


4 October 2016

Inquiry Secretary
Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention
Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Health (Abortion Law Reform) Amendment Bill 2016

It is our desire to express our opposition to any changes to laws relating to the termination of pregnancy in Queensland which weaken any protection of the unborn child especially any provisions which even dare to contemplate termination of life up until the time of birth.

In the first instance, we would suggest that you make time to peruse the following articles:

["Amazing Pro-Life Video Reminds Us "A Person's a Person No Matter How Small"](#)

["Doctor Told Interns to Suffocate to Death Any Baby Who Survived an Abortion"](#)

[Abortion Survivor: 'If Abortion Is Merely About Women's Rights, Then What Were Mine?'](#)

[Disabled Student Whose Parents Were Told to Abort Becomes Ms. Wheelchair America](#)

What has a so-called "progressive" civilization come to when it resorts to killing off its offspring and why is abortion the only medical procedure which seeks to achieve a 100% mortality rate?

Nature has decreed that approximately the first nine months of the life of a human being shall be in the uterus of its mother.

After birth, it is many years before the child can be considered to be fully developed.

Hence, any action by anyone to terminate the life of that child should therefore be considered to be murder, a crime punishable by life imprisonment.

Medical science has developed greatly over the years but, unfortunately, in the case of the unborn child, it is being used for evil rather than for assisting in its protection.

There have been reported cases in the USA where aborted babies who were born alive have been left to die with the blessing of the law.

Our twin sons were born seven weeks prematurely some 40 years ago and with the help of the medical staff at the time, survived to lead normal and rewarding lives. At the same time, a child born after 28 weeks' gestation also survived.

[A new paper from the Journal of the American Medical Association \(JAMA\) Pediatrics](#) finds that among premature babies born at 22 to 23 weeks LMP (20-21 weeks post-fertilization) who are given "active" care, 61 to 71 percent survive.

This is an even higher survival rate than reported last year by the New England Journal of Medicine, fresh evidence that the "viability standard" is a quickly moving target."

Progress in medical science must therefore be directed at saving unborn babies rather than destroying them.

The proposition that because a child might not be wanted or it might be inconvenient for a woman to have a child should not even be contemplated let alone be allowed.

Unfortunately, we live in a throw-away society and such an attitude has spread, in some minds at least, to the nurturing of our offspring. **Any talk about "equality" within society, if we are not prepared to allow others to have what we already have, is completely empty.**

Some have even espoused that babies diagnosed with Downs Syndrome should be aborted. How can the proponents of the Bill come to terms with the feelings of any person suffering from this condition and living in a climate which more or less says "you would have been better off being aborted"? Does anyone remember Stevie Payne, the brother of the jockey who rode the winner of the 2015 Melbourne Cup, Michelle Payne, or is he now forgotten?

Over the past few years, several instances have come to light which show clearly the cruelty of humans when treating their offspring.

The actions of notorious abortionist, **Kermit Gosnell** in the USA, must have caused serious concern among caring people and those who did not care should take a very close look at themselves. [\(Please refer to Appendix "A" for details of the trial of Kermit Gosnell\).](#)

Kermit Barron Gosnell is an American former physician who was convicted in 2013 of murdering three infants who were born alive during attempted abortion procedures. Dr Gosnell, 72, received three life sentences.

Other abhorrent instances involving abortions relate to the actions of an organization known as **Planned Parenthood**, also in the USA. [\(Please refer to Appendix "B" for reports on the activities of this Organisation.\)](#)

In the case of Planned Parenthood, it is pointed out that the [State of California has even legislated](#) to prevent exposure of its horrific practices.

Apart from Planned Parenthood, [here is another instance where body parts from aborted fetuses have been used for medical purposes.](#)

Even in the State of Victoria, [a doctor risked being deregistered because he allegedly refused a referral for an Indian couple who wanted to abort a healthy unborn baby girl at 19 weeks, simply because they wanted a boy](#). This attitude must surely leave a sour taste in the minds of caring people. Nature decides the sex of humans to maintain a balanced society and any interference by humans is detrimental to that balance.

It should be formality that a child is a child of Nature and NOT a personal possession like a pet.

If unborn children can be aborted at any time up to the time of delivery, then it does not require any stretch of one's imagination to conclude that the next step down the path to moral turpitude is the horror of **Infanticide**.

The Australian philosopher, [Peter Singer](#), clearly supports this practice and, no doubt, so do many "progressive" admirers.

Should the bill under consideration be approved, then it will only be a matter of time before some "progressive" politician presents a bill before Parliament to legalize such abhorrent practice.

A similar pattern will be followed in respect of another abhorrent practice, **euthanasia**.

[In Canada](#), pressure is starting to force religiously-affiliated medical institutions and doctors to kill. After a Catholic hospital refused to euthanize a patient, who apparently received inadequate pain relief in the process of transfer, calls are being made to force Catholic and other faith institutions to commit what the Church considers a cardinal sin. From the National Post story: Shearer's experience at St. Paul's Hospital highlights one of the thorniest issues concerning assisted death: the decision of most faith-based — but taxpayer-funded — health-care facilities to play no part in a practice made legal by the Supreme Court of Canada and federal legislation

For the reasons outlined, we sincerely trust that the committee of inquiry will recommend that none of the provisions contained in the Health (Abortion Law Reform) Amendment Bill 2016, submitted by Mr Pyne, be proceeded with.

We believe we have just as much right to live in a society which values the lives of the unborn as do those who willingly participate in its destruction.

Yours sincerely

Robert J O'Neill

([REDACTED])

APPENDIX “A” – Kermit Gosnell.

Prosecutor to Gosnell: ‘Are You Human?’

[REDACTED]

April 30, 2013

By *Elizabeth Harrington*

(CNSNews.com) – “Are you human?” Assistant District Attorney Ed Cameron asked Kermit Gosnell during closing arguments in the abortionist’s trial on Monday.

Cameron noted that during the six-week trial, “Mr. McMahon (the defence attorney) kept asking the witnesses, are you human?” That question really should be asked of Gosnell, Cameron said, turning to look directly at the defendant: “Are you human?” he asked.

Gosnell stared right back and laughed.

“To med these women up, to stick scissors in babies necks -- he’s the one in this case that doesn’t deserve to be called human,” Cameron said.

The trial of Gosnell entered its final phase on Monday, after lengthy closing arguments from [defence attorney](#) Jack McMahon and from prosecutor Cameron. Gosnell is charged with four counts of first-degree murder, for allegedly killing babies born alive during abortions by snipping their spinal cords with surgical scissors.

Cameron ended his closing argument with a plea to the jury to reach a guilty verdict. He quoted Steve Massof, an unlicensed medical graduate who worked at Gosnell’s clinic, the Women’s Medical Society in West Philadelphia:

“I felt like a fireman in hell,” Massof testified about the time he spent doing abortions late at night before Gosnell would arrive. “It was raining fetuses.”

“[Gosnell’s] the captain of that hell,” Cameron told the court. “It’s time for us to extinguish the hell he created.”

Cameron asked the jurors to “use their common sense” in determining whether the babies were born alive. Gosnell’s defense spent the morning arguing there was reasonable doubt that the four babies alleged to have been murdered were born alive.

“Why do you think there’s a hole in its head?” Cameron said. “It was because that it was an added step to make sure that baby was dead.”

Cameron recalled clinic janitor Jim Johnson’s testimony that the clinic’s toilet was constantly clogged up. “You all know what that’s from, that’s from babies in the toilet,” he said.

“Maybe you’ve been desensitized by this case, but just the thought of using a plunger and having an arm and a leg come up,” Cameron told the jury. He said Gosnell had no respect for the dead, putting fetal remains in the garbage disposal, the toilet, and the freezer.

Cameron also relayed the testimony of Shanice Manning, who was only 14 or 15 years old when her mother brought her into Gosnell’s clinic for an abortion. She did not receive the required counseling before an abortion under Pennsylvania law, nor was the 24-hour waiting period applied.

Manning had to go to the hospital after complications, and that’s where the baby was stillborn.

“What she said in the hospital when the baby was stillborn was, ‘Can I see the baby? Can I hold it?’” Cameron said.

“That is why you have to have counseling,” he said. “To this day she regrets what happened.”

While still at the clinic, Manning had asked Gosnell what the sex of the baby was. “Well, if you’re a good girl, maybe I’ll tell you,” Gosnell was quoted as saying.

“It’d be six years old,” Cameron said. “It was not born alive, but he surely killed it,” he said.

“Baby Boy A” also was referenced. He was estimated to be 29-and-a-half weeks old, or about seven months’ gestation. The baby was breathing for 10 to 20 seconds before its neck was cut by Gosnell, according to the grand jury report, and was placed in a shoebox.

Kareema Cross, a former employee of Gosnell’s, testified that the baby was moving even after his spinal cord was snipped.

“That baby would be four-and-a-half years old right now,” Cameron said. “I wish to God it could walk into this courtroom.” He said a baby that age would have a 70 to 80 percent chance of survival.

“But instead it had scissors jabbed into its neck and slowly suffocated to death,” he said.

“We don’t have to show you that the defendant is guilty beyond all doubt,” Cameron said, as he attempted to refute the arguments made by defense attorney McMahon earlier in the day.

McMahon said digoxin, a drug used to stop a baby’s heart inside the womb, was used in all cases where murder charges were brought.

But Cameron said no digoxin was found at the clinic by Crime Scene Unit Officer John Taggart.

“The use of the digoxin is an imagined doubt,” Cameron said. “If it was being used, it was being used improperly, if at all.”

Gosnell, 72, is facing four counts of first-degree murder for killing babies born alive after abortions, and a third-degree murder charge in the anesthesia-overdose death of a patient, Karnamaya Mongar.

He also is charged with infanticide, conspiracy, abortion at 24 or more weeks, theft, corruption of minors, solicitation and other related offenses.

Cameron said Mongar was the “epitome of the American Dream,” living in a refugee camp in Nepal for nearly 20 years before finally making it to the United States, only to die “on a rusty table.”

“Or is it worse to be those babies, for months in your mother -- you live and come out into the light, all of that potential, you can survive—you heard the odds, 75 to 80 percent—and you have scissors jammed in your neck.”

“I don’t know what’s worse,” he said.

KERMIT GOSNELL’S HOUSE OF SCREAMS

By: **John Hayward**
4/8/2013 05:03 PM

The mainstream media has been studiously avoiding the trial of abortion butcher Kermit Gosnell, despite the kind of stomach-churning testimony that would normally attract headline coverage. The latest, from [Delaware Online](#):

A Delaware woman who worked for abortion doctor Kermit Gosnell recalled hearing one child “screaming” after it was delivered alive during an abortion procedure at Gosnell’s West Philadelphia clinic.

Sherry West, of Bear, said she was loyal to Gosnell – who is now facing multiple counts of murder for allegedly killing children after they were delivered alive at his clinic – but said the incident “really freaked me out.”

When Assistant District Attorney Joanne Pescatore pressed the 53-year-old West for specifics about the incident, West struggled to answer, clearly uncomfortable with the memory.

“I can’t describe it. It sounded like a little alien,” West testified, telling a judge and Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas jury that the body of the child was about 18 to 24 inches long and was one of the largest babies she had seen delivered during abortion procedures at Gosnell’s clinic.

West said she saw the child, whose face and features were not yet completely formed, lying on a glass tray on a shelf and she told a co-worker to call Gosnell about it and fled the room.

West herself is facing up to 100 years in prison, having admitted to third-degree murder, and testified as part of a plea deal. She offered a chilling look at how Gosnell ran his little shop of horrors:

While West had some medical training during her 20 years with the VA, she testified that she received no formal training on conducting ultrasounds or administering drugs, which was part of her job at Gosnell's clinic. Instead West said she was trained by other clinic staffers including a 16-year-old who worked there.

On the stand, West detailed the lax procedures at Gosnell's clinic, including an incident on the night in 2009 when 41-year-old Karnamaya Mongar died following an abortion there. Prosecutors charge Mongar died due to an overdose of pain medication administered by Gosnell's staff.

West said it was "hectic" and recalled how it took time for paramedics to get into the building because the back door was padlocked and no one had the key.

Prosecutor Pescatore also walked her through the incomplete and conflicting medical records from Gosnell's clinic where it is not clear what drugs were administered, by who and when. She testified that at least one notation by Gosnell – that Mongar was feeling no pain afterward – was completely wrong.

To put it mildly, Gosnell and his people did not conduct themselves as if they were dealing with precious human lives. They weren't terribly overwhelmed by the humanity of their pregnant clients, either. Inhumanity is contagious.

Gosnell hired West – who had been his patient for 20 years and suffered from both nervous breakdowns and Hepatitis C – at a time when she was desperate for money, and initially paid her under the table, according to her testimony. That tracks with the testimony of another co-defendant, Steven Massof, also hired on by Gosnell at a moment of personal vulnerability and employed under dubious conditions, as reported by [LifeNews](#):

Gosnell offered Massof a "residency" in 2003, but failed to tell him that it was not a sanctioned program. Massoff was never licensed to practice medicine.

Massof received no pay at all for his first two weeks of work for Gosnell, who seemed to seek out those in desperate circumstances for employment, then exploit them by extracting maximum work for minimal pay. Massof testified he received a salary of only \$200-\$300 per week.

For the first couple of months of his employment, Massof shadowed Gosnell in his family practice in order to learn from Gosnell's experience. After that, he began seeing the family practice patients without supervision. After Gosnell gave Massof a signed prescription pad, Massof remarked, "I got a lot more patients coming to me."

Massof testified that he had an interest in abortion and a curiosity about it. To become more involved in the abortion part of Gosnell's business, Massof began "helping move patients around" from one area of the clinic to the next. Later he began doing first trimester procedures and eventually took on the "second tris," testifying that he saw over 100 babies born alive who had their necks snipped in what he said was "literally a beheading. It is separating the brain from the body."

During busy times, when the women were given drugs to induce contractions all at once, Massof told the court that "it would rain fetuses. Fetuses and blood all over the place."


"I felt like a fireman in hell. I couldn't put out all the fires," he said.

The people testifying in this trial keep dropping sound bites that would command headlines in any other context, but there's virtually no Big Media coverage of the story, and certainly no attempt to build a narrative around the obvious questions of "How did this happen?" and "Is this happening anywhere else?" The normal media search for "lessons" from a shocking incident seems to have been put on indefinite hold. Will their interest finally be aroused by the chilling detail of a baby screaming out loud during an abortion procedure?



[Abortionist Slit Necks of Born Babies in Front of Teenager; Told Assistant: 'That's What You Call a Chicken With Its Head Cut Off'](#)

By [Terence P. Jeffrey](#) | April 13, 2013 | 12:57 PM EDT

 - According to a Pennsylvania grand jury, Dr. Kermit Gosnell, the wealthy Philadelphia abortionist now on trial for seven counts of murdering babies who had survived his late-term abortions, repeatedly sliced the necks of born babies in front of a teenage employee, and once told his long-time assistant (the teenager's mother) that a writhing born baby whose neck he had just severed was like a "chicken with its head cut off."

"Ashley Baldwin also saw Gosnell slice the neck of moving and breathing babies," said [the report of the grand jury](#) that recommended charging Gosnell with multiple counts of murder.

Baldwin's mother, Tina, worked for nine years as Gosnell's assistant. The teenager herself went to work for the abortionist when she was a 15-year-old high school sophomore.

Baby Boy B, with slit neck, discovered by police at the abortion office of Dr. Kermit Gosnell, the Women's Medical Society in West Philadelphia, Pa. (Photo: Grand Jury Report.)

"Although Ashley was just a teenager and still in high school, Gosnell had her assisting with procedures, performing ultrasounds, intravenously sedating patients, and assisting patients as they delivered in Gosnell's absence," said the report. "Gosnell claimed to her mother that allowing the teen to essentially practice medicine was legal, through a 'grandfather clause' which permitted him to train workers and avoid certification requirements. Ashley worked as much as 50 hours a week, into the early morning hours, while a full-time high school student."

On multiple occasions, this teenage girl saw the abortionist slit the necks of living babies after they had been born.

"When asked how many times Ashley had observed babies being delivered that were moving or breathing or crying and the doctor cut the neck, she answered: 'Most of the second tris that were over 20 weeks,'" said the report. "She said this happened probably dozens of times, maybe more. She described at least 10 babies as big enough to buy clothes for, to dress, and to take care of."

In her grand jury testimony, Ashley Baldwin had the following exchange:

Question: "And what happened to those ten babies that came out from their mother, that were big enough that you could put clothes on and take home and take care of, that moved around, what did you see happen to them?"

Ashley Baldwin: "He killed them."

Question: "Who killed them?"

Ashley Baldwin: "Doc."

Question: "How did he kill them?"

Ashley Baldwin: "He cut the back of the neck."

The teenager told the grand jury that Gosnell told her this was normal.

Ashley's mother, Gosnell's longtime assistant, told the grand jury about a gruesome remark Gosnell made after severing the neck of a baby that had survived one of his abortions.

"Tina Baldwin," said the report, "told the jurors that Gosnell once joked about a baby that was writhing as he cut its neck: 'That's what you call a chicken with its head cut off.'"

The grand jury charged both Tina Baldwin and Gosnell with corrupting the morals of a minor for their treatment of Ashley.

"We charge Gosnell and Tina Baldwin, his employee, with corrupting the morals of a minor," said the report. "Gosnell hired Tina's 15-year-old daughter as a staff member. She was required to work 50-hour weeks, starting after school until past midnight, during which she was exposed to the full horrors of Gosnell's practice. Bad enough that he expected grown-ups to do it."

The following is the headline of a report published in [The Daily Mail](#) on 17 May 2013. It also contains images from the police investigation into Dr Gosnell.

'We plunged the sink and a baby's arm came out': Cop reveals shocking discovery inside abortionist's 'House of Horrors' - and how killer doctor played Chopin as police searched his home

- Following the lifting of a gag order surrounding the case of Dr Kermit Gosnell, a senior cop has spoken publicly about what he saw
- John Taggart reveals that Gosnell played the piano as cops searched his slum of a home for dead fetal remains
- At his 'House of Horrors' surgery body parts had been forced down the garbage disposal system
- Dr Gosnell, 72, received three life sentences earlier this week

By [Lydia Warren](#) and [David McCormack](#)

Published: 04:28 EST, 17 May 2013 | Updated: 16:32 EST, 17 May 2013

An investigator working on the case against 'House of Horrors' abortionist Kermit Gosnell has revealed graphic details about what he saw while investigating the evil doctor's home and 'house of horrors' surgery.

Following Gosnell's sentencing to three life sentences earlier this week, the case's gag order has been lifted allowing Philadelphia Police crime scene investigator John Taggart to speak publicly for the first time about what he saw.

Taggart and his team began searching Gosnell's properties for fetal remains in February 2010 following an FBI raid of the doctor's West Philadelphia clinic, the Women's Medical Society.

Taggart revealed that Gosnell sat and played Chopin on the piano in his West Philadelphia home as police in bio-hazard suits investigated the contents of his basement.

He describes 72-year-old Gosnell as living in total squalor and that he offered the officers flea repellent before they attempted to enter his basement.

'He would leave plates of food on the floor. There was stuff everywhere in the bedroom. You couldn't see the bed,' Taggart told [NBC10](#). 'As soon as they went down into the basement, they were covered in fleas.'

The scene at Godnell's main home was grim, but even more disgusting were conditions at his clinic, the Women's Medical Society at 3801 Lancaster Avenue.

'The smells were just unbearable,' said Taggart. 'You could tell there was death somewhere.'

Carrying out a room-to-room search, the officer described a 'house of horrors' scenario with the corpses of dead babies and body parts to be found everywhere, including in fridges and cabinets.

Philadelphia police officer John Taggart has revealed graphic details about what he saw while investigating Dr Kermit Gosnell's properties

Property: This home on 32nd Street in Philadelphia is just one of Gosnell's nine properties in four states

Investigators had revealed in court how baby body parts would clog toilets after women delivered them in stalls inside the clinic, but Taggart has also revealed that remains were uncovered in the break room sink.

'They were shoving body parts down the garbage disposal,' said Taggart. 'To the point where they plunged it one day and an arm popped out on Lancaster Avenue.'

Prosecutors say Gosnell would deliver some babies alive, despite giving them medication in utero meant to stop their heart. The doctor and his staff would then snip their necks with scissors to ensure death.

Investigators also visited Gosnell's shore home in Brigantine, N.J. to search for the remains of unaccounted fetuses. Neither they nor New Jersey authorities who sent a dive team into the bay were able to locate any remains.

'I believe they are either buried out there or I don't know where they are. We've looked, we've looked for three years,' said Taggart.

So many limbs had been forced down the garbage disposal system at the Women's Medical Society that an arm popped out on the street when they attempted to plunge the system

Gosnell's wife Pearl remains under house arrest after pleading guilty to taking part in a late term abortion at her husband's clinic.

She faces possible jail time when she is sentenced at the end of this month, but her lawyer is hoping she will receive probation.

Pearl Gosnell's attorney says the case has put a strain on the couples' daughter who is in high school and their 20-year-old son who is thinking of changing his last name, reports [CBS](#).

The jurors who found Dr Kermit Gosnell guilty of killing three babies at his grimy abortion clinic have revealed they believe he was motivated by greed as he intentionally killed the newborns.

Speaking publicly for the first time since the verdict was reached on Monday following a two-month trial, three jurors spoke about why they agreed to convict him on three murder charges.

Unfathomable: A grand jury photograph shows what police say are plastic bags hiding body parts in a refrigerator inside the Philadelphia practice

Speaking out: Jurors (from left) David Misko, Joseph Carroll and Sarah Glinski speak to the media outside the criminal justice center in Philadelphia days after they found Dr Kermit Gosnell guilty

Their press conference came after he was handed a third life sentence on Wednesday. He was also sentenced to up to five years for the involuntary manslaughter death of Karnamaya Mongar, 41, who died from a drug overdose after going to him for an abortion.

One juror, David Misko, 27, said they had agreed to convict him because they believe the murders - which were carried out when Gosnell snipped the babies' necks with scissors - were premeditated.

'It was business as usual,' Misko said. 'He snipped the necks no matter what happened.'

Misko added that he judged Gosnell for not speaking in the trial: 'He just sat there and smirked for eight weeks,' he said.

Another juror, Joseph Carroll, added that most the group also felt that the doctor had been driven by greed rather than compassion for the mothers or their babies.

'The services... it was like a machine,' he told reporters outside the justice center in Philadelphia. 'They came in, he gave them a service, and bam, the women were gone.'

Juror Sarah Glinski added that the hardest part of the trial was having to see the images of the lifeless children.

Decision makers: Misko, left, said they agreed the killings had been premeditated and would go ahead whether the babies were big enough to live or not. Carroll, right, said Gosnell was driven by greed

Disturbed: Glinski said she thinks Gosnell started with good intentions then 'something went wrong'

Media scrum: It is the first time the jurors have spoken out in the trial, which started two months ago

'Seeing those photos and just having to say to myself, "This did happen to those kids. There were children that died at the hands of this man." That was what was hard for me. To admit that that kind of evil exists in this world,' she said.

But she added that she did not believe the doctor started out with the same intentions when he began carrying out abortions for low-income women years ago.

'He was an abortion doctor who tried to help people who didn't have the money,' she said. 'I think somewhere, something, went wrong in his mind.'

Carroll said they also talked about whether the mothers were to blame and he said that he believed some should have been charged because their babies were past the legal threshold.

Gosnell was spared the death penalty on Tuesday after striking a plea deal; he will serve his life sentences consecutively and without parole after giving up his right to appeal.

Frightening: The jurors said they thought that Gosnell had smirked throughout his murder trial

Gosnell was pictured smiling as he was led from the court on Monday. The jury found he was guilty of murder in the deaths of babies, who had been named A, C and D for the purpose of the trial.

In earlier testimony, the court heard how a clinic employee had photographed Baby A after Dr Gosnell had joked: 'He's big enough to walk you to the bus stop.'

Clinic workers also testified that they had seen Baby C, a little girl, move her arm before her neck was snipped, bringing about her death.

And Baby D was born in the clinic's bathroom and was seen struggling to get out of the toilet before a worker also snipped their spine.

He was found not guilty in the death of Baby E, who workers had said let out a single cry before the neck was snipped.

Dr Gosnell's attorney Jack McMahon said they were 'disappointed' with the verdict.

Defense: Gosnell's lawyer Jack McMahon speaks following the verdict, which he called 'disappointing'

'We put on a vigorous defense,' he told CNN. 'We think it went well in the courtroom... but we respect the jury's verdict.'

'Obviously the jury took their job very seriously... By the nature of the verdict - both guilty and not guilty verdicts - they obviously thought about the evidence. They were conscientious.'

The jury heard five weeks of testimony before breaking for deliberation on April 30.

As prosecutors gave their closing arguments in Gosnell's trial two weeks ago, Assistant District Attorney Ed Cameron turned to Gosnell and asked 'Are you human?' - but the doctor simply laughed.

'My dog was treated better than those babies and women,' Cameron said.

He added that Mongar's death was the result of Gosnell's 'assembly line' treatment of patients.

The defense questioned testimony from staffers who said they had seen babies move, cry or breathe, claiming that the babies had died from abortion-inducing drugs rather than severed spines.

Tragic: He was found guilty of manslaughter in the death of Karnamaya Mongar, who died after an abortion

After weeks of hearing from former employees, Gosnell did not testify, and his lawyer, John McMahon, called no witnesses in his defense.

He said that the doctor had simply provided desperate, often poor woman with a solution, and he branded prosecutors 'racist' for attacking Gosnell, who is black and whose patients were largely minorities.

McMahon argued that each worker had testified to seeing only a single movement or breath.

'These are not the movements of a live child,' McMahon said. 'There is not one piece - not one - of objective, scientific evidence that anyone was born alive.'

But the prosecutor questioned why else Gosnell and his staff would 'snip' babies if they were not born alive. The brains were intact, so it was not done to make the delivery easier, he said.

Gosnell's grisly business was discovered more than two years ago when authorities went to investigate prescription drug trafficking at Gosnell's clinic in a low-income area of West Philadelphia.

Painful: Desiree Hawkins, a former patient of Dr Kermit Gosnell, recounts her ordeal at his abortion clinic. She said detectives called her three years later to reveal her baby's foot was found in a fridge

Nowhere to turn: Davida Clarke said she went to the clinic after she was raped when she was younger

Instead, they came across blood-splattered operating tables, bags of body parts, unsanitary instruments, jars of severed feet and the stink of cat urine, according to a 2011 grand jury report.

The tiny fetuses and many of their bodyparts were piled high throughout Gosnell's clinic in cabinets and freezers, in plastic bags, bottles, even cat-food containers.

The report added that dozens of women were injured at Gosnell's clinic over the past 30 years, calling it a 'house of horrors'.

Some left with torn wombs or bowels, some with venereal disease contracted through the reuse of non-sterilized equipment, and some left with fetal remains still inside them, the report alleged.

Employees at the clinic confirmed that babies were often expelled from their mothers into the toilet. On at least one occasion the toilet had to be removed from the floor to 'get the fetuses out of the pipes.'

Discarded: Bags stashed with body parts, pictured, were also found in the Philadelphia clinic

Operating table: Women were often given such high doses of drugs that they gave birth in the toilet

Former staffers added that patients received heavy sedatives and painkillers from untrained workers while Gosnell was offsite, and were then left in waiting rooms for hours, often unattended.

Gosnell has been in jail since his January 2011 arrest.

The business apparently made Gosnell a fortune over the 30 years he was carrying out abortions.

Authorities said that the medical practice netted him about \$1.8 million a year, and found \$250,000 hidden in a bedroom when they searched one of his numerous properties.

Eight other defendants have pleaded guilty to a variety of charges and are awaiting sentencing. They include Gosnell's wife, Pearl, a cosmetologist who helped perform abortions.



APPENDIX “B” – Planned Parenthood

[A Former Planned Parenthood Worker Speaks Out](#)

by NR Interview July 25, 2015 4:00 AM

‘Faces of all the young clients I had ‘helped’ during the past three years — pretty girls, sad girls, sacred girls — flashed at me,” Ramona Treviño writes.

They had walked into our clinic looking for answers, for someone to give them some kind of hope. But I hadn’t given them that. Instead, with a smile on my face, I had handed them some brochures about safe sex and a packet of pills before sending them back into the world, vulnerable and destined to repeat the same destructive behavior that had brought them to us in the first place. I hadn’t helped them. I had only made things worse for every last one of those precious young women.

In *Redeemed by Grace: A Catholic Woman’s Journey to Planned Parenthood and Back*, Treviño recounts her time working at a Planned Parenthood clinic in Sherman, Texas. Below, we talk about her experience and she shares her thoughts on the recent revelations about Planned Parenthood and the selling of fetal organs from late-term abortions. — KJL

Kathryn Jean Lopez: What has been going through your head as you watch the news coverage of these undercover videos involving Planned Parenthood and the organs of children who are aborted?

Ramona Treviño: I have been watching with a wide range of emotions and thoughts. For one, I — like so many others I'm sure — have watched with a feeling of disgust and anger that we as a nation continue to support not only abortion, but an organization that continues to be exposed for its unethical and illegal practices. I often wonder, "Is this it? Is this the beginning of the end for Planned Parenthood and the abortion industry?" Although I have had feelings of disgust, I'm also overwhelmed with feelings of hope and optimism. My hope is that these new videos will continue to help change hearts and minds. That they will continue to force us to look deeper into our own conscience and approach the sanctity of the human person with stronger conviction. I pray fervently for the conversion of hearts and, ultimately, that our nation will find its way back to our loving God. These videos not only expose Planned Parenthood for who they really are, but they help shed light on the gruesomeness of abortion. I'm extremely heartbroken, not only over the continued loss of life, but at the idea that only when babies are dead and their body parts are "sold" do they have any real value. Do these precious babies not have value before then? While still alive in the womb?

Lopez: What's the hope you can give women who have had abortions now, who are perhaps horrified and greatly pained by what they are seeing now on the news about what abortion is and what Planned Parenthood does?

Treviño: I want them to know that there is redemption and hope for true and total healing. God is always waiting to take us back, and it's not about the sins of yesterday, but what you do today. Having gone through this suffering, once healed, they have even more potential to help others, to speak out on their experiences, to encourage others to not step into this dark tunnel. So, because of what they've experienced, the potential to bring hope to others will be great. It is in bringing hope to others that they will find their hope.

Lopez:

You write about how hard it is was to hear someone on a Catholic radio station say, "Birth control is the gateway to abortion." Questioning birth control was so personal and so fundamental. After all, you write, "I had given so much of myself to a place that believed birth control was absolutely necessary for freedom." Well, isn't it?

Treviño: It depends on what kind of freedom you're talking about. If you are talking temporary freedom, the chance to have easier access to the corporate ladder, to making your life be about things and what you can acquire, of focusing on yourself and your wants, then, yes, birth control can give you that freedom, to a point. If you're talking about long-lasting freedom, the kind that makes you feel truly free in knowing that you have followed a path that is right, that is lived for others, that focuses not on self but on self-giving, then birth control is not the answer, and will lead to darkness. It can lead to a false sense of control, of thinking you own and direct your own life, and then when something happens out of your control, then what? Birth control can also lead to temptation to abort, because of the mindset that is closed to new life, which leads to more heartache. It can make a woman feel used. Is that freedom?

Lopez: Is there really a point in having that conversation, when even the Little Sisters of the Poor are being told to get on board with insurance coverage of birth control – along with abortion and female sterilization?

Treviño: Good and evil are always present in the world. And they always will be. The world will go its own way, but that doesn't mean we just curl up and go silent. It doesn't mean we should give up. Those who have seen and walk in the light are obligated, by God, to stay in the light and shine it, so that others will be drawn to it. So, conversations that bring about good, bring about hope, bring about light and life are always worth having, absolutely. And the hope of being redeemed is always something our world will need to hear. When people are broken and have no place to go but into death, that light of life is the last bit of hope. That is what we're here to do, to shine that light even when darkness is all around.

Lopez: Why did you walk away from thinking, "It's not my place to judge. It's not my problem. It doesn't affect me"? Doesn't Pope Francis himself say, "Who am I to judge"? Getting rid of a baby conceived at the wrong time, killing it, doesn't bring freedom to anyone. But there is money to be made from doing so, and that's Planned Parenthood's bottom line.

Treviño: It was never my place to judge a heart, but we are called to judge actions. That's why we have laws in the first place. We cannot just go around doing whatever we want to whomever we want. There is an order to the world that, if honored, fosters justice, and peace. And what we do personally always affects others, no matter what we might think. If one soul is lost, that affects a whole family tree, forever. Pope Francis was referring to judgment of people's hearts, not of actions that would bring harm to them in the end. We are called to discern and even, when necessary, highlight actions that do not bring life so that change can happen, but, of course, we must always do this with a loving heart.

Lopez: Is Planned Parenthood bad? You had the best intentions working there. You wanted to help women!

Treviño: It is based on a mindset of death, of getting rid of the problem, of that short-term freedom I mentioned earlier; a freedom that might seem good for a while but, ultimately, doesn't bring true happiness. Getting rid of a baby conceived at the wrong time, killing it, doesn't bring freedom to anyone. But there is money to be made from doing so, and that's Planned Parenthood's bottom line. Many still within the industry truly believe they are helping women. They are living with scales on their eyes, like I did. Things like this recent scandal may be what will help remove some of the scales, and make both workers and potential or past clients question the true motives.

Lopez: What is your pitch to people working at Planned Parenthood and their allies and supporters who really do think they help women and are unfairly under attack?

Treviño: If we truly want to help women in crisis, we must offer them real help and alternatives to abortion. We do not empower women by saying that they can only be successful in life if they take the live(s) of their own children. Women are strong and

capable. Abortion is not healthcare, and anyone working in the abortion industry should not buy into the rhetoric.

Lopez: How is one redeemed by grace?

Treviño: By understanding that God's love is expansive, and brings true freedom, and that by living within God's moral world — by humbly seeking forgiveness for wrongs, and then making a commitment to change, with God's grace; by transforming one's life for the good and bringing life, not death, to others — we find true freedom.

Lopez: What has been your experience of Divine Mercy?

Treviño: Divine Mercy has changed my life forever. It was my experience with Divine Mercy that ultimately gave me the courage to walk out of Planned Parenthood. It is often difficult to describe something so spiritual. Something so divine can be hard to put into words. Simply put, my experience has been one of total and complete peace. I know that God has forgiven me, not only for my involvement with abortion, but for every sin I have committed in my past. I have learned to put my total and complete trust in Jesus. It's not easy, especially when going through trying times, but in the end I always come back to the words and message of Divine Mercy: "Jesus I Trust in You."

Lopez: What would you like anyone who has ever had an abortion or played a role in one to know about Divine Mercy?

Treviño: We serve a loving and merciful God. Jesus's mercy is infinite and open to all who seek it. All we must do is approach him with a humble and contrite heart and all is forgiven. There is no sin that Jesus cannot heal us from. His mercy allows us to become a new creation filled with hope and total dependence upon him.

Lopez: What can you say to realistically help someone who has had an abortion who does not believe in God? Many still within the industry truly believe they are helping women. They are living with scales on their eyes like I did.

Treviño: There are atheists who believe abortion is wrong. One does not have to be a believer in God to understand human dignity, and to realize that a beating heart indicates life, and life is to be honored. "Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," in that order. Does abortion honor this? Might there be other ways than death to deal with unplanned pregnancy? Might we put our efforts into those avenues rather than funding an industry that promotes the death of innocent children? We are all humanists together. And together we can come up with solutions that are more humane than death.

Lopez: One of the pro-lifers you approached one day outside your clinic said to you: "You know, the Lord provides a way for those who follow his heart." Have you seen evidence that that's true?

Treviño: Absolutely! If you took a peek at my life since leaving Planned Parenthood and fully embracing my faith, you would have no doubt about it: The Lord always provides a way. He may not provide it in the way the “world” thinks he should — for example, in a monetary way. But what the Lord provides is something that money cannot buy. He provides us with joy, peace, and our daily bread. In reciting the Lord’s Prayer, we ask that he “give us this day, our daily bread.” This is how he provides only what we need for the day. Anything more is an extra blessing. If we focus on the blessings we do have rather than those we don’t, it is easy to see that the Lord provides us with more than enough. It is only in following his heart that we are able to come to a deeper understanding of this.

Lopez: How can someone who does not believe in God get untangled from the abortion industry?

Treviño: At bottom, we are all inclined toward good, and all it takes is wanting good more than that which leads to death, and surrounding oneself with those who are inclined toward good, whether they believe in God or not.

Lopez: What do you say to a woman who has had an abortion or a woman or man who has had a hand in one who doesn’t feel God is near and forgiving?

Treviño: God is love, and moving toward God can be a slow process of untangling from those things that are not of love, of life. It may not all happen in a day. But it might be just as simple as a plea from the heart to get started: “Lord, I want better, I want goodness, I want life. Please show me how.” Then it’s just a matter of watching for the ways God wants to transform you and continuing to move toward those good things that bring life to you, and the people in your life who surround themselves with good things, as opposed to destructive things that tarnish the soul. God sometimes acts most of all through the people in your life, but he does want you to approach him so that you are acting independently and out of a desire for good, instead of being coerced.

Lopez: Looking back on losing your virginity as a teenager, you write: I didn’t know my own value, of course. I had missed the memo that before I was born, even before I was conceived, God had marked me as precious. I did not realize that true love would not have demanded what Lucio wanted from me that night. If only I had been confident enough, strong enough, not to give in to my misdirected emotions. What do you want young women to know? How can they believe this if there’s no one in their lives who seems to want to help them? Or love them?

Treviño: Somewhere deep inside we all have the smallest belief that we are loved. You may not have had that affirmed. You may have been led to believe otherwise. But God loves you with a boundless love and wants to reach you to give you a better life. And you deserve that better life, and God will lead you to it if you come to him and ask. Sometimes, until we are healed, it is hard for us to see God, to trust God. Seeking healing first can often open the doors that lead to God’s heart.

Lopez: You found yourself in a marriage where you wondered whether a husband can actually rape a wife. What is your message to anyone reading this who feels physically and emotionally imprisoned?

Treviño: This is a difficult question, because it took me so long to find the strength to get out of a painful and unhealthy marriage. Once I finally found the courage and strength, it was not as if everything just fell into place and I lived happily ever after. I think my message is one of hope. There is hope even when it seems like there is no light in the darkness. We often feel as if we are trapped forever in a world of pain and hopelessness with no way out. But there is a way out and there is hope. Always hope, but we must make the first step by loving ourselves enough to know that we deserve better and that God wants that for us as well.

Lopez: What do you hope Pope Francis's visit to the U.S. in September for the World Meeting of Families does for marriage and family and hurting souls? One does not have to be a believer in God to understand human dignity, and to realize that a beating heart indicates life, and life is to be honored.

Treviño: As the Vicar of Christ, the pope has a responsibility to bring hope to a broken world, to remind the world of the redeeming love of God, to put mercy in each person's path, to remind them that they are unique and unrepeatable, that there is a purpose for their lives and it is a purpose of love and life, and no matter what has happened in their lives up to now, they deserve to begin moving toward love. Repent and believe. Freedom is on the other side of those three words. But they must be willing to let go of pride, and approach God in humility. It might be hard, but if they can move through this process, life will become exceedingly better. I am trusting Pope Francis will affirm these ideas.

Lopez: You write, "It took me so long to find healing. A damaged soul needs time." How do you start?

Treviño: The answer is in forgiveness. We must start by forgiving those who have wronged us and caused us pain. It is in forgiving that we find forgiveness. Once we examine our own conscience and see what we have done to hurt others, we are in a better position to see the importance of forgiving those who have wronged us. Only then can we begin the process of healing. Ask for God's help if you believe in him, or even if you're not sure. We must surround ourselves with as many good and healthy people as possible. It helps to seek those who have healed from their past so you, too, can learn what is necessary for your own healing. It helps to know that you might fall a few times, but that's okay — there's always tomorrow, and it's worth it to keep going.

— Kathryn Jean Lopez is senior fellow at the National Review Institute and editor-at-large of National Review Online. She is co-author of the upcoming revised and updated edition of *How to Defend the Faith without Raising Your Voice*



The Butchers of Planned Parenthood

(by Kevin D. Williamson July 19, 2015 4:00 AM)

Mitchelle Blair, not knowing what to do with the bodies of two of her children, whom she had murdered, stuffed them in her freezer. She'd tortured them for months first — strangling them, suffocating them with plastic bags until they passed out, starving them, burning them with boiling water.

She said she killed her son by accident; she'd intended to torture him further.

Her daughter she killed on purpose. "If I had the chance to do it again, I would," the mother said. Pleading guilty, she asked the court to impose the death penalty on her. Prosecutors regretfully informed her that Michigan has no death penalty.

Of course the children had different fathers. Of course this was in Detroit. Of course they all resided in a beyond-dismal housing project called the Martin Luther King Homes, a pit of despair that those of us whose faith is less than unshakeable might in our weakness suspect has been abandoned by the One of Whom the Reverend King was a minister.

Dr. Deborah Nucatola has had a different sort of life. She doesn't live in low-income housing in Detroit; she practices medicine in Los Angeles. She works as the director of medical services for Planned Parenthood and also is employed by another firm founded by a former White House staffer in the Obama administration who, naturally, became a federal contractor.

Nucatola also is responsible for putting some children in the freezer — not two, but millions.

EDITORIAL: Planned Parenthood's Ghoulish 'Compensation'

In a now-infamous video, Nucatola discusses — over lunch in a Los Angeles restaurant — how Planned Parenthood facilitates trafficking in fetal organs and tissue. She discusses prices and confesses that Planned Parenthood's doctors are happy to alter care in order to further the organization's organ harvesting, for example using ultrasound where they ordinarily wouldn't, in order to prevent damage to valuable organs. In her own words:

So then you're just kind of cognizant of where you put your graspers, you try to intentionally go above and below the thorax, so that, you know, we've been very good at getting heart, lung, liver, because we know that, so I'm not gonna crush that part, I'm going to basically crush below, I'm gonna crush above, and I'm gonna see if I can get it all intact. And with the calvarium, in general, some people will actually try to change the presentation so that it's not vertex, because when it's vertex presentation, you never have enough dilation at the beginning of the case, unless you have real, huge amount of dilation to deliver an intact calvarium.

“Calvarium” is the sterile way of saying “head.” “Vertex presentation” means head-first delivery, i.e. the normal presentation. What she’s talking about here is repositioning the baby in the womb to enable more effective organ harvesting.

Planned Parenthood CEO Cecile Richards is the daughter of the late Texas governor Ann Richards, whose dedication to the cause of dismembering unborn children was absolute. Richards says that Planned Parenthood regrets the “tone” of Nucatola’s lunch-table conversation. But that blasé tone is not alien to the organization: A former Planned Parenthood clinic director tells of being mystified that in her clinic various keypads and passwords were set to 2229 — “Spells out ‘baby,’” a staffer helpfully informed her. The garbage truck that hauled away the clinic’s “products of conception” — human scraps — was mockingly referred to by staffers as “the nursery.”

RELATED: Let’s Face It: Planned Parenthood Is Evil

It is possible for human life to be reduced to a very, very low level. Survivors of famines and totalitarian prison camps tell of doing things and seeing things done that they would never have imagined civilized people, themselves included, capable of. “If you will not have God (and He is a jealous God), you should pay your respects to Hitler or Stalin,” T. S. Eliot wrote. Horrible things happen to people — no, that isn’t quite right: Horrible things are done to people. Detroit is not the Jiabiangou Labor Camp, and lunch in sunny Los Angeles is not the Arduous March. These are free people in the most prosperous and peaceful nation this world has ever known, and these butchers might have chosen anything.

This is what they chose.

Human beings are not lumps of labor. They are not capital, consumer goods, taxpayers, commodities — or meat. The philosophy of Planned Parenthood (and Eros is a jealous god) is the philosophy of men-as-meat, and that philosophy is not long compatible with liberty and human dignity. When Erich Fromm wrote his famous book on the dream of religion without deity, he titled it “You Shall Be as Gods.” The truth is that without an understanding of the uniqueness of human beings and the consequent value of every human life, you will not be as gods — you will be as meat. And meat gets butchered, packaged, and sold. It gets stuffed in the freezer.

— Kevin D. Williamson is roving editor at National Review.

