### NEBRASKA



State affiliate to National Right to Life

### **DECEMBER 2021**

# N E B R A S K A

Walk for fi

## With Guest Speaker Ashley Bratcher

Award-winning actress of "Unplanned" and "Princess Cut"



Ashley starred in "Unplanned" despite being told that Hollywood would blacklist her for doing an openly pro-life role. Later, when Hollywood stars threatened to boycott her home state of Georgia because of a new pro-life law, Ashley fought back, even calling boycott leader Alyssa Milano personally. In addition, Ashley, whose own mother visited an abortion clinic before changing her mind and carrying her to term, has partnered with Heartbeat International for a scholarship program so women with unplanned pregnancies can continue their education.

Come support the pro-life cause and listen to this brave woman's heart-lifting story!

# Join the largest, longest-running First Amendment demonstration against abortion in the state!

The event begins with a 10 a.m. program at the State Capitol, 15th and K streets. We then walk seven blocks to the UNL Student Union, 14th and R streets, for the 11:30 a.m. keynote speech, pro-life information tables, food and drink. Parking is available east, south and west of the Capitol. Pay parking is available downtown at garages and meters.

Please dress warmly and bring the family for this peaceful pro-life witness, which is in its 48th year. Dela Cala

### Bake Sale Donations Needed

Volunteers will be curbside 8-9 a.m. in front of the Student Union to accept donated baked goods for the NRL bake sale.

Contact NRL at nebraskartl@gmail.com or call 402-890-0936 with questions.



## Abortion businesses admit Texas abortion ban has saved 70-80% of babies

The state heartbeat law went into effect September 1, and abortion facilities across Texas have reported a massive drop in abortions. Whole Woman's Health, which runs four abortion facilities, saw a 70% to 80% decline in abortions over the past two months, according to *The Texas Tribune*.

Texas is the first state to be allowed to enforce a heartbeat law. State Senate Bill 8 prohibits abortions once an unborn baby's heartbeat is detectable, about six weeks of pregnancy. It also has a unique provision that allows private individuals to enforce the law by filing lawsuits against abortionists and others who help them abort unborn babies with beating hearts.

The law has been challenged in the lower courts. The case was heard before the U.S. Supreme Court on November 1. That decision, issued December 10, allowed the law to remain in effect indefinitely, even though the limited state enforcement of the law through professional licensing boards will be subject to challenge in federal court. The Supreme Court also refused to permit federal courts to just "enjoin the law," which the abortion clinics wanted.

— From Lifenews, Nov. 23/Dec.10, 2021

## RU486 'medication' abortions: A real threat to women

#### By Sandy Danek

The abortion industry is once again placing women at risk, physically and mentally, when it claims RU486 is a "safe and convenient" method of abortion. Current statistics show about 40% of abortions performed in the U.S. are chemical. In Nebraska, it's closer to 70%.

Let's begin with what a chemical abortion is. The term often used by the abortion provider and the press is a "medication abortion." This is an inaccurate term. Medication is something that assists someone in medical need, a positive necessity for a patient in need of medical treatment. There is nothing positive about RU486 or chemical abortions. It is a method of killing a preborn child and traumatizing the mother carrying that child.



Parishioners pray at St. Michael's Church in Hastings.

# Vigil attendees pray to end abortion

More than 80 Pro-Lifers attended a November 30 hourlong prayer vigil at St. Michael's Church in Hastings, sponsored by South Central Nebraska Right to Life.

Beginning with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament by Fr. Cyrus Rowen, those attending prayed the Rosary, as well as a litany of prayers specifically composed for the case of Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization.

In addition, Peace Lutheran Church in Hastings also held a prayer vigil on the eve of the Supreme Court case. People, ranging in age from elementary school through retired, gathered as they worshiped the Lord God and beseeched Him: "Lift up Your hand to put an end to the evil of abortion, have mercy on our nation, incline Your ear and work by Your might that men of this earth may strike terror on the unborn no more." In this scenario, a woman becomes the abortion provider. Her home becomes the abortion clinic and she will see and experience a trauma that will stay with her for a lifetime.

A recently released study revealed 6% of "known outcomes" from the abortion pill were severe enough to result in emergency room or urgent care visits. The Biden administration's push for the FDA to lift safety restrictions on dispensing chemical abortions places a pregnant woman at potential medical risk. In an online article published by Catholic Courier, dated 4/16/21, commenting on recent analysis of adverse effects submitted to the FDA, Dr. Christina Francis, chair of the American Association of Pro-Life OB/GYNs, noted that, in spite of safety regulations being in place, "3,000 women suffering with complications, of which 24 of these women died, and another 500 would have died if they had not reached

emergency medical care in time." She goes

Nebraska Right to Life Chapters Around the State

on to say that an in-person visit is medically necessary because it ensures that every woman receives a full evaluation for any contraindications to a chemical abortion. A woman is at risk for hemorrhage should she have an ectopic pregnancy, and she would have no way of knowing this on her own. As well, it is necessary to test for Rh-incompatibility between the mother and baby in order to maintain her future fertility. Accurately determining the age of the baby is critical, as the abortion pill is only approved for use in the first 70 days. Yet, recently the FDA suspended the enforcement of the agency's in-person prescribing requirement.

The medical risks are disturbing enough and yet when do we hear from the abortion industry the psychological effects of a chemical abortion? A study published in the *British Journal of Psychiatry* found that post-abortive women have an 81% increased risk of experiencing psychiatric issues, including depression and suicidal thoughts. A post-abortion counselor, who describes herself as "pro-choice," said of the women he treated: "Every single one of them has suffered horribly. They never forgive themselves." Women deserve better than this.

# Speaker helps move people's hearts, minds

South Central Nebraska Right to Life hosted speaker Rebecca Kiessling at its Pro-Life & Pie event at Lochland Country Club September 19. Rebecca is director of Save the One, a no-compromise pro-life organization with 24 "hard case" speak-

ers, whose goal is to prevent and/or remove rape exceptions from the law.

Many comments and compliments were heard from the 96 attendees after hearing Rebecca speak. She did a wonderful job of keeping the audience spellbound with her story, which included finding out she was adopted and a child of



From left, Larry & Connie Consbruck, Mike & Loretta Tebbe, Dave & Dee Hart, Rebecca Kiessling, Amanda Frasier and Marge Koepp

rape. She was reunited with her biological mother, but was stunned to learn she was almost aborted several times. After hearing Rebecca pose the question, "Why did she have to die for the crime of her rapist?" many attendees said they had never thought of the rape exception in that way, and were in the "mostly pro-life" category until they heard her speak.

We were honored to have Rebecca share her story with us!

# Could Roe v. Wade be

# overturned

### By Sandy Danek

When the Roe v. Wade decision was handed down by nine Supreme Court Justices on January 22, 1973, an accompanying case decided on the same day, had a devastating effect as well. In Doe v. Bolton, the decree stated that abortion must be legal after viability and until birth for a broad array of "health" reasons, ranging from a woman's age, to her mental status. The list is endless and, of course, has no scrutiny. It is decided by the woman and the abortionist performing the procedure.

In 1992, the Supreme Court took up the Planned Parenthood v. Casey case. Among the provisions were requirements for a waiting period, spousal notice, and (for minors) parental consent prior to undergoing an abortion procedure. In a plurality opinion, the Supreme Court upheld the "essential holding" of Roe, which was that the "Due Process Clause" of the Fourteenth Amendment protects a woman's right to choose to have an abortion prior to viability. In this landmark decision, the court ruled that

## Mississippi's 15-week abortion ban would be at home in Europe

FRANCE

### GERMANY

Abortion is technically illegal in all cases, but may be performed during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy in some circumstances. Until 2019, doctors couldn't advertise that they performed abortions.

#### THE NETHERLANDS AND UNITED KINGDOM

Most abortions are banned after 24 weeks. It is available on demand in the **Netherlands**, but in the **UK**, a woman needs approval of two doctors. After 24 weeks, doctors perform abortions for "serious medical reasons."

Information courtesy of the Washington Examiner, Dec. 2

Abortion is legal up to 12 weeks. Afterward, a woman needs approval of two doctors who have determined the pregnancy would cause grave, permanent damage to her mental or physical health, or that the baby would suffer from an incurable illness or deformity.

POLAND AND MICROSTATES In Poland, Malta, San Marino, Liechtenstein, Vatican City, Monaco and Andorra, abortion is banned in almost every case. In Poland, it is available only in cases of rape, incest or if the mother's life is in danger.

### SPAIN Abortion is legal up to 14

weeks and until the 22nd week if the mother's health or the baby's viability is at serious risk.

### NORDIC COUNTRIES

In Denmark, Norway and Finland, abortions are available on demand only during the first 12 weeks. After that, a woman can apply for an approval from a committee that only grants permission for compelling health reasons. In Sweden, the same applies after 18 weeks. Iceland allows abortion up to the 22nd week, after which women must seek permission.

the U.S. Constitution provided a "right to privacy," thereby allowing abortion until at least "viability," when a child can survive outside the womb.

This "constitutional right" to elective abortion until viability is what the current Supreme Court is deciding in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health. This case centers around the 2018 Mississippi law which provides protection to unborn babies by banning elective abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy. The case could overturn Roe v. Wade and restore legal protection to unborn babies. It was heard on Wednesday, December 1, 2021, with a ruling expected in the summer of 2022.

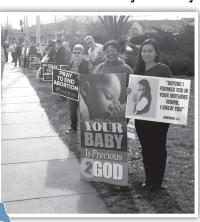
Ending Roe would not end access to abortion in the United States. Some states would generally prohibit abortion, some states would maintain or establish an expansive right to abortion, and others would place greater limits on it while keeping it generally legal. If Roe were overturned, research indicates that additional legal hurdles to abortion would lead to a decrease in the abortion rate.

Whatever the Supreme Court decides, we will need to work with an even greater fervor to educate the country on life-affirming options, and provide pregnancy help and support. Pro-life America has stood for these values for the duration. There is every reason to believe we will continue that effort, as it has always been about protecting the innocent life in the womb and offering the mother options that allow her to consider life over abortion.

## Lincolnites attend Overturn Roe Prayer Rally

Lincoln Right to Life organized an Overturn Roe Prayer Rally on December 1 from noon until 3 p.m. in front of the local Planned Parenthood abortion facility. The event attracted 88 attendees who prayed during those hours.

Nebraska Right to Life Chapters Around the State



Billboards available Seward County Pro-life Council has several pro-life vinyl billboards available for posting. If interested, contact Esther at esther.sander@ protonmail.com or 402-641-6412.

## Memorials

Mary B. Kuhfahl from Deborah & James Smith and Pam Sherry

M.L. "Cap" Dierks from Paul & Diane Dicke Kenneth & Erna Epp from Charles & Cynthia Bright

Joanne Clare Sosso from Pauline Bauer, Vicent & Kathleen Moloney, Gregory & Kelly Sosso, Mary & Tom Lukewicz, Terry & Karen Duffy, Julie Schramm, Rick & Mary Rogers

Fr. Rudy Oborny from Robert & Susan Maske, Dennis & Peg Souba

Paul Ternus from Bryan & Noreen Mosenman Paul Liebig from Marlene Bickert

Jerry Atkin and Roge Polenz from Connie Polenz & Family, Carol Lee Atkin Eleanor Pfeifer from Mary Weeder Visit our website

nebraskarighttolife.org



Find us on social media

Facebook: facebook.com/NebraskaRightToLife Twitter: @NERightToLife

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P.O. Box 80410 Lincoln, NE 68501-0410

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED** 

# Bringing Christ's Love to the Sidewalk

Sidewalk Advocates for Life (SAFL) began nationally in 2014 and has since grown to over 200 locations, which have reported more than 16,400 babies saved, 3,917 hopeful saves, 80 abortion workers who left the industry and 27 closed abortion facilities. SAFL's mission is to train, equip and support communities across the U.S. and the world in sidewalk advocacy: to be the hands and feet of Christ, offering loving, life-affirming alternatives to all present at abortion facilities, thereby eliminating demand and ending abortion.

The Lincoln, Nebraska, affiliate of Sidewalk Advocates for Life (SAFL-Lincoln) began September 10, 2019, with an in-person training. SAFL-Lincoln's ultimate goal is for sidewalk outreach to be present outside Planned Parenthood of Lincoln (PP-Lincoln) during its open business hours. SAFL-Lincoln serves as a gateway from PP-Lincoln to Lincoln's three pregnancy resource centers (Women's Care Center, Pregnancy Center and Birthright) and other life-affirming alternatives.



New sidewalk advocates are trained in July.

Sidewalk advocacy refers to crisis intervention in front of the abortion facility. It involves actively encouraging a woman to choose life, empowering her to leave the abortion facility,

and reaching out to all present to bring about a conversion of heart from a culture of death to a culture of life, thereby ending abortion. Nearly one in four



women will have an abortion by 45 years of age. Research shows that after an abortion, many women experience regret, shame, guilt, depression and anxiety, among other negative effects. Abortion can be harmful emotionally, physically and spiritually to women, men and families.

Anyone is welcome to pray on the sidewalk outside PP and observe SAFL-Lincoln's advocacy methods on Tuesdays 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m., which is the day abortions are performed. Please contact Cathy Turner at saflcathy896@gmail.com if you are interested in the SAFL Basic Training. We also invite you to visit storiesfromthesidewalk.org to read real-life sidewalk experiences and victories, such as women choosing life, abortion workers leaving the industry and more.