

Richmond Right to Life Society

RRTLS AGM
• scheduled for November 16th.
See inside for details.



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FALL 2010 NEWSLETTER



EDITORIAL

She was an unlikely heroine. As a Jew living in Persia she was a despised racial, ethnic, and national foreigner. As an orphan girl in a patriarchal world she was a gender outcast. And, as a member of the king's harem, she was a moral outsider. Here was, in short, a woman who, to all the world, would have looked like a helpless, hopeless cause; a nobody. And yet, in spite - or perhaps, because - of her unlikely candidacy, she not only became the Queen of Persia, but the deliverer of an entire

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS



The Biblical story of Esther is, in part, the tale of an improbable yet genuine hero. After learning about a new law that would have killed all the Jews living in Persia, Mordecai, Esther's cousin, implored her to use her position in the palace to effect legal change and save her people.

At first, Esther is reluctant. No one knows she's a Jew—she's safe—and, what's more, "if any man or woman goes to the king . . . without being called, there is but one law—to be put to death. . . . But as for me, I have not been called to come in to the king these thirty days" (4:11).

Mordecai is aware, however, of both the imminent danger confronting his kinsmen and

Esther's unique position to intervene. He will not let her off the hook. "Do not think to yourself that in the king's palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews," he tells her. "For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this" (4:13-14)?

His words have their intended effect and Esther is swayed: "I will go to the king, though it is against the law, and if I perish, I perish" (4:16). She risks her life, and wins her people's salvation.

Our world is not unlike Esther's. Injustice abounds and it is our responsibility to work for social change. This isn't simply the specialized calling of a select few. Each of us has a duty to work for peace and justice. This means there will be times when civil disobedience is needed. When the laws of the land are unjust and

voiceless people need courageous neighbours to advocate for them it is our obligation to stand in their defense; to "rescue those who are being taken away to death; [to] hold back those who are stumbling to the slaughter" (Prov. 24:11).

Where will we find the courage and the inner resources needed for this kind of opposition to evil? By knowing and resting in the One to whom Esther ultimately points. Esther was an unlikely hero, but she was precisely the kind of person God has always delighted in using.

"God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are." (1 Cor 1:27-28).

God saved through Esther because this was precisely the way He would bring salvation to all His people. Esther risked her position in the palace, her comfortable lifestyle, even her life, to rescue the Jews.

Jesus didn't just risk His life for us, He lost it. We were perishing, separated from God because of our sin; but He stood, crucified, in our place to redeem us and earn for those who love and trust Him all of the privileges of being in the Royal Family.

Jesus is the Real Hero of the Esther story. And the more He becomes the Hero of your life story the more you will see that, though you may consider yourself a nobody, in Christ, you are somebody He can use to restore peace and justice to the world.

Pastor Steve Tu,

CANADIAN CBR LAUNCHES NEW APOLOGETICS WEBSITE



Columbus, OH - Oct 7, 2010 - I'm excited to announce that CBR's Canadian affiliate (CCBR) has launched a BRAND-NEW WEBSITE! - <http://www.unmaskingchoice.ca/>. The streamlined website features an all-new classroom jam-packed with a series of four-to-six-minute clips illuminating the sound science, philosophy, and reasoning undergirding the pro-life view.

Here are a few topic links :

- What are the Pre-born, and when does human life begin?
- Isn't abortion permissible in some circumstances like rape, teenage pregnancy, birth defects, or when pregnancy endangers a woman's life?
- Don't we all have the right to bodily autonomy?
- We want to help women - doesn't abortion do just that?
- What is the history of abortion law in Canada?
- Is abortion really comparable to the Holocaust?

All the videos are complemented by written explanations of the pro-life view at:
<http://www.unmaskingchoice.ca/truth.html>

You'll also find free, downloadable resources, tools and recommended reading should you or someone you know be facing an unplanned pregnancy or dealing with a past abortion. There's also a teaching section explaining why CCBR takes the approach it does to achieve social change at:
<http://www.unmaskingchoice.ca/picturespl.html>

Though CCBR is non-sectarian organization, some amazing people have graciously endorsed CCBR and its projects, including Rev. Thomas J. Euteneuer, the former president of Human Life International, and Fr. Frank Pavone, the National Director of Priests for Life, as well as others that we deeply respect and admire.

John Hof

BOUND 4 LIFE

...Abortion Statistics on YouTube

Check out the interesting and not too unfamiliar statistics on abortion as presented on YouTube by the organization Bound4Life.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EwyXzc7MK_A&feature=player_embedded

Bound for life is an on-line movement arising in the heart of the youth and young adults in the nation of Canada. There is a CRY from a generation that is saying:

"We will live again!" - We WILL pray, act and vote until abortion is abolished in Canada.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

It is that time of the year! The Richmond Right to Life Society Annual General meeting will take place on Tuesday, November 16th at the Tapestry Church on 9280 No. 2 Rd. (formerly Richmond Christian Reformed Church) at 7:30 p.m. Our speaker for the night will be Pastor Steve Tu of Trinity Pacific Church right here in Richmond.



In my opinion he is quietly becoming a leader in preaching and writing on the Pro-Life issues in our community. Check out his blog site (at <http://tubytu.wordpress.com>) and view some of the tough subjects he gives informative and well thought out insights on.

Steve spoke at our most recent Pastor's breakfast back in April and was very well received by the Pastors as he asked the question (and then spoke on), "How do church leaders respond to women in their churches who have had abortions and are struggling with the guilt, shame, and depression - and are in need of hope and forgiveness."

In addition to pastoring, Steve takes much pride in his family - his wife and three daughters (one of those daughters is brand new).

Steve has written a book that he hopes to get published titled, "Preaching and the Challenges of Abortion".

I think that we will be "challenged anew" by Pastor Steve at the AGM.

We look forward to having him speak and invite you to invite your friends, doctors, teachers, lawyers, and pastors to come and hear him speak.

Please come prepared to renew your membership, vote, and meet some old friends. See you all there!

RRTLS ENTRY EARNS THIRD PLACE IN SALMON FESTIVAL PARADE



Following some busy planning and awesome decorating by all the groups involved, Richmond Right to Life Society entered their annual 'Celebrate Life' float in the 65th Salmon Festival Parade this past summer. The float was well received as they parade on-lookers were treated to live music from singer Alyssa Lopez and her group ARVIDA. Following the parade we were pleasantly surprised to learn that our entry - which included

colorful groups and representatives from Kapamilya, Brighouse United, RRTLS, St Joe's, St. Paul's, Couples for Christ and all their families - had been awarded third place in the Seiner category - (church group or service club).

Our Salmon Festival presence also included an information table in the Community Information area where we displayed our informative life pamphlets, painted faces, and handed out hundreds of 'Life is Precious' and Celebrate



Life Balloons'. The feedback from the table volunteers was very positive as many people stopped by to ask questions, marvel at the fetal models, and even tell of their stories about decisions they had made regarding their children. There is one such story at the end of this newsletter.



One of the young men who volunteered at the table handing out balloons to the many children lined up commented, "It was the liveliest table of the many that were present".

Richmond Right to Life Society certainly was an encouraging Right to Life presence in the Community on that day.

Check out the facebook site below to see more Salmon festival pictures.

<http://www.facebook.com/album.php?aid=52088&id=1661181704&l=9bc67e665e>

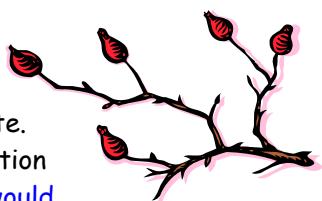
CHINA'S THIRTY YEAR WAR AGAINST ITS OWN PEOPLE SLATED TO CONTINUE

By Steven W. Mosher

I was surprised when Beijing decided to celebrate(!) the thirtieth anniversary of the One-Child Policy this week. I thought, quite frankly, that the declaration of a national day of mourning would have been more appropriate.

But I was even more taken aback when the head of China's National Population and Family Planning Commission, a woman named Li Bin, [announced that China would continue to enforce](#) this same Draconian policy for "decades" to come.

Decades? This is, after all, a policy that has led to a slaughter of the innocents of Biblical proportions. Hundreds of millions of women have been forcibly aborted and sterilized. Homes have been razed, livestock confiscated, and exorbitant fines levied.



In all, 400 million people are missing from the Chinese population as a result of the one-child policy. Like previous Chinese Communist Party-orchestrated disasters such as the Great Leap Forward, or the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, this policy, too, has been a disaster for the Chinese people.

I should know I was in China when the one-child policy began 30 years ago.

What I saw then, living in an agricultural commune in rural Guangdong, rivals anything that happened in Nazi Germany. One day in 1980 several hundred young mothers, all pregnant with second or higher-order children, were ordered to attend population control meetings. There they were told that they would all have to abort their pregnancies. Those who refused were arrested for the "crime" of being pregnant and locked up until they too, buckled under the pressure and submitted to an abortion.

At that point they were taken to the local medical clinic and given a lethal injection into their uterus. If their bodies did not expel their dead or dying babies within two days, they were subjected to a cesarean section abortion. Most horrific of all, babies born alive were killed by means of an injection of formaldehyde into the "soft spot" on the crown of their heads. Those few women who managed to escape arrest and had their babies in secret were assessed heavy fines.

Everything that I witnessed then, from the forced abortions of women in the third-trimester of pregnancy to government-sanctioned infanticide, is still happening now. Those women who manage to avoid the dragnet by going into hiding are now subjected to even heavier fines, which currently run three to five times the family's annual income. Those who can't pay this huge amount have had... *read the rest of the story at the Population Research Institute website @*

<http://pop.org/content/chinas-thirty-years-war-against-its-own-people-slated-continue>

FOOTPRINT OF TWO SONS

The following is a true story from a young lady who visited us at our Salmon Festival table display...a wonderful living story...



I was 13 years of age at the time. I came from a good family and a good upbringing in the catholic religion. I had lost my father and grandmother within the same year, a year prior, and I guess I was on a bit of grieving or some may call it rebellious time, but you can call it what you wish.

I went to party with a bunch of friends and there was alcohol involved. The next thing I know we are headed for another party, a bush party (where we all gathered in a wooded area so we wouldn't get caught drinking). I guess I had a lot to drink because I don't remember much after that. I awoke in my bed the next morning and I must have gotten in quiet because my mother didn't know I was drunk.

A few weeks passed and I knew something was different with my body so I went to a pro-life clinic where they did free pregnancy tests and it came back positive. I was so scared I didn't know what to do other than cry. I knew my mom would probably kill me, this was around September 1988. November came and I had turned 14 now and was wondering how to keep this from my mom. She would definitely notice that things were different soon, so I decided to change my clothing style to really baggy and then my mom would think I was just going through a "stage."

I went along the whole pregnancy kinda pretending that I wasn't pregnant. I still played on my baseball team pretty much until the day I gave birth. I went to school, I was on the honor roll and also received the math award.

I was probably in my 7th month and I wasn't feeling good at all one night, so I went to my mom and said that I was having really bad pains in my stomach and I



think I needed to go to the hospital, it might be my appendix. So she rushed me up to the hospital (still not knowing I'm pregnant) but I knew. So I am laying on the bed, my mom beside me reading a book and before the doctor was even going to look at me he says wow you are very pregnant. Well my mom looked up from her book and said, "What did you say?" And that was it she left me there and went home without me.

I now didn't know what to do so I called my stepdad to come and get me which he did. I always knew in my heart to choose life for this baby, so no matter what anyone said to me I always knew I was doing the right thing. So when my due date got closer I got to pick a family from a bunch of profiles I had to read from families that wanted to adopt.

I went through private adoption, so I actually got to meet the family and talk to them. Since I went through private adoption my son had to stay in the hospital for 2 weeks. I was there every moment that I could or was allowed. I stamped his feet with an ink pad from the nurse's station so that I would always have that memory. I cut a lock of his hair, took many pictures and birth pictures. I have everything of his (bracelets, ID, pictures, paperwork) sitting in a big yellow envelope waiting to share it with him one day.



He is now 21 and I have filed all the paperwork to find him and I am waiting to tell him **HIS** story. And I want to hear **HIS** story of life. I keep his picture close to my heart and it has never left my wallet in 21 years I think of him every minute of every day and I hope and pray that he enjoys the life I gave him.

Three years ago I finally had another child I also stamped his feet when he was born and then last Mother's Day I decided to give myself a Mother's Day present. I tattooed my first son's left foot and my second son's right foot together so that they will always be 2 brothers walking together.

Thank you for reading my story.

Roxanne Peet-Henricus

IN CLOSING



In my preparation of another newsletter, I read many articles on pro-life vs pro-abortion issues and battles for and against the right to assisted suicide. I am so impressed by the people who relentlessly continue to work on the side of Life.

They go up against much opposition, individual and legal, and they continue on. And you know what, they achieve many victories. There are so many excellent organizations and workers to name. Maybe one of the topics of my future newsletters will be to list as many of those groups as I can.

I am so encouraged by the any victories these groups achieve - the lives saved, the laws changed, the women supported, the sound advice given.

These tenacious pro-life people continue to remind me that we are never to relent in these pro-life battles - this spiritual battle for women and children. There is much good work to be done and I encourage you all not to fall prey to apathy or indifference; to think that the pro-life stand in these times is no longer important or politically correct. This spiritual battle must continue to be supported in whatever method you or I can afford...prayerfully, financially, out there in the field.

Come attend the AGM and have Pastor Steve inform, enlighten, and encourage us to continue to do our part...our human and spiritual part. As he mentions in the closing sentence in his editorial, you are somebody Christ can use to restore peace and justice to the world.

Clive

