

PRIESTS FOR LIFE

an outreach of Gospel of Life Ministries

Assisting God's people to respond to the evils of abortion and euthanasia

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Number 1

HEALING the SHOCK WAVES of ABORTION

Healing the Shockwaves of Abortion

By Janet Morana and Kevin Burke

This year, the **Silent No More Awareness Campaign** will embark on an initiative called *Healing the Shockwaves of Abortion*.

What do we mean by the shockwaves of abortion?

When most people think of abortion, it is often as a contentious social or political issue or a closely guarded secret that is best left alone, in the past. We may struggle at times with the moral dilemma of abortion, but we tend to think of it as a private and personal decision. It's none of our business, right?

But the truth is, many of us have been impacted by the premeditated death of an unborn child.

You may be the mother or father who was part of an abortion decision, or felt powerless to stop it.

You may be a grandparent who tried to prevent the death of your grandchild, or you were active in encouraging your son or daughter to have an abortion.

You may have lost a sibling to abortion. If you were born since 1973 you escaped the fate of one-third of your generation because you were a "wanted child." ...

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The Society of Centurions

Since 1996, under the leadership of Dr. Philip Ney, a family and child psychiatrist from Canada, the Society of Centurions has existed to provide a path to healing and a mutually encouraging fellowship of those who have used their professional skills to

kill children by abortion, but now have ceased to do so. Like the Centurion who, upon taking part in the death of Jesus, repented and declared, "Surely, this was an innocent man," so the Centurions of today, having partaken in the deaths of unborn children, have repented and declared, "Surely, these were innocent lives."

But what happens next?

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Follow-up to Elections 2014

As with each election cycle, Priests for Life prepared for the 2014 elections by reminding voters that the most fundamental issue is abortion, because the most fundamental right that government exists to protect is the right to life. This is not something that changes with time. Protecting life is the foundation of every other effort for truth and justice, including the battles over marriage and religious freedom. After all, you can't be married, you can't be religious, and you can't be free unless you are alive!

Polling conducted after the elections showed that our efforts, along with those of many other pro-life groups -- such as those in our "Vote Pro-life Coalition" (VoteProLifeCoalition.com) -- were successful. The Polling Company/WomanTrend found that 23% of voters said that abortion affected their vote, and voted for candidates who oppose abortion. On the other hand, 16% said abortion affected their vote, and voted for candidates who support legal abortion. This means that pro-life candidates had a 7% advantage on this issue -- and as we know, many races were decided by less than that margin.

Focusing on abortion does in fact win elections! You can continue to find information and updates throughout the year at PoliticalResponsibility.com.

Pray with us for Life

PrayerCampaign.org is our prayer website. Visit there often for prayer campaigns, intentions, and resources.

January intention: That the faithful more deeply study the words and actions of Christ, to know how to care for the least of our brothers and sisters.

February intention: That God may bless and strengthen the pro-life efforts of college students.

January 14-22, 2015: Novena of Reparation for Roe vs. Wade

February 18, 2015-April 2, 2015: Lenten Prayer for Life

This newsletter is available by email, along with a bi-weekly column written by Fr. Frank. Subscribe free of charge at subscribe@priestsforlife.org

Under Church law, the competent authority of Priests for Life is Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Archbishop of New York.

www.priestsforlife.org

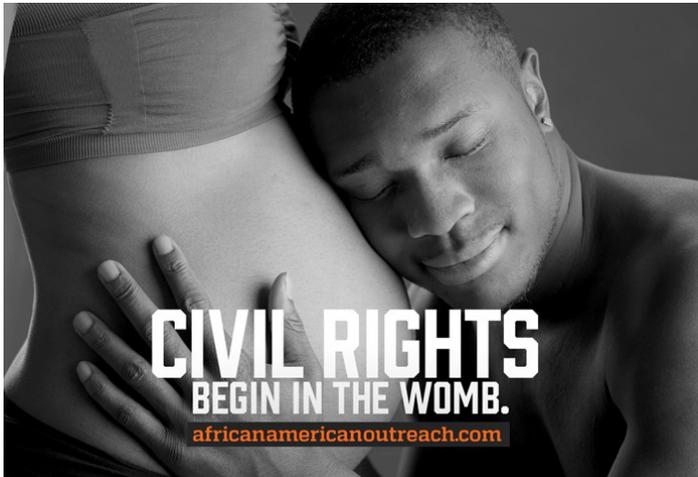
Healing the African-American Community

By Dr. Alveda King, Director of African-American Outreach

For every two African-American women who get pregnant, one will choose to abort her child. In New York City, 60 percent of African-American babies don't make it out of the womb alive. Although whites outnumber blacks in Mississippi by nearly 2-to-1, almost 72 percent of the babies aborted there are black.

Some 1,784 African-American children are killed by abortion each day. When black pro-life leaders say the African-American community has been deeply wounded by abortion, we are accused of being racist. We are not trying to shame women. We are trying to stop the slaughter, and heal the deep wounds in our community that is a target of eugenicists, population control gurus and abortion profiteers.

As part of the Silent No More Awareness Campaign's new Shockwaves initiative, February's focus will be on healing the African-American community. Shockwaves will share the life experiences and testimonies from black women and men, grandparents and others involved in abortion decisions. We will share the truth of how abortion affected us and an inspirational message of how healing blessed our lives and relationships. We will call all black families wounded by abortion loss to reconciliation, restoration and healing in the Lord.



Shockwaves will embrace the plight of African-American babies – and all babies - women, men and families who are direct targets of the genocidal agenda of abortion; affirm the healing of the African-American community, victims of targeted genocide by abortion, and welcome African-American women and men who by their testimonies of healing and restoration from their abortion loss are now Silent No More.

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My uncle Martin Luther King said “Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.” When we open people’s eyes to the damage abortion causes throughout our communities, we will be on our way to creating a more just society.

Healing the Shockwaves of Abortion

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... Perhaps you are an ultrasound technician who reveals the child in the womb to a pregnant mother, hoping she will choose life, but she still decides to abort her unborn child.

Some of you may have been active accessories in a child's death if you:

- Drove your friend to the abortion clinic or paid for your sister's abortion.
- You knew a young couple was considering an abortion, and told them they were doing the right thing, or you said nothing.
- Are a health-care professional, counselor, teacher or minister that was in some direct way part of an abortion decision or procedure.

All those involved with an abortion decision want to flee from the emotional fallout of the event as quickly as possible, but the truth is that abortion triggers a series of powerful physical, emotional and spiritual *shockwaves*.

Think of what happens before, during and after an earthquake. Along fault lines in the earth's crust, rocks under great stress shift violently, causing shockwaves to spread out in every direction. Sometimes these shockwaves can be felt by people thousands of miles away.

With abortion, the “fault line” consists of the conditions that made ending the life of the unborn child seem like the right choice. The violent shift takes place in the abortion clinic, where a child is literally torn from what should be the safest place on earth. The shockwaves of that abortion extend far beyond the epicenter of the procedure.

Abortion changes the mother of the unborn child and how she interacts in all her relationships, present and future. But all those closely associated with the abortion decision and procedure can also experience a variety of aftershocks. The thoughts, feelings and memories from the event are often relegated to a distant, dark corner of the soul. This repression can lead to depression and anxiety, anger issues, addictions, and difficulties in marriage and family relationships.

What we are hoping with our shockwaves initiative is that, as people gain greater clarity and understanding, they will see the blessing of reconciliation and healing for themselves and their loved ones.

The gentle but powerful waves of forgiveness and healing are stronger than the destructive shockwaves of abortion.

Every month this year, we will focus on a special target group that has been directly impacted by abortion loss, with helpful information, resources, and most importantly, abortion-recovery programs.

January, we will focus on “Healing through the Church.” In February, we will utilize the occasion of Black History Month to offer “Healing the Black Community.” March will put the focus on grandparents, while April will take a look at how the shockwaves have impacted the siblings of the aborted child. Mother's Day in May and Father's Day in June give us opportunities to focus on those at the epicenter, the Moms and Dads who have lost children to abortion.

“Healing the Survivors and Friends” will be the theme for July, followed by “Healing the Abortion Providers” in August. Family will be the theme for September, with a focus on the

Hispanic Community in October.

“Healing Pro-Lifers” will be the theme for November. Pro-lifers are part of a counter-cultural movement that faces ridicule, derision and sometimes even violence as we insist on civil rights for the child in the womb. This can take a toll on even the most committed individuals. In November, when the hopeful season of Advent begins, we offer healing resources for those with us on the frontlines.

In December, having reflected all year on the multifaceted wound of abortion, we will cry out with Advent hope, “Come Lord Jesus, and heal us all!”

Recently, the pro-abortion author of a book who hopes to help remove the stigma of abortion gave an interview to an online news site and had this to say about the Silent No More Awareness Campaign:

“I go every year to the Right to Life March in Washington, around the anniversary of Roe v Wade, and there are always these women, and I write about this in my book, and they stand up there and they read from these laminated cards the story of their abortion. And the story of their abortion always is, ‘Someone pushed me into this. And it ruined my life. And now I’ve found Christ.’ That’s always the story.”

We couldn’t agree more. Finding Christ is the first step towards healing everyone who is impacted by the shockwaves of abortion. It’s always the story.

To find out more about this initiative and to access our monthly resources, sermon suggestions and links to recovery programs, please visit AbortionShockwaves.com.

The Silent No More Awareness Campaign is the largest international mobilization of women and men who have gone through healing and regret their abortion. They speak out to reach those who feel shame. They want to bring them back to the healing and forgiveness they have found. Healing the Shockwaves of Abortion is an initiative of the Silent No More Awareness Campaign that is being launched in January of 2015, SilentNoMore.com.

January Theme: Healing in and through the Churches

The January theme for the Shockwaves Project is *Healing in and through the Churches*. The Church brings to the world the ongoing saving and healing activity of Jesus Christ, and offers the world a sign and vehicle of life and mercy. The Churches, therefore, need to be equipped, active, and ready to seek and find those who are lost and wounded by abortion. Pastors and lay leaders need to be trained in the nature of these wounds and in the dynamics of healing.

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Moreover, church communities, and their leaders, need healing. Every abortion that happens wounds us all, and the commonplace acceptance of abortion can wound the Church’s witness to life if we accommodate to abortion in any way or tolerate its ongoing violence. Silence, fear, apathy, and the failure to intervene to save lives continue to weigh as a burden on the conscience of many Church leaders. The Shockwaves project seeks to make Church leaders aware of the need to repent of any failure to respond to abortion and speak up for our youngest brothers and sisters. Our campaign also seeks to



Fr. Frank Pavone was the Keynote Speaker for the “Opening Our Hearts to Life” Respect Life Conference in October for the Diocese of Harrisburg and celebrated Mass at St Patrick’s, Carlisle. Above is Fr Frank with the Most Rev. Ronald W. Gainer, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Harrisburg, Fr. Paul Schenck, Director, Diocese of Harrisburg Respect Life Office (front right) and Deacon Dan Bernardy (front left).

help all of us in the Church to grieve the loss of the lives we could not save, despite our teaching, preaching, lobbying and compassionate intervention. Churches should be the places where appropriate mourning, grieving, and remembrance of the unborn occur regularly.

Join Priests for Life at Major Pro-Life Event at World Meeting of Families!

From September 22 - 27, 2015, the World Meeting of Families will take place in Philadelphia. This international event, which occurs every few years and was initiated by Saint John Paul II, brings people together from many countries to learn more about the Church’s teaching about the family and to forge bonds of fellowship and give witness to the importance of the family in the Church and the world.

During this upcoming meeting, Priests for Life will bring together pro-life leaders from around the world for a special pro-life meeting, which will focus on healing the family from abortion. Nothing damages family life more than abortion. For the family to be *fully alive*, which is the theme of this year’s World Meeting of Families, the family -- including its youngest, weakest members -- must be protected!

For details on this event, see PriestsForLife.org/Family.

The Society of Centurions

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These individuals have been profoundly wounded, and need deep healing. They need a helping hand to walk the difficult path of re-humanizing the children they killed by re-humanizing themselves. The Society of Centurions provides this path to healing through a powerful rehabilitation program that gathers and guides such former abortion providers.

Priests for Life is playing a key role in announcing and fostering this healing. We invite those who are in the abortion

industry to come out. We invite those who have come out of the abortion industry to contact us and to discuss their options for healing and wholeness.

We also invite those who know anyone who may benefit from the Centurions to likewise contact us.

This summer, those who have worked in the abortion industry have a unique opportunity to find deeper healing. Dr. Philip Ney himself will conduct a Centurions Rehabilitation week at his Mount Joy facility outside of Victoria, Canada, from August 7 – 15, 2015. Fr. Frank Pavone will be joining Dr. Ney for this important week of healing, as will our Executive Director, Janet Morana, and our colleague Fr. Terry Gensemer of the Charismatic Episcopal Church.

Please fill out the form at SocietyofCenturions.com for more information.

And let's pray for all these men and women, that the peace of Christ may be theirs.

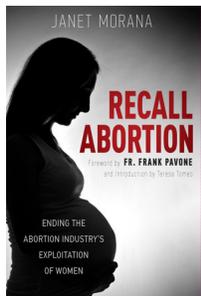


At the US Bishops' meeting in Baltimore in November, Priests for Life hosted a lunch for 13 bishops, including advisors and friends, and updated them on current projects and plans.

Featured Products

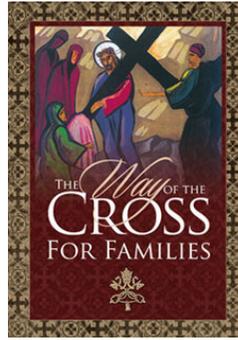
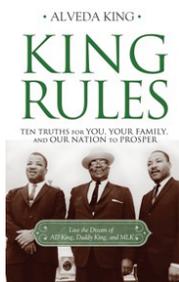
Recall Abortion

Janet Morana delves deeply into abortion as a bad product that should be recalled by our government, and explores what women who have abortions recall about the experience.



King Rules

Dr Alveda King reminds us again that the real legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and in fact the King family, is spiritual more than political.

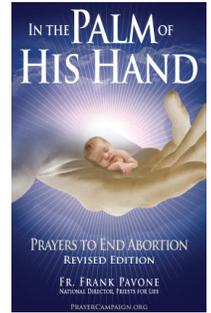


Way of Cross for Families

This is a collaborative effort of Priests for Life and the Vatican's Pontifical Council for the Family. It is a special gift and blessing for families, because there is a deep connection between the mysteries of Our Lord's Passion and the mystery of the family.

In the Palm of His Hand Prayer Book

This little treasury of prayer has been revised and expanded and includes a Lenten Prayer for Life and Stations of the Cross.



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