



Stratford and District Right to Life

Newsletter

March 2012

Newsletter No.125

STRATFORD AND DISTRICT RIGHT TO LIFE IS A PRO-LIFE, non-denominational organization of individuals who believe that all life - before and after birth - has a right to care and protection. We try to serve as a centre of information on the abortion issue, and to reach out to all Canadians concerning the preservation and dignity of human life, and also to urge one to take action in our democratic society.

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www.stratfordright2life.ca
FOR LATEST INFO PLEASE CHECK
website: www.lifesite.net

UPCOMING

EVENTS

MONTHLY MEETINGS

RIGHT TO LIFE MASS AT
7:00 P.M.

MEETING AT

ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH HALL
7:35 P.M.

4TH TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH
EXCEPT
JULY AND DECEMBER

PICKETING

LAST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH
4-5 P.M.

IN FRONT OF LHSC AT
WELLINGTON &

COMMISSIONERS RD. LONDON
CALL TERRY MILLER: 519-272-1669

MARCH FOR LIFE

THURSDAY, MAY 10, 2012
PARLIAMENT HILL, OTTAWA
SEE DETAILS ON PAGE 7

ART CONTEST

SEE INFORMATION IN THIS
NEWSLETTER



President's Message

I would like to thank all of you who have spent so much time helping to organize the material for our newsletters.

Thank you to our readers who renewed their membership, and to all the new members who have become a part of Stratford & District Right to Life. Your membership is the life line of your organization, and a commitment to the future of your children and grandchildren.

A very special thank you for the generous donations and memorial donations. Rest assured, your donations will be used wisely.

Last Saturday 28 young people and 16 adults took a bus to Toronto for the "Lift Jesus Higher" rally. They were full of life! One lady told me she was not eavesdropping, but when she was in line for food, she overheard some of the young people say how awesome the day was. Most of them were accompanied by a parent.

I also had a special experience that day. A lady came up to me and started to talk about how difficult it is to be a doctor when so many young women don't think about the future and realize too late that they have to live with the consequences of their decisions.

In this newsletter you will find some very special articles. I wish every member a Blessed Easter.

Elisabeth Dobbe

Almighty Father and Lord of life,

You have entrusted to men the noble mission of safeguarding and protecting human life with the utmost care from the moment of conception to natural death (Gaudium et Spes No. 51). During this holy season of Lent, a time of both penance and great hope, stir in our hearts a greater love for you and for each other. During these 40 days of spiritual renewal, lead us to a deeper conversion so that by living in your light and love we may bear witness to the gift of life.

Lord Jesus, the firstborn of all creation, have mercy on us. Accept our prayers and our fasting in atonement for the tragic sin of abortion. By the merits of your precious blood shed for our redemption, instill in all hearts a profound respect for the gift of life and bring about an end to abortion, euthanasia and every other assault on innocent human life. Reawaken in the heart of every pregnant mother a profound love for the life growing in her womb and grant to her unfailing courage to choose life for her child.

Come Holy Spirit, strengthen us and give us fortitude to work tirelessly to promote a true Culture of Life, a culture that recognizes the dignity and sanctity of every person. Raise up men and women to serve in public office who will enact laws which will safeguard and protect all human life.

Blessed Mary, Mother of God, you bore the Author of Life in your womb. Through your intercession may our hearts be conformed to yours so that we might accept, nurture and cherish all human life. Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us. Amen

Written by Bishop James D. Conley, Apostolic Administrator of the Archdiocese of Denver

Canadian MP calls for abortion debate in Parliament

BY PATRICK B. CRAINE (LIFESITENEWS.COM JAN 2012)

OTTAWA, Ontario, January 3, 2012 (LifeSiteNews.com) - Another Canadian parliamentarian has joined the call for public debate on abortion, urging his colleagues in Ottawa to discuss applying human rights protections to children in the womb. "I support this discussion in Parliament of all places. I mean, where else should it be happening? Around the water cooler?" Tory MP Jeff Watson (Essex) told LifeSiteNews on Tuesday.

Watson is at least the fifth MP since September to call for a debate on abortion in the wake of the Conservative government's controversial decision to award a grant to the International Planned Parenthood Federation, the world's largest abortion provider.

Pro-life MPs and groups have said the grant flies in the face of the government's 2010 promise not to fund abortion overseas.

Watson entered the fray in the days before Christmas when he told local media that he supports Tory colleague Stephen Woodworth's (Kitchener-Centre) call for discussion on the rights of the unborn.

In an interview with LifeSiteNews, Watson suggested the debate take a "more comprehensive" approach, moving beyond the "old debate" about the criminality of abortion.

"Both camps are well entrenched around whether the procedure of abortion should be criminalized or not," he said. "There's a whole lot more to this discussion. It's not that that isn't an important part of the discussion. But that isn't the discussion itself. It's a whole range of things."

He suggested as an example that the government consider better ways of supporting college-aged women with unplanned pregnancies, to remove the "false choice" between the child and a successful career.

On December 21st, Woodworth issued a press release slamming Canada's current law that does not recognize a child's status as a person until after he or she is born. He said the law treats a child as "sub-human while his or her little toe remains in the birth canal, even if he or she is breathing."

While a recent poll had shown that 80% of Canadians believe Canada's law protects children in the later stages of pregnancy, Woodworth emphasized that the law in fact "provides no human rights protection whatsoever for children before the moment of complete birth."

Watson, a father of five, has been a regular at Canada's annual March for Life, and has been a vocal advocate for the unborn since he was first elected to Parliament in 2004.

In 2008, he spoke out against Governor General Michaëlle Jean's decision to award the Order of Canada to abortionist Henry Morgentaler.

At the 2010 March for Life, Watson declared "the dawn of a new day in Canada where abortion will be unthinkable."

"We will have in Canada a culture that supports life from conception to natural death – we will see that come to pass," he predicted.

On Tuesday, Watson told LifeSiteNews that he does not have a "definitive position" on when human rights ought to apply to children in the womb, but hopes for a debate involving testimony from bioethicists, scientists, and human rights professionals around that question.

"Human rights may have a specific legal connotation," he said. "I'm not a rights specialist. What I'm firm about is that personhood exists from the time of conception forward. That's my philosophical belief on that."

"I'm not sure that Canadians share that consensus," he added.

"My layman's read of the public mood, if you will, around life issues [is] I think most people mistakenly believe that there's already restrictions on abortion, and so this issue is already settled," he explained.

Watson said that when he informs people that there are, in fact, no restrictions, "they're quite alarmed and feel something should be done about it."

Since winning a majority in the May election, Stephen Harper's Conservative government has remained adamant that they will support the status quo on abortion, and has re-emphasized the point in the media whenever one of its caucus members raises the issue.

Under Harper in recent years, pro-life MPs have struggled to bring forward any discussion on abortion, even around broadly supported initiatives such as a ban on abortion coercion and or protections for unborn victims of crime, in part because abortion supporters frame them as backdoor efforts to re-criminalize abortion.

"My gut feeling is that groups who support free access to the procedure of abortion won't have the broader discussion. They're content to frame every discussion as being about the re-criminalization of abortion," Watson observed. "They want to frame it in old terms. ... I expect a very strong resistance by groups that favour full access to the procedure of abortion. I expect them to be full-out name-calling and everything else that characterizes groups like that."

"I think we're mature enough as a society, I think we need to be mature enough as a Parliament, to deal with these questions head on," he added.

Contact your Member of Parliament.

"Since 1988 there have been no laws in Canada restricting abortion."

National Abortion Federation

This concludes a three part series by Laurie Diemand and son, Steven. Steven was born at only 26 weeks gestation, weighing 1lb. 13oz. His tiny life was filled with struggles, his development impaired. As he gained his physical development, he was confronted with the death of his father when he was seven. Before he reached 12 years of age, his mother Laurie suffered a brain aneurysm, requiring surgery. Despite complications, after four weeks, Laurie came home to recuperate.



Life - God's Miracle Part 2 of 3 By Steven Holst-Diemand

After my mom began recovering from her aneurysm things started to progress normally.

Grade 8 was an interesting time. I needed to choose which high school to attend the next year. It ended up being St. Michael's Catholic Secondary School. Towards the end of Grade 8, I got my first job at a local gas station in Milverton, and kept it for the next 2 ½ years.

High school was also an interesting time for me; I made many friends, some of which I am still in contact with today. It was also during this time that my family began to attend the local Family Catechism Class held in Stratford. Here I learned more about the Church and my relationship with God.

I had an eye opening experience during the summer of Grade 10 when I went to World Youth Day in Australia. Our group also had a side trip to Fiji, where we lived with local families. In order to raise money for this endeavour, I started up my own business through a government run program called "Summer Company". For this, I needed to come up with a business idea, create a business plan, secure suppliers, and advertisers. In order to sell my product, I went to the local Farmer's Market every weekend for about 4 months. Through many long hours, and with the help of my dad, I was able to raise the majority of the money needed for my pilgrimage to World Youth Day.



I first thought of what I wanted to do with my life during my "Careers Class" in grade 10. The final project required us to choose what we would do after high school. At the time, I chose the Royal Military College of Canada (RMC) as the institution that I would go to. RMC offered a high quality, paid education, low student/teacher ratios, and a guaranteed job afterwards. Because I really like to fiddle with and build computers, I chose Computer Engineering for a degree.

At the beginning of Grade 11, I switched jobs from the gas station to a local pizzeria. By the latter part of that year, I also got a job with a local stone mason. Transportation to and from these jobs, varying from 5km to 10km, was my bicycle, through snow and rain.

My first tour of RMC, with my parents, was during March break of Grade 11. We received a favourable impression. That September, I started the RMC application process which included an aptitude test, a medical examination, and an interview. The following Spring we went for another tour. The next day, St. Patrick's Day, I received a call to inform me that I had been accepted.

In early August my parents had a party for me where over 200 people, all friends and family, came to see me off. Two weeks later I headed off to RMC.

RMC was a bit of a culture shock for me. During the first two weeks, called Recruit Camp, I learned the basics of being a soldier and military life. Following that was FYOP (First Year Orientation Program), which lasted for four weeks. During that time we were expected to memorize facts about the College, as well as increase our physical fitness, while attending academic classes. FYOP concluded with an obstacle course where we needed to cross 13 obstacles. Our squadron actually won the obstacle course that year. The rest of first year was easier than FYOP; however I was still kept very busy as an engineering student. That summer I attended basic military training, also known as "Boot Camp", at St. Jean sur Richelieu in Quebec. Second year has been easier. We are not as focused upon by the staff as we were in first year. Right now, I am looking forward to heading down to Florida during reading week to do some skydiving.

My life has truly been an interesting journey so far. I am looking forward to finding out what the Good Lord has under His hat for me as my future is revealed to me.

Dessert Social



The Stratford & District Right to Life held its first Dessert Social on Saturday, February 18, 2012 in the Immaculate Conception Church Hall. It was attended by about 20 persons including some students.

We viewed the new film documentary "Do No Harm", produced by Silent No More. In this film, a number of women who have had abortions relate their experiences before and after the abortions. They tell us the truth about the physical, emotional, and psychological "side effects" attached to abortion. Scientists, medical doctors and psychologists also speak out.

We also watched a "you-tube" video about how one woman's abortion caused her and her family to reach out to other pregnant women in need of help, and in particular, the woman in this video. Not only did they give her shelter to continue her pregnancy, but they helped find adoptive parents for her baby. With their help, she turned her whole life around, is now happily married with seven children, and remains in touch with the son she gave up for adoption.

The movies sparked excellent discussions with those present as they enjoyed cakes, fruits, coffee, tea, and juice.

Free literature was available for anyone to take home.

In Memoriam

Stratford and District Right to Life encourages everyone to make a donation in memory of a deceased loved one. Cards for the Stratford and District Right to Life are available from us or at the Funeral Homes in our area. The Funeral Home sends the donation to us and we issue a tax deductible receipt to you.

Donations can also be mailed directly to us at:

P.O. Box 21133, Stratford, ON N5A 7V4

Brian David Drenth
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Audrey Loomans
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Lloyd Steinberg
Joan Smith

Mark your calendars

May 10, 2012

March for Life

On February 24, 2012 at 10:30 a.m. we met with our local MPP Randy Pettapiece regarding Bill 13

Introduce ourselves - concerned parents, educators, voters from Stratford area

We oppose Bill 13 as an anti-bullying measure, it is redundant in regards to child safety; this is already adequately addressed in Bill 157 and The Safe Schools Act. The only thing new in Bill 13 is the radical sex and gender education and installation of gay clubs.

We know that bullying is a problem in our schools; it is not confined to gender or sexual orientation. Children are bullied because of special needs, obesity, how they dress, economic conditions, lack of gadgets, belief systems, ethnicity, etc.

Rather than indoctrinating students with radical ideals, it would work much better to have adequate supervision, with monitors and teachers being trained properly to identify conflict and implement the correct measures, according to the rules already in place. For example, if a child is being bullied because he is ADHD, we do not indoctrinate all the students about ADHD, but rather continually teach respect for all persons. The Safe Schools Act has been enacted so all students be treated with respect and fairness - again, the teachers must implement the rules already in place.

Bill 13 contains provisions for radical sex education regarding homosexuality, going so far as to teach our young people that homosexuality is both good and right. As such, it is simply a damaging "special interest" piece of legislation which we, as parents, do not agree with or support.

Because of radical activism, which has been allowed to shut down true debate, we now face a situation of being labelled homophobic for daring to raise issues of true scientific and medical evidence which may or may not support either side. We are not even allowed to ask the questions, unless we de facto agree that homosexual behaviour is both normal and right. If we disagree with this premise of normalcy, we do not have a voice, but rather are considered to be homophobic.

Bill 13 effectively stifles dissent from anyone who does not agree with homosexuality, and forces this teaching upon our children. As such, it threatens the rights of all of us and totally disregards the rights of parents.

**ABORTION SOLVES NO PROBLEMS,
BUT KILLS A CHILD, DESTROYS THE
WOMAN, WEIGHS ON THE
CONSCIENCE OF THE FATHER AND
OFTEN RUINS THE FAMILY**

POPE BENEDICT XVI

Mother of Tim Tebow Endorses Colorado Personhood Amendment

DENVER, October 19, 2010 (LifeSiteNews.com) - Pam Tebow, whose story about her refusal to abort her football star son reached millions last year, has endorsed Colorado's Personhood Amendment - the only pro-life issue on the ballot anywhere in the U.S. in 2010. "A child's right to life begins at conception, not at birth. From conception, all children are people, made in the image and likeness of God. Thus, I support the Personhood amendment and appeal to Colorado voters to vote 'yes' on amendment 62," stated Pam Tebow, mother of Tim Tebow, a Heisman Trophy winner who scored his first touchdown in the NFL as a Denver Bronco Sunday. Pam Tebow made headline news when she and Heisman-trophy-winning son Tim Tebow appeared in a pro-life television ad during the 2010 Superbowl. The advertisement directed viewers to learn more about Tebow's story online, where Pam described her refusal to let doctors take her son's life while she was pregnant. The ad was sponsored by Focus on the Family, which has also urged Colorado voters to vote "Yes" on Amendment 62.

In an interview with Focus on the Family, the Tebows explained the circumstances of Pam's high-risk pregnancy. Pam recalled, "We went to see a doctor in the town we lived in and she said [he] wasn't a baby at all. [She said] he was a mass of fetal tissue and that I needed to abort him immediately if I was going to save my life." Despite a myriad



of concerns about Pam's life and the life of her baby, the Tebows fought through a difficult pregnancy and gave their son life. "Pam Tebow had the courage and conviction to choose life, despite desperate circumstances," commented Keith Mason, Manager of the Yes on 62 Campaign. "Parents facing difficult pregnancies should realize that the child in their womb is a person, just as Pam Tebow realized her son's humanity, value, and dignity while he was in the womb. He is just as much of a person today as he was when the doctor advised that he be aborted."

"Pam Tebow's testimony serves as an inspiration to women in difficult pregnancies," added Leslie Hanks, cosponsor of Amendment 62. "Although it was challenging, Pam did the right thing, and the world is a better place for it. Likewise, Colorado's 'Yes' vote on Amendment 62 is the right thing for Colorado. Amendment 62 will ensure that Colorado is a better, safer place for women and for preborn babies."

Check out our Video Library!!!

Board Member Pat Bannon is now transferring all of the existing VHS movies and documentaries onto DVD. Already there is an impressive, catalogued, video library with original and new material. For more information visit our website stratfordright2life.ca or call 519 271-7233.

What kind of madness is this?

Mary Sanders of Mitchell writes:

Hi Everyone,

This is so disturbing. Please please e-mail, write or phone the Government to stop this insanity.

The EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERS ABORTION

[W]omen who abort their child after 19 weeks gestation...are eligible to receive 17 weeks maternity leave, the same as a mother who gives birth to her child.

Over the years, the government has paid out money for any number of questionable reasons and causes. None more so than the shocking fact that federal employment insurance cover benefits to women who abort their child after 19 weeks gestation.

These women are eligible to receive 17 weeks maternity leave, the same as a mother who gives birth to her child.

What manner of madness is this? Paid maternity leave is supposed to be granted to women to allow them time to recover from the birth, and to bond with their child. Why then, is the employment insurance plan paying out money to women who deliberately kill their child and, as a consequence, obviously have no need to bond with their now dead child? Is it possible that this so-called "maternity" benefit, which it clearly is not, is a subtle acknowledgement by the government that abortions do indeed cause medical, psychological and emotional trauma for women - a fact that is ferociously denied by feminists? Or, in the alternative, is this payment to women who kill their child a subtle way of indicating that abortion is normal and socially acceptable to Canadians and, therefore, should be recognized as such and fully acknowledged by way of paid leave to carry out the deadly procedure?

Abortion is not morally or socially acceptable. It is a blight on humanity and a disgrace and horror to any civilization that allows it.

The payment of maternity leave under the employment insurance plan to women who deliberately abort their child must be immediately stopped.

Please write to:

Right Honourable Prime Minister Stephen Harper

House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Fax: [613-941-6900](tel:613-941-6900)

E-Mail: Stephen.Harper@parl.gc.ca

Honourable Diane Finley

Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

fax: [613-996-9749](tel:613-996-9749)

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MARCH FOR LIFE

**Please join us for the
March for Life in Ottawa on
Thursday, May 10, 2012**

Bus #1

Departs at midnight on
Wed. May 9, 2012

Returns at midnight on
Thurs. May 10, 2012

Student - \$30.00

Adult - \$45.00

Bus #2

Departs at noon on
Wed. May 9, 2012

Mass, candlelight vigil - overnight
Youth conference, Adult activity

Returns at midnight on
Friday, May 11, 2012

Student - \$125.00

Adult - \$

Miracle Joey: The boy who refused to die

(for the full story of Joey, please go to Lifesitenews.com)

www.lifesitenews.com/news/miracle-joey-the-boy-who-refused-to-die/

OLNEY, Maryland, February 6, 2012 (LifeSiteNews.com) – Kristin Page woke up suddenly in the middle of a warm May night, feeling soaking wet. A few months ago, the mother of three had been afraid to take a pregnancy test when she missed her period. Kristin already felt stretched to the limit with her energetic children, aged 2 through 7, but her husband Matt had encouraged her that together they would “figure it out.”

Kristin vigorously shook Matt awake. Now 13 weeks pregnant, she had come to accept with joy the new life within her, wondering what this little bundle would bring into their blossoming family.

“My waters must have broken,” she whispered in a panic.

“Are you sure you didn’t just wet yourself,” Matt replied half sleepily.

On the phone, Kristin’s doctor advised her to visit the hospital first thing in the morning for an examination. He told her that such a young baby could not survive without any amniotic fluid.



An ultrasound revealed that there was no amniotic fluid, but surprisingly, the baby’s heart was still beating. The doctor told Kristin that her baby would die and instructed her to go home to rest, pray and wait for the baby to pass. A few days later, Kristen returned for another ultrasound. To everyone’s surprise, the baby was still alive, and with a “super strong” heart beat.

From the editor’s desk

March 2012 - Virginia Miller

As of January 23, 2012 a new (conservative) analysis estimates that since Roe v. Wade in 1973, over 54.5 million babies have died through abortion in the USA alone. Think about it. That’s more than the entire population of Canada (33.5 million). Add to that the number of abortions done here in Canada, Europe and Asia, and that number can easily be quadrupled. This is the worst holocaust of innocent lives in the entire history of our world. Canada still remains a country with absolutely no protection whatsoever for the unborn, ever defending abortion as a right and even a health benefit for the mother. As an added insult, federal employment insurance covers benefits to women who abort their child after 19 weeks gestation with 17 weeks of maternity leave, the same as a mother who gives birth to her child. (see letter from Mary Sanders)

Our own Prime Minister refuses to open the abortion debate. No matter that science has proven that the baby is alive and fully human in the womb, no matter that we protest our tax dollars being used to pay for the destruction of our next generation, no matter that there is not enough money to pay for legitimate health care in Ontario, no matter that there are far more who are against abortion than in favour of it.

Each of us is called to be a witness for the Truth, by praying, letter writing, getting involved with a RTL group, picketing hospitals, attending the March for Life in Ottawa on May 10 this year. Each of us can help save babies, our next generation, and in doing so, our country, Canada. Each of us can help to stop the present madness.

37th ANNUAL ART CONTEST 2012

This year’s theme is “Personhood”

Details are available in schools.

Deadline for artwork is Friday, May 2, 2012

Note! - cash prizes have been increased this year.

Plus ... we now include artwork entries

from the high school level!!!

Primary grades -Cash Prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and honourable mention in each grade

High School - Cash Prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and honourable mention

All winning artwork may be used publicly by SDRTL to promote the message of life at functions sponsored by them throughout the coming year, and the digital art for electronic media.

Pro-Life 101

Q - If a woman becomes pregnant because she is raped, is it not better to abort the baby?

A - Rape is a violent crime. To kill a baby conceived in rape would be to punish the child for the crime of the father. To put the woman through the trauma of an abortion on the top of the trauma of the rape, is cruel and unusual punishment as well.

Contact information – Federal Government

Address to MP's Name, House of Commons,
Justice Building, Ottawa, K1A 0A6

No postage is required!

Telephone number for information regarding Members of Parliament is:
1-866-599-4999

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Canadians aborting female fetuses

TORONTO — Dr. Rajendra Kale calls it the most severe and repugnant form of discrimination against females -- and he wants to see it stopped.

The practice of aborting a female fetus after the parents learn the sex of their developing child through ultrasound is not as widespread in Canada as in such countries as India and China, where a cultural and often religious preference for boys has led to the estimated destruction of millions of females in the womb.

But Kale says smaller numbers in Canada, estimated in the thousands, are no reason to ignore such gender-based violence.

"Female feticide devalues women completely," said Kale, interim editor-in-chief of the Canadian Medical Association Journal. He wants to see doctors withhold information about the sex of a child in the womb until 30 weeks' gestation to prevent "an unquestioned abortion" because parents prefer a boy.

"What this means is that many couples who have two daughters and no son selectively get rid of female fetuses until they can ensure that their third-born child is a boy," he writes, while stressing that not all Asian-Canadians condone nor engage in the practice.

(excerpted from *The Canadian Press* Date: Mon. Jan. 16 2012 10:21 PM ET)

Hi, my name is Kristen and I'm abstinent

February 27, 2012 (LiveAction.org) –

In case you hadn't noticed, this is going to be an intensely personal blog post.

I'll just kick it off with the juicy stuff so you don't have to wait around: I haven't had sexual intercourse in almost four years. Now, this is not to say I haven't done anything I wouldn't do if Jesus were in the room. I am not perfect. But for the past three and a half years, in the ball park of my love life, there have been no home runs.

I admit I am not a virgin. I am also not sexually repressed. I am not, like the virgin adult character on "Glee," a frigid obsessive-compulsive with serious psychological problems. I am also not, as far as I know, completely repulsive, although if there's one thing I've learned from observing the world around me, it's that if you are female, it doesn't matter what you look like; somebody thinks you are *juuuust* fine, and that somebody probably has an ad on Craigslist right now.

I simply made a choice, for ethical, moral, and religious reasons, not to engage in baby-making activities, and I have stuck to that decision for well over three years.

You are probably asking yourself, "Self, why on earth is she telling me this?"

Good question. I have thought about writing this post for a couple years. I always held back. It is an intensely personal subject, obviously, and a natural squeamishness about sharing something so intimate with the world at large is part of the reason why it took me so long to publish this.

Then there is the fact that I am in a relationship with someone, and revealing this tidbit about me incidentally reveals things about him. Fortunately, I have learned he "couldn't care less." (His words.)

Finally, I decided to go for it. You see, the more I think and write and learn about abortion, the more convinced I am that the key to curtailing it is to make people understand that it doesn't exist in a vacuum. As long as people are having sex despite the fact that they have no interest in or desire for procreation, there are going to be abortions. And yes, this takes into account contraception. There is no fool-proof method of birth control besides abstinence.

I personally believe that the best way for a child to come into the world is being born to two people who are married — that is, committed to one another in the eyes of God and man. Therefore, I decided, to paraphrase Mahatma Gandhi, that I was going to be the change I wished to see in the world. I was going to put my money where my mouth was and stop engaging in baby-making activities until I was in the situation I felt was best for baby-making activities.

"It's religion!" some of you are screaming at your monitors, flecks of spittle flying. "It's an arbitrary misogynistic rule of your stupid backwards dumb antiquated oppressive patriarchal religion!"

First of all: calm down. Second: kind of. I mean, it's both. Moral law is based on natural law. The reason God gave us all these pesky rules is because they're good for us. When people follow the basic tenets of Judeo-Christian sexual morality, they lead better lives. They lead lives of loving responsibility in which they react to positive pregnancy tests with tears of joy, hugs, and excited phone calls, as opposed to panic-barfing and fear-sweat.

I know this because I've lived the other life. I was never what you'd call promiscuous, but nor was I what you'd call sexually moral. Because of my willingness to give of myself completely to men who weren't willing to give me the same, I lived a life of heartbreak and confusion. Finally, about four years ago, I noticed that every time I gave my heart away, I wasn't getting it all back. Every go-round, there seemed to be less and less of my heart to give. I was becoming less open, more guarded, even bitter. I could feel a wall growing around my heart, and it was thick and it was high.

(for full story go to <http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/hi-my-name-is-kristen-and-im-abstinent>)