

NORTHERN KENTUCKY INDEPENDENT DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD FINALLY VOTES PRO-LIFE: A 4-YEAR NORTHERN KENTUCKY RIGHT TO LIFE FIGHT!

On March 28, 2001, after four years of persistent efforts by Northern Kentucky Right to Life Committee, including the defeat of three pro-abortion county judges, and the replacement of Board members with Pro-Life nominees appointed by two of the new county judges (Kenton and Boone), the previously strong pro-abort NKIDH Board has turned around and cast a decisive 16 to 4 Pro-Life vote.

The issue at hand was the reversal of the **previous condom/pill/homosexual-based education policy** pushed in our public schools by NKIDH, and the replacing of it with an educational policy that says **“abstinence only, until**

marriage” shall be taught in the schools as the only proper and healthful practice.

More than 200 interested citizens gathered at this public hearing — the majority of whom were Pro-Life, wearing label stickers “Support the Board’s Abstinence Education Policy”.

The Board permitted 3-minute testimonies by people who had filed an application. Stirring and persuasive testimonies were given by **NKRTL Vice President Fred H. Summe, Esq.**, and by long-time active **NKRTL member Arthur M. Kunath, M.D.** **NKRTL President Robert C. Cetrulo** filed written testimony with the Board, but was not called by the Board Chairman to speak.

NKRTL is pleased to report that some individual members of the **Covington Catholic Diocesan Pro-Life Commission** gave Pro-Life testimony. Regrettably, no formal support of that organization was presented, nor did they procure the participation, either in person or in writing, of the **Diocesan Bishop, Robert Muench.**

Background History

As NKRTL reported in its Feb. 1998 Newsletter, and again in its Sept. 1998 Newsletter, and again in its Oct. 2000 Newsletter, the NKIDH Board, overwhelmingly voted two times, in Sept. of 1997 and again in June of 1998, to distribute chemical abortifacient pills, including to minors, without the knowledge or consent of their parents.

As reported in more detail in our Oct. 2000 Newsletter, the three county judges elected in Northern Kentucky two years ago, **Boone County Gary Moore (R), Campbell County Steve Pendery (R), and Kenton County Richard Murgatroyd (R)** answered the 1998 NKRTL Candidate Questionnaire that they would not nominate to any board any person who would perform, counsel, refer, or fund any abortion, including chemical abortion.

Judge Moore has faithfully adhered to that campaign commitment. Judge Murgatroyd less so, and Judge Pendery not at all.

The issue was revisited by the Board at its Sept. 2000 meeting and two motions were voted on separately. The one motion was to ban the drug known as the so-called standard birth control pill, based upon the irrefutable evidence, including the documents that come with the pills from the manufacturer, that indeed these pills do cause abortion, post-conception, in a statistical number of cases. The second motion was to prohibit the Health Department from distributing the so-called morning after pill, which is simply a

Are you looking for good news? Aren’t we all. There is good news contained herein — and some bad news. The only fully, unadulterated, “good news” will be confirmed at the Second Coming. The current installments of “good news” is dependent upon each of us— read on.

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heavier dosage of the standard birth control pill, and which causes abortion in a much greater percentage of the cases.

The Pro-Life position failed with respect to each motion, by an equal vote of 11 to 11. The roster of those members voting is spelled out in that Oct. Newsletter, county by county.

Scorecard

A comparison of the votes where we lost the Pro-Life issues at the Sept. 2000 Board meeting, and the votes where we won at the recent meeting of March 28, 2001 are set forth herein, by governmental unit:

	<u>Sept. 2000 Vote</u>	<u>March 2001 Vote</u>
<u>Kenton County Bd. Members</u>		
Joseph G. Bessler, R.Ph.	Pro-Life	Pro-Life
Mrs. Barbara Black, R.N.	?	Pro-Life
Mark A. Boyd, M.D.	Pro-Abort	Pro-Abort
Carl J. Brueggemann, M.D.	Pro-Life	Pro-Life
Mrs. Laura Crone	Pro-Life	Pro-Life
Stephen W. Hiltz, M.D.	Pro-Abort	Not voting
Don Kiely	Pro-Abort	Pro-Life
Michael Kirkwood, M.D.	Pro-Abort	Absent
Mrs. Clare Ruehl, R.N.	Pro-Life	Pro-Life
<u>Campbell Cnty. Bd. Members</u>		
Daniel Courtade, M.D.	Pro-Abort	Absent
Mrs. Pat Dressman, designee of Campbell Cnty.	Pro-Abort	No Vote
Judge/Exec Steve Pendery Campbell Cnty. Judge/Exec Steve Pendery		Pro-Abort
Nancy Gray, R.N.	Pro-Abort	Pro-Life
Richard D. Kruer, M.D.	Pro-Life	Pro-Life
Phyllis Schenk, R.N.	Pro-Abort	Absent
<u>Boone County Bd. Members</u>		
Richard G. Gautraud, M.D.	Pro-Life	Pro-Life
Robert Hay, R.Ph.	Pro-Life	Pro-Life
Gordon Johnson, designee of Boone Cnty.	Pro-Life	
Judge/Exec. Gary Moore Addia Wuchner, R.N., designee of Boone Cnty.		Pro-Life
Judge/Exec Gary Moore Charles Kenner, D.M.D.	Pro-Life	Pro-Life
P. Maureen Sheldon, R.N.	Pro-Life	Pro-Life
<u>Grant County Bd. Members</u>		
Darrell L. Link, County Judge/Exec	Pro-Abort	Pro-Abort
Irma Parks, R.N.	Pro-Abort	Pro-Abort
<u>City of Covington</u>		
Greg Jarvis, designee of Covington Mayor James Eggemeier	Pro-Abort	

& of previous Mayor
Denny Bowman

Greg Jarvis,
designee of Covington
Mayor Butch Callery

Pro-Life

	<u>Sept. 2000 Vote</u>	<u>March 2001 Vote</u>
<u>City of Newport</u>		
Tony Kramer, designee of Newport Mayor Tom Guidugli	Absent	Pro-Life

How the NKIDH Board is Structured

The four county judges of Boone, Campbell, Grant and Kenton are given a seat on the Board, by state legislation, which they may occupy personally, or appoint a personal designee, and they also have appointments for the remainder of the seats on the Board, according to the population of the counties.

In addition, the mayor of second-class cities, which include Covington and Newport, have a seat which they may occupy personally, or send a personal designee.

Mayors of Covington and Newport

The **Mayor of Newport** was not present, nor was his designee, at the Sept. 2000 meeting where we lost by a tie vote.

The **City Manager of Covington, Greg Jarvis**, appeared at the previous meetings in '97 and '98, on behalf of the then Covington mayor, **Denny Bowman**, and again at the Sept. 2000 meeting, on behalf of the then-mayor **James Eggemeier**, and cast pro-abort votes on each of those occasions.

NKRTL established separate meetings with **Mayor Tom Guidugli of Newport**, and **Mayor Butch Callery of Covington**, before this most recent March 28, 2001 Board meeting, and explained to each of them the issues involved and furnished the literature demonstrating the anti-life and anti-family nature of the current education programs, and the Pro-Life and pro-family nature of the proposed "abstinence only" education policy.

On March 28, **Mr. Jarvis** showed up as Callery's designated representative, and cast a Pro-Life vote, and **Tony Kramer** appeared as Guidugli's designated representative and also cast a Pro-Life vote.

Boone County

Boone County Judge/Executive Gary Moore has been a faithful and dedicated supporter of all of the Pro-Life measures, and has faithfully fulfilled his campaign commitment of appointing only Pro-Life people to the NKIDH Board. Indeed, many of his appointees are the leaders in these long overdue moral reforms, in our efforts to stop the use of public tax funds' debauching of our children.

Grant County

The two **Grant County** members to the Board, **County Judge/Executive Darrell Link**, and nurse **Irma Parks**, who previously cast pro-abortion votes at the Sept. meeting, to continue the chemical abortifacients' distribution through the auspices of NKIDH, extended their pro-abortion voting record by voting against the "abstinence only" policy.

Kenton County

Kenton County Judge/Executive Richard Murgatroyd received massive protestation from Pro-Lifers who had supported him in his last election, because of his failure to fulfill his campaign promise to appoint only Pro-Life members to the NKIDH Board, following last Sept.'s Board debacle. Two of his appointees to the Board, **Don Kiely**, and **Dr. Michael Kirkwood**, cast pro-abortion votes at the Sept. 2000 Board meeting, regarding the chemical abortifacient issue. Dr. Kirkwood was not in attendance at this March Board meeting, and Mr. Kiely reversed his position and voted Pro-Life, in favor of the "abstinence only" policy. Many keen observers of the scene believe that these are the direct consequence of the overwhelming adverse reaction to Judge Murgatroyd regarding his failure to fulfill his Pro-Life campaign commitment.

The more mystifying situation centers around **Mrs. Barbara Black**, a registered nurse, and an elected Kenton County Commissioner, who was endorsed in that campaign by Northern Kentucky Right to Life Political Action Committee because of her earlier Pro-Life work in the area of problem pregnancy centers. To the complete surprise of Pro-Lifers, Mrs. Black, at the Sept. 2000 Board meeting, voted against our Pro-Life initiatives concerning chemical abortifacients — and then reversed her vote at the same meeting, after being informed that her reversal of her vote would only bring the matter into a tie, and still result in the initiative's defeat. This is also a direct breach of her 1998 campaign commitment made to us in response to our Candidate Questionnaire.

We reported those disappointing and mysterious occurrences in our Oct. 2000 Newsletter, which resulted in a vicious and personal name-calling attack by Mrs. Black on NKRTL accusing us of "slander", "bullying", "outright lying", angry spirit, "mean spiritedness", and the usual pantheon of accusations leveled against Pro-Lifers, by those whom we expose to the light of truth. Her explanations at that time, while convoluted, centered around a contention that she didn't think such issues should be brought up on the spur of the moment, without adequate consideration (contrary to the record, since indeed detailed scientific information concerning the dispute had long since been furnished to the Board by NKRTL, and our intentions made clear well before the meeting).

We must point out that in our Oct. 2000 Newsletter, to which Mrs. Black responded with such vitriolic and violent language, that no such language was used towards her. We merely described her change of vote, and her vacillation — to the astonishment of all of the Pro-Lifers. While we were astonished, it obviously forecast substantial doubt as to

whether Mrs. Black would be with us on this issue — and she now has confirmed by her own subsequent published letter that indeed she is not with us on this issue.

Then, in yet another reversal of her "explanations", Mrs. Black authored a letter widely distributed under date of 12/28/00, which does make unambiguous the fact that she is departing from her previous campaign commitment: **"Although admittedly, I most certainly have wavered on whether the local health department should dispense birth control pills, I have recently concluded that it would be wrong to deny their distribution to the poor."**

She has now admitted that she is indeed in opposition to this Pro-Life initiative, which would prohibit the distribution with public tax funds, through a public agency, of abortifacient pills, most of which we know of course go to teenagers, without the knowledge or consent of their parents.

"Birth Control Pills" Act Post-Conception to Cause Abortion

The medical evidence has been known for a long time and is simply irrefutable.

See for example *Taber's Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary*, 6th Ed. (1953):

"Conception - The union of the male sperm and the ovum of the female."

"Contraception - The prevention of conception."

"Fertilization - Fecundation; impregnation of an ovum with the spermatozoon of the male..."

Physicians Desk Reference, the most frequently used reference book by physicians in America, states that **Ortho-Cept**, as listed by Ortho, one of the largest manufacturers of the Pill, causes "changes in the endometrium which reduce the likelihood of implantation."

The Regional Director of Clinical Research for **Wyeth**, one of the major birth control pill manufacturers, says that an effect of the pill is "causing endometrial changes that will not support implantation."

The most widely used obstetrical book in medical colleges, *Williams Obstetrics*, states "Progestins produce an endometrium that is unfavorable to blastocyst implantation."

There is simply not one pill manufacturer who does not admit that.

Even **Planned Parenthood's president** admitted that in her recent testimony before the U.S. Senate, opposing the confirmation of **Attorney General John Ashcroft**.

NKRTL had furnished photocopies of all of this very definitive and irrefutable information to all of the Board members, including Mrs. Black, proving that in many cases the so-called birth control pill does indeed cause abortion where it has failed to prevent ovulation, and then operates post-conception, expelling the newly-conceived human life and denying it implantation in the uterus.

A good friend of Mrs. Black, who was shocked at her reversal on her Pro-Life commitment regarding chemical abortion, stated: "She is a registered nurse, with a master's degree. How could she fail to understand that these so-called birth control pills indeed cause abortion?"

A sample of Mrs. Black's confused thinking is her statement "Within northern Kentucky nearly every day, numerous physicians prescribe birth control pills to women who can afford them or otherwise have insurance to support their purchase."

Of what persuasion is that? "Numerous physicians" surgically dismember unborn babies at the abortuary on Auburn Ave. in Cincinnati, Oh., where NKRTL members furnish prayer witness every week, and at abortuaries in Louisville, Ky. and Lexington, Ky., and elsewhere of course throughout the country. That doctors (and others) violate the natural law and human decency is, unfortunately, not news, and certainly is not persuasive argumentation.

Mrs. Black's Irreconcilable Inconsistency

At the March 2001 meeting, Mrs. Black supported the "abstinence only" educational policy, and spoke eloquently in its defense, pointing out that condoms and birth control contraceptives are destructive of the lives of these young people, and should not be taught in the schools.

How can she then reconcile that public policy assertion of hers, based upon that rationale (which of course is precisely accurate) with her contradictory position that allows these same teenage children, who can't get the information in the schools, to receive the contraceptive/abortifacient pills through the auspices of NKIDH, without the knowledge or consent of their parents? Obviously, there is no reconciliation, logically or morally. We must pray for Mrs. Black's confusion to be cleared.

Mrs. Black's admission now violates not only her campaign commitment, but also that of Judge Murgatroyd, since she is his personal designee on the Board.

Following the Sept. 2000 Board meeting, many people wrote to Judge Murgatroyd, and simply asked the question, what is going to be Mrs. Black's position the next time this issue occurs, since she had vacillated on it at the Sept. Board meeting. She has now furnished that answer — she has not come down on the Pro-Life side of this issue. She supports the continuing distribution by NKIDH, with taxpayers' funds, of chemicals which cause the destruction of newly-created human life. She has thus admitted that she can no longer fulfill the campaign commitment of Judge Murgatroyd, that he would not appoint people to the Board who would support such chemical abortifacients.

She is his personal designee, removable by him at will. If he does not remove her, he has openly confessed his abdication of his campaign commitment, and indeed of his non-commitment to the Pro-Life cause. The ball is in Judge Murgatroyd court.

There is one accurate accusation against NKRTL in Mrs. Black's otherwise scatological letter. She asserts that NKRTL brooks no compromise. In this, she is correct!

Stripped of all the "political spin," the issues, and their answers, appear quite clear:

(1) Did Mrs. Black vacillate, by contradictory votes, at the Sept. 2000 meeting on the issue of chemical abortion? Yes.

(2) Has she subsequently admitted that indeed she does support the use of taxpayers' money for chemical abortion? Yes.

(3) Is this a breach of her campaign commitment in answer to NKRTL's Questionnaire during her 1998 election campaign that she would oppose chemical abortion? Yes.

— "Expressions of love and affection: ...
Massaging your partner's body... Talking in an
erotic way on the telephone ..."

Campbell County

Campbell County Judge/Executive Steve Pendery has callously reneged on his campaign commitment, and has appointed people who have voted pro-abortion, including **Dr. Daniel Courtade**, and nurse **Nancy Gray**, and his personal designee, **Mrs. Pat Dressman**. None of his appointees have voted Pro-Life, until Mrs. Gray, who voted against our Pro-Life measure to stop the distribution of the chemical abortifacients at the Sept. 2000 Board meeting, but voted for the "abstinence only" policy at this recent March meeting. It was reliably reported that Mrs. Gray received considerable pressure from people in her church and neighborhood after her pro-abort vote was reported in our Oct. 2000 Newsletter.

Judge Pendery, who has now frankly admitted that he does not intend to support our opposition to public funding of chemical abortion, contrary to his campaign commitment, showed up at the March meeting, and replaced his designee, **Mrs. Dressman**, who sat in the audience. After all of the discussion, and the motion for the question was called, to vote on the "abstinence only" policy, recommended to the full Board by their study committee, Judge Pendery first sought to postpone the vote. When that effort (which was supported also by the pro-abort **Chairman, Stephen W. Hiltz, M.D.**) failed, Pendery voted against the Pro-Life proposal, thus voting to continue the existing sex education programs currently sponsored by the NKIDH Board in the public schools.

"The Devil is in the Details"

And what was really the issue at dispute at the March 28 Board meeting? As is usual, the pro-death/anti-family community wishes to obscure the issues in "generalisms" and "euphemisms".

Just what was being taught to our children in high school, and middle school, in these programs paid for with your tax dollars, and approved previously by the NKIDH?

Addia Wuchner, R.N., Chairman of the Human Sexuality Committee of the NKIDH, produced a marvelous and detailed and temperate and probative exposition for the Board, in her report — to the consternation, naturally, of the pro-aborts. Mrs. Wuchner put together in her report a sampling of some of the materials to which our youngsters — including 7th graders — were exposed by **the previous sex ed programs:**

— “Help adolescents understand that same-sex experimentation is not uncommon and is a normal expression of developing sexuality. Many adolescents ‘practice’ sexually touching and other behaviors with a best friend or a peer of the same gender. This quite common behavior may evoke fear in young people because of negative messages about same-sex attraction. It must be explained in a way that helps to normalize it.

— “Ask the class for other terms used to describe the vulva, the proper name for the female genitals. You might have to break the ice by mentioning a few yourself. Reassure students that it is okay to give words they might not usually use in class, and write them on the board under the title, ‘Female Genitals.’”

— “Expressions of love and affection: ... Massaging your partner’s body... Talking in an erotic way on the telephone ...”

— “Find 8-10 pictures of couples who appear to be in a romantic relationship. Choose two who are standing or sitting side by side, perhaps holding hands but not kissing, undressing, or looking as if they have already engaged in sexual behavior. The couples should be diverse racially-ethnically and should at least one picture of two same-sex people who could be in a relationship.”

— “ ‘Outer course’ is the safest kind of sex if a person wants to avoid STIs. However, even though it is possible to be infected with HIV, gonorrhea, and herpes from oral sex, infection is less likely than through vaginal or anal intercourse. Anal sex is the sexual behavior most likely to transmit HIV infection.”

Are you there? Do you care?

Mrs. Wuchner was criticized by the pro-abortion staff and some pro-abortion Board members for “scandalizing” the public by her inclusion of these materials in her Committee Report. If this material is appropriate for use in teaching children, why should it “scandalize” adults? Evil does indeed hate the light.

Now you know. You know what Dr. Boyd of Kenton County and nurse Parks and Judge Link of Grant County and Judge Penderly of Campbell County have voted to preserve as appropriate materials and methods in the education of our teenagers, down indeed to the 7th grade! Do they represent your values? Or should we replace them? In the American system of representative government, with political accountability, the ball is now in your court.

And the Fight Goes On!

The passage by NKIDH of this “abstinence only” educational policy, while commendable, does not end the issue. NKRTL will be back to insist that our public tax funds not be used in these chemical abortions caused by the distribution through NKIDH facilities of these pills.

You need to write to Mayors Callery and Guidugli, and your county judges, as well as any of these Board members that you know or who are from your county, letting them know of your total support for the “abstinence only” policy, and of your unalterable opposition to the distribution, with your tax dollars, of chemical abortifacients, and you need to insist that your county judges see to the appointment of people who will fulfill these goals.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD - THE SINGLY MOST EVIL INSTITUTION IN THE UNITED STATES

Although Planned Parenthood (PPH) enjoys a tax status from the IRS as “a not-for-profit” corporation, in fact, it has made a profit each of the past 13 years for which records are available (1987 through 1999), totaling **\$355.6 Million**, to say nothing of its receipt of government grants from the United States, with your tax dollars.

PPFA Annual* Profits (reported by fiscal year)

Planned Parenthood Total Profits Over Last 13 Years

PPH likes to represent that abortion is only a “small part” of this business, but as can be seen from the charts, this largest of all single abortion-rendering agencies committed almost 60,000 prenatal killings in 1977, progressing up to

167,928 in 1998, and for those same years earned for these surgically-induced deaths \$10 Million in 1977, increasing to almost \$60 Million in 1998.

PPFA Female Birth Control Customers
Attendees at PPFA sex ed...

Annual Surgical Abortions...

Planned Parenthood Abortion Income

Number of PPFA Clinics

The good news is that PPH is experiencing a severe decline in support from the American people, and for the past five years has been losing ground on a number of fronts.

To understand this decline it is important to understand how PPH operates. It has a three-step program for getting into any community. Its first step is to promote sex education programs — hyped as ways of reducing teen pregnancies or sexually-transmitted diseases, but the result of these programs is always to increase the demand for Planned Parenthood products — particularly birth prevention products. The second step is to provide the birth control products it has introduced to its customers, and then of course the third step is to provide surgical abortion, which comes from the failure of many of its various birth control methods.

As can be seen from the following charts, there has been a dramatic decrease in the past five years of (1) attendees at PPH sex ed programs, (2) PPH female birth control customers, and (3) the number of PPH clinics.

The reduction in PPH's birth control business, caused by the lessening influence of its sex education programs, is greatly responsible for the decline in the number of PPH clinics across the country.

The final significant statistic that should be of interest to the reader is the source of PPH's income. In their fiscal year 1998-1999, of their total income of \$660.7 Million the sources were almost equal one-thirds (with a few miscellaneous other things): Clinic Operations \$211.0 Million, Government \$176.5 Million, and Corporate, Foundation and Individual Gifts \$232.7 Million. Obviously, very unlike the much more limited and almost totally private and small donation funding of Pro-Life organizations.

The figures provided herein are based upon PPH's own documents, including their annual reports, Web sites, press releases and interviews and their Federal 990 Form S. The charts were prepared by **STOPP International** — a project of **American Life League, Inc., P.O. Box 1350, Stafford, VA 22555**, which issues a regular monthly newsletter "**The Ryan Report**" which the reader may subscribe to for the modest figure of \$10.00 — which we highly recommend. STOPP International has been a major factor in educating the American public concerning the blood (and tax) sucking machine known as Planned Parenthood.

**Local Presentation by STOPP International
at St. Cecilia Church, Independence, Ky.
on March 13**

As part of the continuing programs of excellence produced in this community through the auspices of **St.**

Cecilia Church, Fr. Paul Berscheid, its pastor, and/or its Pro-Life Committee, chaired by **Gayle Piron**, a large group was treated to a presentation by the international director of STOPP, **Edward E. Szymkowiak, M.S.Ed.** The above facts were presented to the audience by Mr. Szymkowiak in a very cogent and direct and understandable manner.

The speaker also pointed out the point which has been at contention here in northern Kentucky for several years, i.e., proof that the so-called "standard birth control pill" indeed does operate in a significant number of cases as an abortifacient, i.e., destroying the life of a newly-conceived human being, post-conception.

While those who profit by and wish to continue these anti-life, anti-family, but profitable practices, attempt to obscure the truth, the speaker pointed out that no less than Gloria Feldt, President of Planned Parenthood Federation of America, admitted in sworn testimony before the U.S. Senate on Jan. 18, 2001 that "...the birth control pill, which frequently acts to prevent implantation of the fertilized ovum."

Indeed, that simple fact that the "pill" is known scientifically to operate as a chemical abortion is uncontradicted in the medical literature. It so states in *Physicians Desk Reference*, the most common medical book in the United States, which sits upon the desk of every practicing physician in the country: "Alterations include changes in...the endometrium (which reduce the likelihood of implantation).

This information regularly comes with the printed literature that is packaged with the standard birth control pills sold through the pharmacy. A representative of **Ortho-McNeil** (one of the largest pill manufacturers) admitted that sometimes the pill fails to prevent ovulation, and then the cervical mucus slows down the sperm, and if that doesn't work "if you end up with a fertilized egg, it won't implant and grow because of the less hospitable endometrium." He was then asked if he was certain the pill made implantation less likely and he answered, "Oh, yes. It's not theoretical. It's observable", and he described that you can see under a microscope, as well as with the naked eye, in the endometrium.

The 1988 *International Journal of Fertility* printed a technical article by the Regional Director of Clinical Research for **Wyeth**, one of the major pill manufacturers, which stated that one way oral contraceptives work is "by causing endometrial changes that will not support implantation."

While these facts may be found in many medical books, and in the *Physicians Desk Reference*, and in the printed literature that comes with the pills themselves, they are conveniently collected by a researcher who carefully developed all of these facts, **Rev. Randy Alcorn**, a Protestant minister who authored the book *Does the Birth Control Pill Cause Abortions?*, 5th Ed., pp. 30-32. NKRTL has furnished this book to all of the members of the **Northern Kentucky Independent Health District Board**.

Interestingly enough, Rev. Alcorn states in the Introduction that as he researched this question of whether or not the birth control pill causes abortions, he stated that "I

wanted, and still want, the answer to this question to be 'No', but he found to the contrary (p. 10).

As was noted by that eloquent English Christian philosopher, Gilbert K. Chesterton, " 'Birth control' is neither birth, nor is it control!" And, ironically, Planned Parenthood has absolutely nothing to do with parenting!

ANOTHER FAILED KENTUCKY LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The cause of these continued failures lies with a small band of dedicated pro-abortion legislators, and a larger group of wolves in sheep's clothing in the General Assembly, who claim to be Pro-Life, but behind the scenes manage to keep these bills locked up in committee and avoid public votes on these issues, thus undermining the basic democratic principle of political accountability.

Northern Kentucky Right to Life participated with its state affiliate, **Kentucky Coalition For Life**, in actively promoting three pieces of legislation: (1) fetal homicide; (2) civil wrongful death; and (3) pharmacists' conscience clause.

Fetal Homicide

The **fetal homicide** bill would render a person guilty of criminal homicide when he causes the death of an unborn child under circumstances which would constitute homicide for the death of a born person. This legislation has been enacted in many other states (and was just overwhelmingly passed by the U.S. House of Representatives, as to Federal offenses) and would avoid the result, for example, achieved in the Kentucky courts several years ago when a man forcibly reached into the birth canal and destroyed the unborn child. He was acquitted of murder, but punished solely for the much lesser crime of assault on the woman.

The pro-aborts aggressively oppose this legislation, even though *Roe v. Wade* does not give a hunting license to non-mothers, for the reason that the legislation obviously establishes the personhood of the unborn child, which demonstrates the moral and intellectual bankruptcy of their position.

Civil Wrongful Death

Civil wrongful death legislation would extend back to the instant of conception the right of the unborn child to bring a damage suit for injuries received in the womb, or for death caused in the womb, through the negligence of a third person. Presently by judicial decision in Kentucky, that right exists from the moment of "viability" onward.

Since we all know that "viability" does not measure the human-hood of the unborn child, but simply our technology in preserving life out of the womb, and is a constantly-changing time frame, many states have chosen to recognize the obviousness of personhood of the unborn child from the instant of fertilization onward, since he is then biologically a separate human being. Again, the principle of personhood causes the pro-aborts to oppose this otherwise clearly meritorious legislation.

Pharmacists' Conscience Rights

The **third bill** would extend to **pharmacists** the same rights currently enjoyed by doctors, nurses, and other hospital personnel, in refusing to become involved in the abortion process, where it violates their conscience. Here, however, we are up against the modern "sacred cow" of the secular pro-abortion movement, since they now recognize that the age of surgical abortion is dwindling, and that their wave of the future is chemical abortion, which they must protect at all costs. Accordingly, they deny to the pharmacist his "right to choose."

Senate Action

All three of these Pro-Life bills passed the Kentucky Senate, although not without some behind-the-scenes machinations. It will be recalled that the Kentucky Senate was dominated by the Democratic Party, and controlled by its pro-abort leadership, until the defeat of Kenton County pro-abort voting **Sen. Joe Meyer (D)** in 1996, and the takeover the next year by a coalition in the Senate. It is now Republican-controlled. For several years we have enjoyed the capacity to get our bills to the floor of the Senate, where they routinely pass by large margins.

This year fetal homicide and civil wrongful death handily were approved by the Senate. With respect to the pharmacists' conscience clause bill, however, we were the victim of behind-the-scenes bi-play, which was concealed from us until we forced disclosure. At the 11th hour, it was disclosed to us by the **President of the Senate, David Williams (R)**, that three members of the Republican leadership caucus, **Elizabeth Tori (R) of Elizabethtown, Dan Kelly (R) of Springfield, and Charles Borders (R) of Russell**, opposed language which would insulate pharmacists from dispensing any prescription or device which could prevent implantation in the uterus of the newly-conceived human being.

We had furnished to them as well as to all the members information that the "morning after pill" is clearly an abortifacient, i.e., denies implantation in the uterus of the newly-conceived human being and causes expulsion and death, i.e., chemical abortion. Also supplied was documentation that the so-called standard birth control pill, in many instances, fails to prevent ovulation, and functions in the same abortifacient manner. Bear in mind that the proposed legislation did not prevent a woman or a physician from dealing in these prescriptions, nor indeed in dispensing or implanting IUD's, which are clearly also abortifacient, but simply gives to the pharmacists the same conscience rights that women claim -- "the right to choose".

When the bill came to the Senate floor for a vote, after impassioned debate, the vote was rushed through on a "voice vote", with the Senate President ignoring obvious floor requests for a recorded vote, thus sheltering the pro-abort Republicans who thereby avoided political accountability. These are the same shameful tactics complained about by Pro-Lifers — and Republican senators — when the Democrats controlled the Senate. Unfortunately, the new

majority party has decided to practice the same brand of tyranny, whenever it suits its purpose!

House Inaction

As has been the custom for several years, these bills never got out of committee in the House of Representatives. The five members of House Leadership, which appoints the committee chairman, and in reality decide on which bills will be voted upon, include two members who claim to be Pro-Life, **Jim Callahan (D) of Wilder, Ky.** and **Jody Richards (D) of Bowling Green** (the Speaker), and three members who are frankly pro-abort, **Larry Clark (D) of Louisville, Joe Barrows (D) of Versailles, and Greg Stumbo (D) of Prestonsburg.**

Long-time faithful Pro-Life activist **Tom Kerr (D) of Kenton County** circulated a petition among the Democratic members of the House, which would encourage members of leadership to cause these Pro-Life bills to come to the floor for a vote. Only 22 of the 65 Democratic members of the House signed the petition:

Royce Adams (Dry Ridge)	Gippy Graham (Frankfort)
Adrian Arnold (Mt. Sterling)	Keith Hall (Phelps)
Eddie Ballard (Madisonville)	Charlie Hoffman (Georgetown)
James Bruce (Hopkinsville)	Tom Kerr (Taylor Mill)
Denver Butler (Louisville)	Jimmie Lee (Elizabethtown)
Jim Callahan (Wilder)	Rick Nelson (Middlesboro)
Phillip Childers (Garner)	Tanya Pullin (South Shore)
Perry Clark (Louisville)	Jody Richards (Bowling Green)
Robert Damron (Nicholasville)	Tom Riner (Louisville)
Mike Denham (Maysville)	Arnold Simpson (Covington)
Jim Gooch (Providence)	Mike Weaver (Elizabethtown)

Six other Democrats approached by Kerr specifically refused to sign the petition, but indicated that they would attend a meeting with the Democratic Leadership to discuss the issue:

Jodie Haydon (Bardstown)	Roger Thomas (Smiths Grove)
Fred Nesler (Mayfield)	Jim Wayne (Louisville)
Dottie Sims (Horse Cave)	Rob Wilkey (Franklin)

Seven other Democratic members of the House not only specifically refused to sign the petition, but even to attend the Democratic Leadership meeting to discuss the issue:

Larry Belcher (Shepherdsville)	William Scott (Raywick)
Hubert Collins (Wittensville)	John Will Stacey (W. Liberty)
Tom McKee (Cynthiana)	Jim Thompson (Battletown)
Frank Rasche (Pacucah)	

One member who signed the petition attended the meeting, but spoke against the bills, although he of course claims to his constituents to be Pro-Life — **Denver Butler, of Louisville.** Democratic members of the House who attended the meeting and spoke against the Pro-Life legislation were:

Paul Bather (Louisville)	Jodie Haydon (Bardstown)
Tom Burch (Louisville)	Mary Lou Marzian (Louisville)
Denver Butler (Louisville)	Ruth Ann Palumbo (Lexington)
Mike Cherry (Princeton)	Jim Thompson (Battletown)
Jesse Crenshaw (Lexington)	Robin Webb (Grayson)

***Unhappy Conclusion -
The True Picture is Not Pretty***

We were betrayed by “friends” in the Senate, and laughed at, behind private caucus and committee room doors, by enemies in the House. And this will continue as long as we tolerate it! The great abolitionist, **Frederick Douglass**, said that “cowards are whipped most often because cowards are whipped most easily!”

The Northern Kentucky members to the Senate and the House, reflecting the militant and uncompromising dedication of NKRTL, are 100 percent Pro-Life. The Pro-Life philosophy is in great difficulty in Louisville and Lexington, and is spotty, at best, around the rest of the state.

Senate action this past time revealed that not all Republicans are Pro-Life, as has been known nationally for a long time.

The overwhelming majority of the House are Democrats, and either pro-abortion, or, at best, unwilling to stand up on the right to life issues. If your representative is not on the first list above of those 22 Democratic House members who voted in their own private caucus to try to persuade their leadership to permit these Pro-Life bills to come to the floor for a vote, then you need to assume that he or she is pro-abortion. Exercise great energy to cause someone to run against them — whatever their explanations to the contrary might be!

Until there is a more widespread militancy and sacrificial dedication, statewide, by the citizenry of Kentucky, and by the churches of this state, the results will be quite predictable — we will continue to lose.

If we cannot pass such modest Pro-Life legislation as described above, which do not even directly intrude upon the current judicial mandates of *Roe v. Wade*, one can readily see that even if the Congress were to pass a human life amendment, establishing the right to life of the unborn child from the instant of conception onward, it would never be ratified by the Kentucky General Assembly.

Someone once said, “All politics are local.” This is obviously true. Until each citizen, who claims to be “Pro-Life”, militantly opposes every elected official who will not guarantee to actively advance all Pro-Life legislation, the status shall remain “quo”. The responsibility is individual!

HOLLAND LEGALIZES EUTHANASIA: WATCH THE RIPPLE-EFFECT

April 10 TV news reported that the Holland legislature has formally legalized what its doctors, and courts, have “winked at” for years: active killing of the aged, and the ill.

Degeneration is uni-directional: down!

And as with many other cultures that have ended up in the dustbin of history, we first “ignore”, then “deny” and then “rationalize”.

Holland is in the “rationalizing” stage. Our country is one step behind, “denying”.

PROPOSED FEDERAL LEGISLATION LIMITS PRO-LIFERS’ FREEDOM OF SPEECH

The much ballyhooed **McCain-Feingold bill**, denominated “**Campaign Finance Reform**” has passed the U.S. Senate with 41 senators (including our two senators from Kentucky, **Bunning** and **McConnell**) voting against it, and now heads for consideration to the U.S. House of Representatives.

The innocuous-sounding title “Campaign Finance Reform”, and the soft and misleading publicity given to it in the press, masks the really disastrous effects of the bill which would place severe limits upon private advocacy groups, including right to life organizations, in terms of publicizing the political positions of candidates.

The legislation would ban all 501(c)(4) advocacy corporations, which includes NKRTL, from funding TV or radio ads that even mention the name of a local member of Congress for 30 days before a state’s congressional primary and for another 60 days before the general election.

Of even more disastrous impact, it provides a year-round restriction on communications deemed to be “in connection with” an election, even when the sponsoring groups are acting without any “collaboration or agreement” with a candidate. This restriction would apply to print communications (including our Newsletter) and telephone calls, effectively emasculating the small advocacy groups and their capacity to get the information out, and insulating officeholders from political accountability.

Please write to your U.S. congressman asking him to vote against such legislation, as it is distinctly not in the interest of a free society and political accountability of officeholders. The congressman from Northern Kentucky is Ken Lucas (D), 1237 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515.

A NEW LAW SCHOOL WHICH “UNDERSTANDS THAT THE ENDURING TRUTHS FOUND IN NATURAL LAW ARE THE ONLY SURE FOUNDATION FOR JUSTICE AND HUMAN LIBERTY”

That is the mission statement of the **Ave Maria School of Law in Ann Arbor, Michigan**, which took in its first class of 70 students in Sept. 2000.

The contra-cultural mission statement of the school continues: **“Ave Maria students learn how just laws support the inherent rights and dignity of every human person. For this firm commitment to an education**

grounded in natural law, Ave Maria School of Law is distinctive.”

This new institution, founded with the vision and financial generosity of **Thomas S. Monaghan**, successful businessman and philanthropist who has recognized his obligation as a steward of God’s blessings, includes such luminaries on its faculty and Board of Governors as **Law Professor Charles Rice** of Notre Dame, **Judge James Ryan** of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, **Congressman Henry Hyde**, **Judge James Buckley** of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, **Dean Bernard Dobranski** formerly of the Catholic University of America, and **Judge Robert Bork**.

N K R T L

President Robert C. Cetrulo was invited to address the student body and faculty last month, and spoke on the topic of “*Euthanasia: Hell’s Last Sacrament*”, the subject of an article of his recently published in the national magazine, *Homiletic & Pastoral Review*.

NKRTL President Robert C. Cetrulo and Ave Maria School of Law Assistant Dean Michael O. Kenney

The visit also gave Cetrulo an opportunity to meet and confer with attorney **Ed White**, counsel for the **Thomas More Center for Law and Justice** housed in the same properties there of the **Monaghan Foundation**. Cetrulo had served as local counsel for the Center in defending the Pro-Life position in a euthanasia case argued this past January before the Kentucky Supreme Court, *Woods v. Commonwealth*, the decision of which is expected momentarily.

“It was incredibly refreshing and indescribably encouraging,” said Cetrulo “to be exposed to the unalterable commitment to unchanging principles which was unmistakably evidenced in the faculty, staff, and student body. It was a battery-charging experience for me!”

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S FOR LIFE SEMINAR

Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Lawyers for Life conducted a seminar on April 27 at the Drawbridge Estates in Ft. Mitchell, Ky. on “*End of Life Issues: Law, Medicine, Ethics and Interprofessional Dimensions*”, attended by more than 50 people, half of whom were lawyers, and the other half consisted of doctors, nurses, priests, ministers, and members of the general public.

Presenters and panel participants included **Justice Donald C. Wintersheimer** of the Kentucky Supreme Court, **Dr. Paul A. Byrne**, neonatologist and Past President of the Catholic Physicians Association of America, **Dr. Arthur M. Kunath**, Northern Kentucky physician and President of Catholics United for the Faith, attorney **Robert C. Cetrulo**, President of Northern Kentucky Right to Life Committee, and **Fr. William B. Neuhaus**, attorney and Pastor of St. Thomas Church in Ft. Thomas, Ky. Arrangements for the seminar with the Ohio Bar Association and Kentucky Bar Association were made through attorney **Fred H. Summe**, NKRTL Vice President and Secretary of Lawyers for Life.

Justice Wintersheimer, Lawyers for Life President Tom Condit, Dr. Byrne, Mr. Cetrulo, Fr. Neuhaus

The three-hour seminar was videotaped and will be seen on **Public Access Channel 17, Insight Cable in Northern Kentucky**, in the month of **June on Mondays at 10:00 p.m. and Fridays at 10:30 p.m.**

ECONOMIC EFFECT OF PERMISSIVE ABORTION

We recently ran across an article published on Dec. 6, 2000 in the *Iowa Times-Republican* which deals with the issue solely on the pragmatic basis of the undeniably adverse and serious effect of permissive abortion on our national economic well being. (When enough people come to really understand that, and the jeopardy to their economic security, social security, etc., that really will become an “emotional” issue.)

Since we couldn’t say it any better, we choose to republish herewith, verbatim, that article from the secular newspaper in Iowa:

“New economic analysis look at

Roe v. Wade and abortion

“Ever since the U.S. Supreme Court made abortion legal by passing Roe v. Wade in 1973, war has been waged between the two groups most commonly known as the Right To Life and Right To Choose movements.

“The two sides have argued about exactly when life begins, a mother’s right to choose, safety issues and a truckload of other arguments either for or against abortion.

“Just about every argument either for or against abortion has been presented at one time or another in this lightning rod issue which has turned neighbor against neighbor and family against family.

“But never have I seen an argument presented from strictly the economic impact point of view that abortion causes.

“Until now, that is.

“At a period when our own governor is promoting ways to encourage more workers to come to Iowa to help fill the statewide job vacancies — either by enticing former college graduates to return to the state or by loosening up immigration laws to allow 300,000 new immigrants to move here — the new economic-based approach by pro-lifers to encourage pro-abortion people to reconsider their position is perfectly timed.

“Monday, Gov. Vilsack announced that Marshalltown would be one of only a handful of communities chosen to pilot his statewide program to bring thousands of immigrants into Iowa communities to help fill existing, hard-to-fill job vacancies and remedy the dire worker shortages Iowa is now facing.

“However, according to the latest issue of *March For Life*, an annual report published by a pro-life group in Washington, D.C., had Roe v. Wade never become law and millions of babies aborted, there would be over 38 million more workers available nationwide, including the children of those aborted.

“The strict statistical analysis *March For Life* uses is based on the government’s own numbers from the United States Abstract.

“It’s difficult to argue the numbers.

“Using the number of aborted babies between 1973 and now, it’s easy to see what the result would be in terms of the recognized much-needed population for our work force — we’d have the workers had it not been for the change in abortion law.

“Additionally, based on the *March For Life* report, it may be successfully argued that the problems found with the Social Security system shortfall estimated to begin in 2014 would be virtually eliminated had Roe v. Wade not occurred.

“The reason?

“Currently, there are more people working than retired. The working people are paying into Social Security and their money is paying the benefits to current retirees.

“However, come 2014, there will be more retirees than workers.

“At that time, either workers will have to more than double their Social Security taxes their pay, the Social

Security qualifying age will have to be raised substantially or the system will go bust.

“Perhaps this new economic approach taken by *March For Life* will make statisticians, economists, politicians and our own Gov. Vilsack take a second look at the abortion laws.

“However, if that look is anything like it has been for the last 27 years, more disagreement on this subject surely lies ahead.”

MORE MEDIA “SPIN”

Karen Samples’ 4/7/01 column in *The Cincinnati Enquirer* describes an interview with Pro-Life pharmacist, Robert Hay, who is also a Boone County Commissioner and also a Board member of the Northern Kentucky Independent District Health Department. While on the one hand she purports to admire his courage, she ridicules his position, and ignores the objective medical evidence by stating: “Mr. Hay objects to birth control pills because he’s afraid they prevent fertilized eggs from implanting in the uterus.”

People who undertake to write publicly on such issues have an obligation to inform themselves. How can Ms. Samples be truly ignorant of the unrefuted scientific facts, demonstrated clearly in the medical literature, and indeed even in the pamphlets that come with the birth control pills from the pill manufacturers themselves (see Page 3 of this Newsletter, for specific citations). This medical literature states that in numerous instances these pills fail to prevent ovulation, and are then not, in Samples’ words, “an effective way to prevent pregnancy.” The medical literature admits that these pills indeed terminate pregnancy, by aborting the newly-created human life, post-conception.

Incredibly, Ms. Samples concludes her article “To those who would deny women this choice: Please don’t become pharmacists.”

Should people who respect the sanctity of all innocent human life, including the unborn, be barred from being obstetricians/gynecologists, just because they refuse to perform surgical abortions? (There has developed some considerable evidence that such candidates are indeed excluded by interrogation on their medical school applications.)

How can Ms. Samples distinguish her argument from the clear warning in 1940 in Germany not to become physicians if you hesitate to kill Jews, Christians, and other dissenters from state policy?

And would she say to journalists, if they were precluded by law from publishing deeply-held conscientious views, “Please don’t become journalists”???

SIGNS OF THE TIMES: THE GOOD, THE BAD, THE UGLY, AND THE RIDICULOUS

A San Francisco jury last month ordered Planned Parenthood to pay \$672,000.00 to a woman for damages stemming from the botched abortion of her twins, which fact went unreported by the wire services and news networks. For weeks after her abortion, she suffered abdominal pains and morning sickness, until a follow up exam six weeks later revealed that she was carrying the aborted baby's twin, which was missing an arm and a leg. She then had a late term abortion of that damaged child.

"GIFT OF LIFE" TV SERIES - NORTHERN KENTUCKY INSIGHT CABLE, CHANNEL 17

N KRTL Board member **Stan Barczak** initiated and continues to execute a marvelous service to the community, in his taping of Pro-Life programs, and seeing to their presentation on **Public Access Channel 17, Insight Cable** in Northern Kentucky. These shows may be seen regularly on **Mondays at 10 p.m.** and **Fridays at 10:30 p.m.**

A recently taped event was a presentation by **Ed Szymkowiak of Stop Planned Parenthood (STOPP)**, presented this March at St. Cecilia Church in Independence, Ky., by its Pro-Life committee, chaired by **Gayle Piron** (supra, Page 6). The Pastor there is **Fr. Paul Berscheid**, long-time member of NKRTL and vigorous and uncompromising Pro-Lifer, who also celebrates the Helpers of God's Precious Infants Mass at the Holy Name Church two blocks from the abortuary in Cincinnati on the second Saturday of each month.

This program will be shown on **Monday and Friday evenings through the month of May.**

The **Lawyers for Life of Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky End of Life Issues Seminar** conducted at the Drawbridge Estates on Friday, April 27 (supra, Page 10) will be aired on **Mondays at 10 p.m.** and **Fridays at 10:30 p.m.** on **Public Access Channel 17** through the **month of June**.

We are all indebted to all these people who freely give of their time to produce these programs, and to make them available to us. In the final analysis, however, the obligation of education is an individual one, which lies upon each of us, and we have the duty to inform ourselves, and then act upon these issues of crucial public significance. Even at the secular level, it has been recognized that "The price of liberty is eternal vigilance." (George Washington).