

# In Defence of Life

## Edmonton Prolife's Newsletter

Volume 5, Issue 4

'educating for life'

Fall 2007

### President's Message: Pollution of the mind: let's go green!

With the onset of a new school year, our newsletter traditionally has articles on education. The book "Unprotected" is highlighted, written by college psychiatrist Dr. Miriam Grossman. She details the world of the toxic lifestyle of the hook-up culture, a sex-saturated "free love" with no consequences. The experts, advisors, counselors are only allowed to give "politically correct" advise about useless physical protection. The mental anguish and devastation and long-term emotional, spiritual and physical harm are forbidden to be discussed. I encourage you to borrow this book from our library and find out for yourself what is happening on campuses. May be buy a copy and give it to a professor/dean/counselor at our many campuses.

Another interesting book is "The world without us" by Alan Weisman. It goes further in the religion of ecology, which believes that the earth would be better off without humans. It is the ultimate goal in population control.

Denial of the toxic environment of the brain washing of "no consequences of destructive sexual behavior" is not only limited to colleges and universities. Our K-12 schools are also more and more under Charter of Rights directives of children's autonomy, reproductive choice, special interest groups with anti-life agenda's advising on curriculum etc. This October, we can

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positively influence the education of our children, grandchildren and society by participating in school trustees' elections. Remember, be well-informed, and if you do not vote you cannot criticize!

Coming to Edmonton sometime in the future are the trucks from Canadian Centre for Bio-ethical Reform with "Tell the Truth" abortion photo's (see inside story). UofA Campus Prolife has also been involved in a similar display. Edmonton Prolife has a policy of celebrating life, not showing aborted babies on displays and in pamphlets. We appreciate receiving feedback on this. Should Edmonton Prolife support in principle CCBR's educational outreach, or not, and why?

We are counting on you to CELEBRATE LIFE together at the annual LIFECHAIN - we, the people, the crowning glory of God's creation. See you there. (Note new location, new date!).

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### Is it Education or Indoctrination?

With school back in session soon, now is a good time to ask ourselves what is really happening in our schools and universities, with regards to truthful education on the life issues.

We need to be alert and critical of the messages that are being brought into our schools, through curriculum, various presentations and guest speakers. We need to understand the difference between indoctrination and education. Indoctrinate, to imbue with a usually partisan or sectarian opinion, point of view, or principle. Educate, to develop mentally, morally, or aesthetically especially by instruction; to provide with information. Next time your child brings home a note about a presentation or speaker, a new curriculum look at the information carefully and ask your self is it education or indoctrination. Education in a vacuum is not actually education, but rather, indoctrination.

If you are interested in bringing some balance to your child's school, consider helping Edmonton Prolife set up prolife clubs at your child's school. See page three for more information.

## Upcoming Events

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- **September 15 - 17, 2006 - Rachel Vineyard Retreat – Post Abortion Healing -**  
For women and men who have had a past abortion experience:  
November 2-4. Call Marlene at (780)967-5971. November 09-11, 2007, April 18-20, 2008, November 14-16, 2008 Please contact the Project Rachel office at (403) 218-5504 or toll free @ 1-877-597-3223, or via e-mail: [projectrachel@rcdiocese.ab.ca](mailto:projectrachel@rcdiocese.ab.ca)
  - **Walkathon** - As a non-profit society, we rely on donations from supportive pro-life people to continue doing our work. The Walk for Life is our biggest fund-raiser of the year and it is an event that the whole family can enjoy. The next Walk for Life is scheduled for **Saturday, September 15, 2007**. Registration starts at 8:30 am at Rundell Park Family Centre. Walkers recruit sponsors to donate funds to our projects and continuing pro-life work. A pledge sheet has been included with this newsletter; additional pledge sheets are available from the office. For more information call 425-1637. **Please place the poster in your church and remember if you can't walk sponsor someone who can!**
  - **Life Chain – NEW DATE, NEW LOCATION!** The Life Chain takes place from **2:30 to 3:30 pm on Sunday, September 30, 2007**. We invite those in church leadership to make a commitment to personal involvement and then to urge the members of their congregation to participate as well. We provide posters and bulletin inserts to advertise the Life Chain prior to the event. For more information, call our office at 425-1637. More information on page 3.
  - **ASLAN Youth Conference** - The annual A.S.L.A.N. Pro-Life Youth conference is a month earlier this year on September 29 at Assumption School in Cold Lake. The theme of the conference is "Life, Sexuality and True Love" and one of the featured speakers is Beverly Hadland-Turner on the subject of "Flings, Crushes and Romance." The conference runs from 8:30 to 4:30 and includes lunch and snacks for only \$10 if you register before September 15. The first 15 registrants get a free "unaborted" T-shirt. You can get more details and register online at [www.albertapro-life.com](http://www.albertapro-life.com) or contact host group Lakeland Pro-Life at [jar.lir@telus.net](mailto:jar.lir@telus.net).
  - **National pro-life conference** - If you've never attended a national pro-life conference, consider signing up for this year's event in Moncton, New Brunswick on October 25 - 27. The conference will feature speakers Mary Ann Kuharski, Lorraine Hartsook and many others and will include Acadian entertainment and a Lobster Cruise. You can also attend the LifeCanada annual meeting. For more details and to download registration forms go to [www.lifecanada.org](http://www.lifecanada.org).
  - **Prolife conference in Calgary - Awakening Hope for Life** - Oct 19-20, 2007 more info at [http://www.rcdiocese-calgary.ab.ca/familyresource/PDF/Awakening\\_Brochure.pdf](http://www.rcdiocese-calgary.ab.ca/familyresource/PDF/Awakening_Brochure.pdf).
  - **Prolife Conference in Edmonton** - Lutherans For Life will host a one day conference in Edmonton On Saturday November 10, 2007. More details on page 3.
  - **International Symposium on Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide. Current Issues - Future Directions** - The Euthanasia Prevention Coalition is co-sponsoring the first International Symposium on euthanasia and assisted suicide entitled: Current Issues - Future Directions on Nov 30 - Dec 1, 2007 at the Toronto Airport Sheraton Hotel. More info at [www.epcc.ca](http://www.epcc.ca)
  - **Join others in an hour of peaceful, prayerful activism against the daily slaughter of innocent babies. Morgentaler Abortion Clinic: 12490, 109 A Ave.**  
The third Sunday of every month. Candle light Rosary at 7:30 pm. Contact Maryellen at 476-4026  
For information on any of the above events, call the Edmonton Prolife office at **425-1637** or email us at [edmpl@interbaun.com](mailto:edmpl@interbaun.com)

In Defence of Life: Edmonton Prolife's Newsletter is published four times a year by Edmonton Prolife Association, #212, 11125-107 Ave. Edmonton, AB T5H 0X9. Ph. (780) 425-1637, Fax. (780) 425-1320, email: [edmpl@interbaun.com](mailto:edmpl@interbaun.com), website: [www.edmontonprolife.org](http://www.edmontonprolife.org)  
Editor: Karen Richert

EPL Board: President: Corry Morcos, Treasurer: Glenn Woolger, Recording Secretary: Anne Wansink, Directors: Katherine Richter, Michael Cooper, Rachel Dueck, Janet MacLellan and John MacDonald

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New board members welcomed. Meetings held bimonthly first Tuesday, 5:30 pm, at EPL office. All EPL members welcome to attend

## Life Chain 2007

Life Chain is an international prayer event and is held on the first Sunday of October. Edmonton Prolife is encouraging your church members, women's and men's groups, extended family, youth groups and other organizations to rally together to show Edmontonians we are a community that values all life.

This year Edmonton Prolife will hold its Life Chain on Sunday, September 30, from 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm, due to the Thanksgiving Day weekend falling on the first Sunday of October. Life Chain will begin at the intersection of 104 Ave and 109 St. (near the downtown campus of Grant McEwan College) and run west along 104<sup>th</sup> Ave. to 124th Street and then north on 124th St. to the Morgentaler Clinic at 109A Ave.

Our goal is to have each block of the route filled with approximately twenty people. We are asking your church to join Edmonton prolife and commit to fill a block or more! Life Chain is open to groups and individuals. Contact Karen at 425-1637 or [edmpl@interbaun.com](mailto:edmpl@interbaun.com) for more info or to become a prolife contact for your church. Please place the enclosed poster in your church, school, library or any public place. Thanks!

**Your commitment will be approximately 1.5 hours on Sunday September 30 from 2:15 to 3:45, but your presence will make a difference for LIFE!**

## Love Life: A Life Issues Conference

Lutherans for Life – Canada, Concordia University College of Alberta, and Concordia Lutheran Seminary are hosting a Life Issues Conference on **Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at the Tegler Centre at Concordia University College of Alberta** (Located at Wayne Gretzky Drive and 112 Ave). The conference will begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 4:45 p.m. Featured speakers/workshop leaders will be: Dr. Stephen Genuis, Dr. Gerald Krispin (President of CUCA) and Dr. Manfred Zeuch (President of CLS). Dr. Genuis' keynote address will be: "Teen Sex: Reality Strikes Back." Dr. Krispin's plenary will be: "God's Will and the Handicapped." There will be a number of workshops offered dealing with a variety of life issues: reproductive technologies, stem cell research; chronic-care issues; talking to your children about sex; a Bible study addressing God as Creator.

Pre-Registration is \$20.00 at the Door is \$25.00, High School/University Students are \$10.00 (which includes a lunch). A conference registration form, accompanied with more workshop information, will be posted on the Concordia Lutheran Seminary, Edmonton website at [www.concordiasem.ab.ca](http://www.concordiasem.ab.ca).

## CCBR truck campaign continues

Last week the Calgary-based Canadian Centre for Bioethical Reform (CCBR) launched its Reproductive Choice Campaign in which a large box-truck with billboard-sized photos of aborted babies drives through the streets of Calgary. The first few days of the campaign elicited limited media coverage but on Saturday, August 11, both the Calgary Herald and the National Post featured articles on the controversial campaign. In the Herald, columnist Nigel Hannaford wrote admiringly of CCBR's executive director Stephanie Gray for her courage and her "intellectual clarity." You can read the column at <http://www.canada.com/calgaryherald/columnists/story.html?id=d5b93901-4c0f-4652-8ca3-4b9f1d243afc>. Ms. Gray appeared on several radio shows last week and was scheduled to debate Vicki Saporta, head of the National Abortion Federation (NAF) in the U.S., on Vancouver's CKNW radio station on Tuesday night. At the last minute, Ms. Saporta cancelled and was replaced by the Canadian NAF director Dawn Fowler. Not only that, the two were interviewed separately so that there was no exchange between them. Lifesite News reported that CKNW host Michael Smyth "was clearly dissatisfied" with Ms. Fowler's reluctance to answer his question on why she claimed the photos were misleading. You can learn more about CCBR and the truck campaign at [www.unmaskingchoice.ca](http://www.unmaskingchoice.ca).

## Influencing your child's school

The primary responsibility for the education of children rests with parents. Schools do not substitute for this parental responsibility, but are supposed to merely assist it. Parents, therefore, retain the right to intervene and actively influence the content of the school curriculum.

In this context, parents can help get the pro-life message into schools, whether they are public or sectarian. For example, recommend to your child's teacher to have the class participate in some of the national pro-life essay contests, such as that sponsored each year by the March for Life. The school or individual class may want to sponsor its own essay contest. This can also be done in conjunction with the local church, and the winning essay can be read at the Sunday service. Poster contests can have the winning pro-life posters placed in the back of the church so that the whole congregation sees them.

Curricula for young people on the pro-life message are being developed in various parts of the country. Parents should recommend to the school particular books or materials that can instill a pro-life mentality in the children. If you would like more info contact Edmonton Prolife at [edmpl@interbaun.com](mailto:edmpl@interbaun.com).

## Capital Ex

Another successful educational opportunity for Edmonton ProLife wrapped up at the end of July. Many thanks to our faithful volunteers for making the event happen.

One of our goals in having public educational booths is to educate the public. During the event people had the opportunity to fill in a draw ballot and answer a question. After reviewing the ballots it would appear that we have some work to do in the areas of education! Most people did not realize that the majority of abortions occur between 9 and twelve weeks, some people think that there is legal protection for the unborn and many people did not know what projects prolife groups are involved with, particularly in aid to women in crisis pregnancy. In an effort to impart some Life knowledge to you we are providing you with this quick little Abortion IQ test. If you are having trouble with any of the questions visit our website at [www.edmontonprolife.org](http://www.edmontonprolife.org) and search for the answers.

### TEST YOUR ABORTION I.Q.

1. In 1969 the Canadian government legalized abortion through which month of pregnancy?
  - A) 3<sup>rd</sup> month
  - B) 6<sup>th</sup> month
  - C) 9<sup>th</sup> month
2. In 1969 it was not known when life begins
  - A) True
  - B) False
3. The average number of abortions performed each day in Canada is:
  - A) 27
  - B) 155
  - C) 300
4. At what stage of development can a baby's sex be determined?
  - A) 4 days
  - B) 6 weeks
  - C) 3 months
5. The estimated number of preborn children's lives terminated by abortion in Canada since 1969 is:
  - A) 1.5 million
  - B) 250,000
  - C) 2.5 million
6. There are (?) babies aborted for every hundred babies born in Canada:
  - A) 13
  - B) 23
  - C) 33
  - D) 43
7. A developing baby's heart starts to beat at:
  - A) 21 days
  - B) 42 days
  - C) 10 weeks
8. Abortion is promoted as a decision between a woman and her doctor. But the percentage of abortions performed in clinics where the woman never sees a doctor until he appears to abort her baby is:
  - A) 10%
  - B) 15%
  - C) 33%
9. With the advances in medical research the variety of surgical procedures which are now performed on babies in the womb are:
  - A) 50
  - B) 80
  - C) over 100
10. A conservative estimate of the number of couples or individuals in Canada waiting to adopt a child is:
  - A) 5,000
  - B) 17,000
  - C) 23,000

#### ANSWERS TO ABORTION I.Q. QUIZ

1 C, 2 B, 3 C, 4 A, 5 A, 6 C, 7 A, 8 C, 9 C, 10 C

Sources: Questions

3, 5, 6, 8: Statistics Canada

4, 7: Flanagan, F.L. "The First Nine Months of Life" (1962)

10: National Adoption Study, University of Guelph

9: Dr. Bernard Nathanson

## 5 Big Myths you need to Expose.

There are many anti life myths that need exposing but I would like to highlight five for you that we, as prolife people, should know are not true and we should also be able to defend that truth with facts. I hope to be able to give you the tools you will need to defend the truth about the dignity of all life.

In no particular order they are:

Myth #1. If we make abortion illegal women will turn to coat hangers and back alley abortion.

FACT. Dr. Bernard Nathanson -- who was one of the original leaders of the American pro-abortion movement and co-founder of N.A.R.A.L. (National Abortion Rights Action League), and who has since become pro-life -- **admits** that he and others in the abortion rights movement **intentionally fabricated the number** of women who allegedly died as a result of illegal abortions.

How many deaths were we talking about when abortion was illegal? In N.A.R.A.L. we generally emphasized the drama of the individual case, not the mass statistics, but when we spoke of the latter it was always "5,000 to 10,000 deaths a year." **I confess that I knew the figures were totally false, and I suppose the others did too** if they stopped to think of it. But in the "morality" of the revolution, it was a useful figure, widely accepted, so why go out of our way to correct it with honest statistics. The overriding concern was to get the laws eliminated, and anything within reason which had to be done was permissible.<sup>[3]</sup>

To find out more go to

<http://www.christiananswers.net/q-sum/q-life003.html>

Myth #2 Prolife people oppose the use of stem cells and are against research for life saving treatment.

FACT. Prolife people understand that all successful stem cells research and treatment has been derived from adult stem cells, which cause no ethical concerns and does not destroy a life. For more information see the last newsletter. If you don't have a copy it is available at [www.edmontnprolife.org](http://www.edmontnprolife.org).

Myth #3. Assisted suicide allows someone to die with dignity.

FACT. Most people who are seeking assisted suicide will find dignity in good care and help. We need to build a more compassionate society and work hard to ensure there is good palliative care. Call the office for a copy of the brochure, Euthanasia and assisted suicide, and check out the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition website at [www.epcc.ca](http://www.epcc.ca).

Myth #4 The world is overpopulated.

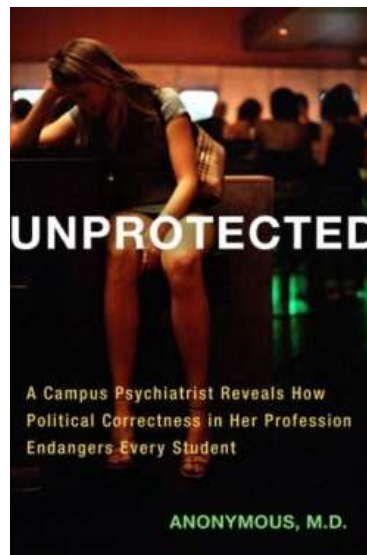
FACT. The developing nations are in a population decline and are looking at ways of encouraging women to have babies, check out the latest stats Canada or

[www.pop.org](http://www.pop.org) and our spring 2006 newsletter located at [www.edmontnprolife.org](http://www.edmontnprolife.org).

Myth #5. Abortions are not done after 20 weeks.  
FACT . Canada has no abortion laws or protection for the unborn. Abortions are performed for any reason or no reason at all through the nine months of pregnancy and publicly funded with your tax dollars. About 439 abortions are reportedly preformed between 17 and 20 weeks and 65 abortions were preformed in Alberta after the twentieth week. Find out more at <http://www.health.gov.ab.ca/resources/publications/reproductive06.pdf> (approximately page 43).

Now you know. Share your information with others.

## Unprotected: How universities can be hazardous to student health



Warren  
Throckmorton, PhD  
November 16, 2006

Eat right. Wear seatbelts. Avoid cigarettes. Use sunscreen.

Yearly, thousands of college kids hear this wisdom from their university health services and wellness professors.

However, it is unlikely that these same students will hear this gem: "Casual sexual liaisons on college campuses are hazardous, especially for young women. Medically and psychologically, it's wise to wait."

One campus psychiatrist wants to know why this advice is rare. She notes, "College health centers do a great job educating students about all sorts of health issues. These professionals expect that, given accurate information, students will make smart choices. They recommend, 'have the salad instead of the pizza.' They assume that young people are capable of self-discipline – and expect it of them. There's only one exception: sexual health. Here students are told: limit your partners, and use latex. Well, it's not working."

This psychiatrist should know. I can tell you she is employed in the college counseling center of a major university and that she is also the author of a new book, *Unprotected*, which describes the faulty practices of the typical university health and counseling

center. What I cannot tell you is her name.

The author of *Unprotected* has taken the name Dr. Anonymous because she is fearful of professional reprisals for her stunningly candid picture of college health today. In an interview, she told me she feels very much at risk. "I'm discussing a taboo topic here: the dangers of radical social agendas in my profession. My colleagues are well-intentioned, and care deeply about their patients. But campus counseling centers are whitewashing the painful consequences of casual sex, STDs and abortion. They are promoting the notion that men and women are the same. They are not educating young people about future and family. In these issues, so central to campus health and counseling, we are failing our young people."

Dr. Anonymous says she is inhibited by her profession from warning students about the risks of unrestrained sexual behavior, perhaps, she believes, because it sounds judgmental. The anything-goes mentality has found its way in to campus health. However, she says, morals aside, "It is not smart to hook up, especially for women."

A superb story teller, she describes patients who pursue success by eating well, exercising, and structuring their lives to get good educational experiences. However, what they don't do well is manage healthy intimate lives. One student, Heather, told Dr. Anonymous that she was depressed but never considered that her depression might relate to a loveless "friends with benefits" relationship with a young man. Dr. Anonymous quotes the young woman saying, "...I'm confused, because it seems like I don't get the 'friend' part, but he still gets the 'benefits.'" Has any mental health or health professional informed Heather that research demonstrates casual sex is associated with an increased risk for depression? Apparently not.

Sadly, however, some prestigious universities present the opposite message. One shocking example from the book is the Columbia University Health Services' website [Goaskalice.com](http://Goaskalice.com). The website portrays itself as a resource to help students "make responsible decisions regarding their health and well-being." What can student learn there? Dr Anonymous lists some of the questions addressed: "Health risks of bestiality;" and how to manage a threesome. You can even learn how to clean a bloody cat-o-nine-tails between sadomasochism sessions. And it's all included in the tuition.

I searched the site for any mention of the relationship between casual sex and depression in young women to no avail. According to Dr. Anonymous, I should not waste my time, I won't find anything to help students limit their sexuality, only express it.

In *Unprotected*, Dr. Anonymous advances a plausible theory that one reason college health services are inundated with depression, eating disorders and sexually transmitted diseases is the failure of the health professions to address the medical and psychological risks of unrestrained sexual behavior. She also takes on the consequences of sexual license on long-term infertility in women, the effects of abortion on the mental health of women and men, as well as the role of religion in promoting good mental adjustment – all topics Dr. Anonymous says are ignored by today's psychiatric profession.

I asked Dr. Anonymous what parents of college aged students should do in response to reading her book. She advised, "Send them the book and use it to start a discussion. Tell your child these are true stories of students just like them: Smart, responsible young men and women who were not accurately informed, thought they were protected, and are now paying the price." Perhaps, parents of university students should send a copy of the book along with their next tuition check.

The author intends such conversations, at all levels of the university. The back cover of the book predicts, "...*Unprotected* will infuriate the health establishment and start a debate on campuses nationwide." Indeed, fury and debate would be a good beginning. After that, I hope those inside and outside the academy heed the warnings and common sense advice of *Unprotected*.

*Unprotected* is published by *Sentinel*, an imprint of the *Penguin Group*. This book is available from the Prolife Library. Call 425-1637.

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Warren Throckmorton, PhD is presently Associate Professor of Psychology and Fellow for Psychology and Public Policy at Grove City College (PA). He is also past-president of the American Mental Health Counseling Association and can be contacted through his website at [www.drthrockmorton.com](http://www.drthrockmorton.com).

## So who is Dr, Anonymous?

Dr. Anonymous is Miriam Grossman, MD of UCLA. The author of the book *Unprotected* allowed her identity to be revealed on the Dr. Laura show. She is Miriam Grossman, M.D., a campus psychiatrist at UCLA., she was initially quite afraid of reprisals. She has now changed her mind.

Despite the uproar Dr. Grossman fears she'll create among her liberal colleagues, she has done a very great thing for girls. She's giving girls a broader view of the truth about their sexuality. She's helping protect them (and many young men too, for that matter). Kudos, Dr. Grossman.

## What is NCLN?

The National Campus Life Network is a pro-life organization for students, by students. Our reason for existing is to help you, the post-secondary students of Canada, bring the pro-life message to your campus.

### How do we do it?

NCLN works to maintain an active pro-life presence on Canadian campuses in two ways:

We equip students for pro-life activism by training them in pro-life apologetics and club strategy. And we provide a network of active pro-life students across Canada. This is achieved through our annual [National Symposium](#) and individual campus visits.

We develop and provide [resources](#) designed for the Canadian university context to students free of charge.

### Why is campus life advocacy important?

Today's students are tomorrow's leaders: Popular campus philosophy does not affirm the inherent dignity of the human person.

Women who attend university are twice as likely to become pro-choice [1].

This age demographic is most impacted: 70% of abortions (more than 75,000 a year) are performed on women age 29 and under [2].

Students often feel that they must choose between school or parenting.

We advocate: a world where everyone has a true right to life, even if they are "defective" or "unwanted." Where everyone is valued for who they are, not for what they can do.

### When did we begin?

In January of 1997, the National Campus Life Network was formed by a group of 40 post-secondary students who organized and attended the first annual National Symposium in Toronto. The goal was to equip pro-life students across the country for campus life advocacy, and network them with each other and the broader pro-life movement.

Today the National Campus Life Network consists of nearly 40 campuses across Canada. NCLN plays an important role in mentoring new leaders into the pro-life movement.

[1] 1996 Gallup Poll. [www.feministsforlife.org/cop/brochure.htm](http://www.feministsforlife.org/cop/brochure.htm).

[2] Statistics Canada. [www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca)

## How Do I join or start a Prolife Club on my campus?

If you are interested in joining the University of Alberta campus prolife club contact Nicole Severin at Email: [ualberta.prolife@gmail.com](mailto:ualberta.prolife@gmail.com).

If you need information about starting a prolife club on your college campus contact National Campus Life Network at 120 Eglinton Avenue E., Suite 700 Toronto, Ontario M4P 1E2 or by Phone: 416-483-7869 (In Toronto) , by Fax: 416-483-7052 (In Toronto) and by E-mail: [info@ncln.ca](mailto:info@ncln.ca). If you want to know more consider attending the upcoming symposium in Toronto, details below.



### 12th Annual National Symposium

Pro-life Apologetics, Campus Advocacy,  
Networking

Meet, train, and network with post-secondary students from across Canada.

September 28<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> 2007

Toronto, Ontario

\$100 includes room, meals, and airport pick-up/drop-off

More details coming soon! Be sure to check the website at <http://www.ncln.ca/symposium.php>.

### Can't make it to the symposium?

Get the information you need to defend your position on campus. The Right to Know Booklet was developed by NCLN in order to provide a concise, yet complete presentation of the basic pro-life position.



It is our firm conviction, backed by every manner of scientific and philosophical evidence, that the act of abortion kills an innocent human being. We have yet to encounter an argument *for* abortion that takes this claim, and its full implications, seriously. Whether you are for or against abortion, the Right to Know Booklet is a must-read, available from Edmonton Prolife Office, call us 425-1637 or email [edmpl@interbaun.com](mailto:edmpl@interbaun.com).

