



South Central Nebraska RIGHT to LIFE

NEWSLETTER - MARCH 2022



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When They Warn of Rare Disorders, Prenatal Tests are Usually Wrong

After a year of fertility treatments, Yael Geller was thrilled when she found out she was pregnant in November 2020. Following a normal ultrasound, she was confident enough to tell her 3-year-old son that his "brother or sister" was in her belly.

But a few weeks later, as she was driving her son home from school, her doctor's office called. A prenatal blood test indicated her fetus might be missing part of a chromosome, which could lead to serious ailments and mental illness.

The next day, doctors used a long, painful needle to retrieve a small piece of her placenta. It was tested and showed the initial result was wrong. She now has a 6-month-old, Emmanuel, who shows no signs of the condition he screened positive for.

Geller had been misled by a wondrous promise that Silicon Valley has made to expectant mothers: that a few vials of their blood, drawn in the first trimester, can allow companies to detect serious developmental problems in the DNA of the fetus with remarkable accuracy.

In just over a decade, the tests have gone from laboratory experiments to an industry that serves more than one-third of the pregnant women in America, luring major companies such as Labcorp and Quest Diagnostics into the business, alongside many startups.

The tests initially looked for Down syndrome and worked very well. But as manufacturers tried to outsell one another, they began offering additional screenings for increasingly rare conditions.

The grave predictions made by those newer tests are usually wrong, an examination by The New York Times has found.

That includes the screening that came back positive for Geller, which looks for Prader-Willi syndrome, a condition that offers little chance of living independently as an adult. Studies have found its positive results are incorrect more than 90% of the time.

Nonetheless, on product brochures and test-result sheets, companies describe the tests to pregnant women and their doctors as near certain. They advertise their findings as "reliable" and "highly accurate," offering "total confidence" and "peace of mind" for patients who want to know as much as possible.

The science behind these companies' ability to test blood for common disorders is not in question. Experts say it has revolutionized Down syndrome screening, significantly reducing the need for riskier tests.

However, the same technology — known as noninvasive prenatal testing, or NIPT — performs much worse when it looks for less-common conditions. Most are caused by small missing pieces of chromosomes called microdeletions. Others stem from missing or extra copies of entire chromosomes. They can have a wide range of symptoms, including intellectual disability, heart defects, a shortened life span or a high infant-mortality rate.

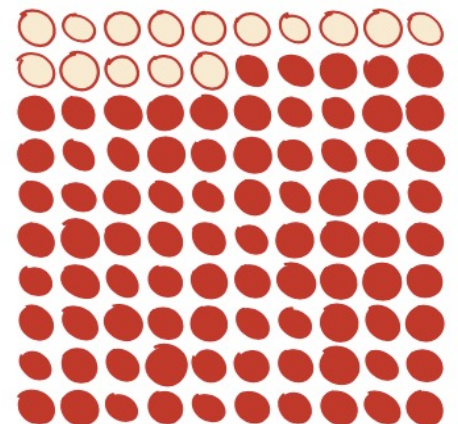
To evaluate the newer tests, The Times interviewed researchers and then combined data from multiple studies to produce the best estimates available of how well the most-

common microdeletion tests perform. The analysis showed that positive results on those tests are incorrect about 85% of the time.

"I couldn't help but have termination on my mind," said Allison Mihalich, 33, whose screening incorrectly indicated her baby might have Turner syndrome, which can cause infertility and heart defects. (Studies show that the test's positive results are wrong 74% of the time.)

The Times reviewed 17 patient and doctor brochures from eight of the testing companies, including Natera, Labcorp, Quest and smaller competitors. Ten of the brochures never mention that a false positive can happen. Only one mentioned how often each test gets positive results wrong.

Some of the tests look for missing snippets of chromosomes. For every 15 times they correctly find a problem ○ ...



... they are ● wrong **85 times**

Pro-Life Legislation – Nebraska Legislature – 2022

SUPPORT LB 933: Senators Joni Albrecht District #17 and Mike Flood of District #19 introduced LB 933, the **Nebraska Human Life Protection Act**. This bill would make it a felony to perform a chemical abortion or perform any procedure which would have the intent of ending the life of an unborn child. This law would go into effect if the U.S. Supreme Court overturns Roe vs. Wade.

SUPPORT LB 781: Sponsored by Sen. Julie Slama – also known as the **Heartbeat Bill**. If passed, it would make abortions illegal after a fetal heartbeat is detectable, which usually occurs around six weeks of pregnancy. There is a medical exemption in the bill that would allow abortion to save the life of the mother. There are no exceptions for rape or incest.

SUPPORT LB 1806: Sponsored by Sen. Suzanne Geist, the **Chemical Abortion Safety Protocol Act** improves reporting requirements and safety standards for women, prohibiting abortion-by-mail drugs and ending chemical abortions after 7 weeks gestation.

OPPOSE LB715: Sen. Megan Hunt – will eliminate the prohibition regarding publicly funded insurance coverage for abortion and repeal the Mandate Opt-Out and Insurance Coverage Clarification Act. This bill proposes a repeal of the state restriction that forces Nebraskans with private insurance to purchase additional optional coverage for abortion care.

OPPOSE LB716: Sen. Megan Hunt – will allow qualified Certified Nurse-Midwives, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, and physician assistants to provide abortion care (meaning: allow abortion drugs to be sold through the mail without a doctor's visit and allow nurses and midwives to perform abortions).

OPPOSE LB276: Sen. Megan Hunt – The bill would repeal Nebraska's ban on telehealth for medication abortion. Nebraska's telehealth ban requires patients to take pills in the presence of a physician, despite the Food and Drug Administration's recent decision to permanently allow medication abortion by mail.

40 Days for Life – March 2nd to April 10th

We are just days away from launching the 40 Days for Life Spring Campaign, which runs March 2nd to April 10th. There are some great results from 2021!

After a final tally, the number of babies saved in 2021 DOUBLED from 2020! That's amazing! *2,505 babies were saved* as a result of prayer, fasting, and a physical presence outside abortion facilities.

CAMPAIGN LOCATION:
5631 S. 48th St. Lincoln, NE
Sidewalk outside of Planned Parenthood

HOURS: 12 hours each day, 7am - 7pm.

For More Info & to Sign Up for a Shift:
www.40daysforlife.com/en/lincoln
Email: SAFLCathy896@gmail.com

Did you know ...

- There is a 75% “no show” rate for abortion appointments when people are outside praying in front of the abortion location?
- There have been 20,728 babies saved since the 40 Days for Life began in 2007, as well as 114 Abortion Centers that have closed and 229 Abortion Workers quit!

“SILENCE IN THE FACE OF
EVIL IS ITSELF EVIL:
GOD WILL NOT
HOLD US GUILTLSS.

NOT TO SPEAK
IS TO SPEAK.
NOT TO ACT
IS TO ACT.”

- DEITRICH BONHOEFFER

By 15 weeks ...

a baby has a heartbeat, can move and kick, can sense movement outside the mother's womb, has eyes and eyelids that are beginning to open, can hiccup, and can hear her or his mother's heartbeat.

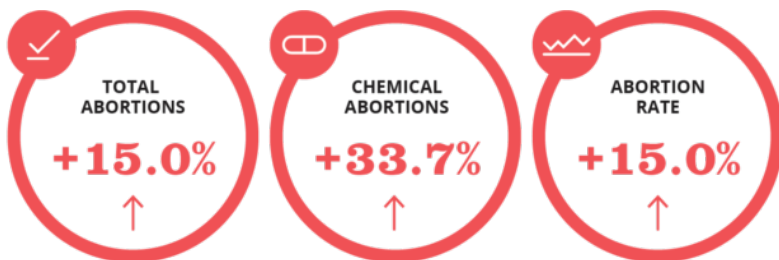
Fifteen-week ultrasounds around 1973 when Roe was decided and today:



Abortions in Nebraska

Nebraska's 2020 abortion report was published in June 2021. Abortions in the Cornhusker State increased from 2019.

In 2020, there were 2,378 abortions reported in Nebraska. This was an increase of 15 percent from the 2,068 reported the previous year (Fig. 1). **Chemical abortions jumped by 34 percent** from 1,259 in 2019 to 1,683 in 2020, making up 71 percent of all abortions. Nebraska's abortion rate increased to 6.4 abortions per 1,000 women of childbearing age, according to Charlotte Lozier Institute (CLI) estimates (Fig. 2).



In 2020, Nebraska enacted a law to prohibit dilation and evacuation (dismemberment) abortions; zero of these procedures were reported in 2020. There were 69 dilation and extraction abortions. **The majority of the abortions reported in Nebraska (71 percent) were chemical.** Twenty-six percent of the abortions were conducted via suction curettage, and one additional abortion was performed using another, unspecified abortion procedure.

Forty percent of Nebraska abortions were performed at six weeks of gestation or earlier. Thirty percent were performed between seven and eight weeks, and 14 percent occurred between nine and 10 weeks of gestation. Six percent each were performed between 11 and 12 weeks and 13 and 15 weeks of gestation. Three percent were reported between 16 and 19 weeks. There were 13 abortions at 20 weeks of gestation (0.5 percent) and 12 abortions at 21 weeks (0.5 percent). Nebraska limits abortion at 20 weeks post-fertilization (approximately 22 weeks of gestation), and zero abortions after 20 weeks post-fertilization were reported in 2020.

<https://lozierinstitute.org/abortion-reporting-nebraska-2020/>

Five Abortion Pill Dangers Everyone Should Know:

The abortion industry touts the abortion pill as simple and safe 'health care,' but something that directly and intentionally kills a living human being can never truly be classified as health care.

A medical or chemical abortion, recently made available over the counter by President Biden's FDA, is a two-step process. First, the woman is given a pill that causes the uterus to break down, starving the fetus to death. A second pill causes heavy bleeding, severe cramping, and contractions, expelling the dead child from the mother's uterus.

1. RESEARCH SHOWS THE ABORTION PILL IS 4 TIMES MORE DANGEROUS THAN FIRST-TRIMESTER SURGICAL ABORTION.

Researchers found that the complication rate for women who took the abortion pill was 5.2%, compared to 1.3% for women who underwent first-trimester surgical abortions. When looking specifically at abortions that caused "major complications," researchers discovered that more severe complications occurred for women who took the abortion pill (a rate of .31%) than women who underwent first-trimester surgical abortions (a rate of .16%). Complications from the abortion pill include hemorrhaging, incomplete abortion, and infection that can cause death.

2. RESEARCH SHOWS APPROXIMATELY 6% OF WOMEN WHO TAKE THE ABORTION PILL NEED EMERGENCY CARE FOR COMPLICATIONS.

The results of a Gynuity-sponsored study published in 2021 in the journal *Contraception* revealed that six percent (6%) of 1,157 women who took the abortion pill visited the emergency room or an urgent care center for abortion pill-related complications. Ten of those were serious effects, with five women requiring blood transfusions. While six percent may not look like much on paper, based on the pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute's 2017 statistics on chemical abortions, an estimated 20,380 U.S. women *per year* may be visiting emergency rooms and urgent care facilities after taking the abortion pill.

3. THE 'NO-TEST' ABORTION PILL PROTOCOL PUTS WOMEN'S FUTURE PREGNANCIES AT GREATER RISK.

Fifteen percent of the U.S. population is Rh negative. If a woman is

Rh negative and her baby's father is Rh positive, her future children's lives will be at risk if her Rh negative status goes undetected and untreated during pregnancy. When an abortion is carried out without knowing if a woman has Rh positive blood, any child she decides to have in the future could die as a result.

The solution is for the mother to receive injections of Rh immunoglobulin, which prevent the mother's body from making those antibodies. These injections must be administered during pregnancy and immediately after delivery (or an abortion or miscarriage), or the mother will carry the antibodies for the rest of her life, thereby risking the lives of her future children. But the abortion industry's "no-test" abortion pill protocol does not administer Rh testing to abortion clients.

4. ER VISITS FOR ABORTION PILL-RELATED COMPLICATIONS HAVE SKYROCKETED.

A study from the Charlotte Lozier Institute revealed that the rate of abortion-related emergency room visits following the use of the abortion pill increased by an astounding 507% between 2002 and 2015. The study examined data from women residing in 17 states providing Medicaid funding for abortion. The women were over 13 years of age at the time of their abortions, and visited the emergency room within 30 days.

5. THE FDA DOES NOT REQUIRE COMPLICATIONS FROM THE ABORTION PILL TO BE REPORTED.

Despite all of this available information, as of 2016, the FDA no longer requires the manufacturer of the abortion pill to report complications of the abortion pill unless they result in death. This means that the true number of abortion complications will be hidden from women, leaving them blind to the risks they take when they swallow the abortion pill. Women who experience complications from the abortion pill are more likely to visit an emergency room than the abortion facility where they obtained the pills. These women are also encouraged to lie to emergency room doctors, and tell them they are miscarrying rather than having an abortion. This highlights the fact that abortion pill complications are severely underreported.

Source: <https://www.liveaction.org/news/abortion-pill-dangers-women>



← Our new Vinyl for our Pro-Life Billboard that rotates throughout Hasitngs during the year. We hope to have it installed in March!

→ *In Memoriam:* Vivian Parr, one of the first presidents of South Central Nebraska Right to Life, recently passed away on January 6, 2022. She was a dedicated protector of the unborn and a passionate warrior for the Pro-Life Movement. May she rest in peace.

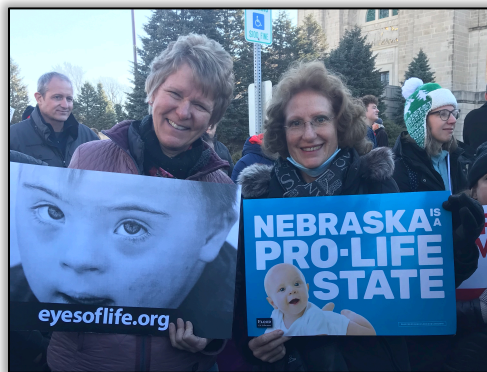


The 48th Annual Nebraska Walk for Life gathered about 4,000 pro-life supporters on Saturday, January 29, on the steps of the Nebraska State Capitol. It is the largest, longest-running First Amendment demonstration against abortion in the state and is sponsored by Nebraska Right to Life, state affiliate to National Right to Life Committee.

Lt. Governor Mike Foley first addressed the crowd by saying, “I can’t tell the future any better than you can, but I have a sense a great moment is coming, that the U.S. Supreme Court will very soon tear down that wicked *Roe v. Wade* and send it where it belongs.” In memory of the 63 million babies lost to abortion in our country, pink and blue balloons were released during a moment of silence.

After a brief program at the State Capitol, marchers walked on to the University of Nebraska Student Union to hear the keynote speaker, Ashley Bratcher. Ashley starred in the movie “Unplanned,” portraying former abortion clinic worker, Abby Johnson. She shared with those gathered at the event that her own mother visited an abortion clinic when pregnant with her, but changed her mind and carried her to term.

More than 2,000 abortions are performed each year at the three abortion facilities in Nebraska: Omaha, Bellevue, and Lincoln.



Above: Good Friends are Pro-Life! Ruth Nicolaus (Seward Co. Pro-Life) and Joan Primrose (SCNRTL) met up at the Walk for Life!

Why You Should Advocate for the Unborn:

When the time comes as it surely will, when we face that awesome moment, the final judgment, I’ve often thought, as Fulton Sheen wrote, that it is a terrible moment of loneliness. You have no advocates, you are there alone standing before God and a terror will rip through your soul like nothing you can imagine. But I really think that those in the pro-life movement will not be alone. I think there will be a chorus of voices that have never been heard in this world but are heard beautifully and clearly in the next world and they will plead for everyone who has been in this movement. They will say to God, “Spare him because he loved us,” and God will look at you and say not, “Did you succeed?” but “Did you try?”

- Congressman Henry Hyde

PRAYER FOR SENATOR MEGAN HUNT:

Heavenly Father,
We ask you to send the Holy Spirit to Senator Megan Hunt. Have her begin to discern the truth about the sanctity of every human life, from conception until natural death.
Have her realize that fostering a culture of death by pushing surgical abortions, and providing chemical abortions through the mail, will only harm mothers and their unborn children, and also harm the common good.
Give her the grace to have the courage for a change of heart to love those she is trying to kill and repent of her part in the evil of abortion.
We ask this in Jesus’ name.
Amen.

Author: C. Consbruck 2.14.22

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