



A Note From Sheryl Schwager, Executive Director

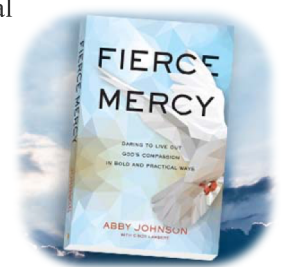
In these tragic times of violence and war, I am reminded of a quote from Mother Teresa, "I feel the greatest destroyer of peace today is 'Abortion', because it is a war against the child... And if we can accept that a mother can kill even her own child, how can we tell other people not to kill one another?" **The battle for souls rages around us, but those who deny the biblical truths of life, sexuality, marriage and family are not our enemy.**

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Ephesians 6:12

Of course, the peace our world longs for can only come through the transforming love and mercy of Jesus Christ. The kind of merciful love we need to offer in this fierce spiritual battle between good and evil is highlighted in Abby Johnson's new book, *Fierce Mercy - Daring to live out God's Compassion in Bold and Practical Ways*. Abby shares how she thought she knew what mercy was when she ushered desperate women toward abortion as the director of a Planned Parenthood facility. It wasn't until she understood the blood on her hands that she personally experienced the power of God's fierce yet tender mercy to transform her life.

Abby reminds us, as Christians and defenders of life, "we are called to model God's mercy, freely offer mercy to those who seem undeserving, respond with mercy when others err or offend, and bear witness to God's unrestrained compassion so that others may know Him." We rejoice that God has called us to provide educational outreach and life-affirming resources that can bring conversion and healing to those in darkness, and ultimately restore a culture of life in our community.

As we prepare our hearts to celebrate Jesus' victory of life over death, may the Resurrection continue to strengthen us in our mission to educate and engage our community to embrace the sanctity of life from conception to natural death. Please pray for the cases before the Iowa Supreme Court (Planned Parenthood v. Reynolds) as well as the U.S. Supreme Court (Dobbs v. Jackson). **Let us pray the Justices judge according to God's truth and right reason to protect life in the womb and that every human life would be protected both in law and in culture.**



Thank you for your generous support and, on behalf of all of us at Johnson County Right to Life, I wish you and your family a blessed Easter.

(Receive a copy of Abby's new book with any donation amount - please contact Sheryl at director@jcrtl.org)



345 E. College St. Iowa City, IA 52240
JCRTL.org

Johnson County Right to Life is dedicated to protecting the sanctity of all human life, from conception to natural death. We seek to engage and educate our community to embrace and value the most vulnerable among us: the unborn, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. Our ultimate goal is to ensure legal protection of all human life.

INFORMED CHOICES INVITES YOU TO OUR

Parent & Teen Night

WITH SPECIAL GUEST
Pam Stenzel!



Pam Stenzel is back by popular demand! Join us for our Parent and Teen Night on Wednesday evening as Pam tackles today's issues of sex with candor, insight and humor. Her message brings out the consequences teens are currently facing that other generations never imagined. She also challenges young people to make the healthiest choice and save sex for marriage. It'll be a night you won't want to miss!

WED
APRIL
20
2022

8 pm Speaker | 9 pm Dessert
St. Patrick Catholic Church
4330 St Patricks Dr. Iowa City, IA 52240

 Informed Choices
of Iowa City MEDICAL CLINIC
Strength for Life's tough choices



Pray for the Case of
Dobbs v. Jackson
before the
U.S. Supreme Court

Culture of Life Dinner

Discover the Best Kept Secret in
Women's Healthcare

Saturday, April 23, 2022

5:00pm

St. Wenceslaus Church, Iowa City

You are invited to the Culture of Life Dinner to honor and promote current and future pro-life healthcare providers in Iowa City and surrounding communities through the Saint Paul VI Institute Education Grant!

Listen to witness stories from four grant recipients, and learn how medical professionals inspire a Culture of Life in their communities through the **Creighton Model FertilityCare System**.

Register: stwenc-ic.com/kofc/culture-of-life

More Information: email kcldinner@gmail.com or call



Discover the best kept secret in women's health care

April 23rd, 2022 5:00 PM

Be our guest at the Culture of Life Dinner
St. Wenceslaus Parish Hall, Iowa City

Register: stwenc-ic.com



EQUALITY
BEGINS IN
THE WOMB

Over 100 pro-life advocates
participated in the
March for Life in Iowa City on
January 22nd!



JOHN PAUL II

MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

An Update from John Paul II Medical Research Institute

2022 has brought exciting news - on March 8, 2022, the United States Patent and Trade Mark Office (USPTO) issued a patent to Cellular Engineering Technologies (CET), a for-profit and pro-life stem cell company co-founded by JP2MRI's founder, Dr. Alan Moy, for developing a novel approach in creating ethical and safer induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSC). CET credits much of its success to its collaborative research efforts with JP2MRI. This patent provides a new benchmark in pluripotent stem cell safety, and eliminates the future need for embryonic stem cells (ESC). This milestone completes a longstanding objective that our donors requested in having us find an ethical replacement for ESC. The Institute believes that these ethical stem cells will also be scientifically advantageous when compared to ESC.

For years, our donors urged JP2MRI to create ethical human cell lines that could replace longstanding aborted fetal cells used in the manufacturing of vaccines, cell therapies, gene therapies and biologics. We are pleased to announce that the Institute, with your support, has created a pipeline of immortalized human adult stem cells that are poised to produce non-controversial medicines. A patent will soon be filed by JP2MRI as it relates to our technology and approach. Pro-life Christian scientists in academia, government and industry have been requesting these cell lines for years since the current aborted fetal cell lines have not only posed as a moral dilemma for them, but also threatened their employment status when challenged or refused. We anticipate our cell lines to be commercially released this year.

Please visit www.jp2mri.org to learn more about COVID-19 vaccine development and updates regarding ethical technologies to produce new medications that do not require aborted fetal cells. Your continued financial support will ensure that immoral cell lines are permanently replaced by ethical options that are safer and more effective and which will lead to new treatments and cures. The **John Paul II Medical Research Institute** is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Coralville, Iowa.

Write for **LIFE!** Essay Contest 2022

Write a pro-life essay on abortion, infanticide, assisted suicide, euthanasia, or stem cell research.

Junior Division (Grades 6-8)
\$200 (1st), \$150 (2nd), \$100 (3rd)

Senior Division (Grades 9-12)
\$300 (1st), \$250 (2nd), \$200 (3rd)



**Be a voice
for the
voiceless!**



Submission DEADLINE - May 2, 2022
For more information and contest rules, visit JCRTL.org



In *Dobbs v. Jackson*, the U.S. Supreme Court will consider Mississippi's Gestational Age Act which prohibits elective abortion after 15 weeks gestation. This law is a direct challenge to the abortion jurisprudence of *Roe*, which made abortion legal through all nine months of pregnancy the default law of every state. If *Roe* is overturned, the question of abortion's legality would likely fall to the states - meaning states would once again have the ability to defend the most vulnerable beginning at the moment of conception. The Court is expected to issue a decision by June 2022.

"Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health may take America nearer to abolition, and then the world will wonder how, like slavery, abortion was ever allowed to be legal." – Bailey Duran

The Iowa Supreme Court heard arguments in February regarding an Iowa law that would require women to wait 24 hours after an initial appointment before getting an abortion. The legal challenge began in 2018 with HF 594 that would require women to wait 72 hours before an abortion is performed. That law was struck down by the Iowa Supreme Court finding that the Iowa Constitution guarantees a fundamental right to abortion. In 2020, the majority Republican legislature approved an amendment, changing the waiting period to 24 hours, which was blocked by a district judge. Gov. Kim Reynolds appealed that decision to the Iowa Supreme Court. **The Governor and Republican legislative leaders hope the state Supreme Court overturns that 2018 precedent and declares the Iowa Constitution does not guarantee abortion rights.** The Iowa Supreme Court is expected to rule on the case before its current term ends in June.

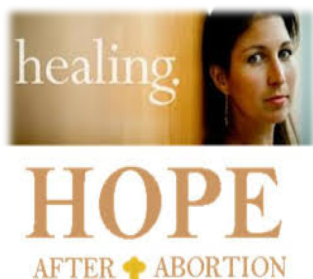
The Iowa Senate Appropriations Committee passed the "Iowa MOMS" bill. The "More Options for Maternal Support" (MOMS) program provides funding for services from nonprofits and crisis pregnancy centers to pregnant women and new moms and also expands Medicaid coverage for new mothers for up to a year after giving birth.

The Texas Supreme Court unanimously ruled that the heartbeat law can stay in place that bans abortions when babies have a detectable heartbeat at 6 weeks and allows private lawsuits against abortion practitioners and abortion businesses that break the law.

Senate Republicans voted to defeat a Democrat bill, the misnamed Women's Health Protection Act, that would overturn every pro-life law in America, legalize abortions up to birth, and make it illegal for elected officials to even introduce pro-life legislation.

Democrats failed in their effort to strip the Hyde Amendment from annual government funding legislation that blocks people from using Medicaid or other federal health programs to cover abortion services.

The U.S. Senate voted 53-47 to confirm Ketanji Brown Jackson to the Supreme Court. In addition to having the support of abortion providers such as Planned Parenthood and NARAL for her nomination, Jackson co-authored a 2001 amicus brief in *McGuire v. Reilly* in support of a Massachusetts law that created a "buffer zone" preventing pro-life sidewalk counselors from approaching women outside of abortion clinics.



April is Abortion Recovery Month

- Increasing awareness to encourage and promote healing opportunities available to women and men grieving from the impact of abortion.
- Enlightening society at large to the aftermath of abortion on individuals and families.
- Praying for the peace of Jesus Christ to bring hope and healing to post-abortion women and men.

- **Project Rachel** is a confidential, post-abortion healing ministry offering hope and healing to women and men hurting from past abortions. Local Helpline: 563-333-4107
- **Take Courage** is a weekend retreat program that offers healing to any woman, man, or couple who has struggled with the emotional or spiritual pain of abortion. Upcoming retreat: November 4-6, 2022
<https://bridgehavencr.org/abortion-recovery-support/take-courage/>
- **SurrenderingtheSecret.com** - a ministry designed to help women and men heal from the hurt of abortion.