



Nothing ethical about aborting girls to get boy

The U.S. House has killed, for now, at least, a bill to prohibit the "sex-selective" abortion of girls.

And if this bill can't pass in the conservative House, it is going nowhere with the Democrat-controlled Senate or the Obama White House.

This seems odd, since it's difficult to make a case that there is a moral or ethical right to "select" children by doing away with all the girl fetuses.

Most conservatives wouldn't give it a second thought. But the average liberal should be conflicted, at best, because this is not about a woman's supposed right to choose whether to have a child.

It's about how society as a whole values women, who remain in many ways second-class citizens: paid less, promoted less, less valuable to many parents - and less valued as offspring.

The issue has not risen to epidemic proportions in the U.S., which may explain the lack of traction the bill had in the House. There's no evidence of a great number of abortions designed to select out female children. Not yet.

The procedure is vastly more common in parts of Asia, where parents value boys over girls because of culture, law and custom. Male offspring are simply more valuable. Witness the flood of Asian girls given up for adoption here and in Europe.

The fact that American couples take and cherish these children says a lot about our values as a whole. But some studies suggest the anti-girl thinking has at least a foothold here. Sex-selective abortions are said to be on the rise among Asian immigrant populations.

Worldwide, social service agencies work to avoid this kind of discrimination, by abortion, abandonment or whatever means. They are not winning the battle.

People disagree on abortion. Some churches view it as totally out of the questions, except perhaps to save the life of the mother or for other valid medical reasons. Others skirt the issue. Women's groups traditionally push a right to choice.

But in this case, we are not talking about choosing whether or not to bear a child, but merely discarding fetuses until the coin comes up heads.

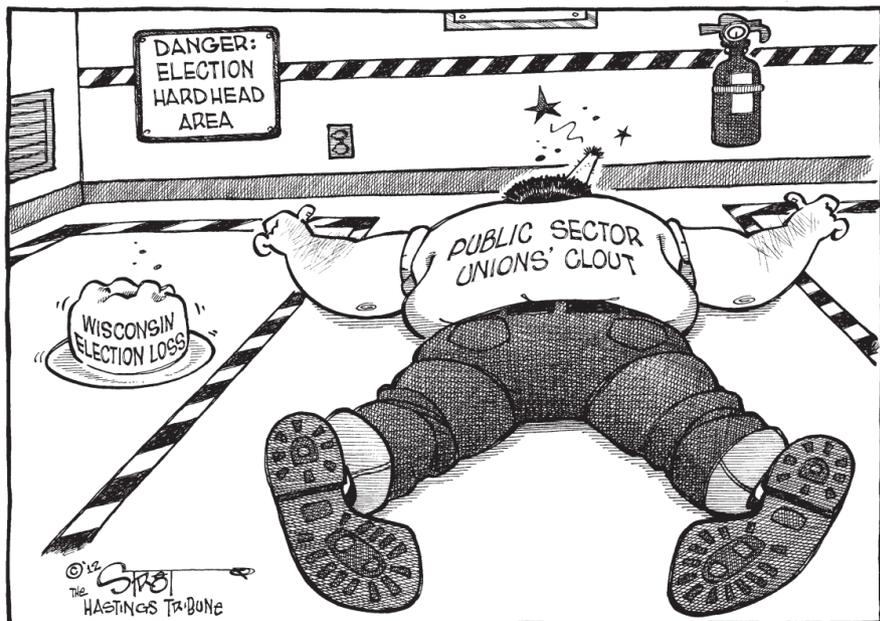
There just can't be much moral or ethical justification for the practice. We all should speak out against it.

But does it need to be against the law? Many would say yes. Others would say that, while society as a whole views this as wrong, it's an issue of conscience. Members of most major religions, and certainly most Christians, should view interfering with God's decisions this way as wrong. The church can and should fight any movement for selective abortion.

But in the end, it comes down to the meeting between each of us and our Judge. At that point, we believe, He will make clear who was right and who was wrong. It will make no difference what the rest of us say or believe. There is no higher court, no further appeal.

Support the elimination of little girls? We think not.

- Steve Haynes



Administrator addresses rumors

Letter to the Editor:

Options: Domestic and Sexual Violence Services Inc. (Options) received a donation from the City of St. Francis Council in the amount of \$1000.00 for fiscal year 2012. This donation is extremely beneficial in providing life-saving advocacy services for domestic, dating, sexual violence and stalking survivors.

Survivors in rural counties can face enormous obstacles in receiving services as detailed in the "Mary Kay Trough About Abuse Survey" report released May 1, 2012. Detailed national findings from the report reveal alarming trends in light of the economy's decline since 2008. The report identifies that demand for help is up - services, funding and prevention programs are down. On average, three women a day are murdered at the hands of someone who claims to love them. Domestic violence shelters across the country can mean the difference between life and death. The survey's overwhelming trends are remarkably similar in each region of the United States; Northeast, Midwest, South and West are listed below.

More than 730 domestic violence shelters across the country were recently surveyed.

78 percent of domestic violence shelters nationwide (nearly eight out of ten) report an increase in women seeking assistance from abuse.

74 percent of survivors stayed with an abusive partner longer because of financial issues.

58 percent of shelters reported that the abuse is more violent now than before 2008.

87 percent of domestic violence shelters (nearly nine out of ten) expect their overall situation during the next 12 months will be worse than now, or the same as now, due to the economy.

95 percent reported that survivors needed to stay in shelters for longer durations of time.

Of shelters that were forced to reduce services, 47 percent decreased childcare efforts, which meant that

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they were not able to help one in four children.

86 percent of shelters witnessed negative social effects on children such as bullying or withdrawal.

62 percent reported that young women (age 12-24) are requesting help in greater numbers.

92 percent of shelters had to end or scale back specific programs and services.

Ms. Anne Crews, Mary Kay Inc. Vice President and the Mary Kay Foundation SM Board member states, "The report represents more than staggering numbers - it signifies lives in the balance." Ms. Crews also states "The truth about abuse is that survivors and their children

continue to feel the negative effects of the economy in profound ways. This crime is a community issue. Individuals and businesses must get involved in efforts to educate, prevent, and eventually end, domestic violence." The full report is available at: http://content2.marykayintouch.com/public/PWS_US/PDFs/company/2012Survey.pdf

Options is grateful to the council for recognizing, as Ms. Crews stated, the crimes of violence are a community issue and for helping to ensure advocacy services can be available to all St. Francis citizens.

Respectfully,
Charlotte A. Linsner
Executive Director

A Tribute to Fathers

What I learned from my father...

- To respect myself.
- To respect others.
- Respect for a spouse.
- Respect for authority.
- No one is above you.
- No one is below you.
- Don't follow the "popular crowd" - they often will lead you astray.
- Do what you know is right and let others follow you - or not, as they choose; but do what's right anyway.
- All choices have consequences.
- Think before you act.
- How to be strong.
- That inner strength is more important than physical strength.
- How to work hard and to a job's completion.
- How to live within my means.
- The difference between "wants" and "needs."
- I can do anything I set my mind to do.
- To strive for my best and not settle for less.
- Look for the rainbow.
- Some things aren't worth being

upset over.

- How to laugh.
- How to play.
- How to listen for the beat."
- Always take time to visit with a neighbor.
- If a neighbor is in need, help him.
- Everyone is your neighbor.
- Sunday is for church, rest and family.
- Take time to explore the world around you.
- To "mind your mother."
- To "mind your father."
- "Don't fight with your brothers and sisters."
- That each of us nine kids were "his favorite."

Most of what I learned from my dad was never spoken, but by example. Whose examples are your kids following? You have to "be there" to be an example.

Happy Fathers' Day to all the wonderful dads who lead by example.

Joan Gienger,
President Cheyenne County
Kansans for Life

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick



Last week, Wed., June 6, marked the 68th anniversary of the Allied landings in Normandy, France. For that was the D-day that turned the tides of the Second World War.

I got to wondering...what if? What if the good guys had not been able to put together the largest amphibious assault in world history in time.

If Russia had fallen before, Hitler would have had all of his forces waiting in France to repel our troops.

What if the American, British and Canadian soldiers had failed? Especially at Omaha beach, it was

a blood bath. Suppose the invading force had faltered and been held off.

It took some trickery to help split the Nazi defenses as they were led to believe General Patton was leading the main drive at Calais, a much closer distance from England than Normandy. What if the German commanders had not taken that bait?

What if we had not had the 160,000 men on the 5,000 ships, along with the 800 planes dropping 13,000 paratroopers, and the 300 bombers that led the way? What if the resources had not been available?

What if Hitler and the Axis powers had won?

Thank God it worked. Within two months following D-day France was free and within a year Hitler committed suicide.

What if we forgot to recognize and remember those 10,000 casualties and those who survived on D-day who saved freedom for future generations?

What if we took that freedom for granted?

Hangin' With Marge

By Margaret Bucholtz



27 Years Later

Twenty Seven years ago Kurt and I got married on a Saturday morning in St. Francis. It sure doesn't seem like it has been that long ago to me, and I ask that you don't ask Kurt how long ago it seems to him.

We had a three day honey moon and then it was back to work for both of us. I of course thought that maybe we could take another trip that lasted at least a week the next year.

Well that dream ended after about the 10th year of learning that May was the month you moved tractors and machinery. I haven't a clue how the machinery got moved the year we got married, but I can tell you who moved it every year there after. ME!

Also another event that happened in May was high school graduations. Between our children and grand children we keep pretty busy on our anniversaries.

Kurt begin sending me flowers for our anniversary, which was very

nice until I would get the bill in the mail and there was just something wrong about paying for your own gift.

I told him I just wish we could go out and eat somewhere. I didn't care if it was McDonald's it was just the thought of doing something special. On our 25th he did take me to a nice restaurant and we both had a great time.

This year we were on our way to Kansas City when Lezlie got

a notice on facebook from Kurt's daughter Holly. Holly wished us a happy anniversary. I saw a look on Lezlie's face then she looked at Kurt and I and said "Happy Anniversary." Both Kurt and I were surprised as neither of us had thought about it being the 18th of May.

It just shows that the date of something doesn't matter when you can enjoy each other everyday.

GOD SAYS

These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, an heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, a false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.

Proverbs 6:16-19

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Praise the Lord

<p>Church of Christ 332-2380, Pars. 332-3424 502 W. Spencer Norman Morrow - Minister Bible Class 9 a.m. Morning Worship 10 a.m.</p>	<p>St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church 625 S. River • 332-2680 Fr. Roger Meitl Sunday Mass 10:30 a.m. Weekday Mass 8:00 a.m. Confessions Sat. 4-4:30</p>	<p>First Baptist Church 2nd & Scott • 332-3921 J.W. Glidewell, Pastor Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m., Wed. AWANA Club 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.</p>
<p>United Methodist Church Office 332-2292, Church 332-2254, 512 S. Scott Pastor Warren Cico Early Bird Service 8:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p>Salem Lutheran Church 332-3002 Pastor Chris Farmer Morning Worship 10:30 a.m. Communion 3rd Sunday</p>	<p>St. Francis Community Church 332-3150 204 N. Quincy Street www.sfccfamily.com Pastor: David Butler Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Potluck & Communion - Every 2nd Sunday Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.</p>
<p>Seventh-Day Adventist Church 423-650-5663 • 3rd & Adams Pastor James McCurdy Sabbath School 9:30 Morning Worship 10:45</p>	<p>Solid Rock Baptist Church 412 S. Denison Welcomes You! Pastor Allen Coon Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 Prayer Meeting, Wed 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Peace Lutheran Church, AFLC 202 N. College Pastor Randy Nelson Church 332-2928 Parsonage 332-2312 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Communion 1st Sunday</p>

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