

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

OPERATION MORNING STAR

NEWSLETTER

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"OPERATION MORNINGSTAR"

Catholic Daughters once again March for Life

Catholic Daughters will again join the March for Life on Monday, January 23, in Washington, D.C. We will meet at the intersection of Constitution NW and Pennsylvania NW and will join the March there. Other pages of this mailing have the details. Walk with us to show your respect for life!

Ask Congress to stop funding foreign abortions

The House Foreign Affairs Committee recently approved HR 2059, a bill by Congresswoman Renee Ellmers (R-NC) to cut funding for the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The bill would stop the flow of \$400 million of taxpayer dollars to fund one of the world's most radical pro-abortion groups.

UNFPA has a decades-long record of promoting and funding abortion throughout the world, including China's coercive One-Child Policy, which has led to forced abortions, forced sterilizations and other human rights violations.

In a meeting this fall with the House Budget Committee, Congressman Tim Huelskamp, (R-KS), asked Gao Quiang, former head of the Communist Party Ministry of Health, about the country's population control policy. Through an interpreter, Gao said the population of China is 400 million fewer due to the Party-enforced one-child policy. He said China had prevented more births than the entire population of the United States, 312 million.

"I was shocked to hear a Chinese official admit how many people have been lost as a result of the country's population control policy," Congressman Huelskamp said later. The brutal policies have especially hurt female births as parents choose males to support them in their old age. These policies show contempt for international standards of human rights.

Write or email your Congressman asking him/her to support H.R. 2059 to stop taxpayer funding of abortion overseas. For more information, see the Susan B. Anthony List www.sba-list.org and Population Research Institute at www.pop.org.

Newly approved Virginia health standards could close many of the state's abortion centers

The Virginia General Assembly passed regulations earlier this year requiring abortion centers to maintain health standards similar to hospitals. The rules were approved by the state health board on a 12-1 vote in September, and they are scheduled to go into effect January 1, 2012.

Opponents of the new regulations said the cost of implementation could force 17 or more abortion centers to close. They said the regulations are an attempt to outlaw abortion by restricting access.

"We've been pushing for legislation for years to ensure the abortion industry is not exempt from minimal commonsense standards," Jeff Caruso, executive director of the Virginia Catholic Conference told EWTN News after the state health board approved the rules September 15.

"The Virginia Catholic Conference certainly affirms that abortion is not health care because it destroys life rather than healing it," Caruso added. "But as long as the abortion industry is going to operate within the health care system, they must at the very least be required to adhere to commonsense safety standards."

The regulations ensure that abortion centers have life-saving equipment and hallways wide enough to allow for gurneys in the event of medical emergencies. The rules require written policies on preventing infection, using ultrasounds, and fire safety. Abortion centers will have to report patient deaths and must have physicians on site until patients are discharged.

The rules apply to anyone in Virginia who performs five or more first-trimester abortions a month. State law already requires second-trimester abortions to be performed in hospitals. Supporters of the regulations said they are necessary to protect women's health.

Read more at <http://www.ewtnnews.com/catholic-news/US.php?id=3974#ixzz1bQoITHuT>

Holy Infant, so tender and mild, pray for us.

Studies link abortion and adverse mental health

by Susan E. Wills, assistant director for education and outreach for the U.S. bishops' Secretariat of Pro-life Activities. www.nationalrighttolifenews.org

The largest, most definitive analysis of the mental health risks associated with abortion was published September 1 in the prestigious British Journal of Psychiatry. Conducted by Priscilla Coleman of Bowling Green State University, the analysis examines 22 studies published between 1995 and 2009 involving 877,181 women, of whom 163,831 had abortions.

The findings:

— “Women who have had an abortion have an 81 percent higher risk of subsequent mental health problems compared to women who have not had an abortion.

— “Women who aborted have a 138 percent higher risk of mental health problems compared to women who have given birth.

— “Women who aborted have a 55 percent higher risk of mental health problems compared to women with an ‘unplanned’ pregnancy who gave birth.

— “Women with a history of abortion have higher rates of anxiety, depression, alcohol use/misuse, marijuana use, and suicidal behavior, compared to those who have not had an abortion.

Coleman notes that a 2010 study by Canadian researchers published after she completed her analysis of the 22 studies, arrived at “strikingly similar” conclusions regarding the increased risk of mental health problems associated with abortion.

A handful of “pro-choice” academics continue to churn out papers attempting to show that “the few” women who have mental health problems after abortion are those who had mental health problems before their abortion. They claim that having an abortion is better for one’s mental health than giving birth to an “unplanned” (and therefore to their mind “unwanted”) child.

Health care professionals have a duty to advise patients of the benefits and risks of a procedure “in a manner that reflects the current scientific literature,”

Coleman writes, so patients can make an informed choice. As former abortion clinic staff attest, and as journalists in the United States and United Kingdom have discovered, counselors at abortion clinics conceal mental and physical health risks — as well as the fact that the procedure will violently end a child’s life — in order to sell abortions.

Bishops stand against health care mandates

from Human Life International www.hli.org

Led by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), Catholics across the nation took a strong stand against new guidelines from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), that force private insurance plans to cover contraception, abortifacients, and sterilization as part of preventive services.

Throughout the month of September Catholics were encouraged to object to the new rules. The general counsel of the bishops asked HHS to rescind its mandate, calling it “unprecedented in federal law and more radical than any state contraceptive mandate.” The comments also criticize the narrow “religious employer” exception, explaining that it provides “no protection at all for *individuals* or *insurers* with a moral or religious objection to contraceptives or sterilization,” instead covering only “a very small subset of religious employers.”

Article 1907 of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states:

In the name of the common good, public authorities are bound to respect the fundamental and inalienable rights of the human person.... such as, 'The right to act according to a sound norm of conscience and to safeguard...privacy, and rightful freedom also in matters of religion.

Father Shenan Boquet, President of Human Life International, wrote, “We cannot be idle in the face of such blatant disregard for fundamental rights. We must respectfully engage those promoting the Culture of Death and its agenda.”

A great prayer for life is urgently needed, a prayer which will rise up throughout the world. Through special initiatives and in daily prayer, may an impassioned plea rise to God, the Creator and lover of life, from every Christian community, from every group and association, from every family and from the heart of every believer.

—Blessed Pope John Paul II,
Evangelium Vitae, no. 100

Approved Joanne Tomassi, National Regent