



# MISSOURI RIGHT TO LIFE

*Transforming society to respect and protect all innocent human life.*

August 2009

## National Right to Life *Action Alert*

### Obama, Democratic Congressional Leaders Push “Health Care Reform” Bills That Mandate Abortion Funding and Nullify State Abortion Laws!

President Obama and top Democratic congressional leaders are pushing hard for quick enactment of massive “health care reform” legislation that, in its current form, “would result in the greatest expansion of abortion since *Roe v. Wade*,” according to an analysis by the National Right to Life Committee (NRLC).

The bills have already passed some legislative hurdles, but a final congressional showdown is likely to occur in September or October.

“These bills would result in federally mandated coverage of abortion by nearly all health plans, federally mandated recruitment of abortionists by local health networks, and nullification of many state abortion laws,” said NRLC Legislative Director Douglas Johnson. “They would also result in federal funding of abortion on a massive scale. The pro-life movement needs to go to Condition Red on these bills, because they pose a mortal threat to the unborn and they are on a fast track to enactment.”

The version of the bill moving in the U.S. House of Representatives is H.R. 3200. The Senate version did not yet have a bill number at newsletter deadline.

NRLC and other pro-life groups are lobbying to amend the legislation to prevent abortion mandates and abortion subsidies, or to defeat it. But President Obama is exerting pressure on lawmakers to support the legislation. The imposition of sweeping pro-abortion mandates as part of “health care reform” is currently the top priority of many

pro-abortion organizations, such as the Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA). These organizations are pushing for the abortion mandates both in public statements and in less visible lobbying efforts. In April, the president of PPFA said that her organization intends to use the health care legislation as a “platform” to guarantee access to abortion to “all women.” Likewise, the National Abortion Federation, an association of abortion providers, said, “NAF supports health

care reform as a way to increase access to comprehensive reproductive health care, including abortion care, for all women.”

On July 17, 2007, during Barack Obama’s campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination, he appeared before the annual conference of the Planned Parenthood Action Fund. Speaking of his plans for “health care reform,” Obama said, “in my mind, reproductive care is essential care, basic care, so it is at the center, the heart of the plan that I propose.” Under his plan, Obama explained, people could choose to keep their existing private health care plans, but “insurers are going to have to abide by the same rules in terms of providing comprehensive care, including reproductive care ... that’s going to be absolutely vital.”

NRLC is posting frequent updates on congressional developments on its website at [www.nrlc.org](http://www.nrlc.org), which also contains detailed documentation on the bills under consideration.

#### **What You Can Do Now**

Please take a few minutes to send messages to your U.S.

(continued next page)

**Missouri Right to Life Annual Membership Meeting**  
**Saturday, October 3rd 9:30 a.m. State Office Jefferson City, MO**



## THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW . . .

. . . **The Internal Revenue Service (IRS)** has told a non-profit coalition of pro-life groups in Iowa to promise that it would not organize protests at Planned Parenthood abortion facilities before it is granted tax exempt status.

Pro-life lawyers say the organization has steadily kept within the guidelines for non-profit religious, educational and charitable groups. However, several months after the group applied for tax-exempt status, an IRS agent contacted Coalition for Life Iowa president Sue Martinek to inquire as to whether the group engages in any "picketing" or protesting at Planned Parenthood, and questioned the group's prayer activity outside Planned Parenthood facilities.

Lawyers with the Thomas More Society say the agent asked Martinek "to have all Coalition Board members sign a statement that the Coalition will not 'picket' or 'protest' outside Planned Parenthood or similar organizations and will not 'organize' others to do so," and indicated that the IRS "would approve the Coalition's pending form 1023 application once such statement was submitted."

The Thomas More Society issued a statement Monday decrying the "prejudicial" questioning and announcing they would take the IRS to court if it fails to grant the group tax-exempt status, apparently solely based upon its religious affiliation and speech.

"The IRS' requests come perilously close to violating the First Amendment constitutional rights of the Coalition's supporters," said the Society.

The lawyers point out that many other organizations regularly advocate on both sides of these issues, and they have not been hindered in obtaining or maintaining tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3).

Warned Brejcha, "If the IRS can discriminate against one non-profit based on its beliefs and religious affiliation, then the IRS could regulate the speech of any other non-profit organization."

LifeSiteNews, 7/9/09

. . . **Preborn babies log memories** as early as 30 weeks of age, according to a *Los Angeles Times* report. Researchers in the Netherlands have found that, at 30 weeks, preborn babies have a memory of 10 minutes. At 34 weeks, they can remember events for four weeks.

The findings, which help explain central nervous system development, were published in the July/August issue of *Child Development*. The scientists studied about 100 healthy pregnant Dutch women, measuring changes in how their babies responded to repeated stimulation. After receiving a number of stimuli, the babies no longer responded to the stimulus. This change in response is called "habituation."

CitizenLink 7/15/09



### **Obama, Democratic Congressional Leaders Push . . . (cont.)**

senators and your representative in the U.S. House of Representatives to urge them to oppose any federal "health care reform" legislation that does not explicitly exclude abortion. Their contact information may be found at a link on the MRL home page at [missourilife.org](http://missourilife.org). Scroll down to the "Contact Lawmakers" box on left hand side of the page.

In addition, please TELEPHONE the offices of your two U.S. senators, give your name and address, and tell the senators' staff persons that you wish to be recorded as "opposed to Senator Kennedy's health care bill because it contains many pro-abortion mandates." The offices of any U.S. senator can be reached through 202-224-3121. Also, please TELEPHONE the office of your U.S. House member, give your name and address, and

inform the staff person that you wish to be recorded as "opposed to the House Democratic Leadership health care reform bill because it contains many pro-abortion mandates." You can reach any U.S. House member's office through 202-225-3121.

Also, please send short letters to the "letters to the editor" features of your local newspapers, in order to alert your fellow pro-life citizens to the sweeping pro-abortion mandates that the Obama White House and the pro-abortion lobby are trying to smuggle into law through "health care reform."

Missouri Right to Life  
P. O. Box 651  
Jefferson City Mo 65102  
573-635-5110 or [www.missourilife.org](http://www.missourilife.org)

# A Time To Build

As I was leaving church the other day, a friend said that I must have nothing to do since the Mo. legislative session has ended and it isn't an election year. For a brief moment, I fantasized about what it would be like to have nothing to do for MRL. I decided not to overwhelm my friend with my MRL "to do" list, but it made me think that others might also believe that there's not much going on right now when, in fact, this is a very busy time.

We have been very attentive to what's going on in Washington. President Obama is rapidly advancing his anti-life agenda. National Right to Life alerts us to issues of concern, and we respond with calls to legislators and e-blasts to members. Among those issues are these:

- \* Both the House and the Senate versions of "health care reform" legislation would mandate taxpayer-funded abortions. (See front page story)
- \* Pres. Obama's budget rescinds the ban on taxpayer funding of elective abortions in Washington, D.C. If enacted, the result will be tax funding of several thousand elective abortions including roughly 1,000 abortions annually that wouldn't have happened otherwise, according to NRLC's Douglas Johnson.
- \* Another concern about the proposed health care plans is that they are inadequately funded. According to Burke Balch, head of the medical ethics department at NRLC, this would result in rationing of health care and promotion of euthanasia and assisted suicide.
- \* Obama's pick for the Supreme Court, Judge Sotomayor, served for 12 years on the board of a Latino Legal Defense Fund that advocated for taxpayer funded abortions in any and all cases. Judge Sotomayor is said to have been involved and supported these actions.
- \* Obama suddenly disbanded the President's Council on Bioethics, signaling that he will appoint members who would more readily rubber stamp his intent to expand taxpayer funding of research that destroys human embryos.

This onslaught of anti-life measures requires our vigilance and commitment to keeping our members informed.

We are also busy winding up the last legislative session. The voting records of all legislators are posted on our website. The legislative article in this *MRL News* will give more information on

the reasons the pro-life bill failed to pass the Senate again this year.

MRL chapters across the state are planning their summer fundraisers, fair booths, and parade floats. These activities give us a great opportunities to raise community awareness, build membership, and distribute educational literature. Events are planned everywhere around the state - from the garage sales across the Northeast Region, to the parade in Washington, to the fair booth in Ozark County, and many, many more. Thanks to all the great folks who run these chapters and help with these events. You are truly the backbone of our organization.



Pam Fichter

Most importantly, this is the time to build and strengthen our network in preparation for the next legislative session and the next election cycle.

We encourage you to consider joining or starting a local chapter, or volunteering for a regional or state activity. Simply fill out the volunteer form below and return it in the envelope provided. I also encourage you to enclose a contribution to help with the cost of our work. Donations of any size are greatly appreciated. Hand in hand, we change the world!

I'd also like to encourage all of our chapters and members to plan to participate in the fall campaign of 40 Days for Life. As we said in our last *MRL News*, the spring campaign saved the lives of many unborn children. Plan to come to St. Louis sometime between September 23 and November 1 to pray at the largest abortion clinic in Missouri. People will be peacefully praying at Planned Parenthood, 4251 Forest Park Avenue, St. Louis *every day* from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

Finally, as we build our pro-life house, let's pray that we are always mindful of the ultimate source of all truth, all love, and all life. Pray that we always promote our cause peacefully and with genuine concern for not only mothers and their unborn children, but also for those who would end that new life.

***Except the Lord build the house,  
they labor in vain that build.***

*Ps. 127:1*

## **Yes, I'd like to volunteer to help Missouri Right to Life!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

- Join or start a chapter
- Volunteer at an MRL office
- Work on membership drives
- Work at a booth at a local event
- Work on an MRL fundraiser
- Make phone calls or distribute literature

Return to MO Right to Life, P. O. Box 651, Jefferson City MO 65102 or use the enclosed envelope.



# WHERE'S THE TRUTH?

Gerard Nieters, Legislative Director  
Susan Klein, Legislative Liaison

**T**ruth is an increasingly elusive concept in politics. This has never been truer than in some of the statements made by some legislators criticizing MRL for opposing the Senate substitute of the pro-life bill.

Let's recap. The House passed HB 46 & 434 on March 11 by a margin of 115 - 43. This legislation required that a woman be offered an ultrasound image of her unborn child, be informed as to the gestational age of her baby and the ability to feel pain, and made it illegal to coerce a woman to have an abortion. Every pro-life group in the Capitol supported this legislation and had worked on passing this or a similar bill for two years.

With two days left in the legislative session, the Senate took up and passed a substitute bill which largely gutted the coercion language out of the bill, repealed the current requirements for a physician consultation and a 24-hour reflection period, and exempted certain abortion clinics from some restrictions for a period of three years. MRL and all but one pro-life group opposed this substitute. While there was some good language left in the bill, MRL and others felt that by repealing the 24-hour reflection period (which was passed in 2003, sustained in an override of a Governor's veto, and ultimately upheld by the courts), the substitute bill gave away far too much to warrant our support. We also felt that this and the clinic exemptions in the substitute bill would lead to many more abortions in Missouri. To its great credit, the Missouri House refused to take up the Senate substitute by a vote of 117-40 and instead asked the Senate to pass the House bill. The Senate refused and the session ended without passing the bill.

To the average person, all of this political wrangling is difficult to understand. Why would a Senate with a majority of members who claim to be pro-life fail to take up and pass the House version of the bill? Why would they instead gut the bill and insert language that repealed existing law protecting mothers and their unborn babies?

The answer lies with the Senate leadership and their decision not to use the Parliamentary Rules at their disposal as the majority party. HB 46 & 434 was facing a certain filibuster by the pro-abortion contingent. Senate leadership could have brought up the bill earlier in the session and allowed the filibuster to exhaust itself, as it most likely would have. Instead, with few days left in the session, leadership had eliminated that choice.

The leadership had other options. One was to "call for the previous question," (PQ) which, if passed by a majority, ends all debate and forces the body to vote on the bill on the floor. While this procedure is allowed under Parliamentary law and routinely practiced in the House, the practice of the Senate has been to

avoid the PQ (although in 2007, the Senate PQ'd multiple times to pass the MOHELA bill and various appropriations bills as well as a pro-life bill).

Another option is to watch for an opportunity to end the filibuster, which happened on May 11 when pro-abortion senators were filibustering the original House bill. Surprisingly, the Senate leadership failed to take advantage of a lull in the debate that created an opening for them to end the filibuster and vote on the bill. A final option was to reach a compromise with the pro-abortion senators so that they would not filibuster the bill. The Senate leadership chose to compromise.

In the wake of this year's legislative session, various statements and letters have been issued greatly distorting the truth and attempting to deflect responsibility for failure to pass an effective pro-life bill. Hopefully, this explanation will clear up any misunderstanding that those distortions have caused. Voting records from the 2009 legislative session are available at [missourilife.org/legislation](http://missourilife.org/legislation).

Missouri Right to Life has worked since 1974 to pass legislation protecting innocent human life, earning the trust of many thousands of Missourians. We will continue those efforts and keep our members truthfully informed as to the actions of their elected representatives. As always, we are grateful to those legislators who share our commitment.

## *Prayer For Closing An Abortion Clinic*

*Father, all life is in your care,  
You have entrusted us to one another, that we may show  
our brothers and sisters the same love You have for us  
We pray, then, for the least among us, the children in the womb  
Protect them from the violence of abortion.*

*We pray for those that are scheduled to die,  
Save them from death.  
Give new hope to their parents, that they may turn away  
from the desperate act of abortion.*

*Grant conversion to the abortionist and to the staff,  
Show us how we are to respond to the bloodshed in our midst,  
and lead us to the day when this place of death  
will be transformed into a haven of life.*

*Guard us with your joy and your peace,*

*For in You, life is victorious*

*We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord*

*Amen*

*- Fr. Frank Parone, Priests for Life*

# THINE EYES:

## A WITNESS FOR THE MARCH FOR LIFE

Several Missouri Right to Life regions have hosted showings of “Thine Eyes,” a documentary on the annual March for Life. Kansas City, Warrensburg, and St. Louis have each hosted previews.

Producers Jack Cashill, Steve Sanborn and, Michael Wunsch have captured the spirit and commitment of those who witness for life in our nation’s capital. Participants in the Missouri Life Caravan are featured in the film along with students from Benedictine College. Actress Jennifer O’Neill narrates the film and speaks passionately about the pain of the abortion she had years ago.

According to the producers, their goal in filming “Thine Eyes” is to document what the media refuses to show: that there were over a quarter of a million participants in this year’s march; that those who march are led by faith and commitment to witness for the sanctity of human life; that they come from all walks of life, ethnicities, ages, and religions; and that they will be back every year as long as abortion is sanctioned by our courts. “Thine Eyes” will inspire groups who have gone or are considering going to Washington for the annual march. Copies are available at [www.thineeyes.org](http://www.thineeyes.org) or by calling Missouri Right to Life.



(Above) The Warrensburg preview of “Thine Eyes” was introduced by its producers who fielded many questions following the movie from a highly appreciative audience.



(Above) Marianne Burkemper staffs the table at the St. Louis showing where attendees purchase DVDs and sign donor cards to support “Thine Eyes.”



**The National Right to Life Convention** was held in Charlotte, NC, in late June. Pro-life champion Cong. Chris Smith gave the closing address at the Saturday evening banquet and delivered the bolt of lightening we all need once in awhile. In the words of NRLC’s Dave Andrusko, “You listen to him rail against the human rights violation that is abortion and it’s like imagining what you would say if you were stunningly eloquent, passionate, and driven by the need to save the unborn, both at home and abroad.”

Cong. Smith is shown above with MRL’s Jan Boyle (far left) and other convention attendees.

## Memorials

*In memory of or to honor a loved one or friend, these gifts were made to Missouri Right to Life.*

### *In Memory of:*

*Patricia Ann Dugan  
Suzanne Meador  
Donald Simpson*

### *Given by:*

*Jerry & Barbara Monteil  
Rita May  
Dorothy Archer*

### *In Honor of:*

*Paul & Judy Heaton  
Steve Schmitz*

### *Given by:*

*Ernest & Margaret  
Christanell  
Dorothy Archer*



*Missouri Right to Life encourages you to consider a gift in memory of or to honor a family member or a friend.*

## Chelsea Zimmerman

Chelsea Zimmerman has been on the front lines of the pro-life movement for several years. She is 26 years old and lives in Holts Summit, MO in the Midstate Region of Missouri Right to Life. She is the treasurer of the MRL State Board of Directors and also serves as treasurer of MRL-PAC.



Chelsea is paralyzed from the chest down from a spinal cord injury received in a car accident in 1999. As a disabled person, she has testified before both a Missouri State Senate committee and a Kansas House committee in favor of a ban on human cloning. She also campaigned tirelessly and was a plaintiff in the lawsuit against the amendment that now enshrines the right to clone and kill human embryos in our Missouri State Constitution.

The blog [www.reflectionsofaparalytic.com](http://www.reflectionsofaparalytic.com) is Chelsea's creation, and there she writes extensively on life issues. A visit to her blog will broaden any pro-lifer's knowledge of the vital concerns we face. At the right is one of her recent posts.

Thanks, Chelsea, for your important work to restore respect for the sanctity of human life!

*"Therefore, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and constraints, for the sake of Christ; for when I am weak, then I am strong."*  
2 Corinthians 12:10

## Good Science Can Be Used For Very Bad Things

by Chelsea Zimmerman

The good news: scientists have found a genetic variant that may be associated with autism. The bad news: good science can be used for very bad things, as Ari Ne'eman, who has Asperger Syndrome, explains in this *Newsweek* interview "Mary meets Dolly":

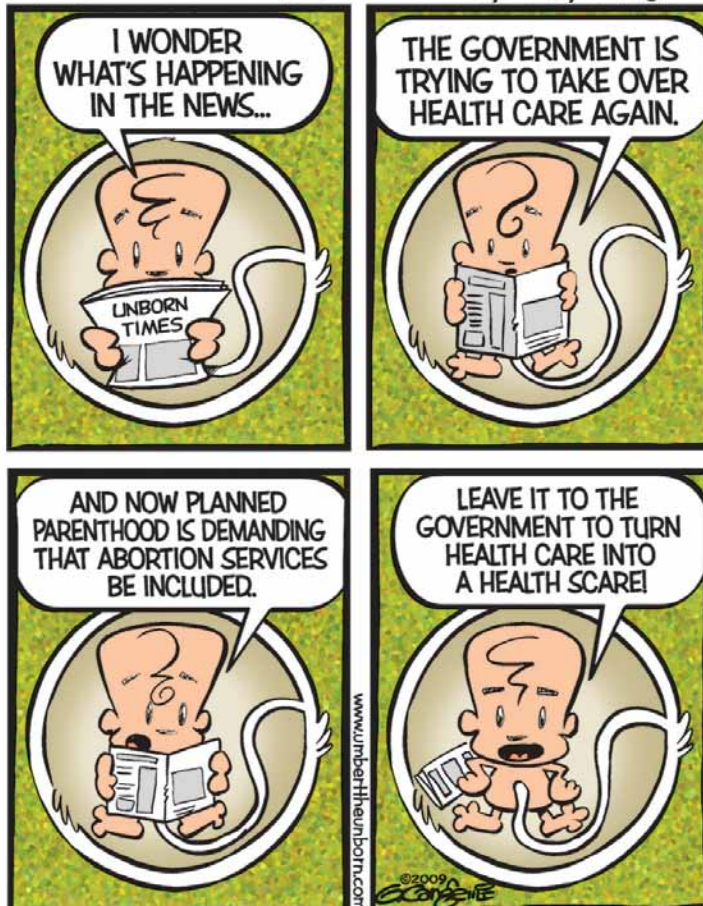
But the new genetic advances concern Ne'eman...His ultimate fear is this: a prenatal test for autism, leading to "eugenic elimination." If a test is developed one day, it will be used, he says. And that means people like him might cease to exist.

When I press Ne'eman on genetic research—doesn't it have some merit?—he says he doesn't oppose it outright, but he believes scientists must consider the ethical implications of their work far more carefully. Already couples are testing embryos for diseases like Huntington's, then choosing to implant only the healthy ones. And who can blame them? But autism isn't a fatal condition. Should people without the disorder be allowed to judge the quality of life of someone who has it? "That is a message that the world doesn't want us here," says Ne'eman, "and it devalues our lives."

Unfortunately this is a legitimate fear for anyone with a genetic disease or disability. Besides the IVF embryo screening mentioned above, couples are also opting to kill their unborn children who are prenatally diagnosed with these diseases in utero. Babies prenatally diagnosed with Down syndrome, for example, are aborted at a rate of nearly 90%. Some consider this progression and a twisted way of "curing" disease and eliminating suffering, but that is hardly the case. What it is instead is an evolutionary sort of "survival of the fittest" technique which seeks to weed out or eliminate *individuals* with certain genetic "abnormalities" rather than target the disease itself. Some people even go so far as to reject the unborn who carry only the *potential* for disease and not the disease itself.

Humanity's greatness is shown best in how we love and care for the weak and suffering members of our society. All abortion is equally abhorrent and offensive to humanity. It targets one segment of society, the unborn, and deems it worthy of life only at the behest of another segment. Eugenic abortion, however, goes one step further and takes a class of *born* citizens, the sick and disabled, and instead of saying to us, "we love you and want to look for ways to improve your health and the health of those who will be afflicted in the future," says, "your life is not worth living, you are a burden to yourself and society and you, and others like you, are better off dead."

## Umbert the Unborn by Gary Cangemi



# Why Can't We Wait?

by Karen Mitchell

We are only 40 years past the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964. This Act prohibited discrimination in public facilities, in government, and in employment, thus invalidating Jim Crow Laws and segregation.



Karen Mitchell

Although we have made tremendous strides, the struggle continues. In addition to the deplorable history of racism, terrorism, and segregation, we have the expansion of another oppression called eugenics. Eugenics by definition is the belief that one can improve the human race by the careful selection of parents -- producing good traits and weeding out bad ones. Therefore, society can eliminate those deemed of lesser value. Through the continued development of this idea we conclude with the concept of genocide, the extermination of a culture or racial group.

Since Roe vs. Wade, over 50 million children have died from abortion, and 14 million have been Black babies. Every day over 1400 Black babies die through abortion. One out of every three Black babies conceived dies from an abortion. For every 1000 live Black births, there are 489 abortions among Black women. The Black race in America is at a zero population growth rate. Why is this happening?

Planned Parenthood will tell you it is because Black women are having unintended and unwanted pregnancies. This is not the reason. It is because the Black Community has been targeted by Planned Parenthood. Margaret Sanger, who was the founder of Planned Parenthood and a member of the American Eugenics Society, set out to eliminate the Black race through her birth control movement. In 1939, she initiated the "Negro Project." The objective of this project was to infiltrate the Black community through the Black Church. Margaret Sanger said the best way to accomplish this would be to use the Black minister. Black ministers thought

that family planning would be of help to their congregations. One of Sanger's famous slogans was, "More children from the fit, less from the unfit." That is the chief aim of eugenics, to create a race of thoroughbreds. Sixty-two percent of all of Planned Parenthood clinics are located in the Black Community, and their agenda progressively grew to include not only contraception but sterilization and abortion. Thus the trend has resulted in alarming rates of promiscuity, sexually transmitted diseases, and abortion. What can be done?

I believe the pro-life movement is in a position to move forward by taking advantage of the times and this season in which we find ourselves. We are strategically positioned by being prepared, equipped, and qualified to fast forward. The following are some ideas and some proven methods. I realize that there is a contradictory philosophy going around which says that Blacks can only talk to Blacks; however, I disagree and know this is not true. The concept of the missionary allows us to explore new thoughts and ideas -- some as old as the bible itself. Jesus said "go into all the world and preach the gospel". We have the mandate! We have only to take action with the resources that are available and at hand.

- First, prayer is the key. Bring all our petitions unto Christ and He is willing to answer all of our requests according to His will, and we know it is His will to save children.
- Second, prepare a Black Americans for Life display, and secure literature that can be used at health fairs or any of the educational events that you attend. There does not have to be a Black person there to man the booth. Soon you may have a volunteer by just putting it up.
- Thirdly, include abstinence education materials. This is a very appealing concept for the Black Community because almost everyone realizes that there is a need to fight sexual immorality, and the pro-life message certainly correlates -- especially for the youth. Everyone can agree that the abstinence message builds self-esteem. Buttons such as "I am Worth Waiting For" can be purchased. Slogans like "I am a precious diamond," "I can be successful," etc.
- Next, make phone calls to churches.

They don't have to be threatening, just informative. For instance, use the "Did You Know?" tabloid by Human Life Alliance, make a friend and ask if you may call back at a future time. Take note of the call, update information, phone, address etc.

- Fifth, stay away from partisan politics! I think this is an era to be informative about the life movement and abortion. When studying the history of the Civil Rights Movement, you find that both sides of the political arena were involved in the debate. Keep the main thing the main thing.

There are pro-life offices across the state and the nation equipped with everything needed; let's make wise use of these facilities. Also, showcase the work previously done, where you have already had success within the Black Community, by having a celebration banquet or some other activity where the Community can be invited. Pro-lifers have accomplished a great many successes of which the community at large has no knowledge. They need to be recognized.

The answer to the question "Why We Can't



Wait," as Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. asked over 40 years ago, is because people are dying. We cannot wait. The pro-life movement must be seen as the compassionate movement that it is. It cannot be stuck in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. This destruction must be stopped.

A cultural shift is taking place and we must move with the culture. I believe God has given us the grace to accomplish the task at hand. Abortion is the leading cause of death in the Black community. There must be an aggressive voice to speak up, because not only are babies dying, but families are also being destroyed. A whole "people group" is in danger of complete annihilation.

*Karen Mitchell is president of Black Americans for Life-Kansas City Chapter and serves on the MO Right to Life-Western Region Board of Directors.*

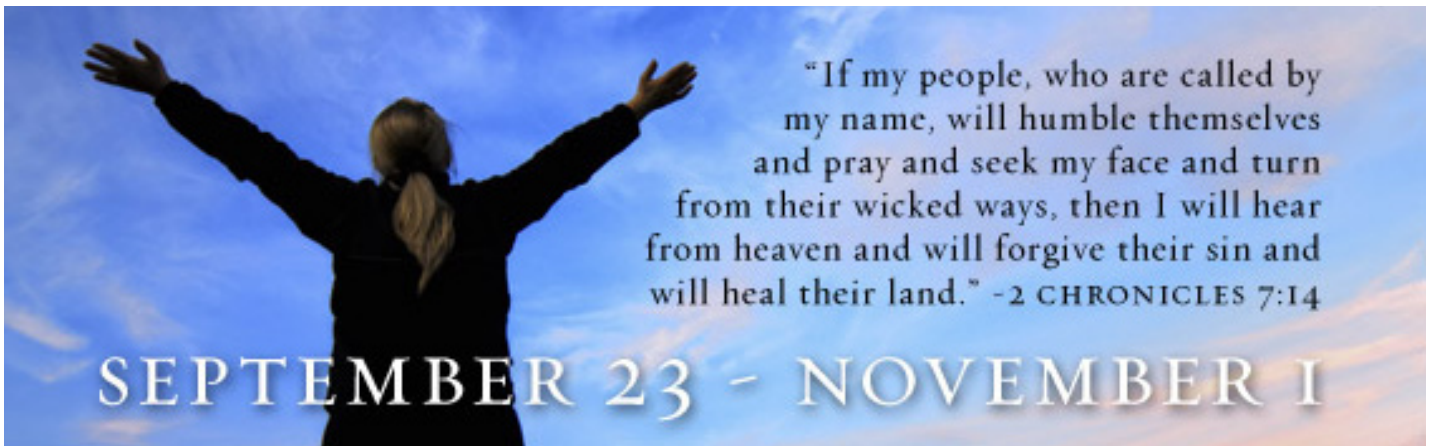


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## Inside -

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Why Can't We Wait?*
- *Umbert!*



## ***YOU* can help save lives!**

Each day from September 23 - November 1, St. Louis will be one of many cities from coast to coast joining together for the most dynamic coordinated pro-life mobilization in history!

## ***Fall 40 Days for Life Campaign!***

- 40 days of prayer and fasting
- 40 days of peaceful vigil
- 40 days of community outreach

We are praying that, with God's help, this ground breaking effort will mark the beginning of the end of abortion in St. Louis -- and throughout America.

**You can make a life-saving impact by joining the St. Louis vigil at:**

**Planned Parenthood [Forest Park] 4251 Forest Park Ave. St. Louis, MO 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.**