

Life News



June
2014

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Life Newsbytes

Evidence Shows Abortion Increases Breast Cancer Risk by 180 percent – A new study has emerged from India showing an alarmingly strong link between abortion and breast cancer, and that a woman’s breast cancer risk appears to rise with each abortion she has. The research—conducted by Dr. Unmesh Takalkar, a consultant surgeon and chief medical director at United CIIGMA Hospital in India and an endoscopic surgeon and fellow at Johns Hopkins—was published in the latest peer-reviewed journal *Research in Endocrinology*. The researchers came to their conclusions after studying 220 women in the city of Aurangabad, India, with associations between abortion and breast cancer. The evidence shows women who abort are 1.8 times more likely to develop breast cancer. (*LifeSiteNews.com*, 4/30/14; *CLR Life News*, 5/1/14)

Speaking Up For Life

“The sanctity of marriage and the family relation are the cornerstone of our American society and civilization.” *President Rutherford B. Hayes*

“Traditional marriage ... is ordained by God, one man and one woman. People say if you look in the Old Testament, men had several wives. That was not God’s intent. He made a beautiful design for the family. But Satan came in and began to get some things tangled up. It took a very powerful and loving God to send His only begotten Son to shed His blood and to correct that.” *Alveda King, niece of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and pastoral associate and director of African-American outreach for Priests for Life and Gospel of Life Ministries*

“Our society badly needs the witness of God’s Word to regain a sense of appreciation for His designs for marriage and the raising of children. Fathers, don’t sit around sulking, waiting for the cards and gifts. Commit to your woman and lift her up in honor. Support, mentor, and lead your children ... know that you will have God’s mighty Spirit to help you.” *Rev. Mark Jeske, Time of Grace*

Teaching For Life®



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Since 1973 over 56,662,169 abortions in the United States

Each year over 1,120,775 abortions in the United States

Source: National Right to Life



Lutherans For Life National Conference
October 24-25, 2014 • Grand Rapids, Michigan

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The Secular and the Sacred by James I. Lamb

Happy June! Allow me to risk a little liturgical license by combining the secular and the sacred which occur in June—Father’s Day (June 15) and the Nativity of John the Baptist (June 24). We see the connection in Gabriel’s words about John to Zechariah. “[A]nd he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared” (Luke 1:17).

John would “turn hearts.” The angel gives two examples to illustrate John’s task to prepare the way for the Lord. Father’s hearts are not turned toward their children and the disobedient refuse to look to the wisdom of the just. Both reflect a wandering away from God’s will and God’s direction. John preached the Law through which God would convict His people of their wandering ways and bring them to repentance. John also pointed to Jesus, “**the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world**” (John 1:29).

“Heart turning,” then, is God’s doing as He works through His Word and His Word made flesh. Human fathers cannot turn their hearts toward their children on their own. It is the work of God’s Law and God’s Gospel. Too often we use only law. Even many well-meaning Christians will try to turn a father’s heart by assailing him with what he should do or should be like or should say, often backing up their assertions with well-thumbed Bible passages. A steady diet of law will only cause a father to rebel in defiance or relinquish in despair.

For fathers to have “turning hearts,” they also need to hear what God has done, is doing, and will do. More than anything else, they need to hear that God loves fathers. He is one. For the Christian Father, the single most important thing in turning their hearts to their children is the Fatherhood of God.

God loves Fathers. He is one. He is the Father of Jesus Christ. God’s love for fathers flows through His Son, or to put it another way, God’s heart is turned toward them in Jesus. Through faith in Jesus, fathers understand that they live in grace. They are accepted and loved not because of what they do or do not do, but because of the forgiveness and righteousness they received in Christ. Living in this grace, they find the love, motivation, and strength they need to turn their hearts to their children. They find the forgiveness they need when they fail. They find the courage they need to try again.

God loves Fathers. He is one. He is our father. Having been adopted as God’s children in Christ through baptism and living in grace, earthly fathers can learn from their heavenly Father as they strive to do His will “turning their hearts” to their children.

The above illustrates the core purpose of LFL. We want to connect God’s Word of Law and Gospel to the very real sorrows and joys His people experience. We strive to help people see this connection and equip them to help others. You could say that LFL uses God’s Law and Gospel so the Holy Spirit can turn the hearts of His people to life! And not just life, but LIFE created by God, redeemed by Jesus, and called by the Holy Spirit.

Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb is the executive director of Lutherans For Life.



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