

Yuba-Sutter Right to Life Committee

Quarterly Bulletin

Phone 674-9843! email webmaster@ysrtl.org! www.ysrtl.org

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Yuba-Sutter Fair

The annual fair is our prime opportunity each year for personal interaction and discussion with local residents (and sometimes people from outside the area). This year 2,352 people (1,422 adults and 930 children) made contact with our booth workers, and we distributed hundreds of pieces of literature. Two hundred six people signed our Petition to President Bush asking him not to allow federal funding of embryonic stem cell research (see article this page), and we thank all of you who signed.



The effort we expend to educate our community each year would be impossible without our dedicated volunteers:

*Andrea Bonnenfant
Joe & Jan Caputo
Linda Conger
Cheryl Ericson
Rosemary Gunsett
Jennifer Hackney
Scott & Beth Jarvis
Judi & Christine Mallen
Art & Cindy McMillan*

*Chuck & Miriam Page
Larry & Beth Reimers
Fran Rex
Al & Diane Sawyer
Paula & Caren Tomei
Antonio & Martha Vasquez
Jim & Diane Walsh
Rachel Williams*

AWF Banquet to Feature Alan Keyes

Don't miss this opportunity to hear one of the world's greatest speakers.

The Fall Fundraising Banquet for A Woman's Friend Pregnancy Resource Center and Medical Clinic will be **Saturday October 20** from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Main Exhibit Building at the Yuba Sutter Fairgrounds. Tickets are \$15 each. Contact the center at 741-9136 for more information.

Life Chain

Please Let Me Live will sponsor the 14th annual Life Chain on Sunday, October 7. Contact your church coordinator, or call 671-5500 and find out how to get involved.

Federal Funding of Embryonic Stem Cell Research

On August 9 President Bush announced his decision regarding federal funding of Embryonic Stem Cell Research: The government will only fund research involving current stem cell lines that were taken from embryos that have already been killed. He emphasized that he will not fund research that requires the destruction (i.e., killing) of any more embryos. While we are pleased that no government funded killing will take place, we are sadly disappointed that the President did not fully embrace the pro-life ethic by flatly banning any government funding.

This is a topic that will continue to engender ongoing controversy. There are already calls for the President to expand funding. Because this is such an important and little-understood topic, and because of the many questions

about frozen embryos we received, in this and the next few issues of this Newsletter we will present information that we hope will further our readers' understanding.

What are Frozen Embryos?

Since the 1970s, in vitro fertilization has enabled infertile couples to become parents. The woman is given drugs to stimulate egg production. The eggs are harvested and placed in a lab dish with sperm. If fertilization occurs, embryos result. Generally, three or four embryos are placed in the uterus with the hope that one will implant. The "leftovers" are stored for later use. Please note—**no matter how small they are, they are human and they are alive.**

Q. Where are human embryos stored?

A. Clinics and doctors' offices that treat people with fertility disorders generally store embryos on site.

Q. How developed are the embryos before they're stored?

A. It varies. Some clinics put them into storage as single cells, others as clusters of four or eight cells, others when they've grown to 60 or 100 cells, known as blastocysts.

Q. How are they kept alive?

A. They are stored in liquid nitrogen at minus 384 degrees. This puts them into a state of suspended animation.

Q. How long can they survive at that temperature?

A. There is no evidence so far that embryos ever die while stored at minus 384 degrees.

Q. What's the cost to store embryos?

A. Each clinic sets its own price. The cost most typically falls between \$100 and \$250 a year but in rare cases may reach \$500.

Q. Who owns a frozen embryo, and what happens in the event of a divorce?

The donors of the egg and sperm own any resulting embryos. In case of a divorce, a judge would have to determine ownership.

Q. Are there any new techniques on the horizon?

A. Some clinicians have experimented with freezing slices of ovarian tissue containing many immature eggs, and fertilizing it with sperm. However, few if any pregnancies have resulted.

Source: Michael Wilson, reproductive physiologist for the Reproductive Resource Center of Greater Kansas City in the Kansas City Star; August 28, 2001

For more information on this (or any other pro-life topic), please visit our website at www.ysrtl.org

Planned Parenthood

Enclosed with this Bulletin is a brochure— **Planned Parenthood: It's not what you think!** PP is the single largest abortion provider in this country. This organization seeks to

subvert the morals of our youths by encouraging immorality, all in the service of the almighty dollar. This brochure clearly outlines their agenda.

CAUTION: The information contained in this brochure is not appropriate for children. You can also visit the PP website, but again, if there are children in your home, you probably want to block their access.

Since this brochure was printed, PP has undertaken some additional activities. Instead of just promoting the use of condoms (which have a high failure rate in preventing pregnancy and the spread of many sexually transmitted diseases), PP now has it's own line of products. In a news release dated April 17, 2001, PP "...announced the availability of 'special latex formulation' condoms that are to be distributed nationally 'in a variety of styles, colors and flavors.'" They also offer a "Prom Survival Kit" containing breath mints, a PP coupon and condoms! (*Reported in HLI Reports, June 2001*)

Schizophrenia in Action

- L Our Federal government spends millions of dollars discouraging smoking, particularly by pregnant women, with the message "Pregnant? That's *two* good reasons to quit smoking. *No baby should be forced to smoke.*" (emphasis added). The same government approved the new abortion drug RU-486.
- L State government Health Departments promote prenatal care urging women to take care of their babies from the beginning of pregnancy. At the same time they use **our** tax dollars to pay to have the same babies killed by abortion.

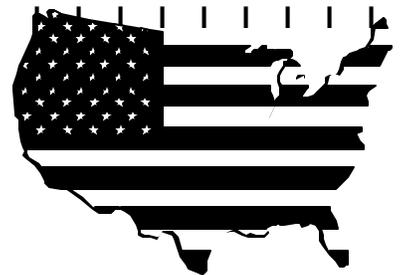
L Parents who desperately want their premature infants to survive incur millions of dollars in costs for intensive neonatal care. Meanwhile, at the friendly abortion clinic across town, unwanted babies *even more developed than these premies* are partially delivered and killed by late term abortions.

Fraudulent Fund-raisers

Minnesota Concerned Citizens for Life has exposed several groups that solicit money, primarily by phone, from pro-lifers but don't do any pro-life work: Elect Life, Pro-Life Campaign Committee, and Minnesota Life Committee. Many of these phone calls are made by the telemarketing organization Arizona Capital Communications.

Before you donate any money, particularly in response to phone calls from organizations you are not familiar with, always verify the legitimacy of the group, and never give a credit card number to a phone solicitor. To check on an organization, call us (671-5347), or you can email

infonet@prolifeinfo.org



God Bless America

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