The Divine Dance Life, Death, and Transformation

the perils of hastening processes we don’t fully understand

By Rhonda Miller, local pro-life advocate

A caterpillar emerges from an egg and spends its life crawling, munching, growing and living the life of a caterpillar. As it approaches the end of life, it spins a cocoon around itself. The soft cocoon hardens and changes into a chrysalis.

The caterpillar has died to its old life and is in the painful process of preparing for a new, transformed life. At some point a butterfly will emerge from the chrysalis. It is a miraculous, God-inspired transformation! But did you know that when it is time for the butterfly to leave the chrysalis, it must struggle and suffer to leave the old world for the new?

It could make us sad to watch this long, arduous process, because it isn’t easy for the butterfly. Why allow the butterfly to struggle, to suffer, when we could help it? Why prolong this beautiful butterfly’s misery? WE have the power to help it!

We think we’re right and good intentioned when we decide to cut the chrysalis and help the suffering butterfly. We think about the good we are doing by lending a hand to hurry along the process. We make the cut. The butterfly is free!

And then we see that the butterfly is not moving. It’s not flapping its wings. It hasn’t flown away. What we didn’t know, but God and nature knew, is that struggle is a necessary step in the process of transformation for the butterfly. The struggle moves lifeblood into the wings, strengthens the wings, and allows the butterfly to dry itself and prepare for flight.

We messed up. We didn’t know. We thought logically that preventing the struggle would only help. It made us feel better not to have to witness the struggle. We hurt when we sat there and did nothing but watch. It’s too bad the chrysalis was cut. But it’s ok. We didn’t know. Next time, we will leave the transformation to God and nature’s plan.

Transformation in human life

What about the processes of transformation in a human life? Take for instance, a baby developing in the womb. The little baby sleeps, is nourished, grows, and floats in the perfect cocoon of the womb. Then it’s time to leave the old life and enter the new. It can take hours and hours for the birth of a baby. It’s painful, and we all know both mom and baby suffer during the process.

Why just sit there and helplessly watch? It’s horrible to think of the suffering and watch the struggle! A few years ago, doctors began suggesting there is no need for parents to wait and suffer. They can schedule an elective cesarean section, make a little cut; and quickly lift the baby out. Great idea, right?

What is now being discovered, is that the struggle through the birth canal strengthens and prepares the baby for its new life outside of the womb. The struggle strengthens the baby’s lungs to breathe and “wake up,” making it aware and able to look into her mother’s eyes and bond.

And who knew, until recently, that there are special, good bacteria in the birth canal made just for this baby’s birth? Doctors are now finding that without exposure to these bacteria, a baby is more likely to develop allergies and asthma in the world outside of the womb. It’s sad that so many people choose to unnecessarily cut babies out for convenience. They don’t know what God and nature knows – the struggle is important.

So, let’s consider another human life transformation. We call it death.

“We’re all going to die from this life, and many of us will struggle and suffer as we transition from our current form to the next. We may suffer the ravages of painful disease and decay. And our loved ones may be sitting there, watching us suffer, unable to do anything to help.” Their hearts are going to hurt from watching the struggle. Ah! But a group of “humanitarians” have come up with a great idea! Euthanasia or medical suicide… Physician Assisted Death.

When it gets to the point in this life where we struggle or are suffering, we can choose to have a simple, lethal dose of medication to cut us – or our loved ones – off from the pain of our transformation.

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

To schedule a PPCFL Presentation
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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.

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Do people really know what they are doing?

What if my transformation struggle is necessary to prepare me for my new life?

What biological phenomenon is being triggered by my struggle?
What bacteria and hormones may be released during my dying process to protect me in my new life?

What unique lessons am I learning from my transformation struggle?

How will my suffering assist me in making my unique transformation?

All those “humanitarians” can’t tell me what I’ll be missing – because they don’t know!

But as with the caterpillar and the unborn baby, God knows – and nature knows. Often the struggle is vital.

In scripture, we are provided with the extraordinary example of Jesus and Mary. Jesus knew He would suffer during His transformation and accepted the will of God. Mary knew her son would suffer as He died, and she had the strength and faith to be with her son as He transformed. Mary understood that Jesus’ unique suffering was necessary and did nothing to interfere with the process.

Sometimes, even today, extraordinary suffering and extraordinary faith are both necessary and doable. I am not going to allow anyone to cut me from my chrysalis. I am not going to take short cuts, or avoid a loved one’s pain and suffering because it’s too hard on me.

There are enough examples in nature and scripture to show me that life, death, and transformation are a divine dance, full of grace, and choreographed by God.

Reference: 1 The Physical Impact of Cesareans Pamela Udy, Dec 2008
Reference: 2 Retention of Memory through Metamorphosis: Can a moth remember what it learned as a Caterpillar? Douglas J Blackiston, Elena Silva Casey, Martha R Weiss, March 5, 2008

ళ Memorial Gift 褫
Received from Mr. & Mrs. Lorenzo Gurreri in memory of Joseph John Gurreri
Our thanks & blessings

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**President’s Effort to Defund Planned Parenthood of $50-60M Likely to Win in Court**

As reported online by LifeNews.com, president Trump is on the verge of winning an important court battle against the billion-dollar abortion giant Planned Parenthood.

“At issue are new guidelines for Title X grants, which fund family planning programs across the country. In February, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services introduced a new grant application that prioritizes sexual risk avoidance strategies, including abstinence, and the introduction of various natural family planning methods in addition to artificial contraception. The Planned Parenthood abortion chain receives about $50 million to $60 million in taxpayer-funded Title X grants annually.

“Planned Parenthood sued to block the changes, but a judge ruled against it in July. Other groups involved in the lawsuit include the National Planning and Reproductive Health Association and the American Civil Liberties Union.”

According to the Courthouse News report referenced in the article, the judges seemed "skeptical" of Planned Parenthood’s legal standing to challenge the new grant guidelines.

The Office of Population Affairs at HHS, said their goal - in making the guideline changes – is to fund Title X programs that more effectively teach sexual risk avoidance. There is little evidence that Planned Parenthood’s programs have reduced sexual health risks and teen pregnancies.

In 2017, the Trump administration also cut millions of dollars which were being funneled to Planned Parenthood through the failed Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program. Planned Parenthood also is suing over those cuts.

Reference: LifeNews.com, Micaiah Bilger, “President Trump’s Decision to Defund Planned Parenthood of $50-60 Million Likely to Win in Court” 13 Dec 2018

**Could Colorado Become a “Hub” for Abortions?**

Karen Middleton, Executive Director of NARAL ProChoice Colorado is predicting that an overturn of Roe vs. Wade at the federal level could cause Colorado to become a hub for women from neighboring states who are seeking abortions.

As reported by KDVR.com:

“"Are we going to have women in need of services travel to Colorado? Very likely," Middleton says.

Middleton claims that the pro-life stance of legislatures in the neighboring states - Kansas, Nebraska, Wyoming, and Utah – could result in legislation severely restricting non-medically necessary abortion.

"If Roe V Wade is diminished or overturned or reduced in states around us we would see women coming here," Middleton said.

Reference: KDVR.com, Joe St. George, “What happens in Colorado if Roe v Wade is overturned?” 4 September 2018

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**The President’s Corner**

The new Colorado legislative session beginning this month will be very unfriendly to pro-life interests now that both houses of the state assembly and the governor’s office are controlled by elected officials who embrace the culture of death – from abortion to assisted suicide and euthanasia.

Consequently we must be even more vigilant and active in our efforts to promote life in Colorado.

If we are not, then the culture of death will continue its advance through our society.

Such is the case in Quebec where a recent study indicates that, “Sick patients in Quebec are sometimes ‘abruptly’ killed by doctors through the province’s euthanasia program with little or no effort to mitigate or relieve the patient’s suffering through non-lethal medical means” [as reported by LifeSiteNews].

When assisted suicide was introduced in Quebec only three years ago, advocates claimed that it would “only be a last resort when nothing else can be done to alleviate suffering.”

Sound familiar? Assisted suicide was legalized in Colorado only two years ago under similar pretenses.

Additionally, our new governor has promised to ‘enshrine’ abortion in Colorado law. As far as I can tell, he will face no obstacles in the legislature to impede his completion of this ghoulish objective.

If any obstacles to the culture of death are going to be raised, they will have to come from us.

So, let us make a New Year’s resolution to do whatever we can to resist the culture of death in Colorado.

To support this resolution, Pikes Peak Citizens for Life will provide suggestions throughout the year on how we can individually and corporately takes steps to rebuild a culture of life in Colorado.

Matt
ROCKY MOUNTAIN MARCH AND BALLOON LAUNCH FOR LIFE

Monday, January 21, 2019
On Martin Luther King Day, join your fellow pro-life witnesses in the annual March for Life from the local Planned Parenthood at the 3400 block of Centennial Blvd. to Corpus Christi Catholic Church 2318 N Cascade Ave.

9:00-10:00am Silent Hour of Prayer
10:00-10:30  Pink & Blue Balloon Launch
10:30-11:30  March Planned Parenthood to Corpus Christi
11:30-Noon Prayer at Corpus Christi (Divine Mercy)
Noon-1:00pm Mass with Bishop Michael Sheridan

Anniversary of Roe v Wade Memorial Events

Saturday, January 12th
- Pro-Life Booth at Citadel Mall
  Stop by the Citizens for Life kiosk in the Citadel Mall (Noon-5:00pm) to learn more or share your pro-life witness!

- State Capitol Events - Denver
  The annual Celebrate Life Rally and March will be held at 1:00 p.m. on the west steps of the state capitol in downtown Denver (200 East Colfax) on Saturday, Jan. 12, 2019. This year's emcee is David Bereit, co-founder and former CEO of 40 Days for Life. Local speakers, choirs, bands and dancers will be featured.

Sunday, January 20, 1:00 pm
Sanctity of Life Sunday
Join the Citizens for Life Remembrance of Roe v. Wade 1:00-2:00 pm at the Pioneers Museum, 217 S. Tejon in Colorado Springs. Hot beverages and cookies will be provided and an opportunity to witness to our local community, and share your pro-life perspective with your fellow citizens for life.