

The Original Globe Reporter

Our Blessed Mother Mary

“Do whatever He tells you.”



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“God knows we’re trying”



St. Thomas More



Doctors gave my 20oz baby up for dead ... but I saved her life with this cuddle

by LUCY LAING

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It was to be the one and only cuddle Carolyn Isbister would have with her tiny, premature daughter.

Rachael had been born minutes before - weighing a mere 20oz - and had only minutes to live. Her heart was beating once every ten seconds and she was not breathing.

As doctors gave up, Miss Isbister lifted her baby out of her hospital blanket and placed her on her chest. She said: "I didn't want her to die being cold. So I lifted her out of her blanket and put her against my skin to warm her up. Her feet were

so cold.

"It was the only cuddle I was going to have with her, so I wanted to remember the moment." Then something remarkable happened. The warmth of her mother's skin kickstarted Rachael's heart into beating properly, which allowed her to take little breaths of her own.

Miss Isbister said: "We couldn't believe it - and neither could the doctors. She let out a tiny cry.

"The doctors came in and said there was still no hope - but I wasn't letting go of her. We had her blessed by the hospital chaplain, and waited for her to slip away.

"But she still hung on. And then amazingly the pink colour began to return to her cheeks.

"She literally was turning from grey to pink before our eyes, and she began to warm up too."

Four months later, Rachael was allowed home weighing 8lb - the same as a newborn baby - and she has a healthy appetite.

Miss Isbister, a 36-year-old chemist from West Lothian, said: "Rachael has been such a little fighter - it is a miracle that she is here at all. When she was born the doctors told us that she would die within 20 minutes. But that one precious cuddle saved her life. I'll never forget it."

Miss Isbister and her partner David Elliott, 35, an electronics engineer, were thrilled when she became pregnant.

At the 20-week scan at the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, doctors told them she was carrying a girl and they decided to name her Rachael.

But at 24 weeks a womb infection led to premature labour.

Miss Isbister, who also has two children Samuel, 10, and Kirsten, eight, from a previous marriage, said: "We were terrified we were going to lose her. I had suffered three miscarriages before, so we didn't think there was much hope." When Rachael was born she was grey and lifeless.

"The doctor just took one look at her and said no," said Miss Isbister.

"They didn't even try to help her with her breathing as they said it would just prolong her dying. Everyone just gave up on her."

Ian Laing, a consultant neonatologist at the hospital, said: "All the signs were that the little one was not going to make it and we took the decision to let mum have a cuddle as it was all we could do.

"Two hours later the wee thing was crying. This is indeed a miracle baby and I have seen nothing like it in my 27 years of practice. I have not the slightest doubt that mother's love saved her daughter."

Rachael was moved on to a ventilator where she continued to make steady progress.

Miss Isbister said: "The doctors said that she had proved she was a fighter and that she now deserved some intensive care as there was some hope.

"She had done it all on her

own - without any medical intervention or drugs.

"She had clung on to life - and it was all because of that cuddle. It had warmed up her body enough for her to start fighting." Because Rachel had suffered from a lack of oxygen doctors said there was a high risk of damage to her brain. But a scan showed no evidence of any problems.

As the days passed, Rachael began to gain in strength and put on weight. She had laser treatment to save her sight because the blood vessels had not had a chance to develop properly in the womb. And she also had six blood transfusions.

"We couldn't believe that she was doing so well," her mother said.

"Her heart rate and breathing would suddenly sometimes drop without warning, but she just got stronger and stronger."

After five weeks she was taken off a ventilator and Miss Isbister was able to breastfeed her.

Then, after four months,

the couple were allowed to take her home - a day they thought they would never see.

Miss Isbister said: "She is doing so well. When we finally brought her home, the doctors told us that she was a remarkable little girl.

"And most of all, she just loves her cuddles. She will sleep for hours, just curled into my chest.

"It was that first cuddle which saved her life - and I'm just so glad I trusted my instinct and picked her up when I did.

"Otherwise she wouldn't be here today."



**LIFE AFTER DEATH:
"DO YOU BELIEVE IN
LIFE AFTER DEATH?"
THE BOSS ASKED ONE
OF HIS EMPLOYEES.
"YES, SIR," THE NEW
EMPLOYEE REPLIED.**

**"WELL, THEN, THAT
MAKES EVERYTHING
JUST FINE," THE BOSS
WENT ON. "AFTER
YOU LEFT EARLY
YESTERDAY TO GO TO
YOUR
GRANDMOTHER'S
FUNERAL, SHE
STOPPED IN TO SEE
YOU!"**

**PALM SUNDAY:
IT WAS PALM SUNDAY
AND, BECAUSE OF A
SORE THROAT, FIVE-
YEAR-OLD JOHNNY
STAYED HOME FROM
CHURCH WITH A
SITTER. WHEN THE
FAMILY RETURNED
HOME, THEY WERE
CARRYING SEVERAL
PALM BRANCHES. THE
BOY ASKED WHAT
THEY WERE FOR.
"PEOPLE HELD THEM
OVER JESUS' HEAD AS
HE WALKED BY."
"WOULDN'T YOU
KNOW IT," THE BOY
FUMED, "THE ONE
SUNDAY I DON'T GO,
HE SHOWS UP!"**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON:
ONE EASTER SUNDAY
MORNING AS THE**

**MINISTER WAS
PREACHING THE
CHILDREN'S SERMON,
HE REACHED INTO HIS
BAG OF PROPS AND
PULLED OUT AN EGG.
HE POINTED AT THE
EGG AND ASKED THE
CHILDREN, "WHAT'S
IN HERE?"
"I KNOW!" A LITTLE
BOY EXCLAIMED.
"PANTYHOSE! "**

Clinic That Won't Revive Baby Born Alive After Failed Abortion to Face Protests

*by Steven Ertelt | Phoenix,
AZ | LifeNews.com | 6/2/13*

11:26 AM An abortion clinic [depicted in a shocking undercover video](#) showing abortion clinic staffers saying they will not revive babies who are born alive after failed abortions will face protests this week. Live Action released an undercover video exposing Phoenix, Arizona-based late-term abortion doctor Laura Mercer and an abortion center counselor who would leave a newborn, struggling for life after a failed abortion, to die.

When asked by the undercover investigator what would happen if the baby were to survive the abortion, Linda, an abortion center counselor, admits they would not help the baby:



Sometimes they are [alive], yeah. But it doesn't—it doesn't necessarily mean that it will come out whole. 'Cause they use suction, plus they use instruments so sometimes the fetuses don't come out—you know, it's not complete...

Investigator: *But if it does come out whole...I mean, are—will they resuscitate it? Like, will I have to take care of it?*

Linda: *Uh-uh... No...They do not resuscitate.*

Now Live Action [has announced](#) that the abortion clinic will face protests:

The rally is put on by Live Action and Center for Arizona Policy will “call upon the legislature to pass legislation allowing for the Department of Health Services to perform unannounced inspections at abortion clinics.” Currently, abortion clinics are the only medical facilities in the state that are not allowed to have these types of inspections. The rally will also call for the “true protection and empowerment of women, and the revocation of Family Planning Associates Medical Group’s license.”

Those interested in attending at instructed to meet at Family Planning Associates Medical Group, 1331 North 7th Street, Phoenix, AZ 85006 on Thursday, June 6, at noon. Schedule speakers are as follows:

- Lila Rose; President and founder of the pro-life group, Live Action
- Cathi Herrod; President of Center for Arizona Policy
- Senator Nancy Barto, Legislative District 15
- Melanie Pritchard; Executive Director, Foundation for Life and Love
- Vanessa Tedesco, Post-Abortive speaker with Silent

No More
Doctor Mercer tells an
undercover Live Action
investigator who is 24 weeks
pregnant:

We do the injection, which is a quick poke through your belly, um, and that stops the fetal heart, so that makes it so, if you were to deliver, there shouldn't be movement. There shouldn't be any of those things... Yes we induce a demise—an intrauterine demise... Um, death.

Then Live Action investigator asks whether an ambulance should be called if the mother goes into labor during the two-day procedure. Dr. Mercer instructs the investigator not to call:

No, call us first...if you showed up in an average emergency room with an emergency room physician who's not a gynecologist, probably has never seen or done a termination, they will treat you as though you are somebody with a desired pregnancy...

Investigator: *So they would*

basically like try to take care of it.

Dr. Mercer: *Right they would intervene and do all kinds of crazy things that you don't need to have done to you...*

She told LifeNews in a statement: "The horrors of the Kermit Gosnell trial are a widespread problem in this industry. Dismembering and destroying innocent children, leaving born babies to die, injecting poison into the chest of a tiny child so that he slowly dies in his own mother's womb – this is all standard operating procedure in the abortion industry. But these children are human beings. They have the same basic human rights and deserve the same protections all of us enjoy."

Rose condemned the "barbaric, inhuman, and deeply disturbing" practices espoused by Dr. Mercer and the late-term abortion center staff at Family Planning Associates Medical Group.

“The testimony we’ve documented in this abortion facility strongly suggests that staff there are committing infanticide,” said Rose. “The Family Planning Associates Medical Group needs to be investigated immediately, and delicensed. Women are at risk during these brutal procedures, and this is a matter of life and death for these children.”

Rose is calling for Attorney General Eric Holder and the U.S. Attorney’s office to investigate and prosecute Dr. Mercer and the Family Planning Associates Medical Group, who admit they violate federal law. Rose also called on local health and law enforcement officials to investigate Dr. Mercer and Family Planning Associates Medical Group and put an end to illegal and inhuman practices.

From the letter to Attorney General Holder: “We urge you, as the U.S. Attorney General, to speak out against this injustice, and to see to it that Dr. Mercer and the Family

Planning Associates Medical Group are duly investigated and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. ... I hope that you will do everything in your power to speak out for victims of infanticide – both the children and the women – and to protect the human rights of our weakest citizens.”

The Phoenix video came on the heels of abortion doctor Cesare Santangelo of Washington, D.C., [who was exposed on a recent undercover video](#) telling a 24-week pregnant woman that in the unlikely event that an abortion resulted in a live birth, “we would not help it.” Before that, the pro-life group released a video showing an abortion facility staff member saying an unborn child born alive after a botched abortion [should just be flushed down the toilet](#).

I Am a Survivor of Abortion, Here is My Story

*by Melissa Ohden |
Washington, DC |*

LifeNews.com | 6/2/13 7:52 PM

“I thought that I was the only one until I found this website.” “Me, too!” “I’ve never

told anyone about this, but I felt compelled to share it with you.” “I’m a survivor, too, and I can’t live with the pain anymore.”

These are just a few snippets of the profound emails that I’ve received lately from other abortion survivors.



Just a few weeks ago, [I wrote an article](#) that discussed how, at that time, I had heard from 131 other abortion survivors throughout the course of my pro-life work and The Abortion Survivors Network ministry that I founded in 2012. I am overjoyed to share that even since that article was published on May 14th, I have now heard from another seven survivors, bringing the current total to 138!

In addition to the overwhelming number of emails that I’ve received from survivors lately, I’ve also received a large

number of responses from fellow pro-lifers like the following: “I’ve been pro-life since I was a child, but I feel so dumb because I never knew until now that there were any abortion survivors, nonetheless a whole lot of you!”

For the record, I just want to be clear that no pro-lifer should ever feel ‘dumb,’ for not knowing about survivors. Over the last 40 years, the pro-life community has not spoken of survivors because they have been largely unaware of them, and not because they are oblivious, but because most survivors don’t speak about it openly. Even in my case, as a survivor, I was unaware of other survivors for many years.

After I found out at the age of 14 about surviving my birthmother’s abortion, I spent the next five years feeling terribly alone and afraid. Then, in 1997, I discovered Gianna Jessen’s story online, and it changed my life. Just knowing that I was not alone as a survivor was life-changing for me. To read about how

Gianna was using her survival to make a difference additionally provided me with the encouragement and strength that I needed to prepare myself for coming forward publicly as a survivor.

The Abortion Survivors Network is now my opportunity to give back to survivors and even to the greater public, just as I was given information, hope and strength through finding Gianna's story years ago. If you haven't visited the website yet, you can find us at www.theabortionsurvivors.com.

Although I regularly update the site with new survivor testimonies, I will be sharing exclusive previews of survivor stories here on LifeNews.

I am excited about this opportunity to work with LifeNews to share a perspective on building a culture of life and working in the pro-life movement that is unique—that of an abortion survivor. I am equally excited about how my regular blogging here will provide readers of LifeNews with more knowledge of survivors and our experiences, which I hope will provide readers with real-life

examples to strengthen their position on life and motivate them to keep moving forward in creating a culture of life.

Another Kermit Gosnell Delivers Babies Alive and Snips Their Necks

by Kristan Hawkins |

Washington, DC |

LifeNews.com | 6/1/13 12:17

PM

Pro-abortion zealots want you to believe that convicted killer Kermit Gosnell was an exception. That his "House of Horrors" was the only bad apple.

But you don't have to look far to find other Gosnells. They are lurking in communities across our nation, enabled by politicians and officials who won't enact or enforce basic regulations and health safety standards on abortion businesses because of their own utmost devotion to abortion eugenics ideology or for fear of the powerful abortion lobby. Late-term abortionist Douglas Karpen is one such man who has thus far escaped into the system, like Gosnell did for decades.

Delivering Babies Alive and Snipping Necks



Of course we all know how Gosnell infamously snipped the necks of babies who were born alive. It's horrible to think about, but that seems to be the modus operandi for late-term abortionists. Down in Texas, Douglas Karpen does the exact same thing when he fails to kill his patients' children quick enough, i.e. before they leave the birth canal.

In [eye-opening testimony](#), former workers for Karpen's abortion business have spoken out about his abhorrent practices. One of Karpen's former operating room assistants confirmed she saw babies born alive every day but didn't realize it was illegal. She helped Karpen with the abortions and said, "Most of the time the fetus would come completely out before he cut the spinal cord; or he introduced one of the

instruments into the soft spot of the fetus, in order to kill the fetus."

Just as Gosnell witnesses testified that they saw some of the babies breathing or moving before he "snipped" them, Karpen's assistant described, "It was still moving, you could see the stomach, breathing. That's when he would snip the spine." Often, she said Karpen would pull a baby out feet first until he clamped down on the head with "Bierers" (forceps with with serrated jaws.) She had to look away after too many times watching the baby's toes wiggling, then jerk and spread open, before finally going limp.

She and other former Karpen workers told of other ways Karpen would kill babies born alive. How he pushed a surgical instrument into a baby's stomach to kill it, put his finger down a baby's throat, or twisted a baby's head to break it off his neck. And just as we saw the dead bodies of the babies Gosnell snipped, the [bloody images](#) of at least two late-term babies Karpen killed have been smuggled out of his chop shop as proof of his practices.

“Fetuses and Blood All Over the Place”

In the bloody business of abortion, the name of the game is to get women in and out quickly. One of Gosnell’s unlicensed workers testified that at times, when women were given medicine to speed up their deliveries, [“it would rain fetuses. Fetuses and blood all over the place.”](#) Another worker testified in the Gosnell [Grand Jury report](#) “that one or two babies fell out of patients each night. They dropped out on lounge chairs, on the floor, and often in the toilet.”

Karpen’s workers spoke of similar horror stories where women went into labor too early. The workers said, “We saw a lot of cases where women felt like they had to push and they had to run to the bathroom. On some occasions, we had women where the fetuses were falling into the toilet...or before even getting to the clinic.” They went on to say that one woman left her baby in a McDonald’s bathroom. Another was walking to the operating room for her abortion, but ended up giving birth in the hallway. In that

case, Karpen simply picked the child up and threw him in a trash bag.

It gets worse. Another Karpen assistant said that sometimes a baby was too far along to be delivered easily: “Sometimes he couldn’t get the fetus out. He (Karpen) would yank pieces – piece by piece – when they were oversized. And I’m talking about the whole floor dirty. I’m talking about me drenched in blood.”

The fetuses and blood really did get everywhere. At Gosnell’s clinic, they backed up the facility plumbing regularly, and the [janitor had to clean out the fetal parts](#), babies’ arms and legs, from the pipes. When Karpen’s clinic had a sewer leak, a woman at the business next door reported, “This whole area is nothing but raw sewage and bloody pieces. There were little legs coming out from one side.” It sounds like a scene out of a horror film, but the horror of abortion is all too real.

Medical Boards that Refuse to Investigate or Discipline Serious Complaints

How do mom and pop chop shops like Gosnell’s and