

Eagle Forum Report

founded by Phyllis Schlafly

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From the Womb to the Tomb

FORMER MODEL SEEKS GOD

by Louise Chambers, a writer who covers inspiring news and human interest stories. Chastity is the message that former Colombian model and actress Amada Rose Pérez shares. The Epoch Times

Pérez became a model in Colombia at the age of 18 who represented famous brands, plus she played Sofia in the popular telenovela, “La Costeña y El Cachaco”. Once pressured into abortion for the sake of her career as a younger woman, Pérez — now 45 and married — has since channeled her immense suffering into a testimony to guide women toward true freedom: a path that begins with respecting one’s own body and never ends with the tragedy of abortion.

A mother to a 5-year-old son, Pérez has devoted herself to her spiritual faith and finds strength and comfort in her relationship with God.

At the core of Pérez’s message is a desire to embolden women to make the right choices, and one choice she supports is abstinence before marriage. “We think we’re mature enough to have premarital relations, but too immature to assume the responsibility of motherhood,” she said in an interview with Aleteia. “Pregnancy is the most natural thing that can result from the union of man and woman, but when it’s outside the context of marriage it brings fear and anxiety.”

Pérez, now a pro-life advocate, was never in favor of abortion, but

when she became pregnant years ago, her decision to terminate the pregnancy was governed by a common decisive factor — fear.

“I was pressured by my partner and I believed in what they told me, that the most important thing was my dreams and my professional success,” she said. “I also had suicidal thoughts. I believed that I wasn’t worthy to go on living because I had killed my child, and I suffered from a fixation on memories related to the abortion.”

Besides psychological trauma, Pérez wants others to be aware of the potential physical risks of abortion, including sterility, damage to the woman’s internal organs, and possible death. But she believes one of the “most common consequences” of terminating a pregnancy is the loss of tenderness of heart.

Pérez said that she has the opportunity to give her testimony by “the grace of God,” but she knows there are many women of faith who find it hard to talk about their abortions because “it’s too painful and shameful.”

“Those who have had abortions and appear calm are just keeping up appearances; I went out in interviews smiling, but inside my heart was

broken,” she said.

In February 2022, abortion in Colombia was made legal up until the 24th week of pregnancy. While pro-choice advocates have coined the phrase “voluntary interruption of pregnancy” to support the legalization, Pérez has a problem with this euphemism.



Amada Rose Pérez and her husband while she was pregnant with their son, who is now 5 years old. (Courtesy of Amada Rose Pérez)

“What if I want to resume my pregnancy? Who gives me back my children?” she told Aleteia. “We’re living in a culture of death that wants to take away the value of motherhood, and is damaging the minds and hearts of girls and women who think that if they end the life of their children they will be free. On the contrary, that makes them slaves.

“What we must ask ourselves is who is behind this. Behind abortion is a big business run by men who make women believe that they’re fighting

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for their rights, when what they're doing is harming their physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual health."

In the controversial case of babies conceived in rape, Pérez maintains that the guilt lies with the rapist, advocating for better support for

women and babies.

"I don't know any woman who has had an abortion and has not lived through hell, but I know many mothers who have had their children, and they are their greatest blessing and their happiness," said Pérez, who speaks

publicly and shares inspirational messages on her Instagram page.

She told Aletea: "I'm simply a grain of sand. God allowed me to be a public figure to give His messages. I only ask Him to never let go of me, and to be able to do His will." 

CHEMICAL ABORTION REGRETS

by Ben Johnson, senior reporter and editor at The Washington Stand.

The entertainment and legacy media present abortion as empowering, but that's not the feeling that impelled one mother to agree to a medication abortion. "I was scared to death," she told researchers. Even five years later, the woman — who still describes herself as "pro-choice" — says she regrets her chemical abortion. "Now I wish I would've just faced it all and had my baby," she said. "I regret it still to this day and probably still will for the rest of my life."

"I regret it every day and cry about it often," said another woman one year after deciding to oversee her abortion at home. Far from making her feel independent, she said the overwhelming emotion she felt — and still feels — is "helplessness."

Her words echo too many other women who took the two-pill regimen of mifepristone and misoprostol, called a "medical" or "chemical" abortion to distinguish it from surgical abortion. Nearly two out of three women who had a medication abortion say they would have benefited from talking to someone about the trauma of their abortion experience, but only 24% sought out help, according to a study of 14,000 women conducted by the group Support After Abortion. The gaping disparity may reflect the fact that 82% of post-abortive women did not know where they could find post-abortion counseling. As the study notes, an unknown number of women

are now paying the price.

"Many were traumatized by medication abortion, an experience they said was far more painful, physically and emotionally, than they had imagined," the survey noted.

The first of the two pills blocks progesterone, cutting off nourishment to the child in utero, while the second stimulates contractions to force the child's dead body out of his or her mother, usually into a toilet. The fetal remains "can be flushed down the lavatory or wrapped in tissue, placed in a small plastic bag and put in the dustbin," explained a British abortion provider. "If she looks carefully, she might be able to count the fingers and toes," said Dr. Anthony Levatino, a former abortionist who later became pro-life, in a video produced by Live Action.

The expectant mother undergoes this alone, often without an in-person medical check-up. Support After Abortion noted that women found bearing the responsibility of presiding over and disposing of their child's remains "extremely distressing," "isolating," and "traumatic."

"[I] just feel bad. I let it bleed out of me like nothing," said one woman. One-third of women (34%) who had a chemical abortion "reported an adverse change in themselves, including depression, anxiety, substance abuse, and thoughts of suicide."

"I felt like I didn't deserve to be a mom. It got to the point where I

wasn't eating. I couldn't go to work. I couldn't watch my kids," said Chantal Gates in her book, "Unraveled Roots: Exposing the Hidden Causes of Damaging Behaviors," published in 2020. "I couldn't believe I had done this to a child I actually cared about and wanted."



At least one post-abortive woman committed suicide, and seven died of overdoses/drug-related deaths, after undergoing a medical abortion, according to FDA data. Barely half of the 26 known deaths related to medication abortion (54%) between 2000 and 2019 came from natural causes. But the number may be far higher, as researchers say the results are often miscoded as a miscarriage.

Others remember the pain of going through contractions alone in a bathroom. "They said 'minor discomfort'. It was horrible. Physically and emotionally," said a woman who ingested the deadly medical cocktail. "It was 100 times more painful than [I was] told. It took over 12 hours to completely expel the tissue. It was so much more traumatic than a surgical abortion, which I

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had once before,” said another.

The adverse effects of chemical abortion seem set to multiply, as the abortion industry promises to use drug-driven abortion — which was already increasing before the Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade* — to circumvent state pro-life laws. The majority (54%) of all abortions took place via medication or chemical abortions in 2020, according to the pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute — more than doubling since 2011.


The Biden administration has also significantly loosened safety regulations on medical pills. Last December,

the FDA allowed the abortion pills to be prescribed online, without a medical check-up to verify the woman does not have an ectopic pregnancy, or even that she is pregnant. This July, Biden signed an additional executive order to “expand access to abortion care, including medication abortion.” Yet a study found medical abortion may send 35 of every 100 women who take the pills to the emergency room.

The share of medical abortions is “projected to climb to 70% by the end of 2022, according to the Guttmacher Institute,” Support After Abortion reported. “With abortion on the na-

tional stage, it’s an opportunity to shine a light on women who are too often overlooked — the millions who suffer psychologically after abortion, sometimes years after the event.”

But the study contains a hopeful note: With proper care, the psychological trauma of abortion may be reversed.

Gates said she found “healing” from her post-abortion trauma thanks to loving counselors, who helped her better understand her priorities. They “gave me a different viewpoint. I put me and my children first and live my life, so I am never going to be in that place again.” 

LIFE IS NOT A LOSING ISSUE

by Tabitha Walter, Eagle Forum’s Executive Director in Washington, D.C.

For a year, candidates running for offices across our nation strategized how to win their elections. While charisma and previous experience were contributors to their success, their policy stances outweighed every other attribute. Prospective representatives and senators had a wealth of issues to choose from but one that some Republicans had to give an answer for was the right to life.

The concept of life is weaved throughout every tenet within the GOP Platform. From conception to natural death, Republicans are expected to uphold this basic freedom that is endowed by our Creator and affirmed by our Constitution. Unfortunately, that’s not always the case, and we saw that play out during this year’s midterm elections.

The Supreme Court ruling on *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization* was a gift to our nation. *Roe v. Wade* was effectively overturned, allowing the states to regain their right to decide how abortion is regulated in their communities. This was a huge pro-life win, yet some Republican candidates used the rul-


ing to ditch the issue altogether. They bought into the narrative that women were losing their “rights” and that taking a strong stance in favor would make them look like extremists. In order to appease pro-choice moderates, they watered-down their messaging.

What these candidates did not understand is that the life beginning at conception is not an extreme stance. Scientists around the world agree that at the moment of the fertilization — when a sperm and egg unite — a human is formed with a unique set of DNA. That human is worthy of value no matter the circumstances of their creation. They deserve to have someone to speak forth their potential and advocate for their future.

Those politicians who are punting the life issue solely to the states are missing the point altogether. For fifty years, political leaders, organizations, and the grassroots put in the hard work to overturn *Roe*. They educated the public, provided resources to women with unplanned pregnancies, strengthened criminal laws on rape and abuse, elected pro-life leaders, held the abortion industry accountable for their

corruption, and rallied for substantial policy changes on all levels of government. Not only do we get to reap the fruits of decades of hard labor, but we must also maintain what we have and reinvest it to yield much greater harvests. Yet, certain lawmakers are squandering their inheritance because their goals are too short-sighted.

In the Senate, Eagle Forum PAC endorsed candidates such as Senators Mike Lee (R-UT) and Ron Johnson (R-WI) and Senators-elect J.D. Vance (R-OH), Eric Schmitt (R-MO), and Tedd Budd (R-NC) who are unapologetically pro-life. Despite their competitive races, each pulled ahead to victory. Why? Because they were unafraid to dream big and speak truth. They did not call themselves “pro-life” with exceptions. They stepped fully into the pro-life movement as fierce defenders of women and their babies no matter the circumstances. They recognized their role in protecting the preborn through legislation while supporting state sovereignty at the same time.

The *Dobbs* decision marked this election in ways both good and bad, but that tells us that more can be done. As long as abortion exists, every lawmaker has a role in making this act unthinkable. Life is never a losing issue. 

CANADIAN CULT OF DEATH

by Bonner Russell Cohen, Ph.D., is a senior fellow at the National Center for Public Policy Research.

Canada has seen a startling rise in deaths performed by medical professionals. “Mercy killings” are never merciful because the taking of an innocent life harms and devastates the person, the family, and all of society.

Euthanasia, in which doctors use drugs to kill consenting patients, has been legal in Canada since 2016. To be eligible for the procedure, the law first stated a person must be at least 18 years old, be able to prove he or she is suffering from severe physical pain with a reasonable expectation of a foreseeable death, and have two doctors sign off on the decision to terminate life.



Since going into effect, the law has been amended to allow people who are not terminally ill to choose to be put to death.

Euthanasia accounted for more than 10,000 deaths in Canada in 2021, up by about one-third from the previous year, The Associated Press reported on August 11, 2022.

Confusion About Numbers

In 2019, suicide was listed as the ninth leading cause of death in Canada, according to Statistics Canada. It is unclear whether euthanasia is included in that number.

The number of people dying by euthanasia in Canada is unclear because euthanasia is recognized as a “manner” of death, not an underlying

cause. Two Canadian provinces — Ontario and Quebec — explicitly instruct doctors not to indicate on death certificates that people died from euthanasia, and Canada’s national statistical agency says the statistics enumerate the “underlying cause of death,” not euthanasia.

Currently, seven U.S. states have “right-to-die” laws on the books: California, Colorado, Hawaii, New Jersey, Oregon, Vermont, and Washington, plus the District of Columbia. Although these laws are broader than traditional end-of-life decisions such as “do not resuscitate,” they are distinct from euthanasia. Euthanasia, a broader category than “right-to-die” laws, is also legal in Belgium, Colombia, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain, and several states in Australia.

World’s Most Permissive

Even among the few nations that allow euthanasia, Canada’s law is unusually permissive in allowing nurse practitioners, not just doctors, to administer the lethal drugs.

Such is the permissiveness of Canada’s euthanasia law that last year three experts with the United Nations Human Rights Commission voiced their “grave concerns” the law violates the agency’s Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The practice is garnering critics in Canada, who express concerns about the ethical implications of the law. Harvey Price, Ph.D., a lecturer at the University of Toronto School of Continuing Studies, says the embrace of euthanasia is part of a larger, disturbing trend in Canada.

“Canada is rapidly becoming the world’s leading manufacturer of death,” Price said. “Even Catholic

nursing homes dedicated to palliative care, such as British Columbia’s Delta Hospice, have narrowly escaped being coerced into becoming killing fields under the federal ‘Medical Assistance in Dying Act,’ so fittingly acronymized as ‘MAID’—‘call us to clean up your mess.’”

“In Canada of late there are more-stringent restrictions on the disposal of household waste at the local rubbish tip than the killing of the burdensome elderly, mentally ill, or babies in the womb,” Price said.

‘Healers, Not Killers’

Jane Orient, M.D., executive director of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons and a policy advisor to The Heartland Institute, which co-publishes Health Care News, says the expansion of euthanasia is part of a downward spiral of ethics in the medical profession.

“People often talk about doctors taking the Oath of Hippocrates, but these days they generally don’t, substituting a bastardized version or making up one of their own,” Orient said. “The original oath explicitly forbids euthanasia and abortion: ‘To please no one will I prescribe a deadly drug or give advice which may cause his death.’”

“Doctors are healers, not killers,” Orient said. “Worse still, doctors or facilities may be punished for refusing to provide or arrange for this ‘medical service.’ At least at first, Nazi doctors rationalized the killing of the insane or disabled as a merciful service.”



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