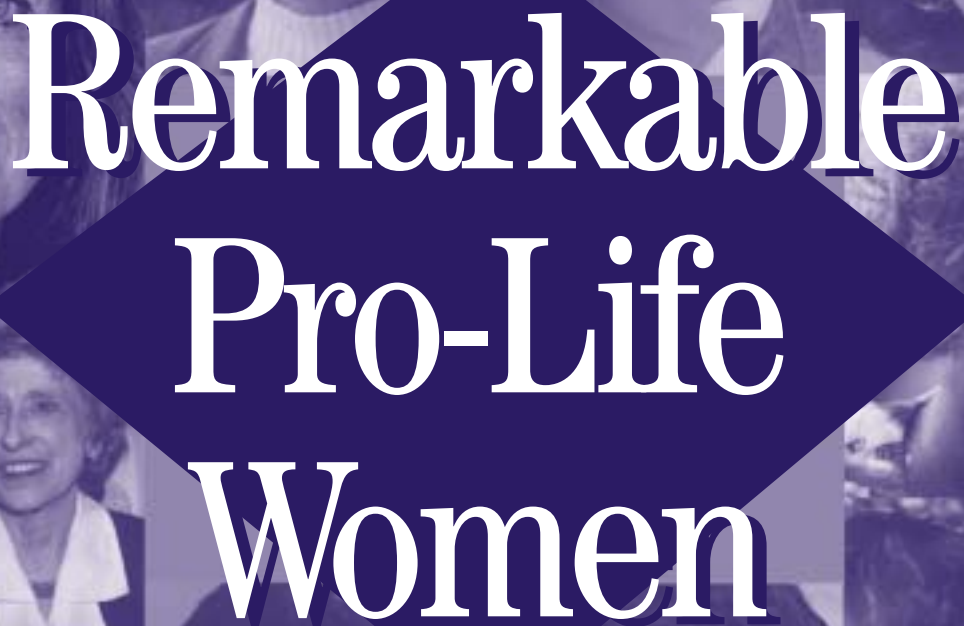




THE AMERICAN FEMINISTSM

Feminists for Life of America



Remarkable Pro-Life Women

Feminists for Life celebrates the many accomplishments of pro-life women.

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REMARKABLE PRO-LIFE WOMEN

Actor Patricia Heaton

FFL honors the many contributions of pro-life women.

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The American Feminist The Quarterly Magazine of Feminists for Life of America **Editor** Molly Pannell **Associate Editors** Joan Carey, Maureen O'Connor **Art Director** Lisa Toscani **Design/Layout** Elizabeth Lambertson **Executive Director** Serrin M. Foster. Feminists for Life of America 733 15th Street, NW, Suite 1100; Washington, D.C. 20005; (202) 737-3352; www.serve.com/fem4life. **President** Rosemary Oelrich Bottcher **Executive Vice President** Jane Sullivan Roberts **Public Policy Vice President** Jeanne Pryor **Chapter Development Vice President** Peter Wolfgang **Communications Vice President** Kelly Jefferson **Resource Development Vice President** Andrea Milanowski **Treasurer** Mary Lew Kehm **Secretary** Mary Beth Frampton.

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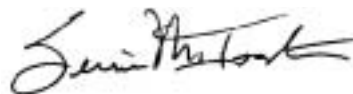
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REMARKABLE PRO-LIFE WOMEN

THIS ISSUE OF *THE AMERICAN FEMINIST* is dedicated to remarkable women who share FFLA's commitment to the defense of life. Women like Eunice Kennedy Shriver, who, along with her husband Sargent, advised FFL to find its niche and focus our efforts, resulting in our highly successful College Outreach Program. Women like FFL member and Louisiana State Rep. Sharon Weston, who helped restore a measure of protection lost to women when *Roe v. Wade* overturned the consumer protection laws enacted by the early feminists through Right to Know legislation. Women like Elizabeth Fox-Genovese, who lost her position as chair of the women's studies department at Emory University when she dared to speak at a meeting of Feminists for Life.

This past May, FFL President Rosemary Bottcher, former board vice president Maureen O'Connor and I were invited to meet the president of the Republic of Ireland, Mary McAleese, and her husband at a recital by their son's school choir at Áras an Uachtaráin, the president's official residence. Seated in a grand yet intimate stateroom as the choir sang songs about gratitude and the celebration of life, I was overwhelmed by the realization that a feminist — a pro-life feminist — was president of a nation.

As we approach the end of the millennium, it is appropriate for pro-life feminists to celebrate the accomplishments of these exceptional women, whose appreciation for the value of life is intrinsic to everything they do. We look forward to honoring the next generation as they build upon the achievements of the remarkable women we honor within these pages and reach milestones we now can scarcely imagine.



Serrin M. Foster
Executive Director

Above, left to right: Rosemary Bottcher, President Mary McAleese, Maureen O'Connor and Serrin Foster

**"There is a day coming when
we will hear the voice from within the
womb, when its own authentic pain will be
undeniable, when we will know with certainty that
it is saying**

'I want to live.

I have a right to live.

I do not need your permission to live."



President

Mary McAleese

THE IRISH TIMES NEWSPAPER wrote of Mary McAleese, “Much of her life has been based on saying what she thinks and criticising those she believes are wrong, no matter how powerful they are.” McAleese has tackled many issues of concern to women and children during her term as president of the Republic of Ireland. The theme of her presidency, “Building Bridges,” is reflected in her drive to resolve social problems faced in Ireland — “problems,” she said in her inaugural address, “which cynicism and self-doubt can never redress but painstaking commitment can.” President McAleese’s commitment encompasses the aged, those in poverty, the unborn, and those affected by violence in Northern Ireland.

Formerly a professor of law at Trinity College in Dublin, President McAleese is also the mother of three children and a self-described feminist. In her foreword to *Swimming Against the Tide*, an anthology of pro-life feminist opinion, she wrote, **“The myth that to be a feminist is to be pro-choice has forced many women to resign from the name of feminism,** to settle back bruised into the silence of the margins.” She further challenged this myth, writing, “There is nothing natural about the deliberate and widescale lawful and routine elimination of babies.” She explained her opposition to abortion for survivors of rape, describing it as “a rather primitive act of revenge or retribution vented on a foetus.”

Her voice resonates as one of a growing chorus of those who, in her words, “have first grown stronger and then emerged as strident full volume voices insisting on their intrinsic moral, human right to speak and be heard without seeking permission There is a day coming when we will hear the voice from within the womb, when its own authentic pain will be undeniable, when we will know with certainty that it is saying, ‘I want to live. I have a right to live. I do not need your permission to live.’” ○



Ambassador Lindy Boggs

“WHEN A WOMAN BECOMES A MEMBER OF CONGRESS, she becomes a surrogate for women in Congress. And the needs of women are brought to your direct attention,” said former Democratic Representative Lindy Boggs of Louisiana. And she knows this better than most. Boggs’ years in the House of Representatives were spent tackling economic issues – especially those of concern to women. According to her memoirs she worked for “equal rights for women in business, banking, and home ownership.” She consistently opposed abortion and championed the rights of the poor and the elderly. In October 1997, Boggs was appointed U.S. Ambassador to the Vatican.

During the 1987 National Right to Life Convention Boggs hosted a gathering of FFL leaders at her home in New Orleans. In addition to her accomplishments in politics, Boggs is also a mother (ABC co-anchor of “This Week” Cokie Roberts is one of her children), grandmother, and great-grandmother who believes that “families are ordained by God to live together and have the duty and obligation to share and help and protect and love one another.” ○



Former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto

"I DREAM ... OF A WORLD, where we can commit our social resources to the development of human life and not to its destruction." With this statement to attendees at the 1994 Cairo Population Conference, Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto of Pakistan challenged delegates. One of only two women to address the conference, Prime Minister Bhutto advocated a more holistic approach to resolving population-control issues worldwide. She explained her approach, which emphasizes the empowerment of women, saying that the most effective way to tackle population growth is "by tackling infant mortality, by providing villages with electrification, by raising an army of women ... to educate our mothers, sisters, daughters, in child welfare and population control, by setting up a bank run by women for women, to help women achieve economic independence, and to have the wherewithal to make independent choices." ○

Representative Anne Meagher Northup



COMMUNITY ACTIVIST AND MOTHER of six Anne Meagher Northup represents Kentucky's third congressional district in the U.S. House of Representatives. Sworn in to office in 1997, Rep. Northup serves on the House Appropriations Committee and the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education. She consistently supports pro-life legislation in the House including recent bans on partial-birth abortions, restrictions on foreign-aid dollars used to fund abortions, and the Child Custody Protection Act (see Legislative Update, p. 24). An adoptive mother, Rep. Northup co-sponsored legislation in 1997 to exempt internationally adopted children under age 10 from immunization require-

ments that mandate immigrants receive immunization in their country of origin. "As a mother of two adopted children, I understand first-hand the fragility of many international orphans," said Northup. She explained that "each year, American families provide 12,000 foreign-born orphaned children a chance for a healthy, happy life. Unfortunately, the medical care available in the countries where these children are born often does not meet the standard of medical care available in the United States. Requiring these children to be vaccinated in their country of origin makes them vulnerable to unsafe or ineffective vaccines, unsterile needles and syringes, and adverse reactions."

Rep. Northup's concern for children is also demonstrated through many of her other activities on Capitol Hill. In March 1998, she founded the House Reading Caucus, a bipartisan caucus commissioned to raise awareness of illiteracy, as well as to examine research on the most effective methods to teach children to read. ○





Former Governor Joan Finney

AFTER COMPLETING 17 YEARS as the longest-serving state treasurer in Kansas's history (1974-1991), Joan Finney defeated a pro-choice Republican to become the first female governor of Kansas (1991-1995). During the race Finney attracted national attention for her pro-life stance, as many pro-choice women's groups refused to support her candidacy. Notable achievements as governor included the establishment of the Koch Crime Commission, which studied ways to reduce and prevent crime. Finney also allowed the POW-MIA flag to fly under the U.S. flag every day at the state capitol. She was named Kansas' "Woman of the Year" in 1995.

In 1996, after completing her term as governor, Finney ran for the Senate. Despite support from the Susan B. Anthony List, however, she did not receive the Democratic nomination.

Active in government for more than 40 years, Finney was quoted by Kansas State University's newspaper as saying, "It is important in government to have input from the yin and the yang." She also said, "**Women need to come into politics, law, journalism, engineering and the medical fields to help improve the economics of women.**" Following her own sound advice, Finney was on the top 10 list of governors with the most women on their cabinets, at 33.3%.

Finney is currently active with "Women of the World," an organization that promotes political involvement among women in existing and emerging democracies worldwide. ○

"... if we truly understand human rights,
then we must recognize that we are



State Representative **Sharon Weston**

SINCE HER ELECTION to the Louisiana House of Representatives, Sharon Weston has been a pro-life force to be reckoned with. Rep. Weston's initiatives include the "Women's Right to Know" law in Louisiana, which mandates a 24-hour waiting period before a woman may have an abortion. Following in the footsteps of Susan B. Anthony, who advocated "prevention, not punishment," Weston also takes an active role in addressing the problem of teen pregnancy. She is an avid supporter of the Louisiana Adolescent Pregnancy Commission, which encourages and recognizes teens who believe abstinence is the best way to prevent pregnancy. Weston also works as an advocate for women and serves on the appropriations, insurance and municipal, and parochial and cultural affairs

committees in the Louisiana House. The first African-American woman elected to the Louisiana legislature, Weston says that, "Many times people assume that I am pro-choice because there is a stereotype that is attached to African-Americans." According to Weston, many African-Americans mistakenly consider abortion part of the civil rights movement, and because of their traditionally strong stance on civil rights and human rights, they become pro-choice. "Yet if we truly understand human rights," Weston says, "then we must recognize that we are taking away a life right before birth. [And] if we really understand our history as African-Americans we know that abortion is a form of genocide." ○

taking away a life right before birth. ”

Rep. Sharon Weston

Dr. Pamela E. Smith

PAM SMITH, M.D., champions the rights of all of her patients — women and their unborn children. President of the American Association of Pro-Life Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Smith received her undergraduate degree from Cornell University and her medical degree from Yale Medical School. The former director of medical education in obstetrics and gynecology at Chicago's Mount Sinai Hospital, Dr. Smith sympathizes with medical students who want to observe the Hippocratic oath. According to Smith, the oath, which states that no physician

should give a woman an abortion or kill a patient, “was never a law, but a guiding principle for conduct. It was held to for centuries, but now that we have lawyers deciding what the ethical standards of our nation should be, the AMA [American Medical Association] has decided that whatever is legal is moral.” Smith’s pro-life obstetricians organization recently teamed up with Feminists for Life to challenge pro-choice rhetoric in medical schools. Dr. Smith is currently practicing at the Lawndale Christian Health Center in Chicago. ○

“[The Hippocratic Oath] was held to for centuries, but now that we have lawyers deciding what the ethical standards of our nation should be, the AMA has decided that whatever is legal is moral.”





Mary Cunningham Agee

BUSINESS

CORPORATE EXECUTIVE, author, philanthropist, wife and mother, Mary Cunningham Agee blends her energy, insight and managerial skills to help single women face an unexpected pregnancy. In founding and directing the Nurturing Network, an international, collaborative effort of caring individuals, corporations and foundations, she has provided more than 11,000 women with truly viable choices.

A graduate of Wellesley College and the Harvard Business School, Agee also studied at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland. Women across the nation celebrated Agee's success as she broke through the glass ceiling. Agee's resume includes high-level executive positions in finance and strategic planning with companies such as Joseph E. Seagram & Sons, the Seagram Wine Co., Chase Manhattan Bank, Salomon Brothers, Semper Charitable Foundation and The Bendix Corp.

Since 1985, The Nurturing Network has offered women free, individually tailored programs of practical support by marshaling the resources of more than 22,000 volunteers. These members provide counseling, medical services, nurturing homes, employment, educational opportunities and financial assistance. According to Agee, **"Emotionally charged rhetoric and divisive debate have too often distracted both the pro-life and pro-choice movements from the mother and child at the heart of this crisis.** I believe that the time has come to recognize the vast common ground that exists between these two allegedly incompatible groups. Those who support choice can hardly dispute the value of creating another choice; those who support life can hardly reject an alternative made real. In a spirit of mutual respect and understanding, we can bind up the wounds of suspicion and harsh judgment that will heal the torn fabric of our society." ○




Linda Chavez

TODAY, IT SEEMS that most female media representatives either support abortion choice or remain silent on the issue. Not so with Linda Chavez, *USA Today* columnist and president of the Center for Equal Opportunity. Chavez, who also writes for *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, *The New Republic*, *Commentary*, and *Reader's Digest*, regularly appears on "The McLaughlin Group," "CNN & Co.," "Equal Time," and "The News Hour With Jim Lehrer." She formerly served as director of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and as the U.S. expert on the United Nations Subcommittee on Human Rights. *The New York Times* characterized Chavez as "an influential voice on civil rights policy" for her work chronicling Hispanic progress and achievement.

Chavez's human rights interests extend to the unborn. Her commentary pieces have debunked the myth that a majority of American women supports abortion. During the 1996 election cycle she wrote, "polls show that abortion has little to do with how women cast their votes. A recent *USA Today*/CNN/Gallup Poll showed only 1 in 5 female voters say the candidate they support must share exactly their own position on abortion. And of these women, more than half are pro-life."

At a debate hosted by the Creative Coalition during the 1996 Republican National Convention, Chavez asked, **"If pro-choice advocates are so concerned about the safety of women, why do they refuse to have regulation of abortion clinics?"**

Chavez's research on Hispanic achievement has challenged stereotypes of Latinos held by liberals and conservatives alike. ○



DOLORES O'RIORDAN leads a popular Irish rock band, The Cranberries. Her work covers a broad terrain, from the complexity of family relationships to the impact of violence in Northern Ireland, especially on its children. She waxed eloquent for the pro-life position in a *Rolling Stone* cover story. Said singer, songwriter and mother O'Riordan, "It's not good for women to go through the procedure and have something living sucked out of your bodies. It belittles women — even though some women say, 'Oh, I don't mind having one.'"

Every time a woman has an abortion, it just crushes her self-esteem, smaller and smaller and smaller." ○

D O L O R E S O ' R I O R D A N



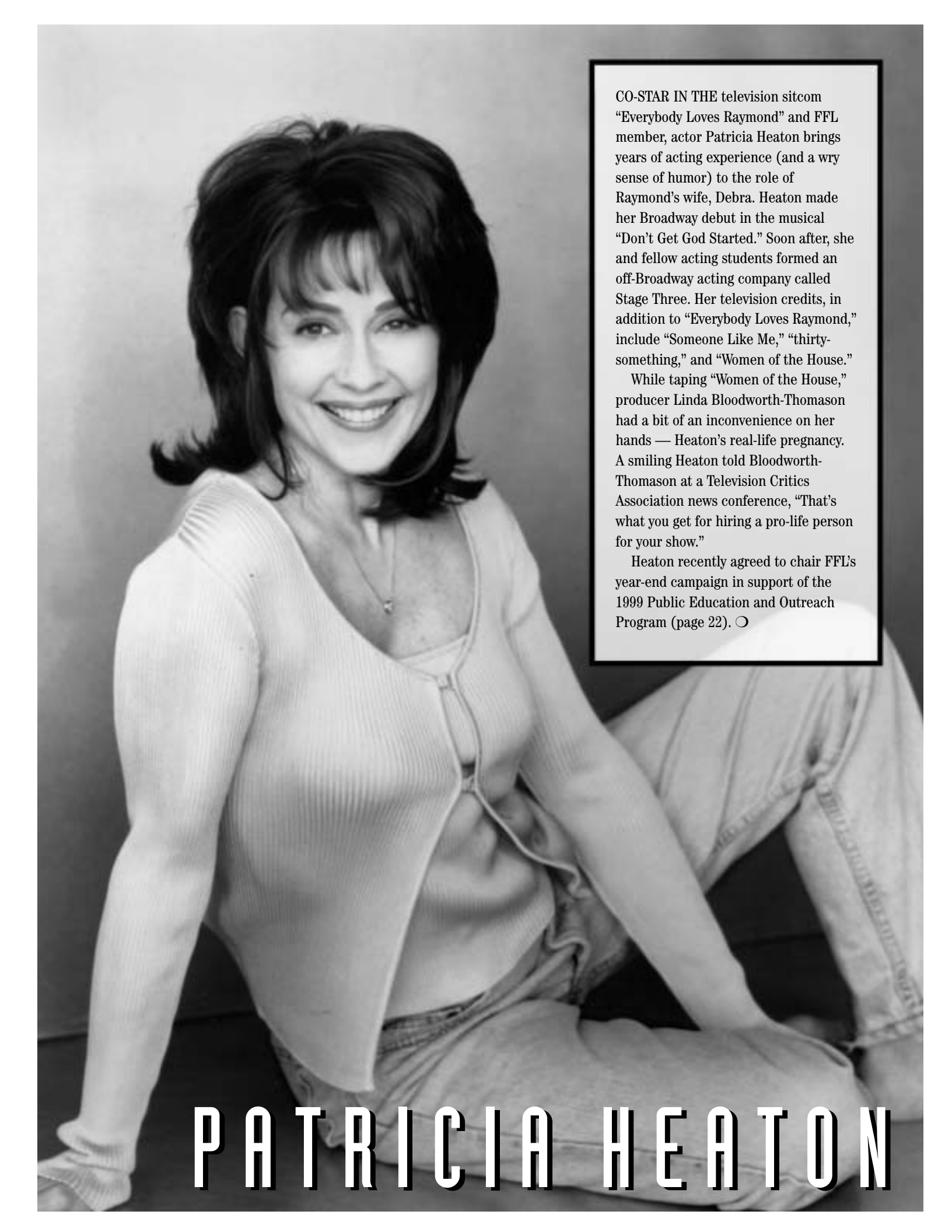
HUNTER TYLO

YOU'LL NEVER SEE actor Hunter Tylo on the television show "Melrose Place." Even though Tylo was hired to play the role of a "sexy vixen," she was fired when she became pregnant. When asked by show's producers why she didn't have an abortion so she could work, Tylo replied, "For a brief moment I'm ashamed of, I considered having an abortion. I considered it, and I'm

ashamed because I don't believe in it. **I look at my daughter walking now and I'm ashamed. I don't ever want to see a woman put in that position again.**"

Tylo accused Spelling Entertainment of pregnancy discrimination and filed a lawsuit. Other television shows, including "The Cosby Show" and "Cheers," have

accommodated pregnant actors. Even "Melrose Place" producers accommodated actor Heather Locklear's pregnancy, shooting camera angles around her. Tylo won her pregnancy discrimination suit and was awarded \$5 million for emotional distress and lost wages. Tylo called the verdict a victory "for every woman, for every child that's not born." ○



CO-STAR IN THE television sitcom "Everybody Loves Raymond" and FFL member, actor Patricia Heaton brings years of acting experience (and a wry sense of humor) to the role of Raymond's wife, Debra. Heaton made her Broadway debut in the musical "Don't Get God Started." Soon after, she and fellow acting students formed an off-Broadway acting company called Stage Three. Her television credits, in addition to "Everybody Loves Raymond," include "Someone Like Me," "thirtysomething," and "Women of the House."

While taping "Women of the House," producer Linda Bloodworth-Thomason had a bit of an inconvenience on her hands — Heaton's real-life pregnancy. A smiling Heaton told Bloodworth-Thomason at a Television Critics Association news conference, "That's what you get for hiring a pro-life person for your show."

Heaton recently agreed to chair FFL's year-end campaign in support of the 1999 Public Education and Outreach Program (page 22). ○

PATRICIA HEATON



FOR THOSE WHO COMPLAIN about the pro-abortion mentality in the ivory tower of academia, Mary Ann Glendon is a light in the darkness. Glendon teaches comparative law, constitutional law, and legal theory at Harvard University, and serves as an adviser to the *International Law Journal*. Glendon's many publications include *A Nation Under Lawyers*, *Abortion and Divorce in Western Law*, and *Rights Talk*, which examines the trend in American political discourse toward focusing on individual rights while increasingly ignoring responsibilities to others that should accompany these rights.

Mary Ann Glendon

After the tragic shooting at a Planned Parenthood clinic in Boston, Glendon's commentary, "When Words Cheapen Life," was printed in *The New York Times* (and reprinted in *The American Feminist*, as well). In this article, Glendon examines the charge that pro-life rhetoric was the cause of this violent act. She argues that **words can kill "by creating a climate where life is cheap; they can stifle the inner voice that reminds us that evil can never be overcome by evil."** She points out that abortion advocates are attempting to stifle the voices of the opposition, and warns of the dangers inherent in so doing. She ends the article on a positive note, citing the efforts by both movements to build "a culture that is respectful of women, supportive of child-raising families and protective of the weak and vulnerable."

Glendon served as the Vatican's representative to the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China, in September 1995. In her statement to the conference, she presented a strong, pro-life feminist message, challenging participating nations to eliminate the factors that cause women to seek abortions. In 1994, she was appointed to the Pontifical Academy of Social Science, and she is also serving on the Holy See's Central Committee for the Great Jubilee 2000. Glendon is a member of the Council of the Institute on Religion and Public Life, which attempts to further the role of religion in public life, and is the publisher of the quarterly journal *First Things*. ○

ELIZABETH FOX-GENOVESE

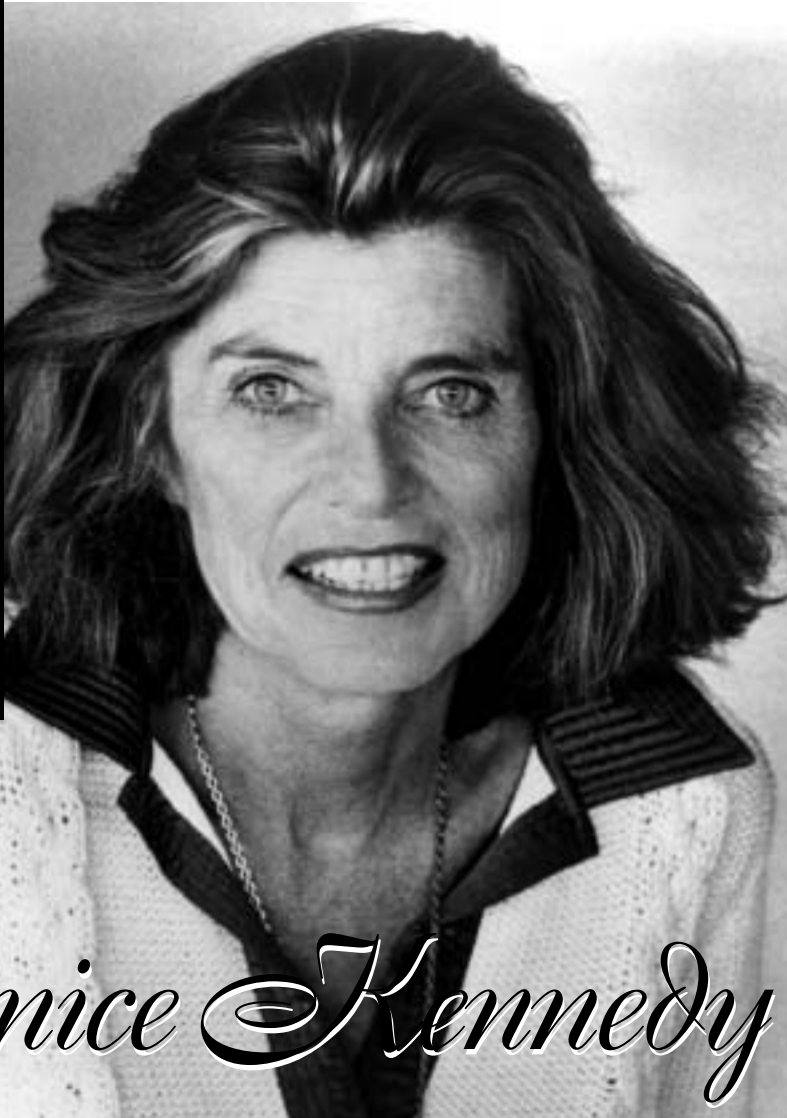
ACADEMIA

PROFESSOR AND AUTHOR Elizabeth Fox-Genovese served as the director of the Institute of Women's Studies at Emory University in Atlanta — until she dared to address a meeting of Feminists for Life of New York. Her resignation was soon forced. She maintains that her resignation was

demanding not only because of her speech to Feminists for Life members but also for admitting into the Women's Studies graduate program a student who later became the president of Emory Students for Life.

Fox-Genovese, author of such books as *Feminism Without Illusions*, *Within the Plantation Household: Black and White Women of the Old South*, and *Feminism Is Not the Story of My Life*, continues to teach history, literature, and women's studies at the university. ○





Eunice Kennedy Shriver

WHEN EUNICE KENNEDY SHRIVER was awarded the Presidential Medal of Honor in 1984, then-President Ronald Reagan declared, "With enormous conviction and unrelenting effort, Eunice Kennedy Shriver has labored on behalf of America's least powerful, those with mental retardation . . . Her decency and goodness have touched the lives of many."

Shriver, a longtime supporter of Feminists for Life of America, has demonstrated a lifelong concern for the "least powerful." The founder of Special Olympics International and executive vice president of the Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Foundation, Shriver supports organizations that work on behalf of women and children, born and unborn.

Under Shriver's leadership, the National Institute for Child Health and Human Development was established in 1962, and major centers for the study of medical ethics were developed at Harvard and Georgetown Universities. When she founded Special Olympics International in 1968, 1,000 women and men with mental retardation from 26 states and Canada took part. Today, more than 1 million Special Olympics athletes participate.

As executive vice president of the Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Foundation, **Shriver continues to support solution-oriented programs to eradicate discrimination and problems facing the disenfranchised.** The Kennedy Foundation says its mission "is to provide leadership in the field of mental

retardation and services to persons with mental retardation, both those born and unborn, and their families." Shriver, recognizing the high rate of mental retardation among children born to teen-age mothers, led the foundation's efforts to develop an innovative program to address the causes of problems facing teen-age women and their children. Called Community of Caring, the program focuses on "health and nutrition for the pregnant teen, preparation for childbirth, development of parental skills, and the importance of continuing in school and avoiding risk-taking behavior." Parents and community volunteers act as a mentoring network for teen-age mothers. Since its inception in 1986, more than 350 schools have adopted the Community of Caring program. ○

Mother Teresa



“THE BIGGEST DISEASE TODAY is not leprosy or tuberculosis, but rather the feeling of being unwanted, uncared for and deserted by everybody. The greatest evil is the lack of love and charity, the terrible indifference towards one’s neighbour who lives at the roadside assaulted by exploitation, corruption, poverty and disease.” These words of Mother Teresa reflected her commitment to caring for the forgotten. In the slums of cities across the world, Mother Teresa’s Missionaries of Charity bring food to the hungry, hope to the hopeless and comfort to the dying.

A native Albanian, born in 1910, Mother Teresa began her work as a schoolteacher in India in 1929. In 1948 she opened her first school in the slums of Calcutta. As years passed and more women joined her, Mother Teresa opened many more schools and homes. In areas plagued by disease, malnutrition, and poverty, these schools and homes provide some hope for children. Mother Teresa’s concern for

children extended to the unborn. She described abortion as “the greatest destroyer of peace today.” During her address to the 1994 National Prayer Breakfast in Washington, D.C., she said, “I will tell you something beautiful. We are fighting abortion by adoption — by care of the mother and adoption for her baby. We have sent word to the clinics, to the hospitals, and police stations: ‘Please don’t destroy the child; we will take the child.’ So we always have someone tell the mothers in trouble, ‘Come, we will take care of you, we will get a home for your child.’”

Her person-to-person approach to the problems of poverty surprised many. She explained: “To get to love the person we must come in close contact with him. If we wait till we get the numbers then we will be lost in the numbers.” Her individualized attention to each and every person she met touched the lives of millions. Mother Teresa, honored by heads of state and religious leaders, was mourned worldwide when she died in 1997. ○



“The greatest evil is the lack of love and charity, the terrible indifference towards one’s neighbour who lives at the roadside assaulted by exploitation, corruption, poverty and disease.”



CECELIA KLINGELE

CECELIA KLINGELE IS HARDLY an average college student. While many of her peers try to balance their coursework with part-time jobs or athletics, Klingele must balance her intense academic work with the demands of being a full-time parent. A medieval history major, Klingele hopes one day to pursue a graduate degree. She and her husband, Brad, are the proud parents of three-month-old Kateri.

"I love everything about her," Klingele said. **"My daughter has totally changed my perspective."** **The intense demands of both home and school are all worth it "just to see her smile,"** continued Klingele.

In addition to her coursework, Klingele serves as co-chair of Feminists for Life (pictured above) at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. The group's activities have included hosting FFLA Executive Director Serrin M. Foster and co-sponsoring a presentation on the death penalty with death-row inmates. ○

Contributing writers to this issue: Laura Ciampa, Elise Ehrhard, Kerri-Ann Kiniorski, Earlene Meyer



herstory

Worth Repeating

WOLLSTONECRAFT'S MIDDLE CLASS English family was dominated by her father's alcoholic rages. Her mother neglected her while lavishing attention upon her brother. Despite her obviously powerful intellect, Mary was denied any education beyond the very limited, frivolous schooling that girls of her class received to become more "marketable" to prospective husbands.

Wollstonecraft, refusing the poor alternatives imposed on her, made many brave and novel decisions about her life. Following her heart rather than prescribed gender roles, she decided to support herself as a professional writer on intellectually challenging subjects — knowing full well that women who dared to assume this supposedly masculine prerogative were vilified as "unwomanly" and "unnatural."

Wollstonecraft stood such rhetoric on its head. Her writings repeatedly assert that it is not unnatural for women to exercise their inherent rights and abilities — most of which they share with men. It is unnatural to deny women the exercise of their rights and abilities.

In her 1792 magnum opus, *Vindication of the Rights of Women*, Wollstonecraft clearly identifies infanticide — both prenatal and postnatal — as an unnatural consequence of denying women's natural rights and powers. Male sexual exploitation renders women of all social classes "weaker in mind and body than they ought to be." Thus women "have not sufficient strength to discharge the first duty of a mother" and "either destroy the embryo in the womb, or cast it off when born. Nature in everything demands respect ... men ought to maintain the women they have seduced."

In the unfinished novel *The Wrongs of Woman: Or, Maria*, Wollstonecraft sympathetically offers the story of Jemima, abused and neglected as a child because of her so-called "illegitimate" birth. When Jemima becomes a house servant, her master rapes

her. Discovering she is "with child," she says: "I know not why I felt a mixed sensation of despair and tenderness, excepting that, ever called a bastard, a bastard appeared to me an object of the greatest compassion in creation."

Concerned only to avoid his wife's and the public's disapproval, her master gives her an abortifacient. She refuses the "infernal potion," as she calls it. Then the master's wife discovers him raping Jemima again. The mistress beats and verbally abuses Jemima and throws the friendless young woman out into the street. Jemima

finally obeys her master and swallows the potion "with a wish that it might destroy me, at the same time that it is stopped the sensations of new-born life, which I felt with indescribable emotion."

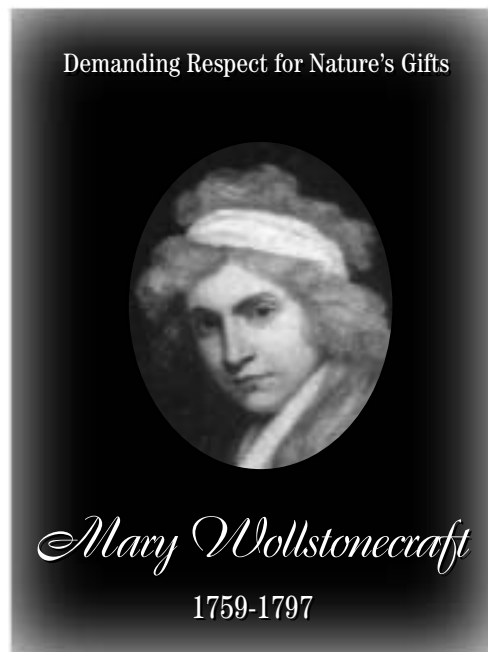
In her writing, Wollstonecraft drew on her personal experience of crisis pregnancy. Her lover Gilbert Imlay abandoned her and their infant daughter Fanny. Several years later, Wollstonecraft married the philosopher William Godwin, not long after conceiving their daughter Mary Godwin (later Shelley).

Mary Wollstonecraft died at age 38, after giving birth to her second daughter. Ironically, because she felt childbirth was a natural process, a male obstetrician's overzealous, unexpected surgical intervention at a difficult point in the delivery may have caused her death.

The young Fanny was deeply scarred by her mother's death and by her father's abandonment. Fanny struggled with a culture unwilling to accept her mother's vision that a life which began

outside of legal marriage should be welcomed like any other. She committed suicide at 22. Her unsigned note said, "The best thing I could do was to put an end to the existence of a being whose birth was unfortunate."

Mary Godwin Shelley, like her mother, became a radical and visionary writer, best known for her novel *Frankenstein* — a warning about the consequences of unbridled tampering with nature. ○



Actor Patricia Heaton Offers Support, Asks Members for Help



Patricia Heaton, co-star of the CBS hit series, "Everybody Loves Raymond," recently called FFL's national office to ask, "How can I help?" A longtime FFL member, she has been keeping up with FFL's efforts on college campuses through *The American Feminist*. Currently Heaton is taping her hit show and is pregnant with her fourth child, but is taking time out to chair FFL's year-end campaign in support of the 1999 Public Education and Outreach Program.

"The best way I can help is by drawing attention to the pressing need for FFL's presence on college campuses and setting an example for others to give," said Heaton. "Being pro-life is hard no matter what you do, and for actors it can be especially difficult. (See related stories pages 14 and 15.) Pro-life students also experience hostile reactions from their peers." Now Heaton is asking for your help on behalf of women and children by making the most significant gift you can afford to Feminists for Life of America. Heaton added, **"Supporting FFL is the best investment we can make in the future!"**

GIFT AND PLEDGE FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Phone (____) _____

Amt. of gift \$ _____ Amt. of pledge \$ _____ per
(Yes, you may give now and make an additional pledge!)

Thank You

WE REMEMBER



Anjelica Duarte

1970 - 1991

Anjelica Duarte, a 21-year-old mother of two, died within hours of an abortion performed at a North Las Vegas, Nev. clinic. She was five months pregnant at the time of the abortion.

"We just want to have some answers," said Evelia Duarte, Anjelica's sister-in-law.

According to a Lake Mead Hospital Medical Center spokesperson, emergency medical technicians estimated that Duarte had been bleeding for four hours at the clinic before being transported to the hospital. She was pronounced dead upon arrival.

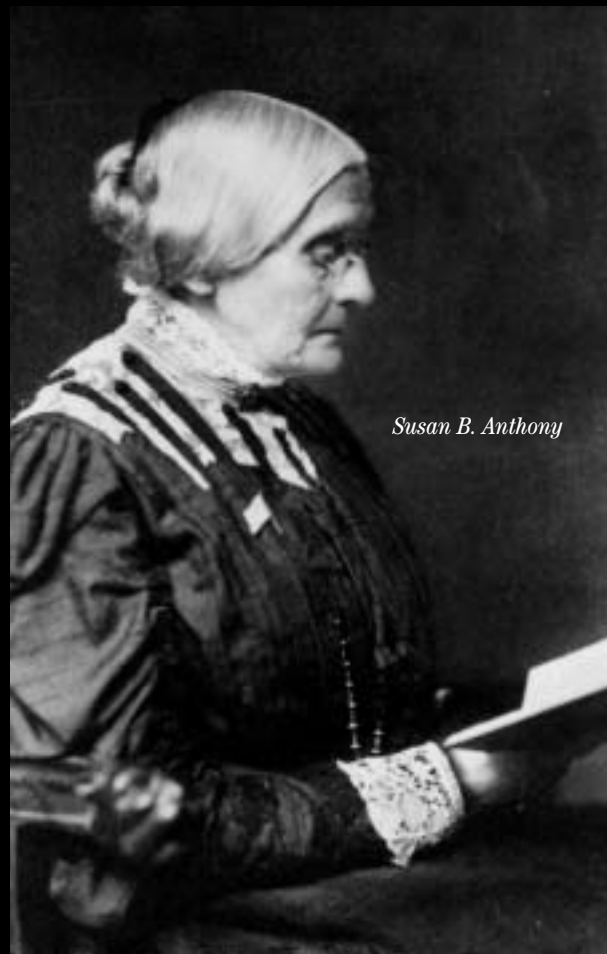
Emergency medical teams were called to "A Woman's Place" clinic around 7:30 p.m. the day of Duarte's abortion. According to reports, Duarte was "being observed" after her abortion. Abortionist Larry Thompson claimed the medical technicians' estimate was not accurate and that Duarte was "not hemorrhaging throughout" the hours between the abortion and her arrival at the hospital.

Duarte's husband, Ernest, accompanied his wife in the ambulance from the clinic to the hospital. No one from the clinic traveled with them.

According to news reports, physicians at Lake Mead Hospital Medical Center determined that only one-tenth of Duarte's blood supply remained in her body upon her arrival at the hospital. The Clark County coroner's office reported that Duarte died after blood collected in her stomach as a result of a perforated uterus.

Duarte's body was sent to family in Mexico for burial.

Honoring the legacy of our foremothers



Susan B. Anthony

In the tradition of our feminist foremothers, Feminists for Life continues to work toward justice and equal rights for all people. We believe that our struggle against abortion, euthanasia and other violent, dehumanizing "solutions" to complex human problems is as pivotal as the efforts of the women of the early 20th century who worked to ensure the women of future generations the right to vote.

Once again, your annual contributions will be recognized in a special way through FFL's Feminist Giving Clubs:

Feminist Leadership Circle \$100-\$249

Feminists nationwide who support justice and full rights for women and children.

Alice Paul Circle \$250-\$499

Author of the original Equal Rights Amendment in 1923, Paul told a colleague, "Abortion is the ultimate exploitation of women."

Susan B. Anthony Circle \$500-\$999

Her publication, *The Revolution*, stated: "I deplore the horrible crime of child murder ... We want prevention, not merely punishment."

Elizabeth Cady Stanton Circle \$1,000-\$2,499

In a letter to Julia Ward Howe in 1873, she wrote: "When we consider that women are treated as property, it is degrading to women that we should treat our children as property to be disposed of as we see fit."

Women's Suffrage Circle \$2,500-\$4,999

In a landmark victory for the nascent women's-rights movement, nationwide women's suffrage was guaranteed through the 19th constitutional amendment in 1920.

The Revolution Circle \$5,000-\$9,999

Elizabeth Cady Stanton's and Susan B. Anthony's periodical gave voice to early feminist thought and documented the anti-abortion consensus among feminist leaders.

Seneca Falls Society Circle \$10,000+

The 1848 Seneca Falls Convention marked the beginning of organized feminism in the United States.

As we approach another New Year, please help FFL honor the memory and legacy of our feminist foremothers by continuing the work they began. Donors who contribute more than \$100 during 1998 through the Combined Federal Campaign or United Way local campaigns and wished to be recognized should contact FFL's national office. Charitable agencies, including FFL, are not informed of individual giving amounts.

Donors who prefer to remain anonymous should notify the national office immediately. *Thank You!*

GIVE THE GIFT OF FFL

Surely you know someone who would relish the unique viewpoint of Feminists for Life. Use the envelope provided to give a gift that opens hearts and minds to a nonviolent, inclusive view of the world. Student memberships are only \$15; regular gift memberships are \$25. Gift members receive a full year of *The American Feminist*, as well as our "Pro Woman, Pro Life" bumper sticker.

Gift the gift of Feminists For Life today!



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The Child Custody Protection Act

This bill (HR 3682, S 1645) would make it a federal offense to transport a minor girl across state lines for an abortion if it would evade the parental-involvement laws of the girl's home state. The exception to this bill is if the abortion is necessary to save the girl's life. The bill was passed by the House. A cloture motion failed in the Senate and the bill was not brought up for a vote.

Funding for RU-486

In the 1999 Fiscal Year Agriculture Appropriations bill (HR 4101), the House

approved an amendment prohibiting the use of funds by the Food and Drug Administration for the "testing, development, or approval (including approval for production, manufacturing, or distribution) of any drug for chemical inducement of abortion." The Senate committee voted not to include the amendment in the bill.

Lethal Drug Abuse Prevention Act

In response to a determination by the U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno that federal regulations allow physicians to prescribe federally regulated drugs for assisted suicide in

states where that is permitted, the House voted to reinstate a federal policy against the use of federally regulated drugs to cause patients' deaths. The Legal Drug Abuse Prevention Act also ensures that physicians are not hindered in their use for pain management out of fear of license revocation or suspension. The bill was not voted on in the Senate but may be considered during the next session.

Partial-Birth Abortion Ban

On July 23, the House of Representatives once again voted to override President Clinton's veto of the partial-birth abortion ban, and once again the Senate fell three votes short of a veto-proof majority.

Electronic Transfer Form

I want my bank to transfer monthly donations to Feminists for Life of America. My authorization to charge my account at my bank shall be the same as if I had personally signed a check to FFLA. This authorization shall remain in effect until I notify FFLA, or notify my bank in writing that I wish to end this agreement, and my bank or FFLA has had a reasonable time to act on it. A record of each charge will be included in my regular bank statements and will serve as my receipt.

\$ _____ Amount of monthly pledge (\$5 minimum).

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Day(____) _____ Eve.(____) _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please enclose a voided check from your account to show the bank's address and your account number. Donations will be debited on the first business day of each month.

Send to: Feminists for Life,
733 15th Street, N.W., Suite 1100, Washington, D.C. 20005.
Electronic fund transfers will begin immediately upon receipt.

Thank you!

Two Ways to Double Your Gift to FFL!

► Electronic Fund Transfer

Current and former board members and staff are challenging members and supporters to begin or increase monthly donations to FFL through the Electronic Fund Transfer Program. In order to secure much needed year-round support for FFL's core programs, board members and staff will **double match** the increase dollar for dollar.

Please return a completed Electronic Fund Transfer Form, and a voided check along with your year-end donation by December 31. Monthly donors (and major donors) receive special insider reports from FFL Executive Director Serrin Foster.

Please demonstrate your commitment to build a bright future for those we serve with your monthly gift of \$100, \$75, \$50, \$25, \$10 or \$5.

► Corporate Matching Gift Program

If you are an employee of a corporation with a matching gift program, your year-end donation may be doubled. FFL is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, and donations are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law. Submit your year-end gift with the matching gift form supplied by your employer.



FFL Defends Teen Moms

Somer Chipman and Chastity Glass, both 17-year-old mothers, were denied entry to the National Honor Society chapter in Grant County High School in Williamstown, Ky., despite outstanding academic records. Amanda Lemon, 18, of Xenia, Ohio, was also barred from joining her high school's NHS chapter because she is a teen-age mother. Lemon's mother said, "She has shown you don't have to have an abortion, you don't have to drop out of school, you don't have to feel like your whole world has crumbled around you. You can make it and excel."

FFL Executive Director Serrin Foster filed an affidavit in support of a complaint filed by the American Civil Liberties Union on behalf of the teens.

Source: *Chicago Tribune*, August 9, 1998
Boston Globe, April 28, 1998

FDA Approves "Morning After" Pill

The Food and Drug Administration approved a special dosage of birth control pills for use after sexual intercourse to prevent pregnancy. The so-called "emergency contraception" also prevents implantation of an already fertilized human embryo. Common side effects include nausea, vomiting, menstrual irregularities, headaches, cramps and dizziness. In an interview with *The Washington Times* that made front page news, FFL Executive Director Serrin Foster said, "Having intercourse and then taking contraception is not contraception." Foster said calling this "emergency contraception" is a "misnomer."

Source: *The Washington Times*, September 3, 1998

Two Women Arrested in Seneca Falls

FFL of New York celebrated the 150th anniversary of the first women's convention in Seneca Falls, N.Y., in July with a series of events, but not all of their efforts were well received. Two women carrying paint cans and rollers were arrested for attempting to graffiti an FFL billboard featuring Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who organized the first women's convention. The billboard read "Pro-woman, Pro-life," and quoted Stanton, "When you consider that women are treated as property, it is degrading to women that women treat their children as property to be disposed of as we see fit." The women were thrown in the Seneca Falls jail and released on \$500 bail. Later vandals covered over the billboard with contact paper prior to FFL of New York's annual luncheon. In response to protesters gathered outside, FFL Executive Director Serrin Foster told the Rochester *Democrat and Chronicle*, "The same people who protested us today would have protested Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who also opposed abortion."

Source: Rochester *Democrat and Chronicle*, July 20, 1998

Abortionists on Strike

Aggrieved abortionists in Wisconsin went on strike in May to protest a new state law outlawing partial-birth abortions. According to *Our Sunday Visitor* newspaper, "The strike was an effort to dramatize abortionists' claims that the new law actually outlaws all forms of abortion in the state." Anti-abortion advocates called it a ruse designed to influence the partial-birth abortion debate nationwide."

Source: *Our Sunday Visitor*, May 30, 1998

Michigan Teen Obtains Late-Term Abortion

In Michigan a judge blocked the abortion to be performed on a 12-year-old girl impregnated by her teen-age brother. Michigan bans abortion after the 24th week. At the time of the decision, she was entering her 28th week of pregnancy. The young girl eventually went to George Tiller in Kansas for a late-term abortion procedure. Tiller advocates late-term abortions on the Internet. Her brother will not be charged with sexual assault.

Source: *The Washington Post*, July 25, 1998

Feminist Message, Feminist Solutions for Today's College Students

FFL Executive Director Serrin Foster will present "The Feminist Case *Against* Abortion" at the following locations. Please contact the FFL national office at 202-737-FFLA (3352) for more information:

November 2, 1998. Stanford University, Palo Alto, California
November 3, 1998. University of California at Berkeley, Berkeley, California
November 5, 1998. Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, California
November 12, 1998. Columbia Law School, New York, New York
November 17, 1998. Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire
January 16, 1999. Pro-Life Campaign Weekend Conference, Dublin, Ireland

FFL Public Education Coordinator Molly Pannell will present FFL's expanded College Outreach Program at the following location:

January 23, 1999. American Collegians for Life Conference, Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.



Dear Editor,

I had an abortion in 1992. Six and a half years later, I still deal with the guilt that results from the knowledge that I ended the life of my own child. And why did I do it? Lost and scared, I asked my friends and mother for advice. Without exception, they all said I should have an abortion, that if I didn't I would "ruin" my life. Added to that was the fact that the young man who impregnated me wanted nothing to do with his child – in fact, he said that if I had the child, I would "never see a dime," as if money was what it was all about. At 22, I didn't have the moral conviction or personal strength to defy what seemed to make sense to everyone else. I had the abortion, thinking, perhaps in the deepest recesses of my mind, that it would erase the fact I'd ever been pregnant at all, that I could go on as if it had never happened. Well, the abortion erased the child from my body, but the emotional scars are written in indelible ink.

Over the course of the following five years, I fell into patterns of behavior I now know were the direct result of the guilt over my abortion. I became very promiscuous, sleeping with several men in that period of time. At the same time, it was impossible for me to develop lasting relationships with men. After a few dates, I cruelly ended each burgeoning relationship simply by never returning phone calls or standing them up for dates. I worked feverishly to "make up" for what I'd done, by volunteering with abused children twice a week and tutoring

neighbor's kids at no charge. Coupled with my 40+ hours per week job, I pushed myself to the brink of exhaustion. I developed bulimia, as well. Added to all this were the repeated dreams/nightmares I had — a little girl, blue eyes, deep brown hair, looking at me sadly. Night after night I saw her. I knew, just knew, it was my baby. I felt I was going crazy.

In short, I hated myself, felt I didn't deserve anything good in my life. Yet I wouldn't admit to myself the reason for the overwhelming feelings of worthlessness I was experiencing.

At last, a year and a half ago now, I sought help for the bulimia. In counseling, my abortion came out. My therapist, in a very neutral tone, asked me what I really felt about the abortion. I admitted, among tears, that it was wrong – that I felt I'd killed my baby. I knew at the time I did it that I was doing the wrong thing, but I did it anyway because I was too weak to do the right thing.

Now, I am at last healthy. Admitting the fact that abortion is wrong was a breakthrough for me. I felt as if a tremendous weight had been lifted off my shoulders. I have been able to establish a wonderful relationship with a loving, accepting man. I have started a business that allows time for me and for my volunteer activities, and I struggle only minimally with my eating disorder – my support group is a great resource.

Interestingly, my girlfriends seem to think that my pro-life stance somehow undermines my pro-woman stance.

I explain that I am more pro-woman now than ever – because I support the concept that women should do what they feel is right in their heart, no matter what the pressure from their friends. And deep down, every woman, I am sure, knows that abortion is wrong. Simply, unequivocally, undeniably wrong.

Finding your web site (www.serve.com/fem4life) let me know that I am not the only one who is pro-life and pro-woman – and I was beginning to feel that way. Thank you for your web site, and your group. I wish you the best. Keep helping women – If I had known, six and a half years ago, that I could have found support in your group, that blue-eyed, brown-haired child I used to dream about would be here next to me.

Anonymous

Volunteer Journalists and Photographers

If you would like to be a contributing writer for *The American Feminist*, please send a writing sample to the editor. Ability to meet deadlines essential.

Photographers are also needed. Please send samples of your work. Photos will not be returned. Model releases are required to publish work. Releases become the property of Feminists for Life of America.

ORDER FORM

Materials

Indicate number of items:

- \$75 FFL Logo Pin
 - sterling silver
 - 24K gold plate over sterling
- \$15 *Different Voices* — anthology of pro-life feminist essays
- \$2 "Peace Begins in the Womb" bumper sticker
- \$2 "Question Abortion" bumper sticker
- \$2 "Voices of Our Feminist Foremothers" poster
- \$4.95 *Man's Inhumanity to Woman* — essays by 19th-century feminists
- "You're Not Alone" brochures — 50 for \$5; 100 for \$10; 250 for \$20
- "What Women *Really* Want" brochure — *Free* with a self-addressed stamped envelope
- "You Have Choices" brochure — *Free* with a self-addressed stamped envelope
- \$14.95 *Pro-life Feminism Yesterday and Today* — anthology of pro-life feminist essays
- \$17.50 *Swimming Against the Tide: Feminist Dissent on the Issue of Abortion*



College Outreach Program

Send a Kit to Campus

Indicate number of items:

- \$35 Health Clinic Kit
- \$35 Pro-life Collegiate Kit
- \$35 Pro-life Advisor Kit
- \$35 Campus Counselor Kit
- \$55 Pro-life Feminist History Kit
- \$10 Six camera-ready ads
- \$250-500 Range for ad placement
- Pregnancy Decision Questionnaire — *Free* with a self-addressed stamped envelope



- Please send kit to where the need is greatest
- A college of my choice:

Name of kit recipient _____

Title _____

College _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail address _____

Membership/Subscription

Indicate number of items:

- \$25 Annual Membership (new renewal) includes "Pro Woman, Pro Life" bumper sticker and *The American Feminist*
- \$25 Gift Membership (may not be anonymous to the recipient)
 - Name of recipient: _____
 - Address: _____
 - City/State/Zip: _____
- \$15 Student Membership (_____ graduation date)
- \$15 Student Gift Membership (may not be anonymous to the recipient)
 - Name of recipient: _____
 - Address: _____
 - City/State/Zip: _____
- \$35 *The American Feminist* subscription only, non-membership/institutional
- \$30 Annual Membership Outside U.S. (U.S. currency, please)



Donations

- Monthly pledges
 - Please send monthly donor envelopes
 - Electronic transfer form; see page 25.
 - Tax-deductible donation to Feminists for Life
- + _____ 15% shipping and handling for materials
- \$ _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED

Please print: _____ Indicate if new address

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____ day (_____) _____ eve

E-mail address _____

Please use enclosed envelope or mail to:
FFLA, Dept. 0641, Washington DC 20073

Thank you!

OF11/98

QUESTION

a b o r t i o n .

FEMINISTS FOR LIFE

College Outreach Program



THE
FUTURE
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