

Holy Mary, Mother of God



Letter from the Editor:

In My Opinion

Eugene A. Santoro

I looked up the word "pompous"; the following list is what came-up on my computer dictionary.

#### POMPOUS

pretentious, self-important, arrogant, haughty, proud, conceited, grandiose, bombastic, theatrical, inflated, high-flown, grandiloquent, overblown, ostentatious, showy, pontifical, stuffy, highfalutin, stuffed-shirted; see also egotistic, proud, flatulent, gassy, high and mighty, high-sounding, magisterial, mouthy, oratorical, ornate, pedantic, priggish, puffy, stately, stilted, sumptuous, turgid, vainglorious

I sense, if I looked-up the word "politician" I would get the same list.

I believe politicians start out with good intentions. They pick a party they are suited to, the party they believe they can help. They are introduced to the leaders; they are treated according to tradition and protocol. They are overwhelmed with ceremonial forms and courtesies, of precedence, etc. They are there for the little guy; they can solve all the worlds' problems. They will cooperate with everyone; they will take the people's fight to the arena. They naively become the frog in the tepid water.

Politicians are basically "Party Puppets" they realize that it is not what the people want; it is what the party wants. It is what the party tells them is best for the people. Politicians are supposed to be "public servants" but slowly and surely they begin to serve themselves from the public. The public is a bottomless trough filled with treasure.

Once a politician realizes he/she can control the voters by throwing them scraps of infrastructure and/or personal promises they begin to fulfill the definition of pompous.

After a few years in politics most politicians are well known and well-off. They have their own set of rules: they control their own destiny, they control their own health insurance, they control their own pay raises, they control their own retirement, they receive all kinds of perks, and they control us.

It is not long before a politician begins to think of himself or herself as morally pure, sinless, unblemished, unsullied, undefiled, spotless, wholesome, upright, unimpeachable, clean, virtuous, chaste, virginal, immaculate, impeccable, righteous, uncorrupted, irreproachable, unstained, stainless, unspotted, incorrupt, moral, angelic, and squeaky-clean.

It is not fair to expect anyone to have to live under the conditions that we place our politicians. We voters seem to be the ones that have to endure the pleasure of progress. It is time to have some real change. Let us give them a rest; for a change; it is time to let the politicians experience the wonders of progress. It is time to have some real change. Let us give them a rest; let them enjoy the task of filling out an income tax form,

Try to live on a pention and a downsized social security benefit, let them relish the wringing feeling in the pit of the stomach worrying about a lay-off, or will their rent go up this month. They need a vacation. It is time for some real change; next time you vote do something different and innovative, show some mercy and give the incumbent a rest.

### **Utopia is Missing**

#### Eugene A. Santoro

Remember the posters during world war two? Here is an example: "Loose lips sink ships", "Uncle Sam wants you." "Button your lip!" "Be smart, act dumb." When I think back, we patriotically reacted to those posters. We kept our mouths shut and we rallied around Uncle Sam because he needed us.

We bought stamps and war bonds, we collected newspapers and metal, and we gave-up the foods that were used to make ammunition and feed our service men.

We gave-up our own comforts to support our troops. We were generous, cooperative, and dedicated because we were united. We were not one religion, one race, one ethnic group, or one political party, we were all Americans.

We are the melting pot of the world; we were referred to as

"A sleeping giant." We had what the rest of the world wanted; we had the freedom to hear and to be heard. We were willing to make beneficial changes and patiently be changed. We felt we had everything. What the hell happened?

# Pro-Life Advocates Ask Obama to Withdraw Abortion Backer From Faith Council

Washington, DC (LifeNews.com) -- Prominent pro-life advocates are asking President Barack Obama to withdraw one of his appointees to the White House Council on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. They say Harry Knox, the director of the religion and faith program at Human Rights Campaign, shouldn't be on the panel. Knox's group is a gay rights organization that also strongly supports abortion. He has come under fire for attacking the Pope, who recently said that condoms are not the answer to the AIDS/HIV crisis in Africa. Knox called Pope Benedict XVI a liar and said he should "start telling the truth about condom use" and claimed the Catholic leader was "endangering people's lives." Knox even went so far as to say that the Knights of Columbus group members are "foot soldiers of a discredited

army of oppression." Catholic League president Bill Donohue explains why Knox is unfit to serve. "Though Knox is not Catholic, he could not resist blasting the Catholic Church," Donohue said. "He never explained how calls for abstinence could possibly jeopardize anyone's life." "Catholics take note: the Obama administration would never appoint an anti-gay person to any post. But it has no problem appointing anti-Catholics," he said.

**Pro-Life Advocate Con**demns Latest Abortion Figures in Planned Parenthood Report Washington, DC (LifeNews.com) -- A leading Planned Parenthood watchdog group is not happy with the latest figures in the Planned Parenthood of America Federation annual report. The report showed the number of abortions Planned Parenthood does annually is rising while national figures show abortions on the decline. Doug Scott, the president of Life Decisions International. which coordinates boycotts of corporations that provide grants to the abortion business, tells LifeNews.com the numbers show Planned Parenthood's business is booming. The

305,310 abortions Planned Parenthood did in 2007, which is up 5.4 percent from its 2006 figures, generated an estimated \$130 million for the abortion business. PPFA's Annual Report shows that the group generated more than \$1.038 billion in Fiscal Year 2007-2008, which is an increase of nearly two percent from the previous reporting period. In the 2006-2007 fiscal year, PPFA's budget had risen more than 11 percent over the previous year's data. "This 'notfor-profit' goliath ends every fiscal year with millions of dollars in 'excess revenue over expenses," Scott said, "which is known to regular people as 'profit.'" On June 30, 2008, PPFA had net assets valued at \$1.014.4 billion, of which \$460.2 was unrestricted and another \$147.2 million was temporarily restricted.

## **Old Friends**

There comes a point in your life when you realize: Who matters, Who never did, Who won't anymore..... And who always will.. So, don't worry about people from your past, there's a reason why they didn't make it to your future.. Watch your thoughts; they become words.. Watch your words; they become actions. Watch your actions; they become habits. Watch your habits; they become character. Watch your character; it becomes your destiny.

#### **50th Wedding Anniversary**

At St. Mary's Catholic Church, they have a weekly husbands' marriage seminar. At the session last week, the priest asked Giuseppe, who was approaching his 50th wedding anniversary, to take a few minutes and share some insight into how he had managed to stay married to the same woman all these years. Giuseppe replied to the assembled husbands; Wella, I've atried to treat-a her nicea, spenda da money on her, but besta of alla is, I tooka her to Italy for the 25th anniversary!". The priest responded, "Giuseppe, you are an amazing inspiration to all the husbands here! Please tell us what you are planning for your wife for your 50th Anniversary?" Giuseppe proudly replied; "I'm a gonna go get her."

## Senate Vote on Pro-Abortion Pick Kathleen Sebelius Blocked, Now Tuesday

#### Washington, DC

(LifeNews.com) -- Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell, a pro-life senator from Kentucky, on Thursday objected to a vote on Kathleen Sebelius, the abortion advocate President Barack Obama nominated to become health secretary. Senate Democrats had requested a unanimous consent to allow a vote on Sebelius' nomination. but McConnell's objections makes it to Democrats will need 60 votes to overcome a potential filibuster to allow a vote on the nomination to proceed. McConnell said he blocked the vote because of Sebelius' long proabortion record and the hundreds of thousands of dollars in campaign donations she has received directly or indirectly from lateterm abortion practitioner George Tiller. Following the news that Sebelius' nomination would be blocked, the Senate agreed to schedule a confirmation vote for Tuesday. Then, the Senate will engage in 10 hours of debate and Senate Democrats will follow by calling for a 60vote supermajority to break the pro-life filibuster and allow a vote on Sebelius' confirmation to proceed. The Senate Finance

Committee previously approved Sebelius' nomination on a 15-8 vote, with the baking of two Republicans. It is unclear how many lawmakers will side with the filibuster, but Sebelius' nomination is expected to move ahead given that she has the support of the handful of proabortion Republicans in the chamber and the two Republican senators from Kansas, her home state.

## FDA Allows 17-Year-Olds to Purchase Morning After Pill Over the Counter Washington, DC

(LifeNews.com) -- The FDA on Wednesday made the final decision to allow 17-year-old teenage girls to purchase the morning after pill over the counter instead of having to obtain it via a doctor's prescription. The decision comes after a court ruling last month ordering that Plan B be made available over the counter to those 17 and up. The FDA said in a statement that it would not appeal the court's decision. In the order, U.S. District Judge Edward Korman also asked the agency to consider whether the pill should be available to women of all ages without a prescription, saying that such a determination is best left to the expertise of the FDA rather than a federal district

judge. He also criticized the FDA for departing from its normal standards by having different standards for the drug for different ages. In August 2006, the FDA approved the sale of Plan B without a prescription to those 18 and older, but those 17 and under needed a prescription to obtain it. While Planned Parenthood hailed the decision. Concerned Women for America was disappointed by it. "Plan B is a high dose of birth control pills. ... The FDA violated its standards when it made the high -dose Plan B available nonprescription to adults. But now the FDA is making the drug available to minors without parental consent," the group said. "Parents should be furious that the FDA is putting their minor daughters at risk." Dr. Andrew von Eschenbach, the FDA's acting commissioner at the time the decision was made, said the agency did not approve the drug for sales to teenagers because Barr, its manufacturer, had not provided enough information about how the morning after pill affects them. CWA says selling the morning after pill over the counter will make it easier for men who abuse young women to cover up their crimes. "Any adult male who is having sex with a minor could walk into a pharmacy, buy the drug, and

**Pro-Life Congressman Re**sponds to Hillary Clinton's **Abortion Rights Admission** Washington, DC (LifeNews.com) -- This week, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton admitted that the term "reproductive rights" includes abortion. Her statement confirms what pro-life organizations have said for years about how abortion advocates want to include seemingly-innocuous terms like "reproductive rights" and "reproductive health" in international documents and legislation and define those terms later as covering abortions. Rep. Chris Smith, whose question prompted Clinton's answer. "We happen to think that family planning is an important part of women's health," Clinton told Smith. "And reproductive health includes access to abortion that I believe should be safe, legal, and rare." In a statement sent to LifeNews.com, Smith said Clinton's testimony shows how the Obama administration is planning to promote abortion as an international right and to do so at taxpayer expense. 'It is evident that Mrs. Clinton and President Obama want to force the tragedy of abortion upon women around the world especially and including in countries where democratically elected

leaders want to continue to protect their unborn children," Smith said. "There are other ways in which both mother and baby are protected, cared for and helped-- with food, nutrition, clean water and lifeaffirming healthcare. Secretary Clinton's inability to see this will mean more babies will die and more women will suffer the consequence of abortion as a result of U.S. foreign policy overseas." coax the girl into taking the

pill," she said.



# Stop the Abortion Bailout today!

Abortion groups have submitted their 55 page wish list to Obama. At the top of the list? Over \$1.5 billion in new taxpayer funding of abortion organizations like Planned Parenthood.

House Republicans Want Napolitano to Resign After Memo Targeting Pro-Lifers Washington, DC (LifeNews.com) -- Republicans in the House of Representatives are calling on Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano to step down or for President Obama to fire her. They are upset by a memo Napolitano's department recently released saying people who oppose abortion are likely to engage in terrorism and right-wing extremism. Rep. John Carter, a Texas Republican, says, "Singling out the political opponents for working against the ruling party is precisely the tactic of every tyrannical government from Red China to Venezuela. The first step in the process is creating unfounded public suspicion of political opponents, followed by arresting and jailing any who continue speaking against the regime." Carter organized an hour of speeches on the House floor on Wednesday to protest the memo, in which the Obama administration said people who "oppose abortion" are among those who are potential members of extremist groups or potential terrorists.

# SAY A PRAYER

Little Johnny and his family were having Sunday dinner at his grandmother's house. Everyone was seated around the table as the food was being served. When Little Johnny received his plate, he started eating right away. 'Johnny! Please wait until we say our prayer.' said his mother. 'I don't need to,' the boy replied. 'Of course, you do.' his mother insisted. 'We always say a prayer before eating at our house.' 'That's at our house.' Johnny explained. 'But this is Grandma's house and she knows how to cook!'

## Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius Vetoes Bill for More Limits on Late-Term Abortion

Topeka, KS (LifeNews.com) --In yet another move to add to her lengthy pro-abortion record, Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius has vetoed a bill the legislature approved that-term would place more limits and late-term abortions. Sebelius has received a nomination from President Barack Obama to become the Secretary of the Health and Human Services Department and pro-life advocates cite her record vetoing numerous pro-life bills and her close relationship with late-term abortion practitioner George Tiller as reasons to reject the nomination. Kansans for Life director Mary Kay Culp told LifeNews.com she is not surprised that Sebelius vetoed the bill, saving she is "extremely liberal, but espe-

cially so on late-term abortion." Culp says the veto is another move by Sebelius for her abortion practitioner buddy. "If this confirmation goes forward, George Tiller will have a friend not only in the highest office in Kansas, as he likes to brag, but heading the highest health office in the land," she said. Kansans for Life is urging the state legislature to override the veto of a bill it says conforms to decisions handed down by the Supreme Court and would have required Tiller and other abortion practitioners to state the reasons for a lateterm abortion instead of merely citing state law as the valid reason. The group says the bill would have stopped some abortions done late in pregnancy for supposed mental health considerations. "The number of post-viability abortion rose 14% in Kansas last year because Tiller ignores the law and Sebelius keeps trying to ignore her role as administering and enforcing the law," Culp says. Kansas has become notorious as the late-term abortion capitol of the nation.

# Tennessee Legislators Target Planned Parenthood Funding After Video Expose'

Nashville, TN (LifeNews.com) -- State lawmakers in Tennessee say that a new video exposing Planned Parenthood staff in Memphis ignoring potential sexual abuse of a minor is prompting them to work harder to shelve taxpayer funding for the abortion business. The video could derail the agency's \$721,000 state contract to provide family planning services in Shelby County. The contract, paid for under the federal government's "Title 10" family planning program, does not pay for abortions but lawmakers say taxpayers shouldn't be forced to have their money go to a group that does. Lt. Gov. Ron Ramsey joined colleagues Wednesday expressing outrage over actions depicted in a hidden-camera video released Monday. Ramsey and sponsors of a bill to yank Planned Parenthood's funding say the state should give preference to public institutions like The Med over private agencies like Planned Parenthood for contracts for family -planning services. The state Department of Health administers the contracts. The video depicts a 20-year-old California student posing as a 14-year-old girl seeking an abortion at the Memphis clinic. She tells a counselor she was impregnated by her 31-year-old boyfriend. The video also depicts the Planned Parenthood counselor as advising the girl to lie about her boyfriend's age before a judge in a request for a judicial bypass to get an abortion. Tennessee law requires health pro-

viders to notify law enforcement upon learning a minor has sex with someone over 18 who is at least four years older, felony statutory rape under state law. Planned Parenthood community services director Joan Carr told a Memphis newspaper Wednesday that her agency takes "any allegation like this very seriously" but said the video "was obviously heavily edited. We've requested the raw video so we can determine what actually happens." She also claimed: "We follow all the laws and requirements regarding reporting sexual abuse or sexual abuse of minors with older partners, and we've already reported several cases so far this year."

## **Thomas Jefferson Said:**

"When we get piled upon one another in large cities, as in Europe, we shall become as corrupt as Europe." Thomas Jefferson

"The democracy will cease to exist when you take away from those who are willing to work and give to those who would not." Thomas Jefferson

"It is incumbent on every generation to pay its own debts as it goes. A principle which if acted on would save one-half the wars of the world." Thomas Jefferson

"I predict future happiness for Americans if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them." Thomas Jefferson

r nonnas serierson

"My reading of history convinces me that most bad government results from too much government." Thomas Jefferson

"No free man shall ever be debarred the use of arms." Thomas Jefferson

"The strongest reason for the people to retain the right to keep and bear arms is, as a last resort, to protect themselves against tyranny in government." Thomas Jefferson

"The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants." Thomas Jefferson

In light of the present financial crisis, it's interesting to read what Thomas Jefferson said in 1802: "Banking institutions are more dangerous to our liberties than standing armies. If the American people ever allow private banks to control the issue of their currency, first by inflation, then by deflation, the banks and corporations that will grow up around the banks will deprive the people of all property until their children wake-up homeless on the continent their fathers conquered."

Doesn't this sound eerily familiar to what is happening in America today? (And yet - we couldn't see it coming even ONE YEAR ago!!!!!)



# JOKES

Sometimes, we wonder why friends keep forwarding jokes to us without writing a word. (Maybe this will explain that you are often in my thoughts in many ways.) When you are very busy, but still want to keep in touch, guess what you do? You forward jokes.

When you have nothing to say, but still want to keep contact, you forward jokes.

When you have something to say, but don't know what, and don't know how, you forward jokes.

Also to let you know that you are still remembered, you are still important, you are still loved, you are still cared for, guess what you get? A forwarded joke.

So, next time if you get a joke, don't think that you've been sent just another forwarded joke, but that you've been thought of today and your friend on the other end of your computer wanted to send you a smile.



Swine Flu Warning, Do Not Kiss Pigs!

**A WOMANS PLACE** Barbara Walters, of Television's 20/20, did a story on gender

roles in Kabul, Afghanistan several years before the Afghan conflict. She noted that women customarily walked five paces behind their husbands. She recently returned to Kabul and observed that women still walk behind their husbands. From Ms . Walters' vantage point, despite the overthrow of the oppressive Taliban regime, the women now seem to walk even further back behind their husbands, and are happy to maintain the old custom. Ms. Walters approached one of the Afghani women and asked, 'Why do you now seem happy with an old custom that you once tried so desperately to change?'

The woman looked Miss Walters straight in the eyes, and without hesitation said, 'Land Mines.'

Moral of the story is no matter what language you speak and where you go: BEHIND EVERY MAN, THERE'S A SMART WOMAN



What next?