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PHA Monthly

*Newsletter for the Pro-Life Healthcare Alliance
Twenty-First Edition*

Welcome to the twenty-first edition of PHA Monthly, the e-newsletter for the Pro-life Healthcare Alliance. This newsletter provides another opportunity for the PHA to share pro-life information about current healthcare issues, PHA events, contributions from members and other relevant information.

Please [share](#) your ideas and suggestions with us.

Visit our website at www.prolifehealthcare.org for more information.

PRO-LIFE HEALTHCARE ALLIANCE MISSION STATEMENT

Promoting and developing concrete "pro-life healthcare"* alternatives and advocating for those facing the grave consequences of healthcare rationing and unethical practices, especially those at risk of euthanasia and assisted suicide.

*"Pro-life healthcare" means medical care in which the life and safety of each person comes first, where each person receives medical care across their lifespan based on their need for care, regardless of their abilities or perceived "quality of life."



From the Chairman's Desk

By Dr. Brian J. Kopp

The Culture Wars Are Over?

Last week I had the opportunity to attend an excellent conference that was held for leaders of various ministries, apostolates and pro-life organizations. Though the conference and the views of the individual speakers and attendees were not public, a general consensus that emerged from the three day event is worth sharing, and it should serve as a wake-up call to all of us in pro-life and pro-family work: ***the culture wars are over.***

This troubling "consensus" needs qualification. We have lost the culture wars primarily in the courts and in the political realm; the courts fell to the cultural zeitgeist decades ago, and one political party has been propelling it along at warp speed, while another has quietly acquiesced and decided that economic

conservatism is far more important than social conservatism.

Further qualification: our youth are becoming more pro-life on the issue of abortion with each passing day. Studies are proving this hopeful sign of renewal, as is the wonderful and growing attendance at the March For Life every year. As the pro-choice crowd grays and thins by attrition, the pro-life movement is expanding and vibrant.

But even among this youthful and vibrant pro-life generation, there is cause for concern. As they wake up to and reject the barbarity of abortion on demand through nine months of pregnancy, they have been lulled into complacency by extremely effective cultural and academic propaganda on the other issues of the culture wars, including assisted suicide, euthanasia and the attack on traditional marriage and the family. Our opposition uses emotion laden, finely tuned and persuasive tactics to advance their cause. The cultural acceptance of stealth euthanasia, Brittany Maynard's death by assisted suicide and the gay marriage agenda is proof of their insidious effect.

Another consensus that emerged from the conference was that, while fighting the culture wars at the level of court cases and the political field may not yield the best return on our efforts and meager finances, the new evangelization is more urgent than ever. The "new" evangelization is about re-evangelizing the de-Christianized West. Of necessity it must begin in our homes, among our families and friends, and in our churches and civic groups. We must defend and spread the "Gospel of Life" as the antidote to the ever growing culture of death.

Re-evangelizing a de-Christianized culture is orders of magnitude more difficult than the initial spread of Christianity in a mission field. A pagan culture that has never been evangelized is (at risk of offending politically correct post-Christian sensibilities) a demonic culture, and the initial work of the missionary is to cast out the demons and build a Christian foundation so that the Gospel may flourish and souls be saved. A once-Christian culture that has rejected Christianity has been compared to Jesus' parable of the return of an unclean spirit:

"When an impure spirit comes out of a person, it goes through arid places seeking rest and does not find it. Then it says, 'I will return to the house I left.' When it arrives, it finds the house unoccupied, swept clean and put in order. Then it goes and takes with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there. And the final condition of that person is worse than the first. That is how it will be with this wicked generation."

Who can question that a spirit not seen since pre-Christian times has infested the West in the last century, and rages with demonic fury against Christianity, marriage, family and the Gospel of Life?

We have hard work ahead of us, work that must be accompanied by prayer, fasting and sacrifice.

And we desperately need effective tools in this work. Reform of the culture will take place mainly through moral education. The truth has not gotten lost, we just have to open our eyes to see it again by shining light on it. The question is HOW do we open eyes?

American Life League has stepped up to the plate with their Culture of Life Studies Program: "an educational initiative focused on preparing school-aged children and teens to be the next generation of pro-life activists. Unlike other pro-life education programs, the Culture of Life Studies Program is designed specifically for use within the normal school curriculum and teaches young people how to recognize and respond to threats to life."

Laura and Mary Kizior have written an article for this newsletter describing ALL's new program: "**Building a Culture of Life, One Student at a Time: ALL's Culture of Life Studies Program's New Approach to Pro-Life Education.**" Please be sure to read it, and check out ALL's Introduction to Euthanasia supplement, which will be made available through the American Life League Culture of Life Studies Program website, www.cultureoflifestudies.com in the fall of 2015. Follow this program's development on the Culture of Life Studies Program Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ALLCLSP

Available now! **10 Quick Reasons for Opposing Legalization of Assisted Suicide**

www.prolifehealthcare.org/PhysicianAssistedSuicide_OpposingArguments.pdf

For your copy contact Human Life Alliance at feedback@humanlife.org



CASE IN POINT

Activist promotes assisted suicide based on her decision to force her mother to continue medical treatment.

Posted Friday, April 10, 2015, <http://alexschadenberg.blogspot.com>

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By Alex Schadenberg
Executive Director and International Chair - Euthanasia Prevention Coalition

An assisted suicide campaigner in California says that she is supporting the California assisted suicide bill because she regrets "forcing her mother to undergo chemotherapy against her will."

Some people may be surprised by my comment, but Amber Phillips was wrong to force her mother to undergo further treatment, and if her mother had stopped receiving treatment earlier, her death would likely have been very different.

People have the right to refuse medical treatment and in many cases it is the better decision. **Refusing medical treatment is not assisted suicide or euthanasia.**

Cancer treatment has improved but, when a person continues to receive treatment there comes a time when the treatment may be extending life, but the break-down to the body that results from the treatment causes a far more painful death.

Amber Phillips is quoted in an article (www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3033104/I-let-mother-die-Daughter-reveals-regrets-forcing-mother-undergo-chemotherapy-joins-fight-right-die-law-allowing-physician-assisted-suicide.html) as stating that she forced her mother Connie to undergo chemotherapy after her mother wanted the treatment to stop. The article states:

She explained that her mother "did radiation, hormone therapy and chemotherapy, had her lymph nodes removed, had a breast removed, meditated, and all numbers of treatments."

Despite the treatments, Phillips said that in 2008 her mother's cancer spread from her breasts to her bones and her lungs.

Phillips said her mother did not want to receive more treatment, but that she did it for her family because they could not bear to be without her.

"We nagged her, encouraged her to continue treatment when she didn't want to, bought her wigs when she started losing her hair, managed her diet with cancer-friendly foods, held her hand, and begged her to continue fighting for us," Phillips said.

The article continues:

Phillips says she loved her mother so that's why she wanted her to live. Looking back she says she

wishes she would have tuned in more to her mother's suffering and allowed her to end her treatment sooner.

"We just wanted her to live and we wanted her to continue fighting," Phillips said wistfully. "We really just didn't get it. We really bought into the possibility or the fairy tale that things were going to get better, when it was so clear that they were getting worse and worse."

Phillips says she ignored the signs that her mother was going to die, especially after her father died of a heart attack in the Spring of 2012. "I just doubled down," she says. "I just felt like I couldn't lose both of them. I just thought I was going to fall apart."

"It was a lot of 'me' focus - what I could handle."

The article states that, in June 2012, Phillips finally called hospice care. But the article continues, admitting that her mother Connie wasn't prescribed morphine until July:

"After the worst day of my life to that point, I gave my consent to put her back on morphine, knowing that she would die and knowing that this is what she wanted."

Why did Amber wait so long to arrange pain and symptom management for her mother? Connie Phillips died on August 1, 2012.

Amber Phillips is now promoting assisted suicide based on the suffering caused by her decisions that resulted in her mother's horrible death.

Connie Phillips suffered, not because she couldn't accept that her death was nearing, but because her daughter couldn't accept that her mother was dying.

It amazes me how cases that sound self-centered and abusive, like this one, become a clarion call for killing by assisted suicide.

THE CALL



by Ron Panzer

*Woe to them that call evil good, and good evil;
that put darkness for light, and light for darkness;
that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!* - Isaiah 5:20

Those who hear the call feel the dear Lord's touch. Like an intoxicating jasmine-scented breeze, nothing in this world can compare with such a gift from God! Florence Nightingale - Mother Teresa of Calcutta - Cicely Saunders - they all heard the call. Each one searched to find its meaning until the mission became clear.

No obstacle can stop such a soul once they have been given such a mission, and the example they gave to us is like a lamp in the darkness and chaos of the world man creates for himself. For decades, they each sacrificed so much in order to serve their Lord.

Nightingale nurses, Missionaries of Charity, and pro-life hospice nurses and physicians are honored to follow in their footsteps in some small way. Each of them revolutionized the care of those in need and inspired many thousands of others. We can only hope to be and do a little bit in this world that would contribute to continuing their *true* mission, and in some small way please the dear Lord Jesus who called them and each of us to a purer way of serving through sacrificial love.

Recalling Jesus' words (Matthew 5:7), Queen Victoria honored Florence and gave her a brooch upon which

was inscribed the words, "Blessed are the merciful!" for in her, she saw a woman whose will to show the most tender kindness and care for the ailing was made strong. She and the entire world witnessed a woman whose devotion to merciful service was pure, a woman who exposed and challenged the evil, cruel, but widely accepted neglect of patients in her time and overcame these evils through perseverance and love. There is not one modern civilian or military hospital in the world that does not strive to follow the principles and quality improvement measures introduced to modern healthcare by Nightingale!

Florence Nightingale, Mother Teresa, and Dr. Cicely Saunders cared for and poured their lives into service for those ailing and dying before them, giving everything they had to those so much in need. All three demonstrated a wholistic approach to care that addressed the needs of the total person and followed the example and teaching of the dear Lord Jesus.

Those who received such expert and loving care trusted them completely, because they knew that the hands that cared for them and the heart that moved those hands had been given to God alone. A palpable dedication and warmth poured out of their hearts that comforted patients' souls, giving them peace and hope in this world and in the next.

Not once did either of them ever suggest to a patient that he or she hasten death in any way! Though some may wish to avoid the suffering they experience or envision by taking their lives, we can do much to relieve that suffering, to love that individual, and allow an authentic inner healing to take place.

It was for good reason that Florence Nightingale was called the Lady with the lamp! If we are to care for those who are nearing death, we can do nothing better or purer than to follow such shining examples in our work!

Reverence for God and reverence for the very being of those we serve can only be a blessing to them and will always help us to discern the right way forward in the often confusing and challenging times that are to come.

Clearly recognizing and retaining the purity of the mission we serve will help us to see through the many deceptive voices leading us to go astray and to accept without qualification such a strikingly different way - a much-acclaimed, seductive, even impressive but dark secular path.

About the author: **Ron Panzer**, founder and president of Hospice Patients Alliance (HPA), is a graduate of Syracuse University. He has served as a consultant on hospice for thousands of families, patients, and staff from all over our nation. To learn more about HPA and Ron Panzer, visit www.hospicepatients.org.

About this article: "The Call" is the introduction to The Call and the Counterfeit – Getting it Right – Part Two at www.hospicepatients.org/the-call-and-the-counterfeit-getting-it-right-part-two.html. PHA recommends reading it as well as www.hospicepatients.org/getting-it-right-part-one-evaluating-smith-on-hospice.html (Part One) to more fully understand the covert (stealth) euthanasia deaths taking place today in hospice and other healthcare settings.

Building a Culture of Life, One Student at a Time: ALL's Culture of Life Studies Program's New Approach to Pro-Life Education

By Laura Kizior and Mary Kizior, Education Consultants, American Life League

In November 2014, the country anxiously watched as Brittany Maynard, a brain cancer patient, told the world that she had the right to die. The media portrayed Brittany as a hero—a woman who took a stand against cancer. Instead of encouraging her in her fight against cancer, the public accepted her decision to end her own life as a fundamental right. Brittany was turned into a poster child for the pro-euthanasia movement almost overnight.

As we witness sad stories like Brittany's unfold, we ask ourselves what could have been done to prevent such a tragedy from happening. Since today's public has been conditioned to simply accept suicide as a

"right," is it possible to reverse such an attitude? Euthanasia is rapidly becoming the next major crisis for the pro-life movement. But the real question is, are we ready? Is the next generation of pro-life leaders ready?

It comes as no surprise that young people are besieged with threats against life through media, the Internet, movies, books, and television. The culture of death has infiltrated every form of media with the lies of moral relativism which devalue human life and scoff at religion. As the sense of truth becomes muddled in the midst of the constant stream of anti-life messages, it is no wonder that students-even pro-life students-are struggling to assert themselves and speak on behalf of the truth. Some students, even if they know the truth, become overwhelmed with the apathy of their generation. Young people are starving for the truth and for solid formation. If we want our culture to become a culture of life, our focus needs to be on the education of youth.

Taking action through education

In response to the growing need for pro-life formation, American Life League, one of the largest pro-life grassroots organizations in America, launched the Culture of Life Studies Program-an educational initiative focused on preparing school-aged children and teens to be the next generation of pro-life activists. Unlike other pro-life education programs, the Culture of Life Studies Program is designed specifically for use within the normal school curriculum and teaches young people how to recognize and respond to threats to life.

Young people in today's society not only need a solid standard education, they also need instruction in how to deal with the culture. What good is teaching children to read the Church fathers, the philosophy of the ancients, and world literature if they are not going to do anything with the knowledge they have earned?

As Saint John Paul II beautifully points out in *Evangelium Vitae*, education plays a key role in teaching young people to recognize the sacredness and value of human life and in creating a foundation for the "culture of life." A true culture of life is more than just a community of activists or a once-a-month prayer commitment; it is way of life that upholds and respects the dignity and sacredness of every human being. Education enables students to challenge the belief systems of the current cultural climate and trains young people to respect life in every stage, from creation until death. Forming the young people of today into the pro-life leaders of tomorrow starts today with the lessons learned in the classroom and in the home. Never has there been more need for a pro-life based educational curriculum that trains students to defend those discarded by society.

ALL's Culture of Life Studies Program

The Culture of Life Studies Program is dedicated to building a culture of life by providing educational supplements and multimedia resources that train students in grades K-12 to be effective communicators of the pro-life message. This program does more than just spread the pro-life message or fight against the evils of abortion and euthanasia; it forms a whole new generation in the culture of life.

ALL's Culture of Life Studies Program offers five series of courses for elementary, junior high, and high school. For elementary students, the series entitled Life Primer focuses on building a strong foundation from which young students can learn about the beauty of God's creation and develop concern and respect for others. Children in kindergarten through 3rd grade are exposed to the beauty of fetal development, the gift of life in people with special needs, and the need to care for those around us. Students engage in crafts, games, drama, art, and other activities that lay the groundwork for the culture of life. The Culture of Life Studies Program recently released its first supplement in the Life Primer series entitled *Life Is Precious*, which explores fetal development and the respect for human life through a four-week study in children's picture books.

Students in middle school and junior high begin to explore the threats to life in the series Life Foundations, which continues to instruct students in the truth through age-appropriate activities that respect the innocence of the audience.

As high school students prepare for college, they need to learn how to combat the threats to life and practice standing up for their beliefs, even when it seems unpopular. The Culture of Life Studies Program supports high school students by offering three types of supplements:

- Life Quest - 4-week or 8-week courses focusing on pro-life topics in history, religion, and literature

- Life Lens- 1-3 day lessons that can be integrated into any ongoing required course such as American Government or Medieval Literature
- Life Scope - 1-3 day lessons with a video supplement on pro-life topics, such as the soon-to-be released *Margaret Sanger and the American Acceptance of Birth Control*

The high school supplements for the Culture of Life Studies Program not only teach the truth and urge students to take an active role in the defense of life, but they encourage students to engage in the issues that pervade our culture. Each supplement series merges the study of the great books, Church documents, science, history, literature, and other subjects with pro-life topics and issues. The Culture of Life Studies Program forces students to think above and beyond what they are already learning in school and to see how they can take a stand for life in all academic disciplines in order to reclaim the culture.

For each new supplement, the Culture of Life Studies Program consults competent subject experts in the pro-life movement such as scientists, lawyers, historians, Catholic university professors, and theologians in order to provide students with accurate information that is faithful to Church teaching and up-to-date on pro-life issues.

Not only does each series fill a specific educational need, but each also provides flexibility for teachers and works alongside an existing course of study or curriculum. The Culture of Life Studies Program recognizes that teachers cannot add additional courses to an already hectic curriculum, so the supplements were created as structured guides for teachers and homeschool parents to help them seamlessly integrate the culture of life into an existing course of study without any hassle.

Responding to the threat of euthanasia

In the fall of 2015, the Culture of Life Studies Program plans to release an in-depth introduction to the topic of euthanasia for high school students, written in consultation with Julie Grimstad, Bobby Schindler, and the Pro-Life Healthcare Alliance. This one-lesson supplement introduces students to various terms used to describe euthanasia--such as "mercy killing" and "death with dignity"--and will teach how these terms are not only inaccurate but dangerous for the terminally ill, the disabled, and the efforts of the pro-life movement. By familiarizing students with anti-life terminology, this supplement sheds light on how the culture of death twists language to hide what is really happening during end-of-life procedures. This supplement is carefully designed to help both teachers and homeschool parents accurately present this delicate subject to their students in a way that builds critical thinking and real-life skills.

The supplement on euthanasia instructs students in what the Church teaches about end-of-life issues, suffering, and caring for the terminally ill. Through guided classroom instruction and assignments, student learn how to apply these teachings to daily life. Because it is so critical for high school students to become familiar with Church teaching directly from Church documents, the *Introduction to Euthanasia* supplement instructs students to read the actual documents and then assists them in decoding the difficult language found within. In the last section of the study, students critically examine the cases of Brittany Maynard and Terri Schiavo as examples of euthanasia by action and euthanasia by omission. By reading about and then discussing real-life cases, students are better able to understand the gravity of euthanasia and how it affects society.

Building a culture of life together

The future of the pro-life movement depends on young people. Without a proper foundation in the principles of the culture of life, the next generation of pro-life activists will be poorly equipped to deal with the growing threats to life in our society. Together with prayer and dedicated activism, education is one of the most powerful weapons we have against the culture of death. With an educational initiative like American Life League's Culture of Life Studies Program, the future of the pro-life movement is assured.

Yet, students cannot win this battle on their own. They need the mentorship of their parents and teachers. So much depends on the education and formation of our young people. If we all work together, we can make the culture of life a reality for our country.

The *Introduction to Euthanasia* supplement will be made available through the American Life League Culture of Life Studies Program website www.cultureoflifestudies.com in the fall of 2015. In addition to elementary and high school programs, the website offers free lesson downloads, teacher support, and a blog with tips

for integrating the culture of life into more difficult subjects. Check our website to see our latest product, *Life Is Precious*, and to sign up for e-mail updates on when our upcoming supplements will be available. More information can also be found on the Culture of Life Studies Program Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ALLCLSP.

Take Action

In spite of heroic and persistent efforts made by pro-life organizations and individuals, the stark reality is that the healthcare system itself has become an ever-increasing threat to the well-being and lives of the preborn, the young, the old and the disabled and ailing of any age. The PHA is dedicated to renewing reverence for life within healthcare. For some excellent information about current and historical issues regarding abortion, contraception, euthanasia, stealth euthanasia, hospice, advance directives and other pertinent topics, please check out these resources.

[Join the Pro-Life Healthcare Alliance](#)

[Pro-life Healthcare Alliance](#)

[Hospice Patient's Alliance](#)

[Euthanasia Prevention Coalition](#)

[Patient's Rights Council](#)

[Prenatal Partners for Life](#)

[Read Stealth Euthanasia: Health Care Tyranny in America by Ron Panzer](#)

The Pro-life Healthcare Alliance needs your support. The suggested PHA membership donation is \$25 per year. Please renew your membership or join today. Be a part of this vitally important work and help the PHA continue and grow.

Pray for renewal of reverence for life. In particular we have designated Thursday as a special day of prayer for the mission of the PHA.

STAY CONNECTED



a program of [Human Life Alliance](#)
1614 93rd Lane NE, Minneapolis, MN 55449
Tel 651.484.1040