



# Prince George ProLife Society

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**NEWSLETTER NO. 24**

**April 2005**

## PROLIFE SOCIETY

This newsletter is a publication  
of the ProLife Society of  
Prince George.

Office hours: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

**President:** Laura Fowlie  
**Past Pres:** Barbara Gobbi  
**Secretary:** Patricia O'Neill  
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Board of Directors:

Rolande Matte  
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Members of the ProLife Society believe in the right to life of all human beings from the moment of fertilization until natural death. We support only the use of peaceful means to promote the aims of the society.

## COMING EVENTS

### April

1/2 BC ProLife Conference  
Salmon Arm, BC

16 Annual Potluck/Silent  
Auction  
St. Mary's Auditorium  
Doors 6:00 Dinner 6:30

### May

14 DAY OF INFAMY  
Along 15th Ave.  
3:30-4:30 p.m.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy Easter to you all! I hope this Easter Season brings you and your family abundant peace, joy and hope. This special time of year is also filled with a great awareness of the beauty and preciousness of life. We celebrate resurrected life and new life, and we give praise and thanks for these miraculous gifts.

Speaking of life and miracles, I want to share with you the story of a woman named Kate Adamson. In 1995, Kate was struck down at the age of thirty-three with a rare double brainstem stroke, leaving her completely paralyzed and, for a time, unable to even blink her eyes. She appeared to be in a vegetative state and the medical staff questioned giving her the basic needs of food and water, and eventually removed her feeding tube for a period of eight days before her husband won his fight to have the tube reinserted.

Kate, since recovered with just a partial paralysis of her left side, has stated that this form of legalized execution was, "one of the most painful experiences you can imagine." She said these words at a rally, March 12, in Clearwater, Florida to a group of over three hundred people who had gathered to save the life of another woman, Terri Schiavo.

Terri was a young 26 year old woman when she collapsed in her home in 1990. Due to a chemical imbalance, brought on by an eating disorder, Terri's heart stopped. She was able to be revived but not before brain damage occurred. Although not on life support, Terri needed a feeding tube, to provide necessary nutrition and hydration, because swallowing was difficult. Following a couple of years of therapy, Terri's husband decided against any further treatment and posted a Do Not Resuscitate order in Terri's medical chart.

Terri's parents, Bob and Mary Schindler, and her husband, Michael, strongly disagreed on whether Terri was in a persistent vegetative state or not. Michael felt she was and her parents said she was not, as they felt that Terri was truly able to respond to them. Throughout the ensuing years, there were many legal battles between them concerning the care of Terri and some of these battles consisted of whether or not Terri's feeding tube should be removed, which would, in effect, condemn Terri to death.

In both 2001 and in 2003, Terri's feeding tube was removed but was later reinserted due to the efforts of her parents and the governor of Florida. On

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March 18 of this year, Terri's feeding tube was once again removed. At this time, many are fighting for Terri's life – her parents, religious leaders, and even the U.S. federal government.

As sad as this is, even sadder is the fact that, every day, there are similar life and death issues being decided in court systems, although few as publicized as Terri Schiavo's case. The real fear and concern in all of this, is that cases like these will lead very quickly to euthanasia becoming sanctioned.

I ask you to please speak out. This story is about Terri but - in a very real sense - it is about all of us. It is about life. Share this story with others. Write letters to the editor. In whatever ways possible, make people aware of what's happening. It's vital that all know that Terri is a living, breathing human being whose life has been judged as valueless and who therefore has been condemned to a slow and painful death.

As I prepare to close my message to you, I have received word that the U.S. Congress has passed unprecedented emergency legislation, the Schiavo Law, which allows Terri's parents to bring an emergency request before a federal judge. This could possibly result in Terri's feeding tube being reinserted very soon. This is great news, but we know that the fight is far from over. The battle may have been won, but the war rages on.

Continue to spread the pro-life message and please keep Terri and her family in your prayers - and others that might be in like situations - that wise decisions will be made, based on reverence and respect for all life.

P.S. Before going to print, I received the disheartening news that U.S. District Judge James Whittemore has rejected the request of Terri's parents. Now, more than ever, the prayers of all of us are desperately needed!

### **UK'S CARDINAL MURPHY O'CONNER SPEAKS CLEARLY**

In the UK abortion has made its way into the current political debate. Michael Howard, leader of the Conservative Party, has said that he wants to see the time frame allowed for elective abortion moved back to 20 weeks from the country's current

24 weeks. On the other hand, Tony Blair, leader of the UK's Labour Party, said that you should not criminalize a woman who chooses to abort her child.

Cardinal Murphy O'Conner, stating that the Catholic Church is totally opposed to abortion, was happy to see that abortion is on the public agenda. He said that Howard's pledge to roll back the legal age allowable for abortion is something Catholics and others can commend on the way to full abandonment of abortion. Although the Cardinal made mention of several other issues important to Catholic voters, he said that respect for human life takes primacy over other issues.

Source: LifeSiteNews.com, March 15, 2005

### **THOUSANDS RALLY FOR LIFE IN THE PHILIPPINES**

MANILA, March 7, 2005 (LifeSiteNews.com) - The Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines organized a rally March 5, in Manila and protests across the country to galvanize Catholic opposition to the proposed population bill. Thousands of youth gathered to protest the proposed bill that would restrict family size to two children and introduce sex education to children in schools.

In the recent history of the Philippines, the political effectiveness of mass, peaceful Catholic protest was illustrated with the fall of the Marcos regime in 1986. Then-Cardinal of Manila, Jaime Sin, organized the huge rallies in which thousands of Catholics took to the streets and brought about a peaceful change of government. Participation in the current rallies was not limited to Catholics. Muslims and members of other Christian denominations were among the crowds.

Bill 3773, "Responsible Parenthood and Population Management Act," mandates a rule that restricts families to two children, introduces sex education for children and the distribution of artificial contraceptives.

### **POLL ON ABORTION**

A Focus Canada poll, conducted by Environics Research in September and October 2004, shows that 68% of Canadians polled said Canadian law should protect human life before birth. One-third, 33%, of the 2,027 Canadians polled said legal protection should begin at conception. Almost one-quarter, 24%, said it should begin after three

months of pregnancy and 11% said after six months of pregnancy. Only 28% of those polled agreed that legal protection should begin at birth, the current situation in Canadian law.

Source: LifeSiteNews.com, March 15, 2005

### **TEEN FACES CAPITAL MURDER FOR ABORTING GIRLFRIEND'S TWINS; GIRL NOT CHARGED**

LUFKIN, Texas, March 4, 2005 (LifeSiteNews.com) – A Texas teen is facing a capital murder charge after his 4-month-pregnant girlfriend persuaded him to step on her stomach in order to kill the unborn twins she was carrying. Authorities assumed 16-year-old Erica Basoria had been beaten by her boyfriend, 18-year-old Gerardo "Jerry" Flores, charging him under the Texas Prenatal Protection Act.

Basoria told authorities she had been trying to kill her unborn children for weeks, by punching herself in the abdomen. "When I was four months pregnant, I began to show, and at that time I decided that I should have gotten an abortion," she wrote in an affidavit, as reported by twincities.com.

The Act, passed in 2003, was created as a protection for unborn children from assault, as in the new federal Unborn Victims of Violence act. The new law re-defined the legal term 'individual' as, "a human being who is alive, including an unborn child at every stage of gestation from fertilization until birth." The law, however, included language that makes it inapplicable in either a criminal prosecution or a civil action to the conduct of the unborn child's mother so that the law would not apply to a woman having an abortion.

"How can two people conspire to do something like this and only one of them be punished? How can that be fair?" asked Ryan Deaton, defense attorney.

Prosecutor Clyde Herrington was shocked that "they completely leave the female out of the criminal penalty. It doesn't seem entirely fair," he said.

Basoria's affidavit also said her parents tried to persuade her to have an abortion. "They said I was too young to have children," she wrote. "About two weeks before the miscarriage, I started hitting myself," she wrote. "I would do this every other

day and I would use both of my fists when I did this. I would hit myself 10 or more times."

### **UN BEIJING + 5 CONFERENCE REJECTS ELECTIVE ABORTION AS A UNIVERSAL "RIGHT" FOR WOMEN**

UNITED NATIONS, March 3, 2005 (LifeSiteNews.com) - In late breaking news today, LifeSiteNews.com has learned that the proposed US amendment, to clarify that the UN Beijing +5 Document and Platform for Action do not propose abortion rights, did not achieve consensus at an informal negotiation meeting this afternoon. LifeSiteNews.com sources on the scene have revealed that the measure represents a pro-life victory nonetheless as the vast majority of countries reiterated during the meeting that they did not consider the UN documents to confer new rights to abortion, and thus the amendment was unnecessary.

The bickering over the proposal also exposed the fact that Canada and several European nations would like to interpret the documents as conferring an international right to abortion. However, that interpretation was soundly rejected by the majority of nations. In fact, according to LifeSiteNews.com sources, Ms. Kyung-wha Kang of Korea, the Chairperson of the current 49th session of the Commission on the Status of Women, confirmed during the meeting that the Beijing documents created no new international rights nor the right to abortion.

U.S. Ambassador Ellen Sauerbrey, head of the U.S. delegation, said yesterday, "It is clear that there was no intent on the part of States supporting the Beijing documents to create new rights . . . including the right to abortion."

She added, "The United States recognizes the International Conference on Population and Development principle that abortion policies are a matter of national sovereignty. And, we are pleased that so many other governments have indicated their agreement with this position, and we anticipate that we can now focus clearly on addressing the many urgent needs of women around the world."

### **EUGENICS: ALIVE AND WELL - DISABLED BEWARE**

In May of 2004 LifeSite News  
([www.lifesite.net/1dn/2004/may/04053105.html](http://www.lifesite.net/1dn/2004/may/04053105.html))

had an article highlighting the skyrocketing abortion rate in Britain as more and more British parents decided to abort their “defective” children. We now have the case of two UK physicians who agreed to abort late term babies that had a cleft palate. The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children are exploring their country’s Human Rights Act in the hope that a charge can be brought against them. “Abortion on the grounds that the child has a cleft palate is lethal discrimination against disabled people, as is any abortion on the grounds of disability.”

Rev. Joanna Jepson, who herself had been born with a cleft palate, had unsuccessfully tried to have the doctors charged with having performed an abortion after the 24 cut-off point for doing abortions in Britain.

Source: LifeSite News, March 16, 2005)

## **PARENTAL CONSENT LAW PASSES**

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas, March 7, 2005

(LifeSiteNews.com) – Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee signed a new law into effect Thursday that requires parental consent for girls under 18 years of age before having an abortion.

Huckabee told legislators at a signing conference Thursday that the measure is another step in the protection of life. The Senate approved the bill, sponsored by Little Rock Republican Jeremy Hutchinson, last month by a 27-3 vote.

“I just can’t comprehend a society where a child can get an abortion without a parent’s permission, yet can’t get an aspirin at the school office without that permission,” said Republican Sen. David Bisbee in Senate debate of the bill last month, as reported by arkansasnews.com.

Bisbee argued that, as a serious medical procedure, abortion occasionally ends in tragedy. “What do we say to those parents if that child dies? That we’re sorry, we thought you might get upset? Here’s her body?”

## **PLANNED PARENTHOOD DEFENDS PARTIAL BIRTH ABORTIONS**

DETROIT, March 3, 2005 (LifeSiteNews.com) - The attempt to ban partial birth abortion in Michigan is being challenged by the ACLU the

Center for Reproductive Rights and Planned Parenthood Federation of America, even before it comes into effect. The law, which is to take effect March 30, is the state’s third attempt, with a previous piece of legislation vetoed by the Democrat Governor the last time.

The abortion activists are, as usual, arguing that the law does not allow exceptions for all aspects of a mother’s health, including her “mental health.”

Jennifer Granholm, the ‘Catholic’ governor of Michigan shrugged the problem away, saying the law would likely be overturned in court. Granholm seemed unconcerned about a possible threat to the democratic process in which a law may routinely be overturned by an unelected judges. Hundreds of thousands of Michigan citizens signed petitions to have partial birth abortion ban passed.

The Michigan law differs from previous attempts because it does not address the procedure itself, but focuses on the legal definition of a person. The law says that a person comes into existence at any time any part of the child is outside the mother’s body.

## **AFTER 20 YEARS IN A ‘VEGETATIVE STATE’ WOMAN TALKS**

CLEARWATER, Fl., February 11, 2005

(LifeSiteNews.com) - Sarah Scantlin was knocked into a coma by a drunk driver 20 years ago has begun to speak and remember her past. Her brain was injured so badly that doctors first feared she would spend her life in what is called a “vegetative state”, spending years unable to form words or make any sounds other than loud cries.

A week ago Sarah began speaking and doctors have no explanation.

Bob Schindler, father of Terri Schindler Schiavo says, “In light of the miraculous awakening of Miss Sarah Scantlin in Kansas and the success of the new brainwave test reported in the New York Times this week, my daughter deserves to have this test before she is starved to death by judicial decree.”

## **THE “FLOODGATES” WILL OPEN**

The World Federation of Catholic Medical

Associations (FIAMC) issued a warning Sunday that allowing Terri’s starvation to proceed would “open the floodgates” to euthanasia of the disabled.

# DAY OF INFAMY

**Saturday, May 14**

3:30 - 4:30 PM  
Along 15th Avenue  
West of Prince George Regional Hospital

Signs to be given out:

**Canada's Holocaust — ABORTION  
WE NEED A LAW  
ABORTION KILLS CHILDREN**

There will also be message balloons for children attending -  
weather permitting.

**COME OUT AND SUPPORT LIFE!**

## BOTTLE DROP FUNDRAISER



Drop your bottles, cans

& tetra pack juice containers off at:

**BBK Bottle Depot**

1 block south of COSTCO/behind Mr.G on Vance Rd.

Let them know that the monies are designated to:

**PROLIFE SOCIETY OF PRINCE GEORGE**

Phone Tracy at 564-0551 if you need further information.

"If Terri, an innocent person, can be condemned to death, every person whose life will be considered of insufficient 'quality' by a guardian or the court will be in danger of euthanasia performed by withdrawal of basic and ordinary care," warned FIAMC spokesman Gian Luigi Gigli, M.D., in a release.

"The importance of this case goes beyond this deplorable circumstance," he said. "It will open the floodgates to euthanasia in the United States, at all ages, without even a legislative decision."

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"Following the teaching of Pope John Paul II and the evidence of medical sciences, we believe that no human being, including those in the permanent vegetative state, can be denied the respect due to a human person by provision of food and water, without which any person, regardless of his/her state of health, would be condemned to death."

"Such a perversion of medicine will be the source of discrimination against other human beings, with enormous risks for human rights and democracy," said the FIAMC statement.

Source: LifeSiteNews.com, March 9, 2005

## **UN BANS ALL HUMAN CLONING**

NEW YORK, March 8, 2005 (LifeSiteNews.com) - The UN General Assembly adopted a Declaration today calling on nations to enact legislation to "prohibit all forms of human cloning." By a vote of 84 to 34, the Declaration received more support in the General Assembly than when it passed in the 6th Committee two weeks ago. The measure sets an international standard that humans should not be created through cloning for any purpose, placing human life as a priority over scientific experimentation.

The decision ends over three years of deadlock caused by countries seeking approval for cloning research. Belgium, the United Kingdom, Singapore and other countries that hope to profit from cloning humans opposed a total ban, and declared they would defy the international moral agreement.

The topic was originally introduced at the UN by pro-cloning countries to gain implicit international approval for so-called "therapeutic cloning" (creating human clones to experiment upon and kill). In 2002, these countries requested that a treaty be drafted to

ban only so-called "reproductive cloning." The countries insisted that human clones are for research only and should not be allowed to survive.

The pro-cloning countries lost support as Costa Rica took the lead, along with the U.S. and pro-life groups, to educate countries that cloning would violate the human rights of both cloned embryos and women. The embryos would be created and destroyed at the whim of scientists. Women would be treated as commodities to harvest their eggs.

The Declaration, introduced by Honduras, also calls on Member States to introduce measures to "prevent exploitation of women." Delegates from developing countries feared that women from poor countries would be targeted as a source for the large number of women's eggs that would be needed to support these "egg farms." The procedure by which eggs are extracted from these vulnerable women is painful and dangerous to their lives and health.

An additional 6 countries stated that they supported the Declaration but missed the vote.

Source: News Release from UN Pro-Life and Pro-Family Non-Government Organizations and reported in LifeSiteNews.com, March 8, 2005

## **WOMAN WITH PARKINSON'S CAMPAIGNS AGAINST EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH**

BOSTON, March 8, 2005 (LifeSiteNews.com) - Patricia Payne is a mother of five who is campaigning against the use of embryos in stem cell research. Researchers continue to insist that the use of 'spare' embryos from in vitro fertilization facilities will yield cures for numerous intractable diseases. They invariably list Parkinson's disease among those diseases upon which to use embryo cells.

At a meeting of a joint committee of the Massachusetts Legislature, Payne gave testimony indicating that even though she suffers from Parkinson's disease herself, she wants to see the state ban research using embryos. "I don't want to see cures, even a cure for my terrible disease, to be obtained by destroying a fellow human being at the earliest and most vulnerable stage of their existence," she said in her testimony.

Embryo research lobbyists have used celebrities like Michael J. Fox who also suffers from Parkinson's

to promote the use of embryos to create stem cell lines for research. These lobbyists, however, invariably omit the fact that embryo stem cells have been tried on Parkinson's patients a number of times, with each experiment yielding what researchers called 'catastrophic' and incurable side effects.

In testimony that was difficult because of the exhausting tremors and weakness of her Parkinson's, Payne told the Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies that such research is morally unacceptable. "To kill one human being for the benefit of another is never morally justifiable," she said. "To kill the weak in order to benefit the strong is even more objectionable."

Payne spoke to Catholic News Service saying that she will be participating in a clinical trial with adult stem cells. Thus far, research with adult stem cells, those derived from the patient's own body, have been extremely successful. One former US air force pilot had the progression of his Parkinson's arrested and up to 80% of his motor functions restored using adult stem cell therapy.

"Adult stem cells have treated and cured literally tens of thousands of people with almost 100 different diseases," Patricia Payne told the Massachusetts committee. "How many people have been cured of any disease using embryonic stem cells? The answer is zero. None. Instead, the history of embryonic stem-cell research is replete with monstrous tumors, tissue rejections and immune reactions."

## **ADULT STEM CELLS PROVIDE DENTAL BREAKTHROUGH**

When a person loses bone in their mouth, the next loss is teeth. But researchers say post-natal and adult stem cells are showing promise in restoring bones and teeth. It's all part of the regenerative dental medicine field and those involved say stem cells are leading to great discoveries. And it's happening without the moral implications of embryonic stem-cell research.

The ability to make bone has been a dream of researchers for some time -- and now success may be in the offing. The American Association for Dental Research is heralding several advances thanks to bone-marrow stem cells.

Dr. Pamela Robey of the University of Texas, explained: "What we know is if we take bone marrow and we put it into a culture dish and then we isolate a single cell that has begun to proliferate and form a number of progeny, if we put it into a low oxygen atmosphere, it has the ability to make cartilage."

That has the potential to regenerate all types of skeletal tissue -- including teeth, according to Dr. Mary McDougall, president-elect of the American Association for Dental Research.

"What we're finding is that . . . baby teeth and extracted third molars are a wonderful source for adult stem cells that have applications to a large number of tissues and (we're) focusing now on cartilage, bone, fat, dentin, enamel, and periodontal ligament."

What's more, these discoveries don't come with the moral problems related to embryonic stem-cell research. The stem cells can be easily obtained, since every person has his or her own stockpile.

Source: by Keith Peters, Washington, D.C., correspondent FAMILY NEWS IN FOCUS Feb. 18, 2005

## **TORONTO RESEARCHERS DISCOVER "JACK-POT" OF STEM CELLS IN UMBILICAL CORD**

TORONTO, February 9, 2005 (LifeSiteNews.com) - Umbilical cords continue to surprise researchers as an abundant source of stem cells. Today's Toronto Star reports that a group of scientists at the University of Toronto have discovered what they are calling the 'jack-pot' of stem cells in a mass of jelly found inside the umbilical cord.

The source, known as Wharton's Jelly, surrounds the three umbilical cord blood vessels connecting the fetus and mother. The Toronto researchers used umbilical cords donated from full-term pregnancies.

The team hopes that this will spur parents to save their children's umbilical cords. Stem cells from umbilical cord blood have proven to be as versatile as stem cells derived from embryos. Davies said the stem cells could provide sources of treatment for diseases such as leukemia and lymphoma, which normally require bone marrow transplants.

## BONE MARROW STEM CELL SHOWS GREAT PROMISE

BOSTON, February 2, 2005 (LifeSiteNews.com) - A type of adult stem cell has been isolated from bone marrow that shows all the characteristics of human embryonic stem cells. A team of researchers at Boston's Tufts University have found cells that come from adult donors that can change into many, if not all of the different types of tissue in the human body. It was previously thought that only embryonic cells could produce this.

The cells were tested on rats with heart damage and some changed into heart muscle tissue to directly repair damage, and others went to form new blood vessels. Treated rats had more than twice the number of blood vessels and less scar tissue than those of the control group.

Tufts cardiologist Dr. Douglas W. Losordo said, "I think embryonic stem cells are going to fade in the rearview mirror of adult stem cells." He said that bone marrow "is like a repair kit. Nature provided us with these tools to repair organ damage."

## MAN CURED OF HEART DISEASE USING HIS OWN BLOOD'S STEM CELLS

LA JOLLA, February 15, 2005 (LifeSiteNews.com) - A California man who suffered from a form of heart disease called Myocardial Ischemia has been successfully treated with his own stem cells and enjoyed Valentine's Day with his wife with a romantic dinner. Mildred Salas said, "My heart is singing now. I have my best friend back. He has so much energy, so much passion. What's happened is a miracle." Her husband, Anthony Salas, was in pain from angina and was taking nitroglycerine tablets and morphine.

Doctors at Scripps Green Hospital in La Jolla took stem cells filtered out of his blood and injected them into his heart where they changed into heart cells and repaired the damaged tissue. The treatment was part of a study, involving 24 seriously ill patients, investigating the possibility of using adult stem cells to help a patient's heart grow new blood vessels.

Infant Mortality Increases for the First Time in 44 Years; Experts Say Abortion Can Increase Risk of Later Preterm Birth

## POTLUCK SUPPER AND SILENT AUCTION Saturday, April 16

Please try to bring a table top sized silent auction item.

Phone the office at 963-3157 so a bidding sheet can be ready for you to put your item beside.

A - H bring desserts, I to Z bring main dish Executive bring salads

Buns, etc provided

\$5 a person

\$15 a family/3 or more



Doors Open 6:00 p.m.

Supper 6:30 p.m.

Auction bidding

7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

**St. Mary's Auditorium  
1088 Gillett Street**