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Catholic Courier

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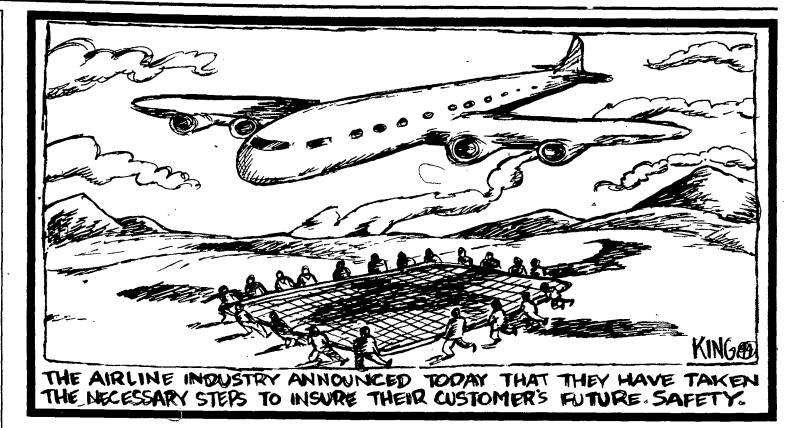
Letters Policy

The Catholic Courier wishes to provide space for readers throughout the diocese to express opinions on all sides of the issues. We welcome original, signed letters about current issues affecting church life.

Although we cannot publish every letter we receive, we seek, insofar as possible, to provide a balanced representation of expressed opinions and a variety of reflections on life in the church, We will choose letters for publication based on likely reader interest, timeliness and a sense of fair play. Our discerning readers may determine whether to agree or disagree with the opinions of the letter writers.

We reserve the right to edit all letters for length as well as legal concerns. With respect to errors in submitted text, we will correct spelling only. Anonymous letters and the use of pseudonyms are unacceptable.

Mail letters to: Catholic Courier, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624. Please include your full name, phone number and complete address for verification purposes.



Setting record straight on Planned Parenthood

To the editors:

Regarding the letter by Gregory Soehner of Planned Parenthood which appeared recently in the Catholic Courier, readers should be aware that Planned Parenthood has two faces. They try to portray themselves as helping families - however, facts speak louder than

Molly Kelly, a mother of eight children and nationally known speaker for chastity, tells teens that they should be aware of the sickening and frightening truth about Planned Parenthood. Teens are abused by Planned Parenthood by contracepting and aborting them, with or without their parents knowledge or consent. Molly Kelly (wrote) in Hearts Aflame magazine in 1991:

• "Last year, Planned Parenthood, in their very own abortion mills, killed 123,000 unborn babies. At approx. mately \$250 per abortion, that brings in \$30,750,000 each year!

• Planned Parenthood operates 800 family planning clinics that have given out or prescribed contraceptives to over one million teens!

• Planned Parenthood goes to Court to keep parents out of teens' decision to use contraceptives and to have abor-

• Planned Parenthood's own research shows that unwed teens using contraceptives have sex more often and with more partners, yet Planned Parenthood's solution to teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases is give teens more contraceptives! What an insult to your intelligence and to your integrity!"

Now Planned Parenthood wants to double the number of facilities it operates in the United States. They have hired a fund-raising expert to lead the effort to raise \$750 million for expansion. STOPP INTERNATIONAL (Stop Planned Parenthood) reports on this planned expansion by Planned Parenthood in a recent letter: "Planned Parenthood is an organization that has a history of leaving broken lives, diseased women and dead babies in its wake." For information to protect your children and community, write: STOPP INTERNA-TIONAL, P.O. Box 8, LaGrangeville, NY 12540.

People who consider themselves Catholic and work for Planned Parenthood should be aware they will be held responsible for their actions. The Church teaches: "Formal cooperation in an abortion constitutes a grave offense. The Church attaches the canonical penalty of excommunication to this crime against human life." The New Catechism of the Catholic Church goes on to say: "The Church does not thereby intend to restrict the scope of mercy. Rather, she makes clear the gravity of the crime committed, the irreparable harm done to the innocent who is put to death, as well as to the parents and the whole of society."

God's mercy is always there for those who ask forgiveness, repent and change

> Marian Buchheit **Country Line Road** Webster

Headline pointed to letter's flaw

To the editors:

I laughed heartily when I realized that the (headline) blazoned over my recent letter (Catholic Courier Oct. 27: "Christ established priesthood of Gentiles") pointed out my overdrawn use of "gentile" with "order of Melchizedeck" instead of using "Universal" for the idea of "all nations" emphasized throughout that letter. I agree it was a fine flaw crying for refutations.

Christ's wasn't, of course, the "priesthood of Gentiles" that that (headline) would have me seem to mean. Obviously neither Christ nor His Apostles were gentiles. Nevertheless, though "King of the Jews," Christ would openly associate and willingly identify His priesthood with any nation without reservation un-

like Levitical priesthood could. He is the only key to the Davidic heritage Who opens - and closes - for all nations Semitic and non-Semitic alike (Rev 3:7). A "priesthood of Gentiles" is hardly the point any letter of mine would draw out. Gentile priesthoods - female/male are self expressions solely of the human finite material and spiritual natures of earthly experience, not an exchange with the God Who wills into existence from Himself Alone. Christ showed Himself to be that God Alone gathering again into His One Being all nations willing to REPRESENT a Creator bringing His creatures together into His One Being Alone.

Gene Charles Canandaigua

Pro-lifers' care extends to all God's children

To the editors:

It is probably not especially useful to belabor the abortion issue any further but there are a couple of points I would like to put forth that might be useful.

First, all those who philosophically support of abortion should be thankful that their mothers were not in a moment of economic or emotional crisis during the nine months immediately following their birth. Abortion is very final and once the decision is made and acted all of the good that the aborted child might have brought to the world is gone. What an awesome decision to make - how sad and how irreversible.

Second, those who believe that abortion somehow magically assures that only "wanted" children are born should look closely at jut how callous disregard for life is affecting society. Child abuse has actually increased dramatically since Roe v. Wade. Sure it is more readily reported today but the fact remains it is rampant. And of course, it is certainly true that abortion is essentially a most horrific and final act of child abuse.

Finally, surely we must support the mother who felt compelled to make this decision and help that family to feel love from the world and not rejection. And we surely do not need to have abortion Doctors murdered but we do need to pray for God's loving impact on their lives. When the abortion activists say we should be interested in living people and not just the aborted little one's we should say that we are interested in all God's children. Do the abortion advocates somehow think that they are more losing and kind. Do they not know that we do give to Charities, that we do adopt, that we do pray and reach out to those in need. How dare they say that we are one issue people. I think not, Pro-Life does not mean that we are blind to all of this world's troubles. It does mean that we work to solve many of the world's problems and have not chosen to exclude the ever so helpless unborn from that work.

> Kevin J. Kelly Bellmawr Drive Rochester