

## Lutherans for Life – Canada Newsletter Winter Edition 2008



**From the President of Lutherans for Life – Canada:**

### **GOD'S EVER PRESENT GRACE**

The pro-life movement has had an exceptional year in 2007. More than ever, new technologies, science and research are supporting the Biblical view of life. With each new advance in technology, more evidence is produced to support the view that LIFE begins at conception.

In late 2007 scientists were able to create cells that behaved like Stem Cells. They accomplished this by taking skin cells and giving them "Chameleon" like powers of embryonic Stem Cells. This direct reprogramming technique evades many ethical, political and practical obstacles that previously hampered attempts to produce human Stem Cells by cloning embryos. This now gives cause for hope to the Christian community, that live human embryos will not be destroyed in this research.

Another area where the tide is turning is in the exposure the abortion issue is getting from our secular mainstream media. Whereas the "A" word was taboo in the past, it is now even given front-page coverage in the national press. Several journalists have brought the issue into the spotlight, and strangely enough have given a balanced view of this controversial issue.

Polls are now showing we are winning the battle in convincing Canadians, that unborn babies need our protection. In an Environics poll commissioned by Life - Canada, almost two-thirds of Canadians favored some form of protection for the unborn. In a September focus poll of 2,047 Canadians showed that 34% of women favored protection from conception onward, 21% after three months, and 12% after six months. Overall 62% favored some kind of protection for the unborn.

Canada is the only Western Democracy that has no legal protection for the unborn. Our abortion law was struck down January 28th, 1988.

The Christian view on Abortion is being accepted by a larger percentage of our population. God's Grace is evident with an increase in the respect for life in our nation. He alone deserves the glory.

Lutherans for Life - Canada has enjoyed a successful year. We are grateful for your prayers and financial support. We are looking forward to an exciting year, knowing that God's guiding hand is on our growing organization. We ask you to continue to pray for us. We depend on God's continuing mercy, which is new every day. Psalm 77:19 *"Your path led through the sea, your way through the mighty waters, though your footprints were not seen. Like a shepherd you led your people."*

Cliff Pyle  
President, Lutherans for Life - Canada.

**Why Not Just Live Together?** Men and women of all ages are increasingly choosing to live together and have sexual intimacy outside the state of marriage. The arguments for doing so are often: “We will get to know one another better.” Or, “it’s economically advantageous for us to remain ‘single’.” Or, “one doesn’t have to be married to be committed to another person for life.” These are some pretty convincing arguments ... they must be since so many people are choosing to live together!

But here are some other thoughts to ponder. In a pamphlet entitled, “*Why Not Just Live Together?*” Linda Bartlett observes that what women want most out of life is a “home and a family.” Unfortunately, living together does not provide a secure home and family for the woman. A woman often finds herself wondering, “What if I am not good enough or he grows tired of me? What if a younger, more vivacious woman catches his eye?” Marriage to a man who unconditionally loves his wife brings out the best in a woman.

Bartlett says, “[Likewise], a man who makes a commitment to love and cherish his wife is a strong man.” As a husband places the needs of his wife before his own, he models a respect for womanhood. This love and respect cannot but spill out in his relationship with other people.

Bartlett concludes by asking a number of questions: What happens when a child is conceived by a couple who are not married? Whose name does that child bear? What connections does that child have? What does a daughter learn when she knows her mother has settled for sex instead of intimacy? What lessons does a son learn from his mother’s live-in boyfriend? What better model exists for a daughter than a father who is faithful to her mother? What better model exists for a son than a father who respects his mother?

*Why Not Just Live Together* by Linda D. Bartlett is available through Lutherans for Life – USA. 1-888-364-LIFE or [www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org).

### **If Someone Tells You a Condom will keep you safe ...**

*You’re at Risk ... for getting Pregnant!* About 15 percent of couples who rely on condoms to avoid pregnancy will still get pregnant with the first year of use. And this is true for years 2, 3 and so on!

*You’re at Risk ... for acquiring STDs (Sexually Transmitted Diseases)!* Condoms reduce the risk but do **NOT** eliminate the risk of acquiring such STDs as HIV and gonorrhea. Condoms are even less effective at preventing genital herpes, trichomoniasis, and Chlamydia. Plus, condoms offer **NO PROTECTION** against HPV – one of the most common STDs in North America – which causes 90 percent of all cervical cancer.

**Abstinence is the answer!** Your only safe choice is to save sex for marriage. What’s fun about that? Well, you will be free to pursue your dreams because you won’t have to worry about pregnancies or STDs. You won’t have guilt, memories, regrets or excess

baggage to bring to your marriage. And your honeymoon will be a special evening as you share sexual intimacy with the person you have just promised to live with until the day you die.

**Source:** The Medical Institute for Sexual Health. Visit: [www.medinstitute.org](http://www.medinstitute.org). or you can call 1-800-892-9484 to order a brochure, "If Someone Tells You a Condom will keep you safe ..."

## 20 Things You Can Do to be Pro-Life

1. Read God's Word
2. Pray to end abortions
3. Send congratulatory cards to families who have had a baby.
4. Volunteer at a local caring pregnancy centre.
5. Wear a "Precious Feet" or "Precious Hands" pin.
6. Pray for LFL-C and other pro-life ministries
7. Attend pro-life community seminars
8. Be a special friend/advocate for a single mother
9. View pro-life videos, read pro-life magazines - articles.
10. Sponsor a Sanctity of Life Sunday at your church. (Worship resources are available at [www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org).)
11. Become a congregational Life Ministry Coordinator
12. Write your government leaders
13. "Adopt" a family in need at Christmas
14. Donate Pro-life books and resources to your church library.
15. Order and sign a Christian version of the durable power of attorney for health care.
16. Offer to baby-sit for a single parent/caregiver/parents of a handicapped child.
17. Pray for and Contribute to Lutherans for Life — Canada
18. Offer your office skills to a counselling centre
19. Remember senior citizens and visit them
20. Have your youth group visit a pre-natal ward at local hospital.

## Life News from Around Canada and the World:



**If you think the issue of abortion is unimportant think again!** A total of 100,039 induced abortions were performed on Canadian women in 2004! That's like a city almost the population size of Barrie being wiped out each year! Oh, how God must weep, not only because of the infant slaughter, but also because of the apathy and indifference of His followers! (Source, *The Daily*, Friday, July 13, 2007)

**Almost three-quarters of Canadians support fetal protection law: poll (October 19, 2007)** Seventy-two percent of Canadians polled in an Environics poll commissioned by LifeCanada/VieCanada say they would support legislation making it a separate crime to injure or kill a fetus during an attack on the mother. Among women, 75% supported the legislation. The Focus Canada poll of 2,047 Canadians was conducted between September 17 and October 14, with a margin of error of  $\pm 2.2\%$  nineteen times out of twenty.

**Under Canadian law the fetus is not recognized as a human being** until it is born so police cannot charge perpetrators with murder of the unborn baby. Yet, “Almost three-quarters of Canadians want a law to protect these babies,” said LifeCanada President Joanne Byfield. *“They recognize that the fetus is a human being no matter what the law says and they see it as an injustice that someone can kill these babies with impunity while attacking the mother.”*

**The first pro-woman pro-life group in Canada** was launched in late January to mark the Morgentaler decision of January 28, 1988, which removed all restrictions on abortion in Canada at any stage of pregnancy. [ProWomanProLife.org](http://ProWomanProLife.org) celebrates women, life and freedom and promotes a non-partisan, non-religious stand against the idea that abortion is good for woman and a woman’s “right”. The website has blogs on a variety of related topics including feminism, health, discrimination, women’s rights and freedom of speech.

**Canadian Cancer Society and the National Cancer Institute of Canada** admit that there is a link between oral contraceptives and breast cancer. In their 2007 Annual Stats they state that one of the possible reasons for the alarming rise in breast cancer “include changing patterns of childbearing and hormones (number of children, age at first birth, age at menarche and menopause, use of oral contraceptives and combined hormone replacement therapy.” (Source, *The Interim*, Feb. 2008, p. 3)

## **Make the Connection ... Join Lutherans for Life – Canada!**

When you make an annual financial donation of any amount you become a member of Lutherans for Life – Canada. We place you on our mailing list and send you a quarterly newsletter.

Unfortunately, you are not able to receive a charitable receipt for your donation since LFL-C does not have charitable status with Revenue Canada.



You can send your donation to: Rev. Richard Juritsch, 1 Jefferson Drive, St. Catharines, ON L2N 3T8.

Visit LFL-C’s website: [www.lutheransforlife-canada.ca](http://www.lutheransforlife-canada.ca).

## **A New LFL-C Board of Directors is Elected**

President: Mr. Cliff Pyle (Saskatoon, SK)

Secretary: Mrs Marian Obeda (London, ON)

Treasurer: Rev. Richard Juritsch (St. Catharines, ON)

Life Ministry Coordinator: Mrs. Linda Welke (London, ON)

Rev. Stephen Alles (Pembroke, ON)

Rev. Mayo Mellecke (Kitchener, ON)

Mrs. Bernice Keller, (St. Walburg, SK)