

## Voice for Life Whangarei

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### Voice for Life Whangarei

Newsletter for Voice for Life Whangarei

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#### **Wade vs Roe and the pro-abortion Media**

I sat watching the news on TV3 about two days after the announcement that the US Supreme Court had overturned the pro-abortion Wade vs Roe legislation. I saw a brief clip about a vehicle supposedly driving into pro-abortion supporters, I saw women weeping because the legislation had been overturned. I saw a brief clip from Chris Luxon National party leader saying that the abortion law here would not be revisited if National became the government. There were pro-abortion speakers interviewed.

The news item was quite long and I waited and waited for the other side, the pro-life side to be featured.

I waited in vain. Nothing.

A day or so later TV3 news featured a pro-abortion march in Auckland where they said the number of marchers was about 400. Interesting I thought, we had a March for Life in Auckland 2 years ago which had close to 3,500. I watched TV3 news at the time to see if that would be featured but nothing.

Is the media biased towards the pro-abortion viewpoint. Of course they are.

The Democracy Project at Victoria University was commissioned by Family First director Bob McCoskrie to examine how the NZ media reported the fallout from the overturning of the Roe vs Wade decision. Key findings were the bias towards the pro-abortion position was 5 times that of the pro-life position. Some statistics from the report found that out of 77 news articles containing commentary, 82% were pro abortion. 50% of all news articles were entirely pro-abortion and 19% represented both sides.

If you want to hear the other side come along to VFL's 'Build the Pro-life Future' national tour.

### **Build the Pro-Life Future**

Whangarei has agreed to host the national tour event "Build the Pro-life Future" on Saturday September 24<sup>th</sup> at Central Baptist Church, 202 Bank Street. Running from 10.00am to 4.00pm with lunch provided, I encourage you all to register and attend. See the registration details on the attached flyer.

We are printing flyers promoting this event which will be ready this week so if you can distribute some to people at your church, please email or ring me, and I will drop them off to your house.

You can also learn more about this event and register at [voiceforlife.org.nz/tour](http://voiceforlife.org.nz/tour)

### **Unborn Remembrance Day**

Saturday October 29<sup>th</sup> has been set aside as the National Unborn Remembrance Day. This is a time when we hold a respectful vigil outside abortion facilities throughout New Zealand to remember those children whose lives were cut short by abortion. We will be taking part by holding a vigil outside Whangarei Hospital. Once further information comes from National office we will send out details to you via email.

### **National March for Life**

This will be held in Wellington on Saturday December 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting at Civic Square at 1.00pm. It was cancelled last year due to Covid. It is always a worthwhile event so if you are in Wellington that weekend, plan to attend.

### **'Safe Areas' Legislation**

Legislation has gone through the parliamentary process to allow an abortion facility to apply for a designated distance of 150 metres around the facility as an exclusion zone where no type of protest can be held. Each abortion facility has to apply individually for a zone to be set up. So far Whangarei Hospital has not applied.

### **Pregnancy Support Centre**

Whangarei is getting its own pregnancy support centre. A committee is working on getting this up and running. If you are interested in helping in any way please contact Patrick (his phone number is above the logo) for contact details.

### **End of Life Choice Act**

I opened up my NZ Herald newspaper a few months ago and the front page was a feature on why the euthanasia legislation was too strict and it was only passed by Parliament because it was changed and made stricter so enough MPs would support it.

Where did this come from I thought, why is this front page news?

My thoughts were, is this the start of a campaign to generate public pressure to make euthanasia easier?

No 'slippery slope" said the pro-euthansia supporters at the time, the law will be very strict and we will not try to change it over time.

Last week while thinking about what to put in this newsletter about this NZ Herald article, I was going to suggest the next step in the campaign would be for the media to find a human interest story supporting someone who wants to die under the current law. Well, in last Saturdays NZ Herald what was the front page headline but, "Brit plans journey to NZ for assisted dying". The article explained although the lady Avril Baker is British she has dual NZ

and British citizenship having lived in New Zealand for twenty years so is eligible under our current laws.

Her mother died of cancer and Avril has cancer so she says wants to end her life quickly, not like her mother who she said died slowly. Interestingly she did not say her mother was in pain as nurses were administering pain relief.

Why are we getting front page stories about euthanasia in the newspaper with New Zealand's largest circulation?

My feeling is that it's the start of a campaign to bring pressure to bear on politicians to relax the criteria for euthanasia.

### **Subscriptions**

Each year we ask for subscriptions to help with the cost of running Voice for Life Whangarei and Voice for Life nationally. The subscriptions have been \$30 for an individual and \$45 for a family/couple. We have decided not to send out an annual request for a subscription but to ask people to make a donation of an amount they feel comfortable with. So if you can make a donation we would appreciate any contributions and I thank you in advance.

Our bank account is Voice for Life Inc 12 3099 0400410 00 (or 000 suffix if your bank requires three numbers).

*Peter Kitchen*

*Whangarei President*