



Heartbeat

The beat of Students for Life at SLU

Volume 2, Issue 2, October 2008



Upcoming Events

Respect Life Week
October 5-12

Students for Life
Meetings
Tuesdays at 8:00 pm
in Ritter 320



Is Abortion Racist?

By Kevin Grillot

Respect Life Week is an annual event sponsored by Students for Life to raise awareness about the harmful effects of abortion and encourage students to actively respond in defense of all human life. The week was founded in unity with Students for Life's mission: "to discern prayerful, intellectual, and active means of building a culture of life that rejects the institution of abortion." Respect Life Week focuses on educating both the members of SFL and the community here at SLU. This year, Respect Life Week is October 5-12, 2008.

In order to further intellectual conversation, this year's theme seeks to explore the evils of racism and abortion through posing the question: "Is abortion racist?"

To understand if a relationship exists, SFL will explore population statistics and resources available to African Americans. As part of a university, scholarly research is integral to answering any form of question. SFL will present its investigation of the population statistics and resources available to African Americans, so members of the SLU community may become informed on this issue. The week also includes a service trip to a local crisis pregnancy center to help appreciate the reality of choosing life.

To form a fuller picture, Planned Parenthood's past and present role will be researched. As today's largest abortion provider in the U.S., this business must be reviewed from its conception dating back to 1923 when the Birth Control Clinical Research Bureau and the American Birth Control League were founded by Margret Sanger. The two organizations later combined to become what we know to be Planned Parenthood (PlannedParenthood.org).

SFL has chosen this theme in response to the current direction of the national pro-life movement. We have selected a prominent speaker in the St. Louis area to be the keynote speaker of Respect Life Week. Zina Hackworth founded *This Race Will Self-Destruct* which seeks to educate the African American community about abortion and HIV/AIDS. Ms. Hackworth practices a pro-active approach and strives to provide participants with information and resources that include contact information for local Pregnancy Resource Centers/ Crisis Pregnancy Centers and HIV testing facilities. Through hearing directly from the African American community, SFL seeks to expand and strengthen their pro-life stance.

By choosing this theme, SFL does not seek to ostracize, blame, or distance the African American community. Rather, the hope is that through learning about this specific aspect of the abortion issue, the SLU community will deepen their understanding of one another and abortion's effects. SFL's life-affirming stance is not limited to color, creed, or religion. During Respect

Life Week, SFL hopes to engage students in discussion about the intertwining threads of race and abortion in contemporary society.

Respect Life Week Schedule

By Kevin Fitzmaurice

Each year Students for Life at Saint Louis University participates in National Respect Life Month by hosting Respect Life Week during the first week of October. This year Respect Life Week will take place from October 5-12, and will feature several events designed to inform the SLU community about abortion and to actively promote and engage students and faculty to protect the dignity of human life.

Sunday October 5th

10:00pm - Join Students for Life for Mass at St. Francis Xavier College Church

A Prayer Service to bless the Cemetery of the Innocents will follow Mass in the main quad.

Monday October 6th

5:30 pm – Zina Hackworth, creator of the project *This Race Will Self Destruct*, will speak in Grand Hall (DuBourg Hall Room 409) and help answer the question, “Is abortion racist?”

Tuesday October 7th

11:00 – 2:00pm Stop by Students for Life’s table in the entrance of the BSC for more information about our organization and Respect Life Week.

Wednesday October 8th

11:00 – 2:00pm Look out for the giant baby bottle in the quad! Donations will be collected in the baby bottle for Project Baby Bottle. This project gives all donations to Our Lady’s Inn to support women who choose life.

Thursday October 9th

11:00 – 2:00pm Want to learn more about Students for Life and what we do? Stop by our table in the entrance of the BSC for information on our group and Respect Life Week.

Friday October 10th

10:50 – 1:00pm Free Life Saver candies will be handed out in the quad.

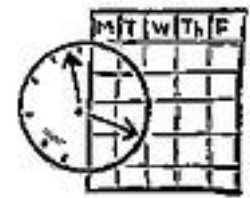
7:00 – 10:00pm Crescendo: a kickoff event for the Pregnant and Parenting Student Assistance Scholarship will be at Boileau Hall (38 North Vandeventer Ave.) featuring a jazz band, appetizers, and refreshments.

Saturday October 11th

10:00-12:00pm Come join us for a day of service at Our Lady’s Inn and Thrive. Our Lady’s Inn is an emergency shelter for pregnant women in crisis which helps mothers choose life for their unborn child. Thrive is a pregnancy resource center. We will be meeting in the circle drive behind Griesedieck Hall at 9:30am.

Sunday October 12th

12:00 – 1:00pm A Life Chain on the corner of Grand Blvd. and Laclede Ave. The Life Chain is an hour to peacefully protest and prayerfully petition for an end to abortion.



"There are two ways: the way of life and the way of death, and the difference between these two ways is great. Therefore, do not murder a child by abortion or kill a newborn infant."

The Didache (1st-century Christian Apostolic teaching)

"The terrible miscalculation of young women is that abortion can make them "un-pregnant," that it will restore them to who they were before their crisis."
Paul Swope

New Missouri Pro-Life Group

By Patrick Shannon

FACT:

Average abortion procedure: 5-10 minutes

Average wait for adoption: 2-10 years
-Human Life International

"Any country that accepts abortion is not teaching its people to love, but to use violence to get what they want. That is why the greatest destroyer of love and peace is abortion."
Mother Teresa

A split among Missourians who oppose abortion fractured further this month. The original division began with the passing of the 2006 Constitutional Amendment 2, supported by many top Republicans, which has provided funding for controversial embryonic stem cell research. Additionally, many Republican legislators added to the division within the right-to-life community last year when they voted in support of a budget that provided funding for life sciences. Members of Missouri Right to Life, a pro-life organization, chose to no longer support these GOP lawmakers for fear that this funding may potentially support those conducting embryonic cloning.

Although in agreement on abortion, several Missouri republicans are divided over stem cell research. While some oppose such research, others endorse it and support state funding for life sciences education. On the other hand, Missouri Right to Life views abortion and embryonic stem cell research in the same light; both are morally wrong. Consequently, Missouri Right to Life have given some anti-abortion Republicans the same legislative ratings as other pro-abortion Democrats (www.stltoday.com). Many Republicans believe this treatment is unfair.



As a result, a new Missouri anti-abortion organization presented itself to the public earlier this month at the state Capitol. Many lawmakers who have lost the support of Missouri Right to Life hope to regain a pro-life endorsement from this new anti-abortion organization.

According to its website, Missouriians United for Life "opposes abortion, embryonic stem cell research, euthanasia, and other attacks on life." Similar to Missouri Right to Life, the new group will grade legislators and endorse candidates based on voting records and their beliefs regarding the sanctity of life.

"Voters need objective information about who is truly pro-life and who is not," state Rep. Bob Onder said. "Another group to tabulate and ascertain who is pro-life is good, especially at this point in our political history." (www.ksdk.com)

In response to the creation of the new anti-abortion group, Missouri Right to Life President Pam Fitcher believes her organization endorsed candidates fairly. "The passage of Amendment 2 has forced Republicans to confront the division within their own party on the cloning issue," Fitcher said. "Unfortunately, many in the Legislature voted to open the doors to taxpayer funding of human cloning and embryonic stem cell research. The voting records of these legislators did not allow Missouri Right to Life to consider them for endorsement. It's not surprising they they're seeking another avenue to be endorsed." (www.stltoday.com)

Crescendo: A Night of Jazz and Celebration

By Mary Cooper

"Pro-life arguments are now based on scientific evidence, and the pro-choice arguments are not. That is a cultural, historical fact."
Stanley Fish

"I've noticed that everyone who is for abortion is already born."
Ronald Reagan

Like What You See?
Support SFL at SLU!
Send check donations to:

Students for Life
Busch Student Center,
MSC # 11
20 N. Grand Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63103



During Respect Life Week, Students for Life will be hosting a night called "Crescendo" as both a semi-formal celebration of the group's success and a kickoff for their newly established scholarship for pregnant and/or parenting students at Saint Louis University. The event will be held in Boileau Hall from 7-10pm on Friday, October 10th. In the past few years, the number of loyal members of Students for Life has greatly increased. Without the growing success of Students for Life, we would have never been able to create this brand-new scholarship. Two years ago at the March for Life in Washington,



D.C., our organization was given a \$1000 award to better our campus in a pro-life way. The group decided that the establishment of a scholarship would be the most beneficial. The scholarship will be given to students for childcare, hospital expenses, tuition, housing, etc. The Pregnant and Parenting Student Assistance Scholarship is in the works of being endowed as a Saint Louis University scholarship, but we have to raise money in order for this to happen. The upcoming event will be the first time we publicly introduce the scholarship and begin

to accept donations. "Crescendo" will include a three-piece jazz band, appetizers, and presentations from the President of Students for Life, Kevin Grillot, and head of the scholarship committee, Brian Reilly. Members of our SLU community and individual potential sponsors are invited. Anyone who is interested in celebrating with us or learning more about the scholarship is welcome to attend!

	<p>PREGNANT & PARENTING STUDENT ASSISTANCE AN ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP BY STUDENTS FOR LIFE AT SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY</p>
	<p>Campaign begins Fall '08! Contact: sflscholarship@gmail.com</p>

Our Mission:

Students for Life is a fellowship committed to upholding the fundamental right to life on the campus of Saint Louis University. We follow the guidance of Catholic thought regarding the dignity of all human life from conception to natural death. The Jesuit Mission of Saint Louis University calls us to discern prayerful, intellectual and active means of building a culture of life that rejects the institution of abortion.

"A Voice for the Voiceless"

Visit Our Website at <http://pages.slu.edu/org/sfl>



Pregnant? Need Help?

The local Pregnancy Resource Center is within walking distance of SLU, at 4331 Lindell Blvd. Call them at 314-773-4626, or visit their website, www.thrivestlouis.org.

FREE. CONFIDENTIAL. COMPASSIONATE.

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If you would no longer like to receive this newsletter, please e-mail sfl@slu.edu.

*Edited by Katrina Becker and Sarah Schumacher
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