



Coalition for the Defence of Human Life

Newsletter April 2019 Address: PO Box 2257, Yokine South, WA 6060 Phone: 0404 930 097 Email: admin@cdhl.org.au Net: www.facebook.com/CoalitionforHumanLife

World's smallest baby boy

Keio University in Tokyo said that a baby with a birth weight of 268 grams had been released from care at its hospital after growing to a weight of 3,238 grams, becoming the smallest boy in the world to be sent home healthy.

The previous record holder was born weighing 274 grams in Germany in 2009, the university said, citing the University of Iowa's registry for the world's tiniest babies. The smallest girl was born weighing 252 grams, also in Germany, in 2015.

There had been 23 babies worldwide who survived after having been born prematurely and weighing under 300 grams, out of whom only four were boys, according to the Tiniest Babies Registry website.

The boy from Tokyo was born through an emergency caesarean section in August as his weight did not increase at 24 weeks gestation and doctors determined his life was in danger, the university said.

The baby was so small at birth that he could fit in a pair of hands. But after doctors treated him at a neonatal intensive care unit at the hospital, by managing his breathing and nutrition, he grew steadily and was able to be breastfed. He left the hospital last Wednesday, two months after the initial due date. ...

"I want people to know that babies can return home vigorous even if they are born small," said attending Dr. Takeshi Arimitsu.

From the Japan Times, Feb 27, 2019

21st Annual Rally for Life



The 21st Annual Rally for Life will take place at Parliament House on Tuesday, 14th May 2019, beginning at 7:00 pm and finishing by 8:30 pm.

The theme of this year's rally is *Defending Human Life from Conception to Natural Death*. The rally will mark the 21st anniversary of the legalisation of abortion in Western Australia. Over the past 21 years 173,000 unborn children have been robbed of life.

It is vitally important that by your presence at the rally you communicate to the Parliament of Western Australia your determination to persevere until our state's unjust abortion laws are reversed.

Your voice is important. And so are the voices of people you know and love. Realistically, we stand little chance of swaying the government to take action unless our numbers swell significantly. And they *could* if each of us, whether lay folk or clergy, will wholeheartedly promote attendance at the rally. Together, we can be part of a movement that ultimately will result in protection being provided once again to precious unborn children.

Please encourage your pastor or priest to promote, and be present at the rally. If your church is not displaying the promotional A4 flyer included in this newsletter, please seek permission for it to be placed in the foyer, and for announcements to be made about the rally.

Historically, the Church (Christianity) has been the catalyst for bringing about massive social renewal including the ending of slavery, the education of children, the emancipation of women, the establishment of hospitals, the rehabilitation of prisoners, and far more. Abortion is the greatest evil in our society today. Priests and pastors have a vital role to play in bringing this monstrous evil to an end.

At our rally we will also be informing people about the Western Australian government's determination to introduce and pass legislation to legalise physician assisted suicide and euthanasia later this year. In response to this we will detail plans to hold a second rally on 4th September specifically dealing with that matter. This is a critical battle that we cannot afford to lose.

Members of Clergy

The 21st Annual Rally for Life will take place at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, 14 May 2019 at Parliament House. We are praying that upwards of 2,000 people will attend this year.

We warmly invite you to join us on the steps of Parliament House. Your presence will set a positive example and be a great encouragement to all who attend. Please notify us of your attendance in advance, by emailing admin@cdhl.org.au so that we can recognise you by title and name before the gathering.

Appeal for funds

Your gift of support to help meet the costs associated with promoting and running the Rally for Life in May and a second anti-euthanasia rally in September would be greatly appreciated, especially as our funds are tight at the moment. Please fill in and return the slip included with this newsletter.

Hearing from Coalition affiliates

The Coalition for the Defence of Human Life is made up of over a dozen affiliated organisations that work together harmoniously in order to defend the sanctity of human life from conception to natural birth. Below are several contributions from several affiliates on matters of vital interest to those who cherish the sanctity of life.

Four babies saved and more

*Affiliate **40 Days for Life**—Board member **Steve Klomp**, President Right to Life Association WA.*

The 40 Days for Life campaign this year has been very successful. Many people have volunteered to pray outside the abortion facility in Midland (and some at the Cleaver Street Belmont centre too).

Our campaign has been overflowing with help and prayer. We are also encouraged by the number of young people getting involved. So, it is perhaps no surprise that at time of writing (4 April 2019) we can already confirm four babies have been saved! We can also confirm that four other parents have turned away from the clinic at the last minute, following long discussions in their vehicles and after accepting our Blessing Bags. We have also heard about other abortion vulnerable mothers who have changed their minds after receiving advice from other women who were helped at our prayer vigils.

Please continue to pray for mothers and families. There are some really tough situations out there. Please pray that they will seek the Lord's wisdom in everything that they do.

It is especially important for us to be strong now as our State Parliament is preparing to implement "Safe Access Zones" around abortion clinics. On 11 April the *West* reported, "An appeal [to the High Court] by two anti-abortion protestors was dismissed yesterday which led WA Health Minister Roger Cook to announce the State Government would start the process to set up the [150 metre exclusion] zones."

We know that we have been and are being misrepresented. We know that it is noble to protect the lives of vulnerable children. Please pray the exclusion zones will not be implemented in WA. Regardless of what happens, we will not be deterred from our work.

We invite you to join us on the front line! You could be an amazing Shift Marshall or Sidewalk Advocate, or you could be one of the many people who pray outside the facility. Training and advice is available to all participants. Our work goes on all year round and we are already planning our 2020 campaign.

High Court judgment

*Affiliate **Australian Christian Lobby**—statement by **Martin Isles**, National Director, ACL. Board member **Rev Peter Abetz**, State Director, ACL.*

I'm writing to you with a profound sense of disappointment.

Today the High Court of Australia handed down its judgement on two very important cases with serious implications for freedom of speech and the pro-life cause.

The court has upheld criminal convictions against Kathy Clubb and Graham Preston.

In doing so, they have confirmed the legality of so-called "safe access zones" outside abortion clinics. These laws prohibit anyone from communicating within the zone about abortion, in a way that can be seen or heard.

They are designed to stop pro-life counsellors from offering help and alternatives to abortion at the most dangerous moment of an unborn baby's life.

In particular, Kathy Clubb and the ministry she worked with has saved over 300 babies' lives and supported their mothers, often through difficult circumstances.

When the law shuts down a ministry like this, the law clearly is not working.

As Kathy has said, her ministry is a ministry of mercy to women. And it has yielded incredible fruit. I have read letters of thanks from grateful mothers and been moved to tears.

ACL supporters all over Australia have campaigned for years against the introduction of 'safe access zones'. And together we have stood with Kathy and Graham, prayed for them, their families and for the justices of the High Court.

I am pleased to say that we were able to help Kathy and Graham fund the very best legal defence available.

While the court's decision today is profoundly disappointing, it should only strengthen our resolve to stand up for freedom of speech and the cause of the unborn.

This case is not the end for Kathy and Graham as the matter will now go back to the Supreme Court of Victoria and Tasmania to deal with the rest of their appeals. There are still substantial legal arguments about the validity of their convictions.

Please continue to uphold Kathy, Graham and our legal system in your prayers.

A plea to those who value the sanctity of human life

Affiliate Australian Christians—Board member Maryka Groenewald, State Director Australian Christians Party.

With the federal election having been called for Saturday, 18 May, we believe The Australian Christians Party is the only party in our State that is completely committed to upholding Christian core values and mission.

Our candidates are incredible people, unashamedly pro-life, pro-family and pro moral law. If elected, they will never falter in their convictions.

We encourage every deeply committed pro-life person to carefully consider how they will cast their vote. By voting AC 1 in the House of Representative and *especially* the Senate, two powerful votes will be cast for the preciousness of human life. If the AC's candidates are not elected, then the voter's preferences will flow at FULL VALUE to the next (hopefully pro-life) candidates or party.

Let us be a people of conviction—standing up for defenceless unborn children, and wholeheartedly committed to playing our part.

WA Euthanasia: “Consultation” Opens To Shape, Not Debate, WA’s “Assisted-Dying” Laws

Affiliate Association for Reformed Political Action—Board member Len Van Burgel. This news item has been written by Laurence Van Der Plas.

Public consultation sessions will be held in Perth and regional centres in April and May to frame Western Australia's voluntary assisted dying (VAD) laws ahead of legislation being introduced in WA in the second half of 2019. Health Minister Roger Cook released a discussion paper on March 19th, with the consultation process also accepting written submissions until May 29th.

Sadly, the discussion paper specifically states: “It is not the purpose of this paper, nor of the Panel, to review or debate the arguments for or against voluntary assisted dying which were the subject of the Joint Select Committee's inquiry and its recommendations.” In his Media Release announcing the “consultation,” Mr Cook astonishingly claimed there was “consistent and widespread community support for voluntary assisted dying reform” in Western Australia.

It is hard to look at the process by which assisted suicide is being rammed into Western Australia without becoming disillusioned at the premeditated manner in which it is occurring.

Action: Wisdom will be required to participate in this consultation process in such a way as not to legitimise its outcome, for we do not want assisted-dying legislation which claims to have taken our ‘concerns’ into account.

Ed. Note: Practical suggestions for action will be given at the 21st Rally for Life, as well as notification of a second rally against euthanasia to take place in September.

Quotes for our times

Affiliate Medicine with Morality—Board member Dr Lachlan Dunjey.

“To all the pastors and priests in America who don't want to be ‘political,’ wake up! There is a cost to your silence. There is a cost to the unborn. There is a cost to your being quiet, and you will have to answer for that someday. The women of America will lead on this issue. We will not be silent. But we sure do wish the rest of you would join in.”

Penny Nance

Emily's List

Brian Peachey, past President and co-founder of the Coalition, and founder of affiliate Pregnancy Assistance.

Emily's List is an American political organisation that aims to achieve the election of women who support abortion. It was founded in in the USA in 1985, and in Australia in 1994. Emily's List Australia is well funded, and has had remarkable success since it began.

32 ALP Emily's List women are presently serving in the Federal Parliament, including deputy leader, Tanya Plibersek. This means that approximately 75 per cent of ALP women in federal parliament are deeply committed to abortion. This fact alone should cause pro-life people to be cautious about supporting the ALP except in cases of known and proven pro-life ALP candidates, who if they are defeated, will likely be replaced by pro-abortion women.

Shorten and Morrison on abortion

Affiliate Life Ministries—Board member Andrew Lansdown.

On 6 March, Bill Shorten and Tanya Plibersek pledged that, if Labor won the forthcoming federal election, they would take measures to promote abortion throughout Australia. Specifically, they pledged that a Labor government would use its funding powers to:

- ♦ require all public hospitals to provide abortions;
- ♦ pressure the governments of New South Wales and South Australia to legalise abortion;
- ♦ fund abortions with taxpayer money so that women could obtain them free of charge; and
- ♦ set up a “reproductive health clinic” in a public hospital in Tasmania so that women can obtain abortions without travelling to the mainland.

The election of a Shorten-led Labor government in May will greatly increase the dangers faced by defenceless unborn children, and the Australian Labor Party apparently feels that broadcasting this fact will help them win the election. Of course, they are not talking in terms of killing babies, but of women's rights to access “health services” wherever and whenever they want.

Sadly, the present Liberal-Nationals coalition government seems to see no electoral advantage in opposing the Labor Party's plans. When responding to Labor's abortion announcements, Morrison said:

This is a very controversial and sensitive issue and on these matters I have never sought to divide Australians on this ...

I'm a bit disappointed that it is being raised in the eve of election in a very politically charged context. ...

I don't find that debate [is] one that tends to unite Australians and I certainly am not going to engage in the political elements of that discussion, because frankly I don't think it is good for our country.

The Prime Minister made no defence of the unborn. As a Christian, he presumably is opposed to abortion, but he could not bring himself to say so. Instead, he opposed the Labor Party's proposals on the grounds that they are ill-timed and divisive. And in his attempt to take the moral high ground, he showed just how morally bankrupt he is: for he conveyed the idea that avoiding controversy is a higher good than stopping abortion.

Still, to be clear, Scott Morrison's cowardice is not as base as Bill Shorten's wickedness. Morrison's abandoning the unborn is not as base as Shorten's attacking the unborn. So, for Christians and other pro-life people, there is still a choice to be made—a choice between bad and worse. For pity's sake, for the sake of less slaughter, pray that the Australian people will choose Scott Morrison the Bad, not Bill Shorten the Worse.

Andrew's full article entitled, "Trump, Shorten and Morrison on abortion" can be read on Life Ministries' site at www.lifeministries.org.au

Abortion Statistics for 2018

Board member Dwight Randall, CDHL President.

The Hon Nick Goiran, MLC, after requesting information in the Legislative Council regarding abortion statistics for 1 January 2018 to 21 December 2018, received these answers from Hon Alanna Clohesy in Hansard on Thursday, 4 April 2019.

"I am advised: For the calendar year, from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018, there were:

- (a) 7793 induced abortions [these include]
- (b) 580 induced abortions over 12 weeks gestation.
- (c) 606 induced abortions for women under the age of 20.
- (d) 86 approvals provided by the Ministerial Panel for abortions at 20 weeks or later.
- (e) 83 induced abortions at 20 weeks gestation or later."

In 2017 there were 7,827 abortions in Western Australia. Once again, in spite of population growth, the total number of abortions has dropped again, this time by 34—34 precious infants less than one year ago!

We must not allow ourselves to become discouraged. We are having a positive impact. The abortion rate in Western Australia is steadily dropping. It is at 18 per cent of total births in WA, down from the high of 26 per cent in 2001! While we should never be satisfied, even if one abortion is taking place per year, this is an incremental shift in the right direction.

Included in the 7,827 figure are 83 induced abortions at 20 weeks' gestation or later. Some of these aborted children were of viable age. The Hon Nick Goiran and the Coalition for the Defence of Human Life are continuing to pursue the matter of children born alive after abortion procedures but left to die. A petition persisting with this matter will be circulated at the Rally for Life.

This concludes contributions by affiliates and board members.

Surrogacy Legislation Amendment Bill 2018

The Hon Nick Goiran MLC spoke for more than 22 hours on the State Government's Human Reproductive Technology and Surrogacy Legislation Amendment Bill 2018.

The Bill triggers complex ethical issues about the rights of children and birth mothers and consequently every Member of Parliament was afforded a conscience vote.

In February the Government initially denied it had possession of a \$225,000 tax-payer funded report on surrogacy. When it was revealed it had had the report since 8 January 2019, it was then tabled on 21 March.

In April when it became clear that the government would not provide Parliament its response to the report, Nick successfully moved to have the Bill referred to the Legislative Council's Legislation Committee for review.

Important Reminders

1. **21st Annual Rally for Life**, 7:00 pm Tuesday 14 May 2019 at Parliament House.
2. **Rally Against Euthanasia**, 12:00 noon Wednesday 4 September 2019 at Parliament House.
3. **Make your vote count** for the unborn in the federal election on Saturday, 18 May 2019.
4. **Consider giving a generous gift** at this time to help the vital work of the Coalition for the Defence of Human Life.

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