

DEFEND LIFE

Promoting the Culture of Life and Fighting the Culture of Death since 1987

CATHOLIC • PRO-LIFE • PRO-FAMILY Jan. - Feb. 2010, Vol. 21 No. 1, Circ. 4039

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Pa. pro-lifers score free speech win on appeal

Two Pennsylvania pro-lifers scored a precedent-setting legal victory for religious and free speech rights when a federal appeals court reversed a lower court, ruling in the pro-lifers' favor.

"It shocked me!" said veteran pro-life activist Ed Snell. "It always shocks you when you win anything."

In an opinion handed down in April, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit had annulled the U.S. District Court's dismissal of lawsuits brought by Snell and pro-lifer John McTernan, remanding the

companion cases back to the District Court for further proceedings.

At a December 22 settlement hearing in the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, a mediation judge awarded the pro-lifers approximately \$60,000.

Snell's and McTernan's lawsuits stemmed from incidents occurring over the years during their sidewalk counseling in front of the Planned Parenthood abortion clinic in York, Pa.

Controversy arose when the two men entered the alley between the clinic's parking lot and the clinic

building to talk to women going in for abortions.

Off-duty police officers hired by Planned Parenthood would issue ad hoc orders to the pro-lifers, regulating when and if they could step into the alley, despite the fact that it was a public street.

"The clients park in the lot and the [Planned Parenthood] 'escorts' take them across the alley; I only have a minute to hand them some literature and talk to them," explained Snell.

See APPEAL, page 2



Randall Terry talks to reporters in front of the Basilica of the Assumption on a tour asking bishops to deny Communion to pro-abortion politicians.

Tour asks bishops to deny Communion

Baltimore's Basilica of the Assumption was the kick-off stop on December 9 for a pro-life group's nine-state, five-day cathedral tour asking Catholic bishops to refuse Communion to congressmen who vote for health care reform that pays for abortions.

"We are begging them, as faithful Catholics, stop this scandal," In-surrecta Nex director Randall Terry told WJZ-TV in front of the basilica on Cathedral Street.

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APPEAL, from page 1

On November 3, 2004, after Snell had been walking into the alley to talk to clients, as usual, Sgt. Ronald Camacho warned him, "If you step out here again, I'm going to arrest you," said Snell.

"I had no choice," he recalled. "If I had capitulated, we would have been completely stopped from reaching the clients; our First Amendment rights would be violated."

When he stepped into the alley, Camacho handcuffed him and charged him with disorderly conduct. Snell was later found not guilty in District Court.

Tensions between McTernan and the off-duty officers escalated when, in June 2005, he recalled, "A high-speed car tried to run me over in the alley.

"That car was *flying*! He came within a whisker of hitting me and [pro-lifer] Rosie Gross."

Believing the driver's actions to be an intentional assault attempt, McTernan asked the off-duty officer present, Sgt. Richard Barth, to arrest him.

"I'm a citizen. Whether you like me being pro-life or not, if someone is trying to run me down with a car, he should be arrested," said McTernan.

"Sergeant Barth watched the whole thing, but he refused to do anything about it. He said no crime had been committed."

Three months later, when McTernan and Barth once again locked horns, other pro-lifers recorded the interchange on DVD.

Barth told McTernan, other protesters and Planned Parenthood escorts that they could not stand,

linger and "walk aimlessly" in the alley.

The officer also told McTernan that he could walk through the alley, but he had to do so "legally" in the "correct way," and could not "English-walk."

McTernan asked Barth to define these terms, but he refused. McTernan then walked up and down the alley, and asked the officer if his manner of walking was legal.

Barth told him it wasn't, and threatened to arrest him if he did so again. From then on, McTernan stayed away from the alley, keeping on the sidewalk in front of the clinic.

"The officers were over the top with McTernan," said Randy

'If I had capitulated, our First Amendment rights would be violated.'

Wenger, chief counsel for McTernan and Snell.

On the DVD, "The officer is playing with him. That's the kind of thing that goes on at abortion clinics," said Wenger.

Claiming that their rights of free speech and religious expression had been violated, McTernan and Snell filed separate suits in the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania against the City of York, Mayor John Brenner, Police Commissioner Mark Whitman, and Sergeants Barth and Camacho.

The DVD went to District Court as evidence.

Based on it and extensive deposition testimony, District Court Judge John E. Jones III granted summary

judgment (a decision without trial) to the defendants and dismissed the charges against them.

The two pro-lifers appealed his decision to the Third Circuit, where their cases were argued on October 23, 2008.

In an opinion written by Judge Marjorie Rendell (wife of Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell) for the three-judge panel, the court noted that "Summary judgment is only appropriate if there are no genuine issues of material fact."

"The court recognized that there were important religious liberties and speech rights at stake and determined that it was inappropriate for the trial court to dismiss the case in the defendants' favor without a trial," observed Wenger.

Speech in a "public forum" such as the public alley in question must be given maximum constitutional protection, said the court.

Any restrictions on it must meet a three-pronged test. They must:

1. be content-neutral (not placed because of the subject matter) and generally applicable
2. be narrowly tailored to serve an important governmental interest, and
3. leave open ample alternatives for communication.

The District Court had rejected McTernan's contention that he was targeted because of Barth's hostility to his Christian beliefs.

The Third Circuit Court also found no evidence that Barth was motivated by hostility to the Christian beliefs that motivated McTernan's pro-life views and actions.

But it found enough discrepancy between Sergeant Barth's treatment of him and his treatment of

the Planned Parenthood escorts to remand the issue to District Court.

As for Snell, the Court said, "There is uncontroverted evidence that Snell was treated differently than others using the alley, namely Planned Parenthood escorts and patients."

The appeals court was also unimpressed by Sergeant Barth's claim that he had restricted McTernan's movements on grounds of traffic safety, noting that the officer cited the controversial incident in which the pro-lifer was nearly struck by a speeding car.

A more "narrowly tailored" means of achieving public safety would be for Barth to direct traffic, said the court.

Speech restrictions given orally by police are especially open to arbitrariness and unreasonable enforcement, and thus demand more strict scrutiny, the court noted.

"The restrictions imposed on

the protesters varied greatly. Each officer assigned to the Clinic restricted access to the alley in a different manner: Officer Barth ostensibly prohibited Planned Parenthood personnel from standing, lingering, or walking aimlessly through the alley; Officer Camacho barred protesters completely from the alley, but granted Clinic personnel unfettered access to it."

The court also remanded the issue of whether Sergeant Camacho's arrest of Snell was unlawful.

"The Third Circuit opinions were excellent," said Wenger.

"The judges dealt seriously with the free exercise of religion and breathed new life into constitutional rights that the courts have often brushed aside.

"The judges also gave special protection to speech because of the ad hoc nature of the police officers' restrictions.

"That, too, is precedent-setting

and will be an excellent help in the kinds of cases we routinely deal with. This precedent is extremely valuable."

Wenger founded the Independence Law Center, a ministry of the Pennsylvania Family Institute, to give pro bono assistance in cases involving constitutional rights like those in the Snell and McTernan cases.

The Alliance Defense Fund and attorney Dennis Boyle were also involved in their cases.

Snell and McTernan have moved their sidewalk counseling to an abortion clinic in Harrisburg and no longer counsel at the York Planned Parenthood.

"They don't do abortions at York any more; they have to refer their clients, because their abortionist quit," Snell explained.

"We were there for nine years. It's paid off," he reflected. "It didn't seem like it would at times."

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TOUR, from page 1

Terry dubbed the tour “Deaf at the Cathedral” because, he said, “With a handful of exceptions, the United States bishops refuse to enforce the teachings of the Church in regards to the defense of the babies from murder, and the protection of the Holy Eucharist from being profaned and scandalized.”

As support, he cited Canon 915 calling for the denial of Communion to those who persist in obstinate and public grave sin, as well as then-Cardinal Ratzinger’s instructions to U.S. bishops to withhold Communion from pro-abortion politicians.

He also referred to Archbishop Raymond Burke’s instruction, “The Discipline Regarding the Denial of Holy Communion to Those Obstinate Persevering in Manifest Grave Sin.”

“Can any thinking person be-

lieve that God approves of the silence and cowardice of most American bishops in this battle?” said Terry.

“A lot of Catholics don’t want to be seen as telling the bishops what to do,” acknowledged Andrew Beacham, one of three Insurrecta Nex staffers who formed the core group for the tour.

“But it’s really an act of charity to hold them to account,” as well as to admonish the pro-abortion-voting Catholic politicians, he said.

At each of 13 cathedrals or basilicas in the Northeastern U.S., the pro-lifers recited the rosary, then hand-carried a letter to the local bishop, asking him to publicly state that he would refuse Communion to any Senate or House member who votes for health care reform that funds abortion.

Although they did not get a personal reply from any of the bishops,

“We got a warm welcome, generally, from their staff. I think it was positive,” said Beacham.

Local pro-lifers joined them at some stops. Defend Life Director Jack Ames and others took part in the Baltimore protest, and 15 to 20 local pro-lifers joined the protest at St. Patrick’s Cathedral in Harrisburg.

Press coverage throughout the tour was heavy.

“We had four TV cameras at one stop, plus talk radio stations in Harrisburg and Philadelphia, and newspaper reporters and AP coverage at several stops,” said core protester Diana Roccograndi.

Because of the wide press coverage, “Hundreds of thousands of people were reached that wouldn’t have known about this issue otherwise,” said Beacham.

“We also held the politicians responsible in a new way,” he said.

The pro-lifers gave reporters a list of the pro-abortion Catholic congressmen in the diocese they were visiting.

“The reporters then went to these politicians and asked for their response,” he explained.

At Baltimore’s basilica, core protester Gary Boisclair held a sign reading, “Refuse Baby-Killers like Mikulski Communion.”

Maryland’s long-time, Catholic U.S. Senator Barbara Mikulski has a consistent pro-abortion voting record and voted for the Senate health care reform bill, which includes taxpayer funding of abortions, but she has never been publicly admonished or denied Communion by a bishop.

A spokesman for the Archdiocese of Baltimore told WJZ-TV that Archbishop Edwin O’Brien had no public comment on Insurrecta Nex’s call to deny Communion.



Demonstrating in front of Baltimore’s basilica are (from left) Gary Boisclair, Defend Life Director Jack Ames, Joseph Landry, Randall Terry and Albert Stecklein.

Forswear Hamlet's gloom, Scheidler tells pro-lifers

Pro-lifers should not be like Hamlet, says Joe Scheidler.

"Hamlet was in a mess," the Pro-Life Action League director told his audience at a Defend Life-sponsored talk in Silver Spring January 10.

The prince of Denmark finds out that his father was murdered by his uncle so he could marry Hamlet's mother.

His girlfriend Ophelia goes mad and drowns herself. He accidentally kills her father. And other sundry problems.

So Hamlet cries, "The time is out of joint. O cursed spite, that ever I was born to set it right."

"But his problems were small compared to ours," said Scheidler: "Our times are really out of joint!"

"I wake up every morning, and you do too, into a nightmare. We have a leadership in this country that I don't know if we can survive. We have a society that is falling apart."

The Church, as well, has been "out of joint" for a long time, he asserted.

"We have Notre Dame giving Barack Obama an honorary law degree, when his law doesn't agree with our law at all.

"When I went to Notre Dame, they were teaching Catholic doctrine, Thomistic theology. They were teaching that there's such a thing as truth, and not that everything is an opinion.

"Then they started listening to the 'brilliant' theologians of the time and letting them take over the Church, and we're in a mess. People don't know how to find the truth.

"Our kids are so mixed up; we have an enormous battle on our

hands."

We have been born into a time of confusion, misrepresentation and lies, said Scheidler.

"For the Supreme Court to come up with a ruling that you can kill innocent human beings is not only nonsense and insane, it is diabolical."

But instead of cursing our plight, like Hamlet, we should say "Blessed plight," that we have been



God has chosen each one of us by name to fight for life, says Joe Scheidler.

born into such a time, he declared.

"God chooses people for each era that the Church has to struggle through, and He chooses each one of us by name.

"Our commander-in-chief, Jesus Christ, is the Creator of the universe, and He is the one who leads us. There is a great, great victory awaiting the people in the universe, and we are a living part of that victory."

Scheidler noted that he has seen some "strange things" recently.

After abortionist George Til-

ler was murdered, a reporter asked fellow late-term abortionist Leroy Carhart, "Do you think you have a chance to save your soul?"

"Imagine that coming from a secular journalist!" said Scheidler. "And Carhart said, not jokingly, 'It doesn't look good.'" He's *thinking*."

Scheidler also recalled that in a recent Disney version of *A Christmas Carol*, "Scrooge is afraid, not just of dying, as in Dickens' original story, but of losing his soul."

When he is shown a vision of Christmas Future, "He sees his casket – and then the lid flies off and fire comes out; there is a fear of going to hell."

This fear is in all of us because we are all made of intellect and will, said Scheidler; that's how we are like God. Our will is not happy, not settled, unless it is seeking good, and our intellect is not happy without the truth.

We can only do evil if we disguise it as good.

"These people that are co-habiting, women on the pill, having abortions, assisted suicide: all of these things must be disguised as good, or we can't do them."

Our job must be to take out the truth to a world that is starving to death for the truth and for goodness.

"We're going to pay a price. We're going to suffer. We will be disliked by many people."

And we have to love our enemy, because God loves them.

"God loves the abortionists. That's tough. It's hard for me to love some of these guys – I want to punch them. So I have to watch myself."

See SCHEIDLER, page 15

Let's lose friends but win the war, says Terry

In 1937 Dale Carnegie wrote a book that remains a big seller to this day: *How to Win Friends and Influence People*.

If Randall Terry were to do a rewrite, he would probably call it *How to Lose Friends but Still Influence People*.

Winning friends and popularity contests is the last thing the long-time pro-life activist's mind.

What Terry *is* worried about is that pro-lifers are losing the battle to end abortion, he explained at a Defend Life-sponsored talk at Rosensteel Knights of Columbus Hall in Silver Spring January 15.

"We are losing by any definition in a time of war: there are 50 million dead by surgical child-killing," said the Insurrecta Nex director.

We've gone so far off the path that 55 percent of Catholics voted for a pro-abortion President who even supported killing a child after it was born in a failed abortion, he noted.

"I know that there are little pockets of victory, and we have to thank God for them – waiting periods, notification of parents, and so forth – but this will not end child-killing."

Given the current trajectory, he asserted, "If we don't do something, we're in deep trouble. We'll have child-killing for another 40 years, with another 100 million dead and no end in sight."

"Many pro-life groups have lost sight of what we're after. We are not here to educate: we're here to crush child-killing underfoot, to see it on the ash heap of history," he declared.

To do this, we must look at how other social revolutions achieved victory.



If we don't have people who hate us, we're not doing something right, Randall Terry declares.

Because of them, "Today, all women can vote, no one can be owned as a slave, child labor is over, segregation is ended."

Just as total victories were had in all these social movements, we must aim for total victory as well, he said.

Our final fruit is going to be the total protection by law of human life from conception to birth.

"Ladies, the reason you can vote is because women went to jail and were dragged around on the streets; women called men tyrants and slave masters."

We need to emulate these activist techniques, he said. There must be actions that are equal to the crime.

But instead, "We have decided that we have to play by the rules of the enemy, and still think that we're going to win."

So we use the word "abortion" – "the word of our enemy, used to lull people to sleep" – instead of harsher terms like "child-killing" or "child-slaying."

"If you use these terms, you will

alienate people and that's okay," said Terry.

Yet many pro-life organizations seem to be going in the other direction, he noted.

"You may have heard of the Stop the Abortion Mandate. If you look at their website, they almost never say the word 'baby.'"

"They never say 'murder' or 'slaughter of the innocents.' If you fell from another planet, you wouldn't know what they were talking about."

"They're rejecting the tools of victory of social revolutions. We need instead to start talking like the prophets and saints."

The greatest breath of fresh air in the pro-life movement recently is 40 Days for Life, said Terry. It has brought people into the streets to pray in front of abortion mills.

"But they have walked into a snare that they have got to get out of: they make leaders sign agreements that they won't show pictures of the dead babies. They do it because they don't want to offend other pro-lifers!"

Getting arrested for showing pictures of aborted babies is one of the right things to do, said Terry.

"Jack [Ames, Defend Life's director] has been taking the heat for decades – he and his 'henchman,' Albert [Stecklein] – getting arrested for showing those signs."

Imagine opposing the Holocaust without showing the pictures of dead Jews, he said.

"What's the central icon of the Catholic faith? The crucifix! We are not iconoclasts: we believe in images, and we must show the images of dead children."

Computers are not bad in themselves, but something insidious is

going on with them in the pro-life movement, said Terry.

"They have these petitions and these crazy gimmicks to get people's email addresses. Why? Money. Then they can send you a fund-raising letter."

Terry cited a pro-life group online that promotes a "virtual march" in lieu of actually coming to the Annual March for Life on January 22.

"If you can't come to D.C., don't worry – pick an avatar of yourself and put it on the screen and you can be on the virtual march."

So much of the pro-life movement has degenerated into people sitting in front of their computers and writing letters in cyberspace, he charged.

"We have to get out of the ghetto of the computer, sending emails back and forth to each other, and get out in the streets."

Instead of a "virtual march" in cyberspace, leaders should show pro-lifers who can't make it to the January 22 march in Washington how to hold a real march in their local community.

"If you do that on January 22, you'll get press coverage," he predicted; "do something newsworthy."

Elected officials don't read their emails, but they read the newspapers, he explained.

As an example of a "newsworthy" event, Terry recalled a demonstration he led at an August town hall meeting on the health care bill in Virginia featuring Howard Dean.

"There were 3,000 people, screaming and yelling even before the meeting began. When Dean got up to speak, I stood up on a chair."

He and a dozen supporters shouted in unison, "We won't pay for murder!"

"Dean never spoke. We shut the

meeting down," he said.

"I hold no illusion that us screaming at Howard Dean will end child-killing," he cautioned.

"But I also know that child-killing will never be ended *without* screaming at Howard Dean."

The greatest problem that we have is the fear of the loss of reputation, said Terry.

"Our natural inclination is to shy away from things that will cause people to hate us, to revile us, to falsely accuse us," he acknowledged.

"People *will* revile you, and it's not pleasant. But if we can integrate it with our relationship with Christ, then something inside us changes."

'Our natural inclination is to shy away from things that will cause people to hate us.'

He reminded his listeners that Christ said, "Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

If we don't have people who hate us, we're not doing something right, he maintained.

"The plague on the Church right now is sins of omission – the things I have failed to do, the things I have failed to say."

Terry warned also that activists must expect opposition from within the pro-life ranks.

"The tragedy is, we're going to have to take hits from our enemies in the front, but we'll also have to take arrows in the back from our friends: "You're too radical, you won't compromise, we just want a

place at the table, we've got to moderate our message."

He reminded his audience that National Right to Life has worked against personhood amendments, arguing that it was not the right time and they would only add to the body of law supporting *Roe v. Wade*; that instead, we need to educate.

"You want to educate? Have a personhood amendment on your state ballot. You will get so much free press – you will be able to educate people so much!" said Terry.

He also warned against supporting "moderate" Republicans, such as the Republican candidate for Ted Kennedy's seat in Massachusetts.

"Scott Brown is a baby-killer; he supports *Roe v. Wade*," said Terry.

"Remember the Republican Revolution of 1994? What did we get out of it? Planned Parenthood is still funded by the hundreds of millions every year."

The Republican Party has used the pro-life message "to seduce us, like whores," he charged.

"Right now, Newt Gingrich and Dick Armey are co-opting the entire tea party movement. They're going to feed us a bunch of deceitful, baby-killing 'moderates.'"

Instead, we should work to elect third party candidates, "and the Republican Party be damned if it continues to think we will be their mistresses."

These are hard words to hear, and an even harder path to walk, he acknowledged.

But, he added, "The playbook for victory is laid out in the blood, tears and lacerated flesh and sacrifices of the men and women who made this country what it is, and what we are losing right before our eyes – namely, a nation under God where life, liberty and truth are the anchor and foundation."



DEFEND LIFE

*Proclaiming the Culture of Life and
Fighting the Culture of Death since 1987*

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*Feast of Saint Valentine
February 14, 2010 Anno Domini*

Dear Friend of Defend Life,

Thanks to all those who gave so generously to our Christmas Matching Grant campaign. Because of you, we met and slightly exceeded our goal. Thanks to you, we can proceed full speed ahead in 2010.

As usual, there is much to talk about. This year's January 22 March for Life was clearly the largest ever. I say that every year, but it is absolutely true. Here are some reasons.

- Marchers had already arrived at the Supreme Court (end of the March) while Marchers were still on the mall waiting to get onto Constitution Avenue to begin marching.
- The marchers were so dense on Constitution Avenue that they overflowed onto the sidewalks.
- The March lasted until 4:30 PM, one more indication that it was the largest longest March ever.



FREE THE NOTRE DAME 88

Thanks to Dr. Monica Miller of Madonna University and Citizens for a Pro-Life Society, we displayed 5 huge 2-sided banners that were seen everywhere at the March for Life. These banners implore **Father John Jenkins**, President of Notre Dame, to use his influence to have the trespassing charges dropped against all 88 who were arrested last May at Notre Dame protesting Obama's appearance there. We now face trial if these charges are not dropped. We also passed out **10,000** flyers urging marchers to contact Father Jenkins. You see, it was Father Jenkins who had full knowledge of our protests and clearly authorized our arrests.



Father Jenkins is now re-inventing himself as a Pro-Lifer. He came to this year's March for Life to be with Notre Dame students and alumni. We pray his conversion is genuine. He could do this by using his influence to have all charges dropped. He would be instantly revered by **PRO-LIFERS** if he did so. Please take 5 minutes to contact Father Jenkins and ask him to use his enormous influence to drop all charges. Please write Fr. John Jenkins, CSC, University of Notre Dame, 400 Main Building, Notre Dame, Indiana 46556, or call him **574-731-3903**, fax him **574-631-2770**, or e-mail him **President@nd.edu**. He has the clout to do so.

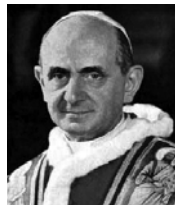


He definitely has that clout. To use a Maryland analogy, it would be similar to the **President of Johns Hopkins**, Maryland's largest employer, calling up the **Governor of Maryland** to ask a favor. You can be sure that his call would go right through and that the Governor would do somersaults in response to any reasonable request.

For more information on this whole affair, visit these 3 informative websites: **FreeTheND88.Org**, **ProLifeSociety.Com** or **ProLifeAction.Org**.

MARCH LECTURE TOUR – E. MICHAEL JONES

Speaking of Notre Dame, our guest speaker on March 18 and 19 will be **E. Michael Jones** who will speak on **How the Late Great Notre Dame Went South!** He will be speaking at **Avalon School** in Gaithersburg, Maryland, on Thursday evening, March 18 and **St. Bartholomew's** in Manchester, Maryland, on Friday evening, March 19. Based on his research at the Rockefeller Archives in Tarrytown, New York, **the sellout of Notre Dame goes way back to 1964** when John D. Rockefeller III (Nelson's brother) visited **Pope Paul VI** in Rome. This meeting was arranged by none other than **Father Theodore Hesburg, CSC**, then President of Notre Dame, who accompanied Rockefeller. At the meeting, Rockefeller offered to write



Humanae Vitae for Paul VI. **Talk about chutzpah!** To hear the whole story, come and hear E. Michael Jones on March 18 or 19. If you can't make it, request a free CD, CDs@DefendLife.Org.

APRIL LECTURE TOUR - PAUL SCHENCK



On April 15 and 16, the amazing **Paul Schenck** will speak. He will speak on Thursday, April 15 at **St. Mary's** in Hagerstown, Maryland. On Friday, April 16, he will speak at **St. Francis Xavier** in Hunt Valley, Maryland. If you haven't heard Paul Schenck, you are in for a treat. **Late Flash: by special permission of Benedict XVI, Paul Schenck, the father of 9, will be ordained a Roman Catholic Priest in June!**



BRING A GREAT SPEAKER TO YOUR PARISH



All our **DEFEND LIFE** speakers are outstanding just like the ones mentioned above. We will be announcing our September through November speakers very shortly. I guarantee they will all be **blockbusters**. Remember our speakers are **ABSOLUTELY FREE** and they are available on a **FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED** basis, with the exception that we favor parishes who have never before hosted one of our speakers or who have not hosted one for at least two years. To go the top of next fall's list, contact **Daria** at **443-830-0408**, Daria@DefendLife.Org. Don't delay! Several parishes who wanted our current speakers were disappointed because they waited too long! So consider hosting one of our speakers soon. It's a great way to spur more **PRO-LIFE** activity at your parish!

1200 REGISTER FOR STUDENTS FOR LIFE CONFERENCE

The annual Students for Life Convention was held on Saturday, January 23 on the Catholic University campus. It was by far the largest turnout ever, almost twice as many registered for this conference as last year's. **Kristen Hawkins**, its director, is doing a great job of stimulating **PRO-LIFE** activity on the college campuses of America.

Loyola University of Chicago was chosen as the most outstanding college Pro-Life group in America. Sadly, not a single student from Loyola College of Maryland made the long trip from Baltimore to Washington for this outstanding conference. One of the keynote speakers was **Phyllis Schaflly**, age 85 the founder of Eagle Forum. Phyllis, whose accomplishments are legendary, **wowed** her young audience. She was accompanied by her son, Andy Schaflly. Phyllis Schaflly is a true American hero. In my mind, she is **our greatest living American**, male or female. Visit her website at **Eagle-Forum.Org**.



MONSIGNOR DENNIS TINDER – RIP



Monsignor Dennis Tinder, Pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Towson, Maryland, went on to his eternal reward at age of 67 on December 4. He died from Lou Gehrig's Disease. Thanks to Marci Towle and Monsignor Tinder, we have had numerous **DEFEND LIFE** lectures at **The Immaculate** as this beautiful church is often called. Monsignor Tinder even donated to us with his own personal funds. My most poignant memory of Monsignor Tinder goes back several summers. We were supposed to have morning **Mass** for the Core Team of our



Truth Tour at Immaculate. Due to a miscommunication, **Father Peter West of Priests for Life**, who was supposed to say this Mass, had already departed for Staten Island. So we had no Priest! **NO PRIEST – NO MASS!** As several of us walked over to the Rectory in search of a Priest, we spied Monsignor Tinder working in his beloved garden behind the Perpetual Adoration Chapel. It was his day off and he had on his gardening clothes. We asked him if he could say Mass and he graciously volunteered to do so. Five minutes later, he had vested over his gardening clothes to save time and was joyfully celebrating the **Holy Sacrifice of the Mass** for us.

And thanks for all you do to save innocent pre-born babies from death and destruction by **ABORTION!**

Long Live Christ Our King!

Jack Ames
Jack Ames, Director

Enclosure

Book Review

Sarah Palin talks back in *Going Rogue*

By Diane Levero

All politicians are, by nature, constrained in what they have to say, because every time they get specific, they know they are going to lose votes from one side or the other.

So they purposely speak in platitudes. They talk a lot about “freedom” and “the American people” and “making a difference.”

And when a politician writes her autobiography, she will understandably highlight all the good parts and gloss over or omit the less flattering stuff.

These points being conceded, learning what Sarah Palin – arguably the most loved and most hated lightning rod of a political figure in America today – has to say about herself still has its attractions.

Going Rogue: An American Life covers all the bases: her childhood, her family, her political career in Alaska, her electrifying and ultra-controversial run for vice-president, her resignation as governor, her political principles.

Rather than try to summarize these, I’ll highlight a few things in the book that made me go “Hmmm.”

• **Palin really does love her home state.**

She spends a *lot* of time bragging about its considerable beauties, its vastness and its uniqueness, and I don’t think she’s faking it.

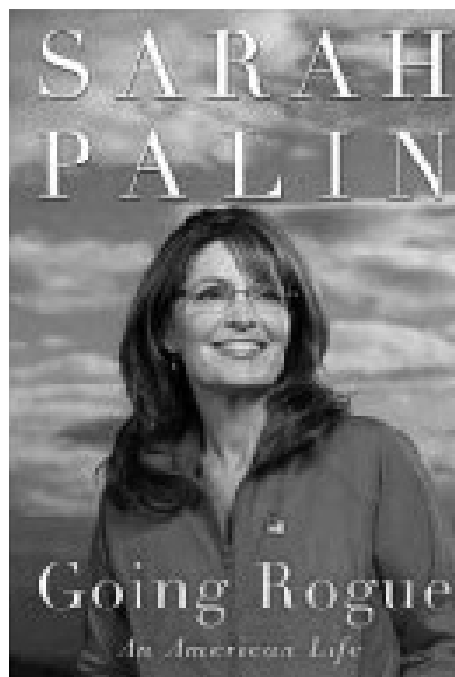
She, along with the other Alaskans in the nation’s largest (but sparsely populated) state, lives very close to nature.

The mainstream media fell over one another making fun of her hunting moose and caribou – how gauche!

But she makes it clear that she was just doing what everybody else does in Alaska – hunting for food for the table and the freezer.

• **She has middle-class roots and a middle-class outlook. It’s not a show.**

Her dad was a schoolteacher.



She went to public schools and worked her way through college (it took longer that way).

During college and after, she held all kinds of jobs – waitress, messy seafood-processor (working on “slime-lines”), customer service at an Anchorage electric utility, intern at TV sports desks (she majored in journalism at the University of Idaho and planned to be a sports writer).

As a wife and mom, she did typical wife and mom things: helped her husband with his commercial fishing (picking salmon from the nets), joined the PTA, was team manager

for her son Track’s hockey team.

• **Her husband Todd is his own man.**

The more I learned about Todd, the more I liked him.

Todd, who is part Yupik Eskimo, grew up in a hardworking family and at an early age was a commercial fisherman, “drifting” for red salmon on Bristol Bay (guess where their oldest daughter got her name!).

By the time he met Sarah, when he was 16, Todd’s enterprise had already earned him a 1972 Ford Mustang and a Ford F-150 long-bed pickup that he used to haul a pair of Polaris snowmachines.

After they married, he got a full-time job with British Petroleum as a “sloper,” working on the North Slope oil fields.

He worked himself up to production operator, continuing to do commercial fishing during fishing season.

He’s a four-time champion of the Iron Dog race, the world’s longest and toughest snowmachine race – 2,200 miles across Alaska in February, in minus 60-degree temperatures.

When Sarah, pregnant at 43 with their fifth child, told Todd the baby had Down syndrome, she asked if he had the same question she had: “Why us?” she recalled.

“He looked genuinely surprised by this question and responded calmly, ‘Why *not* us?’”

Guys like him are the salt of the earth.

• **Sarah has had loads more executive and administrative experience than certain well-known “community organiz-**

ers” had before seeking high office.

After four years on the City Council of her small hometown of Wasilla, she decided to run for mayor rather than another term on the City Council, because, she observes pithily, “As every Iditarod musher knows, if you’re not the lead dog, the view never changes.”

While mayor, she served as president of the Alaska Conference of Mayors.

Later appointed by the governor as chairman of the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, she resigned the post in protest after she was unable to do anything about a corrupt commissioner.

Elected governor in 2006, she began immediately to work on getting a 3,000-mile natural gas pipeline built from the North Slope to the “Lower 48,” as they call us in Alaska.

The pipeline project, which would be the largest private sector energy project in North American history, had been envisioned for decades but never realized.

Her administration crafted the Alaska Gasline Inducement Act to regulate the building of the pipeline.

To build support for the project, Palin did interviews with Neil Cavuto, Glenn Beck, the *Wall Street Journal*, *Time*, the AP, *Investor’s Business Daily* and *Forbes*.

“Perhaps that was why I was so shocked during the VP campaign when Katie Couric wondered which newspapers and magazines I read,” she observes drily.

In August 2008 the license for the pipeline was awarded to Trans-Canada-Alaska.

As governor, she also fought legislators to cut the budget, pushed a strong ethics reform bill, established an agency to make sure oil compa-

nies maintained pipelines properly to prevent oil leaks and spills, and worked to get fair treatment from the oil companies for Alaska (the state constitution stipulates that the citizens own Alaska’s natural resources).

• Politics ain’t beanbag.

I can’t recall any other political figure who has received such vicious and sustained attacks from political opponents and the liberal media. They have gone after Palin and her family members with unbelievable venom.

Why? Probably a combination of hatred for her conservative principles, most especially her walk-the-walk stance against abortion;

It became obvious that Couric was out to get a ‘gotcha’ moment and edit out the good stuff.

elitist contempt for her middle-class background; and gut-level fear when they see the enthusiastic crowds she attracts.

And some of the vitriol from the female rottweilers is simply snarky jealousy of a very pretty woman.

But not all the attacks have come from the liberal side. Some McCain campaign staffers, apparently not on board with McCain’s pick for VP, seemed to be working at cross-purposes with her.

Case in point: the Katie Couric interview on CBS News. Palin says that staffer Nicole Wallace seemed to push for the interview more for her friend Couric’s sake than for any benefit for Palin, even after it became obvious that Couric was out to get a “gotcha” moment on tape and edit out the good stuff.

By October 2008, when McCain’s poll numbers began to tank, certain McCain campaign operatives seemed bent on destroying Palin’s reputation to save their own by leaking anonymous stories to the press, which reported them unquestioningly.

Over the 10 months after the presidential election, Freedom of Information Act requests by the hundreds and scores of baseless ethics complaints and lawsuits filed against her by opponents “brought the business of governing the State of Alaska to a grinding halt,” says Palin.

Every ethics charge against her was eventually dismissed.

But her bills for her legal defense – which she herself had to pay – had grown to more than \$500,000, more than her total salary for her entire time as governor.

For these reasons, she explains, she resigned as governor in 2009.

Palin seems genuine as she discusses her conservative principles.

She maintains, for example, “It takes more courage for a politician to step back and let the free market correct itself than it does to push through quick fixes.”

But her approval of American intervention overseas “to protect our freedoms and to nurture freedom for others” strikes me as not only overly simplistic but seriously misguided.

Palin frequently cites Ronald Reagan.

“I think of Reagan in 1976,” she muses, “when his conservative politics and his political future were all but dead.

“How did he turn things around in four years? By speaking to ordinary Americans about the things that bind us together.”

Does she have something like that in mind for herself?

Probably.

Being a good dad: advice from an astute observer

When babies are first born, their mother is the universe, the source of everything to them.

"Meanwhile, there is this deep-voiced giant that is a kind of satellite around the universe of the baby and his mother," notes James Stenson.

"The mother introduces the child to the father: 'He looks scary, but he is really nice,' she explains."

Indeed, Dad is startlingly different than Mom. Mom is soft, Dad is hard. Mom's skin is smooth, Dad's face is like sandpaper. Mom smells nice, Dad just smells. And he has this deep, scary voice.

"Yet, when the child looks in his father's eyes, he sees the same thing that is in his mother's eyes: love and devotion," says Stenson.

Though not a dad himself, Stenson has some strong opinions about what makes a successful father.

He gleaned them during his involvement with two Opus Dei-run schools for boys which he helped found: The Heights School in Washington, D.C., and Northridge Preparatory School in Chicago (he was headmaster at Northridge for 12 years).

At the schools, he made it a point to know hundreds of families intimately and study their family lives up close.

The boys who were more mature and able to exercise self-control and the virtues had an exceptionally good relationship with their fathers, he learned.

In contrast, he found that boys who had problems at school had very little knowledge about their father and didn't respect him.

"The father seems to have a critical role," Stenson observes.

While both parents bring strengths, he says, "The father is the

one who leads the children to the outside world to behave honorably and act worthy of respect. He says, in effect, everything that your mother taught you at home is true in the outside world."

The role of a father is to be essentially a protector, Stenson asserts.

"I talk to groups of teenaged boys a lot. I tell them, 'Your choice is to be either a predator or a protector. God has given you a deep voice, a beard, and powerful muscles; it's a God-given thing, this masculinity.'"

"They sit up straighter, with

Dads instill integrity in their children: unity of intention, word and action.

pride, when they hear this."

A man protects his family in four ways, says Stenson:

1. Physically – "He is capable of driving away anybody, or handling a tough situation, such as a fire."
2. With his earnings – through his work, he protects his family against destitution. The task of financially supporting the family has currently been split between husband and wife, Stenson conceded. "But kids still sense intuitively that the father is someone who deals with the world."
3. A man protects his wife against the aggression of the children – he makes sure the child does not step over the line toward his mother. If a teenaged boy acts up toward his mother, the father straightens him out:

"Don't you ever talk to your mother like that again. She's not just your mother, she's my wife – and I don't allow anyone to treat my wife with disrespect."

4. A father protects his children by strengthening their judgment and their will so they can later protect themselves when they're on their own. He takes a special interest in their competence, the work they do, whether schoolwork or work around the house, because he knows it is preparation for their work later in the outside world.

"The real job of a father starts when your children are entering adolescence, because that's when they start entering the outside world," says Stenson.

Teach your children business savvy, he counsels.

"What do you know now that you didn't know when you were 16? Start with that: mortgage, finances, marriage. When you talk about life in the world outside, you show them you're treating them as adults."

Dads also instill integrity in their children: "Unity of intention, word and action. We mean what we say. We do not lie. We do not break our word."

If a child lies, "Say, go to your room for five minutes and think about it; then come out and tell me what is the truth, on your honor," he advises.

That usually works, he says.

When a teenager says, "You don't trust me," the answer is, "We do trust you. We trust your integrity."

See DAD, page 15

Va. delegate seeks to block health care bill

A pro-life delegate has introduced a bill in the Virginia General Assembly to challenge the Obama administration's proposed health care reform law on constitutional grounds.

The Virginia Health Care Freedom Act, pre-filed December 7 by Del. Bob Marshall (R-Dist. 13), would block any federal legislation forcing citizens to buy health insurance.

Under proposed federal health care reform legislation, Americans must buy federally approved health insurance; otherwise, they may be fined \$1,900 or face up to a year in jail or penalties of up to \$25,000 (half the median income of American families), says Marshall.

Citizens have the constitutional right, under the Ninth and Tenth Amendments, to challenge such federal laws, he asserts.

Moreover, explains Marshall, "The natural right of contract existed long before our Constitution and is a fundamental right of citizens and a free people. American courts don't enforce involuntary contract promises."

His bill, HB 10, states in part, "No law shall interfere with the right of a person or entity to pay for lawful medical services to preserve life or health, nor shall any law impose a penalty, tax, fee or fine, of any type, to decline or to contract for health care coverage . . ."

If passed, his bill could provoke a series of test cases, ending with such health care legislation being thrown out by the Supreme Court.

"HB 10 can get around the ideological road blocks from a deaf Congress because states and grassroots citizens still are the foundation of our constitutional balance of power," Marshall told *Defend Life*.



Bob Marshall asserts that any health care reform law that forces citizens to buy health insurance is unconstitutional.

He added that he is getting significant grassroots political support for the bill in Virginia and has received calls about it from legislators in North Carolina, New Hampshire, New York and Pennsylvania.

Marshall points out that Congress has never before tried to force people to purchase anything in the private sector.

A 1994 Congressional Budget Office report, written concerning Hillary Clinton's proposed health care legislation, states, "A mandate requiring all individuals to purchase health insurance would be an unprecedented form of federal action."

"The government has never required people to buy any good or

service as a condition of lawful residence in the United States."

To the argument that people are required to buy auto insurance, Marshall replies that the mandating of health insurance is not a power granted to Congress.

Auto insurance is mandated by the states, not the federal government, and courts have held that driving on a public road is not a right. It is subject to conditions imposed by state legislatures which are empowered to enforce general police and welfare powers.

As support for his claim that Congress does not have the authority to compel health insurance man-

dates, Marshall cites Georgetown University law professor Randy Barnett, who writes, "The health care mandate does not purport to regulate or prohibit activity of any kind, whether economic or noneconomic. . . . To the contrary, it purports to 'regulate' inactivity by converting the inactivity of not buying insurance into commercial activity."

Barnett states that in recent years the Supreme Court has struck down two congressional statutes, the Gun-Free School Zones Act and the Violence Against Women Act, which tried to regulate noneconomic activities.

"To uphold the insurance pur-

In My Humble Opinion

Be wary of those with claims of ‘silver bullet’

By Janet Baker

A few months ago I had a discussion with a pro-life friend regarding why certain of our friends and acquaintances had dropped out of active pro-life efforts. It came out that some were unhappy with the current leadership amongst the various groups, be they local or national. It seemed that they were looking for one dominant leader. Until such a one emerged, they planned to remain dormant.

The utter lack of logic behind such thinking was startling. The saying, “Rather than curse the darkness, light a candle,” came immediately to mind, and I shared that with my friend. I suggested that if these folks identified specific needs, then it behooved them to at least try to meet those needs.

She simply reiterated that these folks did not want to take that on, as they did not see themselves as being leaders. I think some of you are reading this. If so, may I suggest that your choice to do nothing at all is absolutely the worst choice you can make? It’s true that you aren’t guaranteed success if you do step out; however you are guaranteed failure if you do absolutely nothing at all.

As I think more about this desire for one leader, this “anointed general” as it were, I’m reminded of a chapter in the Old Testament, namely 1 Samuel 8. In that passage we see the people clamoring after a king, begging Samuel for one. This seems to displease both Samuel and Our Lord Himself.

This passage is one litany of the hardships that a

king (and centralized government) will inflict upon them. But they want a king “as other nations . . . to fight our battles” (verses 19-20). So God relents and gives them their wish. Most folks who possess a rudimentary knowledge of Bible history are well aware of the generally abysmal track records of the Old Testament kings.

As much as I’m wary of folks looking for an “anointed general” or “shining star,” I am all the more wary of any individual who offers his/her services as such. Fortunately I haven’t seen too much of that – but I have seen some.

Be wary of those who claim to hold “the magic key” or “the silver bullet” to stopping abortion. In my opinion, abortion is a sickness that has many deep-seated and widely-branched roots. Get a hold of the video *Maafa 21* for starters.

You might also take a look at websites such as www.americanhumanist.org to see how long they plotted and laid the groundwork in bringing about the Culture of Death. There are many facets, many manifestations of the culture of death. It will take action on all fronts, utilizing a variety of methods to eliminate it.

I might add that as you research the origins of the Culture of Death, you’ll see how its proponents patiently took long-term action, again in many areas and utilizing many methodologies.

If someone thinks they alone have the “way” to get rid of abortion *to the exclusion of the efforts of others*, I’d suggest that their claims be taken with copious grains of salt. If you see an individual or group touting the importance of their own efforts while minimizing and even belittling those of other groups, keep your eyes open.

Do not hesitate to “go against that grain,” as it were. The kind of elitism they exude can only serve to cripple if not nullify the otherwise beneficial results their efforts could produce.

For those awaiting that “general,” I have this suggestion. This Dark Horse is closer than you think! Go take a look in a mirror. That person in the mirror is your general. That person, with Our Lord, will indicate your role in active pro-life ministry. Of course there will be other “generals” out there, and you’ll all need to learn to work together. So get up and go to it.

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BLOCK, from page 13

chase mandate, the Supreme Court would have to concede that the Commerce Clause has no limits, a proposition that it has never affirmed. . . . Congress may not regulate the individual's decision *not* to purchase a service or enter into a contract," writes Barnett.

Marshall is confident that his bill will pass Virginia's Republican-controlled House of Delegates, but concedes it may have trouble in the Democrat-controlled Senate.

"Obamacare is not a battle over health insurance," he maintains. "It is a struggle over whether America will remain a nation of self-directing citizens or docile, powerless serfs."

Marshall has a reputation as one of the most conservative of Virginia's delegates.

In the 2009 legislative session he introduced a bill declaring that unborn babies have a constitutional

right to life from the moment of conception.

He also sponsored a bill, in 2008, to make abortion illegal in Virginia if *Roe v. Wade* were overturned.

Both bills died in committee.

However, he sponsored the one-man, one woman Marriage Amendment approved by voters in 2006 and a bill banning partial-birth abortion that passed in 2003.

DAD, from page 12

"What we must distrust for now is your judgment. Judgment comes with experience. You simply haven't had enough experience; it's not your fault."

One thing that never fails to give fathers strength is walking into their child's bedroom at night when the child is sleeping, says Stenson.

"It's almost like a religious experience. You sense the presence of

God, the mystery of human life.

"You realize, this little guy didn't exist a few years ago, and here he is, through my love for my wife and her love for me."

He suggests this prayer: "Dear God, help me to change whatever needs changing in me so I can lead this little guy so he can become the masterpiece you had in mind when you entrusted him to my care."

God will never leave the prayers of a faithful father unanswered, he says.

James Stenson writes and works as an educational consultant, specializing in family life and family-school relationships.

His most recent book is Father: the Family Protector. His website is www.parentleadership.com.

This article is based on a talk given by Mr. Stenson at the Immaculate Heart of Mary National Home-school and Parent Conference in Chantilly, Va., in June 2009.

SCHEIDLER, from page 5

There are not a lot of us, he conceded. We don't have the fame, the notoriety, the press of a big movement.

"We are small, but we do have God, we do have each other, we do have a victory in store."

As Shakespeare's Henry V tells his "miserable little army" the night before the Battle of Agincourt:

*From this day to the ending
of the world*

*But we in it shall be
remembered,*

*We few, we happy few,
we band of brothers.*

Thank God that you and I were born in this time, said Scheidler.

"This is our battle, our Agincourt."




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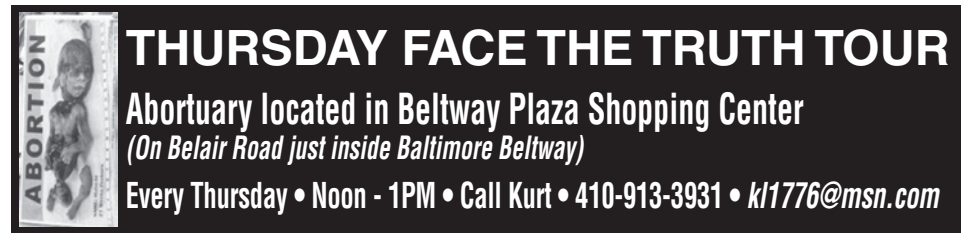
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INSIDE: Pro-lifers speak out at the Basilica

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