

Lincoln Right to Life

Abortionist Gosnell sentenced to life in prison

By agreeing not to appeal his conviction, Gosnell avoided the death penalty for three convictions of first-degree murder

PHILADELPHIA — Following his conviction for the murder of three babies born alive, abortionist Kermit Gosnell received two life sentences without parole for two of those murder charges. He also was found guilty of involuntary manslaughter in the death of patient Karnamaya Mongar, who died after a botched abortion. In addition, he was found guilty on most of the more than 200 counts of violating Pennsylvania’s informed consent law.

Gosnell agreed to waive all of his appellate rights in exchange for life in prison instead of the death penalty, said the office of R. Seth Williams, Philadelphia’s district attorney, May 14. He was immediately sentenced.

Nine of his employees have faced state and federal charges for their actions at the business. Eight have pleaded guilty to various charges in the case — three of them to third-degree murder.

Former employee Stephen Massof, in courtroom testimony in early April, said he saw about 100 babies born alive. He said workers then “snipped” the backs of their necks to ensure their “demise.” He is in prison after pleading guilty to third-degree murder in the deaths of two newborns.

In a January 2011 grand jury report, Williams found that the Pennsylvania Department of Health had contact with Gosnell’s clinic in 1979, when it approved it. The department did not conduct another site review until 1989, finding “numerous violations.” Two site reviews found more violations in 1992 and 1993 but failed to make corrections.

Gosnell’s name became a rallying cry for pro-life advocates, who lamented a lack of major media coverage of his trial. Their efforts on social media helped draw attention to the case.

— *From the National Catholic Register, May 15*



Lincoln Right to Life and others helped spread information regarding the trial through social media, including Facebook, due to a lack of mainstream media attention.

Students address meaning of religious freedom



Above: Speech contest judges, from left, Mike Foley, Mark Fahleson and Tom Dierks, listen to students. **Right:** Speech contest participants and judges gather during the event.



Thank you to the students who participated in this year’s Lincoln Pro-Life Speech Contest, April 13 at Lincoln Lutheran High School. The event’s theme was “Religious freedom and the HHS mandate — How does it affect the pro-life movement?” Winners included Anne Greff, first place; Jacob Otte, second place; Merrill Wood, third place; Augustine Mattern, fourth place; and Daniel St. Hilaire, fifth place.

A message from President Matt Tapling

Let's not forget the importance of the father

We frequently spend much time discussing and praying for mothers, however, we sometimes overlook the positive role of fathers in the family. Sadly, per the 2011 U.S. census, one of three babies are born in a fatherless home. Children in fatherless homes are four times more likely to live in poverty. In a 2002 study, 39 percent of prison inmates came from fatherless homes. The role of father is frequently demeaned as the buffoon or the punch line of a joke. However, statistics demonstrate the negative impact the lack of a father can have on a family.

Please reach out when you see a dad playing with the kids or persevering through a hardship to provide for his family and say thank you. He is protecting and providing for his family and giving them the best opportunity for success. As it relates specifically to abortion, it is natural for a father to protect his child. When an abortion occurs, it is in direct conflict to this natural law. Please pray for reconciliation for the fathers as they need forgiveness and healing for their role in an abortion.

Plan B, or the morning-after pill, is an emergency contraceptive that is now available on the shelves of all drug stores to all girls regardless of age. This is an extremely dangerous decision for our young girls. The FDA had been fighting

to keep an age limit on the availability of this drug but recently backed down. This is another step toward fulfilling the strategy of getting our daughters into a sexually active lifestyle. The strategy is as follows: Promote "protected sex" and condom use. This increases the number of sexual encounters. This increases the need for abortions. They continue to disconnect the consequences of sexual activity through abortion and the morning-after pills.

The Kermit Gosnell story is a gruesome example of how wrong things can get when a society no longer protects the sanctity of human life. I recently heard the jurors of this trial were offered extensive counseling due to the gruesomeness of the three-week testimony. If abortion is "no big deal" and just a medical decision between a woman and her doctor, why does someone need counseling? Those who wish to understand this story further can visit

<http://3801lancaster.com>.

On a positive note, to see the healing of post-abortive women, visit <http://www.knocktv.com> for a series of videos that follow the healing process of four women.

Locally, please come out and stand for life at the abortion facility on Tuesdays. Your presence can provide those abortion-minded women an alternative for life.

Lastly, I wish to pass along my congratulations and best wishes to Melissa Zierke on her opportunity in Washington, D.C., with National Right to Life. We are proud of you and rooting for you.



Lincoln Right to Life board member interns for National Right to Life



Being pro-life brings a whole new meaning after working just a few weeks in Washington, D.C. This summer, I'm interning for the educational department with National Right to Life. My task is to research and develop pro-life lesson plans for teachers and churches to use throughout the year for elementary students. I also am assisting in preparations for

the National Right to Life convention, held in Dallas, and performing tasks for other departments. I look forward to learning many new things within the pro-life movement so I can bring them back to Lincoln to assist our efforts.

Melissa has served as a board member with Lincoln Right to Life and as the coordinator of 40 Days for Life.

Melissa Zierke

Three simple reasons Trinity Lutheran supports Diaper Heaven

During the past several months, Trinity Lutheran Church has hosted Diaper Heaven in its youth house, which is aptly named the Whitehouse. Situated at 733 S. 13th St., this location serves well as a staging point for the distribution of supplemental diapers to our Lincoln community members. Trinity values the opportunity to support Diaper Heaven in this manner for three basic reasons.



First, Trinity always has had a

Diaper Heaven is located within a home graciously donated by Trinity Lutheran Church. Diaper donations may be left on the front porch at 733 S. 13th St., or brought on Mondays, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., when they are distributed. Thank you for your continued support. Most importantly, thanks for keeping our needy mothers served and acquainted with our pro-life message. This new location is closer to bus routes, therefore more convenient for many women who travel by bus to pick up diapers.

tradition of serving children. It is a part of who we are and what we want to do as a congregation.

“13. And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. 14. But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. 15. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it. 16. And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.” Mark 10:13-16

Through Diaper Heaven, we hope we might assist in the proclamation of Jesus to parents and children. We want more people to know Jesus, believe in Him, and have everlasting life.

Second, God calls us as His people to serve those near us who have needs. The scriptures make it plain that Jesus came to serve and not be served. We follow Jesus. If that is the case, we are called to follow Him in service to those who have need. In our community there is an evident need for the support and care of children. Diaper Heaven provides a further opportunity to pursue this goal.

Third, Trinity values life from conception to natural death. We believe that God made life, and

God cherishes the life of every human being. If he did not, he would not have created life nor would he have redeemed life. Jesus died on a cross for every sin and evil to pay the



The new home of Diaper Heaven is 733 S. 13th St.

price required by the Father. Since “God so loved the world,” then as God’s people at Trinity Lutheran Church, it is our desire to support life. Diaper Heaven provides this opportunity. When an unplanned pregnancy occurs, we want to help make it possible for parents to say, “Yes, we can take care of this child.” We believe that our support of Diaper Heaven helps parents cherish and care for their children.

Trinity thanks Lincoln Right to Life for the opportunity to connect with the Lincoln community in this manner.

— Rev. Matthew M. Tooman
associate pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church

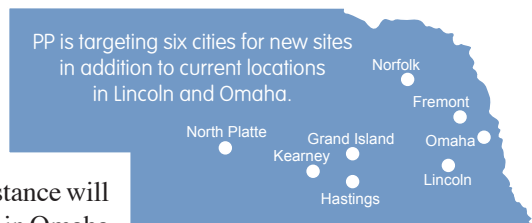
From our state office, Nebraska Right to Life

Planned Parenthood of the Heartland still has its sights set on expanding into six outstate Nebraska communities, but organized pro-life efforts in each city will hold them at bay, according to Nebraska Right to Life.

“Planned Parenthood of the Heartland has been trying to raise money for two years to potentially open sites in Fremont, Grand Island, Hastings, Kearney, Norfolk and North Platte,” said Julie Schmit-Albin, Nebraska Right to Life executive director. “Fortunately, pro-lifers started organizing two years ago to specifically shut Planned Parenthood out of their cities. Grassroots activists have gathered thousands of petition names in each city to present to their local elected officials as a show of support in keeping Planned Parenthood out.

“In addition, speakers knowledgeable about how Planned Parenthood operates have toured all of the cities, and several cities continue to hold specific gatherings aimed at educating

the public on Planned Parenthood,” she said. “If Planned Parenthood opens a facility in one or more of these cities, the resistance will remain strong, as it has in Omaha and Lincoln in front of the Planned Parenthood sites there.”



The groups leading the opposition in each city are:

- Fremont Area Right to Life
- Grand Island Right to Life
- South Central Nebraska Right to Life (Hastings)
- A Better Way (Kearney) & Kearney Area Christians for Life
- Norfolk Right to Life
- Western Nebraska Community for Life (North Platte)

Lincoln Right to Life

Fostering respect for human life from
conception to natural death

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Thanks for your generous donations

Lincoln Right to Life is in need of funds. Your generous, tax-deductible donation assists Lincoln Right to Life in its lifesaving efforts. Please use the enclosed envelope to send your gift today! Thank you.

Mother's Assistance Fund

This fund assists mothers who have turned from abortion. The funds are running low. Your generous tax-deductible donation is needed. Please use the enclosed envelope and mark it "Mother's Assistance Fund." Your financial gift, in any amount, is appreciated.

Has your address changed?

Please help us maintain our newsletter address list. Before you move, you can send us your new address by emailing us at lrlmembership@windstream.net. Be sure to send your name with your old and new addresses. Or complete this form and clip it with the mailing label below and mail to: Lincoln Right to Life, P.O. Box 6321, Lincoln, NE 68506.

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Saving lives, helping mothers

Lincoln Planned Parenthood began advertising a couple weeks ago for a new clinic manager and security guard. About two months ago, one of the two security guards quit, telling a Helper counselor he could no longer work at a place that did such evil. The Helpers have been praying for him since, and we learned that he has found another respectable job. Shortly after his departure, we learned that Anne,



Whether from the sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood or your home, please pray for those contemplating aborting their babies on Abortion Tuesdays.

a long-time employee/manager, had left. It recently was reported in the Lincoln Journal that CEO Jill June is retiring.

Three weeks ago, a mother came out of the clinic with her pregnant daughter and said she was not going to have an abortion. The woman had tears streaming down her face and thanked the people who had been praying at the clinic. The daughter said she couldn't contemplate abortion any longer when she heard the clinic worker refer to her baby in the womb as "him." These people were from Grand Island.

The mother and daughter told Helper counselors that the Planned Parenthood staff would not allow the girl's mother in the room when they did the ultrasound. The staff dissuaded the girl from looking at her sonogram, saying something like, "You probably don't want to look at this," as though it was something unsettling. The staff told the mother and girl that she was 19 weeks pregnant, and that they

couldn't do the abortion there. Instead, they said she must go to the Carhart clinic in Bellevue. He would do the abortion for \$1,900. The mother said the staff was insistent and had the phone handy, telling the girl she had to call "right now."

We don't always know when or how God uses us to turn people away from abortions. Once in a while, he gives us a sign of how important our presence is. How many more saves happen because we are there, only God knows. We can be encouraged by what former PP abortion clinic manager Abby Johnson has said more than once. The PP staff knows when people are outside praying on abortion days by the number of clients who don't show up or who change their minds and leave without having an abortion.

For the Helpers of God's Precious Infants, sponsored by Lincoln Right to Life.

— Jack Odgaard