

Prolife in Brief

WHEN MORES ARE SUFFICIENT, LAWS ARE UNNECESSARY.

WHEN MORES ARE INSUFFICIENT, LAWS ARE UNENFORCEABLE.

Émile Durkheim: French social scientist who developed a method to combine empirical research with sociological theory. (Mores are the customs, norms and behaviors that are acceptable to a society or social group.)

Evangelizing: The Best Way to End Abortion

Relativism is the concept that knowledge, truth and morality exist in relation to culture, society or historical context and there are no absolutes regarding morals.

The May 16, 2022 editorial in The National Catholic Register, **Abortion After Roe: Evangelizing Culture Begins Now**, states that the prolife legislative successes are fragile and can be reversed or nullified by federal law. Thus, even with a reversal of Roe v. Wade, prolife advocates are heading for a challenging future. A profound cultural conversion is necessary to sustain legislative gains.

On Page 2, in the **States Updates** article, you will note that some states are banning abortion completely while others are moving in the opposite direction even to infanticide. Good laws are not enough to turn people from vice to virtue according to Thomas Aquinas. He states, “..imposing virtuous laws that the people have not yet been prepared morally to accept can actually lead to worse evils in society.” The editorial goes on to say: “only by forming Americans step by step to embrace a society where abortion is unthinkable for a pregnant woman in crisis, will Americans actually embrace a law banning abortion. The reason: “Abortion is not seen as unthinkable but as a pragmatic option for women.” Americans are split in prolife v. prochoice, but 6 out of 10 support first trimester abortion. The emphasis must be changed to **support** for the mother, **not elimination** of the child.

The editorial states that we need parishes to be intentional about creating community relationships that accompany, nourish and sustain life. It notes that the US bishops have provided specific guidance about how to accomplish this through the **Walking with Moms in Need** program.

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Sexual Revolutionaries

The website AMAZE.org provides “educational” cartoons specifically designed for children on abortion, sexual behavior, physical development and pornography. The cartoons are short with cute animated figures who definitely hold the attention of youngsters. But their moral message is not in keeping with our Catholic faith. Pornography is referred to as fun and abortion as a legitimate choice for a pregnant woman. This site is listed as educational, so your youngsters may be able to bypass parental controls.

New Jersey Bishops Outraged: National Catholic Register

NJ bishops expressed outrage relative to proposed legislation that expands access to abortion in NJ. The bishops said that the proposed legislation is a direct attack on the dignity and sanctity of life, and it is further evidence that we have failed as a society when a mother feels her only option is to end the life of her child. The proposed legislation would mandate that health insurance plans fully cover abortion, codify regulations allowing non-physicians to perform abortions and dedicate more taxpayer funds for abortion. The bill would protect medical providers and patients who provide or receive abortion care in NJ from legal actions initiated by states which have outlawed abortions.

Archbishop Cordileone and Pelosi

In a letter (available on-line) Archbishop Cordileone informed Nancy Pelosi to refrain from receiving Holy Communion until such time as she publicly repudiates her advocacy for the legitimacy of abortion and confesses and receives absolution. Cordileone’s actions are consistent in upholding the church’s teaching that those who are directly involved in lawmaking bodies have a grave and clear obligation to oppose any law that attacks human life. Pelosi’s response was that she does not have the right to impose her beliefs on others. Her statement reflects the cultural values discussed on Page 1.

States Updates

A **Florida** law, signed the week of April 17, 2022, limits abortions at 15 weeks. Florida is one of 3 states with the largest number of abortions. Florida also passed a law to modify the curriculum for grades kindergarden-3 restricting classroom instruction on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Oklahoma: HB4327 forbids abortion from fertilization and allows citizens to sue abortion providers. Planned Parenthood has begun efforts to block this law in court

Missouri: 2 bills in committee: HB 2012, Omnibus Pro-life Bill, would prohibit the donation of fetal remains and the hoarding of fetal remains, prohibit abortion facilities or their affiliates from receiving public funds, establish the "**Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act** and would create the offense of "trafficking abortion-inducing drugs" when a person or entity supplies or administers abortion-inducing drugs to another person for an illegal abortion. **HB 1897** would allow the Missouri Division of Corrections to establish nurseries in the state's female correctional facilities for mothers who are to give birth before their release. **Source: Missouri Catholic Conference**

Planned Parenthood Closings

Live Action: Friday, May 20, 2022, Live Action, a pro-life organization headed by Lila Rose, reported Planned Parenthood facilities permanently closed in Alaska, Vermont, New Hampshire, Georgia and Alabama.

Men Who Wrote Roe V. Wade: NCR Article: “If the Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion nationwide falls, it will not be because one political party lost and the other won, but because the opinion was built on a foundation of sand.” In a book, **The Sexual State**, Jennifer Morse states that, “the Sexual Revolution did not just happen, but it was deliberately created by “elites” harnessing the power of the state, allowing them to inflict three false and calamitous ideologies – contraception, divorce and gender, that have led to widespread and profound unhappiness, and worse.”