



VERMONT RIGHT TO LIFE

# REVIEW

Volume 49, Number 1

Spring/Summer 2021

## Former Planned Parenthood Employee is Now Speaker of the Vermont House



*Newly Elected Speaker of the House and former Planned Parenthood employee, Jill Krowinski*

New Speaker of the Vermont House, Jill Krowinski, has close ties to Planned Parenthood of Northern New England (PPNNE). Krowinski will now hold the gavel and set the agenda for the 2021-2022 session.

Krowinski was employed for 8 years as Vice President of Education and Public Affairs for PPNNE. In her role for the pro-abortion organization, Krowinski oversaw Planned Parenthood's illegal political campaign activities conducted in violation of state laws.

Those activities involved illegally raising and spending nearly \$120,000 to run television ads against then-candidate for Governor, Brian Dubie, in 2010.

Diligent pro-life efforts exposed the violations and a complaint was filed with the Office of the Attorney General. Thanks to ongoing pressure, the office of the Attorney General took action nearly 2 years after the complaint was first filed, and PPNNE agreed to pay a fine of \$30,000.

Sadly, Planned Parenthood's last minute attack ads may well have cost Brian Dubie the election and helped pro-abortion Peter Shumlin win by a very narrow margin.

Shortly after winning the election Governor Peter Shumlin appointed Jill Krowinski to an

open House seat where she quickly rose to power, serving as Majority Leader and now Speaker of the House.

As Majority Leader, Krowinski helped to promote passage of a bill to legalize abortion through all nine months of pregnancy (H.57) and has also promote Proposal 5, an amendment to add abortion rights into Vermont's Constitution. **Both measures have the added effect of protecting her former employer, Planned Parenthood, and their near monopoly on Vermont's abortion business.**

"Despite being responsible for illegal campaign activity - or maybe because she is willing to do anything to win - Krowinski has been elected by her fellow Democrats to be Speaker of the House, the most powerful position in the Vermont House of Representatives," stated Sharon F. Toborg, Treasurer, Vermont Right to Life, Political Committee.



*By violating the law, Planned Parenthood may well have cost Brian Dubie the race for Governor in 2010.*

## How did your Vermont Senator Vote on Proposal 5

Friday, April 9, 2021 marked a sad and dark day in Vermont's history. The Vermont Senate voted 26 to 4 to pass Proposal 5 on to the House of Representatives.

Four Republican Senators joined together with 22 pro-abortion Democrat and Progressive Senators in support of Proposal 5.

Those Senators were:

Senator Richard Westman (Lamoille) Senator Joe Benning (Caledonia), Senator Randy Brock (Franklin) and Senator Corey Parent (Franklin).

Proposal 5 now moves to the Vermont House for a public hearing and a final vote of the full House of Representatives, either in the waning days of the 2021 session, or in the 2022 legislative session. If passed by a majority of the House, it will be on the ballot in the General Election in November 2022.



We are grateful to the four Vermont Senators who were brave enough to stand up against the tidal wave of pro-abortion disregard for unborn human life.

Heroes on Proposal 5 in the Senate were:

Senator Russ Ingalls (R) Essex/Orleans  
Senator Robert Starr (D) Essex/Orleans  
Senator Brian Collamore (R) Rutland  
Senator Joshua Terenzini (R) Rutland

### VT Health Department Abortion Statistics for 2019



Abortions in Vermont dropped slightly from 1,204 in 2018 to 1,055 in 2019

### PLANNED PARENTHOOD'S LATEST NATIONAL ANNUAL REPORT: "The Abortion Giant Is All About Abortion – No Matter What"

WASHINGTON — Planned Parenthood released its 2019-2020 annual report February 22, and it shows that, despite a transition in leadership and a very slight decline in revenues, Planned Parenthood performed a record number of abortions in 2019.

The 354,871 abortions represent more than 41% of the most recent reliable national abortion figure from the Guttmacher Institute and gives Planned Parenthood a commanding share of the nation's abortion market.

*continued on page 5*

## From the Desk of the Executive Director:

### Mary Hahn Beerworth



We are all aware that important issues are facing Vermonters at every turn.

However, defeating Proposal 5 (Article 22) needs to rise to the top of your to-do list!

This legislative attempt to alter Vermont's constitution by amending the state's founding document with language to secure unlimited, unregulated abortion is unprecedented!

Not a single state has added language to include abortion rights in their state constitution and the effort here in Vermont must be stopped. To succeed we will need the help of every Vermonter who is offended by this pro-abortion attempt to deface our state's founding document. The primary lobbying force behind Proposal 5 is Planned Parenthood of Vermont. Not only does Planned Parenthood dominate the legislature, they have deep financial resources attributable to the millions they get in Vermont taxpayer monies. Planned Parenthood has a near monopoly on the abortion business in Vermont and they know Proposal 5 would shield them from government interference into what they do and how they do it.

#### *Proposal 5:*

*Sec. 2. Article 22 of Chapter I of the Vermont Constitution is added to read: Article 22. [Personal reproductive liberty]*

*That an individual's right to personal reproductive autonomy is central to the liberty and dignity to determine one's own life course and shall not be denied or infringed unless justified by a compelling State interest achieved by the least restrictive means.*

On April 9, 2021 the Vermont Senate voted for the final time in favor of Proposal 5. Tragically, the vote was 26 to 4. Three Republicans and one lone Democrat displayed the courage to stand up against the tidal wave of pro-abortion lawmakers. The House will take up Proposal 5 either

this year or next year, will hold a public hearing and then vote. The final step, if passed by a majority of the members of the House, is that the language will be placed on the General Election ballot in November of 2022.

The language centers around the phrase "personal reproductive autonomy" rather than using the word abortion. Promoters admit that the courts will decide what the phrase will ultimately be interpreted to mean.

Members of the House and Senate Committees have clearly understood that the ramifications of the language they chose would have broad ranging implications. For example, Vermont taxpayers could be forced to subsidize every abortion, all sterilizations, gender-altering surgeries (even for minors) and reversals of those surgeries along with a host of experimental procedures.

As Dorinda Bordlee of the Bioethics Defense Fund testified to the Vermont House:

**"The operative phrase "personal reproductive autonomy" in the proposed new Article 22 of the Vermont Constitution is not defined. Are unethical human experimentation practices protected by the proposed amendment? The term "reproductive" is not expressly limited to abortion. Current and future proposed biotechnologies that arguably relate directly or indirectly to "reproduction" include, among others, the following practices that could have constitutional protection: human cloning, 3-parent embryo creation, gestational surrogacy trafficking, trafficking in human embryo creation, designer babies, womb transplants."**

## What can YOU do? Two immediate ACTIONS come to mind:

- 1) Register to attend the Life Symposium on Saturday, October 2, 2021. You will find the registration form in this issue of the REVIEW along with more detailed information about the conference. Seating will be limited so sign up right away!
- 2) Become informed and share that information with family, friends and church members, and consider organizing a meeting and invite a speaker from the Vermont Right to Life Committee to lead the discussion on Proposal 5.

We need every voting Vermonter to understand the hidden dangers of Proposal 5 but we can't do it without you. Join us on Saturday, October 2, 2021 for a full day of expert speakers who are prepared to arm you with the information you will need. See you there!

#### Vermont Right to Life Review Vol. 49 No. 1

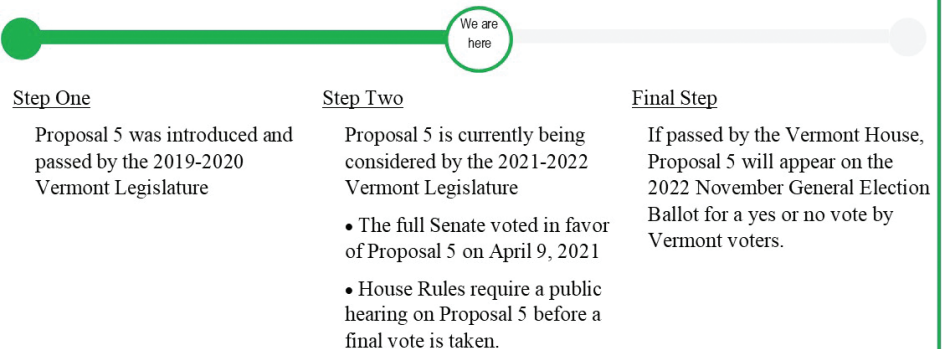
Spring/Summer 2021

Mary Hahn Beerworth, Editor

The Vermont Right to Life Review (ISSN #1086-7384) is published regularly by the Vermont Right to Life Committee, Inc., PO Box 1079, Montpelier, VT 05601. Phone (802) 229-4885. Subscription price is \$15.00 per year and should be directed to VRLC, PO Box 1079, Montpelier, VT 05601

#### Timeline for Proposal 5—A Proposed Amendment to the Vermont Constitution

Which would add an Article 22 guaranteeing a right to "personal reproductive autonomy"







## Pleading the Case for Vermont's Most Vulnerable – the Unborn

### Director of Outreach and Advocacy/Lobbyist:

### Maggie Kerrin

Sometimes the words, “I’m pregnant” are the initial phrases of vulnerability. Young girls and women, with futures planned differently - college - careers. Unmarried women. Women who aren’t sure how their boyfriends or husbands will respond to the news. Women who hear the response, “I want you to get an abortion” from the one that claimed to love them. Knowing that he might leave you, alone, when you need him the most. But at least, for the woman, this vulnerability comes with the ability to make her own choices. For the unborn, there is no ability to choose to live or to die.

How does a young girl or woman choose between the life or death of her child? And why, too often, is that choice the termination of her own son or daughter? Often times, the reason is vulnerability.

From this place of vulnerability come calls of desperation seeking helping from someone, anyone, they hope they can trust. Too often, that trust is placed in the hands of abortion providers practicing under the guise of “reproductive healthcare.” Vermont’s 2018 Vital Statistics report states that there were 1204 abortions performed by such “healthcare providers” in Vermont that year alone. Abortion ends a life. It stops a heartbeat – permanently. Abortion is NOT healthcare.

There are options to abortion. If you, or someone you know and love, is currently feeling vulnerable due to the uncertainty of an unplanned pregnancy, please know that there is help available. There are trusted sources throughout Vermont that want to help. Those resources include more than a

dozen Vermont based pregnancy resource centers prepared to help young girls and women choose life for their baby. All services are provided at no cost.

What is needed - Courage.

Vermont Right to Life understands the vulnerability, uncertainty, and fear that young girls and women may experience from an unplanned pregnancy. We also know that where there is life, there is hope, and there is a future for both you and your child.

Pro-lifers also understand the vulnerability of unborn babies with disabilities, abortion survivors, and those terminally ill and nearing end of life.

Please visit our website at [www.vrlc.net](http://www.vrlc.net) for more information on pregnancy resource centers and other life issues.

## Rally for Life ~ Saturday, January 23, 2021

Visit [www.vrlc.net](http://www.vrlc.net) for a taped message (scroll down to Virtual Rally 2021) from abortion survivor Melissa Odhen, hosted by Joanna Biscoglio of Waterbury. Melissa will also be in Vermont as guest speaker at the Life Symposium on October 2, 2021.



*Hundreds of pro-life Vermonters wore LIFE masks provided by Vermont Right to Life for the 2021 Annual Rally for Life in January. Participants braved the cold to commemorate the 47 Anniversary of the day the US Supreme Court legalized abortion on January 22, 1973 – leading to the deaths of over 60 million unborn babies in America alone. Pro-lifers have pledged to gather annually to observe the sad occasion and to recommit to ending abortion. Many thanks to those who attended!*



## Vermont Parents Need to Know!

Vermont is now the first state in the nation to make free condoms available in public middle and high schools. Gov. Scott signed H. 663 into law (on October 5, 2020), which expands access to contraceptives across the state.

While some of the largest school districts in the US have free condoms available, Vermont is now the first state to require its secondary schools to have them according to the National Coalition of STD Directors.

Parents need to understand that minor students as young as 12 years of age, and perhaps even younger, will be able to access condoms without parental consent or notification.

Naturally, Planned Parenthood of Vermont testified in favor of H. 663, while Sharon F. Toborg, Policy Analyst for Vermont Right to Life, testified against passage. Contraceptives in the hands of the very young will invariably lead to more abortions, to say nothing about the other harms that can come with underage children engaging in sex.

“There should be concern when there is evidence that a child is engaged in a sexual relationship — such as when a 12-year old seeks out condoms,” stated Toborg. “Yet instead of strengthening efforts to identify children who are potentially being abused, [the bill] weakens the mandatory reporting laws.”

According to Vermont law, sex with a child under 16 is statutory rape. Prior to age 16, state law recognizes that children are too young and immature to understand and consent to sex.

The new law is in conflict with the statutory rape law but now requires public middle and high schools (where children as young as 11 are in attendance) to place free condoms “in locations that are safe and readily accessible to students, including the school nurse’s office.”

## Planned Parenthood is sneaking in the BACK DOOR of your own home!

Planned Parenthood recently posted an online advertisement aimed directly at youth ages 13-19 years old to “Work for Q Chat Space.” This posting ran with a listing of job “responsibilities,” “skills/qualities” needed, “commitment hours,” and a “stipend offered” for all positions. Planned Parenthood hosts numerous additional sites where your youth can access, via their computer screen or cell phone, answers from Planned Parenthood about sex, abortion, birth control and more.

*Editor’s Note: The destructive force that is Planned Parenthood reaches into matters that are best handled by the family. But, Planned Parenthood’s mission includes separating children from their parents and inserting themselves as the best resource for our kids.*

## WHERE DOES *Your* STATE STAND ON THE HUMAN RIGHT TO LIFE? LIFE LIST 2021

1. Arkansas	11. Alabama	21. Nebraska	31. Delaware	41. Massachusetts
2. Louisiana	12. North Dakota	22. South Carolina	32. Virginia	42. New Mexico
3. Oklahoma	13. Tennessee	23. Pennsylvania	33. Colorado	43. Montana
4. Mississippi	14. Georgia	24. Iowa	34. Maryland	44. Washington
5. Indiana	15. Michigan	25. Wisconsin	35. Nevada	45. New York
6. Kansas	16. Utah	26. West Virginia	36. New Hampshire	46. Hawaii
7. Arizona	17. Florida	27. Minnesota	37. Illinois	47. California
8. Missouri	18. Kentucky	28. North Carolina	38. Rhode Island	48. Oregon
9. South Dakota	19. Ohio	29. Wyoming	39. Maine	49. New Jersey
10. Idaho	20. Texas	30. Alaska	40. Connecticut	50. Vermont

f @AmericansUnitedforLife

Instagram @AmericansUnitedforLife

Twitter @AUL

“Planned Parenthood is committed to partnering with the Biden-Harris administration to ensure sexual and reproductive health doesn’t take a backseat in health policy and when making appointments.” - Alexis McGill Johnson, President & CEO of Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

## OVER THE LAST 10 YEARS AT PLANNED PARENTHOOD

PAP Tests	↓	70%
Prenatal Services	↓	72%
Breast Exams	↓	68%
Abortions	↑	6.7%
Taxpayer Funding	↑	27%

They have one focus: ABORTION

LIVE ACTION

6/6

Data From Planned Parenthood’s 2019-2020 Annual Report:  
lifelinks.io/ppannualreport



**“It is obvious, given the volume of killing, the group’s enormous budget, and its aggressive abortion advocacy, that abortion is essential to Planned Parenthood and that Planned Parenthood has tried to make itself essential to the performance, promotion, and defense of abortion in this country,”** said Carol Tobias, president of National Right to Life.

Planned Parenthood took in about \$24 million less in revenues than it did in record-setting 2018, but the \$1.641 billion in revenue for fiscal 2020 (July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020) represents an incredible income for one of the nation’s most profitable “non-profits.” Revenues outweighed expenses by \$69.7 million, giving the “non-profit” a healthy bottom line for the year.

**“Planned Parenthood likes to bill itself as a ‘trusted health care provider’ and a ‘passionate advocate for women’ but its latest annual report makes clear that the promotion and continued performance of abortion is the primary ‘service’ for which they advocate,”** said Randall K. O’Bannon, Ph.D., director of Education and Research for National Right to Life, one of the right-to-life movement’s most authoritative experts on the abortion giant.

Most of Planned Parenthood’s money went towards “medical services,” which came in at about \$965.5 million. It is impossible to estimate how much of this income came from performing abortions, because Planned Parenthood does not make these numbers public and the prices for abortions vary regionally at Planned Parenthood affiliates. In addition, the cost of different abortion procedures varies based on how old the unborn baby is at the time of the abortion,



**Planned Parenthood’s fundraising tea mug  
“Abortion rights are my cup of tea”**

making even general calculations impossible.

Planned Parenthood’s annual report also shows that prenatal services and adoption referrals, already rare at Planned Parenthood, were down again for 2019.

- Just 8,626 women received prenatal care at Planned Parenthood clinics in 2019.
- Just 2,667 women were referred for adoptions. That means there were more than 41 abortions at Planned Parenthood for every prenatal visit and Planned Parenthood took the lives of 133 unborn children for every mother they sent to an adoption agency.

## Senate bill would weaken patient safeguards for physician-assisted suicide

By Guy Page

A recently introduced Senate bill, S74, would eliminate several requirements included in Act 39, Vermont’s ‘aid-in-dying’ law, to protect patients against potential mistakes or abuses.

Introduced by Sens. Richard McCormack (D-Windsor), Alison Clarkson (D-Windsor), Ginny Lyons (D-Chittenden), and Michael Sirotkin (D-Chittenden), S74 proposes to:

Eliminate a requirement that terminally-ill patients must request death-resulting “medication” in the physical presence of the physician

Eliminate a requirement that the prescribing physician have conducted a physical examination of the patient in order to determine that the patient was suffering a terminal condition

Eliminate a requirement that the physician wait at least 48 hours before writing the prescription.

Provide legal immunity for “any person who acts in good faith compliance with the provisions of Vermont’s patient choice at end of life laws.”

The bill does not explain why patients now would need neither an **exam** by the prescribing physician, nor direct communication with him or her. When Act 39 was passed, lawmakers were told the **direct contact with the physician** would minimize the chances of misdiagnosis of terminal condition, or

misunderstanding of the patient’s wishes.

The precautionary **waiting period**, deemed essential in S31 to reduce suicide death by firearms, would be removed from a law created specifically to bring life to an end. Sen. Clarkson is a co-sponsor of both bills.

Providing **legal immunity** for even non-medical people involved in the aid-in-dying process – including family members and aid-in-dying organizations such as Patient Choices Vermont – would lower the bar of protections against possible abuse of the law. During hearings before Act 39 was passed, opponents expressed concern that family members and others might not share the law’s intent to give the patient complete freedom in the choice to live or die.

S 74 is now in the Senate Health & Welfare Committee, chaired by co-sponsor Lyons. It will require approval in both the Senate and House, and would require Gov. Scott’s signature (or veto override) before becoming law.

\*\*\*\*\*

According to a January, 2020 report on Act 39, Vermont’s 2013 “Aid-in-Dying” law, 34 deaths occurred in connection with the law between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2019. They fell into the following underlying diagnoses groups:

- 71% were due to cancer (24 total cases);
- 12% were due to ALS (4 total cases);
- 9% were due to Neurodegenerative Diseases (3 total cases from Parkinson’s Disease and Huntington’s Disease); and
- 9% were due to other events (3 total cases).

The report says all the death certificates listed the “appropriate cause” (the underlying disease) and manner of death (natural). This means that this report will contain no information that could be used to potentially identify any patients or health care providers involved.

Among the 34 confirmed deaths, the mechanism was: • 28 utilized the patient choice prescription (82%); • 5 died from the underlying disease (15%); • 1 unknown (3%).

Since the law took effect in 2013, 87 “events” (as the report describes doctor-prescribed death) have taken place, the report said.

*Editor’s note: Be informed! For the best online source of pro-life news and more, sign up for the Vermont Daily Chronicle, produced by Guy Page: you can subscribe by going to [www.vermontdailychronicle.com](http://www.vermontdailychronicle.com).*



# Pastors issue statement opposing Proposal 5

To the Editor: We are writing this letter in response to a letter published on the Bennington Banner's web site on 3 April 2021, entitled "Religious leaders stand with Vermont's women." We write as members of a local religious community which does not support Proposition 5. Although amendments to this proposition were proposed during debate, our government in Vermont rejected all modifications. Thus, Proposition 5 proposes the unrestricted approval of abortion for any reason at any time during pregnancy.

The signatories to the letter published on your website believe that our decision not to support this proposition is based upon "misogyny and inequality" and stands "in stark contrast to [their] religious beliefs." We, the signatories of this letter, have penned our response in an effort to demonstrate that our opinion in this matter is based upon our interpretation of the Bible and our high, scientific valuation of all human life, whether male or female, born or unborn. In particular, we value the human being, alive at conception, who has no voice in the decision to terminate her life.

The signatories to the letter published on 3 April hold that a woman has a fundamental right to terminate the unborn life of her child because it is her "legal right to have control over [her] own [body]." It has often been stated that one person's rights end where another's begin. To make such statements, the writers of this published opinion must therefore hold that the unborn child has no rights. We, the signatories of this letter, as faith leaders in Vermont, hold that life begins at conception, when an unborn child receives the full complement of human DNA. In fact, every embryology and fetology textbook in use today states that life begins at the instant of fusion between sperm and egg. For example, Essentials of Embryology states, "The zygote, formed by the union of an oocyte and a sperm, is the beginning of a new human being." And Langman's Medical Embryology states, "Development begins with fertilization, the process by which the male gamete, the sperm, and the female gamete, the oocyte, unite to give rise to a zygote." This unborn human being has a fundamental right to life.

As faith leaders in Vermont, we feel an intense obligation to state that we do not believe that the right to abortion is a health issue, an issue of social justice, or a result of misogyny and inequality. Like many Christian believers before us, we take our stand upon the clear words of Scripture and the time honored belief that all human

life is created in the image of God and is precious. We can do no better than to point to the words of Martin Luther in 1521, when he stood before the emperor in Worms, and voiced these words:

"Unless I am convinced by the testimony of the Scriptures...I am bound by the Scripture...and my conscience is captive to the Word of God. I cannot and will not recant anything, since it is neither safe nor right to go against conscience. May God help me. Amen."

Sincerely,

**Lee Williams**, Ph.D., sr. vice president, dean of academics, professor of history, Northeastern Baptist College, Bennington

**Mark Ballard**, Ph.D., president, Northeastern Baptist College, Bennington

**Ed Lucas**, disaster relief coordinator for Southern Vermont, Bennington

**Phil Steadman**, pastor, Capstone Baptist Church, Bennington

**Jayson Dominey**, pastor, Faith Church, Pownal

**David Scott Lee**, PhD, pastor/teaching elder, Newbury Bible Church, Newbury

**Deborah Woodcock**, professor, Northeastern Baptist College, Bennington

**Jared August**, PhD, professor, Northeastern Baptist College, Bennington

**Allen D. Ingalls**, ThD., professor, Northeastern Baptist College, Bennington

**Russell J. Rathier**, Vermont regional coordinator, Baptist Convention of New England, Washington

**J. James Mancuso**, vice president of library services, Northeastern Baptist College, Bennington

**Michael Carrol**, pastor, North Pownal Congregational Church, North Pownal

**Ralph Gerlach**, pastor, Hunger Mountain Christian Assembly, Waterbury Center

**Charles Hurdle**, northern Vermont disaster relief coordinator, Washington

**Dan Molind**, pastor, Enough Ministries, Barre

**Sean Odem**, pastor, Journey Fellowship, Plainfield

**Michael McDill**, PhD, professor, Northeastern Baptist College, Bennington

**Mykayla Ballard**, administrative assistant, Northeastern Baptist College, Bennington

**Joe Ferguson**, professor, Northeastern Baptist College, Bennington

**Brian Fetcher**, pastor, Websterville Baptist Church, Websterville

To sign the petition to oppose Proposal 5 go to [www.vrlc.net](http://www.vrlc.net) and click on Sign the Petition tab on the right hand side. Contact VRLC at 802-229-4885 or [vrlc@vrlc.net](mailto:vrlc@vrlc.net).



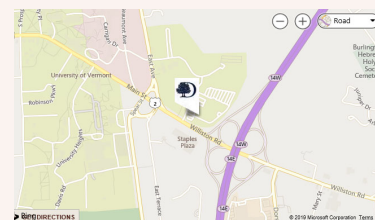
Understanding the issues impacting human life at the crossroads of law, medicine, and your community.

**Saturday, October 2, 2021  
8AM-3PM**

Doubletree by Hilton

\$50.00 per person includes lunch.  
Scholarships available for students.

Doubletree by Hilton—Map  
870 Williston Rd, Burlington, VT  
802-865-6600



## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

### GENERAL SESSION

9-00-10:15 AM

Helen M. Alvaré

*The Case Against Proposal 5*

### MORNING BREAKOUT WORKSHOPS

10:30-11:45 AM

The Impact of Abortion  
on Women

How YOU Can Impact Your Community

How to Protect Your Conscience and  
Your Field

### LUNCH

12:00PM-1:15PM & Motivational Speaker

### AFTERNOON BREAKOUT WORKSHOPS

1:30 PM-2:45PM

The Impact of Abortion on Women

How YOU Can Impact Your Community

How to Protect Your Conscience and  
Your Field

### EXPERT PANEL

3:00-4:00PM

Discussion & Your Questions

# REGISTER FOR THE 2021 LIFE SYMPOSIUM

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2021

This full and informative day will include expert guest speakers discussing and focusing on the issues relating to amending the Vermont Constitution to include abortion (referred to as Proposal 5 or Article 22). The pro-abortion measure will appear on the general election ballot in November of 2022. A Life Symposium is your opportunity to become fully informed and prepared to make a difference in your local community.



**HELEN M. ALVARÉ**  
KEYNOTE Speaker  
Professor of Law

Helen Alvaré is a Professor of Law at the Antonin Scalia Law School, George Mason University, where she teaches Family Law, Law and Religion, and Property Law. She publishes and speaks worldwide on matters concerning marriage, parenting, non-marital households, and First Amendment Religion clauses. She is currently an advisor to the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life, Vatican City, and an ABC news consultant. She holds degrees from Cornell University School of Law (JD), Catholic University of America (Masters of Systematic Theology), and Villanova University (M.S. in Economics). Her most recent books are Christianity and Conscience: An Introduction (with Jeffrey B. Hammond, Cambridge University Press, 2020) and Putting Children's Interests First in the U.S. Family Law and Policy: With Power Comes Responsibility (Cambridge University Press 2017). Ms. Alvaré will present the case against Proposal 5.



**MELISSA ODHEN**  
ABORTION SURVIVOR  
MOTIVATIONAL  
SPEAKER

Melissa is the survivor of a failed saline infusion abortion in 1977. Despite the initial concerns regarding Melissa's future after surviving the attempt to end her life at approximately seven months gestation, she has not only survived but thrived. With a Master's Degree in Social Work, she has worked in the fields of substance abuse, mental health, domestic violence and sexual assault counseling, and child welfare.

Melissa was formerly a College Outreach Speaker with Feminists for Life and is the former Patron of Real Choices Australia. She has testified numerous times before the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate, and the Australian Parliament most recently in favor of the Born Alive Infant Protection Act.



**MAUREEN CURLEY, PH.D., APRN**  
PSYCHIATRIC NURSE  
PRACTITIONER  
WORKSHOP PRE-  
SENTER

Maureen Curley, Ph.D. APRN, is a psychiatric nurse practitioner with experience in teaching, research, and practice in women's and reproductive psychiatry with a focus on abortion and mental health. She is an assistant professor treating women with pregnancy-related and postpartum disorders including those who have had abortions. Maureen frequently presents, publishes, and provides expert testimony on abortion and mental health. Maureen received her Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from the University of Massachusetts, her masters in psychiatric nursing from Boston College, and her doctorate from McGill University in Montreal. She has completed fellowships at Harvard Community Health Plan and Women's and Reproductive Psychiatry at Case Western.



Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Number attending \_\_\_\_\_

Reservation \$50.00 per person  
Scholarships available for students.  
Seating is limited - Please Register by September 18, 2021

For more information or to make a  
reservation by phone, call 802-229-4885.

Sponsored by the  
Vermont Right to Life Committee  
Educational Trust Fund  
PO Box 1079  
Montpelier, VT 05601  
802-229-4885  
vrlc@vrlc.net

Vermont Right to Life Committee, PO Box 1079, Montpelier, VT 05601



# Burlington's Aspire Together Center to Purchase Vermont's First Medical Mobile Clinic!

As Executive Director of Aspire Together, I am happy to report that, with help from the Knights of Columbus, we will be acquiring Vermont's first Medical Mobile Clinic. Being mobile will bring us closer to where the young people congregate in the surrounding communities. We will be more visible and effective in assisting women in the middle of their crisis. Offering the hope of, and an invitation to believe in Christ, Aspire Together will be in a position to help vulnerable women who are facing one of the most difficult decisions of their lives.

Staffed with an R.N./Sonographer and social worker, the Medical Mobile Clinic will provide pregnancy testing and ultrasounds as well as healthy relationship education, and STI testing for chlamydia/gonorrhea. Often, we are the first stop for pregnant women. Our work consists of triaging clients and establishing a plan for best client outcomes. We often layer our services by referring our clients to local health care providers and social service agencies. Our surveys reflect that we truly are providing a safe, non-judgmental place for our clients to turn to. The best news is that statistics state that 80% of women who board a Medical Mobile Clinic choose life for their baby!

This is a huge undertaking! The total cost of the medical mobile clinic is \$202,000. To date, the Knights have raised \$50,000, and we have raised \$13,483 towards a matching grant of \$30,000. The balance of \$108,517 is needed before the up-fitting can begin. Once our Medical mobile clinic is operating, the anticipated annual cost is approximately \$65,000.

Deb Couture, Executive Director, Aspire Together

(Tax deductible donations can be made at [aspire1.org](http://aspire1.org), by text-to-give (802) 277-7027, or by mailing checks to: Aspire Together at 56 Colchester Ave. Burlington, VT 05401.)



	<p><b>Special Letter to Chittenden County Senators</b> April 2, 2021</p>	
	Dear Senator,	
	My name is Evelyn Williams and I am a fifth grade student in Essex Junction. I am writing to you in the hope that you will be able to protect those with no voice.	
	Did you know that a law was passed in 1940 that makes it illegal to disturb or hurt an eagle egg? But in Vermont there are no laws to protect unborn babies. Does this seem right to you? Unborn babies are human beings in the same way unborn baby eagles are eagles. Humans should be able to live their life from a baby in the womb to an old grandparent or even a great grandparent.	
	I believe science is real. We know humans are different from any other animal because of human DNA. Unborn babies have unique human DNA therefore unborn babies are unique humans.	
	The Declaration of Independence states that all humans have the right of life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness (in that order). It describes these rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness as unalienable, meaning they are natural rights and cannot be undone by human laws. If DNA proves unborn babies are human and our Declaration of Independence guarantees life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness to all humans. Why are unborn humans unalienable rights taken away? Could mine be taken away too?	
	With your job, you have a duty to protect all human life, even those that can't vote, like me, and babies in the womb. It takes courage to speak for those who don't have a voice and I hope that you will find that courage after reading this letter.	
	Please vote NO on Proposal 5. Lives depend on you.	



Pope Francis recently compared someone getting an abortion to "hiring a hitman" as he forcefully urged Argentina to reject legislation from its president to legalize abortion.





## What you NEED TO KNOW about Proposal 5:

Proposal 5 is a legislative proposal to amend the Vermont Constitution with pro-abortion language.

Proponents of Proposal 5 have stated publicly that their goal is to ensure unlimited, unregulated abortion throughout all nine months of pregnancy.

The final language is below. It has already progressed through the first phase of the amendment process by being approved by both the Vermont House and Senate in 2019.

If the language is approved again in the 2021-2022 legislative session, Article 22 will appear on your general election ballot for a "Yes" or "No" vote in November of 2022.

### Proposal 5 = Abortion-on-demand

*"People on both sides of the debate over abortion know that 'reproductive autonomy' is publicly understood to be a way of referring to an unlimited abortion license, that is, elective abortion permitted through the entire nine months of gestation and pregnancy up to and including the process of birth."*

**Robert P. George**

*Professor of Jurisprudence,  
Princeton University*

### What will Proposal 5 mean for Vermont taxpayers?

The guarantee of "personal reproductive autonomy" is likely to be interpreted by lawmakers and the Vermont court system to mean that taxpayers must:

- Pay for abortions.
- Pay for sterilizations and sterilization reversals.
- Pay for the expenses associated with infertility and surrogacy.
- Fund pro-abortion organizations, like Planned Parenthood.

### What else does "personal reproductive autonomy" mean?

According to supporters of Proposal 5 the right to "personal reproductive autonomy" will mean more than unlimited abortion.

- Proposal 5 will mean whatever the Vermont courts decide it means.
- According to Planned Parenthood of Vermont's spokesperson, Proposal 5 "will open up a range of different questions for future lawmakers..... for years to come." (Paige Feeser, Public Affairs Organizer for Planned Parenthood, 7/30/2020)

### Action Alert:

Call your legislators in the Vermont House and Senate and tell them to vote NO on Proposal 5. You can use the following talking points:

- Amending the Vermont Constitution to include the language of Proposal 5 is reckless and irresponsible, dangerous and expensive as well as morally and ethically wrong.
- The lives of countless unborn babies will be placed at further risk of abortion if Proposal 5 is adopted.
- Vermonters cannot afford Proposal 5 and all of its unknown repercussions.

## Proposal 5: (Article 22)

*Sec 2. Article 22 of Chapter I of the Vermont Constitution is added to read:*

Article 22. [Personal reproductive liberty.]

That an individual's right to personal reproductive autonomy is central to the liberty and dignity to determine one's own life course and shall not be denied or infringed unless justified by a compelling State interest achieved by the least restrictive means.



# Planned Parenthood CEO Admits Its Founder Margaret Sanger Was a White Supremacist, But Still Embraces Her

Margaret Sanger, the founder of Planned Parenthood, the nation's largest abortion chain, was a racist.

In April, the abortion chain finally acknowledged its troubling roots, including Sanger's connection to white supremacist and eugenic groups.

In an opinion piece at the New York Times, Planned Parenthood CEO Alexis McGill Johnson stopped short of calling Sanger a racist, but she acknowledged that their founder "harmed generations with her beliefs."

Black pro-life leaders responded by criticizing Johnson for failing to acknowledge the worst thing that came out of Sanger's racism: the targeting and slaughtering of millions of unborn black babies in abortions.

Johnson began her piece by admitting that Planned Parenthood has tried to ignore and disguise its ugly roots. "We have defended Sanger as a protector of bodily autonomy and self-determination, while excusing her association with white supremacist groups and eugenics as an unfortunate 'product of her time,'" she wrote.

She said Sanger worked with white supremacist and eugenic groups, including the KKK women's auxiliary, and she supported the terrible 1927 U.S. Supreme Court ruling *Buck v. Bell*, which allowed the government to forcibly sterilize people that it deemed "unfit."

"The first human trials of the birth control pill — a project that was Sanger's passion later in her life — were conducted with her backing in Puerto Rico, where as many as 1,500 women were not told that the drug was experimental or that they might experience dangerous side effects," Johnson continued.

Though Johnson said Planned Parenthood is taking "responsibility for the harm that Sanger caused to generations of people with disabilities and Black, Latino, Asian-American, and Indigenous people," she refused to call their founder a racist.

"We don't know what was in Sanger's heart, and we don't need to in order to condemn her harmful choices," she continued. "We will no longer make excuses or apologize for Margaret Sanger's actions. But we can't simply call her racist, scrub her from

our history, and move on."

Among other things, Johnson said they plan to amend for their past by pledging to "fight the many types of dehumanization we are seeing right now."

But pro-life advocate Benjamin Watson, former Super Bowl champion and vice president of Human Coalition, denounced Johnson's piece as "fake reckoning." "It is time for Planned Parenthood to take the next step, or their denunciation of Margaret Sanger rings hollow," Watson said in a statement to LifeNews. "Whether they personally identify with Sanger's ideology or not, they continue to carry out her mission, by serving as the leading executioner of our children."

"The same Sanger they claim to disavow would applaud their efforts and results, as a disproportionate percentage of Black children have been killed in Planned Parenthood's abortion clinics," Watson said. "Acknowledging a racist history does not absolve them of the blood on their hands, as they continue to take full advantage of victims of the racism they decry."



Donations to Vermont Right to Life  
have been given  
*In MEMORY & In HONOR*  
of the following loved ones:



**In Memory of Father Robert Wiseman  
and Father Hugh Cleary**  
Henry A. P. and Eleanore Simpatico

**In Memory of Craig Bensen**  
Mary and Steve Beerworth  
Anonymous  
William and Sharon Toborg

**In Memory of Felix Callan, Robert Dasaro  
and George Shiovone**  
Steven and Eileen Haupt

**In Memory of Sylvia LeBourveau**  
By Bernard and Christine Pfenning

**In Memory Felix Callan\***  
Dr. Russell and Mary Davignon  
Megan Emmons  
Perry and Kathleen Grange  
Stephen and Cynthia Murphy  
Anonymous  
Rena Izor  
Richard and Virginia Garand  
Mary and Steve Beerworth

**In Memory of Betty Jean Davis**  
William and Sharon Toborg  
Maggie Kerrin  
Mary and Steven Beerworth

**In Memory of Rachel Bouchard**  
Annette Morse

**In Memory of Robert F. Martell**  
Bernard and Christine Pfenning

*\*Dr. Felix Callan was a early, passionate defender of human life and a former President of Vermont Right to Life who led the effort to open the VRRLC office in Montpelier in 1982. His wife, Gerry Callan, continues to serve on the Vermont Right to Life Board of Directors and is instrumental to the activities of Washington County Right to Life.*

## South Dakota Governor Kristi Noem Signs Bill to Ban Abortions on Babies With Down Syndrome

South Dakota Gov. Kristi Noem has signed a pro-life bill to ban discriminatory abortions on unborn babies with Down syndrome.

“The Declaration of Independence summarizes what we all know in our hearts to be true: God created each of us and endowed all of us with the right to life. This is true for everyone, including those with an extra chromosome,” said Governor Noem.

“I look forward to the day when the Supreme Court recognizes that all preborn children inherently possess this right to life, too. Until that time comes, I am pleased to sign a ban on the abortion of a preborn child, just because that child is diagnosed with Down syndrome, as well as several other important pro-life bills,” said Gov. Noem.

Noem signed HB 1110, which bans abortion based on a diagnosis of Down Syndrome as well as three other pro-life bills to protect babies from abortions.

Both chambers of the South Dakota legislature passed the ban unanimously. The unanimous 35-0 vote in the state Senate happened less than two weeks after the state House also unanimously passed the pro-life bill. The House vote was 68-0.

Lately, prominent pro-abortion groups, including NARAL and Planned Parenthood, have been arguing openly that abortions are ok for any reason, including discrimination and sex-selection. “EVERY reason to have an abortion is a valid reason,” Colleen McNicholas, a Planned Parenthood abortionist, told the AP in 2019 when Missouri passed a law that bans abortions based on the unborn baby’s sex or a Down syndrome diagnosis.

*Excerpts for this article have been taken from LifeNews.com*



## Bishop of Burlington, Christopher Coyne issues statement on Proposal 5



(The Bishop’s statement was released on April 7th before the Senate vote on Proposal 5)

“This Friday the Vermont State Senate is scheduled to vote on Proposal 5 that seeks to enshrine “personal reproductive autonomy” into the state constitution. In previous legislative testimony it was clearly demonstrated that the focus of this amendment is to amend our state constitution to allow in perpetuity access to abortion in at all stages of pregnancy with no restrictions.

This constitutional amendment is unnecessary and unclear. Currently, Vermont law allows abortions to be performed, regardless of the reason, right up to moment of natural birth.

That is clear and tragic. Additionally, the proposed amendment introduces the phrase “reproductive liberty.” Proponents have openly acknowledged this language is vague and have placed any future interpretation of the meaning of the term on the legislature and the courts. As a practical matter, it is not prudent to pass a law or an amendment to the constitution if even the proponents do not know what it means. It is entirely possible that future interpretations will present additional dangers to the dignity of the human person.

The Catholic Church stands for the protection of all life from the moment of conception until natural death. The truth is that all human life is sacred. Many Catholics and people of good will advocate tirelessly for the protection of the lives of the unborn, the sick and other vulnerable people. This past year has seen heroic efforts and sacrifices to preserve and protect the lives of so many during the Covid pandemic. This defense of human life, especially of the most vulnerable in our midst, represents what is best about us.

Thank you to everyone who has and continues to advocate for life in our state and to those who support and accompany women, children and families, especially during difficult times and through difficult decisions. Your work is important and necessary. You show the loving face of God to those who need comfort and strength.

I continue to pray and hope for a day that every human life is seen not as a problem but as a precious gift worthy of protection and love. I pray that the good people of Vermont will accept and love every human, no matter how inconvenient. Let us lift up our hearts in prayer. Please pray a rosary this Friday for our legislators and for the intentions of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.”

## Vermont Medical Society and Planned Parenthood – An Unholy Alliance

### VERMONT MEDICAL SOCIETY RESOLUTION

Codifying Protection for Women’s Reproductive Rights

As adopted at the VMS Annual Meeting on November 2, 2019

RESOLVED, that the VMS supports protecting women’s reproductive rights, including the right to contraception and to safe legal abortion, through Vermont law and/or through a Vermont Constitutional amendment.

*Editor’s note: The lobbyists for Planned Parenthood and the Vermont Medical Society were inseparable during debate and testimony on Proposal 5 in 2019. The VMS has allowed their once illustrious reputation to become tarnished by collaborating with those who support radical abortion agendas and abandoning their unborn patients.*





VERMONT RIGHT TO LIFE

# REVIEW

P.O. Box 1079, Montpelier, VT 05601 802-229-4885 www.vrlc.net

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Montpelier, VT 05602  
PERMIT NO. 16

**Inside: *Proposal 5***

## Joe Biden Will Make Americans Fund Research Using Body Parts From Aborted Babies



In a new announcement from his administration, Joe Biden will make Americans fund research using body parts from aborted babies with their taxpayer dollars.

The Biden administration announced it is overturning a pro-life rule President Donald Trump put in place barring taxpayer funding for federally-funded studies involving the use of fetal tissue taken from babies killed in abortions.

During his administration President Trump put in place a new bioethics advisory board recommending that the government reject funding for 13 of 14 research projects that planned to use aborted baby body parts. Trump appointed a number of leading pro-life researchers and bioethicists to the board.

But on April 16, 2021, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) officially rescinded the ban on using aborted baby parts in research.

Biden's NIH released a notice saying that the agency was overturning the Trump administration's policy that required all applicants for

NIH grants involving fetal tissue from elective abortions to be reviewed by an ethics board. The notice indicated Biden was cancelling the ethics advisory board.

"NIH reminds the community of expectations to obtain informed consent from the donor for any NIH-funded research using human fetal tissue ... and of continued obligations to conduct such research only in accord with any applicable federal, state, or local laws and regulations, including prohibitions on the payment of valuable consideration for such tissue," the notice reads.

A leading pro-life group immediately condemned the decision.

"Biden and Harris, working hand-in-glove with radical appointees like Xavier Becerra, are moving rapidly to pay back their abortion industry allies and wipe out pro-life progress made under the Trump-Pence administration," said SBA List President Marjorie Dannenfelser. "From day one they have sought to expand abortion on demand, funded by taxpayers, against the will of the strong majority of Americans. Now they would force Americans to be complicit in barbaric experiments using body parts

harvested from innocent children killed in abortions, with no limits of any kind. Pro-abortion Democrats push this deeply unpopular agenda at their own political peril."

Dr. Lee, a pro-life scientist, indicated research with aborted baby parts is unnecessary.

Dr. Tara Sander Lee, senior fellow and director of life sciences at Charlotte Lozier Institute, added: "The HHS decision to resume experiments using the body parts of aborted children defies both the best ethics and most promising science. Exploiting the bodies of these young human beings is unnecessary and grotesque.....there are superior and ethical alternatives available such as adult stem cell models being used by countless scientists worldwide to develop and produce advanced medicines treating patients now, without exploitation of any innocent life. All scientists should reject the administration's attempts to prey on fears related to the pandemic to advance the practice of harvesting fetal tissue."

Excerpts for this story were taken from LifeNews.com