

Michigan Nurses For Life

1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite G • Troy, Michigan 48084

September 2008

“An educational group for prolife nurses”

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“Here is the sad fact: One in three women in this country will have chosen to have an abortion by the age of 45. That’s right — one in three. Given that, it is likely that you know someone who has been impacted by abortion.”

*“Abortion Changes You: A Campaign for Healing”
By Mark Earley
The Edge, May 7, 2008
catholicexchange.com*

Michigan Nurses For Life Fall Conference Impact of the Abortion Experience Friday, October 24, 2008 from 8 AM – 1:15 PM



Kenote Speaker:

Dr. Vincent Rue, PhD

“Post Abortion Syndrome - Its Effect on Women, Men, and Families”

Dr. Rue is the Director of the Institute of Pregnancy Loss in Jacksonville, Florida, an independent non-profit research and treatment center. Dr. Rue received his PhD in Child Development and Family Relations from the University of North Carolina in 1975. For 33 years Dr. Rue has been a practicing psychotherapist and has served on the faculty of California State University at Los Angeles and United States

International University in San Diego. In 1981 Dr. Rue provided the first clinical evidence of post abortion trauma, identifying this psychological condition as “Post Abortion Syndrome” in testimony before the U.S. Congress. In 1984, he published one of the first articles on abortion's impact on men and relationships and over the years has treated numerous women and men who have been traumatized by their abortion experience.

Dr. Valerie Lukasik, PhD

“Counseling the PAS Client in Private Practice”

As a graduate of Wayne State University and a licensed Psychologist with over 20 years of experience in individual and marriage therapy, Dr. Lukasik specializes in post-traumatic stress disorder.

Location:

St. Joseph Mercy Hospital - Oakland Pontiac, Michigan

Nurses: 4.0 Contact Hrs.

Registration Information:
Call: 248.816.8489
Email: info@mnfl.org

Print a registration form online: www.mnfl.org

Register no later than Friday, October 17, 2008

Presented by:
Michigan Nurses For Life in cooperation with Educational Center For Life

**Michelle Yax
Executive Director
Mother & Unborn Baby Care, Southfield, MI**

“Reflection on Abortion: One Woman's Story”

Ms. Yax is affiliated with Silent No More and speaks regarding her personal pain resulting from an abortion. She will enlighten anyone who may see abortion as an easy solution to a problem pregnancy.

Michigan Nurses



For Life

Our Purpose:

...To raise the consciousness of the nursing profession to protect all human life from conception until natural death

...To form an educated core of nurses who can speak for their profession by acting as a community resource for life issues

...To promote public education and awareness about life issues on both ends of the spectrum, from abortion to euthanasia

...To uphold and defend human life in all stages and conditions of development

Michigan Nurses For Life

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Monday through Friday
10 AM - 3 PM

Officers:

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Mary Lou Temple

Editor and Layout:

Susan Beardsley

President's Perspective

Dear Colleagues,

Everyone wants to see treatments and cures for severe and/or debilitating conditions and diseases, and no one more than the members of Michigan Nurses for Life. But doing so is less about "coming out of the stone age" and more about ethical research methods.

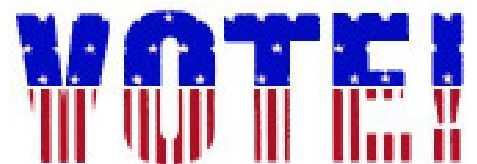
When the prohibition against using human embryos as research material was instituted by both the federal government and our state of Michigan, it was understood that such a prohibition was, and remains, appropriate since no benefit came to the human subject of such research and, in fact, destroyed the life of that embryo. Nothing has changed.

Those who would seek to use the living, human embryo as research material reject the fact that this human life has value beyond its use as raw material for research. The notion that a moral dilemma has been created by "left over" human embryos in infertility clinics does not demand their destruction but rather begs the question as to why or how the protocols for infertility treatment result in more human embryos than can be used.

The positive results coming from research on adult stem cells have proven effective over and over again. Adult stem cells are any stem cells that do not come from the human embryo and are found throughout the body, including cord blood and placental tissue. Treatments for such things as heart disease, leukemia, anemia, disease of the eye, some paralysis conditions and on and on have been devised using adult stem cells and are being used every day. Some of our returning military members, whose limbs have been broken or shattered in conflict, are being successfully treated with adult stem cells.

Embryonic stem cell research is taking place all over the world, including our own country and yes, in our own state. It is privately funded. So far, the research has not produced positive results. The facts are clear—using adult stem cells has proven effective, using embryonic stem cells has not. Removing prohibitions against this research will not make it any better, but will change the Michigan Constitution, making it possible for such research to be funded by public funds. The issue of destroying human embryos for research is less about finding cure for disease and more about who will pay for it.

Love Life!
Diane Trombley
President
Michigan Nurses for Life



Tuesday,
November 4

Abortion Has Ripple Effect The Oakland Press, August 3, 2008

Recently, parishioners of St. Mary of the Hills Catholic Church in Rochester Hills displayed 2,000 small crosses on the church's lawn.

Members of the congregation admitted the show was meant to not only capture the attention of passing motorists, but make them think, too. Each cross represented two of the 4,000 abortions conducted every day in the United States.

The dedication and commitment of members of the various religious organizations that oppose abortion is admirable. It took 22 volunteers from St. Mary three-and-a-half hours to arrange the display, which they have been doing annually for the past four years.

Admittedly, emotions on both sides of the abortion debate run high and it's an ongoing issue that will not be resolved anytime soon.

Since *Roe v. Wade* in 1973, abortions have been legal in the United States. But that hasn't stopped Right to Life advocates from expressing their opposition to the act.

We don't believe abortions are an appropriate avenue for women and some late term abortions, especially those labeled "partial birth" abortions, should be outlawed.

However, that's not the purpose of this editorial. We're not going to judge, but there are some things that need to be pondered.

The most obvious fact, yet something that is often played down or ignored, is that women do not have abortions without a ripple effect on others. Their actions, whether they want to admit it or not, affect other people — and we're not just talking about the fetus that would grow into a child.

First, there's the father. Maybe some men could care less about what happens, but many sensitive men are concerned. They're saddened and disturbed by abortions but yet they have very little, if any, say in the action. Their feelings are ignored.

Then there's the immediate extended family. Grandparents are robbed of the love of a grandchild and the child will never know how caring such couples can be.

Other family members will be missing out on someone who could potentially change their lives and most certainly add to the quality of their lives.

If the child is raised appropriately, communities lose a potential solid citizen who could contribute to the well-being of others. And society loses a possible scientist or doctor who could save thousands of lives through research and new discoveries.

Generally, arguments for abortions are that they allow women to control their own bodies and they avoid back-street, life-risking procedures.



They're valid arguments if you want to accept them as valid.

Basically, it comes down to one's conscience. Many fathers and family members will silently feel the regret, especially if they have no choice in the matter.

But the real question is: Can the women who have had abortions

live with their actions?

Some may use the pro-abortion arguments to justify their choice. They can tell themselves it wasn't a real human being, just a few extra cells in their body.

But will that be enough when you know that those "cells" had all of the makings of a little baby — from a brain, arms, legs and organs? That it was just a matter of time for these "human" features to develop?

Nine months isn't a very long time — particularly compared to a lifetime of regrets.

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Giving Voice to the Fathers By Bradley Mattes, MBS

The event was publicized as a first of its kind and made news across the nation. It inflamed pro-abortion activists and has been billed by the media as a "new" concept in the debate over abortion.

Pro-life leaders, counselors, clergy and other interested individuals gathered in San Francisco, California for a history-making event. It was the first ever conference examining the issue of men and abortion. The gathering, called *Reclaiming Fatherhood: A Multifaceted Examination of Men Dealing With Abortion*.

Never before has such an impressive list of speakers and experts congregated for the sole purpose of assisting the fathers of aborted babies - dads who will never be able to hold their babies or some day teach them the fine art of hitting a baseball. These may be men who supported the decision to abort their offspring, opposed the abortion with every fiber of their being, or were never even aware of the pregnancy until after their unborn baby had died in the abortion mill.

Vicki Thorn, the Executive Director and founder of the National Office of Post-Abortion Reconciliation and Healing, organized the conference. Vicki has a long history of providing hope and healing to women who have chosen abortion. She has also become involved with reaching men. The event was co-sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and the Archdiocese of San Francisco. Funding for the conference was secured just months before the gathering. The fact that Vicki and her staff were able to assemble such an impressive faculty was a testimony to their diligent efforts and the dedication of the speakers. Attendees came from throughout the nation, as well as various other countries. The excellent level of participation underscored the need for such an event.

Perhaps the most poignant part of the conference was at the beginning when a few fathers briefly shared their stories of pain and grieving. During this time, the only sound in the cavernous room was the words of each father's testimony and tributes to their unborn children lost to abortion.

With four abortions in his past, and immediately after finding out his wife was pregnant, Mark Morrow confessed, "I suddenly realized that I had four dead children. I hadn't given it a thought. Now it all came crashing down on me - look what you've done."

Another father, Jason Baier, spoke of the visual image

he had of his child - a boy with blond hair, green eyes, chubby cheeks and a sweet smile. Jason found out about the abortion afterward from his fiancé's sister. He said, "I couldn't get the thought out of my head about what I had lost." At first, Jason struggled with emotions he didn't understand.

"How can I miss something I never even held?" The list of presenters was a who's who of experts in the field of men and abortion. Some of the speakers included:

Vincent M. Rue, Ph.D. who, as a practicing psycho-therapist, provided the first clinical evidence of post-abortion trauma and has testified before Congress. Dr. Rue and Dr. Coyle reviewed the limited research on the effects of abortion on men. In an additional presentation entitled, *Trauma and Abortion: When Men Hollow*, Vince eloquently spoke to a post-abortive father's pain and suffering.

Catherine T. Colye, RN, MSN, Ph.D. has developed a healing program for men who have been affected by abortion. She is also the author of the book, *Men and Abortion: A Path to Healing*, which has become a valuable tool for those who counsel men. Her presentation called *Forgiveness Therapy with Post-Abortion Men* highlighted proven counseling techniques for an often-thorny aspect of healing for men.

Tom Golden, LCSW teaches mental health professionals around the world about the unique male path to healing from stress, grief and trauma. He authored the book, *Swallowed by a Snake: The Gift of the Masculine Side of Healing*. Tom explained the unique methods of effective male grief counseling and how they differ from women. His gentle demeanor, peppered with humor, was a popular part of the conference.

Warren L. Williams, MBA is one of the nation's most experienced counselors of grieving fathers. He authored a manual to teach others how to counsel post-abortive fathers called, *Fatherhood Lost*, and has written a companion Bible study for men, *Missing Arrows* - both available at no cost through Life Issues Institute. Warren shared his knowledge with helping men face their abortion experience and enabling them to ultimately move on.

Gregory Hasek, MA/MFT, LPC is a licensed marriage and family therapist and a professor at George Fox University. Greg, who counsels men for sex addiction, said it is often linked to a past abortion experience. His presentation, *Medicating the Pain of Lost Father-*



hood, explained how men frequently seek relief from the pain of abortion in all the wrong places.

These speakers, as well as others at the conference, share a passion for helping fathers who have lost children to abortion. They understand the human toll these men, and society as a whole, are paying for abortion-on-demand. Attendees undoubtedly left with an increased knowledge and zeal to minister to men.

The conference has aroused the curiosity of the media and ignited an expected angry outcry from feminists and the abortion industry. The first day, a local San Francisco TV station covered the event and interviewed various speakers and attendees. We held our collective breath, wondering how this outreach to men would be portrayed to people throughout the city. To everyone's pleasant surprise, the coverage was relatively positive and fair. Since then, many newspaper and Internet websites have given the conference attention. A recent addition to the list was the *Los Angeles Times* with a January 8 article entitled, *Changing Abortion's Pronoun*, which has generated considerable awareness and discussion.

Not all the responses to the conference have been affirming. Many of the bloggers representing the views of hard-core, pro-abortion sentiment spewed hatred and obscenity-laden vitriol, far too inappropriate to replicate here. It's possible that many who expressed rage and anger are in their own minds desperately seeking to defend a prior abortion decision. If and when the emotional wall of denial crumbles, we will be there to help them pick up the pieces of their lives.

It's not a surprise that the *LA Times* article referred to the plight of grieving fathers as "a new voice emerging in the abortion debate." Most of the public has never even considered the fact that a father of an aborted baby might suffer negative psychological effects. For that matter, a good percentage of the pro-life movement has yet to experience this revelation.

However in reality, work in the field of men and abortion has been ongoing for some time. In the June 1996 issue of *Life Issues Connector* I wrote about the reasons for post-abortion stress in men and its common symptoms. In addition, the article conveyed some practical guidelines for counseling these hurting fathers. At the time, awareness regarding this issue was nearly non-existent.

Life Issues Institute's decision to explore this growing crisis was precipitated by contact from several post-abortive men over a period of months, who poured out their heart and soul in letters and emails. It occurred to Dr. Willke and myself that we had been missing a very important victim of the abortion process.

During early anecdotal research, I crossed paths with some of the true pioneers of those working to help men cope with the loss of a child through abortion. Several of them seemed to be operating as islands of

hope, loosely networked to others of the same passion. There are two individuals who deserve much credit for helping to establish a foundation on which to build awareness and assistance to fathers after abortion.

Rev. Wayne Brauning wrote his doctoral thesis called *Men and Abortion a Search for Understanding and Recovery*. It was later published as the first guidebook on the topic and set the bar for a thoughtful and professional approach to answers and action. Wayne also established MARC Ministries (Men's Abortion ReCovery) and published additional informational and counseling materials.

Warren Williams was also an early pioneer who has honed his counseling skills and techniques over the years and now shares them in printed publications. Warren founded Fathers & Brothers Ministries, International to help men overcome the losses of fatherhood. More information on both these individuals and others is available at our website, www.lifeissues.org.

Life Issues Institute began a concerted effort to create awareness, both within the pro-life movement and the public at large, to the plight of these hurting fathers. With the considerable help of others, these efforts have begun to bear fruit. Most crisis pregnancy centers now acknowledge post-abortion stress in men, and many have incorporated outreach efforts to them. Another new development has been the Men and Abortion Network (MAN). It is a group of national leaders and experts on the issue of men and abortion. Our goal is to create additional awareness and to connect more men with the help they need. Several of the conference speakers are members of MAN, which is an excellent source of experts to speak on the issue in your community.

More information on MAN and other resources available to assist grieving fathers is available on our website at www.lifeissues.org. In addition, Life Issues Institute has a nationwide referral network, which will connect men with counselors in their local area. In almost all cases the help is free. While there you can be directed to other organizations and individuals who also offer resources.

The *LA Times* article, *Changing Abortion's Pronoun*, had a creatively provocative title. However, a more accurate reality is that we aren't so much changing a pronoun, but *adding* one to the abortion equation. Fathers are an undeniable part of the picture. Growing widespread attention to the daily struggle of post-abortive fathers is long overdue. And hopefully the attention generated by this first of its kind national conference will produce a sequel.

CORRECTION: The author inadvertently referred to Vicki Thorn as post-abortive. This was in error and we sincerely regret the mistake.

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Preparing for the Upcoming November 2008 Election

This is a very important time for all pro-life people. While MNFL cannot endorse or recommend candidates for political office, we can encourage you to carefully study the positions of those candidates on issues that impact human life.

You can seek this information through:

Right to Life – LIFESPAN
Right to Life of Michigan
Each candidate's mailings

There is so much at stake in this election, both state-wide and federally. If a candidate cannot, or will not, protect the most defenseless and voiceless members of our society, how can we be sure he/she will defend us?

Embryonic Stem Cell Research

There will be a proposal on the November ballot that will address the issue of stem cell research. It is interesting to note that most descriptions of this proposal refer to it as "stem cell research". There is rarely, if ever, detailed mention of the measure as it regards to **embryonic** stem cell research.

As it is currently being promoted, this proposal appears to **deliberately fail to mention** its inclusion of embryonic stem cell research which uses the human embryo as research material and destroys the life of the embryo in the process.

As it is currently being promoted, this proposal will not just become a new law, but **will amend the Constitution of the State of Michigan**. Should a change in this amendment become desirable or if our citizens should wish to negate this amendment, it will require a 2/3 majority vote of our entire legislature to rescind or change.

As it is currently being promoted, this proposal will allow for, if not require, the use of your tax dollars to fund this research.

Embryonic stem cell research has been ongoing in Michigan for many years being paid for by private grants and foundations. **It is already legal and does not require an amendment to our state constitution to make it so. To date, worldwide research efforts have failed to produce successful cures or treatments for acute or chronic illnesses or conditions derived from embryonic stem cells.** If passed, this proposal will allow for your tax dollars to be used for research that has shown **no positive results.**

Adult stem cell research has also been taking place in Michigan and around the world. It has not needed any political efforts to make it acceptable and does not require the use of your tax dollars to move forward. To date, adult stem cell research has provided cures/treatments for a host of medical conditions (see page 7) and has done so without using human embryos as research material and without taking the lives of the donors of the adult stem cells.

Clearly, we do not need what the ballot proposal on "stem cell research" purports to offer.

Michigan Nurses For Life can address legislative issues and encourages you to consider that It seems a waste of time, talent and, yes, money, to pursue research that has "come up empty" and uses human life as raw research material when treatments and cures exist and could be increased and expanded upon by increasing life affirming, life giving adult stem cell research.

Election and Candidate Information

Michigan Nurses for Life is a 501c3 organization and as such cannot recommend or endorse candidates for political office.

Right to Life-LIFESPAN is a 501c4 organization and cannot endorse or recommend candidates for political office.

However, **Right to Life-LIFESPAN** can and does publish a candidate survey wherein candidates for political office reply, or not, to a series of questions regarding life issues.

To receive a copy of this publication, please call the main office of **Right to Life-LIFESPAN** at 248.478.8878 or the Oakland/Macomb office at 248.816.1546.

MiCAUSE

A group has been established called "MiCAUSE" – Michigan Citizens Against Unrestricted Science and Experimentation.

For accurate and updated information regarding this proposal, go to:

www.micause.com

Adult Stem Cells vs Embryonic Stem Cells

(From Peer-Reviewed Studies)

Benefits of Adult Stem Cells to Human Patients

Cancers:

1. Brain Cancer
2. Retinoblastoma
3. Ovarian Cancer
4. Skin Cancer: Merkel Cell Carcinoma
5. Testicular Cancer
6. Tumors abdominal organs Lymphoma
7. Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma
8. Hodgkin's Lymphoma
9. Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia
10. Acute Myelogenous Leukemia
11. Chronic Myelogenous Leukemia
12. Juvenile Myelomonocytic Leukemia
13. Chronic Myelomonocytic Leukemia
14. Cancer of the lymph nodes: Angioimmunoblastic Lymphadenopathy
15. Multiple Myeloma
16. Myelodysplasia
17. Breast Cancer
18. Neuroblastoma
19. Renal Cell Carcinoma
20. Soft Tissue Sarcoma
21. Various Solid Tumors
22. Ewing's Sarcoma
23. Waldenstrom's macroglobulinemia
24. Hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis
25. POEMS syndrome
26. Myelofibrosis

Auto-Immune Diseases:

27. Diabetes Type I (Juvenile)
28. Systemic Lupus
29. Sjogren's Syndrome
30. Myasthenia
31. Autoimmune Cytopenia
32. Scleromyxedema
33. Scleroderma
34. Crohn's Disease
35. Behcet's Disease
36. Rheumatoid Arthritis
37. Juvenile Arthritis
38. Multiple Sclerosis
39. Polychondritis
40. Systemic Vasculitis
41. Alopecia Universalis
42. Buerger's Disease

Cardiovascular:

43. Acute Heart Damage
44. Chronic Coronary Artery Disease

Ocular:

45. Corneal regeneration

Immunodeficiencies:

46. Severe Combined Immunodeficiency Syndrome
47. X-linked Lymphoproliferative Syndrome
48. X-linked Hyper immunoglobulin M Syndrome

Neural Degenerative Diseases and Injuries:

49. Parkinson's Disease
50. Spinal Cord Injury
51. Stroke Damage

Anemias and Other Blood Conditions:

52. Sickle Cell Anemia
53. Sideroblastic Anemia
54. Aplastic Anemia
55. Red Cell Aplasia
56. Amegakaryocytic Thrombocytopenia
57. Thalassemia
58. Primary Amyloidosis
59. Diamond Blackfan Anemia
60. Fanconi's Anemia
61. Chronic Epstein-Barr Infection

Wounds and Injuries:

62. Limb Gangrene
63. Surface Wound Healing
64. Jawbone Replacement
65. Skull Bone Repair

Other Metabolic Disorders:

66. Hurler's Syndrome
67. Osteogenesis Imperfecta
68. Krabbe Leukodystrophy
69. Osteopetrosis
70. Cerebral X-Linked Adrenoleukodystrophy

Liver Disease:

71. Chronic Liver Failure
72. Liver Cirrhosis

Bladder Disease:

73. End-Stage Bladder Disease

For references see:
<http://www.stemcellresearch.org/facts/asc-ref.pdf>
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www.stemcellresearch.org
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Benefits of Embryonic Stem Cells

NONE

To date,
there have been
absolutely **NO**
treatments of cures
from the use of
embryonic stem cells!

Michigan Nurses For Life



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Office: 248.816.8489 Fax: 248.816.9066
Email: info@mnfl.org or visit us on the web at: www.mnfl.org

Check out the great MNFL web site at:
www.mnfl.org

If you would like to add or delete a name from our mailing list,
please contact Michigan Nurses For Life at 248.816.8489. Thanks!

2008 Pro-life Events

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2008, 9 AM- 12 Noon

RTL-LIFESPAN LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft Rd, Livonia, MI

Keynote Speaker: Fr. Tad Pacholczyk

"Stem Cells and Cloning: Understanding the
Scientific Issues and the Moral Objections"

For reservations, call: 248.478.8878

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2008, 2:30 - 3:30 PM

NATIONAL LIFE CHAIN SUNDAY

Join others in a silent witness to love and protect
the unborn and their mothers.

For a list of locations in the Metro Detroit Area
call RTL-LIFESPAN at 248.478.8878

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2008,

ANNUAL RTL-LIFESPAN CIDER WALK

Paint Creek Trail, Rochester, MI

Registration begins at 1:30 PM / Walk at 2 :00 PM
Cider and doughnuts to follow walk.

For further information call: 248.478.8878

RTL-LIFESPAN

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS Now available!

CHRISTMAS CARDS Coming Soon!

For information, to place an order,
or to arrange for pick-up at a location near you,
call a LIFESPAN office:

Detroit: 313.640.8534

Oakland/Macomb: 248.816.1546

Wayne West/Downriver: 734.422.6230

**Your purchase supports pro-life activities
throughout the year.**

VOTE!

Tuesday, November 4