



# PARISH 'LIFE' NEWS

A Monthly Publication of Our  
Lady of Mt. Carmel Pro-Life Committee

Issue No. 246 March, 2024  
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## Pope Francis Calls Surrogacy 'Deplorable,' Calls for Global Ban

Pope Francis called surrogacy "deplorable" and called for a global ban on the exploitative practice of "so-called surrogate motherhood" in a speech to all of the world's ambassadors to the Vatican.

"The path to peace calls for respect for life, for every human life, starting with the life of the unborn child in the mother's womb, which cannot be suppressed or turned into an object of trafficking," Pope Francis said Jan. 8.

The Pope then called on the international community to prohibit the practice of surrogacy universally.

The Pope's annual speech to diplomats has been called his "state of the world" address because it is one of a handful of times that the pope addresses global crises and specific conflicts happening around the world all at once.

[Pope Francis Calls Surrogacy 'Deplorable,' Calls for Global Ban in Speech to Ambassadors](#) | National Catholic Register ([ncregister.com](#))

## Planned Parenthood Got \$1.8 Billion of Your Tax Dollars to Fund its Abortion Business

Federal law prohibits the federal funding of abortions, but doesn't prohibit funding abortion providers outright. Here's a breakdown of federal funding to Planned Parenthood: reimbursements from Medicaid, Medicare, and CHIP Reimbursements (\$1.5 billion), federal funding in grants and cooperative agreements (\$148.5 million), and loans forgiven in the Paycheck Protection Program (\$90.4 million).

A January 2023 poll from Marist ([2023-kofc-marist-poll-presentation.pdf](#)) shows that 60% of Americans oppose using taxpayer dollars to fund abortions. While the organizations can argue the dollars didn't pay for abortions, money is fungible, and the money helped their organizations operate and provide abortions.  
[d24106215.pdf](#) ([gao.gov](#))



## Abortion Pills are Increasingly Falling Into the Hands of Violent Predators Who Prey on Women

A new study highlights a staggering 85% increase in orders for self-administered abortion drugs for non-pregnant American women since the fall of Roe v. Wade.

The report, which analyzes telemedicine prescriptions for the abortion drugs mifepristone and misoprostol, first appeared in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) on January 2.

JAMA researchers asked customers why they ordered the drugs before becoming pregnant. Seventy-four percent said they wanted "to ensure personal health and choice," while 73% wanted "to prepare for possible abortion restriction." The FDA has expressed serious concerns about "stockpiling" mifepristone for future use.

In recent years, court cases have proliferated concerning abusive husbands, boyfriends, and pimps using telemedicine to obtain and secretly administer abortion-inducing drugs to pregnant women.

Students for Life President Kristan Hawkins recently called mifepristone "the abusers' dream drug."

In 2024, we expect a ruling from the Supreme Court on the FDA and consumer access to mifepristone and misoprostol. [U.S. Supreme Court to take up Texas abortion drug case](#) | [The Texas Tribune](#)

[Advance Provision of Mifepristone and Misoprostol via Online Telemedicine in the US](#) | [Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmacology](#) | [JAMA Internal Medicine](#) | [JAMA Network](#)

[Abortion Pills are Increasingly Falling Into the Hands of Violent Predators Who Prey on Women - LifeNews.com](#)

## Canada Set to Allow Doctors to Euthanize Mentally Ill People

The law which will take effect in March, 2024 would make Canada one of the few countries that allow individuals struggling with mental illness to seek assisted suicide through a doctor.

Canada made assisted suicide legal in 2016 and currently offers the service to citizens who suffer from terminal illnesses or physical and chronic disorders.

Approximately 13,200 Canadians died by assisted suicide in 2022, a 31% increase from the year prior; roughly 45,000 people in total have died from assisted suicide since the law was enacted in 2016.  
[In Canada, Assisted Death May Soon Be Available for the Mentally Ill](#) - [The New York Times](#) ([nytimes.com](#))

## Pennsylvania Governor is Cutting Funding to Pregnancy Centers That Help Women

Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro cut funding to Real Alternatives, a pregnancy support service that funds more than 80 pregnancy centers in the state. "It's always been the people's program," said Kevin Bagatta, president and CEO of Real Alternatives. Shapiro has made an RFA, or Request for Application, regarding the money removed from Real Alternatives, Bagatta said, that means, "Our funding will go to Planned Parenthood."  
[Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro is Cutting Funding to Pregnancy Centers That Help Women - LifeNews.com](#)



## Pro-Life Coffee Company Raises Nearly \$300,000 to Support Pregnancy Centers

A pro-life coffee company has donated nearly \$300,000 to pregnancy resource centers nationwide to enable them to continue serving as a “shield and protector” to pregnant women, as centers in some states face threats to their funding and ability to operate.

Founded in 2021, Seven Weeks Coffee is named after the stage in a woman’s pregnancy when her unborn child is the size of a coffee bean. The company supports the mission of pro-life pregnancy centers, which provide free resources and counseling services to pregnant women and families by donating 10% of its earnings from coffee sales to them.

The Seven Weeks Coffee founder said his company partners with pregnancy centers throughout the country, including in Alaska, New York, Virginia, Texas, and Pennsylvania.

[Seven Weeks Coffee | America's Pro-Life Coffee](#)

## FIND OUT WHICH CHARITIES SUPPORT OR OPPOSE LIFE ISSUES

For many years, American Life League has been tracking charitable organizations and their corresponding positions on the life issues. The rating is based on the organization’s response to written correspondence (regular postal or email), a review of the organization’s website, verifiable news reports, verifiable correspondence forwarded to us by others, and/or a combination of any of these.

A sample of organizations that earned a **GREEN** grade, meaning “no human fetal stem cell or embryonic research, human cells from IVF, or cloning for human reproduction or harvesting tissue and upholds pro-life values”: American Heart Association, Food for the Poor, United Cerebral Palsy and Wounded Warrior Project.

[Go here to see the list: American Life League | Pro-life Library \(all.org\)](#)

## Amid Arrests of Medical Staff, Church in India Decries Rampant Female Feticide

The Catholic Bishops’ Conference of India (CBCI) has again condemned the widespread practice of female feticide, contravening legislation banning sex-determination tests and selective abortions that are carried out clandestinely, including sometimes in hospitals.

The CBCI reaction came in the context of shocking recent media reports, including the case of a doctor and his lab technician, who were arrested as part of a probe into sex-selective feticides for allegedly performing more than 900 illegal abortions, and a hospital that was closed after a female baby was found in its waste bin.

“We are shocked by the [news] reports that came out,” Bishop Thomas mar Anthonios of Gurgaon, chairman of the CBCI’s Commission for Women, told the Register Jan. 2.

“The Catholic Church strongly condemns the growing menace of female feticide in Indian society. In spite of prohibition of sexual determination of fetuses by law, recent media reports show that the rate of female feticide is rampant,” the commission said in a Jan. 1 statement.

[Amid Arrests of Medical Staff, Church in India Decries Rampant Female Feticide | National Catholic Register \(ncregister.com\)](#)

## Appeals Court Rules Administration Can’t Force Texas to Turn ERs Into Abortion Centers

A federal district court in Texas issued an order blocking the administration’s attempt to force the state’s emergency room doctors to perform abortions—regardless of whether doing so violates their religious beliefs.

The state of Texas, together with the American Association of Pro-Life Obstetricians and Gynecologists and Christian Medical & Dental Associations, sued the administration to challenge its abortion mandate which was based creatively on the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act, or EMTALA.

Texas and the other plaintiffs argued that the administration’s mandate unlawfully requires abortions in situations where Texas outlaws them under its own law, the Texas Human Life Protection Act.

In a case similar to the one in Texas, the Justice Department filed suit Aug. 2 against the state of Idaho, hoping to undermine its new law prohibiting most abortions by claiming that the state law conflicts with EMTALA and medical treatment for pregnant women in emergency rooms.

[Appeals Court Rules Joe Biden Can’t Force Texas to Turn ERs Into Abortion Centers - LifeNews.com](#)



## Good News: Number of Children Living in Families With Two Parents Increasing

Newly published data from the U.S. Census Bureau indicates that the proportion of American children living in two-parent families increased to 71.1% in 2023, continuing a slight upward trajectory since 2015. The numbers appear to contradict a popular narrative in the mainstream media that American society no longer aspires to establish households with a mother and father to parent children.

Women and men who begin having children in their 30s and 40s are more likely to marry beforehand and stay married.

[Good News: Number of Children Living in Families With Two Parents Increasing - LifeNews.com](#)



## PRO-LIFE AD IN TIMES SQUARE

The pro-life diaper company EveryLife launched a campaign January 15th ahead of the March for Life in DC and quoted billionaire

Elon Musk’s statement that “having children is saving the world” in a large electronic billboard ad for the campaign in Times Square.

[EveryLife Launches "Make More Babies" Campaign in Times Square](#)