## **CALIFORNIA RIGHT TO LIFE EDUCATION FUND**

P.O. Box 4343, Walnut Creek, CA 94596-4343 (925) 944-5351

E-Mail: callife@calright2life.org

Established 1981

#### March 2014

### **Precious Preborn Adventures**

By Cecelia Cody

CareNet, a pregnancy resource organization, has a program entitled "Babies go to Congress," wherein babies saved from abortion visit the halls of Congress with their very happy mommies; the purpose is to convince members of Congress to support legislation supporting the right of all preborn people to be born. We at California Right to Life Educational Fund unofficially have a similar effort; I like to call it "Adventures of a Precious Preborn."

Several years ago, one of our student volunteers, Emilia Calderon, came to serve at one of our information tables for life. She was overly excited, almost jumping for joy as she proclaimed "Miss Cody you've got to see what I got at the Walk for Life West

Coast!" She opened her hand to reveal a precious preborn – a model of a baby at 10-12 weeks gestation. I could see we were going to be adding this item to our future information tables and other venues. My response was "OK, where do we get them, and how much do they cost, and how many do you want to start?" (It can now be revealed that

the students choose many of our handouts and I'm "just the purchasing department" for the youth who dictate what materials to acquire. They know "what sells.") And so began what has become our most popular handout.

I sometimes wonder, what happens to our literature and other materials we hand out at Information Tables for Life, especially the precious preborns. Here is a recap of "the lives" of a few of our precious preborns.

A couple months ago we were doing a mall table on a Friday evening and as we were talking to several youth who had stopped by our table a teenage guy standing at the end of our table reached into his jeans pocket front pocket and pulled out.... a precious preborn we had given him in the past. Here is a GUY who carries the

baby model in his pocket all the time, so he has it ready should he have the opportunity to evangelize for life! We have also had gals open their purses and take out a precious preborn. (Do you have a precious preborn and information in case you have an opportunity to evangelize for life? Contact our office, or stop by one of our information tables.)

Web Site: www.calright2life.org

The autumn season brings the start of school; it also is the season of the Combined Federal Campaign (similar to the United Way charity drives for federal employees.) We are invited each year to participate in the kickoff of these campaigns at several federal buildings. I often return to the same venues year after year, as well as expanding to a few new locations each year. At almost every "return venue" I hear at least one story of where a precious preborn that we distributed the year before has traveled. They have visited Cub Scout den meetings, elementary school classrooms,

Sunday school classes and church youth group gatherings, they have been to youth retreats and summer camps, as well as being shared at the family dinner table on major holidays. These little guys and gals get around!

Perhaps our most touching story

of the "travels of a precious preborn" is of a grandmother who visited our information table one Saturday morning and shared that her granddaughter was scheduled to have an abortion the following Monday morning. We gave her lots of literature, and a precious preborn. She started to cry and said "Oh no! I can't let them kill a baby!" About 2PM the grandmother (spoiler: soon to be a great grandmother) returned to our table all smiles and waving the precious preborn we had given her a few hours before. With her were her daughter and granddaughter. She boldly proclaimed "We are going to keep the baby! My granddaughter cancelled the abortion appointment." We have proof that these little guys/gals have saved lives. So you ask, "How much does it cost to save a life?" Sometimes less than a dollar.

How much does it cost to save a baby? Sometimes less than a

dollar!

#### CookieCott 2014

Calling all pro-lifers engaged in the battle for the Gospel of Life, its Girl Scout cookie sales time again! Help spread the word about the unfortunate realities that are the modern day Girl Scouts.

Those of you who are part of our e-alert network (if you aren't, send e-mail us at <a href="mailto:callife@calright2life.org">callife@calright2life.org</a> and we will add you to the distribution) received an e-mail several weeks ago kicking off the 2014 CookieCott. Most of the media coverage is quite positive, giving us the opportunity to state our case. The other side is responding with spin, outright deceptions, and diversions. Girl Scout leaders are violating the Girl Scout Law, which calls girls to be honest and take responsibility in all they say and do.

You still have time to download a flyer at <u>cookiecott.com</u>. A reminder: only speak to adults, giving an adult the flier as an explanation for why we are not buying cookies. The other side is deceiving in an outrageous way by claiming pro-lifers are engaging little girls in a hostile manner. If the other side can condone the shedding of innocent blood, it's an easy step for them to tell lies. Of course, some in the press will just repeat those lies.

John Pisciotta, Director of Pro-Life Waco and leader of the CookieCott project has provided the following ideas for participating in CookieCott:

- 1. Communicate directly to Girl Scouts USA, 420 Fifth Avenue, NY, NY 10018 Phone 800-478-7248 email by going to http://www.girlscouts.org/contact/email.asp
- 2.Go to www.cookiecott.com and click the button for the flyer that is central to the boycott. You can print multiple copies. The flyer contains the main facts on Girl Scout associations with pro-abortion leaders, organizations, and agenda. All you have to do at a cookie sale is hand the flyer to an adult and say this explains why you're not buying. I know some of you feel like you want to support your local Girl Scout troop, which are very often wholesome in contrast to the national GSUSA. One option is to donate cash to the local troop or donate gift cards from Hobby Lobby. The local troop generally gets just 70 to 90¢ from each box of cookies sold.
- 3. Spread the word frequently on social media. For Twitter we are using #cookiecott

- 4. Write articles for on-line media, for newspaper editorials and letters about CookieCott, and send them to newspapers online media sources and letters to the editor.
- 5. On-line "comments" on web articles. Do a Google search for "Girl Scout cookie boycott" to find the most recent ones. Go to the article and it will often contain an opportunity to comment. Write your point of view. The dark side is active. We need to be active too.
- 6. If you are involved in a pro-life, pro-family organization urge the organization to publicly endorse CookieCott. Perhaps you lead an organization. The organization can send out communications to all members AND send a news release to local media about your endorsement. It was just this type of endorsement from Pro-Life Wisconsin that led to the Associated Press article and many news stories in Wisconsin. You can do this in your state.
- 7. Talk to your friends, relatives, and pastors about CookieCott. This is in large part an educational campaign. We want adults to have full knowledge of the Girl Scout USA agenda for children. Any church direct involvement with Girl Scouts should be scrutinized very closely. In my personal judgment, such associations should not continue. There are other scouting organizations to work with such as Awanas, Junior Catholic Daughters and American Heritage Girls
- 8. Spread the word of CookieCott throughout your sphere of influence and friendship.
- 9. Pray that all pro-lifers involved in CookieCott will be granted the wisdom and prudence to follow our Lord who loved the little children so passionately.

For further information contact: John Pisciotta, Director of Pro-Life Waco 254-644-0407 prolifewaco@gmail.com

Do you know someone who might be considering abortion?

Make sure they get the facts first!

A LIFE depends on it...

1-800-712-HELP (4357)

Website: <a href="http://www.optionline.org/">http://www.optionline.org/</a>

#### STEALTH EUTHANASIA AS PRESCRIBED BY OBAMACARE

The Stealth Euthanasia Symposium presented by six co-sponsoring organizations at Biola University on November 23, 2013 focused heavily on medical malpractice observed in hospitals, nursing homes, and hospice that lead to imposed death. The symposium exposed those relatively few rogue medical practices which are so egregious that they could infect and discredit the noble medical profession that has stood by its credo of "Do no harm" for over two millennia.

What must also be considered is the far more subtle and vastly more encompassing form of stealth euthanasia administered through the Patient Protection and Affordable Healthcare Act of 2010, commonly known as Obamacare. That form of stealth euthanasia is medical treatment rationing. This is succinctly explained in "Obamacare Routes to Rationing" produced by the Robert Powell Center for Medical Ethics at the National Right to Life Committee, January 2014, from which much of the following material has been obtained. To read more about the mechanisms of Obamacare rationing in the original paper with extensive references, go to <a href="http://www.nrlc.org/uploads/medethics/ObamacareRoutestoRationing.pdf">http://www.nrlc.org/uploads/medethics/ObamacareRoutestoRationing.pdf</a>

Euthanasia, stripped of its euphemisms, comes down to the death of an individual caused or hastened by another or other individuals. Obamacare fulfills this criterion of euthanasia through state-control of medical treatment in the following ways.

1) Obamacare imposes a 40% excise tax on "excess benefit" health insurance premiums, beginning in 2018. It is designed to create a tax disincentive to suppress private, nongovernmental (employer) health care spending beyond a governmentally imposed limit, and that limit is indexed to general rather than health care inflation. General inflation is about half of medical inflation, which is comparatively high-end labor intensive. Surgeons and nurses are not as readily replaced with robots as might be done in assembly line work. To avoid this excess benefits tax, less costly

medical procedures will be provided that cannot match life-saving procedures available today and people who could have been cured will die. This is stealth euthanasia through medical treatment rationing.

- 2) Obamacare insurance exchanges limit your right to use your own money to save your family members' lives. The exchanges were designed to be marketplaces through which individuals and employees could select their health insurance plan for the next year. The original idea for exchanges was to allow comparisonshopping among all insurance plans that provided basic benefits. Under Obamacare, however, consumers may only choose plans offered by insurers that do not allow their customers to spend more than what government bureaucrats deem an "excessive or unjustified" amount for their health insurance. This means that health insurance plans offered in the exchanges typically have narrow panels of available health care providers that exclude specialist doctors and healthcare centers with a high reputation of successful, effective life-saving medical treatment. This is stealth euthanasia through medical treatment rationing.
- 3) Obamacare impacts Medicare and limits senior citizens' right to use their own money to save their own lives. According to an August 2010 Congressional Budget Office estimate, Obamacare will cut \$555 billion from Medicare over the next ten years. Concurrently, as the baby boom generation retires, there will be fewer workers to sustain increasing Medicare cost, which is paid for by payroll taxes. The result is that the amount of money available for each Medicare beneficiary will shrink significantly. The shortfall could be made up by a dramatic increase in taxes (unpopular), Medicare rationing (increased deaths), or voluntary premium payments by senior citizens. However, Obamacare allows Washington bureaucrats to prevent older Americans from making up the Medicare shortfall with their own funds—taking away their right to spend their own money to save their own lives. How does this happen?

Through legislative changes in 1997 and 2003 a "private fee-for-service" option was created in Medicare under which senior citizens could choose health insurance whose value was not limited by what the government might pay toward it. These plans could set premiums and reimbursement rates for health care providers without upward limits imposed by government regulation. Such plans would not be forced to ration treatment, as long as senior citizens were free to choose to pay more for them. Obamacare

indirectly amended the section in the pre-existing law allowing these plans to set their premiums without approval by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) by adding, "Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring the Secretary [of Health and Human Services] to accept any or every bid submitted by an MA organization under this subsection." Therefore, CMS may now refuse to allow senior citizens the choice of private-fee-for-service plans that charge what CMS regards as premiums that are too high. Indeed, the provision literally authorizes CMS, if it decides to do so, to refuse to allow privatefee-for-service plans altogether. Thus, this provision could eliminate the only avenue that senior citizen may use to escape rationing—using their own money to save their lives. This is stealth euthanasia through medical treatment rationing.

4) Obamacare will limit what healthcare providers can do to save the lives of your family members. An 18-member "Independent Payment Advisory Board" is given the duty, on January 15, 2015 and every two years thereafter, with regard to private (not just governmentally funded) health care, to make "recommendations to slow the growth in national health expenditures" below the rate of medical inflation. The Commission's recommendations are to be ones "that the Secretary [of Health and Human Services] or other Federal agencies can implement administratively."

In turn, the Secretary of Health and Human Services is empowered to impose "quality and efficiency" measures on hospitals, requiring them to report on their compliance with them. Essentially, doctors, hospitals, and other health care providers can be told by Washington just what diagnostic tests and medical care are considered to meet "quality and efficiency" standards. These standards will be enforced not just for

health care paid for by federally funded programs like Medicare, but also for health care paid for by private citizens and by the health insurance they or their employers purchase. In effect, Washington bureaucrats can create one uniform, national standard of care, established by Washington bureaucrats, that is designed to limit what private citizens are allowed to spend to save their own lives. This is stealth euthanasia through medical treatment rationing.

#### **Calendar of Events**

#### WHO IS CALIFORNIA RIGHT TO LIFE?

This is the newsletter of <u>California Right to Life Education</u> <u>Fund</u>, a 501-c-3 organization established to educate the public about pro-life issues. Donations to the EDUCATION FUND are <u>tax-deductible</u> and can be sent to P.O. Box 4343, Walnut Creek, CA 94596-0343.

Affiliate of American Life League, headed by Judie Brown, and share the same "no-exceptions, no excuses" beliefs and the same dedication to promoting the Culture of Life, respecting all innocent human life from the single-cell stage to natural death.

# For the latest updates of events see www.calendarforlife.org

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