

NATIONAL CATHOLIC REPORTER

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Preview our Jan. 3 Pro-Life Special Section

NATIONAL CATHOLIC REPORTER
Pro-Life
JANUARY 3, 2014 NCNline.org

EXECUTIONS
Do Depicted Drugs
See how Catholic
pro-life activists
have been caught
by the law.

Our Lady of the Mission for Dorothy Dickson, right, observes as
elderly student Marisa Brooks, center, examines her Apgar at a
prenatal clinic in West, South Sudan.

Death penalty opponents hold a candlelight vigil
for inmate inmate Joseph Fontana at St. Francis
Kaiser (College) Church in St. Louis Nov. 15.

A man wakes up after sleeping in a tent on downtown Los
Angeles' Third Row in early March.

Keep Families Together

A deeper look at the consistent ethic of life
By Dawn H. Hoffmeyer

In late October 2013, the Catholic media was abuzz with the seminal "consensus" of the late Cardinal Joseph Bernardini's purportedly "dead" consistent ethic of life. Also known as the widely known general approach to Catholic ethics. While I readily join in the excitement, I also believe we must look deeper, beyond the surface attributes and commonalities, to understand the true nature of the consistent ethic of life. This is not a new concept, but it is a concept that has been re-examined and re-articulated in the light of the consistent ethic of life. This is not a new concept, but it is a concept that has been re-examined and re-articulated in the light of the consistent ethic of life. This is not a new concept, but it is a concept that has been re-examined and re-articulated in the light of the consistent ethic of life.

Neither persons nor facts appear to originate their attributes around a pro-life position, nor do they exist in a vacuum, divorced from the social and cultural context in which they exist. At the same time, neither persons nor facts appear to originate their attributes around a pro-life position, nor do they exist in a vacuum, divorced from the social and cultural context in which they exist. At the same time, neither persons nor facts appear to originate their attributes around a pro-life position, nor do they exist in a vacuum, divorced from the social and cultural context in which they exist.

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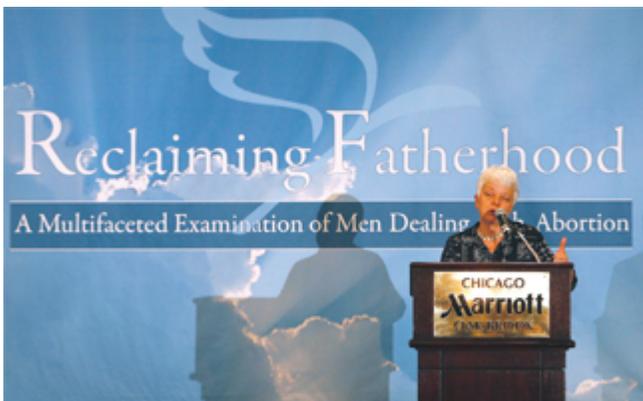
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A deeper look at the consistent ethic of life

By Dawn M. Nothwehr

In late October 2013, the Catholic media was abuzz with the seeming "resurrection" of the late Cardinal Joseph Bernardin's purportedly "dead" consistent ethic of life, also known as the seamless garment approach to Catholic ethics. While I readily join in the excitement, I also believe we must look deeper, beyond the surface attributions many commentators provide for why not all Catholics share this enthusiasm. Sadly, this media flurry has also been the occasion for a rise in heated comparative discussions and surfacing the ugly head of Catholic polemics. This is not at all surprising, but it actually confirms the need that Bernardin (1928-96) addressed in his consistent ethic of life, and more explicitly in the Catholic Common Ground Initiative. ... NEWSPAPER ONLY



Project Rachel marks 30 years of healing

By [Megan Fincher](#) [6]

Project Rachel, the church's postabortion ministry, is celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2014, as well as

its first full-time staff position in the U.S. Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities.

At their general assembly in November, the U.S. bishops approved the use of grant money from the Knights of Columbus to fund a full-time staff position specifically for post-abortion ministries. Almost all U.S. dioceses offer such ministries, commonly called Project Rachel, with a shared mission ? ?Women can find forgiveness and peace of heart through compassionate counseling and the Sacrament of Reconciliation,? according to the church?s website, hopeafterabortion.org [7]. ... NEWSPAPER ONLY



Gun violence myths debunked; quest for profits exposed

Reviewed by Dennis McDaniel

Though many have seen the problem of gun violence and mass killing in the United States as a matter of moral depravity, few have argued as persuasively as Tom Diaz that the root of the problem lies in the deadly sin of greed. Through a painstakingly researched and carefully documented body of facts and anecdotes, *The Last Gun* challenges the myths of liberty and security purveyed by the gun industry and the gun lobby that serves it, and exposes the quest for profit that drives these myths. ... NEWSPAPER ONLY



States face dwindling sources for lethal injection drugs

By [Brian Roewe](#) [8]

When the state of Missouri on Nov. 20 executed Joseph Paul Franklin ? a 63-year-old who targeted Jews and African-Americans in a late-1970s interstate killing spree ? it used a single drug. A compounded version of pentobarbital ended Franklin?s life in 10 minutes, with media witnesses reporting no apparent signs of pain.

In the past, Missouri, as did most death penalty states, used a threedrug process as standard protocol for its death row executions. But recent years have seen the mechanics of killing change, much of it attributed to the lack of access to the drugs needed to make the traditional pharmaceutical cocktail ... NEWSPAPER ONLY

New survey studies end-of-life attitudes

By Religion News Service

WASHINGTON: Death may be inevitable, but one in three Americans ? including most blacks and Hispanics ? want doctors to never quit fighting it, a recent survey finds.

In 1990, 15 percent of U.S. adults said doctors should do everything possible for a patient, even in the face of incurable illness and pain. Today, 31 percent hold that view, according to a report released Nov. 21 by the Pew Research Center?s Religion & Public Life Project. Sixtysix percent of U.S. adults still say there are circumstances when a patient should be allowed to die. ... NEWSPAPER ONLY

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