



700 Melvin Avenue / Suite 1 / Annapolis, MD 21401
410-269-6397 / 301-858-8304 / Fax 410-269-9138
www.mdrtl.org



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Please Help MDRTL Stop Violence Against Women and Unborn Babies!

The need has never been greater! Please help Maryland Right to Life to have an effective presence in Annapolis in the upcoming session. Your gift will help promote efforts to enact protective laws.



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Another Case of Violence Against Women Who Refuse Abortion

Several studies have indicated that the number one cause of death for pregnant women in Maryland is murder. Sadly, there have been several examples recently of attacks on pregnant women by men seeking to harm the woman and her unborn child.

Earlier this month, there was a [shocking high-profile example](#) in Brazil. Bruno Fernandes das Dores de Souza, former captain and goal-keeper of Falmengo, the Rio de Janeiro soccer team, was jailed for the murder of Eliza Samudio.

De Souza is married with children but apparently had an affair with Samudio, which resulted in her pregnancy. She refused to have an abortion despite De Souza's wishes.

Samudio was reportedly detained against her will in De Souza's car where De Souza and his accomplices forced her to take Cytotec (which can cause miscarriages). However, Samudio did not miscarry and after giving birth to a son, she attempted to establish paternity.

Police say she was subsequently lured out of her home, kidnapped and imprisoned in a shed behind De Souza's home where she was allegedly beaten to death. The police believe her body was fed to dogs to hide the murder.

Samudio had made public statements before her disappearance, indicating she felt threatened by De Souza.

High European Court Rules Abortion Not a "Human Right"

The European Court of Human Rights has concluded that the European Convention on Human Rights [does not guarantee a right to legal abortion](#).

The recent case, *A, B, and C v. Ireland*, involved three anonymous women who claimed that Ireland's abortion law violated their right to privacy. European pro-life feared the decision might become a European [Roe v. Wade](#). Ireland has a constitutional amendment guaranteeing the right to life of unborn children.

A decision in favor of the plaintiffs would have required the 47 countries in the Council of Europe to allow legal abortion under the threat of civil liability. However, the Irish government could have rejected such a decision, as the Court has [no ability to enforce](#) its rulings.

The Court held that abortion should remain legal in cases where a pregnancy places a mother's life at risk and criticized Ireland for not providing clear procedures for such a circumstance.

Planned Parenthood Affiliate Resigns Due to Abortion Requirement

Planned Parenthood of South Texas is dropping [its affiliation with the national organization](#) due to disagreement over a new policy requiring every affiliate in the region to offer abortion services.

The South Texas affiliate, which presently offers only services related to contraception and sexual health, objected to this requirement, saying there are other abortion providers in the area.

"We have never provided abortions. Our position is that if that is a need in your community, fine. There are far greater needs in our area than abortion. We feel that women here have options. We don't need to duplicate services," remarked Amanda Stukenberg, CEO of Planned Parenthood of South Texas.

According to a recent [annual report](#) released by the Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA), the number of abortions performed by PPFA affiliates has increased steadily, as has the amount of government funding the organization receives. PPFA is responsible for about one-fourth of all abortions performed in the United States.

Sign the Maryland Right to Life Petition Against Abortions Late

in Pregnancy

Notorious abortionist LeRoy Carhart is working in Maryland because of the complete lack of protective legislation in our state. This infamous abortionist specializes in killing babies late in pregnancy – after the unborn child has the capacity to feel excruciating pain while being dismembered in the womb.

Please take a stand today and [add your name to the list of Marylanders](#) opposed to this gruesome practice. MDRTL will provide this list your state representatives when lobbying for bills to protect human life in the Maryland General Assembly.

By clicking [here](#), you can sign the petition online. Click [here](#) to download and print out copies of the petition for your family, friends, neighbors, and church members to sign. Please return completed petitions to MDRTL at the address shown at the bottom of the petition page.

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