

LIFE SIGNS

RESPECT FOR LIFE – EDUCATION MOVEMENT (RLEM) NEWSLETTER

'Respect For Life – Education Movement (RLEM)' is a Canadian charitable organization dedicated to teaching respect for all human life from the moment of conception to natural death



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OFFICIAL LAUNCHING OF ADOPTION VIVERE BOOK, BOOKLET AND SERVICE

At last, the Vivere Canadian newborn adoption support service has been officially launched, along with related book and booklet. Free and confidential, the service eases the way for biological parents desparately battling with a problem pregnancy, so that birth, adoption and post-adoption living may be favourably considered and well assumed : help with transportation, errands, home chores, post-adoption mourning as well as open or semi-open adoption relationship. Now, it would be quite unthinkable to envisage adoption without support. Thus, with the help of the guidebook and service on open, semi-open or closed adoption, Adoption Vivere is really filling a gap in the range of possible solutions to pregnancy. Yours to discover at www.adoptionviverecanada.com or free of charge at 1 866-445-9695. Anyone interested in working as a volunteer is welcome to inquire at our service number.

A new publication – in a French version based on the book « Affirming the Birth Mother's Journey » gives valuable information on open, semi-open and closed adoption of Canadian new-born; also available is a booklet bearing on the same subject and meant to be an exploration guide for biological parents . The 88 page book can be ordered at the price of 20 \$ including shipping cost, or, the book and 6 page booklet for 22 \$ shipping cost included, at the service's address mentioned in the preceding paragraph. Make it known at large ! The poster and pamphlet may be printed from the Website, pages « Our services », or may be ordered for free in unlimited quantities for RLEM members (see page 6 to become a member).

RLEM EDUCATIONAL PACKAGE WIDELY DISTRIBUTED

RLEM educational packages have been sent to all the regional directors of the Quebec Knights of Columbus, to all the state regents of the Canadian Daughters of Isabella, as well as to all the listed resources in our regional resource guides. We hope this mass mailing will generate orders of pamphlets, books and lectures, as well as donations and offers from volunteer workers. In the coming year, other target groups will be selected.

RESPECT FOR LIFE - EDUCATION MOVEMENT - OUTAOUAIS REGION

LECTURE ON EUTHANASIA ON SEPTEMBER 28

On September 28, in the church of Ste-Thérèse de l'Enfant-Jésus, we attended a lecture on euthanasia given by Mr. José Pereira in Ottawa. Mr. Pereira is in charge of palliative care at Élisabeth Bruyère centre in Ottawa, and head of palliative care department at Ottawa University. A world-renowned expert, he made an audience of a hundred people aware of the reasons why certain patients will ask for euthanasia or assisted suicide. He gave us hope in helping us realize that all these reasons : fear of suffering ; fear of being a burden ; depression ; fear of isolation ; fear of losing one's autonomy, all these may be prevented and/or treated. The patients receiving good palliative care do often admit that through these, they have enjoyed the best months or years of their lives. Our pamphlet entitled « Assisted suicide and you : six points you may not have considered » may prove to be a most useful tool in educating people around you concerning the unknown factors of a possible legalization of these phenomena. See www.rvme.org, at « Publications » page.

Regional Committee

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Ward O'Connor

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PAYING A VISIT TO YOUTH CENTRES IN OUTAOUAIS REGION

On June 17, we attended the annual public information meeting of the Centres jeunesse de l'Outaouais. We came out of this seance highly impressed. The officers were sympathetic, dynamic, kind and open-minded. The welfare of the young really seem their motivation. Thus, we feel confident to have our Vivere Adoption Support Service arrange for a presentation. Let us remember that the Youth centres, under the Directorate of youth protection, are those who coordinate the adoptions in Quebec. In January 2010, Adoption Vivere will be listed on all the yellow pages of the Outaouais region on both sides of the river, in both languages, under the heading « Adoption »; as well, different ads each month will appear in local papers, parish bulletins and on community television.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR PUBLISHED BY *LE DROIT*

One of our letters was published in the *Le Droit* paper of June the 8th . Entitled « Conspiracy of silence », the latter spoke of our deep concern over the silence of this daily paper regarding the May 14 March for Life held on Parliament Hill (12 000 participants). Then, on August 4, our letter bearing the title « The abortion heritage » has been published in the *Le Droit* paper.

RESPECT FOR LIFE - EDUCATION MOVEMENT - MONTREAL REGION

RLEM LECTURE ON EUTHANASIA IN LAVAL

We will deliver a lecture on the subject of euthanasia and assisted suicide, and the reasons why we should oppose their legalization . This event is due on Tuesday November 3, from 7:30 pm to 8:00 pm at the Fabre Counsel of the Knights of Columbus in Laval. All those interested, take note ! Information : (450) 665-1517.

Regional Committee

Person in charge

Myriam Tétrault

Two other members of the regional committee

Sr Pauline Grondin
Gisèle Lalande

ADOPTION VIVERE ADVERTIZED IN MONTREAL SHORTLY

In January 2010, Adoption Vivere will be listed in the yellow pages in Montreal and suburbs, under the heading « Adoption »; a different monthly ad will appear in local papers as well as on community television. Volunteers, feel welcome ! Join us free of charge at 1 866 445-9695 or on the Web at www.adoptionviverecanada.com.

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RADIO-CANADA INTERVIEWS RLEM ON ITS NEWSCAST

On Saturday July 25th, we were interviewed during a CBC news telecast, Quebec network, to comment on the 20^e anniversary of the Daigle court sentence in which the father was officially excluded from the abortion decision. We brought to light the fact that the Daigle case, in conjunction with the total decriminalization of abortion by the Supreme Court of Canada the preceding year, caused the number of abortions in Canada to triple during the year of 1989 alone. We stressed the fact that, since abortion results in sterility in 2 to 5 % of cases, thus, on 100 000 abortions each year in Canada, this amounts between 2 000 and 5 000 new cases of sterility among Canadian women each year - without considering all the other serious after-effects of abortion. Finally, we brought people to an awareness of the biological father's deep suffering in being incapable to intervene in saving his own child from abortion, and the potential benefits of support to adoption.

WE ARE GRANTED SPACE IN THE JOURNAL DE MONTRÉAL

On August 12, our letter to the editor entitled « The breathtaking precipice of euthanasia and assisted suicide » has been published in the *Journal de Montréal* as « Letter of the day » (a half page).

RESPECT FOR LIFE – EDUCATION MOVEMENT - QUÉBEC REGION

SUCCESSFUL RLEM INFORMATION MEETING

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On September 24, our organism held an information meeting on RLEM and our new Vivere adoption support service, along with the new guidebook intended for the general public and the exploration guide meant for biological parents. A good twenty people attended. These will join the volunteer force in offering support service to biological parents struggling with a pregnancy far too difficult to assume and will distribute our educational flyers in their respective parishes and other organisms in their local area. We also learned about the opening of a new birthing centre in Limoilou.

ADOPTION VIVERE ADVERTIZED IN QUÉBEC SHORTLY

In January 2010, Adoption Vivere will be listed in the yellow pages of greater Quebec region, under the heading « Adoption »; we shall also publish a different monthly ad in a local community paper and on community television. Let potential volunteers answer this call !
1 866 445-9695 or www.adoptionviverecanada.com.

A HUNDRED QUEBEC DOCTORS AGAINST EUTHANASIA

We read in the *Le Soleil* daily of September 24, that a brief in disfavour of euthanasia and assisted suicide was presented to the Collège des médecins du Québec on August 30th, by Quebec doctors Joseph Ayoub, André Bourque, Catherine Ferrier, François Lehmann and José Morais - the said memoire being approved by no less than a hundred physicians in this province. How opportune a coincidence given the fact that a bill aiming at depenalizing these phenomena will be debated in the House of Commons in the near future.

HAIL TO CARDINAL OUELLET FOR QUEBEC CITY PARTICIPATION IN THE MARCH FOR LIFE RALLY

Mgr Marc Ouellet has managed a remarkable *tour de main* in boarding two enormous busses with faithfuls from Québec for the March for Life in Ottawa, last May 14th. The excellent exhaustive coverage on this March carried out by the Québec diocese television network was shown here to the general public on September 23 - another exploit from the Cardinal. RLEM produced an English version of Mgr Ouellet's speech on Parliament Hill, as requested by anglophone media. Our pictures of the event, and most particularly that of Mgr Ouellet at the March, have also been published in the *Nouvel Informateur catholique* of June 14.

DID YOU KNOW

A CHILD LIVES A NORMAL LIFE WITH ONLY HALF A BRAIN

A young 10 year old girl lives a normal life despite her being born without her brain's right hemisphere. In the last week of July, The National Scientific Academy of Glasgow University, in Scotland, has published a study bearing on this matter. It so happened that - the girl's right eye also missing at birth - her brain re-configured itself in such a way that she is presently in full possession of a normal bi-sopic vision in her left eye only. The young girl is described as being absolutely normal in every aspect, even « brilliant » and of « charming character ». This amazing capacity of the brain to self-reorganize brings into question the abortions based on possible development abnormalities.

UNITED KINGDOM REJECTS EUTHANASIA

Luckily, the Falconer amendment seeking to depenalize euthanasia and assisted suicide has been defeated in the United Kingdom, on the 7th of July.

A BILL TO PROTECT DISTRESSED MOTHERS AND THEIR BABIES

The New-Brunswick government is studying a bill put forward by Conservative MP Jody Carr last May 13, aiming at preventing mothers from being brought to court for leaving their new-born at the hospital.

CANADIAN UNBORN CHILD SAVED BY *IN UTERO* SURGERY

Océane McKenzie has become, on the 15th of April, the first Canadian baby to be born after heart surgery. The operation took place at the Toronto Hospital for Sick Children. The family is back in Gatineau and Océane is recuperating beautifully.

ULTRASOUND NOW COMPULSORY IN NEBRASKA

At the end of May, Nebraska State legislature has adopted, with an overwhelming majority of 40-5, the compulsory ultrasound before any decision is made over abortion.

OKLAHOMA STATE BANS SEX- FOUNDED ABORTIONS

At the end of May, the State of Oklahoma has abolished any possibility of abortion founded on sex selection of the child. A similar bill has been tabled at the federal level on March 31st.

13th PRO-LIFE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT IN MEXICO

At the end of May, the Mexican state of San Luis Potosi has adopted a constitutional amendment which acknowledges that the fundamental right to life stated in its constitution does apply to every human being without exception, including those conceived and not yet born.

