



PARISH 'LIFE' NEWS

A Monthly Publication of the
Neighbors North Pro-Life Committee

Issue No. 203 August, 2020

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Legal Experts Warn: SCOTUS Ruling Redefining Sex Opens 'Pandora's Box'

Religious freedom advocates and legal experts are voicing significant concerns with the potential consequences of the Supreme Court's 6-3 *Bostock v. Clayton County* decision on June 15th.

The reasoning of the decision, in which the court ruled that Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act prohibiting employers from discriminating on the basis of sex also applies to sexual orientation and gender identity, will have consequences for religious organizations who choose employees aligned with their beliefs, rules surrounding single-sex bathrooms, and even the freedom to object to the use of preferred pronouns based on traditional Christian beliefs about sexuality, according to these legal experts.

The U.S. bishops have also expressed great apprehension about the implications of the decision. Archbishop José Gomez of Los Angeles, the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, stated that he was "deeply concerned that the U.S. Supreme Court has effectively redefined the legal meaning of 'sex' in our nation's civil rights law. This is an injustice that will have implications in many areas of life."

<https://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/legal-experts-warn-scotus-ruling-redefining-sex-opens-pandoras-box>

Dozens of Abortion Clinics May Close Permanently Because of the Coronavirus



Independent abortion facilities are struggling financially and may have to close because of the coronavirus shutdowns, according to the "progressive" news site *Shadowproof*.

Nikki Madsen, executive director of the Abortion Care Network, said dozens of abortion facilities may close, leaving up to four states completely abortion-free.

"On-the-ground access to abortion care is changing every minute," Madsen told the news outlet. "If we lose those clinics, there would be 10 states that would have no care after 11 weeks of pregnancy, and four states that would have no care at all."

Her organization represents 125 independent abortion facilities across the country. Independent means they are not affiliated with Planned Parenthood, Whole Woman's Health or another abortion chain.

<https://www.lifeneews.com/2020/06/05/dozens-of-abortion-clinics-may-close-permanently-because-of-the-coronavirus/>



Looters Ignored, Pro-Lifers Arrested

Bevelyn Beatty and Edmee Chavannes are African-American women who understand the plight of many of those who are protesting around the country. "Let me tell you something, Christians get it the worst," Beatty said emphatically. "I have not been so harassed by the police until I started doing this! Christians get it the worst!"

What she was doing was peacefully protesting the killing of countless babies and offering assistance and hope for the babies' mothers who enter Planned Parenthood — all while following sidewalk regulations and social distancing.

Beatty called it ironic that while the country has been publicly protesting non-stop for the past several days, she and Chavannes were arrested for illegally protesting. Apparently it's not okay to protest unless the killing is politically incorrect killing. "We have the right to be here," she shouted at the police.

<https://www.churchmilitant.com/news/article/looters-criminals-ignored-while-pro-life-witnesses->

"WE CANNOT TOLERATE OR TURN A BLIND EYE TO RACISM AND EXCLUSION IN ANY FORM AND YET CLAIM TO DEFEND THE SACREDNESS OF EVERY HUMAN LIFE. AT THE SAME TIME, WE HAVE TO RECOGNIZE THAT THE VIOLENCE OF RECENT NIGHTS IS SELF-DESTRUCTIVE AND SELF-DEFEATING. NOTHING IS GAINED BY VIOLENCE AND SO MUCH IS LOST."

POPE FRANCIS

Education Department: Transgender Athlete Policy Violates Title IX

A Connecticut high school sports policy allowing biologically male athletes to compete in female events is a Title IX violation, the Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights ruled on Thursday.

The Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) adopted a policy in 2017 allowing high school student athletes to compete in sports based on their "preferred gender identity."

Several female track athletes filed a complaint with the Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights last year, alleging that the policy violated Title IX. They have been represented by Alliance Defending Freedom. On Thursday, the office ruled that the policy was indeed a violation.

Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments Act prohibits sex discrimination in federally-funded education activities and programs. According to AP, which obtained a copy of the ruling, the office said it might withhold federal funding over the violation.

[National Catholic Register 5/29/20](https://www.nationalcatholicregister.com/2020/05/29/education-department-transgender-athlete-policy-violates-title-ix/)



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FCC Hopes New Three-digit Number Will Curb Suicide Crisis



To help bring awareness to the growing problem of our country's suicide crisis, the Federal Communications Commission voted on July 16 to approve 988 as a three-digit number to reach the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. The number of calls to

the national number has increased from 46,197 in 2005 to over 2.2 million calls in 2018.

<https://freebeacon.com/policy/trump-admin-prepares-revamp-of-suicide-crisis-hotline/>

Planned Parenthood Directors Admit Under Oath That They Sold Aborted Baby Parts

Sixteen unsealed excerpts of sworn video testimony from Planned Parenthood executives were released yesterday by the Center for Medical Progress (CMP), which shows in their own words that Planned Parenthood was involved in obtaining "donations" of fetal tissue organs from women having abortions, only to illegally sell them to middle-man organ procurement companies for profit.

The video testimony was presented in court during a trial last fall in a case brought by Planned Parenthood against the CMP members who were involved in the undercover investigation into Planned Parenthood's sale of aborted baby parts for profit.

"From the beginning, we have been prevented from discussing evidence incriminating to Planned Parenthood, due to a gag order issued by the court. This allowed only Planned Parenthood's false narrative to reach the public," said Troy Newman. "In fact, the truth about Planned Parenthood's illegal baby body parts trade has been suppressed for twenty years, since Mark Crutcher of Life Dynamics, Inc. conducted the first investigation on this subject in 2000. Now, with the unsealing of this testimony and other evidence, the truth is finally being told."

<https://www.lifenews.com/2020/05/27/planned-parenthood-directors-admit-under-oath-that-they-sold-aborted-baby-parts/>

78 Members of Congress Sign Letter Supporting Doctors, Nurses Who Refuse to Do Abortions

Numerous state attorneys general and 78 members of Congress have signed on to amicus briefs supporting a new rule issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) that aims to protect the conscience rights of medical professionals who have objections to assisting with abortions or physician-assisted suicides. Read the brief in full here: <https://s3.amazonaws.com/>

HHS issued the "Conscience Rights in Health Care" rule last May, which was to have taken effect in November 2019.

HHS was sued last year by New York Attorney General Letitia James, who led a coalition of nearly two dozen other states, as she asserted that the "Conscience Rights in Health Care Rule" is discriminatory and "a gross misrepresentation of religious freedom." The abortion giant Planned Parenthood and the National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association sued to challenge the protections as well.

<https://christiannews.net/2020/06/01/78-members-of-congress-support-hhs-rule-protecting-healthcare-workers-who-decline-to-perform-abortions/>

SCOTUS Strikes Down Hospital Privilege Requirement for Abortionists



Archbishop Joseph Naumann blasted the Supreme Court for overturning a Louisiana law that ensured basic health standards for abortion facilities. "Even as we seek to end the brutality of legalized abortion, we still believe that the women who seek it should not be further harmed and abused by a callous, profit-driven industry," Archbishop Naumann said. "The Court's failure to recognize the legitimacy of laws prioritizing women's health and safety over abortion business interests continues a cruel precedent."

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/us-catholic-bishops-louisiana-abortion-ruling-a-cruel-precedent-60601>

State Trying to Shut Down Philadelphia Catholic Adoption Agency That Won't Compromise Its Catholic Values

Alliance Defending Freedom attorneys representing faith-based adoption and foster-care providers in New York and Michigan filed a friend-of-the-court brief with the U.S. Supreme Court Wednesday in support of a Catholic adoption agency in Philadelphia.

The brief filed in *Fulton v. City of Philadelphia* argues the Constitution prevents governments from banning faith-based providers over disagreement about the meaning and importance of marriage. The brief also argues that, to prevent abuses by lower courts, the Supreme Court should reaffirm that government interests must be truly compelling to justify interfering with religious freedom.

"Every child in need of a forever home deserves the chance to be adopted or cared for by a foster family. That's what it means to keep kids first," said ADF Legal Counsel Chris Schandavel. "Now more than ever, we need as many highly successful adoption and foster-care providers as possible to keep their doors open. Shutting down faith-based adoption and foster-care providers—like Philadelphia is trying to do—means fewer children will have a chance to find a loving home."

<https://www.lifenews.com/2020/06/03/state-trying-to-shut-down-catholic-adoption-agency-that-wont-compromise-its-catholic-values/>