, such as the so-called 'morning after pill') will you nominate or confirm only individuals (1) who refuse to perform, counsel, refer, or fund any abortion and (2) who refuse to support, vote for, or fund any government or private agency that would perform, counsel, refer, or fund any abortion?"

In **Boone County**, the pro-abortion **County Judge-Executive, Ken Lucas (D)**, did not seek re-election. His nominated successor, **Jim Collins (D)** refused to answer our Questionnaire. His opponent, **Gary W. Moore (R)** answered our Questionnaire 100% Pro-Life, and was elected.

In **Campbell County**, the incumbent **Ken Paul (D)** sought re-election and answered our Questionnaire 100% Pro-Life, although he was obviously not telling the truth as to the question regarding appointments, since he had, even after our meeting, re-appointed a pro-abort voting member to the NKIDH Board, who then promptly voted pro-abortion again. He also routinely supported pro-aborts for other elective position, which is contrary to his answer to another one of our questions on the Questionnaire. His opponent, **Steve Pendery (R)** answered our questions 100% Pro-Life, and was elected. Promptly after his defeat, Paul undertook the support locally of the re-election of our pro-abort **Gov. Paul Patton (D)**, confirming that his word really doesn't mean very much.

In **Kenton County**, the incumbent **Clyde Middleton (R)** had already resigned, and the **interim-appointed County Judge, Biz Cain (D)** (appointed by our pro-abortion Gov. Paul Patton (D),) had already made pro-abortion appointments to the NKIDH Board, but did not seek election.

Denny Bowman (D), the then **Major of Covington** had a seat on the NKIDH, and ignored our letter for help, and indeed, his representative to the Board, **Greg Jarvis**,

IN THIS ISSUE...

CHEMICAL ABORTION —	
NORTHERN KENTUCKY INDEPENDENT DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD	
EQUALLY SPLIT: ONE-HALF PRO-LIFE/ONE-HALF PRO-	
ABORTION	1
SEPARATING THE SHEEP FROM THE GOATS	5
KENTUCKY CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION RECORD	5
PRAY FOR LIFE - MONTHLY	5
CHRISTMAS CARDS	6
POPULATION	7
NKRTL ANNUAL DUES RENEWAL MONTH	8

See NKRTL-PAC Endorsements,
infra

Covington City Manager, voted pro-abortion. Bowman answered our question in the negative, as to Pro-Life appointees. His opponent, **Richard L. Murgatroyd (R)**, a former state legislator with a 100% Pro-Life voting record, answered our Questionnaire 100% Pro-Life, and was elected.

Promises vs. Performance

The new Board represents a majority of appointees by the newly-elected County Judge/Executives — but unfortunately, the only appointees who voted totally Pro-Life were those from Boone County.

At a **Board meeting on September 20**, a motion was made to reverse the pro-abortion policy adopted at the Board meeting of September of 1997, and prohibit the distribution by taxpayers' funds through this agency of the clearly abortifacient pill denominated "the morning after pill".

An Amendment was offered to the motion by **pharmacist Robert Hay**, an appointee of **Boone County Judge/Executive Gary Moore**, to bar the distribution of all abortifacients by the NKIHD clinics. The Amendment was seconded and supported by **pharmacist Joseph Bessler** and **physician Richard Gautraud, M.D.**

An animated debate followed among the Board members. Although the Board had heard pro-abortion biased testimony for more than an hour from **Dr. Rice Leach, Kentucky Commissioner of Health**, of the **pro-abortion Gov. Patton administration**, and his attorney, **Chairman Dr. Stephen Hiltz**, refused to receive testimony offered, through Board member **Robert Hay, R.Ph.**, of **Dr. Arthur Kunath, M.D.**

Leach's crudity degenerated to an incredible level. After threatening the Board that they might not only lose \$100,000 (a very small percentage of the budget) by reason of their rejection of these abortifacient pills, he indicated that he might choose to take away many other functions of public health from the NKIHD, reducing the Board to "inspecting public toilets in restaurants".

Board member **Dr. Charles Kenner**, from Boone County (and candidate for Boone County Commissioner, endorsed by NKRTL-PAC), asked Leach as to who was the source of this threat. Leach responded that it wasn't a "threat", but merely a possibility. Kenner pressed ahead and said, "I recognize a threat, when I hear one." Leach then angrily responded that it was he who was making the threat.

The extreme radicalism of Leach, and of the pro-abortion voting members of NKIHD, is further demonstrated by the fact that the U.S. House of Representatives has just passed a bill, by overwhelming vote, banning the distribution of the so-called "morning after" pill at school-based health clinics that receive federal family planning funds. But radical pro-aborts would have them continue to be distributed to teenage girls in Northern Kentucky!

There were many interesting, although sometimes confusing exchanges among the Board members.

The main stalwart for the Pro-Life position was **Robert Hay, Boone County Commissioner**, and long-time activist

member of NKRTL. He had difficulty in even getting the pro-abortion Hiltz, to recognize his right to put an Amendment on the floor, and then to get a roll call vote which the Chair was reluctant to give, and the **Board attorney, John Gerard Patten**, attempted to suppress.

Among the strongest pro-abortion votes on the Board were **Dr. Daniel Courtade, Ft. Thomas cardiologist**, appointed by **Campbell County Judge/Executive Stephen Pendery**, and **Dr. Michael Kirkwood, Kenton County obstetrician**, appointed by **Kenton County Judge/Executive Richard Murgatroyd**. Courtade four times accused Pro-Life pharmacist Robert Hay of "arrogance" for asserting that "it is simple Biology 101 that human life begins with the fertilization of the female ovum by the male sperm", and that since these pills operate after that fact, to prevent implantation in the uterus of the conceptus, they are abortifacient. Dr. Courtade blithely asserted that he "didn't know when human life began"!

Evidence Clearly Demonstrates That the Standard So-Called Oral Contraceptive Pill Is Indeed Abortifacient

And indeed, the evidence is irrefutable that the standard so-called birth control pill is in fact abortifacient, by preventing implantation in the womb of the conceptus, after fertilization, which means it is not contraception, but indeed operates post-conception, and is therefore a chemical abortion. This method of operation is indeed printed on the materials that come in the birth control packages from the manufacturers themselves.

Dr. Kirkwood also defended these abortifacient pills — although mildly thrown off his composure when his pro-abortion voting colleague, **nurse Irma Parks of Grant County, Ky.** pointed out to the Board that indeed the standard so-called birth control pill operates in the same fashion as the so-called emergency contraceptive pill, both operating to prevent implantation in the womb of the fertilized egg.

True vs. False Compassion

When Kirkwood was challenged by **Gautraud**, who pointed out that the medical evidence is quite clear that human life begins at fertilization and that these pills do indeed operate to cause an abortion after the beginning of the individual person's human life, Kirkwood condescendingly asked, "Are you a doctor?" When Gautraud responded "Yes", he was asked, "What kind of doctor?" Gautraud responded that he was an emergency room specialist. Kirkwood then proceeded to lecture Gautraud that his information as an obstetrician was superior and Gautraud knew nothing about females and fertility. Gautraud brought Kirkwood up short by responding that he deals with victims of rape in his emergency room and thoroughly understands the mechanism of conception.

Pharmacist Joseph Bessler of Kenton County related that he attended the meeting 3 years ago at which the NKIHD Board approved dispensing so-called "morning after" pills. The chairman at that time was **Mary Ann Barnes**,

M.D., who was on the teaching staff of St. Elizabeth Medical Center and who was pushing the approval of these chemical abortifacients. Barnes stated at that time that the effect of those pills, as well as the standard birth control pill, was that "... the fertilized egg cannot implant into the uterus." Bessler stated that upon learning this, he stopped filling prescriptions for these pills, since he was not willing to participate in the killing of unborn children.

One of the more moving testimonies was that of Board member **Maureen Sheldon, R.N.** (appointee of **Boone County Judge/Executive Gary Moore**). She said that regardless of the various legal arguments and medical arguments, as a woman she understands when human life begins, and it is at fertilization, and that anything that intervenes thereafter destroys innocent human life, and is wrong, and we must oppose it. The entire assemblage was humbled and silenced at this profound and truthful insight.

Other fascinating byplay took place with the disclosure of the pro-abortion bias of **Mrs. Patricia Dressman** of Ft. Mitchell, the designated delegate of **Campbell County Judge/ Executive Stephen Pendery**, who voted against both of our Pro-Life Motions, and argued that these poor women are entitled to these "services" and that other people in the room simply didn't understand as they hadn't "walked in those shoes".

The first eloquent rebuttal of that condescending nonsense came from **Mrs. Laura Crone** (Kenton County appointee to the Board) who explained that in her teen years she had been from a broken home, and had indeed walked in those shoes, and had indeed been a participant in that unfortunate lifestyle, pill taking and promiscuity, and that she fortunately now recognizes that that is wrong and that we must tell people that it is wrong, and that these pills are chemically violent to the bodies of women, among other things.

The next beautiful rejoinder came from Kenton County appointee **Mrs. Clare Ruehl, R.N.**, who has for many years been an activist speaker in the schools explaining the urgency of chastity and abstinence. She pointed out many of these teenage girls who have used or are on artificial birth control pills, now experience low self-esteem and have an attitude that promiscuity is normal. She pointed out that it is a "**false compassion**" which continues to provide pills and so-called contraception to these girls, rather than teaching them the truth of abstinence, and marital monogamy as the only real path to true self-esteem and happiness.

During a break from the debate, Kunath confronted pro-abortion Courtade, who had of course been asserting the ridiculous proposition, contrary to the clear definition for 50 years in medical dictionaries, that pregnancy does not occur upon fertilization. Kunath asked Courtade then what his explanation would be for the situation in which the female ovum is fertilized by the male sperm, and never makes it to the uterus, but indeed attaches to the uterus, or in the fallopian tube, and develops completely, extra-uterine, and indeed results in the birth of a live, healthy child. How can

Courtade scientifically maintain, with any intellectual honesty, that that woman was never pregnant?

Courtade denied that that situation occurs. Kunath responded that the medical literature is full of such instances and indeed it happens with some frequency. It was interesting to note the byplay between these two physicians, after the meeting, as Courtade was leaving the place, and he then agreed with Kunath that indeed Kunath was correct!

The only persons in the audience, besides paid staff members of the Health Board, were numerous members of Northern Kentucky Right to Life Committee. The only clergyman present was a Pro-Life priest, **Fr. Robert Klein, retired priest of the Catholic Diocese of Covington.**

Public Health?

None of the pro-abortion voting members of the Board were able to explain why the dispensation of contraceptive/abortifacient medication is the only activity currently engaged in by NKIHD which does not involve the treatment of disease, and which of course is clearly beyond the proper scope of "public health".

Nor could they explain why the Board was engaged in such activity which is not only not "health care", but is in fact specifically disastrous to public health, and a disservice to the community served, and to the broader community. There had been furnished to the Board members, by NKRTL, articles and evidence from **Dr. Robert C. Noble, M.D., an infectious disease specialist and an AIDS doctor to the poor, functioning at the University of Kentucky Medical Center, Lexington**, who condemned the widespread distribution of such contraception: "Abstinence and sexual intercourse with one mutually faithful uninfected partner are the only totally effective prevention strategies ... Syphilis is on the rise. Gonorrhea is harder to treat ... Ectopic pregnancies and infertility from sexually transmitted diseases are mounting every year. ... Unmarried people shouldn't be having sex. ... Doctors can't fix most of the things you can catch out there. There is no cure for AIDS. There is no cure for herpes or genital warts. ... There is no safe sex. Condoms aren't going to make a dent in the sexual epidemics that we are facing." **Newsweek, 4/1/91**

NKRTL had also furnished the evidence of **Dr. David Hager, M.D., Lexington, Kentucky Board certified in obstetrics and gynecology and infectious disease, and former employee of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention of Atlanta, Georgia**, who testified in 1996 before the U.S. Senate, on these related topics, and made the following points: (1) The epidemic nature of sexually-transmitted diseases in this country, currently more than 20, amount to 12 million new STD cases annually. (2) One-fifth of all Americans have a viral STD, and 1-1/2 million persons are HIV positive. (3) Early age of intercourse is directly linked to "risk of STD's and to cervical cancer in women." (4) 83 percent of the fathers of children seen at his teen pregnancy clinic at the University of Ky. do not live with the mother or the child, with the consequent catastrophic consequences,

including the overburdened and failed welfare system. (5) Based upon his empirical medical/statistical data, the current mentality of contraception "...basically tells young people - 'We suggest you abstain but we really do not believe that you can, so use condoms.' This mixed message is degrading to young people. ... the only medically safe and morally responsible choice for unmarried persons is abstinence." **Kentucky Citizen Digest, September/October 1996.**

And they had before them also the evidence of **Dr. Chris Kahlenborn, M.D., "Understanding the Link Between Abortion, Breast Cancer, and the Pill"**: "Does the oral contraceptive pill (OCP) and Depo-Provera cause breast cancer? The answer is an emphatic yes ... in summary of the statistics, a woman who takes the birth control pill before she has had her first child has at least a 40 percent increased risk in breast cancer and if she has taken the pill for four or more years prior to her first delivery she suffers a 72 percent increased risk. Secondly, women who use Depo-Provera for between 2 to 3 years before age 25 have at least a 190 percent increased risk in breast cancer."

But they voted, nonetheless, to continue the distribution, through this public agency with taxpayer funds, of these abortifacient and dangerous chemicals to all applicants, including teenage girls, without even the knowledge or consent of their parents.

Scorecard

After all of the rhetoric, political posturing, and 3+ hours of domination by a pro-abortion Chairman, and a one-sided presentation to the Board, a roll call vote was taken (only at the insistence of the Pro-Life members of the Board, and over the opposition of the pro-abort Chairman and legal counsel -- darkness hates light!)

Both the motion to reverse the earlier policy of the Board, and ban the so-called "morning after" pill, and the Amendment, banning all chemical abortion, were defeated, by an ultimate vote of 11 to 11, a tie, which means that the Motions fail.

But that doesn't tell the whole story. **Mrs. Barbara Black, R.N., Kenton County Commissioner and Board member as representative designated by Kenton County Judge/Executive Richard Murtatroyd**, who made the original motion to ban all abortifacient pills at the June meeting, and who spoke in support of the motion at this September meeting, then voted against her own motion. After the roll call had been completed, and the vote was 10 for the Pro-Life position, and 12 against the Pro-Life position Black inquired of the Chair as to whether she could change her vote. She then next asked what would be the consequence of her changing her vote, with the resultant 11-11 tie, and she was advised that the Pro-Life motion would still fail. She then indicated she wished to change her vote, and the vote ended up 11-11.

We are pleased to provide for the reader the "light" shone into the darkness by the recorded vote obtained only because Hay and others insisted that there be a roll call vote. The tally was as follows:

Kenton County Board Members

Joseph G. Bessler, R.Ph. — Pro-Life
Mrs. Barbara Black, R.N. — ?
Mark A. Boyd, M.D. — Pro-Abort
Carl J. Brueggemann, M.D. — Pro-Life
Mrs. Laura Crone — Pro-Life
Stephen W. Hiltz, M.D. — Pro-Abort
Don Kiely — Pro-Abort
Michael Kirkwood, M.D. — Pro-Abort
Mrs. Clare Ruehl, R.N. — Pro-Life

Campbell County Board Members

Daniel Courtade, M.D. — Pro-Abort
Mrs. Pat Dressman — Pro-Abort
Nancy Gray, R.N. — Pro-Abort
Richard Kruer, M.D. — Pro-Life
Phyllis Schenk — Pro-Abort

Boone County Board Members

Richard Gautraud, M.D. — Pro-Life
Robert Hay, R.Ph. — Pro-Life
Gordon Johnson — Pro-Life
Charles Kenner, D.M.D. — Pro-Life
Maureen Sheldon, R.N. — Pro-Life

Grant County Board Members

Darrell Link, County Judge/Executive — Pro-Abort
Irma Parks, R.N. — Pro-Abort

City of Covington

Greg Jarvis, Covington Mayor's designee — Pro-Abort

Actions Do Have Consequences — Personnel Make Policy

Only one of our three Northern Kentucky County Judge/Executives has followed through with his campaign pledge by his Questionnaire answer to us in 1998 — **Gary Moore of Boone County.**

Two of the members appointed by **Campbell County Judge/Executive Stephen Pendery** and two of members appointed by **Kenton County Judge/Executive Richard Murgatroyd** cast pro-abortion votes, in addition to the personal designee of Pendery. Each county judge has the authority to attend the meeting and cast his vote, or to send a personal representative to represent him.

The net effect of these representatives and designee of Pendery and Murtatroyd was to defeat the Pro-Life effort on this issue.

The same could be said for **Newport Mayor Thomas Guidugli**, and **Covington Mayor James Eggemeier**. **Greg Jarvis**, the Covington Mayor's designee, cast a pro-abortion vote, and **Tony Kramer**, the designee of Guidugli, who had previously guaranteed that Kramer was Pro-Life and would so vote, did not attend the meeting, although specifically encouraged and invited by NKRTL.

"Truth" Is "Truth"

Truth is consistent. It is not divisible. It doesn't change from today to tomorrow. It doesn't change based upon political party affiliation. We are what we do, not what we say.

If you put in power people who have pro-abortion philosophies, you will have pro-abortion policies. If you oppose those people, and replace them with Pro-Lifers, you will experience Pro-Life policies. If the people you elect profess Pro-Life policies, and then do not implement them, but indeed facilitate pro-abortion policies, then you must realize that you have been deceived, and replace them with new people.

This is not complex. "Truth" is "truth"!

The truth was beautifully stated by **Mother Teresa**: "I know that couples have to plan their family and for that there is natural family planning. The way to plan the family is natural family planning, not contraception. In destroying the power of giving life, through contraception, a husband or wife is doing something to self. This turns the attention to self and so it destroys the gift of love in him or her. In loving, the husband and wife must turn the attention to each other as happens in natural family planning, and not to self, as happens in contraception. Once that living love is destroyed by contraception, abortion follows very easily. I also know that there are great problems in the world - that many spouses do not love each other enough to practice natural family planning. We cannot solve all the problems in the world, but let us never bring in the worst problem of all, and that is to destroy love. And this is what happens when we tell people to practice contraception and abortion." **National Prayer Breakfast, Washington, D.C., 2/3/94**

It is obvious that the population targeted for all of these contraceptive/abortifacient efforts by NKIHD, Planned Parenthood, etc. is primarily minors. These policies are fatally flawed, both morally and pragmatically, and are certainly inappropriate expenditure of taxpayers' funds, through a public agency. Clearly, public health department distribution of these powerful and destructive chemicals constitute bad morals, bad medicine, bad sociology, and certainly do not constitute "public health". Equally clearly, it is not "Pro-Life" to support — or accept — for any reasons, any killing!

The Future

We've come from losing 2-20, 3 years ago, to an 11-11 tie. Stay tuned. Unborn children, and their mothers, are going to win!!!

SEPARATING THE SHEEP FROM THE GOATS

At a September meeting of the **Joint Interim Committee on Health and Welfare of the Kentucky Senate and House, the Cabinet for Human Resources** admitted that indeed it was distributing the abortifacient pill, called "the

morning after pill", and that indeed it was referring people for abortion to abortion providers.

And so, the scam of those who call themselves Pro-Life, but continue to vote into office pro-abortion executives, like **Gov. Paul Patton**, who then appoint pro-abortion administrators of the Cabinet for Human Resources and other agencies, have the blood of the innocent on their hands, as they are directly advancing the cause of abortion.

KENTUCKY CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION RECORD

A publication of a congressional scorecard for the year 1999 on all Pro-Life measures voted on in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate shows that **Cong. Ken Lucas of N. Ky. is the only member of the 8 member delegation from Kentucky to the U.S. Congress that did not have a 100% Pro-Life voting record.**

PRAY FOR LIFE - MONTHLY

Walton, Ky.

All Saints Church of Walton, Kentucky holds a Right to Life Mass on the first Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. Fr. John Schulte invites all to attend and pray for life.

Cincinnati, Ohio

Everyone is reminded also about the **Helpers of God's Precious Infants Mass and Rosary Procession for Life held on the second Saturday of every month at Holy Name Church at Auburn and William Howard Taft Aves. in Cincinnati, Ohio at 8 a.m.** Following the Mass, many process two blocks and pray the Rosary in front of the abortion clinic, and others remain in the Church in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. Surely, prayer is the most important action a Pro-Lifer can undertake, and is something that everyone can do.

(CHRISTMAS CARDS)

(POPULATION CARTOONS)

NKRTL ANNUAL DUES RENEWAL MONTH

Today, 4000 ...

While the work of NKRTL is overwhelmingly supported by donated services, there are certain unavoidable costs that are substantial — paper, printing, postage, utilities, rent, etc. The modest annual dues of \$10.00, spread widely among many members, helps us to pay these expenses and purchase and distribute the educational literature necessary as we work towards this crucial goal of stopping the killing. **More generous donations are needed from those who can afford it.**

Apathy cartoon

Your ongoing support is indispensable. We need you to enter a gift subscription for your friend, relative, neighbor, etc., and pass this Newsletter along and encourage others to do the same, so that each might have an active and responsible role in this important apostolate.

Are We Really Pro-Life?

While we annually update our information and assess our position, admittedly one of our major purposes is the effort to make each and every person realize that the obligation is individual, and we must reach out to change the minds of those who do not share our views. More importantly, we need to elicit action from those who give lip service to the principles, but do nothing to advance them, and especially to those who contribute affirmatively to the opposition by supporting pro-abortion politicians, criticizing the Pro-Life Movement, etc., etc.

“Abortion is the greatest evil in the world. To me, the nations with legalized abortion are the poorest nations. The greatest destroyer of peace today is the crime against the innocent unborn child. If a woman murders her own child in her womb, what is it to kill each other?” **Mother Teresa of Calcutta**