

Welcome to ...

VOL 4, NO. 2

The Fourth Wave

A NEWSLETTER FROM FEMINISTS
CHOOSING LIFE OF NEW YORK

Feminists Choosing Life
New York State

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A LOOK AT HUMAN SEX TRAFFICKING

In March, 2013, Feminists Choosing Life hosted a 4-day series focusing on human sex trafficking as part of its participation in Season for Non-Violence. Our keynote speaker was Laura Lederer J.D. Laura is the former Senior Advisory on Trafficking in the Office of Global Affairs for the US Department of State and current President of Global Centurion (<http://www.globalcenturion.org/>), an organization which initiates and oversees research on the demand side of human trafficking. As part of her many contributions in the field of trafficking in persons, she founded and directed The Protection Project at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government in 1997. In 2000, she moved The Project to

Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). The Protection Project "focuses on promoting human rights around the world, fostering the growth of civil society, combating trafficking in persons, and advancing human rights education and the protection of minority groups". Laura is also adjunct professor of law at Georgetown Law Center, where she taught the first full course on international trafficking in persons offered at a law school.

FCL also hosted supporting speaker, Sue Thayer, former manager of a Planned Parenthood in Storm Lake, Iowa. After 17 years, Thayer began to question the motives

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Robert and Laura at the Little

From the editor's desk ...

From the editor's desk ...

By Kelly Brunacini

The trial of late term abortionist Kermit Gosnell stunned the 25% of Americans who reported closely or somewhat closely following the horrific case. Arrested in Philadelphia in January 2011 on eight counts of suspected murder, Gosnell was found guilty of murdering three newborns by snipping their spinal cords with scissors after failed abortions and one count of involuntary manslaughter as a result of the death of patient Karnamaya Mongar. Mrs. Mongar died of cardiac arrest after

receiving a lethal dose of Demerol. Kermit Gosnell also faces more than 250 additional charges of crimes ranging from racketeering, performing abortions after the 24 week gestational limit, Theft by Deception and Corruption of a Minor. Gosnell faced receiving the death penalty for his crimes but abdicated his right to appeal in exchange for life in prison effectively choosing life for himself after callously taking the lives of so many others.

The opinion of whether or not justice was served in this case varies. Some who believe Gosnell likely killed 100's of newborns in the fashion of which he was convicted, maintain that no amount of punishment can make up for the huge number of innocent lives lost at his hands. Others are thankful that his case raised awareness of what abortion really looks like and are satisfied in the knowledge that Gosnell will never live another free day. But rather than seeing the conviction of Kermit Gosnell as an end point, I am choosing to view it as the beginning of fresh scrutiny into what happens inside the abortion industry.

For example, as a result of the Gosnell trial, Rep. Trent Frank amended his D.C. Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act to apply nationwide (Unborn Child Protection Act H.R. 1797) and Senators Mike Lee and Ted Cruz have introduced a senate resolution demanding a review of public policies surrounding late term abortion. In Texas, the department of Health has launched a full investigation into abortionist Dr. Doug Karpen after Operation Rescue revealed details of Gosnell-like practices in his facility and in Maryland, abortionist Nicola I. Riley has finally had her medical license permanently revoked after she was found to have lied on her medical licensing application and guilty of unprofessional treatment of patients within her clinic.

Because of the horrors that were brought to light in the Gosnell trial, the pro-life community now has a renewed responsibility and opportunity to aggressively demand that our federal and state governments begin to hold themselves and abortionists responsible for what happens to women and the unborn behind closed clinic doors. Let this be our unifying goal and let's get to work.

This issue of The Fourth Wave is dedicated to Karnamaya Mongar and all women who died during abortions.



Gosnell abortion victim Karnamaya Mongar.

MISSION STATEMENT:

FCLNY is a pro-life, pro-woman organization that seeks to open minds to its philosophy of pro-life feminism, the belief that all people, by virtue of their human dignity, have a right to live without violence from conception to natural death.

FCL in Albany

On April 15th, Feminists Choosing Life traveled to Albany to visit with state senators during the annual Legislative Advocacy Day. Twenty members and board members, working in pairs or small groups, sat down with senators and legislative aids to discuss FCL's opposition to the Reproductive Health Act and the abortion component within Governor Cuomo's Women's Equality Act. The conversations focused on New York State's 33% abortion rate (43% in NYC), the increased



vigil participants

chance of death for women during late term abortions and outrage that the governor's plan does not include any resources that enable women to carry their unexpected pregnancies to term. The responses from senators ranged from full support, to a "wait and see" attitude to unquestioning backing of the governor's plan.

During the visits, FCL also highlighted its support for S.1950: Provides that either a person or an unborn child at any gestational age can be the victim of assault. FCL members argued that the lack of any enforceable fetal homicide law in New

York is distinctly anti-woman and represents evidence that New York, through its laws has elevated a woman's right to choose abortion above her right to carry her child to term. Through the state's failure to recognize that an assault against a pregnant woman is very often an attempt to forcibly abort her, the state willingly overlooks her right to choose life for her baby.

While in Albany, several members and board members also met with three members of Governor's Cuomo's staff to express support for 9 out of the 10 points in The Women's Equality Act and disappointment that Governor Cuomo is holding real social improvements for women hostage to his radical abortion agenda by not removing the controversial abortion component so women and families could begin to immediately benefit from the remainder of the plan.



backrow: Colleen Spellecky, Kathy Peters, Suzanne Stack, Joann White, Kelly Vincent-Brunacini, Rhonda Jones, Cathy Heeb, Liz Gilges

front row: Jessica Shanahan, Betsy Mostrom, Karen Stein and Jean Gehret

This year, Feminists Choosing Life's Legislative Advocacy Day coincided with the release of two new billboards erected in Albany sponsored by Feminists Choosing Life Action, Inc. and with a peaceful candlelight vigil hosted by New Yorkers for Life outside of the Capital building.

Thank you to all who made the day a success and a special thanks to Sen. Nozzolio who willingly signed on to co-sponsor S.1950 following FCL's visit.



vigil participants with New Yorkers for Life "Love them both" signs and FCL Action billboard banner, "Enough Already"

SUMMARY OF BILLS

Governor Cuomo's Women's Equality Act (WEA)

On June 4th the Governor finally released the language for his Women's Equality Act. This plan has 10 points including an abortion component that will codify the 1973 abortion laws stemming from Roe v Wade. It will not however codify current, modern federal abortion laws.

Cuomo's abortion component disregards the Hyde Amendment that allows restrictions of Medicaid funding for abortions, Webster v. Reproductive Health Services in 1989 (which allowed states to recognize the unborn child as a human being and require ultrasound to test fetal viability), Planned Parenthood v. Casey in 1992 (which allowed parental consent and informed consent) and Gonzales v. Carhart in 2007 (which allowed the prohibition of partial-birth abortion and allowed limits on late-term abortions). Cuomo seeks to establish the harsh scrutiny of Roe v. Wade as the law of New York and eliminate the common sense health regulations allowed by federal Supreme Court cases after Roe.

Essentially, the abortion component of the WEA will do the same to NY law as would the RHA. He merely uses different language to say the same thing.

As laid out, the Women's Equality Act has 10 points.

If passed, the WEA will:

- Protect a Woman's Freedom of Choice
 - Achieve Pay Equity
 - Stop Sexual Harassment in All Workplaces
 - Allow for the Recovery of Attorneys' Fees in Employment and Credit and Lending Cases
 - Strengthen Human Trafficking Laws
 - End Family Status Discrimination
 - Stop Source-of-Income Discrimination
 - Stop Housing Discrimination for Victims of Domestic Violence
 - Stop Pregnancy Discrimination Once and For All
 - Protect Victims of Domestic Violence by Strengthening Order-of-Protection Laws
- taken from www.governor.ny.gov

Died in NYS-abortion complications:

Glenna Jean Fox
1973-1990

Rosario Bermeo
1953-1983

SUMMARY OF BILLS

Reproductive Health Act (RHA/S.438)

If passed, the RHA will:

- Make abortion a fundamental right much like the freedom of speech thus limiting legislative efforts to place common sense restrictions on the procedure such as a 24 hour wait period or parental notification.
- Will remove the physician mandate for the procedure prior to viability (defined as 24 weeks) and permit any licensed health care provider to perform abortions, making NY one of only 7 states without a physician mandate.
- Will allow abortion through all nine months of pregnancy through a broadly defined "health of the mother" exception.
- Will remove abortion terminology from the NYS penal code thus leaving the determination of whether or not to prosecute for a botched abortion to the discretion of the health department and state attorney general.

S.1950: Provides that either a person or the unborn at any level of development can be the victim of assault

If passed, S.1950 will:

- Correct a significant loophole in NYS penal law that denies protection to pregnant women and certain children. Currently, an offender may not be held criminally responsible for the harm caused to a child unless that child has first been born alive. (Section 1, S.1950).
- Redefine homicide to mean conduct which causes the death of a person or an unborn child at any stage of gestation. (Section 4, S.1950).
- Affirm the right of a pregnant woman to carry her child to term and that perpetrators of crimes against pregnant women and their unborn children are held accountable for their crimes. NYS is one of only 13 states without an enforceable fetal homicide law.
- Offer additional protection to women during pregnancy. Current statistics show that domestic abuse and violence against women increase at this time.
- Not apply to those seeking abortion nor will it change abortion laws.



Back Row: Kelly Vincent-Brunacini, Mary Maher, Kathleen McQueen, Hannah Murphy, Joann White, Jean Gehret, Front Row: Sue Thayer, Jennifer Wolfley, Laura Lederer

A Look at Human Sex Trafficking continued from page 1

of the organization when executives set monthly quotas for abortion sales in its clinics. She was finally forced out when she expressed concern over the safety of "Telemed" abortions and opposition to the practice of providing strong medications to women without first examining them in person. Since her departure from Planned Parenthood, she has been involved with 40 Days for Life campaigns and travels to pro-life events to share insider experiences working for Planned Parenthood. She recently appeared at the 2013 Students for Life of America conference where she and representatives of Alliance Defending Freedom addressed the topic of how to expose and defund Planned Parenthood in our communities.

The series of events began at the Little Theatre in downtown Rochester with a partial showing of the award winning documentary, *Not My Life* which takes an in-depth look at the problem of modern day slavery and human sex trafficking. Following the showing, Laura Lederer and the film's director, Academy Award nominee Robert Bilheimer, answered questions from the audience for almost an hour. Although the two speakers had not previously met, their knowledge and mutual passion for educating the public about this topic was evident and seeds for future collaborations were planted.

The series continued over the next two days with speaking engagements at Nazareth College and the Rochester Institute for Technology. Laura's presentation focused on addressing and reducing the demand for commercial sex as a way to eliminate sex trafficking and also highlighted preliminary interviews with victims that indicate approximately 117 out of 128 women experienced one or more abortions while being trafficked. Her initial hypothesis is the "no-questions asked" atmosphere within many abortion clinics, including Planned Parenthood, serves to facilitate trafficking by enabling traffickers to bring girls and women in for services without fear of discovery. Sue was able to



SBA Luncheon Event with Panel

corroborate that clinic counselors often fail to sufficiently question young women concerning the circumstances of their visits and are not properly trained in identification of victims. Sue also indicated that questions intended to red flag women in crisis were gradually dropped from intake questionnaires at Storm Lake Planned Parenthood.

The campus visits to Nazareth were made possible through FCL board member and Nazareth professor, Mary Maher and through the co-sponsorship of the Feminine Alliance. The campus visit to RIT was possible through the co-sponsorship of the Women's and Gender Studies department at RIT.

The series concluded with a luncheon event held at the Susan B. Anthony House and Museum in honor of Women's History Month. The invitation-only event was attended by representatives of many community organizations including The Gandhi Institute, Alternatives for Battered Women, Feminine Alliance, Women's Care Center, Center for Missing & Exploited Children, Prevent Child Abuse NY, Forsaken Generation, Center for Youth, Rochester's Giving Circle, Bethany House, Temple Sinai and Church Women United. The luncheon was also attended by local college professors and members of law enforcement. The afternoon program included lunch and a lively panel discussion with Laura Lederer, Sue Thayer and Jennifer Wolfley of the Criminal Justice Department at RIT. Many different experiences with victims were discussed and plans for future collaboration between attending organizations planned.

Soon after this collaborative luncheon, these community leaders met and launched the Rochester Coalition against Human Trafficking. Hannah Murphy, Coordinator for Special Projects and Development now serves as the liaison between FCL and RCAHT. For more information about the coalition, please go to: www.facebook/RochesterCoalitionAgainstHumanTrafficking.

FCL in Print and On Line

January

"In response to TLC's, Toddlers and Tiaras: *"Child beauty pageants pit girls against girls, and if that's wrong, then why is it OK if it's in the name of entertainment? Women shouldn't be competing to be the prettiest by society's unnatural and unrealistic standards, and neither should their daughters. How did our society come to believe that it is somehow OK to judge a toddler on her appearance? If you want women to be respected and valued members of society, how is that ever going to happen if we can't even provide respect and value for our young daughters?"*

FCL Student Liaison, Audrey Sample,
Rochester's Democrat & Chronicle

"The abortion rate in New York is almost double the national average with 33% of pregnancies already ending in abortion and 40% in New York City. This statistic does not point to a need for fewer restrictions and greater access to abortion but instead demonstrates an urgent need for better resources that will enable women to carry their pregnancies to term and provide well for their families."

"Women don't want unnecessary expansion to abortion rights. They want access to parenting housing on college campuses and affordable, quality day care. They want to feel safe in their homes and to walk down the street without fear of assault. Women want tough laws that punish abusers and rapists. Women want to live in communities that support motherhood, not discourage it."

FCL open letter to all NYS senators

February

"I believe our foremothers would be the first to say that a woman who aborts is twice a victim-once from the act of unwanted conception and once from the physical trauma of abortion. The proposed legislation is not so much about women's health as it is about increasing the profits

of abortion clinics at the expense of unborn children and their mothers. Let's call it what it is: the Abortion Expansion Act"

FCL board member, Jean Gehret,
Albany Times Union

"The bill [Reproductive Health Act] would permit abortion even in late pregnancy to protect the life or health of the mother. In abortion-speak, the word 'health' is interpreted so broadly that it's difficult to think what it would not include. How does this protect the state's legitimate interest in protecting unborn human life?"

FCL liaison, Kathleen D., *Albany Times Union*

"Gov. Cuomo and past supporters of the RHA say the updates and codifications to NY abortion laws are necessary should Roe v Wade be overturned. This is false. If Roe v. Wade is overturned, the decision of legality of abortion returns to the states. Abortion was legal in NY prior to Roe v. Wade and would likely remain so afterward, making "codification" unnecessary."

"Any attempt to ram through the "Women's Equality Act" without ample time for public discourse is purely political and not in women's best interest."

FCL Executive Director Kelly
Vincent-Brunacini, submission to
Rochester D&C

"By framing abortion within a discussion of 'choice' or 'women's equality', some people including our own governor, have been lulled into the false sense that the killing of tiny human beings is something other than barbaric, or at the very least something every woman should embrace. As Governor Cuomo and others move to greatly expand abortion access in New York as part of his so-called 'Women's Equality Act' New York has the opportunity to reverse this trend of heinous violence by telling him and our legislators that enough is enough. We must no longer be willing to stand

silent while children die violent deaths at the hands of abortionists."

FCL Executive Director, Kelly
Vincent-Brunacini, *City Newspaper*

March

"In the tradition of these great women, Feminists Choosing Life of New York demand that Governor Cuomo and all New York State legislators reject the placebo of expanded abortion access as the ultimate answer to the challenges faced by women experiencing unplanned pregnancies. Instead, we demand a real women's agenda that includes more humane/less violent alternatives to abortion, easier adoption processes, universal prenatal care and better resources to enable and encourage women to carry their children to term. Today, on International Women's Day, we say no to the Women's Equality Act with its inclusion of the expanded abortion component."

FCL press release on International
Women's Day

"No one with half a heart or brain wants barriers to equal pay, child-care and financial stability for women. However in listing the benefits of the Women's Equality Act, supporters omit one significant point of the bill regarding abortion. Passage would permit abortion throughout pregnancy, under the broad circumstance of "health of the mother". It compromises women's health and safety by removing commonsense regulation of abortion providers, and does away with any legal recourse against clinics and providers should their practice be found unsafe."

"Why is there an effort to hide the radical and unnecessary expansion of abortion? Because mainstream voters know unfettered access to abortion does nothing to promote women's equality."

FCL board member, Margaret
Smerbeck, *Rochester Democrat & Chronicle*

FCL contributed its Women's Equality Act opposition statement and related

FCL in Print and On Line

fact sheet to on-line pro-life magazine *Life Matters* where it appeared as one of the feature stories.

“Most women who abort say they think it is the taking of a human life, but they go against their conscience because they feel they have no other choice.”

“Currently, one of every three babies in New York is aborted-twice the national average.”

“Let the governor know that we need life-affirming alternatives, not more abortion, for women facing crisis pregnancies.”

FCL members, Judy and Lickona,
auburnpub.com

“The Women’s Equality Act contains the promise to free women from long-standing oppression and exploitation. Most everyone agrees on that. But when it comes to abortion, there is a divide, especially among feminists. The mothers of American feminism viewed abortion ‘as a sign and symbol of the grave injury which patriarchy inflicts upon every human being...The governor claims abortion should not only be safe and legal, but rare. New Yorkers deserve women’s rights legislation that, at the very least, aims in that direction.”

FCL Buffalo liaison, Michele
Sterlace-Accorsi

May

“Assembly speaker Democrat Sheldon Silver has done it for the third time: paid off women who complained of sexual harassment. The money, \$103,000, was approved by Silver himself from the state budget’s ‘Miscellaneous contractual services’. This sounds like a Saturday Night Live skit.”

“But this is for real. It didn’t take a lot of courage for four Republican women Assembly members to call for his resignation. But where are the Democratic Women’s groups who claim to care about civil and work-place rights? Are we quiet because

the governor and his Democratic colleagues have promised us greater access to abortion in the 10 point Women’s Equality Act? Giving us money to take care of our little problem? This is a new twist on the meaning of ‘pay to play’.”

FCL board member, Carol Crossed,
submission to *Rochester’s Democrat & Chronicle*

Upcoming Events

FCL will host a summer showing of the award-winning documentary, *It’s a Girl!* This gut-wrenching documentary focuses on female gendercide and sex-selective abortion in India, China and other parts of the world including the United States. (For more information on the film, go to: <http://www.itsagirl-movie.com/>) Time, date and location of showing TBA. Please visit www.feministschoosinglife.org or check our Face Book page www.facebook.com/feministschoosinglife for updates.



Died in NYS-abortion complications:

Jennifer Morbelli
1983-2013

Tamika Downey
1976-1998

Andre Cory
1964-1995

Giselene Lafontant
1968-1993



Mary Krane Derr
Pro-life Feminist Historian
1964-2012

Mary Krane Derr, co-author of *ProLife Feminism, Yesterday and Today* passed away unexpectedly while attending a poetry symposium in India. Mary was a pioneer in mining the pro-life spirit of American suffragist from the pages of women’s history. A pacifist, who believed in using civil disobedience to solve conflicts, was the founder of *All our Lives*, a consistent life organization whose mission it was to build bridges between people of various perspectives based on points of common ground.

Mary was also involved with *Feminists for Life of America* until her resignation in 2007. She was an advocate of non-violent birth control, that which does not destroy a fertilized egg and had a desire to work more actively on pre-conception issues.

Mary lent her considerable skill and acute reading of history to the Susan B. Anthony Birthplace when she agreed to undertake a project that required her to read through each edition of SBA’s “*Revolution*” newspaper and catalog articles which mentioned abortion, capital punishment, war and other consistent life ethic topics. The end result of her extensive research will be a kiosk at the museum that will allow visitors to search the “*Revolution*” using keywords.

Mary Krane Derr’s important contribution to Women’s History will not be forgotten.

Died in NYS-abortion complications:

Barbara Dillion
1959-1981

Gail Mazo
1952-1979

Dawn Mack
1970-1991

FCL Out & About

December

FCL co-sponsored the Human Rights Day celebration held in Rochester recognizing International Human Rights Day. The keynote speaker for the event was Dr. Marvin McMickle, president of the Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School who spoke about the "New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness."



Kathleen McQueen and Suzanne Schnittman with Hank Stone

Throughout the year, FCL and other pro-life organizations participated in a letter writing campaign asking pro-choice or abortion neutral organizations who identify themselves as human rights organizations, to reject abortion as an act that violates human rights and contradicts a human rights mission. Thus far, response has been limited but other conversations continue.

January

Kickoff of Season for Non-Violence- FCL Coordinator of Special Projects and



Hannah Murphy with Declan and Cormack at Liberty Pole Park with Carol Crossed

Development, Hannah Murphy and FCL board member Carol Crossed joined 50 others at Liberty Pole Park in Rochester to kick off the Gandhi Institute's Season's for Non-Violence. SFNV is a designated time of non-violence from January 20th-



Jean Baric and Kelly Vincent-Brunacini

April 4 when peace organization host different events to promote peace. The event included many speeches from community activists and together, attendees took a Pledge for Non-Violence.



pro-life marchers



pro-life marchers

March for Life/Students for Life of America Conference-FCL executive director, Kelly Vincent-Brunacini traveled to Washington D.C. where she met up with FCL board member Carol Crossed and Advisory board member Jean Baric for the pre-march rally. Jean attended pro-life meetings and visited with her state senator and Kelly and Carol marched with approximately 300,000 pro-life advocates from the Mall to the Capital building.

The following day, Kelly and Carol attended several sessions of Students for Life of America Conference and conducted a planning meeting with FCL's summer intern Rachel Peller, a graduate of Iowa State College. Rachel will spend six weeks this summer as an FCL intern and will then move on to Adams MA to complete a ten-week internship with the Susan B. Anthony Birthplace Museum. Carol was a featured guest representing the SBABM during an afternoon session at the conference.

February

FCL board members and members attended an event featuring Karen Handel, former senior vice president of public policy at Susan G. Komen for the Cure and author of the book Planned Bullyhood. Mrs. Handel gave inside details about tactics used to undermine and destroy Susan G. Komen for the Cure when the non-profit organization announced intentions to withdrawn loans from Planned Parenthood because they did not meet new grant criteria. During her talk, Handel pointed out to these tactics as evidence that PP is not for women and is willing to sacrifice women for the sake of winning. She also pointed out that claims that women would suffer

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FCL Out & About

continued from page 2

from the withdrawal of these grants from Planned Parenthood were false considering that PP does not provide mammograms and the average age of PP clients is 24. FCL thanks the Women's Care Center for hosting this informative lecture.

Several FCL board members and members attended an event at Hobart William Smith College with keynote speaker Cecil Richards, President of Planned Parenthood. Colleen Spelley, Seneca Falls liaison interrupted the question & answer portion of the event by standing up and reading a brief statement from the preamble of the UN Declaration on the Rights of the Child. Two more groups from FCL then stood and continued to read from the declaration. FCL was then denied the opportunity to ask Richards any questions. If you would like to see the video, please go to: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZIIhVv_iGAxo&feature=youtu.be and skip to minute 45:22

March

Michelle Sterlace Accorsi, FCL Buffalo liaison, hosted an informational luncheon for a group of new FCL members at a café in Buffalo, NY. Welcome!



Michele Sterlace-Accorsi with new members from Buffalo

April

Judicial Process Committee Luncheon- As annual co-sponsors of this event, FCL executive director Kelly Vincent-Brunacini and FCL board member Carol Crossed attended the 41st JPC luncheon to show our support for the on-going work of aiding in the smooth transition of ex-offenders back into their communities through a variety of specialized programs. FCL specifically honors JPC's invaluable work on behalf of pregnant women and mothers of young children through its

New Journey program. The luncheon included keynote speaker James M. Shepard, Rochester Chief of Police and a panel discussion with ex-offenders and representatives from Monroe County Legal Affairs Commission, Rochester Works, Monroe County Sheriff's Office and Grace House of Rochester. The program also included presentations of the Justicia Award, Outstanding participates Award and the Outstanding Mentor Award.

FCL would like to recognize FCL Advisory Board member and JCP board President, Suzanne Schnittman for her generosity of spirit and unfailing commitment to life and justice.

FCL meets with Editorial Staff of the Democrat & Chronicle- FCL representatives Carol Crossed and Michelle Sterlace-Accorsi met with some members of the D&C editorial staff to express our concerns over the dangerous ramifications of the abortion component of Governor Cuomo's Women's Equality Act and to ask the newspaper to delay support for the bill until the exact language of the bill is released. On the day following the meeting two articles appear in the newspaper regarding the WEA, one an editorial asking the Governor to release the bill to allow for adequate public discourse. As of this writing, the Governor has yet to release his plan.

FCL board members Meg Smerbeck and Carol Crossed traveled to Hobart and William Smith College to attend the Round Robin Invitational, a competitive debate tournament including Chinese Human Rights advocate Cheng Guangcheng. Carol and Meg shared FCL's involvement in the sunglass



Chen Guangcheng with Carol Crossed and Meg Smerbeck

campaign initiated by Women's Rights without Frontiers. Chen was aware of the campaign and attributed his freedom in part to those efforts in the United States.

May

Kathy Peters and Colleen Spelley, FCL co-liaisons for Seneca Falls, organized the "Birthplace to Birthplace" bus trip that offered a tour beginning in Seneca Falls, the birthplace of Women's Suffrage to the Birthplace of Susan B. Anthony in Adams, MA. This fun day included luxury transportation to Adams where participants toured the SBABM, the Quaker Meeting House where the Anthony's attended weekly meeting and St. Stanislaus Church, a nationally recognized cathedral built in 1905.

FCL participated with Feminists Choosing Life Action, Inc. in an opposition rally at Senator Ted O'Brien's



Opposition to Sen. O'Brien's support of abortion expansion

Rochester office. He is a co-sponsor of the Reproductive Health Act and has promised support for the governor's Women's Equality Act with its radical abortion component. There were more than 100 people present to express disappointment in O'Brien's support. Several days later, eight WEA supporters hosted a counter rally at the same office.

FCL attorney, Kathleen Scanlon was the key responder to Erika Bachiachi at a lecture in the Gospel of Life series at Fordham University. The two discussed trends in abortion law and sexual economics and considered goals and opportunities for collaboration among feminists. Ms. Scanlon used Feminists Choosing Life vs. the Empire State Stem Cell Committee and NY Health Department as a demonstration of egg purchasing as a point of commonality between pro-choice and pro-life feminists.

Ways to give

FCL is a non-profit organization that receives no state or federal funds for its operations or activities. We rely 100% on the generosity of our pro-life/pro-woman members and friends. Please consider increasing your yearly gift to FCL so we can continue to be a voice for the most vulnerable in NY State.

Ways you can give:

- Send \$10 or any amount you are comfortable with in the envelope enclosed in this newsletter.
- Designate your United Way contribution to FCL by using code 2500.
- Go on-line and make a one-time contribution through www.feministschoosinglife.org
- Check the date of expiration on your newsletter label to be sure your membership is up to date. If it is expired, renew today.
- Contact FCL with an annual pledge.
- Kindly respond with your contribution when you are contacted during FCL's summer fundraising drive.

As always, thank you for your continued generosity and support.

FCLNY Membership Form

I would like to join
Feminists Choosing Life of New York

☐ New Member or ☐ Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (day) _____

Phone (evening) _____

E-mail _____

☐ Please send new membership information to a friend:

Send \$25 (\$15 for students) membership dues payable
to **Feminists Choosing Life for New York** and
mail to PO Box 10188, Rochester, NY 14610

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