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HOUSE OF COMMONS PASSES BILL C-7 — PERMITTING EUTHANASIA FOR MENTALLY ILL

ON MARCH 11TH, PARLIAMENT PASSED BILL C-7 WITH PROPOSED SENATE AMENDMENTS. ALEX SCHADENBERG, OF THE EUTHANASIA PREVENTION COALITION WRITES ABOUT HOW THIS DECISION AFFECTS CANADIANS NATIONWIDE, AND WHY WE SHOULD NOT LOSE HOPE:

WHAT DID BILL C-7 DO BEFORE IT WAS AMENDED?

Bill C-7 removed the requirement in the law that a person's natural death be reasonably foreseeable in order to qualify for assisted death. Therefore, people who are not terminally ill could die by euthanasia. The Truchon decision only required this amendment to the law, but Bill C-7 goes further.

Bill C-7 permits a doctor or nurse practitioner to lethally inject a person who is incapable of consenting, if that person was previously approved for assisted death. This contravenes the Supreme Court of Canada Carter decision which stated that only competent people could die by euthanasia.

Bill C-7 waives the ten-day waiting period if a person's natural death is deemed to be reasonably foreseeable. Thus a person could request death by euthanasia on a "bad day" and die the same day. Studies prove that the "will to live" fluctuates.

Bill C-7 creates a two track law. A person whose natural death is deemed to be reasonably foreseeable has no waiting period while a person whose natural death is not deemed to be reasonably foreseeable would have a 90 day waiting period before being killed by lethal injection.

Bill C-7 (originally) falsely claimed to prevent euthanasia for people with mental illness. The euthanasia law permits MAiD for people who

are physically or psychologically suffering that is intolerable to the person and that cannot be relieved in a way that the person considers acceptable. However, mental illness, which is not defined in the law, is considered a form of psychological suffering. Now that parliament amended Bill C-7 to specifically permit euthanasia for mental illness, at least the charade has lifted.

But there is good news...

Almost universally, people with disabilities recognized that Bill C-7, directly affects them.

Many medical professionals responded to Bill C-7, especially since the law is out-of-control without even providing them with effective conscience protections.

The battle is not over.

Many people have contacted me feeling tired and down. They cannot believe that Canada's government would permit euthanasia for people with mental illness alone. I also feel tired, but never down.

The fact is that the Liberal government, the BQ and the euthanasia lobby have clearly told Canadians where they stand. They are not concerned about the lives of people with disabilities or those who live with chronic conditions. They are not concerned about people who struggle with mental illness or other psychological conditions. They are not concerned about people who are at a vulnerable time of their life. They are not concerned about honesty and transparency.

More and more our message is accepting the challenge of caring for our family, friends and neighbours. Protecting the equality and life of people with disabilities and other chronic conditions is about recognizing that we live in solidarity with others.

Caring for and protecting others is based upon recognizing that each human being has equality which cannot only be recognized by words but by actions.

Death is truly dignified when it is shared with those who care about that person until their natural death.■

"IT CUTS LIKE A KNIFE": THE DISMISSAL OF MARY WAGNER'S CASE BY THE CANADIAN SUPREME COURT

By Dr. Charles Lugosi, SJD, legal counsel to Mary Wagner.

Editor's note: The Canadian Supreme Court has refused to hear a case launched by Mary Wagner, a pro-life activist who was arrested for engaging in an act to save the lives of unborn children at a Toronto abortion facility in 2012. Mary's goal was for the Court to agree that abortion kills a human being—a fundamental question of national importance. But the Court rejected the opportunity to put an end to the deaths of the unborn.

On February 18, 2021, the Canadian Supreme Court refused to hear the constitutional test case launched by Mary Wagner that began on August 15, 2012, when she engaged in an act to save the lives of unborn children at a Toronto abortion facility. Mary's actions were lawful, if her contention



were true that an unborn child fit within the definition of "anyone" in s. 37 of the Criminal Code, which permitted at that time the rescue of a human being from an imminent fatal assault. In the way of her defense was s. 223 of the Criminal Code that excludes unborn children from the definition of a human being.

A constitutional battle in court ensued over Parliament's authority to decide which human beings fall within the Parliament's definition, and which do not. Mary based her arguments upon scientific truth. The government and the courts suppressed the truth by successfully preventing Mary's experts from

testifying, thus denying her the right to furnish the critical evidence needed to establish the factual foundation for her constitutional defense.

ALL HUMANS ARE HUMAN

Mary's experts were prepared to testify that an actual human life begins at conception, is an individual and a human being.

Science conclusively answers the question, "Who is a human being?" From the time of successful fertilization, a human being exists, whose stages of development are classified before birth as zygote, embryo, and fetus, and after birth, as an infant, child and adolescent, before maturing into an adult. All human beings, at every stage of existence, are unquestionably human beings. **The prosecution did not introduce evidence to the contrary, as no such evidence exists.**

Mary's goal was for the court to agree with her that an abortion kills a human being. Her actions to save human beings at the abortion clinic were lawful, as she was defending the lives of the unborn, by using the force of peaceful verbal persuasion to change the minds of the expecting mothers in the waiting room.

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THE END OF LEGAL ABORTION

The prosecution and all the judges presumably were aware that this case was so important that the outcome of Mary's case would decide if the legalized murder of the unborn would then become illegal and a serious crime. The stakes were high.

QUESTIONS OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE

Section 7 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms gives the right to life to “everyone” and s. 15 of the Charter gives equality rights to every “individual.” The Supreme Court of Canada has never before squarely answered the questions of whether “everyone” or “individual” means a human being at any stage of life. These were novel questions of fundamental national importance.

The Supreme Court was presented with an ideal opportunity to decide these questions. Unknown members of the Court chose not to give reasons to dismiss Mary's case. They ought to have known from the filed materials that the legal test for leave was met to hear the case. The established jurisprudence merited leave to be granted.

Overriding the Charter in favor of Parliamentary definitions of human being would be seen as a license to remove from the definition of human being, not just the unborn, but also the elderly, the sick, the disabled, and others, based on race, religion, political belief, and any other category of humanity.

On the other hand, the Court could have accepted Mary's arguments, that all human beings have inherent worth, dignity, and the unqualified right to life.

INJUSTICE CONTINUES TO PREVAIL

Refusal to hear Mary's case results in irreparable harm to those human beings now awaiting birth and those future human beings whose lives will not be governed by the rule of law, but by the arbitrary will and power of life or death exercised by legally privileged human beings over them.

If ever there were ever a case of supreme national importance, this was it.

For those who share Mary's beliefs, dismissing Mary's case significantly erodes their public confidence in the integrity of the justice system. How long will the definition of "human being" evade judicial review? For decades, Parliament has avoided the issue, to the point that political parties now purge well-qualified candidates for public office who hold pro-life views.

Now the Court has joined with Parliament to escape fundamental questions that cry out for resolution. An authentic democracy is one where the lives of all human beings are respected and protected, including those of the powerless and the most vulnerable.

The crisis of abortion will not go away. This is a human rights issue of national importance.

It was for such a time as this, that courage to tackle fundamental questions that divide a nation must be confronted and decided. What if the Court heard and decided the case? The Court's reasons may have revealed its moral character, legal acumen, integrity, faithfulness to the rule of law, and whether truth triumphed over ideology. It is a shame that the Court chose to avoid grappling with this very important case that could save the lives of millions of people in the future who may now never be chosen for birth because of the Court's unwillingness to hear Mary's case.

At least Mary's conscience is clear, although her heart is cut to the core, by the Court's rejection of this rare window of opportunity to put an end to the deaths of the unborn. ■

MARCH FOR LIFE WEEK
MAY 9-15, 2021
LIFE ON FILM-MOVIE NIGHTS
MAY 9-15 (ONLINE)
CANDLELIGHT VIGIL
WEDNESDAY, MAY 12 (ONLINE)
MASSES FOR LIFE &
PRAYER SERVICES FROM
ACROSS CANADA
MAY 10-15 (ONLINE)
MARCH FOR LIFE & RALLY
THURSDAY, MAY 13
(OTTAWA & ONLINE)
ROSE DINNER
MAY 13 AT 7:00 PM
(ONLINE - \$25)
YOUTH CONFERENCE
FRIDAY, MAY 14 (ONLINE)
DETAILS AT
MARCHFORLIFE.CA
OR CALL 1.800.730.5358

ELECTRONIC AD AT THE “DELTA” – NEW CONTRACT

As you may know we have been advertising on the Delta electronic jumbo screen for the last few years. As a result of pro-life messages no longer being allowed on local buses or bus shelters, we decided early 2020 to increase our advertising at the Delta to two weeks per month, to offset that loss. Thanks to your continued support, in December 2020 we signed a year long contract with Media City to advertise "three weeks per month," beginning January 2021 to December 2021. Our ads run every 2.5 minutes for a 10 second slot, 24 hours a day! The cost of advertising is \$925.00 per month. The following ad will be on display at the Delta from March 15th through to May 2nd.



**PREGNANT?
NOW WHAT?**

**CALL OR TEXT
519.803.0313**



**CAMBRIDGE
RIGHT to LIFE**

NEW BENCH AD - 725 CORONATION STREET

We are happy to report we have acquired another "new" bench for advertising another pro-life message which is located opposite Cambridge Memorial Hospital in front of the Coronation Medical Centre Plaza. This makes seven benches we now have around Cambridge (Ainslie/Dundas/Coronation/Champlain/Fountain/Glamis/ Franklin North) giving us 24/7 exposure! The cost of advertising on the benches is \$1019 per month. The following ad was installed at Coronation on March 15th.



**SOME OF THE
BEST THINGS
IN LIFE ARE
UNPLANNED.**

 CAMBRIDGE
RIGHT to LIFE

If you would like to contribute directly to any of our ads please use the membership renewal envelope provided. You can earmark your funds the project of your choosing. If you need assistance please do not hesitate to call our office at 519.623.1850. ■