Your Monthly Digest of Life Issues in the News January 2018



Hello there!

We've researched and found the most relevant and worthy articles to educate and equip you in affirming and protecting Life.

We encourage you to share these stories and updates by email or social media!

We have also included our most recent AFL blog posts. You can read all our blog posts on our <u>website</u>.

Abortion

<u>U.S. Senate Rejects Banning Late-Term Abortions of</u> <u>Babies Who Feel Pain</u>

Following the massive turnout for the 2018 March for Life in Washington DC, the U.S. Senate voted against continuing the debate about banning late-term abortions on most five-month-old babies who can feel pain on



January 29th, effectively not allowing Senate to

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vote on the bill itself. The Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection

Act would have prohibited abortions on babies at 22 weeks gestation onward, based on the scientific evidence that these children are capable of feeling pain. Marjorie Dannenfelser, the President of the Susan B. Anthony List (SBA List), said, "Voting to keep the brutality of late-term abortion legal isn't just morally abhorrent, it defies national consensus and is a major political liability." <u>Read</u> <u>more</u>

<u>Cecile Richards Confirms Resignation From Planned</u> <u>Parenthood</u>

Planned Parenthood will be seeing big changes in 2018, as Cecile Richards has announced that she is stepping down the abortion giant's president. Since she became president in 2006, an estimated 3.5 million babies have been aborted by Planned Parenthood, approximately 300,000 annually. She said working for Planned Parenthood "has been the greatest honor of my life." There has been no official reason given for why she is stepping down and no word on who will replace her. <u>Read more</u>

<u>A Temple in Little Tokyo - After Abortion and the Church</u>

The human heart is a great mystery. How many ordinary, smiling people do you see every day who, outwardly, look like they have it all together, but on the inside are deeply scarred and hurting? And how many of those people have been damaged from a previous abortion? Where are they going to deal with that pain? Journalist Sophia Lee from *World Magazine* shares an experience she had in

discovering a Japanese





Quick Links: Our Website <u>Products</u> Buddhist temple in Little Tokyo, LA, which performs services for



unborn—often aborted—children. These services, called *mizuko kuyo*, are meant to help the parent or parents grieve their lost children. Are we, God's people, also opening our doors to grieving people? This should serve as a reminder to the Church that there are broken and hurting people who are desperately in need of the peace that only God can provide. <u>Read more</u>

End of Life

Sweden Considering Modeling Assisted Suicide Laws After State of Oregon

Euthanasia proponents argue that euthanasia laws, such as those in the state of Oregon, only apply to dying patients with no hope of recovery. States, provinces, and countries,



such as Sweden, are looking to Oregon's laws as a model of setting up their own euthanasia laws. However, Fabian Stahle, a Swede who opposes euthanasia, <u>has written a report</u> detailing the hidden problems with the Oregon Assisted Suicide Model. In a series of questions with the Oregon Health Authority, Stahle proves that, according to the law, not only do far more people

qualify for assisted death than generally thought but that an "incurable" condition can also consist of a patient not being able to afford effective treatment—leaving assisted suicide as their more affordable "option." <u>Read more</u>

Belgian Nurses Give Up Their Jobs to Avoid Having to Euthanize Patients

In what is sure to be a new divide in the medical community, nurses in Belgium are choosing to quit their jobs rather than kill people. In his book, *Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide: Lessons from Belgium*, Professor Benoit Beuselink, a cancer doctor, reported that nurses are leaving palliative care departments, which are increasingly becoming "houses of euthanasia." "Some Belgian palliative care units that have opened their doors to patients requesting euthanasia have seen nurses and social workers leaving the unit because they are disappointed that they could no longer offer palliative care to their patients in an appropriate way," Beuselink wrote. "There were upset that their function was reduced to preparing patients and their families for lethal injections." <u>Read more</u>

Sexual Integrity

The Aziz Ansari Case Exposes the Ugly Truth About Hookup Culture

One of the most discussed issues of 2017 was the #MeToo movement, where women—and some men—who were sexually harassed or assaulted and then pressured into silence were able to confront those who hurt them. It was a harsh reminder that sexual assault is much more common than we would like to admit. But the #MeToo movement has also

uncovered a larger inherent problem with our culture's sexual mores. Comedian Aziz Ansari has been the most recent celebrity accused of sexual assault—but additional reports have come out indicating that the incident was more about sexual disappointment than assault. So, here we are, decades after "free love" became accepted as the norm, and women are not only still assaulted but are expressing increasing disappointment with intimacy in general. This article discusses how our culture's



movement away from traditional sexual morals has contributed to disillusioned and hurting women in the "hookup culture" and the darker #MeToo problem. <u>Read more</u>

AFL Blogs

San Francisco for Life – A Reflection of the Impact of the West Coast Walk for Life



We gathered at the Walk for Life to pray & make our voices known for the countless children in the womb whose very lives are threatened by Roe v. Wade.

A Matter of the Heart – The Patient Pro-Life Work of Touching Souls



If you are called to the pro-life work of touching souls you have a place in abortion debate. Because this is not mere social debate, it is personal lament.

<u>God Sees Her – The First Unwed Mother in the Bible</u>



Many unwed women, fearful, lonely, and pregnant, are like Hagar and don't know that there is a God who loves them and who sees them.

If you have questions, concerns, or thoughts, please feel free to contact us!

Sincerely, <u>Robin Ferguson</u> Editor



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