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EUTHANASIA:

LEGALIZED KILLING’S OTHER HIGHWAY INTO CANADA



By Paul Klotz

The push for the legalization of euthanasia and assisted suicide is on again in Canada, this time seeking to enter through another route since it was heavily defeated in Parliament in 2010, when private member’s bill C-384 received a 220-50 vote. Through the “Carter Case” (Carter vs. The Attorney General of Canada), which began November 14 in the Supreme Court of British Columbia, euthanasia supporters are attempting to get the current laws prohibiting euthanasia and assisted suicide to be declared “unconstitutional,” or to be legally reclassified as “medical treatment.”

Alex Schadenberg, Executive Director of the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition, the leading anti-euthanasia organization in Canada, told us at TRL that he fully expects the case to go before the Supreme Court of Canada later this year. Although at this time the ultimate goals of the euthanasia lobby seem unlikely to succeed, it is essential that pro-life Canadians remain vigilant and outspoken about this issue, as it was the same sort of “back door” stealth that pro-legalized abortion advocates used to create the current situation regarding that which has claimed 3 million Canadian lives in the last 40 years. Legal abortion, although initially limited to being approved by a local 3-physician tribunal, was smuggled in with scores of other proposed amendments to the Criminal Code, in an omnibus bill in 1969, which left insufficient time for Parliamentary scrutiny and discussion. After Morgentaler vs. Her Majesty the Queen in 1988, the Supreme Court of Canada struck down the existing abortion law, which was to be rewritten by Parliament, and which never occurred.

There are concerning factors which coexist with the current large numbers of Canadians opposed to legalized euthanasia and assisted suicide. The same bias which trivializes respect for life and which circulates in the mainstream media and much of the academic world, is apparent in the actions of key players in this legal and ethical battle. Around the time of the defeat of bill C-384, an “Expert Panel on End-of-Life Decision Making” was appointed by the Royal Society of Canada,

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World Population Reaches 7 Billion

2012 is here and the world's population is now 7 billion...and while irrational but often influential overpopulation panic agitators in the academic world and mainstream media issue new calls for "population control," to include even such preposterous proposals as a world-wide "one-child policy," the general consensus in the scientific community is that the world population growth rate is declining. If the decline goes too far, the world will have a different demographic problem to worry about - not enough humans to properly care for those who are left.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE TORONTO RIGHT TO LIFE ADVENT DONATION CAMPAIGN

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to our generous friends and members for your contribution to our Advent Donation Campaign. Your financial assistance will help Toronto Right to Life fulfill our ongoing mission of "informing minds, inspiring hearts and saving lives" in 2012!

TO THE STUDENTS OF NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL

Toronto Right to Life wishes to heartily thank the students of Notre Dame Catholic Secondary School in Toronto for their thoughtful donation of \$265.81 to support the educational work of TRL! The students reached into their pockets to take up a spontaneous collection after a talk by a TRL guest speaker. Their humble act of kindness and generosity demonstrated their commitment to life and truly brightened our day!

Christmas Card Fundraiser

The 2011 Christmas Card Campaign was once again a huge success, thanks to the time and dedication of our wonderful volunteers and supporters. We couldn't have done it without you!



“Although at this time the ultimate goals of the euthanasia lobby seems unlikely to succeed, it is essential that pro-life Canadians remain vigilant and outspoken about this issue.”

an educational association of academics and scientists, to study and report their findings on the possible benefits and problems of legalizing euthanasia and assisted suicide. It was a blatantly stacked deck. Four of the five panel members appointed were known outspoken advocates for legalizing these practices, thus their findings were as predictable as the rising of the sun. There is also the ongoing lack of understanding about the issues and their broader implications among the general public, which has a degree of predisposing influence toward sympathizing with potential euthanasia and assisted suicide recipients. Even many physicians still mistakenly believe, for example, that terminating life-support for an objectively futile and overburdening case, or an accidental death as an unintended side effect of medication, is euthanasia. Insurance companies would not be unwelcoming of the possibility of not having to pay for expensive procedures for terminally ill or suffering clients and increasing support from these companies, and other organizations which could envision financial gain for such changes in the law, would not be surprising. The Canadian tax-funded health care system, and the growing contemporary norm of individual moral autonomy for self and others, are prime potential propaganda catalysts for a shift in public opinion as well.

This is an issue that will require our ongoing careful watch and which we must counteract with our own awareness raising initiatives, promotion of life-valuing end-of-life care, and true compassion which seeks to end or minimize suffering, not life, in our own communities, public and private associations, and workplaces. Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide in Canada could lead to a similar situation as that currently existing in the Netherlands, where society has now accepted eutha-

nizing lonely and depressed and other completely curable people, and even infants. We will not allow this to happen in Canada. Abortion has already taken 3 million of our sons and daughters, and we will not allow our elders, family members, and suffering to begin being legally killed as well, whether out of of “care and compassion” or out of a cultural black hole of logic and morals in which the “right to die” is celebrated while the right to life is viewed with indifference and even disdain. TRL urges all our friends to vigorously support our efforts to educate on these issues, and the work of organizations like the Euthanasia Prevention Coaliton. Together we can prevent euthanasia from becoming a second highway of legalized killing in Canada. ■



TRL Speech Contest

Personhood has been used to both **defend** and **deny** the **rights of people** throughout history. Society has redefined the meaning of personhood yet **all human life** must be **respected** and **valued**.

So let's go back to the beginning and ask this question...

What is a
PERSON?

Write a speech that answers this question
AND YOU MAY WIN:

First Prize \$200
Second Prize \$150
Third Prize \$100

Contest is open to students in grades 9 through 12.

Deadline Extended to:
April 30, 2012

For contest rules & details, contact us at:
416-483-7869
office@righttolife.to
www.righttolife.to





The Determining Factor of HUMANITY'S FUTURE:

HOW WE SEE INDIVIDUAL HUMAN WORTH

BY PAUL KLOTZ

As the holidays come to an end and 2012 begins, we wonder what the new year will bring. We hope for good things to come, but at the same time we are aware of the precarious ground on which our world sits in many ways. There has been no other time in human history more wrought with global cultural conflict and friction than our own. At the heart of this growing division are the social, moral, and ethical values, reasoning, and principles which evolved in western civilization - *especially the notions of moral absolutes and of inherent human dignity* - and the increasing opposition to them. Everywhere in the mainstream culture, we are seeing the traditions and institutions which came from these ideas coming under increasing questioning and attack - in the legal system, the media, the schools, and other components of our social infrastructure - even in our faith communities.

Whether speaking from a religious or secular perspective, it is a fact that the belief in the basic dignity of the individual arose in the western world as a product of the fundamental concept that humanity was made in the "image and likeness of God." Human beings were seen as set apart from the rest of creation in this regard, that they alone possessed the ability to *reason* beyond the confines of instinct and to understand the concepts of good and evil. Being given this special status from God as being like him in this way, is what made human beings inherently dignified - and though it took many centuries for this concept to begin to be fully incorporated into law, from that beginning "thou shall not kill (a human)" was a recognition of the sacredness of human life.

Regardless of one's faith perspective, or secular perspective, it was the emerging recognition of human beings as having *intrinsic* value and dignity, that led to the rise of democracy, the end of slavery, the extending of voting and other civil rights to all, and common education which greatly accelerated human advancement in the last few centuries. People often measure human progress in terms of technological accomplishments and scientific achievement, such as harness-

ing of the power of the atom, landing on the moon or the rapid acceleration of information technology. Yet it was not pure brainpower that made these developments possible - they would not have happened were it not for the radical transformation of western society that occurred once people began to see the "common man" as having dignity and worth by sheer virtue of his being human.

It is this regard for intrinsic, or to use the most contemporary term, *organic* human value that is the true key to human greatness. If we step back and take a summarizing look at the overall messages spoken to us by our own human history, one of the loudest and most important is this: human prosperity and progress is forever and inseparably intertwined with how we perceive and respect the inherent dignity and worth of all human beings. This lesson has been made unmistakably clear to us repeatedly. The more all are considered to be of value, regardless of any other factor than simply being human, the more cultures thrive and prosper. It is when this is fully embraced that humankind is at its best. The more we embraced this ideal, the more we grew not only in social progress, but in the artistic, scientific and economic growth which that progress facilitated. When the concept of human value becomes *qualifiable* or *conditional*, we not only limit our own potential but bring destruction upon ourselves - for some form and degree of harm *always* comes to some people when we say human value is variable. Social injustices and denial of fundamental and democratic human rights increase, inevitably, because some people are seen as having more value than others. Greed and self-absorption begin to consume more and more people in the culture, eventually leading to increasing economic disparity and ruin. Democratic societies evolve into police states and tyrannies. Worst, however, people are forced to *die* - people that don't have to or have to just yet - first unborn children, then terminally ill, then those who are taking up hospital bed space for too long or costing the government too much

money to take care of. Then, because human life is increasingly seen as not having value in its own right, but only *if* or *when*, it begins to become a plaything for scientists and corporate entrepreneurs, for lucrative financial incentive and marketing - manipulable, disposable, and even *abuseable*. This is why slavery existed; why the Holocaust occurred, why women and whole nationalities were denied their rights for so many ages - because human worth was seen as arbitrarily decidable and applicable to whom and when the most powerful felt like giving it.

History also tells us that human social progress is not always linear - and that we are now and have been on an extremely steep downward slope which began around forty years ago when abortion began to become legally practiced. Because of this rapid and widespread decrease in unconditional respect for human life, we are now beginning to bring to reality characteristics of a frightening future reminiscent of those depicted in dystopian novels like Huxley's *Brave New World* or Orwell's *1984*. It is an unsettling thought to realize that in their time, people who read these admonishing works thought "God help us if we should ever come to this" and now, we are actually beginning to go there. Does it sound overreaching? Let's take a look at the cold hard truth through some examples of things that are developing and occurring in our culture and higher educational and scientific institutions, showing the plummeting regard for human life that is endangering our future and the insanity it generates.

Scientists in Britain were until recently beginning to experiment with creating human-animal hybrids - *chimeras* - named after the beasts in Greek mythology made from parts of various animals. What stopped them? It was not a remnant of regard for human life or disturbed consciences, but a lack of government funding. With the funding, these modern Dr. Frankensteins would be still be happily whistling while they work on creating quasi-human freaks in their labs between tea breaks. Now, it's no longer just unborn children whose lives are in danger, but we have "intellectuals" such as the infamous Professor Peter Singer of Princeton University, advocating the legalization of situational infanticide, because in his theory, newborns are not yet "persons." The "Transhumanists" are more "intellectuals" who promote the eventual creation of a "posthuman" species, augmented with mechanical body parts like cameras built into the eye, and computer chip implants, finding happiness and fulfillment not through doing true good for humanity but through permanent intoxication on euphoric drugs. And then we have other prominent and influential academics who speak of engineering new social caste systems using laboratory-produced ape-humans to perform menial labor or of using normal humans to serve genetically engineered

uber-humans. Human cloning is again on the rise, not for creating replicated humans, which most people find disturbing, but perhaps even worse, merely for harvesting organs and body parts for marketing and resale. So here we are - in 2012 - when many of our leading "intellectual authorities" are now openly advocating and even beginning to practice the wild and sinister imaginings which science fiction writers used to think was just junk to sell their books - androids, freaky "Island of Dr. Moreau"-like creatures, humans allowed to develop just long enough and only to produce body parts to be subjected to the everyday commercial wholesale and resale industry, and retail products made from the remains of aborted children. There are many more abhorrent and inhumane examples of ideas and practices being promoted and actually being conducted that would exceed the point of this article - and not only these- but there is the growing attitude that they are all acceptable. Never before, even in the most primitive of human ages, has human life been regarded by so many as so void of innate value. And what is still yet to come, if this pattern is allowed to continue? This is what so many consider to be human progress??? Is it not appalling, almost unbelievable, that so many people, including many of those considered to be our most intelligent and learned, are actually thinking like this? And that so many condone it either actively or passively? Last year, a U.S. Congressional act was passed, which included a *ban on the patenting of human "organisms."*

(Continued on page 6)



“When the concept of human value becomes quantifiable or conditional, we not only limit our own potential but bring destruction upon ourselves.”

Discouraged?

It was once announced that the devil was going out of business and would offer all tools for sale to whoever would pay his price.

On the night of the sale they were all attractively displayed, a bad looking lot. Malice, Hatred, Envy, Jealousy, Sensuality and Deceit, and all the other implements of evil were spread out, each marked with its price.

Apart from the rest lay a harmless looking wedge-shaped tool, much worn and priced higher than any of them. Someone asked the devil what it was.

“That’s Discouragement,” was the reply. “Why do you have it priced so high?” “Because,” replied the devil, “it is more useful to me than any of the others. I can pry open and get inside a man’s conscience with that when I could not get near him with any of the others, and when once inside I can use him in whatever way suits me best. It is so much worn because I use it with nearly everybody, as very few people yet know it belongs to me.”

It hardly need be added that the devil’s price for Discouragement was so high that it was never sold. He still owns it and is still using it.

William V. Agnew, S.J.

(The Determining Factor of Humanity’s Future con’t from pg. 6)

“Human prosperity and progress is forever inseparably intertwined with how we perceive and respect the inherent dignity and worth of all human beings.”

The Weldon Patent Ban, as it was named, seems to have processed through the U.S. Congress in an everyday sort of matter, which is significant in itself, yet not as significant as the fact that *enough people apparently exist who actually would try to put a patent or copyright on any possible variations of human embryonic life, so as to warrant enough concern for a national government to place a ban on it!*

The future of this direction is one in which human life becomes increasingly void of value, even at times held in contempt and disdain as if it were less than valueless, and actually more like an irritating obstacle, or garbage that must be destroyed. The concept of human life having value as being a constant becomes a *joke*. Losing this great key to the advancement of civilization, based on respecting the core essence of what we are, affects the mind and soul of those who lose it, and their reason and logic - it causes a corresponding loss of sanity - it brings forth a form of social *madness*. Small wonder that Nietzsche (who also believed in the variance of human value in favor of the “*ubermensch*” (superior men), and who was historically documented as insane) is famous for this quote “There are no absolutes,” which is becoming a popular contemporary proverb.

There are also the political implications to consider. If the sacred and inherent dignity and value of human beings is no longer seen as an *absolute* - but adjustable and subject to the changing conditions, trends and whims of those who hold the power in our social systems, then so it will begin to be (and in fact has begun to be), with our individual rights, liberties and freedoms. We are seeing this beginning to happen in our educational systems - parental rights over their children’s formation being completely overridden by those who also happen to support legalized abortion, and the blatant prohibition against pro-life expression on our university campuses. We see it in the push for medical professionals to place their moral and ethical convictions regarding respect for life aside for the “needs” of the patient, the blacking out of pro-life news by the mainstream media, the lack of pro-life advertising due to it being deemed “offensive,” the forbidding of Parliamentary debate about abortion and in the current secularization movement reaching everywhere into our culture. In the last few years in the U.S., pro-life supporters were included on a list prepared by the head of the Department of Homeland Security, as possible terrorist

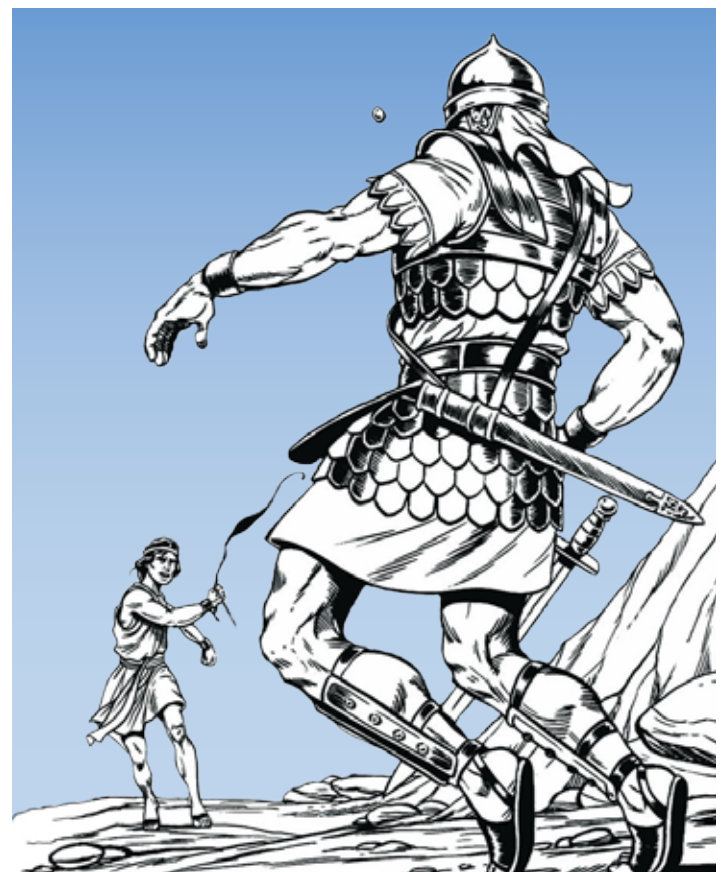
groups, and the Department of Justice was given training on dealing with pro-life activists. Signs of things to come?

At this time, the erosion of rights and freedoms is generally focused on pro-life and faith communities - but as human life and thus basic inherent human value becomes less respected, rights and freedoms will begin to fade in other places, because there is *never* only one exception once the sacred line of an absolute has been crossed. And what has now appeared as an unsettling omen as well is the growing social *acceptance* of the situational blatant denial of basic democratic rights when it involves pro-life or certain faith issues. Again, it is unlikely that this trend will remain confined to these issues. The general populace has learned to look the other way when it suits the popular agenda, even if it is a clear violation of the principles of democratic justice. The significance of this cannot be understated. **It means that people are gradually becoming accepting of the excessive use of state power.** It is an inevitable consequence. If all human beings are not considered equal in value, then they will not be treated so. Human value then becomes subject to the changing currents and tides of popular trends and movements. **THE ONLY ASSURANCE FOR CONSTANCY OF RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS AND PERMANENCE OF A DEMOCRACY FOR ALL IS THE UNCONDITIONAL RECOGNITION OF INTRINSIC HUMAN VALUE.** Without it, the foundations of our freedom will continue to balance on a precipice with the risk of a possible return to a “survival of the fittest” dark age.

Until we bring a majority in our culture and society to recognize that all human beings, regardless of condition, born or unborn, have equal dignity and value by sheer virtue of their being human, we will never reach the fullness of our true human potential. We can create the most complex and advanced electronic gadgets, travel to distant planets and make all kinds of secular and physical achievements - but until our advancements are not made only in ways that facilitate the accumulation of wealth and control over others, until we truly become our brothers’ and sisters’ keepers, and especially the smallest, most helpless, and most vulnerable of these, the unthinkable will always be subject to becoming reality. Our population growth will continue to decline to levels that will eventually threaten human existence. It is only our regard for humanity that allows humanity to survive.

The situation is indeed concerning and the realities of our time and the quiet erosion of the foundations of our culture and freedom are difficult to accept and face. We do not want to think of a world going mad for our children to inherit. But face these realities we must, and face them square in the eye - and not with fear, but with indignation and fiery determination. Is humankind destined to be like a shooting star, that has already risen to the zenith of its moral and cultural

brightness and which is now quickly fading out? Only if we choose to continue on the road of choosing which humans have value and which don’t - of who has rights and who doesn’t – and of who gets to live, and who doesn’t. The key to our survival, as well as to reaching our full potential progress and prosperity is in our hands. Let us resolve to pass all we that hold dear, the fruits of a formerly life-respecting civilization, the freedom, the love of good sense, the belief in the basic dignity of all onto our children and future generations, and *refuse* to accept that a dark and forbidding future for them is the inevitable destiny of history. Let us sow the seeds of a bright and promising future for them in the face of the decaying moral culture around us. If we will rise to the challenges before us and work - educating, promoting and defending tirelessly until the cultural tide eventually begins to turn – the majority will begin to accept that all human beings enter human existence with dignity and value, and we will be on the threshold of a new age, in which we will begin to prosper and progress as never before. But this positive future is NOT a given. We have to “engineer” it as the opposition is doing so with their own distorted utopian vision. Unless we *act* by accelerating our efforts, the possibility will be lost. The choice is ours - the capability is ours - but time will not be ours forever. We stand on the edge of a new dark age. Those who are advocating and working to impose this future on us are like a vast swarm of oncoming locusts threatening to destroy everything we hold sacred. The challenges before us are towering and daunting. What is our answer? It is this: We will stand and we will FIGHT. ■



**I believe
abortion
is wrong.**

2012 opens with rising challenge to re-open the “settled” censored issue of **abortion**

BY PAUL KLOTZ

As the first light of a new day for the respect of human life in Canada comes ever closer to breaking over the horizon, the new pro-life year is opening with a vigorous start, and a renewed call to Parliamentary debate on the abortion issue.

“Canada’s Criminal Code provisions surrounding the legal rights of the unborn child are confusing and not in step with medical and social realities,” states Joanne McGarry of the Catholic Civil Rights League, an anti-Catholic defamation organization with a strong pro-life position. “Therefore the Catholic Civil Rights League supports recent statements by MPs, including Stephen Woodworth and Jeff Watson, recommending that the provisions be discussed in Parliament. While most people acknowledge that human life is present from conception onward, legal personhood is a different story; it is denied until complete, live birth has occurred. Medical science has seen numerous advances in prenatal treatments for the fetus, so we believe many Canadians would like to see laws affecting personhood updated to reflect today’s realities.”

MP Stephen Woodworth, who is challenging the 400-year old law on which the current Criminal Code regarding when human life begins is based, states that “Section 223 (1) of the Code” defines a human being as a child who has completely proceeded in a living state from the mother’s body, whether or not the child has breathed. This means that in Canada, a child is legally considered to be sub-human while his or her little toe remains in the birth canal, even if he or she is breathing.” “This sets up a medically and scientifically unten-

able position,” says Natalie Hudson Sonnen, Executive Director of LifeCanada and formerly of Toronto Right to Life “and sets Canada apart from almost every other nation on the planet, with regard to the lack of protection for unborn human beings.” More ludicrous still, declares Hudson Sonnen, is that part 2 of Section 223 states that a person commits homicide when injury is caused to a “child before or during its birth as a result of which the child dies *after becoming a human being.*” “How can laws that clearly do not measure up to accepted medical and scientific practice continue to act as a point of reference for such important issues? We need to examine whether this law reflects our understanding of human rights, which means that our nation must address the abortion issue.”

Other organizations as well, such as the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada, are calling for a reexamination of these ancient laws, made even more anachronistic by the exponential advancements in science and medicine of today that leave no possibility of objective denial that from conception, a human and living being exists. Faye Sonier, the Fellowship’s Legal Counsel, states “Medicine recognizes a point of viability for a child in the womb. Science is prepared to experiment using pre-natal human tissue from conception onward. Yet, Canada’s Criminal Code states that a child in the womb is not human,” explained Sonier. “The Criminal Code provisions on this point are dumbfounding. Parliament needs to examine these provisions; consider their historical roots; and, debate whether they make sense in twenty-first century Canada.” “We Want the Debate”, a project of Alliance For Life Ontario, a Provincial pro-life educational group, seems to speak what’s on the mind of a growing number of Canadians. The campaign is a throwing down of the gauntlet to the current silence, avoidance of the issues, and pretense that abortion “is a settled issue” in Canada. “We believe that the suppression of any debate in a democratic society is unacceptable,” says Jakki Jeffs, the director of the campaign and of Alliance For Life Ontario. “We demand that the current censorship of the debate around abortion be ended, and that an open and informed discussion be held in public.” It is time for those who say the issue is settled to pull their heads out of the sand and see that a line has now been drawn there for them to cross. Like MP Stephen Woodworth, we ask them: You claim the laws are fair and just because the unborn aren’t human? **PROVE IT.** ■

Image courtesy of National Campus Life Network (NCLN)



Annual General Meeting

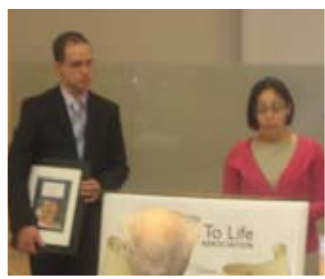
Toronto Right to Life reached a historical milestone as the association celebrated its 40th anniversary at our Annual General Meeting. TRL supporters and friends gathered at the North York Central Library on November 17, 2011 to hear the latest news, projects and upcoming events. We were most especially honoured to have the presence of Toronto Right to Life founder, Gwen Landolt, who gave a keynote address highlighting the beginnings of the association and the continued need for education on life issues. As always, the night was not complete without recognizing a few distinct individuals who have demonstrated pro-life leadership through their hard work and dedication. Here are the winners for 2011:



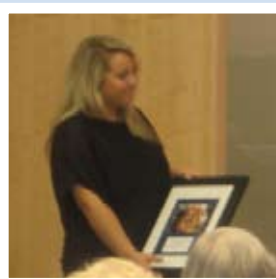
Executive Director Paul Klotz presents a plaque to Founder of Toronto Right to Life, Gwen Landolt for her dedication to pro-life work.



Laura McArthur Award for Outstanding Pro-life Leadership by a Youth was presented to **Alissa Golob**
Youth Coordinator of the Campaign Life Coalition



June Scandiffio Award for Outstanding Pro-life Leadership in the Media was presented to **Salt & Light Television**



Gwen Landolt Award for Outstanding Pro-life Leadership was presented to **Kathy Matusiak**
Executive Director of deVeber Institute



Dorothy Sullivan Award for Outstanding Pro-life Volunteer Work was presented to **Adam Giancola**
(Clarissa Luluquisin received the award on Adam's behalf)

It was truly a memorable evening to show our appreciation to all those who have been part of the TRL family over the past 40 years. Thank you to Gwen Landolt for her tireless efforts in promoting the culture of life, to all our award winners and most especially to our loyal supporters who have helped us make it this far. We couldn't have done it without you!

High School Pro-life Clubs:

*Planting small seeds
for a bountiful harvest*

BY PAUL KLOTZ



High school pro-life clubs are not yet seen in the Canadian pro-life community as having the vast potential which they actually have, for ultimately changing the cultural tide in favor of Life. These clubs are of profound value and vital importance in the

formation of our future pro-life adults and leaders. There is no better time and opportunity to inspire youth with the shining goal of establishing respect for all human life in the cultural majority needed to usher in the *post-culture of death era* in Canada. Although many youth begin in university or in the adult working world to perceive and appreciate the equal and unqualified value of human life at all stages, very often if those seeds are not planted in them already, they will be caught up in the contemporary life-devaluing currents circulating in the culture around them. All too frequently we see many of our young men and women enter university in a fairly sensible and upstanding condition, and come out as book-smart kooks, full of knowledge but drained of wisdom, throwing the natural idealism and fervor of their age into nonsensical, and even unethical, immoral causes and ideologies. Pro-life clubs can help prepare them for the potentially mentally and spiritually toxic university environment where value is routinely focused on the culturally deviant, rather than to learning how to contribute to making a better world for all, especially those on the fringes of life's beginning or end.

Through establishing and maintaining high school pro-life clubs, we can help arm our youth with an early start on developing true sensibility rather than false sensitivity, which places respect for the moral and ethical "autonomy" of some above respect for the lives of all. Having seeds of unconditional regard for life planted in their hearts and minds early will not only help prepare them for the life-minimizing peer pressures they will encounter in the university or workplace environment, but will promote leadership formation, as they will learn to stand their ground on unpopular issues and against attempts to silence their voices as they speak out for life.

Not only are high school pro-life clubs an investment for the future of the pro-life movement and end goals, but they can also save many lives in the present. Nearly a quarter of all abortions performed in Canada occur in the high school age group. **This is around 20 thousand lives per year that can potentially be saved, through the influential peer-presence and intervention of pro-life clubs!** If the club students are familiar with local pregnancy assistance organizations, and with convincing and compassionate pro-life reasoning and knowledge, they can help provide a refuge and venue of aid for a situation that drives many young mothers and fathers-to-be into taking desperate measures. These clubs are helpful and beneficial in these and many other ways. They present an opportunity for many students to be active for Life through a peer-supportive setting, enable students to engage in projects and activities that promote life and directly support pregnancy assistance agencies, to grow in pro-life knowledge and apologetics, to witness to and educate other students, as well as setting an example of maturity and true concern for others, present and future, and energize and inspire youth with a hopeful and positive future to work for, rather than the depressing and negative future predicted and depicted in the media and contemporary popular culture.

Therefore, Toronto Right to Life calls upon all our friends and members, all pro-life teachers and students, all pro-life organizations and the entire Canadian pro-life community to join us in the formation and development of pro-life clubs at high schools throughout Canada. There are many other types of clubs being formed in our high schools, some which are useless and some even inappropriate or detrimental to our youth - why not give them clubs that will do a world of good for them, their peers, and in time, the future? They will have increasing cultural dilemmas to face, as the value of life continues to be minimized by much of our current culture, as science looks more lucratively at genetic manipulation and engineering and as neo-eugenic views of human life increase. We owe it our youth to prepare them for the assaults they will encounter, and prepare them to overcome the current obstructions toward establishing a life-respecting cultural majority in Canada. ■



Hey Pro-life club students and teachers!

By starting a pro-life club, you have taken a bold step in promoting respect for Life at your school – and are contributing toward a future for Life! At Student Life Link (www.studentlifelink.ca), our excitement continues to grow as we see more school pro-life clubs being established by enthusiastic leaders like yourselves - bringing that shining vision of the future ever closer to the present - and so we have made our theme “A pro-life Canada starts here!” It starts with YOU.

Student Life Link was launched last spring by Toronto Right to Life, and the National Campus Life Network (NCLN). NCLN supports and connects university pro-life clubs across Canada, helping clubs work together and share ideas. The idea behind Student Life Link is to do the same with high school clubs!

But in order to get your clubs working together and sharing ideas and resources, we need your help! Please send us a little information about your club, what events and activities you are doing for promoting Life, and a few pictures if possible. We will post your club on our website and on Facebook for other clubs across Canada to see your great ideas and share thoughts, insights and information with you!

It is important for all your clubs to work together for the transformation of Canadian culture to one which recognizes the value and dignity of all human life from conception onward. You can be the Pro-Life generation that builds a Pro-Life Canada!

Supporting you for Life!

Paul Klotz
Executive Director
Toronto Right to Life

Rebecca Richmond
Executive Director
National Campus Life Network

Lia Mills
Student Life Link
Spokesperson

N.B. Please send your club information, activities and pictures to Paul Klotz, Executive Director, Toronto Right to Life at www.righttolife.to.

THE RIGHT TO LIFE ASSOCIATION OF TORONTO AND AREA

Membership Renewal/ Donation

- I have enclosed \$_____ for my/our tax-deductible contribution (See boxes at right).
- I would like to become a member/renew my membership with the Right to Life Association of Toronto and Area (Please check appropriate box on the right).
- I would like to give a gift membership to a friend, including your quarterly newsletter (please attach their contact information).
- I would like to support Toronto Right to Life Association with my automatic monthly donation of \$_____ applied to my VISA or MasterCard.
- Please renew my membership automatically each year (donation charged to my credit card) in the amount of \$_____

All donations are tax-deductible.

- Student/senior - \$10
- Individual - \$20
- Family - \$25
- Monthly gift of \$ _____
- Other \$ _____
- Total of \$ _____

Name: _____ Email: _____ *Please add me to your e-list

Home Tel: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

VISA MasterCard Cheque Card #: _____ Expiry: _____ Signature: _____

You can help us to increase the Culture of Life in *Canada!*



TRL, in its mission of Educating for Life, centres much of its activity around the school year. Thanks to the support of our friends and members, we have already educated nearly **6,000 students and adults** in our presentations so far this school year! But we have many other new and ongoing projects and initiatives, which we cannot accomplish without you.

There are many ways in which you can help enable us to sow the seeds of cultural change - together we can increase the culture of life in Canada!

Financial Donations - large or small, every bit helps! We need to maintain a budget for bringing high profile speakers for talks, improving our educational methods and materials, even acquiring office equipment that helps us in our day-to-day mission and the latest pro-life resources for our lending library!

Memberships - becoming a member is simple and requires nothing beyond an extremely modest annual fee – for the price of a pizza, you can take part in all we do for “informing minds, inspiring hearts and saving lives!”

Bringing us into your school, youth group or adult organization - for enlightening and empowering presentations or recommend us to teachers, pastors and other pro-life community leaders!

Promote us to your friends, family and associates - for donations, volunteering, membership or presentations through word of mouth or through “liking,” sharing and talking on our Facebook pages (“righttolife.to” and our new youth website, “studentlifelink.ca”)

Consider adding Toronto Right to Life to your bequest list.

#302 - 120 Eglinton Ave E
Toronto, ON M4P 1E2

Return all undeliverable mail to circulation dept.
#302 - 120 Eglinton Ave E, Toronto, ON, M4P 1E2
e-mail: office@righttolife.to

PROJECTS & EVENTS

Youth Conference - Last year’s Youth Conference was well attended by over 200 students from 18 high schools across Toronto. This year, we are hoping to reach out to more students and teachers by planning an even bigger pro-life event. With your support, you can help us reach our goal in bringing forth a new generation of pro-life leaders.

High School Student Manuals - The high school manuals are a great resource for students and teachers starting a pro-life club. Each manual costs \$10 to print. If you would like to see more of these practical guides distributed across Canada, please consider a donation to cover the cost of printing.

NON-FINANCIAL DONATIONS

Some of our office supplies have endured the test of time and have served our needs in accomplishing or pro-life work of spreading the message of life to you, our members and to communities across Toronto. Our current main desktop computer is at least 5 years old and our old copier dates back from 1995. These items are essential in performing our day-to-day tasks.

Here’s a list of items that you may wish to donate:

- Photocopier (new or used in good condition)
- Desktop computer
- Projector & screen (used for presentations)

*Thank you
for your
continued
support.*

*Every little
bit goes a
long way!*