

Yuba-Sutter Right to Life Committee

Quarterly Bulletin

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www.ysrtl.org

We are pleased to introduce the Yuba-Sutter Right to Life Committee website. The website includes our Mission Statement and links to information regarding upcoming events as well as links to other pro-life organizations and educational resources. This “Life Links” page includes a summary of what the reviewer will find at each link. These links provide critical information on the issues of abortion and euthanasia/assisted suicide— research information statistics, state and federal laws.

Our thanks to Chuck Page for setting up this resource. Please visit the site and let us know what you think!

Pro-Life 101 Seminar

Enclosed with this Newsletter is the announcement for our Seminar that will be presented by Scott Klusendorf on April 7. We especially hope to see a lot of our youths there.

If you plan to attend, please return your reservation by March 15— space is limited!

Patty Justus deserves a giant thank you for making it possible to bring Scott to the Yuba-Sutter area and for coordinating the entire event!

Legislative Update

Our new California legislature convened its regular two-year 2001-2002 Legislative Session on December 4, 2000. February 23 is the last day for new bills to be introduced for the year 2001. As of the date this newsletter was prepared, only one pro-life bill had been introduced—Choose Life Special Interest License Plates, SB 251. According to the Legislative Counsel’s Digest, this bill would require the DMV to design and make available a license plate bearing a design containing the words “Choose Life.” Funds collected from the issuance of the special plates would be allocated to the counties for purposes related to preventing abortion and placing children for adoption.

We also understand from Senator Aanestad (last July) that he intends to reintroduce a bill to ban the partial-birth abortion procedure, a medical technique of killing the unborn. However, two bills have been introduced that reflect the continuing trend of the opposition.

State Senator Betty Karnette (Democrat, Long Beach area) has authored (along with several other pro-abortion senate and assembly co-authors) Senate Joint Resolution No. 3: Reproductive Rights: Roe v. Wade. This joint resolution, which was introduced January 22, if passed would have no impact on the

federal government, but does tell the President and Congress that the California Legislature doesn't want the federal government changing the abortion solution for unwanted pregnancies. This bill is scheduled for a hearing before the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services on March 14.

Assembly member Tony Cardenas (Democrat, Northeast San Fernando Valley), also on January 22, introduced Assembly Bill 130: Public Social Services: Family Planning Access Care and Treatment Program. Current and existing law has already established in the State Department of Health Services the State-Only Family Planning Program to provide comprehensive clinical family planning services to low-income men and women. This bill would rename the program the Family Planning Access Care and Treatment Program and would expand the program to include the provision of specified preventive health services to low-income women under 65 years. A small but significant amendment has also been placed in this bill, which will affect the current law. Current law specifically excludes abortion services; however, quietly placed in the bill is the statement that the program shall now include, and is not limited to, providing "...condoms for pregnancy prevention..." at taxpayer expense.

Unfortunately these two bills (SJR 3 and AB 130) may be a harbinger of how the legislature will proceed in 2001. Note they were both

introduced on the anniversary of Roe v. Wade (coincidence?) You may wish to contact your local senator and assembly representative to express your voice on these issues by writing to them (**see box**). You may also want to follow the progress of these three bills by entering the bill numbers in the "keyword" space at the internet address <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/bilinfo.html>. Please remember to pray for our legislators.

Abortion Pill on Demand

In last quarter's newsletter there was an article on the rush to judgment by the Food and Drug Administration on **RU 486**, the abortion pill, and the murky history of its development and approval. Since then the American Medical Association has continued the slide into unsavory moral practices. Last December at their convention in Orlando the AMA passed a resolution, without debate, calling upon the FDA to now consider making the morning after pill available over the counter. We are unaware of what the FDA's position is on this request from the AMA.

There are two morning-after pills already available through a prescription: Preven and Plan B. These pills will not let a fertilized and viable egg—**an unborn child**—implant in the womb. The push to get these pills approved for non-prescription, over the counter, use, and even make them available to our children is coming from Planned Parenthood and the National Abortion Rights Action League. It is truly unfortunate that the AMA has fallen in line with their rhetoric.

Abortion Numbers Decrease

The *National Right to Life News* reports that the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has "confirmed a steady downward trend in the number of abortions performed annually in the United States."

In 1997, the last year for which complete statistics are available, 1,186,039 abortions were reported. This is the lowest number since 1977! The rate (20 abortions per 1,000 women) is lowest since 1975. The ratio (306 abortions for every 1,000 live births) is the lowest since 1975.

While these numbers are heading in the right direction, they still reflect the fact that for every four babies conceived, one is aborted—in California, the number is one out of three, and in our Nation's capital, there are actually more abortions than live births! The situation is improving, but we still have a long way to go.

Thank You, George W. Bush

We are happy to report that one of the first actions of our new president was to sign an order reversing the prior administrations' policy of unrestricted family planning aid to international organizations that provide abortions. Bush's order reinstated the U.S. policy that was in effect during previous Republican administrations, and which had been changed by former President Clinton as one of *his* first actions as president.

It is truly a blessing to once again have a pro-life presence in the

White House Contact Your Legislator

State Senate: Yuba & Butte Counties (except Gridley): Sen. Rico Oller; Sutter & Colusa Counties & Gridley: Sen. Maurice Johannessen. **Website:** www.senate.ca.gov

State Assembly: Yuba & Butte Counties (except Gridley): Assemblyman Sam Aanestad; Sutter & Colusa Counties & Gridley: Assemblyman Dick Dickerson. **Website:** www.assembly.ca.gov

House of Representatives: Yuba County: Hon. Wally Herger; Sutter County: Hon. Doug Ose. **Website:** www.house.gov

Senators: Barbara Boxer & Diane Feinstein. **Website:** www.senate.gov

Financial Report

Beginning balance 1/1/00 \$7,130.80

Receipts:

Contributions, dues, fair	\$2,713.31
St. Isidore YLI (TV ads)	200.00
Catholic Charities Grant	1,000.00
	<u>+ \$3,913.31</u>
	\$11,044.11

Disbursements:

Postage, P.O. box	\$318.44
Newsletter printing	107.25
Posters & Library packets	243.93
Educational materials	596.36
Fair Booth	387.00
HLI Supplements	2,539.00
A/D charges for supp.	825.60
Printing resource list	45.22
NRTL membership	25.00
1/00—2 billboards	300.00
7/00—2 billboards	485.00
8/00—3 billboards	889.00
AT&T Media—TV ads	306.00
A Woman's Friend hotline	600.00
CA Pro-Life Council	100.00
Msvl. Child Dev. Pgm.	160.88
Caring for Women	300.00
	<u>- \$8,228.68</u>

Ending balance 12/31/00 \$2,815.43