



HFF 2004 Legislative Watch

Hawaii Palliative Care and Pain Management Act (HB 917)

Hawaii Palliative Care and Pain management Act (HB 917) is a bill designed to devote necessary resources and adopt polices giving "all citizens of Hawaii access to highest possible quality of palliative care and pain management." The bill allows doctors to give enough medication, within expert guidelines, to relieve pain without fear of prosecution, while prohibiting physician-assisted suicide. The bill passed one committee last session and was carried over. While this bill has a long way to go, it deserves our support. Hawaii's Partnership for Appropriate & Compassionate Care (HPACC) and HFF are in full support of this measure.

Stay tuned as we monitor the progress of this piece of legislation during the 2004 session. Other bills include: Relating to Death with Dignity (SB 391 / HB 862) that allows a terminally ill, competent adult to get a lethal dose of medication to end life. HFF continues to OPPOSE these bills, and any attempt to legalize PAS in Hawaii.

Reasons to Oppose Physician-Assisted Suicide (PAS)

- **VALUE OF HUMAN LIFE:** PAS sends the messages that some lives are not worth living.
- **DUTY TO DIE:** Very quickly "right to die" will become a duty to die for the vulnerable in our society.
- **SEEK COMPASSIONATE ALTERNATIVES, NOT DEATH:** In the last 3-5 years, major advancements have been made in the area of palliative or comfort care, which provides comprehensive end-of-life care for patients and their families including physical, emotional, social and spiritual care. Experts report that pain can be relieved for 95% of patients.
- **TREAT DEPRESSION:** Physicians are not trained to recognize or treat the severe depression some experience when facing the end of life. Patients who are not depressed do not want to die.

- **DESTRUCTION OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PATIENT AND DOCTOR:** The very idea of PAS threatens to destroy the delicate trust relationship between doctor and patient.

- **OPENING THE DOOR TO ABUSE:** The elderly, the disabled and the poor are at great risk.

- **BROAD COALITION AGAINST PHYSICIAN-ASSISTED DEATH:** Hawaii Medical Association, Hawaii Nurses Association, Hospice Hawaii, The Arc in Hawaii, Healthcare Association of Hawaii, HFF and many others are against PAS.

OTHER LEGISLATION

Gambling Legislation

HFF will continue to OPPOSE any attempt to legalize any form of commercial gambling in Hawaii. Hawaii remains only 1 of 2 states that have NO form of legalized gambling. Let's keep it that way!

Ice Problem in Hawaii

HFF will SUPPORT measures introduced that work to stop our families from becoming addicted to ice or aiding them in the healing and recovery process.

Emergency Contraceptives (HB 189 HD2 SD1)

HFF OPPOSES legislation that forces religious institutions to prescribe emergency contraceptives when it is against its religious tenets.

Newborn Safe Haven (HB 133 HD1 SD3 CD1)

HFF SUPPORTS legislation that provides immunity from prosecution for mothers that leave an unharmed newborn at a hospital.

Visit our website at: http://www.hawaiifamilyforum.org/legislature_2004/updates/index.php to stay informed.

From the executive director—continued

(Continued from "Life" page 1)

be among those at risk. Remember, 30 years ago no one imagined partial birth abortion would be part of the equation.

I struggle with news stories of physicians striving to save the un-saveable, to bring a heart attack victim back to life for the fifth time, to revive a drowned youngster, yet at the same time we put abortion clinics in high schools and want to dispense dangerous abortion pills without prescription. Likewise, there is a

conflict as police and investigators work around the clock to catch snipers in our capital because they are killing off innocent people while at the same time some organizations and individuals are pressing our state hard for the right to kill off innocent people who are "inconvenient."

How we still mourn for the 3000+ victims of 9/11, and appropriately so. Yet over 3,000 pre-born babies are killed in this country every day. Who mourns for them? How we still mourn the loss of the Columbia astronauts. But how many of those 43,000+ unborn babies might have

become astronauts? We are appalled, and rightfully so, at the nurse who was arrested recently for taking the life of some 30 elderly patients, yet some want to give doctors the right to do the same.

Equally staggering is that we spend countless hours and dollars to assure Hollywood that we want to continue to see violent and grotesque films that fill our kids' minds with graphic and repeated images of people being killed on the big and the small screen. No wonder our kids are confused about the sanctity of life. No wonder we are. No wonder

life as we know it is not valued.

God help us to realize how precious every life is to you. Help us seek to follow your example. Give us wisdom and strength and courage to stand up for life as we know it, your creation, everyday.



Drawing by © Jean S. Keaton. Visit <http://www.keatonprints.com> to order prints.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

"...our times will note sardonically that it took no more than three decades to transfer a war crime into an act of compassion." "

Malcom Muggeridge

<http://www.prolifeforum.org/ethics/muggeridge.asp>

Ohana Focus Bulletin Board

DO YOU KNOW THE HARD FACTS ABOUT ABORTION IN AMERICA?

- That the taking of a human life by abortion is legal in the USA at any time throughout the entire nine months of pregnancy... FOR ANY REASON!
- At 18 days after conception, a baby has a heartbeat.
- At 6 weeks following conception, the babies brain waves can be measured. At 8 weeks after conception, the stomach, liver, and kidneys of the baby are functioning, and fingerprints have formed. At 9 weeks, the unborn child can feel pain.
- That 700,000 abortions are performed each year in America *after* 9 weeks into the pregnancy.
- The overwhelming majority of all abortions, (95%), are done as a means of birth control. Only 1% are performed because of rape or incest; 1% because of fetal abnormalities; 3% due to the mother's health problems.
- For every two babies born another baby dies in an abortion.

**That's 1.5 million babies each year;
That's 3,000+ babies every day;
That's 1 baby every 20 seconds;
That's Approximately 40 million babies since 1973;
And that's just here in America.**

Source: Abortion in the United States, Facts in Brief: Allan Guttmacher Institute

CONSIDER GIVING TO HFF IN 2004

The 2004 session will be a busy time for us as we work to protect the families in Hawaii. Your contribution to HFF enables us to continue bringing educational resources and training to the local community. This support is essential to ensuring our continued grassroots success. We ask that you consider giving to HFF.

Since 1997, HFF has remained committed to serving the needs of children, families, and the elderly through a variety of education and community outreach programs. As this session begins, all of us -- board, staff, volunteers, and patrons alike -- can take pride in HFF's outstanding achievements.

We ask that you prayerfully consider giving to HFF this year—even **\$25.00 per month** to aid HFF in the fight to protect the families of Hawaii will make a monumental difference. To find out how YOU can become a monthly contributor, contact Eva at (808) 230-2100 or info@hawaiifamilyforum.org. HFF is a non-profit 501 (C)(3) organization. As such, all contributions are 100% tax deductible.

HFF is grateful to ALL of you who supported us in 2003! (*Please see list at right for all those who contributed in 2003.*)

A Story of Life...

"To Beauty from Ashes" the Story of Sarah Roseanna

A few weeks prior to arriving at the Aloha Pregnancy Care and Counseling Center (APCCC), Leilani (not her real name), the birth mother of our precious Sarah, understood that she had not only grieved the Lord's heart, but there would be consequences to the sin of adultery. She immediately confessed her sin to her husband and rededicated her life to the Lord. Her husband forgave her and God provided a volunteer job at the Oasis Christian Center Church. Soon after, she began to see evidence that she may be pregnant. Pulling open a drawer to find something to write with, a shiny silver pencil caught her eye. In shiny pink writing it said: **BE**

STRONG—because you are worth it! ABSTINENCE WORKS—every time you use it! But...if you need a free confidential pregnancy test, please call 234-SAFE.

So she called (APCCC) to set up an appointment for a pregnancy test which ultimately returned positive. Her dilemma was clear—this child was conceived in an adulterous relationship. Compounding her situation, her husband gave her an ultimatum—abortion or divorce.

Although uncertain of her future, Leilani chose life (even as her husband filed for divorce.) God ultimately intervened when her husband became physically ill and was hospitalized for three days. During his stay, his heart was changed. Together they agreed that adoption was a viable alternative.

Leilani stayed in touch with her Christian counselors (now like sisters) at the APCCC. They provided her with friendship and encouragement throughout her pregnancy. They were even there for her at her GED high school graduation-taking the only picture of that wonderful occasion.

It was through God's divine intervention that Leilani soon found out that we, her pastor and his wife, had been praying about adopting "little Rose." On October 15, 1999, we became the proud parents of beautiful Sarah Roseanna Campbell through an open adoption. We maintain a relationship with Leilani who now lives out of state. God is so good in the adoptive process—both spiritually and physically.

(Adapted from story told by Pastor Archie Campbell and his wife. Archie Campbell is pastor of Oasis Christian Center in Pearl City. Used with permission.)



Mahalo to our 2003 Donors

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