

Broken

Issue65

Aug/Sept 2008

John 15

Branches

"Take courage! God has healing in store for you; so take courage" (Tb. 5:10)

VLRC Report...

On May 29th 2008 (day of infamy) Attorney – General Mr Rob Hulls tabled in Parliament the Victorian Law Reform Commission's report on abortion. I, together with hundreds of others had made a submission to the commission and I indeed had included several copies of my book with my submission in the hope that perhaps the members might have been moved to consider well. Sadly from my very brief overview of the report there was little thought given to the submissions of the pro life groups and individuals.

As expected by those of us who are at the coalface, the VLRC has made its recommendation, and that is, that abortion be decriminalised but giving the Government three options on ways to proceed with the legislation.

As I said I have only very briefly scanned through the report and am mortified...no horrified at the options which this commission proposed.

Option (A) systematize the Menhennitt ruling of 1969. This ruling permitted abortions to be performed where the doctor deemed that the abortion was necessary e.g. so called health of the mother. Indeed this Menhennitt ruling opened the door to abortion on demand. At the beginning it was a softly softly approach but in a short time it became a free for all. Abortion on demand not only for so called health reasons, but for no reason at all. That is social reasons.

Option (B) I think this model is patterned on the law on abortion found in UK and that is that abortion would be legalised without any restrictions until 24th week and thereafter the

Menhennitt ruling to be applied. Which in effect means that up to 24 weeks abortion will be on demand for any or no reason and after the 24 week gestational period abortion is still available as long as the doctor deems it necessary. This in itself is an irony and ridiculous; imagine a young woman going to an abortion clinic for an abortion and the abortionist "deeming" her abortion not necessary? Ludicrous!!!!

In effect what this model says is that abortion will be available on demand up to 40 weeks gestation (with the proviso that the doctor "deems" it necessary).

Option (C) Abortion on demand right up to the moments pre birth and no questions asked.

At first sight this option seems the worst however, all the three options literally mean abortion on demand up to birth time because the other two options depend on integrity of an abortion provider and I am sorry to say an abortion provider is not interested in other options available to the woman.

What disturbed me was the reality that this commission seems to have believed and sided completely with pro abortion proponents and did not take heed of anything said by the other voices who sent in submission for life.

Indeed they even suggested that there is no definitive data saying that post abortion grief/trauma/syndrome even exists.

I guess I have wasted 13 years listening to grief and pain and sorrow. Watching self mutilation. Watching self destructive behaviours. Watching a sorrow shrouded in guilt and shame and hopelessness.

A newsletter of Victims of Abortion

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I **would/would not** like to be on your mailing list.

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Respectfully I say that this commission was never interested in listening to the voices of reason and even the voices of love and care, it was only interested in listening to the voices of selfism, materialism, and anti life.

I have come to the conclusion that it was a commission formed to “placate” or appear to bring a tone of fairness to the abortion sides but in fact it was a ploy to ensure that abortion is enshrined in law thus protecting those who carry out this baby death. Indeed what this commission has achieved is legalised, sanitised, sterilised, baby killing. And we thought that Dr Menengle and his type were gone from the face of history!

Finally on this matter, the VLRC in a subtle manner has made recommendations which are serious especially to Catholic/Christian medical profession. It removes their right not to participate in an abortion experience. **Para. 8.34** seems to me to suggest a force in directing doctors who are not willing to be involved in an abortion **to refer** their patient (or in my words, to help their patient) to get to another doctor who will perform the abortion.

This paragraph also opens up the doorway for the forcing of Catholic hospitals and utilities to employ and use doctors who will perform abortions on their premises. **This is disturbing.**

Please dear Australian friends contact the Victoria Law Reform Commission, get a copy of the report read it and become involved.

None of the three options can be supported. All three options are demonic. Please become involved.

Sex Education for Children as young as 4 years of Age

In a recent news article in our daily paper there was again a piece where it was suggested that sex education for children begins by 4 years of age and the proponents of these ideas was none other than Family Planning Association.

What sickness has overtaken our society when Family Planning Association can openly call for sex education of children as young as 4 years of age? What monstrosity is in this thought?

Children of 4 years of age to teenage years should be allowed to be children, and should be allowed to live and retain their innocence and not be engaged in learning about their bodies and their sexuality. Their learning on these matters should be gentle and age appropriate and is best done under the guidance of mum and dad and not some school curriculum, where strangers speak to them about intimate matters.

And even where this is not possible because of fractured relationships and broken families, this learning should not, I repeat not, happen before they are cognitively ready for such learning and this does not happen before the latency period is well and truly over.

The latency period of a child’s life is the period where the sexuality of the child is dormant.

This stage of development is also the stage where boys want to be with boys and girls want to be with girls. And whilst there is friendship between the genders it is friendship and not sexuality.

...what sickness has overtaken our society.....

To enter into this space of development is dangerous because the child is still not cognitively ready to receive such information about sexual matters. This is the time when the child is also attempting to develop a “self” concept or better known “self esteem” which is important for the child’s own future self health.

What lunacy is overtaking our society when children who are in fact still infants and in some cases still drink their milk from bottles, and in some societies are still breastfed, is thought to be ready for sex education lessons? To publicly learn about their body parts and what those body parts functions are as adults?

What lunacy is motivating the idea of children being exposed to knowledge which cognitively they are not equipped to handle?

What lunacy is motivating members of our society to even think that sexualization of children will prevent future sexually transmitted diseases, avoid unplanned pregnancy and body image problems? Because it can only be lunacy which engages in this thought.

This push for more sexual exposure of the young is by the affiliate of the largest promoter and provider abortion in the world, that is,→

International Family Planning Association and its local office Family Planning Association.

They really have the child’s interest at heart don’t they!! Yeah right! This push to sexualise children from very young years under the guise of a "good" to "avoid pregnancy, sexual disease, and body image problems later" is nothing but a subtle method of ensuring that children engage in premature sexual activity without knowledge of harm done to them. To ensure that the sacred is totally removed and lost from sexuality and a return to the instinctual and bestial assured.

Four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, etc year olds are not interested in sexual issues or sexual diseases, or pregnancy, they are interested in being children and no one should enter that sacred space of childhood with alien information.

Indeed I would even hazard a guess that children introduced to sexual matters are being abused. They are being violated. They are having their innocence stolen, and further I would suggest that they are being visually “raped.”

Is this why we have such early childhood experimentation with sex? Is this why children as young as 11 years of age have abortions? Is this

...to enter this space of development is dangerous....

why children of 13 years of age are having abortions instead of having lots of friends of both sexes and learning to make, develop and trust those friendship? And learning how to slowly grow up? And learning and preparing for the next stage of development? Is the reason for this distortion of their life because of the visual sexualization via the medium of movies, TV, electronic games?

Is this why younger and younger children are engaging in adult behaviour to their very detriment and lifelong suffering?

What lunacy has beset the modern mind? →

Or does Family Planning Assoc need more candidates for abortion clinics? Is this the way to ensure never ending stream of candidates for the abortion providers and their clinics?

It is a frightening scenario we are witnessing and we need (all of us) **please**, engage to stop this violation of all children. Please raise voices when you see this proposed.

An 11 year old, a 13 year old etc. having an abortion is a crime against God and nature and sets up the child for a life of ontological pain.

Lismore and the Beautiful service

Further, since last edition of newsletter I have been to Lismore NSW.

I went at the invitation of Baptist Minister Pastor Jim Gallagher and his beautiful wife Ruth.

I originally met Jim and Ruth several years ago when I went to Lismore for more talks, and at the time Jim thought it was a good idea to at some time return and do more talks and hence he had followed up his original idea and invited me to speak and many venues and different professions in order to help others work with those who have aborted their children.

Whilst In Lismore I had the marvellous opportunity of speaking at the Catholic cathedral, St Carthage, at the invitation of Fr Paul and others, and also met up with friends made during the last trip to Lismore in August 2005 (Bill & Beth & Heather).

I also spoke at several meetings at the Baptist Church, and a meeting with ministers of various Christian denominations, with school chaplains and counsellors, including state high schools, and joy for me was to meet and give a short talk to the Carmelite Nuns. I felt it was such a grace for me to be there and I know that they will hold me and the work in prayer. Thank you dear sisters. Thank you Pastor Jim and Ruth for beautiful beautiful hospitality and graciousness, and thank you Fr Paul for the invitation.

Whenever I speak there is always someone in the audience who weeps deeply and these meetings were no exception. At one particular gathering there were three young ladies weeping and I knew that the Lord had work planned because after the talk, Pastor Jim and myself met with the three women and we spoke and decided to meet and to be able to spend time with them, helping them to find God's Mercy and Peace, which is the reason I believe God brought me to this end of the world.

After some counselling, Jim and I prepared a beautiful service for the babies and their mums and the following evening we met and together

returned, this time with love and not violence, the now named children, to their heavenly Father. With sorrow and regret we wept for their going, and rejoiced in our knowledge that one day we will meet them again. Indeed on that day God passed by that "Tent of Meeting" and blessed those present.

Please pray for the work of Pastor Jim and Ruth as they prepare to go out to mission fields and pray that God blesses their work in these fields through their kindness and invitation we were able to bring peace to three beautiful young women and mothers.

Grief Conference

Again, since the last issue of newsletter I have had the opportunity of attending a 4 day conference here in Melbourne. It was a conference on grief in contemporary society.

Many topics were covered and much research was presented to the attendees but Post Abortion Grief (abstract) was refused. Both mine and another worker in this field. It seemed an irony that in London 2 years ago I presented both a paper and a workshop on this topic but here in Australia it was not accepted. Did this have anything to do with political correctness? I don't know. But it just seems that in Australia it is so much harder than overseas. There is a "hardness of heart"

However, having said that, I am very glad that I went because I spoke to many delegates and personally learned many things but most importantly I learned that counsellors are still not "into" post abortion grief and that there is little agreement on the nature of this grief.

And further because of the nature of the topic "abortion" being a "rights" issue, then silence is palpable when the word arises, even with counsellors who are meant to stand back without judgement be able to look at grief and grief only and not one's own feelings/beliefs on what causes the grief.

It was disappointing to see this response. However, I did share a lunch with a visitor from interstate who was a delegate to the conference

Well Done Nicole.....

Since last issue of newsletter I have had an opportunity to work with a young woman Nicole, to help her to keep her child.

Her biggest difficulty was to tell her family/parents. Her boyfriend had already laid on the threat "its either me or it" and as Nicole tarried in making the right decision according to him, he bolted from her life. So she had the added difficulty of being alone with her fears. I became involved and contacted her Aunt (with Nicole's permission) who is very supportive of Nicole and is also very proud of Nicole's strength against the threat and then abandonment by her boyfriend, and together they told her parents.

At first there was some disappointment but that soon changed and today Nicole is happily supported by all her family and a new baby will be born in about 27 weeks.

We thank God for the courage and strength of both Nicole and her Aunt (who promised Nic that if she was rejected by her parents she would look after her and baby) and I wonder how many more aunties would get involved if only they knew.

Her Aunt has promised to keep me updated and will let me know when the baby is born. Beautiful.

Well done Nicole and Aunty.
Please pray for them.

Anne

and it was a moment of enlightenment for me.

As I listened to her speaking about her management of abortion and miscarriage grief when she encounters this in her practice, I became mortified at what is apparently a common practice.

This lady told me that whenever she counsels either on abortion matter or miscarriage or any type of neo natal death she helps the griever to see that she wasn't ready for a baby and that the 'spirit' of the baby knew this and either "went away" (miscarriage) or understood "being sent away" (abortion). "I tell the woman to go home and speak to her baby and tell it that it was not the right time for it to be born and **to apologise for the decision she has to make? (abortion)** but for this time that there is no other way out. "Speak to your baby" (says this counsellor) and explain the reason that she has had/have to abort and the baby will understand and then she will feel at peace"

As I sat and listened to the explanation for abortion, miscarriage or other neo natal death and wondered what her client went home like.

As I listened to her speak I realised how we use language to disguise our motives making it possible to both reveal and conceal the truth of what is happening and was has happened.

Disguising the language is an attempt to hide the truth that what is aborted is a baby. A real baby. The same baby that if left alone will be born in a number of weeks.

It hides the truth that the action goes against the natural design of the woman and that is why she cannot rest in a peace with her decision. It explains why abortion and even sexual abuse (incest) wipes out a peaceful inner life.

Abortion is the deepest contempt for the nature of what it means to be consummately intimate with another. Abortion violates the depth of this intimacy which is found at the core of the human being. It is an act designed to be the vilest affront against the Author of Life and the human persons in their integrity and their entirety.

It is the language which assists to hide the

unfinished story. And yet as I listened I realised that the speaker did not even have a clue to what she was saying.

She used the term “baby” repeatedly yet she didn’t realise that she was saying that it was OK to kill a baby because the moment of its conception was inappropriate. She wasn’t hearing that she was saying and I kept being reminded of the wanted ness factor.

It is this wanted ness factor which has meant death to literally millions of infants around the world. It is this wanted ness factor which has spelled death to pre born.

It’s interesting because the “wanted ness” factor was supposed to mean that every child is wanted and not harmed and not abused yet the opposite has occurred. The wanted ness factor has meant that those “not wanted” could then be easily disposed of. Abortion then became a reality and the biggest child abuse factor ever.

This wanted ness factor will also contribute to euthanasia becoming a reality and as I heard in a news item (radio) this week “infanticide will be a reality by the year 2050” it will also contribute to infanticide.

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I think that what stunned me most of all as I listened to my lunch time colleague at the conference was the fact that to her, abortion is a “normal” and there was nothing abnormal to the idea of aborting a human child. Heaven help all of us.

Up and Coming Conferences of Interest

Dear friends there are several up and coming conferences which I think should be strongly supported.

The conferences that I am referring to are the Right to Life Annual Conference to be held here in Melbourne Australia.

Please support the conference with its many excellent speakers.

Conference 1

Right To Life Australia Conference

15-17th August, 2008.

Treacy Conference Centre,
126 The Avenue
Parkville Victoria.

...she used the term “baby” repeatedly...

for Bookings (03) 93876098
Or the Right to Life Website

Conference 2

World Congress for Life and Love
Lourdes, France, between 28th Oct -
3rd November 2008

A most fantastic array of speakers Mons Reilly, Fr Thomas Euteneuer, Fr Benedict Groeschel, His Excellency The Bishop of Lourdes, Victoria Thorn (USA) Prof Phillip Ney/Dr Marie Peeters and yours truly ME.. Yeahhh, me!!

→

I have been invited as a speaker I will present a talk on my work in post abortion healing and also a workshop.

Details of this conference can be found at this website.

www.lourdes-pro-life-congress-2008.com

Letters

Dear Anne

Congratulations on your book Redeeming Grief-very deep to deal with an event which has far reaching consequences. I particularly like the references and comparisons with OT readings and Humane Vitae and even C.S. Lewis Mere Christianity (one of my favourites). It's a great pity Redeeming Grief couldn't be a compulsory reading and study in all secondary schools and universities and seminaries. God Bless you and your family

Kath. M.

Dear Anne,

Thank you for the copy of your book it came on Tuesday and by Thursday morning I had read it all. I couldn't put it down. It is amazing. It is a classic on the topic of post abortion suffering. Anne!!!! You surprised me! I thought it might have been a collation of your newsletters but it was so new and so different!! Anne where do you get the time? Thank you dear Anne I have loved it so much and its so full of love. Enclosed a small donation, please continue your work. Its important.

*God Bless you dear
Mary S (Vic)*

Dear Anne,

Thank you for the parcel which you sent Andy and myself containing your book, newsletter, and other reading materials. We came across your work through a newsletter found at the back of

our church in one those trays with reading materials. It was love at first sight.

Please find enclosed a small donation and please put us on your newsletter list. We don't have a lot of money but we want to support you to the best that we can.

Will write again after we have read your book but if its anything like the cover and the dedication we know that we are going to love it.

God bless you and those you work with

*Marie and Andy S
(Vic).*

Dear Anne,

You would have been proud of me this past week, I had the courage to stand up and say no abortion is wrong. thank you for your years of drumming this into me through the newsletter. I was able to say that abortion kills babies and their mothers.

Love and hugs,

*Joyce K
Stirling (WA)*

Anne,

Loved your book to bits. It's fantastic!! I thought it would be more of the same in the vein of your newsletters (good as they are) but it was a fantastic surprise. Congratulations mate you excelled.

*Simon T.
NSW*

*Not sure about the mate bit but loved it anyway!
Anne.*

Conference 3

Matercare Interantional Conference 2008 7th international Conference for Catholic & Christian Pro Life Obstetricians and Gynaecologists

Rome from 5th-9th November 2008.

**Full details of this conference can be found at
the Matercare International website.**

This Conference theme is based on the Holy Father's latest encyclical *Spe Salvi* (Saved by Hope). I encourage doctor friends of this newsletter especially, to consider this conference. Dear friends please see if you could make it. We need to support all efforts for Life and doctors' efforts as they struggle to practice their charism to heal in these times of the culture of death.

I have been also asked to be a speaker at this conference. I have been invited to present a paper on Post Abortion Syndrome and it will be my greatest pleasure to do so. So your prayers and support would be appreciated. I go directly from the Lourdes Conference to Rome Conference and then straight home. At this time I cant have a break because my new week old granddaughter Amelia is being baptised on 3rd weekend in December so have to go to Perth for that so cannot tarry in Europe. Also its towards the end of the year and need to be back for my girls and young men in my care.

Dear friends I would also like to share some news with you because you have been with me through thick and thin and I share my life with you. I have

recently been advised that I was nominated by someone for the Alcoa Foundation 2008 Community Worker Award. I don't know who nominated me, but whoever it was ... Thank you. I didn't win, but its OK it was simply an honour that someone even thought of me. I don't deserve it. I am an abortive woman. I don't deserve honours. However even though I didn't win, the name "Anne Lastman, Victims of Abortion Trauma Counselling & Information Services Vic" is inscribed on the "Roll of Honour". Imagine "Victims of Abortion," on an honour roll. Never thought I would see the day.

As I conclude please continue to pray for my girls and several young men,
Heather, Jinny, Mark, Van (new) Helen, Maria, Peter(new), Melinda (new) Scott (new), Fran, Jackie, Claire, Suzie, Sarah, Stephanie, Annemarie.

Especially please pray for Suzie and Scott I need help with these two individuals.

Thank you to 2 anonymous donors.

thank you to those who heard my call for help.

I couldn't do it without you.

Please support sale of book.



Anne Lastman

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Broken Branches - By email!



Dear Friends,

In an effort to help reduce the costs and time put into preparing each newsletter, I am now able to email it out to you in Adobe Acrobat format (.PDF). So if you would prefer to receive Broken Branches electronically, please email me at annevoa@bigpond.net.au with a request to be added to the email list.