

Gregg L. Cunningham, Executive Director

June 2009

Dear Pro-Life Friend,

On Sunday, May 31, 2009, we received a poignant note from a twenty-three-year-old woman who regretted her abortion. Referring to our display of abortion photos, she said: "It's a real eye-opener – I wish I'd seen this website five years ago." We were too late to save her baby but just in time to save the niece or nephew of a thirty-four-year-old woman from whom we heard on May 28 in Utica, NY. She said of our abortion pictures: "I never believed in ... [abortion]. My sister saw this [our abortion photos] and changed her mind." The writer thanked us and added: "She was only going to have ... [an abortion because] she has two and could not really afford another child. Thank you so much."

Praise God! But on May 31, 2009, our relief at having saved this precious life was clouded by the tragic murder of late-term abortionist George Tiller. (See "Why Killing Abortionists is Immoral and Stupid" <http://abortionno.org/blog/?p=12>) In a strange way, the Tiller killing immediately thrust our Center For Bio-Ethical Reform (CBR) into the middle of a very weird controversy. The loony Left condemned us for *causing* "Dr." Tiller's death and the off-their-rocker Right rebuked us for *condemning* it. From the Left, the Associated Press (AP) reported a story headlined "Abortion foes worry," June 1, 2009, which quotes Stephanie Poggi, executive director of the National Network of Abortion Funds (which helped fund abortions committed by Mr. Tiller). She alleges that "Anyone in the anti-abortion movement who has called ... abortion a holocaust ... helps create the conditions where something like this can happen." Ah, that would be us. After ten years of displaying our Genocide Awareness Project (which involve huge abortion photos arrayed beside Holocaust photos and photos of victims of other widely recognized forms of genocide) for millions of students on hundreds of college campuses, CBR has arguably done more to establish the concept of abortion as a holocaust than any organization in the world. I question the notion, however, that that makes us accessories to murder.

From the other side of this creepy conflict, we received an email message from a "Rev." Donald Spitz, who is associated with a shadowy group of unstable misfits who have misnamed themselves the "Army of God." Thankfully few in number, they murder abortionists and/or egg on and venerate potential and actual murderers of abortionists. In response to our condemnation of "Dr." Tiller's murder, "Rev." Spitz chided us, by name, for "denouncing someone who defends" preborn children by killing an abortionist. We are left to wonder how a genuinely Christian ordination could ever be conferred upon a vigilante such as "Rev." Spitz, who helps organize lynch mobs.

But not to be outdone by the heretical "Rev." Spitz, a person named Michael Bray, who is also associated with the "Army of God," sent us an email message which began by saying: "We grieve for the perverted sympathy CBR displays for the wicked decedent." He added: "We condemn CBR ([Mark] Harrington [who directs CBR Midwest] and [Gregg] Cunningham) for its condemnation of those who think biblically" Mr. Bray has served time in prison in connection with the bombing of abortion clinics. He apparently believes that our Savior is glorified by murdering abortionists.

Perhaps the most bizarre associate of the "Army of God," however, is a person named Neal Horsley. Mr. Horsley recently attempted to justify the killing of abortionists in the HBO documentary titled "Soldiers in

the Army of God.” He has also hosted the “Army of God” website and created on his own website a perpetual adoration page which glorifies the predations of murderer Paul Hill (ChristianGallery.com). His connection with the group is noted by Wikipedia.com, which also lists “Dr.” Tiller’s alleged killer, Scott Roeder, as an associate. The “Army of God” website chronicles Mr. Horsley’s affiliation with the group up until the time of their falling-out over Mr. Horsley’s insistence on burning American flags during a posthumous tribute to Mr. Hill. The guardian.co.uk website, on June 5, 2009, in a story headlined “On the front line in the U.S. abortion war,” quotes Mr. Horsley as saying of Mr. Roeder, “He’s committed justifiable homicide in the same way that I would let him walk if he defends his own life.”

We first became aware of Mr. Horsley when he disputed our policy of declining to make our abortion photos available for use by any person who refuses to condemn abortion-related violence or any person who associates with persons who refuse to condemn abortion-related violence. He responded by pirating our pictures. When we threatened him with a lawsuit (see “New Threats From The Center For Bio-Ethical Reform” on his website) he stopped using the photos but denounced me, by name, as “treasonous.”

Mr. Horsley explains on his website that he will not sign our anti-violence statement because doing so would violate a campaign pledge he has made as a perennial nuisance candidate for the Office of Governor of the State of Georgia. He says it is his intention, upon taking office, to first outlaw abortion in Georgia and then to order his state militia (The Georgia National Guard, a deputized posse?) to take up arms against the Federal Marshals and FBI Agents who would be dispatched to enforce federal abortion laws. He is an unapologetic secessionist who wants to refight the Civil War. I am not making this up. He says he wants to shoot abortionists but he believes the best way to kill them is to impanel a Nuremburg-style tribunal with which to convict them of crimes against humanity and only then would he execute them. Since the penalty for “treason” is also death, does he intend a similar fate for “treasonous” traitors such as I?

I pray for these delusional souls but I only grant them public attention to make the point that the press shamelessly exploits their imbecility to discredit the real pro-life movement. Reporters do the same thing with the certifiably insane Westboro (KS) Baptist Church, which protests at funerals to taunt the families of deceased homosexuals. They also show up at military funerals to argue that the deaths of GIs killed in combat is God’s judgment on the military for tolerating homosexual members. News organizations cover these apostates as though they were a mega-church, instead of ten or so people, most of whom are related to their “pastor.” I also blame this sort of anti-abortion violence on the ghoulish news media which virtually invented Paul Hill, who was no one from nowhere until ratings hounds like Phil Donohue put him on television so many times that Mr. Hill apparently became embarrassed to advocate the murder of abortionists without killing some himself.

As a consequence of all this craziness, we have always believed that waiting until some lunatic has killed an abortionist and then rushing out to condemn the act is a reaction which represents too little, too late. We think we have an obligation to be pro-active and isolate and ostracize aspiring murderers before they act. We are also committed to anathematizing those who support these lethal aspirations as quickly as they become known to us. That is why we will have nothing to do with violence mongers and we are working to organize other real pro-life organizations to quarantine them as well.

But when “Dr.” Tiller was killed, we nonetheless took our usual, ridiculous beating in the press. I caught a major British newspaper, guardian.co.uk, “Terror in the name of Jesus,” June 1, 2009, telling outrageous lies about anti-abortion violence in the U.S. In the same article in which she condemned the Tiller murder, a shrewish English feminist also accused the pro-life movement of having “poured petrol on a nurse and set fire to her.” The editors printed a retraction after I threatened them with a lawsuit but this incident proves once again that anti-abortion violence brings out the wackos on both sides. Five abortionists have tragically been killed since the U.S. Supreme Court decided *Roe v. Wade* but the harshness of the vilification to which we are subjected with each of these murders suggests that the actual number has been five hundred.

Compare our excoriation with the media's reaction to the murder of pro-reform Iranian protesters in Tehran. FoxNews.com, "Basij Militia Allegedly Use Axes, Daggers to Attack Iranian Protesters," June 19, 2009, made Iranian pro-government thugs sound just like "Dr." Tiller when they described attacks with "crude weapons." TheSun.co.uk, June 16, 2009, in a story headlined "Iran orders vote recount after riots," quoted state-run Radio Payam as conceding that "... seven people were killed and several others wounded" Five American abortionists have been killed in thirty-six years, compared with seven Iranian protesters who have been killed in thirty-six hours. *The Wichita Eagle*, in a story titled "Murder brings shock, condemnation," June 1, 2009, said: "It can be hoped that in dealing with the horror of Tiller's murder, people [meaning us, not the abortionists] will pause to consider what the abortion wars have wrought, and whether there might be a better way." Note that *The Wichita Eagle* never expressed "shock" or "condemnation" over "Dr." Tiller's killing of unborn children. But the *Los Angeles Times* reported on June 18 ("Iran treads lightly in a culture of martyrs) that "Both sides are exercising a measure of restraint." Murdering five baby-killers is a "horror" but murdering seven reformers is "restraint." The fact is that both are "horrors" but America has now joined Iran as a country with a "state-run press."

Even normally sensible pro-lifers, however, were making incoherent statements in the wake of "Dr." Tiller's death. The website AlbertMohler.com featured an odd column by this Southern Baptist seminary president on June 1, 2009 stating that "Dr." Tiller's shooting "... presents the pro-life movement with a crucial moral test – will we condemn this murder in unqualified terms?" It may have escaped Dr. Mohler's notice that none of the five abortionists who have been killed over the last several decades were murdered by anyone who was any part of any organization which could reasonably be described as "the pro-life movement." Nor does he seem to be aware of the fact that from the very beginning of the abortion wars, pro-life organizations have universally and consistently condemned violence of every kind.

A more important question may be whether the abortion industry has passed the "crucial moral test" of "condemning, in unqualified terms," the nearly fatal attack on pro-life clinic counselor Ed Snell. Mr. Snell was trying to talk to a mother outside the Hillcrest Abortion Center in Harrisburg, PA, when the pregnant woman's male companion knocked him to the ground. *World* magazine reports ("See no evil," January 26, 2008) that Mr. Snell "... landed on his head and back, fracturing four vertebrae and sustaining a bleeding brain injury that soon had doctors fighting for his life." The article reports a similar attack on clinic counselor Patte Smith in Orlando, FL. She too was knocked down by the male companion of a pregnant woman with whom Ms. Smith was trying to speak. The attacker then "kicked her in the ribs" How many abortionists have been criticized for failing to condemn these attacks, and countless others, all of which are covered up by major news organizations?

It is a scandal that so much of the pro-abortion violence which is threatened and committed against pro-life activists goes unreported. Since it doesn't fit the narrative being peddled by pro-abortion news organizations, it is as if it never happened. But it is happening. We have had two students smash their car into our campus abortion signs, almost running over one of our volunteers. We had a Montana man arrested in the act of pointing a gun at one of the pilots who was flying one of our aerial billboard tow planes. We have received phone threats (you can listen to some of them at <http://www.abortionno.org/GAP/violence/violence.html>) telling us, "If I see that [abortion photo] truck coming by one more time, it's not going to be running the next week." Another said, "I think you all should die If I had an AK ... I would come to wherever you guys live and I would blow all your heads off." Someone else said, "I wish I had a bomb [so I could] blow your plane up."

And the list goes on: "We're going to cut your tires and brake lines." "Tell the pilot that he can expect a visit out at the airport the next time he comes in for a landing." "If I see your truck again, I'm going to run it off the road and hopefully kill the driver." "I'm going to take a .50-caliber and shoot the pilot" "You people ought to be shot right in your f***in heads." "You people ought to be gutted like fish." "Get your

plane out of the sky before it's TAKEN out of the sky." "You should be burned at the stake." "If I had a gun strong enough to shoot your f***in plane down, I would." Then, of course, there is the all-purpose threat, "I hope you all die." Pro-life blogger Jill Stanek is currently under police protection for death threats of the sort which have also been made against pro-life activists such as Fr. Frank Pavone of Priests for Life (and our CBR board of directors). Had any of these acts of intimidation and violence endangered an abortionist, do you think the state-run media would have ignored them?

Adding insult to injury, CNN.com/crime, in a story titled "Man charged with murder in Kansas doctor's death," June 2, 2009, quotes Warren Hern, another notorious late-term abortionist, who said: "Most of ... [Mr. Tiller's] patients were grappling with pregnancies that were 'fatally or catastrophically complicated by medical problems' ..." That statement is a lie and Warren Hern is a liar. This is the same Warren Hern who has described preborn children as "parasites" and pregnancy as "disease" (*Abortion Practice*, Alphenglo Graphics, 1990).

FRC.org recently posted an essay written by Mary L. Davenport, M.D., titled "Is Late-Term Abortion Ever Necessary?" She reminds us that:

Ron Fitzsimmons, executive director of the National Coalition of Abortion Providers, shocked the general public in 1997 when he admitted that the vast majority of partial-birth abortions were performed on healthy mothers and babies. Contrary to the assertion of abortion rights supporters that late-term abortion is performed for serious reasons, surveys of late abortion patients confirm that the vast majority occur because of delay in diagnosis of pregnancy. They are done for similar reasons as early abortions: relationship problems, young or old maternal age, education or financial concerns.

I will write more about late-term abortions and the killing of "Dr." Tiller as the summer progresses but for now, Jesus could have been speaking of this evil man Tiller when He said in John 8:44, "You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there was no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies." In John 10:10, Jesus taught that the enemy of our souls comes to "steal and to kill and to destroy." That is what he did through his earnest agent, George Tiller. But he was only the symptom. Those who used and tolerated his services are the problem and with your help, that is where we focus.

Lord bless,



Gregg Cunningham
Executive Director

P.S. On June 13, 2009, we received a message from a thirty-six-year-old woman from Richmond, VA. She said our photos have "made me even more of a pro-lifer. If I had ... seen these videos before, years ago, I wouldn't have had an abortion myself. Even though it has been over 16 years, it still hurts." My wife Lois wrote to comfort her with the love of Christ but if only we had reached her in time. But thanks so much for helping us save so many other women from a similar fate!