

RESOURCE ROUNDUP

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The Hippocratic Resource

A Louisiana Non-profit Corporation of Life-respecting Physicians, Dentists, Nurses, Therapists, Scientists, and Other Health Professionals

www.LaDocs4Life.org or www.LaHealthProfs4Life.org

"I will give no deadly medicine to anyone if asked ... I will not give to a woman an instrument to produce an abortion"

Dear Colleague!

A bit early, perhaps, but, to begin, we want to wish a

HAPPY THANKSGIVING to One and All !!!

For your consideration, we have included, on p. 3, a special (non-original!) prayer to help begin our traditional family meals, as we re-live North America's first Thanksgiving, celebrated by the Pilgrims in 1621, and observe the U.S.A.'s federally proclaimed (in 1941) Thanksgiving Day on November 24th!

As this is written, we are preparing for a meeting of our Executive Board to consider the current status and future of our *Hippocratic Resource*. We are now completing our 10th year of existence. Over this decade, *The Resource* has helped accomplish a pretty fair amount toward keeping our State reasonably adherent to Hippocratic principles of respect for human life, both in regard to our fellow health professionals, especially those who took the Hippocratic Oath (seriously), and to others. These latter include the public, other organizations, legislators and the state judiciary, among others. All of this has been done with the direct help of our membership, whose sharing of treasure and (or) time has been a major means for doing what we, as an organization, have accomplished. Nevertheless, as is clear from the latest update on abortion statistics, below, much remains to be done in Louisiana. We will be addressing all this at our meeting, and planning for the future. We hope and pray that we can continue to count on your action and support! Thank you!

W. "Al" Krotoski, M.D., etc., and Francis Rinaudo, Jr., D.D.S.

Louisiana Abortion Statistics Updated

Last month's abortion statistics summary needs to be updated by some partial and preliminary new data for 2010 that we obtained from the Office of Public Health. A fresh summary sheet will be sent to members when these are complete, and when the new U.S. data are released. However, the following bear comment:

Total abortions done in Louisiana during 2010 (8,867) were back to the same level as they were in 2005 (8,860), the "short" year during which Katrina and Rita visited our State. Caddo parish's (Shreveport) facility did 300 fewer abortions in 2010 than in 2009, but Orleans' total was almost 700 greater, while Jefferson and Bossier totals also rose, about

400 and 75 abortions, respectively; East Baton Rouge's total fell by about 200, leaving it in 3rd place after Caddo and Orleans parishes. Statewide, late-term abortions (21 weeks or older) fell slightly (0.3%), and fewer overall were reported for "Unknown" cause; otherwise, things stayed about the same. However, in early 2011, three of Louisiana's seven abortion facilities were cited by the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals for failure to report suspected child rape. At least two were closed, but Shreveport's "Hope Medical Clinic," Delta "Clinic" of Baton Rouge, and Gentilly "Medical Clinic for Women" appear to have been allowed to re-open following payment of fines.

Pro-life Act Passes House

By a [bipartisan vote of 251-172](#) on October 13, the U.S. House of Representatives approved the Protect Life Act (H.R. 358), which seeks to nullify the multiple abortion-expanding provisions of the 2010 federal health care law ("ObamaCare"). In favor were 236 Republicans and 15 Democrats; opposed, 170 Democrats and two Republicans. Of Louisiana's Congressmen, only Cedric Richmond (D-2, New Orleans) voted against the bill.

On October 5, Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius had vehemently defended the 2010 health

care law in a speech to a NARAL Pro-Choice America fundraiser, saying "we are in a war" with critics of the law. On October 12, the White House issued a formal veto threat against the Protect Life Act. "President Obama won enactment of ObamaCare in 2010 partly by pretending that the bill did not expand abortion -- but now the mask is coming off," said NRLC Legislative Director Douglas Johnson. (From the National Right to Life Committee, www.NRLC.org)

Let us pray that the Senate somehow does the right thing and passes its equivalent Protect Life Act bill, S.877!

MaterCare International Workshop

(Note: W.A.K. attended this conference at personal expense in order to obtain a biennial update on medical/scientific/ethical issues pertinent to the goals of *The Hippocratic Resource*).

The 8th International MaterCare Conference of obstetricians and gynecologists, sponsored by the International Federation of Catholic Medical Associations (F.I.A.M.C.), was held in Rome, Italy August 31-September 5th, just across the street from St. Peter's Basilica (Fig. 1), with a theme of "The Dignity of



Fig. 1 View from roof of Conference venue, where most evenings were for socializing.

Mothers and of Their Obstetricians: Who on Earth Cares?" Attending were ob-gyns and other interested health professionals from a number of European countries, the U.S., Australia, Japan and Africa, to hear speakers from the U.K., Ireland, the Vatican, Italy, the U.S., Nigeria, Switzerland, Australia, Poland, Italy, Canada, and Japan (Fig. 2). The latter included - in addition to physicians,



Fig. 2. The conference hall.

scientists and representatives from the Pontifical Academy for Life – pro-life legislators from Ireland and the U.S. (Congressman Christopher Smith), pro-life attorneys, clergy, and ethicists, etc., speaking on topics ranging from "The Sacredness of Conscience and Legislative Attacks on the Right to Practice According to Conscience" and

"Demographic Decline and Policies that Promote Families," "The Complications of Induced Abortion," "Management of Severe Prematurity and Low Birth Weight," "Use and Abuse of Psychiatric Drugs in Pregnancy," and "Experience with Obstetric Fistulae." For the full program, see at <http://matercare.org/news-publications/latest-news/mci-s-8th-conference-proceedings/>. Especially useful for Hippocratic health professionals – as well as the general public – were the presentations on the risks of so-called "safe abortion" (Fig. 3), on the causal links between breast cancer, abortion, hormonal

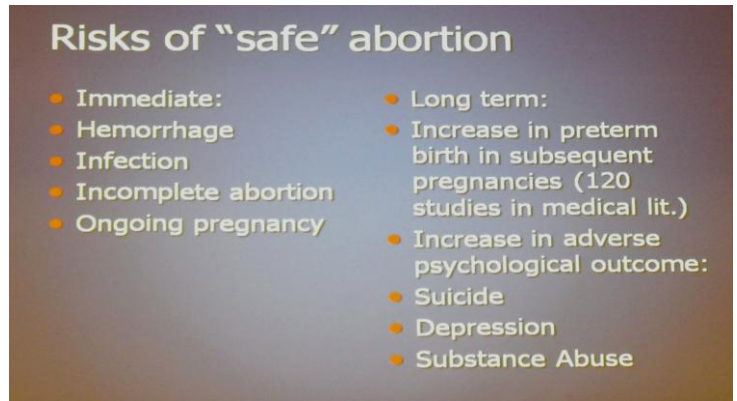


Fig. 3. The risks of "safe abortion" summarized.

contraceptives and cervical cancer – which which is summarized in the "Letter to the Editor" published in *The Advocate* of Baton Rouge on October 8, 2011 – actually from information obtained at more than one meeting – (see p. 4), and on the use of psychiatric drugs in pregnancy (Fig. 4). Overall, the meeting was very successful, not



Fig. 4. Risks of prescription anti-depressants in pregnancy.

just professionally, but also with opportunities for visits to St. Peter's Basilica, the Vatican Museum, the Sistine Chapel and the Vatican (and Rome) in overview, as well as a general audience with Pope Benedict XVIth at Castel Gandolfo, the Pope's summer residence.

It is anticipated that the proceedings of this conference will be published shortly. The next meeting is expected to be in either 2013 or 2014.

International Notes

LIECHTENSTEIN - Voters in the tiny European country of Liechtenstein have rejected a proposal to legalize abortion in the first 12 weeks and in cases of fetal deformity. In a Sunday referendum, 52.3% voted to affirm article 27 of the nation's constitution, which states that "everyone has the right to life." The proposal, which claimed to "help rather than punish" women who choose to have their unborn children killed, had already been voted down by the nation's parliament in a 25-7 vote earlier this year. It was also opposed by Alois of Liechtenstein, the nation's hereditary prince, who exercises some degree of governing authority under his father, Hans Adam II, Prince of Liechtenstein. Under current law, abortions performed in Liechtenstein or performed on citizens outside of Liechtenstein are punishable by up to one year in prison. (www.LifeSiteNews.com) September 19, 2011.

POLAND – Following the restoration of a restrictive medical policy on abortion after regaining freedom from 45 years of first, Nazi, then, communist occupation, Poland's abortion rate was reduced to approximately 100 per year. This was too restrictive for a handful of women, who challenged their "right" to abortion to the European Court, which, based on the absence of a *total* prohibition, ruled in their favor. In response, a bill was brought before the Polish parliament to ban abortion without exception, after 600,000 signatures were gathered over a two-week period from a population in which 65% agreed that the law should "unconditionally protect the life of all children from conception [onward]." The ban was voted upon at the beginning of September, but failed by 5 votes, 186 to 191, although a bill "promoting abortion, contraception and sex education" failed 31-369. Promoters of the ban vowed replacement of the members of parliament. (www.LifeNews.com)

UNITED NATIONS – Over the past several decades, the

U.N. has become a hotbed of pro-abortion and anti-life activities, aided and abetted to a large extent by such U.S. administrations as those of Presidents Clinton and Obama, and most assuredly, with Hilary Clinton as Secretary of State. Similarly, the European Union has been overtly anti-life. All this is reflected in some of the following headlines, gathered from the "Friday FAX" on-line service of the Catholic Family and Human Rights Institute (C-FAM) (www.c-fam.org/fridayfax/):

**UN Considers Euthanasia and New Treaty on Aging
UN Women's Agency Openly Promotes Abortion Rights
UN Official Says Abortion is a Human Right, Secretary
General Endorses Report**

More recently, however, there seems to be a slight degree of turn-around, suggesting that delegates are becoming increasingly upset with such anti-life attitudes, although the future is hard to predict. Thus, the following headlines have appeared:

**Major Pro-Life Legal/Scientific Document Launched at UN
Headquarters
Governments Condemn UN Official's Attempt to Create a
Right to Abortion**

and even:

European Human Rights Court Protects Human Embryos

This last is an incremental, yet important legal step towards international protection of all human life. "For the first time, the ECJ [European Court of Justice] clarifies, in a manner that is binding for 27 Member States, that human life begins at conception, and that it is deserving of legal protection," commented Jakob Cornides, a Brussels-based human rights lawyer and expert on European legal issues. "This sets an end to all attempts of saying that the blastocyst, the embryo, or the fetus is 'not yet' human."

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

*Gracious and Living God
We come before you today with grateful hearts.
In the beauty and bounty of creation we see the work of your hand;
in the loving faces around us, we know your own love for us.
May this meal nourish us and strengthen us,
so others may know your plenty in our kindness,
and see your care and concern in our witness.
Let us live true lives of gratitude,
As we pray to you, our God, who lives forever and ever. Amen.*

(Other, controlled studies have shown up to a 6.7-fold greater risk of suicide after abortion, but have generally been minimized by pro-abortion-choice supporters. In this, very large study, the link between mental health and abortion is well-quantified. Eventually, the truth comes out!)

The British Journal of Psychiatry (2011) 199: 180-186

Review articles

Abortion and mental health: quantitative synthesis and analysis of research published 1995–2009

1. [Priscilla K. Coleman](#)

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Declaration of interest

None.

Abstract

Background Given the methodological limitations of recently published qualitative reviews of abortion and mental health, a quantitative synthesis was deemed necessary to represent more accurately the published literature and to provide clarity to clinicians.

Aims To measure the association between abortion and indicators of adverse mental health, with subgroup effects calculated based on comparison groups (no abortion, unintended pregnancy delivered, pregnancy delivered) and particular outcomes. A secondary objective was to calculate population-attributable risk (PAR) statistics for each outcome.

Method After the application of methodologically based selection criteria and extraction rules to minimise bias, the sample comprised 22 studies, 36 measures of effect and 877 181 participants (163 831 experienced an abortion). Random effects pooled odds ratios were computed using adjusted odds ratios from the original studies and PAR statistics were derived from the pooled odds ratios.

Results Women who had undergone an abortion experienced an 81% increased risk of mental health problems, and nearly 10% of the incidence of mental health problems was shown to be attributable to abortion. The strongest subgroup estimates of increased risk occurred when abortion was compared with term pregnancy and when the outcomes pertained to substance use and suicidal behaviour.

Conclusions This review offers the largest quantitative estimate of mental health risks associated with abortion available in the world literature. Calling into question the conclusions from traditional reviews, the results revealed a moderate to highly increased risk of mental health problems after abortion. Consistent with the tenets of evidence-based medicine, this information should inform the delivery of abortion services.

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From The Advocate, Baton Rouge, LA, October 8, 2011

READERS' VIEWS

(10/8/11)

Breast cancer, abortion studies

Given the toll that breast cancer exacts on women, it is both appropriate and commendable that The Advocate recently allowed so much space for discussion of this disease.

However, little was written on prevention — which is usually far less expensive to implement than treatment — other than general comments on healthy nutrition, and bilateral mastectomy for those women at high risk for the inheritable form.

There was no comment on the link between induced abortion, contraceptives and breast cancer, nor on the protective effect of a first, full-term pregnancy.

Based on a very recent international conference of obstetricians and gynecologists in Rome, Italy, and as a physician and medical scientist, I feel compelled to bring the following to the attention of your readers:

After beginning menstruation, a woman's entire, intricate hormonal physiology and much of her innate psychology revolves around the fulfillment of her reproductive capability, as embodied in her periodic fertility until menopause.

Tinkering with this process, especially by interrupting pregnancy, or by hormonally inducing a state of false pregnancy ("the pill"), has negative consequences.

Medical estrogen is classified by the World Health Organization as a Class II carcinogen; after 5-12 years of pill use, cervical cancer rates double.

Also, in a 2009 study co-authored by Dr. Louise Brinton of the National Cancer Institute, "a statistically significant 40 percent increased risk [of breast cancer] for women who have

abortions" was found, as was "a 320 percent increased risk of triple negative breast cancer among recent users (within 1-5 years) of oral contraceptives."

In contrast, and hereditary factors aside, a first, full-term pregnancy confers a protective effect against later breast cancer that is lost through induced abortion (which also markedly increases the rate of premature birth).

According to 16 of 17 statistically significant studies done in Japan, abortion produced an independent risk for breast cancer, while four conducted within the past year and a half in the United States, China, Turkey and Sri Lanka, similarly concluded that "induced abortion was associated with increased breast cancer risk."

Finally, an epidemiologic study conducted in a localized area in Britain several years ago showed such a close relationship between abortion and subsequent breast cancer that the authors were able to predict a later rise in annual breast cancer rates in the study area.

Clearly, not all women who develop breast cancer have had an abortion.

Nevertheless, in the context of "Every woman counts," and wanting to "Stop the silence" — phrases from The Advocate's pink breast cancer insert — while recognizing that there have been at least 53 million abortions done in the United States during the past 38-plus years, this information must be made available to help women prevent breast (and cervical) cancer!

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