



# PARISH 'LIFE' NEWS

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## Little Sisters Get Temporary Relief From HHS Mandate While Supreme Court Mulls Their Case



On Aug. 21, the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the Little Sisters will not be subject the mandate's requirements or the fines associated with resisting it. The court order lasts until the Supreme Court announces whether it will take up the sisters' appeal. If the Court agrees to hear

the case, the protection from the mandate will last until it issues a final ruling.

For 175 years, the Little Sisters have cared for the elderly poor and dying throughout the world. However, they say that their service is now threatened by the federal contraception mandate, which requires employers to offer health insurance plans covering contraception, sterilization and some drugs that can cause early abortions.

The sisters are among several hundred plaintiffs who have challenged the mandate, saying that it forces them to violate their sincerely held religious beliefs.

Employers who fail to comply with the mandate face crippling penalties. In the case of the Little Sisters, the fines could amount to around \$2.5 million a year, or about 40% of the \$6 million the Sisters beg for annually to run their ministry. National Catholic Register 8/21/15

## Colombia Joins Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg in Letting Doctors Euthanize Patients

Colombia's first legal euthanasia has just been carried out. That makes four countries with currently legal euthanasia; Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Colombia.

Canada will soon join that list once the Supreme Court's imposition goes into effect next year. The Province of Quebec currently allows euthanasia. Switzerland does not technically allow euthanasia, but does permit non-medical assisted suicide and suicide clinics.

Three U.S. states allow assisted suicide by statute, Oregon, Washington, and Vermont. Montana's status is in doubt thanks to a muddled state Supreme Court ruling, and one county in New Mexico permits it, due to a trial court ruling now on appeal.

LifeNews.com 7/7/15



## Amnesty Credits UN for Pro-Prostitution Policy

Amnesty International voted August 11 to urge the decriminalization of all aspect of the sex trade, and said the new policy was based on input from the World Health Organization and UN Women. The vote follows weeks of intense debate on an issue that has split feminists, celebrities, and experts who warn that prostitution is fueling the rise of human trafficking around the world. 8/14/15 Center for Family and Human Rights

Editor's Note: Here in PA, we continue to push for an end of sex trafficking , which would be aided by the passage of HB 262. Read the bill here and support it: <http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/billInfo/billInfo.cfm?sYear=2015&slnd=0&body=H&type=B&bn=262>

### New Bills Introduced:

The **Equality Act** has been submitted to both the House and Senate. They would amend several federal laws to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in public accommodations, public education, employment, housing, federal funding, jury service, legal protections and credit. It would add sexual orientation and gender identity as protected classes to the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Philly-based Dow Chemical endorsed the bills.

**Restore Honor to Service Members Act** which would allow those who were discharged from the military because of their sexual orientation to request a review of their discharge.

**LGBT Elder Americans Act** would designate LGBT older adults as a population with "greatest social need" for service and program allocations, establish the National Resource Center on LGBT Aging and require data collection on the aging LGBT population. American Family Association 8/7/15

## Archbishop Kurtz Calls for Welcoming of Refugees Fleeing Syria

The Catholic Church in the United States—with nearly 100 Catholic Charities agencies and hundreds of parishes assisting refugees to this country each year, and with Catholic Relief Services providing humanitarian aid to refugees in the Middle East and Europe—stands ready to help in this effort," wrote Archbishop Kurtz.

The full text of Archbishop Kurtz's statement can be read at: <http://www.usccb.org/news/2015/15-127.cfm>

## Networks Censor Planned Parenthood Videos



After the release of eight videos exposing Planned Parenthood by the Center for Medical Progress, the three broadcast networks, ABC, NBC and CBS have only played 1 minute 13 seconds of footage from these videos on air. Here is a synopsis:

**In the first video:** Dr. Deborah Nucatola of Planned Parenthood commented on baby-crushing: "We've been very good at getting heart, lung, liver, because we know that, so I'm not gonna crush that part, I'm gonna basically crush below, I'm gonna crush above, and I'm gonna see if I can get it all intact."

**In the second video:** Planned Parenthood's Dr. Mary Gatter joked, "I want a Lamborghini" as she negotiated the best price for baby parts.

**In the third video:** Holly O'Donnell, a former Stem Express employee who worked inside a Planned Parenthood clinic, detailed first-hand the unspeakable atrocities and how she fainted in horror over handling baby legs.

**In the fourth video:** Planned Parenthood's Dr. Savita Ginde stated, "We don't want to do just a flat-fee (per baby) of like, \$200. A per-item thing works a little better, just because we can see how much we can get out of it." She also laughed while looking at a plate of fetal kidneys that were "good to go."

**In the fifth video:** Melissa Farrell of Planned Parenthood-Gulf Coast in Houston boasted of Planned Parenthood's skill in obtaining "intact fetal cadavers" and how her "research" department "contributes so much to the bottom line of our organization here, you know we're one of the largest affiliates, our Research Department is the largest in the United States."

**In the sixth video:** Holly O'Donnell described technicians taking fetal parts without patient consent: "There were times when they would just take what they wanted. And these mothers don't know. And there's no way they would know."

**In the seventh and perhaps most disturbing video:** Holly O'Donnell described the harvesting, or "procurement," of organs from a nearly intact late-term fetus aborted at Planned Parenthood Mar Monte's Alameda clinic in San Jose, CA. "You want to see something kind of cool," O'Donnell says her supervisor asked her. "And she just taps the heart, and it starts beating. And I'm sitting here and I'm looking at this fetus, and its heart is beating, and I don't know what to think."

**In the eighth video** the CEO of StemExpress, a major buyer of fetal tissue from Planned Parenthood, admits the company gets "a lot" of intact fetuses, suggesting "another 50 livers a week" would not be enough, and agreeing abortion clinics should profit from the sale.

<http://newsbusters.org/8/31/15> **editor's notes:** 1) this organization's aim is to expose liberal media bias. 2) Five states have revoked taxpayer funding for Planned Parenthood's abortion business, including Utah, Arkansas, Alabama, New Hampshire and Louisiana and Iowa's governor has ordered a review of Planned Parenthood funding.

## PROJECT MUSTARD SEED



### CLIF BAR.

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Tell her to  
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Clif Bar has been on "The Boycott List" for over 10 years and we last wrote to them in July 2011. Life Decisions International has recently published an updated edition of "The Boycott List" which we hope to receive soon. For more information, you can visit their website at [www.fightpp.org](http://www.fightpp.org). Thank you for your continued support of our project.

## What Does the Church Say About Fetal Tissue Donation, or Selling Aborted Baby Parts?

The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith document, *Donum Vitae*, *directly* addresses this:

*"The corpses of human embryos and fetuses, whether they have been deliberately aborted or not, must be respected just as the remains of other human beings. In particular, they cannot be subjected to mutilation or to autopsies if their death has not yet been verified and without the consent of the parents or of the mother. Furthermore, the moral requirements must be safeguarded that there be no complicity in deliberate abortion and that the risk of scandal be avoided. Also, in the case of dead fetuses, as for the corpses of adult persons, all commercial trafficking must be considered illicit and should be prohibited."*

It is important to clarify that the scientific and medical use of human tissue, including that of unborn human beings, is not intrinsically wrong. The Church encourages organ and tissue donation when it is done according to strict moral standards. These standards include obtaining full informed consent from the donor or his surrogate and only accepting organs and tissue if such a donation will not severely impair or fatally harm the donor.

Fetal tissue obtained after a miscarriage or stillbirth and donated with the full consent of the parents offers no moral impediment to its use. It is similar to a family donating the organs and tissue of a deceased loved one. LifeNews.com 8/31/15