



# PARISH 'LIFE' NEWS

A Monthly Publication of Our  
Lady of Mt. Carmel Pro-Life Committee

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## New York Legalizes Buying Babies and Selling Pregnancy in Commercial Surrogacy

The controversial practice of commercial surrogacy – paying a woman to carry and give birth to a baby for different parents – is now legal in New York state.

The legislation explicitly denies any and all rights to babies in utero, stating that they may not be viewed as a 'child' under the laws of New York, with the presumption that they must instead be viewed as manufactured products or disposable goods.

By defining parenthood by intention instead of biology, legalized surrogacy becomes a vicious process that is destructive of human life. Far from being a safe and automatic procedure, in vitro fertilization (IVF) and impregnating a surrogate are inexact sciences that frequently lead to loss of life.

The cost of gestational surrogacy ranges between \$100,000 and \$150,000. The New York Catholic Conference called the new law "a dangerous policy that will lead to the exploitation of poor, vulnerable women, and has few safeguards for children."

Meanwhile, other countries are moving in the opposite direction, banning or heavily restricting surrogacy because of rampant abuse. Most countries in Europe, including France, Germany, Italy, Poland and Sweden, prohibit it entirely.

<https://www.lifenews.com/2021/03/02/new-york-legalizes-buying-babies-and-selling-pregnancy-in-commercial-surrogacy/>

## China is "Clearly" Committing Genocide and Forced Abortions, Killing Over 2 Million Uyghurs

A detailed new human rights report found "clear and convincing evidence" that the Chinese government is committing genocide, including forced abortions, against ethnic and religious minorities. "China's policies and practices targeting Uyghurs in the region must be viewed in their totality, which amounts to an intent to destroy the Uyghurs as a group, in whole or in part," the report states.

The independent report, authored by more than 50 international human rights experts, adds to growing evidence of massive human rights abuses in China.

The government also separates Uyghur families, placing parents in forced labor camps and sending their children to state-run orphanages, the report found. Additionally, it targets men of childbearing age for internment and women of childbearing age for forced abortions and forced sterilizations.

<https://www.lifenews.com/2021/03/12/china-is-clearly-committing-genocide-and-forced-abortions-killing-over-2-million-uyghurs/>

## ADOPTION AGENCY CAVES

Bethany Christian Services, the largest Protestant adoption agency in the country, has reversed its long-standing policy and will now place children up for adoption with same-sex couples.

Russell Moore, president of the Southern Baptist Convention's Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission, said: "I am disappointed in this decision, as are many... This move will harm already existing efforts to enable faith-based orphan care ministries to serve the vulnerable without capitulating on core Christian convictions."

<https://www.dailywire.com/news/largest-protestant-adoption-agency-in-u-s-opens-to-lgbtq-couples>

## THINK ABOUT THIS!

Nearly 42% of all deaths worldwide last year were from abortion—more than 42 million. Abortion was not only the leading cause of death, but was almost more than all other causes combined.



40% of all abortions happen at Planned Parenthood. In 2017 (the most recent year data was available), there were 862,320 abortions in the United States and PP committed 345,672 of them.

[American Center for Law and Justice www.ACLJ.org](http://www.ACLJ.org)

## Amazon Bans Book Critical of Transgender Ideology



Amazon has removed Ryan T. Anderson's book "When Harry Became Sally: Responding to the Transgender Movement."

The online retailer, which accounts for 83% of books sold in the United States, gave no notification to the public or even to Anderson as to why it removed the book from its store.

<https://catholicvote.org/amazon-bans-book-critical-of-transgender-ideology/>

## DEEP DIVE

The subject of John Finnis' article in First Things is straightforward: "**Abortion is unconstitutional.**" But he takes you on a scholarly look at English law and the crucial debate over the 14th Amendment.

Read the article here:

<https://www.firstthings.com/article/2021/04/abortion-is-unconstitutional>



## PROJECT MUSTARD SEED

This month we are writing to:  
**KAISER PERMANENTE**

**Operations: healthcare services (managed care).**

Please write to:

Mr. Greg A. Adams  
Chairman and CEO  
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan Inc.  
One Kaiser Plaza, 19th Fl.  
Oakland, CA 94612

Tell him to  
stop funding  
Planned  
Parenthood

[www.healthy.kaiserpermanente.com](http://www.healthy.kaiserpermanente.com)

**Note:** Kaiser Permanente has been on and off of The Boycott Handbook since at least 1998, which is as far back as our records go. Life Decisions International states: "Do not, under any circumstances, boycott products essential for good health, particularly prescription medications, when comparable substitutes are unavailable and approved by your doctor." For those of you who may have KP as your medical insurance provider, we strongly suggest that as their paying customers you make your voices heard to them.



## POLYAMORY

The city of Cambridge, MA, has redefined domestic partnerships to give relationships involving more than two people the same rights as married

couples. Cambridge, home to Harvard University, is now the second city in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to legally recognize polyamory.  
<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/second-massachusetts-city-to-recognize-polyamorous-relationships-24552>

## Sexual Abuse Images



A report issued by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children revealed that there were 20 million child sexual abuse images on Facebook in 2020!

## SO OVERCROWDED

An influx of unaccompanied minors continues along the southern border, causing a Texas migrant facility to be at 729% pandemic-era capacity. "Some of the boys said that conditions were so overcrowded that they had to take turns sleeping on the floor," Neha Desai, a lawyer representing migrant youth, told CBS. The facility in Donna, TX, is designed for 250 migrants but was holding more than 1,800 people on March 2.

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/texas-cbp-migrant-facility-729-percent-capacity>

## South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster Signs Bill to Ban Abortions When Unborn Baby's Heartbeat Begins

On February 18, South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster (R) signed into law the South Carolina Fetal Heartbeat and Protection from Abortion Act that bans abortions once an unborn baby's heartbeat is detectable just weeks after conception.

With his signature, South Carolina becomes the 12th state to ban abortions when an unborn children's heart starts beating — and it joins Georgia, Missouri, Louisiana, Tennessee, Ohio, Alabama, Arkansas, Iowa, Kentucky, Mississippi, and North Dakota in doing so.

The bill also provides additional support for mothers in need. The legislation requires the state to fund prenatal and postnatal care for mothers who live in South Carolina and do not have insurance.

The American Civil Liberties Union and Planned Parenthood have already filed a lawsuit to immediately block the state from enforcing the law.

[https://www.thecentersquare.com/south\\_carolina/fetal-heartbeat-abortion-bill-clears-house-subcommittee-after-hours-of-testimony/article\\_5844df56-667f-11eb-acec-fb6979970acc.html](https://www.thecentersquare.com/south_carolina/fetal-heartbeat-abortion-bill-clears-house-subcommittee-after-hours-of-testimony/article_5844df56-667f-11eb-acec-fb6979970acc.html)



## New Mexico Senate Passes Assisted Suicide Bill

The New Mexico state Senate has passed a bill to decriminalize assisted suicide, which the state's Catholic bishops had strongly opposed.

The bill, known as the "Elizabeth Whitefield End of Life Options Act," allows licensed physicians, osteopathic physicians, nurses, and physician assistants to prescribe a lethal drug to people with a terminal illness and the ability to self-administer the drug.

The states of California, Colorado, Hawaii, Montana, Oregon, Vermont, and Washington, plus the District of Columbia, have already legalized assisted suicide.  
[Catholic News Agency 3/17/21](https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/3/17/21)

## Vatican's Doctrinal Office: Catholic Church Cannot Give Blessings to Same-Sex Unions



The Vatican's doctrinal office on Monday clarified that the Catholic Church does not have the power to give liturgical blessings of homosexual unions. Answering the question "does the Church have the power to give the blessing to unions of persons of the same sex?," the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith responded, "negative."

"It is not licit to impart a blessing on relationships, or partnerships, even stable, that involve sexual activity outside of marriage (i.e., outside the indissoluble union of a man and a woman open in itself to the transmission of life), as is the case of the unions between persons of the same sex."

The ruling and note were approved for publication by Pope Francis and signed by CDF prefect Cardinal Luis Ladaria and secretary Archbishop Giacomo Morandi.  
[National Catholic Register 3/15/21](https://www.nationalcatholicregister.org/2021/03/15/)