



# PARISH 'LIFE' NEWS

A Monthly Publication of the  
Neighbors North Pro-Life Committee

Issue No.197 February, 2020

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## Nine Abortions Clinics Have Closed in Pennsylvania Over the Last Eight Years

The year 2012 was a turning point in Pennsylvania regarding protections for the sanctity of human life. In the wake of the Kermit Gosnell scandal and trial - where it was found that abortion facilities had gone without city or state Health Department inspections for decades and there was more oversight of hair salons than on abortion facilities - state lawmakers passed a law that would treat any facility performing abortion surgery just like any other surgical facility, including mandated safety inspections.

The law took us almost a year to get passed and nearly did not happen, with Planned Parenthood and the abortion industry fighting it every step of the way.

As a result of this law going into effect in 2012, five abortion clinics immediately closed.

Another four abortion facilities have shut their doors since, making it nine abortion facilities closed in PA in the last eight years. That's over one-third (38%) of Pennsylvania abortion facilities now closed.

In addition, Planned Parenthood has closed many of their "feeder facilities" in Pennsylvania that were not generating revenue from on-site abortions (but making many referrals to ones that did). Since 2010, fifteen (15) Planned Parenthood feeder facilities have voluntarily shut down.

A complete list of closings is available here:

<https://pafamily.org/2019/12/nineclosed/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=b14250c5-c3c2-4862-b7ff-8fcd3218fb2b>



## U.S. Bishops Praise Rule Publicizing Abortion 'surcharge' in Health Plan Exchanges

The U.S. Bishops thanked the administration for implementing a rule to inform citizens if their federally-funded health plans are paying for elective abortion.

"While the Affordable Care Act still allows government-subsidized plans to cover abortion, at least with this rule, Americans can now see and try to avoid complicity by choosing plans consistent with their consciences," said Archbishop Joseph Naumann, chairman of the Committee on Pro-life Activities for the U.S. bishops.

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/us-bishops-praise-rule-publicizing-abortion-surcharge-in-health-plan-exchanges-69283>

## Supreme Court Allows Kentucky Abortion Ultrasound Law to Take Effect

A Kentucky law requiring health providers to show unborn children to their mothers via ultrasound before abortions will remain in place after the Supreme Court declined to hear a challenge to the law. The decision leaves in place a 2-1 ruling in favor of the law by a panel of the 6th Circuit Court, which determined that an ultrasound was "pertinent" to a woman's decision-making.

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/policy/healthcare/supreme-court-allows-kentucky-abortion-ultrasound-law-to-take-effect>

## Scientists Create Monkey-Pig Hybrids for Human Organ Transplants in Controversial Research



Scientists announced this week that they successfully created the first monkey-pig hybrid, in a controversial research project teeming with ethical issues and concerning questions.

Chinese scientists at the State Key Laboratory of Stem Cell and Reproductive Biology in Beijing announced the birth of the first pig-monkey chimeras. The researchers modified monkey cells and laced them with a fluorescent protein that allowed them to trace the cells and the cells they produce. The scientists then obtained embryonic cells from the genetically modified cells and injected those monkey cells into pig embryos days after creating them in the lab.

Some 4,000 monkey-pig embryos were implanted and all of them died except for 10 monkey-pig piglets who were born. Of the 10, two of them turned out to be "successful" chimeras with attributes of both animals but only a tiny part monkey. Their heart, liver, spleen, lung, and skin contained one in 1,000 and one in 10,000 of monkey cells, according to the scientists.

All of the chimeras died within a week and the non-chimeras died as well.

The point of the controversial experiments is to supposedly eventually create human organs for transplant.

<https://www.lifenews.com/2019/12/12/scientists-create-monkey-pig-hybrids-for-organ-transplants-in-controversial-research-project/>

## Mother Teresa on Abortion:

**"If a Mother Can Kill Her Child How Can We Tell People Not to Kill One Another?"**



## PROJECT MUSTARD SEED

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## Pontifical Academy for Life Hosts Interreligious Discussion on Palliative Care

The Dec. 11-12 conference included presentations by representatives of Christianity, Islam, and Judaism on the topic of medical ethics, palliative care, and the mental health of the elderly.

In a press conference before the event, Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia, president of the Pontifical Academy for Life, discussed the importance of palliative care, which focuses on alleviating suffering and improving quality of life. This care may be offered in end-of-life situations or at any stage of an illness. It may be offered on its own, or in conjunction with efforts to treat or cure a disease or medical condition.

<https://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/pontifical-academy-for-life->

## Congressmen Tell Attorney General Barr: Prosecute Pornographers for Obscenity

Four members of Congress have requested that the Department of Justice (DOJ) use obscenity laws already on the statute book to prosecute major pornography producers and distributors. They warned of an “explosion in pornography” that is fueling violence against women, human trafficking, and child pornography.

Obscenity laws are already on the books forbidding obscene pornography online, on TV, at motels, and through retail, but the laws need to be enforced, the letter says.

“Given the pervasiveness of obscenity, it’s our recommendation that you declare the prosecution of obscene pornography a criminal justice priority and urge your U.S. Attorneys to bring prosecutions against the major producers and distributors of such material,” the letter stated.

Pope Francis, in a recent meeting at the Vatican with technology executives from Microsoft, Apple, Amazon, Google, Facebook, and Paramount Pictures, emphasized the responsibility of technology companies to protect against the abuse and exploitation of children.

<http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/congressmen-tell-attorney-general-barr-prosecute-pornographers-for-obscenit?>

## Gallup Finds Most Americans Prefer Life Imprisonment to Death Penalty



For the first time in more than three decades, a majority of Americans favor life imprisonment without parole over the death penalty as a punishment for murder.

The latest survey was conducted in October, 2019 and polled 1,500 adults living throughout the United States.

The past five years has seen a shift among all major subgroups toward favoring life imprisonment, Gallup said. Two-thirds of women, and a little over half of men surveyed support life imprisonment over the death penalty.

Five states have abolished the death penalty this decade, leaving 29 where it is legal. Several states where the death penalty is legal have instituted moratoriums on its use or are considering abolishing it.

<http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/for-the-first-time-gallup-finds-most-americans-prefer-life-imprisonment-to?>

## 9-8-8 SUICIDE HOTLINE



The Federal Communications Commission approved a three-digit suicide prevention hotline number. Within a few months, Americans will be able to dial 988 for help in a mental health emergency, just as 911 connects people in medical, police, and fire emergencies.

The current National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is 800-273-TALK, which routes callers to one of 163 crisis centers. Since 1999, the suicide rate has climbed 33%.

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2019/12/12/988-suicide-prevention-number-fcc-approval/4411812002/>



## Did ‘thousands’ of Women Die from Illegal Abortions Before Roe v. Wade? Washington Post Says No

In its 2019 roundup of the biggest lies of the year (dubbed the biggest ‘Pinocchio’s’), the Washington Post included a false but oft-repeated claim that “thousands” of women died while undergoing illegal abortions before the legalization of abortion in the United States.

“In 1972, the number of deaths in the United States from legal abortions was 24 and from illegal abortions 39, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.”

In 1969, a report in Scientific American magazine by Tietze and Sarah Lewit cited in The Washington Post stated that annually, the “Total mortality from illegal abortions was undoubtedly larger than (235), but in all likelihood it was under 1,000.”

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/did-thousands-of-women-die-from-illegal-abortions-before-roe-v-wade-wapo-says-no-13784>

## TARGETING TEENAGERS

Planned Parenthood, the nation’s largest abortion provider, will open 50 “Wellbeing Centers” at high schools in Los Angeles County, with \$10 million in local government funding. Pro-lifers strongly objected to the plan. “Planned Parenthood continues to target younger and younger girls, posing as a health services organization despite their power and profit flowing from abortion,” said Catherine Glenn Foster of Americans United for Life.

<https://www.dailysignal.com/2019/12/13/planned-parenthood-targets-los-angeles-high-schoolers/>