



LifeLine

A publication of Pikes Peak Citizens for Life
December 2016

*Pikes Peak Citizens for Life works to protect the innocent, helpless, vulnerable members of our human family
– young and old, infirm and healthy, born and preborn.*

Suicide Contagion in Colorado

Why Assisted Suicide Makes it Worse

Keep a close eye on your loved ones in Colorado – especially **vulnerable teens who may be attracted at latest “legalization” in Colorado: Suicide.**

National Right to Life (NRTL) points out the recent Newsweek coverage of an **outbreak of suicides among Colorado teenagers** – even as voters considered doctor prescribed death – and advertisements advocated the “benefits” of suicide.

“Suicide contagion—when one suicide leads to others, sometimes producing a “suicide cluster”—is a well-established social phenomenon. And young people are especially susceptible.”

Dr. Christine Moutier, of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, says *the message seems to be that if you kill yourself, you’ll not only end your suffering but also become the most popular kid in school... kids far beyond one school or community can see digital shrines to dead friends. Moutier says those posts can seem as if they’re romanticizing death.*

NRTL correctly points out: ***“The promotion, publicity, and legalization of assisted suicide ... says that sometimes suicide really is the appropriate response to an individual’s circumstances or anxieties...”***

“This message is false. It’s also deeply harmful. Assisted suicide, like suicide in general, can have a contagion effect that contributes to the deaths of more people.”

NRTL also references a 2015 study published in the Southern Medical Journal which concluded that the **legalization of assisted suicide has led to a 6.3 percent increase in the total suicide rate.**

“You do not discourage suicide by assisting suicide,” quips Dr. Aaron Kheriaty, a psychiatry professor at the University of California-Irvine School of Medicine.

Ref: NRTL, Paul Stark, “The danger of suicide contagion”, 26 Oct 2016. <http://www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/news/2016/10/the-danger-of-suicide-contagion-and-why-assisted-suicide-makes-it-worse/#.WC-HMH3ziXU>

2017 Bill Forthcoming to Defund PP

During a November 17 press conference, pro-life Speaker of the House Paul Ryan said Congress is once again committed to passing a bill to defund Planned Parenthood in 2017.

“Earlier this year, Congress approved legislation to defund the nation’s largest abortion company. Pro-abortion President Barack Obama vetoed the bill...”

“In his comments to reporters, Speaker Ryan said Congress will pass another piece of legislation. This bill to defund Planned Parenthood should arrive at the desk of President-elect Donald Trump, who has already promised to sign such legislation into law...”

“The House voted 240-181 to de-fund Planned Parenthood with Republicans voting 239-3 for the bill and Democrats voting 1-178 against it.”

Ref: LifeNews.com Steven Ertelt, “Speaker Paul Ryan...” 18 Nov 2016 <http://www.lifenews.com/2016/11/18/speaker-paul-ryan-well-pass-another-bill-to-defund-planned-parenthood-our-position-has-not-changed/>

Mail-Order Abortion

LifeNews reports that four states – Hawaii, New York, Oregon, and Washington – are currently serving as “testing ground for abortion activists’ newest plans to expand abortion.”

According to the report, the abortion begins with a “video chat” between the woman and the abortion promoter. Although the abortion drug arrives by mail, she must still visit the abortion clinic before and after taking the prescription– **first to confirm pregnancy – and return visit to confirm death.**

*“The abortion drug works by slowly starving a baby to death over a period of days, former abortionist Dr. Anthony Levatino said in a Live Action video explaining the abortion procedure. Currently, most women receive the abortion drug RU-486 and a second drug to induce labor at the abortion facility, but **experience the actual abortion at home without medical supervision.**”*

Ref: LifeNews.com Micaiah Bilger “Mail-Order Abortions...” 14 Nov, 2016 <http://www.lifenews.com/2016/11/14/mail-order-abortions-woman-will-get-dangerous-abortion-pills-by-mail-to-kill-their-unborn-babies/>

PPCFL Officers and Advisors

President – Matt Niedzielski
Vice President – Julie Bailey
Secretary – Bernadette Johnston
Treasurer – John Combs
At-Large – Ann Burger
Development – Jack Johnston
Presentations – Mary Jo Strassburg-Aidal
Newsletter – Holly Coco

Email: contact@ppccitizensforlife.org
Website: www.ppccitizensforlife.org
Phone: 719-630-1999
Fax: 719-630-8880

To schedule a PPCFL Presentation Mary Jo Strassburg-Aidal (719) 372-3342

*PPCFL Board meets the 2nd Monday of
each month at 7:00 p.m.
Come and see what we do.*

We're an All-Volunteer Organization

Join us as a volunteer!!

Staff our office once a week.
Assist with computer work.
Become a PPCFL Church Contact.
Assist with educational programs.
Help staff our educational booths or assist
in fundraising.
Bring fresh ideas or "Chair" a project.
The opportunities are never-ending.



Pikes Peak Citizens for Life posts daily stories of news and inspiration on Facebook. If you are not a Facebook "member" you can still access our page at: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Pikes-Peak-Citizens-for-Life/117592004967788>

Newsletter Available by Email

Would you prefer to receive your newsletter by email rather than traditional mail?

Sign up for "Pro-Life News" at
www.ppccitizensforlife.org

The President's Corner

With passage of Proposition 106, which legalizes suicide by doctor, Colorado is now a euthanasia state – joining California, Oregon, Washington, and Vermont.

Sold to the voters as a "compassionate" way to alleviate suffering, Prop 106 employs twisted legal language and perspectives in order to accomplish **its homicidal and grisly task: eliminating the sick, poor, elderly, and most vulnerable citizens of Colorado.**

For example, the new law requires death certificates to fraudulently state "the underlying terminal illness" as the cause of death instead of the poison which, in reality, does the actual killing.

Furthermore, the law assumes that a person can be of sound mind while simultaneously wishing to kill himself or herself.

However, it gets worse. **Experience with euthanasia laws in other places has demonstrated that societies that recognize a "right to die" soon move towards using euthanasia to deal with suffering of any type.** Recently a woman was euthanized in Canada because she had a bladder infection¹.

Many more problems with suicide by doctor are noted at websites votenoprop106.com and noassistedsuicideco.org.

Before Colorado slides any further down the slippery slope of the culture of death, it is imperative that we counter the impact of Proposition 106. **Talk to your neighbors and legislators about what constitutes a truly dignified death, and let us move Colorado back in the direction of life.**

Matt

¹Alex Schadenberg, "Nursing Home Euthanizes Woman Who Only Had a Bladder Infection," LifeNews.com, 15 Nov 2016, <http://www.lifenews.com/2016/11/15/nursing-home-euthanizes-woman-who-only-had-a-bladder-infection>

Pro-Life Presentations Make an Impact

PPCFL offers prolife presentations and discussion forums on a wide variety of topics including Sanctity of Life, Life 101, End of Life Issues, Adoption, Post-Abortion, and Rape.

Participants evaluate and provide feedback for each presentation. The following comments were shared after "Life 101"

"The presentation was extremely engaging and informative. Julie was an awesome presenter – very gentle and kind when answering our questions."

"I liked how approachable the speaker was. I felt like I could ask any question or comment on anything."

"Lots of good new information... very thought provoking."

"Stem cell research and Euthanasia – well researched with new information that's up to date. [I liked] learning about the current laws in Colorado."

If you are looking for a way to introduce pro-life topics to your group, organization, or congregation, please contact Mary Jo Strassburg-Aidal at (719) 372-3342.

Life & Death in Colorado

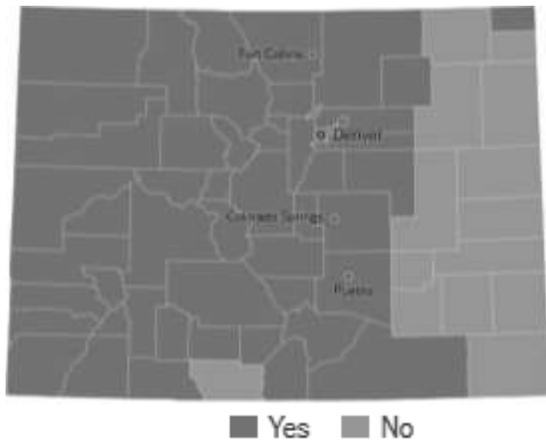
The State of Colorado went dark on election night 2016 - voting in a ratio of nearly 2 to 1 to legalize premeditated "death by doctor".

The proposition calls for allowing terminally ill patients to take their own lives using medication prescribed by a doctor.

As the map below shows, there is much work to be done in "winning the hearts and minds" to defend human life in Colorado.

Fourteen counties - mostly on the rural eastern plains where farms are plentiful and doctors are scarce - rejected the measure.

In the spirit of the Colorado farmer: "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Gal 6:9



Vote by Colorado County	Yes	No
STATEWIDE	1,626,260 (64.6%)	890,561 (35.4%)
El Paso County	170,014	137,223
Jefferson	203,061	103,260
Arapahoe	178,910	98,768
Denver	173,140	55,584
Larimer	126,709	62,444
Douglas	110,924	69,905
Boulder	136,230	35,390
Adams	105,957	63,670
Weld	75,338	55,292
Mesa	44,242	29,173
Pueblo	34,535	25,423
Broomfield	25,146	11,739
La Plata	21,836	7,626
Garfield	17,764	8,083
Eagle	17,034	5,039
Fremont	11,999	9,595
Montrose	11,805	8,893
Delta	9,256	7,235
Summit	12,198	3,461
Elbert	8,754	6,783
Teller	7,738	6,164
Routt	10,469	3,086

Vote by Colorado County	Yes	No
Montezuma	7,334	5,045
Morgan	5,915	5,751
Chaffee	7,311	3,629
Park	6,716	3,387
Pitkin	8,461	1,446
Logan	4,605	4,924
Gunnison	7,076	2,110
Grand	5,821	2,651
Archuleta	4,417	2,631
Alamosa	3,900	2,926
Las Animas	3,476	3,046
Moffat	3,562	2,783
Rio Grande	2,810	2,706
Clear Creek	4,049	1,405
Otero	2,320	2,733
Prowers	2,134	2,742
Yuma	1,938	2,647
San Miguel	3,563	590
Conejos	1,470	2,433
Huerfano	2,210	1,492
Gilpin	2,681	841
Kit Carson	1,619	1,900
Rio Blanco	1,809	1,527
Ouray	2,402	828
Lake	2,169	940
Custer	1,674	1,372
Washington	1,051	1,608
Saguache	1,655	958
Lincoln	1,130	1,225
Phillips	903	1,387
Baca	769	1,276
Bent	838	1,010
Costilla	926	825
Crowley	674	810
Sedgwick	694	651
Dolores	667	517
Cheyenne	388	673
Jackson	535	294
Kiowa	333	490
Mineral	440	202
Hinsdale	389	206
San Juan	367	108

Ref.: NY Times, "Colorado Proposition 106" 17 Nov 2016
<http://www.nytimes.com/elections/results/colorado-ballot-measure-106-medical-aid-in-dying>



Memorial Gift

Received from

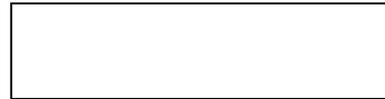
Barbara Farr

in memory of her mother

Jane Persinger

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Our thanks and blessings



## Coming January 2017

- **Sunday, January 15, 1:00 pm**  
***Sanctity of Life Sunday***  
Join the *Citizens for Life Remembrance of Roe v. Wade* from 1:00-2:00 pm at the Pioneers Museum, 217 South Tejon, Colorado Springs.
- **Monday, January 16**  
***Rocky Mountain March for Life***  
On Martin Luther King Day, join your fellow pro-life witnesses in this annual march (*See January's LifeLine for additional details.*)

## CHECK OUT OUR PPCFL BLOG

The PPCFL website offers regular reflections from local pro-life commentators including the passage below from PPCFL Vice President Julie Bailey. To read additional installations of Julie's "Reflections from the Sidewalk" visit [www.ppcitizensforlife.org](http://www.ppcitizensforlife.org)

### ***Reflections from the Sidewalk, Part 3***

I am feeling victorious this week.

As the 40 Days for Life (<https://40daysforlife.com/>) Fall 2016 Campaign ended on November 6th I reflected on the difference this peaceful, prayerful vigil made in our world.

Record numbers of people came out to the sidewalk to pray in 367 cities in all 50 states of the U.S. and 23 countries. **We know of 717 lives that were saved in the course of the 40 days, and there is no telling how many hearts were changed.** Two days later our country elected a vocal advocate for life instead of a politician bent on expanding abortion in our wounded world.

**While it's true that our battle for life is not over, we can certainly celebrate this step in the right direction.** Will we succeed in putting an end to abortion in our lifetime? I don't know, but it looks better today than it did a few weeks ago. In the meantime, I'll keep heading out to the sidewalk to pray. I hope you'll join me.