

Newsletter May/June 2023 Volume 50, Issue 3

Building a culture of life in Shelby County since 1974

New Organization – Protect Women Ohio, Fights for Parental Rights And to Keep Abortion Out of Ohio Constitution

Many pro-life groups have joined to form a new organization: Protect Women Ohio (PWO), a prowoman, pro-parent coalition that is in need of support from every pro-life family in Ohio, in order to stop the radical abortion industry from jeopardizing parental rights, women's health, and children's lives, by enshrining unfettered abortion in the Ohio Constitution.

In contrast, the group behind the abortion ballot initiative, proposed for the November election, calls themselves Protect CHOICE Ohio. While pro-lifers go all in to protect families, women, and children, what we see from the abortionists (including Planned Parenthood) and other radical abortion activists, is an all out effort to protect their own commercial interest in selling abortion to vulnerable women, including minors whose parents would be legally cut off from decisions impacting the reproductive health of their sons and daughters, and the lives of their grandchildren.

As stated in a new PWO ad, featuring Libby McCartney speaking out against the abortion initiative: "Today in Ohio, if your minor child wants to have an abortion or get a sex change, you as a parent have rights. This amendment would take away those rights. It doesn't differentiate between a minor and an adult. And Protect Women Ohio because there is language in there about reproductive decisions that do not limit it to just abortion, this is opening the door for any other reproductive therapies, sex changes, anything to do with the reproductive organs.



"Then there's this phrase that the state shall not interfere. As a parent, I could be cut out of these decisions that my child is making and someone who is coercing them or is talking them into something could take my teenage daughter, she could get an abortion or get a procedure done and I don't even know about it. That's what's scary.

"If you as a parent want to be involved in these big decisions in your child's life, read the amendment. You'll come to the same conclusion that this is about parental rights. It's not just about abortion like they say it is.

McCartney and (in another ad) Linda Corbitt both explain the amendment language clearly forbids any law that "directly or indirectly" would "burden" or "interfere" with an individual's "reproductive decisions." Those are specific legal terms which have been interpreted by courts across the country to strike down parental notification and consent laws.

Parents have every reason to fear the ACLU's extreme agenda," said Molly Smith, PWO board member. "As a mom of five, I stand with Libby, Linda, and all Ohio parents in opposing this amendment that threatens our rights. The state government doesn't know what is best for our kids, we do.'

We're asking you to support Protect Women Ohio financially. Your support is crucial in putting a stop to this attack on parental care for their children. Read press releases, watch the ads, and donate at ProtectWomenOhio.com.

What's at stake? According to Ohio Right to Life CEO, Peter Range: "The amendment would allow for abortion with no restrictions and possibly remove all pro-life protections for the preborn currently enacted.

If passed:

- Abortion would be legal through all nine months of pregnancy with zero restrictions.
- Abusers would be protected by law to coerce women into getting abortions.
- Would no longer allow parents to stop their young daughters from getting abortions."

Please sign up to help distribute information:

-At the Thrift Shop on Farmers Market mornings;

-At June parades;

-At our Fair booth at the county fair in July.



Bimonthly newsletters are produced by Right to Life of Shelby Co. Director, Anne Schmiesing (director@shelbycountyrtl.org), and are available with internet links on our website: www.ShelbyCountyRTL.org. Look for this icon and click to view.



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May-June Prayer Intentions

In gratitude for religious liberty being a fundamental right in the US Constitution. We pray for all men and women undergoing religious persecution throughout the world, especially where persecution is severe, and even in the US. For preservation of religious liberty.

Religious Persecution: Judeo-Christian Values Not To Be Taken For Granted

An article summary from Heritage Foundation states:

"Concerned Members of Congress have blocked some efforts by the leadership to insert gender ideology into provisions of federal law, but more remains to be done. Members must work to protect Americans' fundamental liberties against a gender ideology that, if enshrined in law, would redefine what it means to be human in our laws and institutions. They can do this in several ways: by submitting public comments on proposed regulations, creating a Hyde-like amendment to stop taxpayer funding of controversial procedures, and harnessing the momentum on tech policy and parental rights to ensure better protection of families. (The "State of the Union" article by Jared Eckert and Jay Richards, Ph.D. can be found at the Heritage Foundation website.)

<u>Alliance Defending Freedom</u> (ADF), an organization litigating religious liberty cases, reports that in Oregon, for example, prospective adoptive parents, "must agree to the state's gender ideology to adopt. That means parents must agree to use a child's preferred pronouns. And take their children to 'affirming' events like Pride parades. They must even be willing to facilitate a child's access to dangerous pharmaceutical interventions like hormone shots and puberty blockers that can sterilize a young child."

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An article published by Bradley Mattes, April 6, 2023, at Life Issues Institute

Recent comments by an economics professor asserted that we need to abort the babies of poor women to eliminate poverty. This isn't a rogue extremist opinion but is reflective of a growing voice of those publicly advocating eugenics – elimination of the "undesirables." Those who agree reflect diverse, and in some cases powerful, individuals with disturbing agendas.

Jason Lindo, an economics professor at Texas A&M University, has defended the FDA's sloppy and politically-motivated approval of the chemical abortion pill. A lawsuit by pro-life medical organizations and doctors against the FDA is pending in federal court. Without chemical abortion, he says, our nation would suffer a significant economic setback.

Unwanted babies, Lindo claims, will result in individuals who perform poorly in school, have increased behavioral issues and will achieve lower levels of completed education. Further, his crystal ball decrees they will earn less, have poorer health and are more likely to be criminals.

In one fell swoop, he has predestined an entire segment of society to a meager and possiblycriminal existence just because they were born into a poor environment. Many reading this blog may have been born into similar circumstances – or know those who have – but rose above Lindo's expectations, did well in society and became contributing members of society.

Lindo's condescending opinion isn't new. In 2005, the United Nations circulated a report titled *Reducing Poverty and Achieving the Millennium Development Goals: Arguments for investing in Reproductive Heath and Rights*, which are code words for abortion-on-demand. The title says it all – abortion is the answer to poverty.

Not long ago, we listened in saddened dismay as Iceland bragged about "eradicating Down syndrome births." They achieved this goal not by a landmark breakthrough in medicine, but by exterminating the patients via abortion.

By following Iceland's similarly flat-earth assertion, eugenicists believe that babies of poor women will grow up to be a cancer on society and must be aborted. This will not decrease poverty, just as Iceland will not eradicate Down syndrome. Both are dark and evil agendas, destined to failure.

Advocates of eugenics have and may still occupy the U.S. Supreme Court. The late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg said, "Frankly I had thought that at the time *Roe* was decided, there was concern about population growth and particularly growth in populations that we don't want to have too many of. So that *Roe* was going to be then set up for Medicaid funding for abortion." Imagine if a conservative justice had uttered those words!

Canada, through its euthanasia program, has taken eugenics to a desperate low. Government subsidy of the poor and disabled is so paltry that many have grown weary of struggling in poverty and are inquiring about Medical Aid in Dying as a preferred alternative to their despondent existence. Will this be Canada's legacy; that they financially pressured their citizens to opt for euthanasia, which is by far cheaper than medical costs and providing adequate benefits through Ontario Works? (the equivalent of our welfare)

Another economist, Teresa Ghilarducci, claims abortion is responsible for lifting women from poverty.

In 2014, 75% of the women having abortions were of low income. But as the number of poor women having abortions dramatically increases, an unacceptable level of poverty continues to exist. Abortion is not the answer to poverty.

It is cruel and patronizing that a woman is told she must kill her unborn child to advance economically. How are we different from Canada? Women deserve better – yes, even the poor ones.

Abortion Numbers: Making Abortion Illegal Does Save Lives

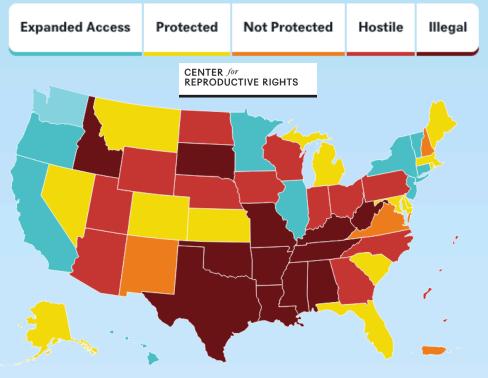
Ohio Right to Life shared an April <u>report from Society of Family Planning</u> (SFP, a pro-abortion group) "showing the number of legal abortions has decreased overall throughout the country after Roe v Wade was overturned last June. Ohio specifically had 4,920 fewer abortions in the months following the Dobbs decision. However, this number does not include any abortion pills ordered online."

The SPF report states: "In July, the first full month after the Dobbs decision, we saw severe declines in states with bans, meaningful declines in states with restrictions, and small increases in states with few legal restrictions. The national number of abortions decreased again in September and October, and reached the lowest point of the six-month period in November, when we observed 9,970 fewer abortions as compared to April."

Ohio has 9 abortion clinics (4 in the Cleveland area, 2 in Columbus, 1 each in Cincinnati, Dayton, and Toledo). In contrast, Ohio's *post-abortion healing ministries number near 200*. What takes abortionists less than an hour to do to women, can take months, years, decades to heal – with no healing for the child.

In post-abortion healing ministry, a common theme is: "I would not have had an abortion if it had been illegal." Even with abortion legality in flux in some states, bans on abortion appear to make a difference.





The SFP report affirms what Brian Burch, of <u>Catholic Vote</u>, has stated: "In just the first month after *Dobbs*, the number of abortions in Texas dropped by 97%.

"In August, fewer than 10 abortions were performed in each of the following states: Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

"Some estimate that as many as 50,000 children saw their first Christmas (in 2022) as a direct result of the Supreme Court returning abortion legislation to the states."

Religious Persecution continued from page 2

ADF also reports that "in Nigeria 100 million Christians suffer persecution, physical violence and imprisonment." <u>Revelation Media corroborates</u> that: "Nigeria now accounts for 89% of martyred Christians around the world," and near 100 Christians were martyred during Holy Week of this year. Yet "the Biden Administration has removed Nigeria from the State Department's "Country of Particular Concern" (CPC) list. The CPC list tags countries whose inhumane treatment of religious groups warrants sanctions or further action. This decision has emboldened extremist militants in their persecution of Christians and other religious minorities."

In other countries, such as Nicaragua and China, religious leaders, and those defending religious liberty are being imprisoned. ADF and other organizations work hard to assist persecuted Christians. Please pray for them; and do not assume that persecution cannot happen in our own country.

Political vigilance is important.