

CALIFORNIA RIGHT TO LIFE

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Established 1981

End of Summer 2002 Update

We at California Right to Life have had an exciting and challenging summer. We would like to take this opportunity to update all of you, our donors, on the fruits your contributions have reaped in the Pro-Life arena.

Pro-Life Outreach at the Mall

By Helen Austin

It is deeply satisfying to volunteer at the California Right to Life Table at our local mall. People are irresistibly drawn to our table so they can take a closer look at the "Baby Models." Even people who are not with us on the life issue will bring their children over and spend time at our table looking at the "babies." The actual size babies are shown in the womb in various stages of development from 10 weeks to 7 months.

We also hand out brochures – lots of them! Our brochures do a great job to convey respect for life and educate the public, which is CA Right to Life's primary function. I enjoy sharing our brochures with people who have never really been exposed to the truth regarding abortion.

Since I have been coordinating the table at Sun Valley Mall, I have had the opportunity to talk to many young people. It is positively invigorating to tell them the truth about when life begins, what abortion really is, and the lifetime consequences of having an abortion.

I am still surprised how many young men will stop and talk (and listen!) to us. Some of the toughest looking ones have said, "You know, I don't think abortion is right."

I come away knowing there is no better way I could have used my Saturday. If you are interested in joining me, or have any questions, please feel free to call me at **(925) 370-0409**. I would love your company at the mall table! "Volunteer shifts" are two hours and run between 10 AM and 4 PM on a Saturday. Children are welcome to join their parent(s) in staffing the table.

Join Helen at Sun Valley Mall in Concord, or call us to join or start a Mall Table effort in your area! Training and materials are provided. Call (925) 944-5351.

OTHER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- We would like to expand our office hours. If you live in the Pleasant Hill area and have a few hours each week, or even once a month, please come and **help out in our office**, answering phones, distributing literature, doing computer data entries, mailings, etc. We will work around your schedule. Please note your interests on the enclosed card and we will

contact you. Training is provided. We are also planning several “**volunteer information meetings.**” If you are interested in attending one of these one-hour sessions, please note your preference for times on the enclosed card.

- We are looking ahead to our annual major **fund raising event** in early 2003. If you have any special talents and/or skills in coordinating or assisting in a major event and would like to help, please note your interest on the enclosed form.

OFFICE ACTIVITIES – Here to serve you!

- Have you gotten your **bumper sticker** yet? We just received a fresh supply. If you would like one, call us!
- When was the last time you wore your “**Precious Feet Pin?**” These are one of our most valuable outreach tools; little children point them out in wonderment, “Look! It even has toes!” If you need another set, note whether you prefer silver or gold on the enclosed card.
- Could you pass out **pro-life literature**? How about leaving a few pamphlets in the waiting room next time you visit the doctor? We have a large selection of materials – just ask us!

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Our many volunteers donate hundreds of hours each year to getting out the pro-life message. We need an ongoing stream of funds to keep them supplied with materials such as pamphlets for our Mall Tables, bumper stickers, ‘precious feet’ pins, and other literature.”

- At each Mall Table we distribute between \$25-\$40 worth of **mall table materials**. Would you like to sponsor a Mall Table?
- Recently we ordered several hundred dollars worth of “Precious Preborn” models, bumper stickers, “precious feet” pins, and **literature** for our pamphlet rack. Could you donate \$25 or more towards these costs?
- Our subscription to the **Legislative tracking** service via the Internet is about \$180/month. Could you sponsor one month’s subscription?

Any donation, no matter how small, is a valuable contribution to the cause.

Little drops of water, all joined together make mighty oceans.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Throughout the year we post legislative information and action alerts on our website:

<http://www.calright2life.org>

Visit regularly to see what is happening in our legislatures and how you can help.

We work with several organizations throughout the state in researching and evaluating the effects of legislation on the right to life cause. The year 2002 has provided many challenges for the prolife supporters at both the state and national levels.

On the national level, the Congress passed, and President Bush has signed, the Born-Alive Infants Protection Act, which is a positive step towards a culture of life. Similarly, a bill banning Partial Birth Abortion has passed the House by a 123-vote majority and is awaiting action in the Senate.

Our efforts at the state level have been mainly expended in blocking further governmental

incursion into parental and family rights. We tracked 25 bills this past legislative session affecting parental rights and the expansion of abortion services, sending position papers to the legislature and educating pro-life legislators. Three of the bills in which we took a special interest are:

- Senate Bill (SB 1301) the “Reproductive Privacy Act” would place into California law a

Roe v. Wade type law with several expansions.

It will not only recognize abortion on demand but would **expand “abortion rights”** to allow non-physicians to perform non-surgical abortions such as RU-486. Partial birth abortion (intact dilation and extraction) would be legal. This bill also eliminates much of the currently required reporting on abortions, leaving no public accountability for the use of your tax dollars to provide abortion services. This bill passed both houses of the legislature in the last term and is awaiting Gov. Davis’ signature.

- Assembly Bill (AB 2194) “Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency” would change the direction of medical residency programs to **mandate abortion training for all OB/GYN** residents. Few doctors are currently exposed to abortion training and even fewer actually choose to learn because of the stigma attached to being an abortionist. This bill would require residency programs that do not offer abortion training to provide such training at another institution. This bill also passed in the last term and is awaiting Gov. Davis’ signature.
- SB-1230 and several companion bills would allow for **human cloning** both for creating life (born infants) and for creating new babies to use for organs and other “therapies.”

A NEW VOICE ON THE PHONE

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I’m Cecelia Cody and I recently joined California Right to Life. My primary duties are to coordinate and oversee the numerous and varied facets of CRL - from ordering pamphlets and other pro-life supplies, to lining up pro-life media spokesmen. If you have any ideas or suggestions for ways to increase the pro-life presence in your community, or if there is anything CRL or I can do to assist you in your pro-life efforts, please feel free to contact me either by phone or by e-mail.

Enclosed is a form to assist you in communicating with us about the numerous items addressed in this newsletter. Please take a moment to complete the form to assist us in planning the future direction of California Right to Life.

Thank you for your ongoing support! Without you, California Right to Life could not exist.

- Cecelia and the Board of California Right to Life