



RIGHT TO LIFE NEWS

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2010

The Federal Election results and the position of Right to Life

THE FEDERAL ELECTION that took place on August 21st will go down in history as the closest in Australian Federal history. It took over two weeks to finally reach a result as to who would sit on the treasury benches, resulting in the first hung parliament and minority Government since the 1940's.

In the end, when all seats were accounted for, the Government had 72 votes in the House of Representatives and the Coalition had 73. The Government signed an historic pact with the Greens party which saw them gain the support of newly elected Greens MP for the seat of Melbourne, Adam Bandt bringing the vote to 73 a piece. The support of newly elected Independent MP from the Tasmanian seat of Denison, Andrew Wilkie brought the Government out in front to 74 seats against the Coalitions 73.

Finally country New South Wales Independents Tony Windsor and Rob Oakeshott from the New England and Lynne Electorates respectively, delivered their support to Julia Gillard and the Labor Government, thereby giving them 76 votes in the lower house and enough support to form a Government. The irony of the situation is that those two electorates recorded some of the lowest voter support for the Labor Party at the poll than any other across the county. It can be expected that the National Party base in those two electorates will run strong campaigns against these two sitting independents on the basis that a vote for them is a vote for Labor, at the next election.

It should be noted that the other country Independent from Queensland, Bob Katter, has aligned himself with the Coalition. Bob Katter has always been a strong advocate for the unborn over his many years in Parliament and we applaud him for making what we believe, was the right decision.

In the lead up to the Federal election, the Right to Life News

endorsed Tony Abbott as the most appropriate candidate for the office of Prime Minister and therefore a return by the Coalition parties to Government after three years in opposition. The reason that we did this is we believe that is a far better alternative for the Prime Ministership than Julia Gillard. Ms Gillard is a founding member of the pro abortion lobby group Emily's List which raises money for pro abortion women to run for Parliament. She has also voted in an anti life way on every single vote on a life issue that has come before her during her time in the Federal Parliament including on embryo experimentation and on RU486. On the private members bill that saw the right to veto RU486 taken away from Tony Abbott, Ms Gillard was a key player in securing numbers amongst her own party colleagues to see the passage of that bill.

On the other hand, Tony Abbott has consistently voted for life since entering Federal Parliament in the early 1990's including for a private members bill that outlawed Euthanasia in the Northern Territory and more recently against RU486 and embryo experimentation. And despite not always saying what we would consider to be the right thing, he also has had some very pro life statements in the media over the years, some of which we outlined on our front cover before the election including statements about the double standards that exist in the way we see 100,000 deaths to abortion each year compared to higher than normal mortality rates in other parts of the community.



This election has sadly also seen some fantastic supporters of the right to life lose their seat in Parliament. Firstly, Liberal Senator Guy Barnett has lost his bid for re election in Tasmania and will therefore not be part of the new Senate that will

ADVERTISEMENT

Julia Gillard, Emily's List & Abortion

- Julia Gillard helped establish Emily's List
- Emily's List helps elect A.L.P. women M.P.s who will vote in parliament for abortion on demand (www.emilyslist.org.au)
- Julia Gillard and Emily's List M.P.s voted in federal parliament for the abortion drug RU 486 (February 2006).
- Emily's List M.P.s all voted in the Victorian parliament (October 2008) for legalised abortion up to birth!

Every abortion ends a baby's life

Authorised by Dr John James
the Right to Life Australia Inc., 45 Nicholson Street, Brunswick East, Victoria 3057
Tel: (03) 9387 7098 Fax: (03) 9387 2182 E: rtl@rtlaust.com

This ad was placed by us in Brisbane's Courier Mail just before the election



Former Liberal Senator Guy Barnett

take its place in July next year. Senator Barnett has been a staunch advocate for conservative causes since entering the Senate in 2002 including the right to life from conception to natural death.

A special mention should also be made here of Liberal Senator Julian McGauran. At the time of writing Senator McGauran is locked in a titanic battle to hold onto his Senate seat in Victoria. Senator McGauran has been in the Senate since 1987 except for a three year break between 1900 and 1993 and has been without a doubt one of the strongest pro life members of the Australian Parliament that we have ever seen. Senator McGauran has a 100% pro life voting record across the areas of Euthanasia, embryonic stem cell research and the availability of RU486.

Senator McGauran was also instrumental

in securing the numbers in the Senate to pass a private members bill that outlawed Euthanasia in the Northern Territory and was a strong force in lobbying many of his Liberal Party colleagues in the state Parliament, encouraging them to vote against the 2008 Victorian Abortion law reform act.

Attendees at this year's Right to Life annual conference would have heard Senator McGauran speak about his involvement in the Baby Jessica case, a case that he was involved in a number of years ago that brought a well known Doctor and member of Victoria's medical establishment before the Supreme Court for performing an abortion at 32 weeks of gestation because the baby happened to be a dwarf even though in the end, the child turned out not to be a dwarf at all.

Senator McGauran has been involved in the pro life movement and with Right to Life for over three decades going back to his time at University and he will be greatly missed in the Parliament by all those who uphold the sacredness of life from conception to natural death. His loss from Parliament will indeed be a huge loss for the entire pro life movement.

Letter from the President

Dear Friend,

RECENTLY AN ARTICLE in the Adelaide Advertiser suggested that the leading Euthanasia proponent, Dr Phillip Nitschke, had investigated the possibility of commissioning an advertising agency to produce pro Euthanasia messages, presumably to show on prime time television, recommending the option of suiciding if the difficulties of life appeared to be overwhelming.

Concurrently, leading agencies, such as 'Beyond Blue', are spending millions of taxpayer dollars in an effort to reduce Australia's very high suicide rate.

One wonders just how long this situation of conflicting messages from members of the medical profession can be

allowed to persist and how long before the general community realise that Physician Assisted Suicide (PAS) and Voluntary Euthanasia (VE) undermine the integrity of medical practice as well as exposing the vulnerable to great risk.

With the recent Federal election complete, the Greens' growth in influence spells great danger for the vulnerable. PAS and VE promoting legislation is on the Green's agenda with bills currently in both the South Australian and West Australian State Legislatures, and similar bills foreshadowed in both NSW, Victoria and Tasmania.

Patient killing can never be an answer to patient suffering. More and more evidence is emerging from places such as the Netherlands, Belgium and Oregon, that such laws compromise good medicine, proper psychological and pain management, and that 'voluntary' euthanasia quickly leads to the killing of those who are in no position to refuse these 'angels of death'.

Dr John James NATIONAL PRESIDENT

D.L.P. wins final Victoria Senate seat

D.L.P. candidate John Madigan has won the final Victorian Senate seat. Mr Madigan a blacksmith is a strong pro-lifer.

Congratulations are due to him!



Labor Party Launch protest in Brisbane

WITH THE LABOR Party federal election launch being held in Brisbane, a group of RTLA supporters thought that would be a good occasion to draw attention to the pro-abortion views of the PM, Julia Gillard.

As a founding member of the pro-abortion group Emily's List, and having voted for RU 486 and for destructive embryonic stem cell research, Ms Gillard's anti-life position is clear.

Our message on the day was that nobody who believes that it is acceptable for innocent human life to be deliberately destroyed is worthy of being Prime Minister.

As it turned out on the day though, there were plenty of police and media outside the venue for the launch, but virtually all the politicians and everyone else attending, including the PM, entered via the underground car park, thus avoiding us!

All was not lost though as we had good interviews with a Japanese TV crew as well as one from New Zealand. The Australian media were more interested it seems in a huge inflated marijuana cigarette!

Graham Preston Queensland Co-ordinator



After you die
help someone to live
Remember our life saving work
in your will

The Right To Life Australia Inc.
Further information contact us on:
(03) 9387 7098 or fax (03) 9387 2182
Ask for Doris Rossi

DIY Abortion Guide

Brisbane obstetrician and abortionist, Adrienne Freeman, has plans for an on-line guide to do-it-yourself abortion, called Safe Home Abortions.

When this was first reported on August 1, it was stated that the website would be launched in October after being submitted for peer review.

However a check of the internet at that time showed that the website was already up and running, although it was only partially complete. When a further check of the site was made a month later though, access to it was no longer available.

What that means is hard to say – will it be relaunched in October as first indicated or have complaints about it meant that it is already dead? Hopefully the latter is the case.

The website was promoting the use of the ulcer-

treatment drug, misoprostol, for carrying out the DIY abortions, and claimed that 'pregnancies can be terminated at any gestation by administration of misoprostol.' So presumably Adrienne Freeman thinks that aborting a baby yourself, up to full term, at home, is reasonable thing to be promoting!

Ms Freeman already has been in trouble for her conduct relating to abortion. Last year the Health Practitioners Tribunal found her guilty of unprofessional conduct after she gave abortion-inducing drugs to a woman who was 19 weeks pregnant and then sent her home. The woman subsequently had considerable problems and had to be hospitalised. Ms Freeman is appealing the finding against her.

RTLA supporters have picketed Ms Freeman's rooms for years – and she clearly does not appreciate it.

Graham Preston

Plea for baby haven



Senator's answer to save unwanted newborns

Miles Godfrey – Hobart Mercury 21-Aug-2010

TASMANIAN senator Helen Polley is spearheading a call for 'baby safe haven' facilities across Australia, after last week's dumping of a newborn girl in a shoebox in Sydney.

The Australian Medical Association and church groups joined Senator Polley yesterday in the call for the facilities, which would allow mothers to legally abandon unwanted babies into a safe, caring environment.

Such havens exist in Europe, the United States, Japan and elsewhere and allow new mothers to place babies into special chutes or hatches, usually at hospitals or other state-run facilities.

In the US, the safe havens exist under legislation dubbed 'baby Moses laws'.

The children are put up for adoption, usually after a cooling-off period during which the mother can change her mind.

Mothers typically remain anonymous but have the option of registering details.

AMA president Andrew Pesce said the havens should be considered in Australia as one of the

options available to distressed mothers.

'It's something which should be considered,' he said.

'The more options we have, the better.'

Senator Polley said about a dozen babies were abandoned each year in NSW, Victoria and South Australia, with more in other states and territories and others unrecorded in official statistics.

Most of the abandoned babies die but safe havens could prevent this happening. Senator Polley said.

However, the campaign she has run since 2007 has met resistance from politicians who insist there are systems and measures in place to deal with abandoned babies.

'But the system is failing,' Senator Polley said.

'It would cost nothing in terms of infrastructure and it would save dozens of babies' lives every year. We must talk about it.'

She said the idea had not been received by state and territory attorneys-general. AAP

We applaud Senator Polley and support her idea of baby safe havens. At the same time we should like to see steps taken to save the lives of not only abandoned new born babies but also born alive victims of abortion who are allowed to die. Official figures show that 54 were aborted live in Victoria in 2007 and left to die. It's not surprising that Senator Polley has found state and territory attorneys general unreceptive to the idea. It's a bit too close for comfort to the abortion issue.

Ed.

WA Greens' Euthanasia Bill- Debate at last?

GREENS MLC ROBIN Chapple seems to have been talking about his euthanasia bill forever - certainly for more than a year - but he did not introduce it until May this year, and there has been no debate on it since he introduced it. That is about to change. Time is expected to be set aside for debate, though it has not been announced when - probably in the week beginning 13 September or the week beginning 20 September. How much time? There has been talk of a single day, though allocating more time may be unavoidable if there are too many MLCs who want to speak on the bill.

Opponents of the bill initially thought the best approach might be to delay debate for as long as possible to prevent the bill from ever coming to a vote. But the government wants to get euthanasia off the table, and has decided to

have the bill debated and voted on. The active cross-party group of pro-life MLCs is not opposing the government's plan. These members have spent a lot of time talking to their colleagues, and are now confident that they have the numbers to vote the bill down, so that the more cautious approach of trying to stop the bill from coming to a vote is no longer necessary.

WA people who oppose euthanasia should still contact the six MLCs for the electoral district where they live, if they have not contacted them already, asking them to vote against the bill - we may be sure that pro-euthanasia people will be busy over the next few weeks!

Dr Ted Watt

(At time of going to press - this is the news about the euthanasia bill in the W.A. parliament.)

Federal Bill puts crisis pregnancy Centers in the Crosshairs

By Peter J Smith

WASHINGTON, D.C., (U.S.A.) July 9, 2010

(LifeSiteNews.com) – Pro-life pregnancy centers, which focus on providing free resources and information to women in crisis pregnancies to allow them to keep their babies, are facing a new attack from pro-abortion groups, and this time through Congress.

U.S. Rep. Maloney (D-NY) and Sen. Menendez (D-NJ) are sponsoring a bill that would demand the Federal Trade Commission to develop advertising rules that would restrict the ability of pro-life pregnancy centers to reach out to women with crisis pregnancies.

Maloneys 'Stop Deceptive Advertising in Women's Services Act' (H.R. 2478) purports to stop 'any person from

advertising with the intent to deceptively create the impression that such person is a provider of abortion services if such person does not provide abortion services.'

'This bill is not at all what it sounds like,' said Joe Young, President of Heartbeat International, which is an association of more than 1100 pregnancy help centers, maternity homes, non-profit adoption agencies, pregnancy help medical clinics and abortion recovery programs in 50 countries.

'Pregnancy centers are reducing the number of abortion sales and this aggravates the abortion industry. A more accurate name for this bill might be 'Stop Alternatives to Abortion Advertising to Pay Back the Abortion Industry Act.' This is an attempt to prevent women who deserve choices from connecting with pregnancy help centers.'

Right to Life seeks smaller premises

Unfortunately the fine building that we own on Nicholson Street, East Brunswick in Melbourne is to be placed for sale in late October.

At the time of purchase, there was a question as to whether or not the building was too large for our needs. But with help from a benefactor, and through the sale of our Brunswick Road terrace house we were able to buy it.

Although it has served us well for some nine years the Executive Committee acting on financial advice has decided that it would be wise to down size at this stage. Above all, we need to have sufficient funds to carry forward the all important work of defending human life.

Reminder for next AGM Meeting

to be held at the premises of Right to Life Australia Inc

45 Nicholson Street, Brunswick East, Vic. 3057

Tel: (03) 9387 7098

Date: Friday, October 29 2010 Time: 6.00 pm

Nominations for positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and two Committee Members must be received by Friday October 22nd, at Right to Life office by 4 pm.

Any Motions for the agenda from financial members must also be received by that time.

Please note that only financial members can vote at the AGM.

Mainstream Media recognizes adult stem cell research far ahead of embryonic

By Thaddeus M. Baklinski


WASHINGTON, DC, August 3, 2010

(LifeSiteNews.com) - Following an announcement on Friday by U.S. biotech firm Geron Corp. that it received clearance from the Food and Drug Administration to carry out clinical trials using stem cells derived from human embryos, the mainstream media has been awash in stories that acknowledge the success of adult stem cell treatments, and the absence of any positive results from embryonic stem cell research.

AP reported the fact that adult stem cells have the ability not only to differentiate into bone, cartilage and blood vessels, but have also been shown to stimulate tissue repair.

'That gives adult stem cells really a very interesting and potent quality that embryonic stem cells don't have,' Rocky Tuan of the University of Pittsburgh told AP.

Silver Circle - A Pregnancy Counselling Australia Fundraiser

	Results AUGUST	1st	Mrs Michele McGregor – Forest Lake, QLD
		2nd	Mrs Phyllis Breen – Kilmore, VIC
	SEPTEMBER	1st	Yet to be Drawn
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Opinion – Margaret Tighe



There has been an attack on pregnancy crisis centres in Australia also with legislation in the Senate in federal parliament, several years ago, sponsored by former senator Natasha Stott Despoja, now a seemingly happy stay at home mum!

Fortunately the legislation went nowhere after it had been referred to a Senate committee.

Nonetheless, it just goes to show how voracious is the appetite of the abortion industry and that of those who support it in government and elsewhere.

Let's not forget that there are huge numbers of abortions in Australia. They can hardly have decreased given no abortion laws in Victoria and the A.C.T. anymore and unenforced or liberal laws elsewhere, plus federal government funding putting the seal of approval on the entrenched disregard for human life.

Quite apart from the tragic loss of human lives, there is a whole culture of post aborted women who feel guilty and who are grieving for their lost babies and are scarred for life.

On the other hand there is another culture of post aborted women who don't want to admit to guilt or grief, who feel defiant and convinced that their decision was justified. They want to speak out in support of the abortion culture and many of them – if in a position of power – want to do their utmost to ensure that abortion is accepted and available.

It is my belief, that deep down they want to feel more comfortable with what they have done.

An outspoken example of this defiant pro-abortion position is the former Victorian Democrat's senator Lyn Allison who proudly boasted of her decision to have an abortion. She stated that she would never have become a senator if she had had that baby!

A Voice for Life

Nikki Kenward, who runs 'Distant Voices' in the U.K. once spent five months in intensive care and now uses a wheelchair, writes:

'So we lurch towards a world where getting rid of imperfection is seen as an 'act of love.' Where, to want to be alive, despite 'differences', invites a comment of 'not keeping an animal in that state.' Where those who are just plain terrified of pain or even old age, seek 'mercy killing' for those who remind them of the arbitrary nature of being alive. Where loving and valuing someone like me, or Tony Nicklinson, is described as some form of 'religious mania,' or just plain 'sick'.

So I reject your sympathy, your humane rhetoric, your selfish ideal of a 'brave death' and I choose live, with all its imperfections, loneliness, loss and pain. I choose to be alive, despite you, and for you. Because I know that one day in the depths of your pain, your despair, your overwhelming fear, you might still want to be alive, to live in some way, to be allowed to go on.'

Approval of Abortion TV Ads 'was justified' - UK Advertising Authority

By Hilary White

LONDON, August 4, 2010 (LifeSiteNews.com) - After receiving over 5000 complaints, the UK's Advertising Standards Authority (ASA) has declared that TV ads promoting the abortionist group Marie Stopes International were not offensive and that the ASA 'was justified' in allowing them to be aired in May and June.

After an internal investigation, the ASA has announced that the ad did not break the rules in its code.

The ads were approved through a loophole in the rules. Although advertisements for commercial abortion services are prohibited, Marie Stopes was allowed to go ahead on the grounds that the abortionist group is classified as a charity.

The ASA decided that, despite complaints that Marie Stopes is one of the world's largest abortion advocacy organisations, the ad did not constitute abortion propaganda. They identified Marie Stopes as an 'advice service for women dealing with unplanned pregnancy'.

Marie Stopes International is one of the world's leading abortion providers. PURVEYORS OF DEATH!!
Ed.



From Quebec to Guadalupe: Pro-Life woman on a 5,000 km North American Walk for Life

By Patrick B. Craine

August 3, 2010 (LifeSiteNews.com) - French Catholic journalist Anne-Marie Michel is making a 5,000 km. walk for life across North America, a pilgrimage that will bring her, after many gruelling months alone on the road, to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City.

'I deeply believe that offering this pilgrimage to God can help ladies who suffer so much before and after an abortion,' she explained. 'I also want to give my little contribution, through this way for respect of life, for building the 'civilisation of love' and the 'culture of life' John-Paul II and Benedict XVI asked us to build.'

She began her long trek on May 27th in Quebec City and crossed into the U.S. on June 10th. She aims to reach the shrine in January or shortly thereafter.

A reporter for the Catholic radio station Radio Esperance in Saint-Etienne, France, Michel has already traveled more than 1,200 km. She wrote to LifeSiteNews from Ohio.



Most nights Anne-Marie simply asks a local if she can set up her tent in their yard, and spends the night that way.

Int'l couples flock to U.S. for Gender-Selective In-Vitro Fertilization

By Kathleen Gilbert

LOS ANGELES, California, August 9, 2010 (LifeSiteNews.com) - Couples from countries that ban sex-selective in-vitro fertilization (IVF) have found a haven in clinics in the United States, where the practice is far less regulated.

In an article for Scotland's *Daily Record* newspaper, Dr. Jeffrey Steinberg of The Fertility Institute said that five couples have travelled from Scotland to undergo the sex-selection procedure at his clinics in New York and Los Angeles, which have been described as the worldwide leaders in gender selection. The article notes that couples who 'suffer from gender disappointment' often remortgage their homes or take out other loans to afford the opportunity to control whether they have a boy or a girl, in a procedure known as preimplantation genetic diagnosis (PGD). The procedure costs over \$20,000.

As in all IVF, the procedure is made possible by the creation of several embryos, many of which are destroyed in the process of selection and implantation. In the case of gender selection, the tiny human lives that possess the correct gender are implanted, while all others are destroyed. For example, one account posted on the Fertility Institute *website* describes how '3 healthy female embryos and 7 healthy male embryos, along with 2 abnormal embryos' were produced for one couple seeking a girl. Two of the 12 embryos were implanted.

The clinic's *website* notes that individuals have come

from 147 different countries 'seeking to balance their families or assure themselves that a pregnancy will result in ONLY the gender outcome they desire.'

Such gender selection is illegal in several countries, including the United Kingdom - a fact that Steinberg criticized as 'so far behind' the hottest scientific trends.

But for Steinberg controlling for gender is only the beginning: he noted that the Vatican sent a letter to his clinic asking them to reconsider after they began investigating ways of selecting children's eye and hair color. 'The Vatican were very nice but were asking us to think about what we were doing. It's on the backburner for now but it will be here in future,' said Steinberg.

The clinics' website also boasts the 'world's only fully integrated gay surrogacy system' for male homosexual couples who want their own child, saying they are 'dedicated to assuring that the complex route to gay parenthood is an anxiety free, joyful experience.' The site lists in-house legal and attorney services as among benefits provided to male homosexual couples.

As for PGD, given the gender bias that exists in several cultures - particularly towards the male gender - the power to control the gender of one's children could have disastrous effects. Steinberg admits that 'Asian countries clearly favor males' - a fact that, as noted by *The Economist* in March, has led to the disappearance of at least 100 million girls who were aborted for being the wrong sex.



News from around the world

Canada

New poll confirms most Canadians do not know Canada has no Abortion Law by Thaddeus M Baklinski

TORONTO, August 4, 2010 (LifeSiteNews.com) – An Angus Reid public opinion poll published on August 3 confirms the findings of a poll conducted early this year that most Canadians are woefully unaware of the country's status quo on abortion.

The online survey of a representative national sample of 1,022 Canadian adults, conducted from July 7 to July 8, found that 21 percent of respondents knew that Canada has no restrictions on abortion whatsoever.

Russia

Russian opinion moving toward ban on Abortion

By Thaddeus M Baklinski MOSCOW, August 23, 2010 (LifeSiteNews.com) – The number of Russians who support either a full or partial ban on abortion has doubled in the past twelve years, according to a recent poll.

The independent, non-governmental polling and sociological research agency, *Levada Analytical Center*, reported that a recent survey of 1,600 Russians found 41 percent of those polled support introducing nationwide restrictions on abortion.

Current law in the Russian Federation allows abortion on demand up to 12 weeks gestation, up to 22 weeks for social reasons, and at any point during the pregnancy for 'medical necessity' and upon the woman's consent, and is offered free of charge at all state clinics.

Russian Health Ministry figures show 1.2 million abortions last year compared to 1.7 million live births, with upwards of a quarter million women per year left infertile from abortion complications.

A leader in the Russian Orthodox Church said in June this year that Russia must enact pro-life laws or face demographic collapse.

United Kingdom

Doctors who respect human life (Newsletter August 2010)

Not dead yet UK – The Resistance Campaign

Disabled people from across the UK came together in Westminster on 3 June 2010 to launch a new campaign to ensure that legislation prohibiting assisted suicide and euthanasia remains in place.

There have been repeated attempts to weaken the law on assisted suicide in the past four years, with further discussions taking place in the Scottish parliament now. 'We face a bleak situation if calls for assisted suicide to be lawful are renewed whilst vital services are being withdrawn or denied.

Disabled and terminally ill people need help and support to live, not to die. We cannot allow others to speak for us; especially those who seek to offer us the choice of a premature death. It is not a choice – it is to abandon us.'

Abortion included in Marie Stopes' job perks along with discount gym membership

By Hilary White

LONDON, August 9 2010, (LifeSiteNews.com) – A week after the Advertising Standards Authority issued a statement refusing to credit complaints about Marie Stopes TV abortion advertisements, the country's largest abortionist group is at the center of a controversy again. The Daily Mail has revealed that Marie Stopes employees are being offered free abortions as a regular part of the organization's employee benefits package

Marie Stopes International (MSI) employs 430 in nine centers around Britain, with the bulk of its funding coming from the British taxpayer, to the order of 30 million pounds sterling annually. London-based Marie Stopes International is a non-governmental organization that boasts of being active in abortion and contraception distribution in 42 countries and claims to be responsible for the great majority of abortions in the UK and abroad. Marie Stopes is especially active in developing countries, spreading the population control dogma that the cure to poverty is to have fewer children. In Nepal, the local Marie Stopes affiliate committed 70 percent of all abortions between 2004 and 2007. The group was also responsible, between 2001 and 2006, for 50 percent of all female sterilizations and 45 percent of all (male and female) sterilizations.

Wife survives 'mercy killing' attempt 'An Edinburgh pensioner who admitted attempting to murder his disabled wife has been jailed for four-and-a-half years,' BBC local news reported on 14 July 2010. 'John Millar, 67, claimed he was trying to end her suffering when he attacked Phyllis Millar, 65, at their home in Ravelston on 28 June 2009.

'Mrs Millar, who has multiple sclerosis, denied claims by her husband that she said she wanted to die.'

GMC 'End of Life' guidance

Doctors who ignore the wishes of patients after they ask for treatment to be stopped can be struck off and sacked, according to the rules set down yesterday. They risk their careers if they defy the terms of 'Living Wills' under which patients can demand to be allowed to die if they become too ill to speak, eat or drink even if doctors believe they can be saved.' (Daily Mail, 20 May 2010). They are ordered to act on instructions given in advance.

Marie Stopes in China 'Marie Stopes, the British birth-control charity, has sparked anger from women's rights campaigners by setting up a chain of abortion clinics in China, where the country's population control policies continually pressure women into terminating their pregnancies' (Daily Telegraph 30 May 2010).

Marie Stopes carries out 65,000 abortions a year in Britain, most of them through NHS contracts for which it receives 30m pounds sterling a year. Surplus funds from the NHS work are channelled into the work of the international division.

Organ donation euthanasia

Professor Julian Savulescu, of the Oxford Uehiro

Centre for Practical Ethics University of Oxford, asks, 'Should we allow organ donation euthanasia?'

With co-author Dominic Wilkinson, he refers to the large number of patients who die in intensive care units in hospitals following diagnosis of brain death, or decisions to withdraw LAST' (life-sustaining treatment) 'on the basis of poor prognosis', and concludes: ... 'Organ Conscriptio would have the greatest potential to increase the numbers of organs available for transplantation, though it would come at the cost of patient and family autonomy. If Organ Conscriptio is not acceptable, the alternative that would have the greatest potential in terms of organ numbers would be Organ Donation Euthanasia' Bioethics ISSN 0269-9702 (print); 1467-8519 (online).

A letter to the Journal Transplantation (21 (2008) 915, quoted by Wesley Smith on 8 May 2010, describes such a proceeding taking place in Belgium. The patient who had asked for euthanasia was paralysed but not dying and had consented to 'donation.'

U.S.A.

US Catholic Bishops endorse Permanent Hyde Amendment

By Peter J Smith

WASHINGTON, 'D.C., August 23, 2010

(LifeSiteNews.com) – The U.S. Catholic Bishops are endorsing a bill proposed in the U.S. House of Representatives that would apply permanent Hyde amendment restrictions to abortion funding in federal programs.

'H.R. 5939 will write into permanent law a policy on which there has been strong popular and congressional agreement for over 35 years: The federal government should not use taxpayers' money to support and promote elective abortion.' Cardinal DiNardo stated in an August 20 letter. 'Even public officials who take a 'pro-choice' stand on abortion, and courts that have insisted on the validity of a constitutional 'right' to abortion, have agreed that the government can validly use its funding power.

Over 200 Military Physicians petition for No Abortion on military bases

WASHINGTON, DC, (U.S.A.) August 3, 2010

(LifeSiteNews.com) – Over 200 active and retired military physicians have signed a letter organized by the 16,000-member Christian Medical Association (CMA), in which they ask Senators to vote against the FY 2011 National Defense Authorization Act, unless an amendment permitting abortions to be performed on military bases is stripped from the bill.

'In addition to facilitating further destruction of unborn life, the provision will place military physicians with life-honoring convictions in the unenviable position of either disobeying orders, abandoning their conscience, or seeking objector status,' said CMA Senior Vice President Gene Rudd, MD, who has received the Gorgas Award for distinguished service in the American military.