



Pikes Peak Citizens For Life

Lifeline

Pikes Peak Citizens for Life works to protect the innocent, helpless, vulnerable members of our human family - young and old, infirm and healthy, born and preborn.

May 2023

Bishop's Aug 24th Respect Life Roundup is Family-Friendly Fun



"Hope in a New Generation" is the theme for the Diocese of Colorado Springs' newly named *Respect Life Roundup* which on Thursday August 24th moves out of the convention hall into the dynamic, family-friendly realm of the *Flying W Ranch*.

"As the battles continue to rage in our culture, we are seeing the need to provide youth with opportunities to engage in the pro-life conversation," explains Julie Bailey, Respect Life Apostolate Director for the Diocese of Colorado Springs. *"Bishop Golka's vision is to bring all generations together and give them the support each will need in the struggle against the culture of death."*

Multi-generational family fun and a breath of fresh air are hallmarks of the new location. Flying W Ranch is a "living symbol of Western Heritage" that is one of the most popular destinations in Colorado.

Roundup participants will find themselves surrounded by striking red rock formations, hiking trails, ranch animals, and historic Old West demonstrations including Navajo rug weaving, silver-smithing, milking, and horse shoeing. Whether taking a ride on the narrow gauge train or choosing the horse and carriage, the Respect Life Roundup embodies the joyful spirit of Colorado pro-LIFE!

Flying W Ranch is a rare local venue that can host over 1400 participants – meeting the astounding growth of the Diocesan Respect Life event that has been historically limited to the sell-out crowd of 950.

In lieu of a formal key-note speech, this year's meal will highlight the testimonies, witness, and enthusiasm of a new generation of pro-life voices and exhilarating performance by the Flying W Wranglers.

The event begins on Thursday, August 24th at 5:00pm with Fun Ranch Activities followed by the Dinner & Program at 6:30pm. Event tickets are \$75 for Adults; \$30 for 12 & under. Proceeds benefit the Respect Life Apostolate.

Bella Pro-Life Clinic Sues Colorado's Law Banning Abortion Pill Reversal

The *Becket Fund for Religious Liberty* is joining a pro-life healthcare clinic in the fight against Colorado's latest anti-life abortion law that makes it illegal to offer women a natural hormone to attempt to reverse the effects of the abortion pill.

In *Bella Health and Wellness v. Weiser*, the Catholic healthcare clinic argues that the law targets clinics that have a religious duty to help all pregnant women in need, including those who decide to continue their pregnancies after willingly or unwillingly taking the abortion pill. With the help of Becket, Bella Health and Wellness asked a federal court to strike the law down and uphold its right to serve women who choose to continue their pregnancies.

"We opened Bella because of our belief that life is a precious gift from God, worthy of protection at all stages," said Dede Chism, NP, cofounder and CEO at Bella Health and Wellness. "When a woman seeks our help to reverse the effects of the abortion pill, we have a religious obligation to offer every available option for her and her child."

Even though Bella can offer progesterone to women in any other circumstance, including natural miscarriage, it is barred from doing so if the purpose is to reverse the effects of the abortion pill. Under the law, clinics who offer and advertise progesterone for women who seek *abortion* pill reversal face up to \$20,000 per violation and the loss of the medical licenses for its providers.

U.S. District Judge Daniel Domenico granted Bella a temporary exemption from the law stating, *"The legal merits of the plaintiffs' claims present difficult questions that cannot be adequately analyzed within the time constraints necessary to prevent potential irreparable injury to the plaintiffs' patients who have already begun progesterone treatment and may have their care interrupted absent immediate injunctive relief."*

Ref: Becket Press Release, Ryan Colby, ["Catholic healthcare clinic fights to serve pregnant women in need"](#) 14 April 2023

Ref: National Catholic Register, Kevin J. Jones ["Colorado Judge Exempts Pro-Life Clinic from State's Ban..."](#) 17 April 2023

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If you are interested in attending a board meeting, contact us via phone or email below.

To schedule a PPCFL Presentation

Julie Bailey (719) 630-1999

Join us as a volunteer!!

Staff our office; assist with computer work; become a PPCFL church or group contact; assist with educational programs; staff an educational booth; or assist in fundraising. Feel free to bring fresh ideas or "Chair" a project... the opportunities are endless.

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Our EIN is 26-0770794.

Donate Online, or Send Your Gift to:

Pikes Peak Citizens For Life
707 N. Nevada Ave, Suite R (Rear)
Colorado Springs, CO 80903-5019

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The President's Corner

Just as [they had promised last year](#), the Colorado legislature and the governor have added to their "*magnum opus*," the Reproductive Health Equity Act (RHEA), [even more anti-life legislation](#) which they have collectively referred to as "RHEA 2.0".

One lesson we can take away from the whole sordid affair is that **there is nothing the state Democrats won't do to enshrine abortion in the law and in the culture.**

Another lesson we should learn is that **there will always be something more they want to add to encourage and protect their worship of child sacrifice.** What will it be next year?

Building a culture of life in Colorado appears to be nothing less than "mission impossible."

There are hopeful indications, however. Outside Colorado we see some of the states strengthening their support and protection of human life. There is even a federal lawsuit which may restrict, in some way or another, the use of the abortion pill, which is estimated to be employed in over half the abortions done in the United States, including Colorado.

Within Colorado there are numerous pro-life organizations of one sort or another that are endeavoring to either convert those presently at the altar of the culture of death or to wake up the apathetic so that the descent into the abyss can be halted and reversed.

Novel approaches will most likely be the key to success as many people have become numbed to previous messaging on life issues. At Pikes Peak Citizens for Life we are striving to devise some of these new techniques and will roll them out in the coming days. Of course, there may still be occasions when the old ways work, so they should not be discounted.

Building a culture of life can be made "mission *possible*" if each of us engages those around us in the most prudent way possible. You will be the one to determine whether a novel method makes sense or a tried-and-true approach, and we will endeavor to help you know which way to go.

Practice will certainly help you in this endeavor. Sharing successes will also be a great help. **We encourage you to let us know what is working** with your family, friends, neighbors or strangers who you engage with the intent to build the culture of life.

Matt



When Mother's Day Isn't

What if the best way to counter abortion is to help little girls and young women understand the fleeting gift of fertility?

In his documentary film *Birthgap – Childless World*, data scientist Stephen Shaw set out to understand the world-wide collapse of birth rates. His four-year project took him to 24 countries where he interviewed more than 230 people.

He didn't find women "shouting abortion" and politicians shilling for "reproductive freedom;" instead he discovered a significant amount of concern for our future civilization and grieving over lost motherhood.

Shaw describes a stark reality that most women don't know: *"Women turning 30 without a child: If you are childless at 30, at most you've got a 50% chance of ever becoming a mother – and that's maximum, it's actually lower than that in most countries... so it's a toss of a coin, turning 30 without a child."*

Birthgap points to an increase in childless adults in the United States from 14% in 2007 to over 33% in 2018. It's particularly striking for unmarried women. The increase in abortion and the contraceptive mentality has resulted in more and more women losing their opportunities to ever be mothers – and it isn't making them happy. Studies show that 90% of childless women actually wanted to be mothers – but simply ran the clock out on their fertility.

Lost motherhood correlates to less overall happiness. In a report about shrinking American motherhood, the Institute for Family Studies (IFS) reveals that as women age they are more likely to describe themselves as "very happy" with children.

Women's happiness by marital and parental status, at different ages

% saying "very happy"

	18-34	35-54	55+
Married, w/children	30	28	25
Married, childless	33	24	14
Unmarried, w/children	12	11	11
Unmarried, childless	7	12	10

Chart: By Institute for Family Studies • Source: IFS analysis of General Social Survey, 2021 • Created with Datawrapper

It isn't just women who are affected by the collapse of motherhood. An equal proportion of men are also experiencing the loss of fatherhood and attentive observers are realizing the impact for our future. In August 2022, Elon Musk observed that, *"A collapsing birth rate is the biggest danger civilization faces by far."*

Birthgap – A Childless World

As a statistician, Shaw made the film in an effort to communicate the future that awaits childless nations:

"The world's falling birth rate isn't on the list of major threats to Life as we know it, but it soon will be. Taxes are destined to soar, pension systems will become unsustainable, while our healthcare systems won't be able to cope with the ratio of old people to take care of compared to the shrinking number of taxpayers. Businesses will struggle to find workers to hire, and school closures will accelerate while social care will continually be slashed."

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In the film, Dr. Nicholas Eberstadt, PhD, Chair in Political Economy at Harvard University points out that we are heading for massive graying and massive aging of our society. ***"What people usually don't think about is what you do in a world where the playgrounds are empty and the nursing homes are full."***

To watch the film *Birthgap* or view Steven Shaw's dramatic maps and data, visit birthgap.org

Ref: Stephen J Shaw, Birthgap-Childless World 21 Nov 2022

Ref: IFS Wendy Wang, Shrinking American Motherhood.. 29 Nov 2022

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If you have received the paper newsletter in error, please call 719-630-1999 or email contact@ppcitizensforlife.org

Coming Soon...

May 9 & May 16: Sidewalk Advocacy Training – If you want to grow in pro-life skills or learn more about sidewalk advocacy, please join us for SWA training. The full program is split into two evenings 5:30 to 8:30pm at the PPCFL office. For more information or to register for training, contact Julie at 401-578-4471.

May 14 – Happy Mother’s Day!

June 3: Life Network Walk for Life – a simple, yet powerful way to share your pro-life commitment with friends and family — and help families in Colorado Springs be brave, strong and fearless to choose abundant life! See all the details and register as a sponsored walker at <https://www.walkforlife.com/>

June 9: Oh Church, Arise! –Eric Metaxas, author of *Letter to the American Church*, will be speaking to Pastors and Leaders at an event hosted by *Culture of Life Colorado* at Grace Chapel Castle Rock at 1:00pm with a book signing to follow. Space Limited. Registration Required. info@cultureoflifeco.org

August 24: Bishop’s Respect Life Round Up!

The Diocese of Colorado Springs’ welcomes pro-life advocates to the Flying W Ranch for a family-friendly event for all ages. The pro-life evening begins on at 5:00pm with Fun Ranch Activities followed by the Dinner & Program at 6:30pm.

Tickets are \$75 for Adults; \$30 for 12 & under.

Proceeds benefit the Respect Life Apostolate. (More info on page 1.)



Booths Educate Citizens for LIFE!

PPCFL carries the pro-life message into our state and local community through educational booths that offer true-to life preborn models, informative brochures, stickers and other free pro-life items.

Booths provide a true Witness for Life!

Upcoming booth events include:

- Walk for Life June 3
- El Paso County Fair July 15–22
- Respect Life Roundup Aug 24
- Colorado State Fair Aug 25–Sep 4

Volunteers Needed:

If you would like to help with any of the booths listed above, please contact Janet Campbell at

719-660-0048 or

janetcampbell729@comcast.net