

CALIFORNIA RIGHT TO LIFE EDUCATION FUND

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World's Most Premature Baby Survives and Goes Home

Amillia Taylor is fighting for her life and the odds are against her. Born at a mere 21 weeks at Miami's Baptist Children's Hospital; with no baby born before 23 weeks surviving very long, Amillia has certainly beat the odds and is now home being cared for under the watchful eye of her parents.

Amillia Taylor weighed in at a mere 284 grams (10 ounces) and 24 centimeters (9.25 inches) long. Doctors typically say that babies weighing less than 400 grams have very little chance of surviving. Babies born at full-term typically spend between 37 and 40 weeks in the womb; Amillia's stay was only 21 weeks. Her mother, 37 year-old Sonja Taylor, faced fertility issues and had used in-vitro fertilization to conceive her. Sonja then battled problems throughout her pregnancy.

Sonja delivered at 21 weeks on October 24, 2006 and Amillia was barely breathing. Her parents named her "Amillia" for a Latin word meaning "resilient, fighter, hardworking."

The resilient fighter hasn't given up and her parents told the media about their daughter's spirit, "I'm still in amazement," Sonja said. "It was hard to imagine she would get this far."

"I wanted her to have a chance, and I knew in my heart that she was going to make it," she added. Dr. William Smalling told the Associated Press on Monday that physicians treating Amillia "weren't too optimistic. But she proved us all wrong."

"She's going to be in a normal crib, she's going to have normal feedings, she's taking all her feedings from a bottle," Smalling said.

Amillia has dealt with some breathing issues, very mild brain hemorrhage and digestive problems since her birth but none of them will cause any negative long-term effects.

"We can deal with lungs and things like that but, of course, the brain is the most important," Dr. Paul Fassbach told AP. "But her prognosis is excellent."

DEATH MARKETERS' SPIN

By Julie Grimstad

A euphemism is language that softens or masks an unpleasant truth. In *City of God*, St. Augustine wrote, "God's command, 'Thou shalt not kill,' is to be taken as forbidding self-destruction — anyone who kills a human being, himself or another, is guilty of murder." That is a plain, hard truth. Promoters of euthanasia and assisted suicide call killing a human being who is sick or disabled "death with dignity." That is a euphemism.

Oregon's Death With Dignity Act, the only law of its kind in the nation, permits a physician to prescribe a fatal drug dose upon the request of a person who is expected to die within six months. Willfully taking a mouthful of pills in order to end one's life is suicide, but "right to die" activists dislike such honest and direct language. Their polling data revealed that when a softer term such as "physician-aid-in-dying" was used instead of "physician-assisted suicide" to describe exactly the same proposal, the proposal garnered significantly more support. So, they demanded a change in language, believing that not calling suicide what it is would help legalize physician-assisted suicide (PAS) in other states.

In 2006, each and every assisted-suicide measure failed even though PAS activists thought they were going to taste victory in many states. They blamed their failures on the media for using the word "suicide" to describe these measures. But the death marketers never give up; they just craft a new advertising campaign. Already in 2007, several states have PAS proposals before their legislatures—Vermont, for instance. Dr. David Babbott, who supports that state's "Death With Dignity" bill, declared, "We believe that 'S' word is an inflammatory word and we don't use it." (Darren Perron, *Channel 3 News*, Montpelier, VT, 1/12/07)

Compassion & Choices—a group formed by the merger of End of Life Choices (formerly the Hemlock Society) and Compassion In Dying—has helped facilitate the deaths of about three-quarters of the Oregonians who have requested PAS. George Eighmey, director of Compassion and Choices of Oregon, claims they often hear from people who want to avail themselves of the law, but who find the term

**"A person's
a person, no
matter how
small."
- Dr. Seuss**

"physician-assisted suicide" offensive. (The *Oregonian*, 11/11/06) Obviously, the social stigma and religious prohibitions attached to the act of killing oneself make the word "suicide" a powerful deterrent. And, just as obviously, Eighmey and his colleagues don't want anyone to be deterred from committing suicide under the law. Therefore, last year, his group lobbied Oregon's Department of Human Services (DHS) to adopt "value-neutral language." Not wanting a court battle, the agency capitulated. DHS now blandly refers to patients who ask physicians to help them commit suicide as "persons who use the Oregon Death With Dignity Act."

Following suit, the American Public Health Association (APHA), which represents more than 50,000 members, has rejected the term "assisted suicide" in favor of "aid-in-dying" or "patient-directed dying." APHA's Governing Council adopted an interim resolution in November that advises reporters, public policy makers and medical personnel to use these "value-neutral terms." Compassion & Choices is banking on many of us being gullible enough to believe that suicide isn't really suicide when medical professionals say it isn't.

The plan of action of "right to die" activists is and always has been to work on society in order to bring about new attitudes favorable to euthanasia and assisted suicide. Do not be seduced by the death marketers' spin. Even the high-sounding title of their "Death With Dignity" measures is a lie. Where is the dignity in self-destruction? Where is the honor in helping another commit suicide?

If it takes false advertising to sell a law, you can bet your life there's something wrong with it.

About the author: Julie Grimstad is the director of Life is Worth Living, Inc. She lives in Stevens Point, WI. E-mail: juliegrimstad@yahoo.com

The California State Assembly will be debating legislation during the 2007 session; AB 374 (California Compassionate Choices Act) is an attempt to bring Oregon type Physician Assisted Suicide to California. For further information see the coalition website <http://www.ca-aas.com/>

Do you know someone who might be considering abortion?

**Make sure they get the facts first!
A LIFE depends on it...
1-800-395-HELP (4357)**

Upcoming Events

Wondering what is happening in your area in the Right to Life arena? Now there is an online e-calendar listing of events, maybe even something happening in your area. See <http://www.studer.org/Calendar.htm> for a listing of speakers, conferences, abortion mill vigils, and other pro-life events. Currently over fifty individuals and organizations list events and activities in California, Arizona, Nevada, and beyond.

Catholic Medical Association – Monthly Bioethics Seminar on Double Effect Reasoning

San Francisco Guild of the Catholic Medical Association will sponsor a series of Tuesday evening seminars, March 20, April 17, and May 15 from 7:30-9:00 PM at Heart of Mary Center, 2580 McAllister St. San Francisco. Donation of \$30 is requested for the series. For further information contact Dr. George Maloof (415) 219-8719. Registrations may be mailed to P.O. Box 31855 San Francisco, CA 94131.

Students for Life Annual Conference April 21 Notre Dame de Namur University - Belmont CA.

This year's theme for the annual Students for life conference is "Life-Camera-Action." We will be sharing our experience dealing with the media on life issues – before cameras – and our ongoing actions for the Culture of Life. If you are interested in joining us, or helping in the preparation for this event, contact our office at 925-944-5351 or callife@calright2life.org.



NATIONAL PRO-LIFE T-SHIRT DAY

April 24 is a day for pro-lifers all across the country to support of the sanctity of human beings' lives by wearing pro-life shirts. We encourage everyone, especially students, to wear pro-life apparel on this day. Join thousands nationwide by showing everyone

that we are the majority that we are a strong and determined voice for the babies!

The official shirt of ALL's National Pro-life T-shirt Day is available online at <http://www.prolifegear.com>. The theme for this year's T-shirt is "What part of ABORTION don't you understand?" Additional information is available at <http://www.NationalProLifeTshirtDay.com>.

University Faculty for Life Scholarly Achievement Award in Creative Writing, Literary Criticism, or Research

\$300 in prizes

Possible presentation of work at annual conference
Opportunity for publication

University Faculty for Life will now accept submissions from college or university students for its Scholarly Achievement Award in English Studies. Students may submit work in three categories: Creative Writing, Literary Criticism, or Research. Work submitted in any category must demonstrate the application of a life-affirming perspective on abortion, infanticide, euthanasia, or related issues.

The scholars who win in any category may be offered an opportunity to read their work before the annual conference of University Faculty for Life (to be held the first weekend in June 2007 at Villanova University in Philadelphia). They may have their work published on UFL's website. Finally, winners in each category will receive \$100.

University Faculty for Life is an organization of scholars dedicated to the intellectual and scholarly inquiry of abortion, infanticide, euthanasia, and related issues. Since an increasing majority of college and university students are pro-life, we would like to help these students by encouraging them to strive for scholarly excellence as they examine these issues and by assisting them with building a publications portfolio.

Deadline for entries: 20 May 2007.

Rules

1. Students must be enrolled in a college or university at time of submission of work; a copy of an identification card with current college or university sticker will suffice.
2. The student shall affirm in a cover letter that the work submitted is the student's original work. Please enclose address and contact information in this letter.

3. Submissions must be a minimum of six but no more than ten pages double-spaced.
4. Students retain the right of publication.
5. A panel of judges will evaluate submissions based on the quality of research and the demonstration of strong communication and critical thinking skills. Correct grammar and punctuation are required. Research must follow MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, latest edition. The judges reserve the right to give a partial or no award if the quality of the submissions merits such action. The decision of the judges is final.
6. Students should submit their work electronically in Word format to JeffKoloze@juno.com. The cover letter and a hard copy of the paper may be mailed to Dr. Jeff Koloze at: 145 Englewood Road, Springfield, Ohio 45504-1414.

Around the Office

www.goodsearch.com Have you tried the new search engine that gives money to California Right to Life Education Fund every time you use it? Our usage almost tripled between January and February. Let's continue the multiplication of the searches. As reported in our last newsletter [goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) donates half their revenue, about a penny per search, to the charity designated by the users. So every time you log into www.goodsearch.com and do a search, we will get about a penny. Just go to www.goodsearch.com and be sure to enter California Right to Life Education Fund (Walnut Creek, CA) as the charity you want to support. If you have any questions, or need help setting up your computer to use www.goodsearch.com, contact Cecelia Cody at 925-944-5351 and she will happily assist you!

Mall Table Volunteers Needed

We would like to expand our "Mall Table Ministry"; however, our current list of volunteers is stretched to the limit. If you would like to join our cadre of dedicated volunteers for a couple hours a month at Sunvalley Mall in Concord or various other venues, please contact our office at 925-944-5351 or e-mail callife@calright2life.org. **Training will be provided.** This is a wonderful way to share your prolife commitment and change hearts, leading to a day when the Bay Area (and beyond) will be a place where abortion is neither wanted nor needed.

We are also looking for "a few good youth" to join us for the California Right to Life information table at the Students for Life Conference at Notre Dame de Namur University in Belmont on Saturday April 21.

If you are interested in participating in this wonderful event, get a chance to meet hundreds of fantastic fellow youth and help to spread the message of the preciousness of life from the single-cell stage to natural death, please contact this office as soon as possible. This is a wonderful opportunity to share the message of life, however we need your assistance; in fact, we can't do it without you!

Through recent information tables at the mall and various conferences we were able to share options with several women who felt that they had no choice. Imagine the warm feeling of knowing you may have had a part in saving the life of a precious pre-born, just by sitting at a table for a couple hours passing out printed materials and sharing what resources, organizations and phone numbers (when in doubt refer to 1-800-395-HELP or 1-800-395-4357) are available to these people who feel they have NO CHOICE.

Thank you Donors!

As we expand and continue to serve, we rely on your ongoing support. Please consider becoming a monthly donor in 2007. Several of our donors have us set up in their "online bill-pay" and the computer remembers and reminds them to send in the donation. Your donations, large or small, are the lifeblood of our efforts, providing materials to students and giving our volunteers the resources needed as they serve in your name to spread the message of the culture of life from fertilization to natural death. A special thank you to all our donors, especially monthly contributors.

WHO IS CALIFORNIA RIGHT TO LIFE?

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

California Right to Life **Committee, Inc.** is a 501-c-4 organization providing information on legislative issues affecting the right to life, and pro-life political advocacy. **CRLC, Inc. is not permitted**, under IRS regulations, to offer a tax deduction for donations. \$24.99 annually is requested for a subscription to the CRLC legislative email updates list and can be sent to 1920 Monument Blvd #309, Concord, CA 94520.

Both are affiliates 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.