

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

The word doula comes from the ancient Greek, meaning "a woman who serves." Today when we hear this word, childbirth comes immediately to mind.

A doula is not a midwife, but someone who gives emotional support to a mother in labor, helping her stay relaxed through labor and delivery; often giving massage and communicating with the medical team for the mother, and rejoicing with the parents when the baby arrives. [Note: some of you will remember Veronica Langworthy, who became a trained doula. She served my daughter-in-law, Suzanne when her third child was born. Veronica took some great pictures of our granddaughter and was a general comfort to us all, as this little one was a preemie.]

Any mother in the birthing process is blessed to have a doula standing by her side, and it can be a great comfort to the father of the baby as well.

Life Issues Institute, in their 9/09/10 news informed us of a new kind of doula. It seems there is something called The Doula Project in Manhattan. "The group covertly works in two unidentified abortions mills, including one that specializes in late-term abortions." It is said that they have dozens of volunteers.

One gives her job description: "[To] offer patients whatever they need: someone to joke with, someone to cry with, maybe someone to rub their feet." Another tells how she "helped a mother by simply blocking her view of lethal injection syringes and an ultrasound monitor with her soon-to-be dead baby's image on it." She felt this was a successful intercession.

This is something that is very difficult for me to wrap my mind around. On the one hand, the fact that The Doula Project in Manhattan has trained doulas for women having abortions indicates that, after all the denial, they really do understand that women suffer from abortion.

Once the doula's services are no longer needed, as the article points out, "[W]here will these abortion helpers be when, days, months or years later, these hurting mothers are faced with an inescapable sense of loss, depression and regret? What jokes will distract them then?"

This is so far removed from the original and intended service a doula gives. I do fear that over time these "dozens of volunteers" may have a post-abortion suffering of their own.

Life Issues ends this column saying, "We'll always champion for baby birthdays, not death days—and that's something every doula should be doing too."

For Life, Diane Clark

Woe  
to those  
who call  
evil good  
and  
good evil,  
who put  
darkness for  
light and  
light for  
darkness,  
who put  
bitter for  
sweet and  
sweet  
for bitter!  
Isaiah 5:20

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## WE WILL SOON OFFER ULTRASOUND !



Fresno Care Center's Mobile Ultrasound Unit is set to visit Hanford the second Thursday of every month, beginning on December 9.

On their end they are still looking for someone to drive the unit to Hanford. For our part, I'm happy to announce that Hanford First Presbyterian Church has given us permission to park the Unit in the parking lot next to their office on Redington Street when the unit is in town. It's a perfect place for our clients and for us.

In addition we also had to find an registered nurse willing to volunteer the oversight required for the ultra-sonographer. **Hannah Rees** has graciously offered to do that and she will be going to the Fresno Center to be trained in policy and procedure by the nurse there.

Please pray that a driver will be found and that Hannah's training will go smoothly. Please also join us in giving thanks for: The First Presbyterian Church, for the permission they granted us to use their parking lot; for Fresno Care Center's willingness to reach out to the surrounding CPCs; and for our local doctor friend still at the ready to provide free ultrasound for clients who may be thinking about having an abortion.

The Lord is Good and Gracious!



Being able to provide ultrasound confirmation of pregnancy empowers abortion-minded women to choose life. This medical service opens to each woman a window to her womb, enabling her to see and bond with her unborn child. When this happens, abortion becomes a non-issue for most women.

Pregnancy help centers that offer ultrasound report dramatic increases in the numbers of abortion-minded clientele choosing life. Some centers are reporting that over 90 percent of all such clients choose life in a medical clinic setting where ultrasound is used.





Many people don't know...

## UNDER *ROE v. WADE* ABORTION IS LEGAL THROUGHOUT ALL NINE MONTHS OF PREGNANCY

In 1973 the United States Supreme Court issued its infamous decision of **Roe v. Wade** and its companion case **Doe v. Bolton**, which decriminalized the act of abortion in all fifty states. These sweeping decisions place a constitutional mandate for abortion-on-demand. However, what many people do not realize is that these decisions also allow for abortion throughout all nine months of pregnancy.

In **Roe** the Court said that abortion could not be prohibited by law in the third trimester of pregnancy if abortion was necessary for the "health" of the mother. In **Doe** the Court further defined what constitutes "health" reasons for abortion. According to the Court, in the context of a decision regarding abortion "health" is not the absence of illness. Rather, it is the complete psychological, emotional, and physical well-being of the mother. In so stating the Court said:

The medical judgment (for abortion) may be exercised in the light of all factors – physical, emotional psychological, familial, and the woman's age – relevant to the well being of the patient. All these factors may relate to health."

In other words, virtually any stress upon a pregnant woman in her third trimester of pregnancy is a "health" factor that would justify a decision for an abortion. With such a broad definition of "health," the Court's decisions in **Roe** and **Doe** effectively mandate that states cannot prohibit abortion even in the third trimester of pregnancy. Such decisions for abortion this late in pregnancy can clearly be justified by "health" concerns of the mother, as defined by the Court.

These two decisions have meant that the United States has the most lenient abortion laws in the world. Since 1973 more than 52 million abortions have occurred under this judicial edict. Until we see a reversal from the Court of its **Roe** and **Doe** decisions, these numbers will continue to increase every year.

## Defending Life & Justice for All

**NIFLA**  
National Institute of Family & Life Advocates

NIFLA provides Crossroads and other life-affirming Centers with legal counsel, education, and training. **NIFLA** has dramatically grown and now represents approximately 1,200 member Pregnancy Resource Centers across the country.



# Crossroads Pregnancy Center

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Please fill out the form below regarding any specific interest or need you have.

I am interested in volunteering.

I am most interested in:

- Helpline counseling in my home.
- Working with clients at the Center.
- Providing support services (clerical, housekeeping, Mommy Store).
- Opening my home to a woman in need.
- Committing myself to praying on a regular basis for individual clients.
- As the Lord provides, I would like to pledge \$\_\_\_\_\_ per month.
- I would like to donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ at this time.
- Please add my friend to your mailing list.
- So that we can be good stewards, if you no longer wish to receive the newsletter, please check here.

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