



2009 Walk For Life

We're getting enthused and hope you are too! Walk plans are going smoothly and we would love to see a lot of you out celebrating with us this Saturday, September 26th.

Our "home base" will be the picnic area at Lacey Park, located on the corner of Douty and Florinda. Select your size t-shirt, grab a cup of coffee and a free gift while you wait for the walk to start!

The easy 2 mile Walk takes you right through the Center where a **continental breakfast** is provided. Catch up with old friends as you relax and tour the CPC.

So fill your sponsor form and get ready to join us for some great fellowship and an energizing walk, Saturday morning, September 26.

More forms available at the center or online at crossroadscpc.com

The highest form of worship is the worship of unselfish Christian service. The greatest sound of praise is the sound of consecrated feet seeking out the lost and helpless.

-Billy Graham



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"Responsible Science" & ESCR Conclusion

by Greg Koukl

ONLY ONE QUESTION

I have argued elsewhere that only one question needs to be answered to resolve what many think is a complex moral problem. That question is, "What is it?" Both abortion and ESCR kill something that is alive. In fact, both destroy the same thing at different stages of development. Whether it's right or not to take that life depends entirely on what it is we're killing.

Let me put it as clearly as I know how. If the zygote or embryo or fetus is not a human being, then no justification for ESCR is necessary. Experiment as you please. However if the unborn is a human being, no justification for taking her life is adequate, because we do not justify harming other human beings for the reasons people routinely give for ESCR. We don't carve up innocent human beings in hope that it might benefit someone else who is sick, even if "they're going to die anyway."

It is incomprehensible to me how a stunning number of pro-lifers could rally in support of ESCR for the very same reasons pro-choicers classically have justified abortion: It doesn't look human; it's in the wrong location (a Petri dish, not a uterus); it's too small to be of moral consequence; it's alive, but not a life; it's human, but not a human being; it's a human being, but not a person; others will gain tremendous benefit. When pro-lifers embrace pro-choice logic, they undermine their entire moral enterprise.

ONLY ONE ANSWER

Though the water has been muddied by a parade of medical experts, Nobel laureates, movie stars, victims of disease, and extravagant claims of miraculous cures, giving a green light to federally funded ESCR is, as one person put it, "bad ethics and bad science."

It implicitly authorizes human cloning to provide the massive number of embryos needed for research, though its claims of medical benefit are exaggerated and its expectations of future benefit are unjustified.

Embryonic stem cell research destroys valuable human beings in the earliest moments of their lives. Most embryos are harvested at seven days, just 14 days away from a beating heart. They are full human beings who need only nurture, care, and the proper environment to grow to maturity, yet their bodies are being sacrificed for medical progress. Simply put, this is wrong.

The threat of the "brave new world" is not science. It is science unrestrained by "ideology." The difference between science based solely on facts, and those constrained by ideology is the difference between Joseph Mengele and Jonas Salk.

When any embryo is destroyed for the sake of science, a valuable human being has been sacrificed. For those who acknowledge what all embryologists know, that human life begins at conception, there is only one answer to the question of destroying human embryos for research: No.



¹⁰Precious Unborn Human Beings, and Making Abortion Unthinkable—The Art of Pro-Life Persuasion, both available from Stand to Reason.

¹¹Ibid, Ryan T. Anderson



From the Director

UNMET EXPECTATIONS

The June 21 article about Teis "Ty" McKinnon, by Heather Halsey, both surprised and encouraged me. It's very rare to see—in any newspaper—a piece that is sympathetic to the idea of young people keeping their virginity until marriage.

McKinnon, who, after working as a nursing assistant in Central Valley General Hospital nearly 14 years ago, has remained so concerned about the frequency of teenage pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases that he's written a screenplay and wants to make a movie entitled, "I Won't Have Sex Until..." That is a great message.

Back in the 80's when AIDS and "Safe Sex" arrived on scene, the majority of articles dealing with this issue were scarifying pieces intent on making sure that everyone understood that the only answer to this crisis was no-holds barred comprehensive K-12 sex education in the public schools. And, in truth, this kind of education has a strangle-hold on most of our schools today.

Those who give grant money for sex-education or abstinence education want evidence that the programs are working. That is to be expected. So this column is about looking at the evidence, and finding out how the comprehensive model is working.

In 1988 the Kings County Health Department formed the Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Counsel (TPPC). Various agencies, including the Crisis Pregnancy Center (now Crossroads P.C.) were called to participate, brainstorming on ways to reduce the teen pregnancy and STD rates here. It wasn't long before the Center was excluded from these gatherings because of our belief that abstinence education was the approach which would have the best outcome.

The agreed upon broad goal of TPPC was to decrease teen pregnancy, with the objective that 50% fewer teen girls in Kings County would become pregnant by 1993. To achieve this, the goal was to improve teens' knowledge about contraception. So how did they do? Here's a short list:

1) Article, Hanford Sentinel, 11-2-97, "State teen pregnancy rate drops." The sidebar headline was, "Kings is Still High." Under this headline it read, "Though Kings County schools and organizations offer many programs aimed at lowering the number of teen pregnancies, the rate has shown little significant improvement." TPPC's 1993 goal was not met. Fast forward to...

2) Article, Hanford Sentinel, 3-02, reported that the Kings County Board of Supervisors "unanimously approved an agreement with a reproductive health organization which would make a bulk of money available for improving the county's family planning program." This was done in hope of addressing teen-related reproductive health issues. If more money was needed, it appears the comprehensive model was still not working. Fast forward to...

3) The above-mentioned Hanford Sentinel article, 6-21-09. It was 1995 when McKinnon worked at the local hospital and couldn't shake his concern for the high numbers of pregnant teens and STD victims. Ms. Halsey's article stated that "According to the county's 2008-2009 Community Health Status Report, 13.4 percent of all live births in Kings County were to teenagers between ages 15 and 19 in 2006. The report also cited an October 2007 Public Health Institute report estimate of 5,884 new STD cases among 15 to 24-year-olds in Kings County." How much evidence do we need?

In writing this, I can't help but think of OT prophets who obediently spoke God's warnings to His people. Unheeded by the majority, they ridiculed their prophets and their message. But a few did listen.

My hope is that this information, and eventually McKinnon's movie, will make a difference, even if just a few listen. Every person, young and old, is precious to God and the crooked path carved out by safe-sex advocates, many of whom may sincerely believe they are helping kids, has not and will not decrease teen pregnancies or STDs. The evidence is in. There is a better message.

(This article appeared as a guest column in the Hanford Sentinel, July 10, 2009)

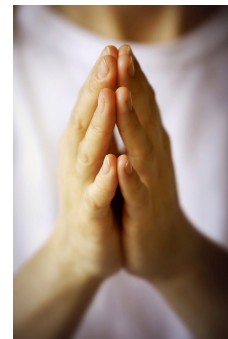
LIFE CHAIN

All those interested in participating in Life Chain will meet at 2:00 in front of the Sizzler at Lacey Blvd. and 11th Avenue.

The date is October 18 and the event will end at 3:00.

Participants may then head to Lacey Park at the corner of Douty & Florinda for an Ice Cream Social hosted by St. Brigid's Catholic Church.

In this the year of Tea Parties, the Life Chain can also make a strong statement for life in a polite and prayerful way.



Crossroads Pregnancy Center

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LifeNet

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We would like to hear from you.

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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