

PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION BAN
ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2000

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, when the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act was before this body last year, opponents accused proponents of the legislation of bad taste, of offensive conduct. What was that offensive conduct? It was giving an admittedly accurate description of the gruesome act by which a baby's body is dismantled and mutilated and its young life painfully and unjustifiably ended. There is agreement. What a sorry spectacle. Unfortunately, ironically, there is no agreement—no consensus on an even sorrier spectacle, an even greater outrage. That outrage is not a description of a partial birth abortion, it is the partial birth abortion itself. Imagine a society too humane and too caring to permit the discussion of such a heinous act, but one which at the same time not only permits, but defends this outrageous offense against humanity, liberty and justice.

Do not all of us have the compassion to agree that this should never happen to any human being? A violation of our God given dignity. Is not every partial birth abortion an offense against humanity: does it not weaken our conscience, harden our heart, and dull our mind. I submit to you that every innocent life taken by this procedure makes America less caring, less respectful of others, and leaves behind only feelings of guilt. Each procedure leaves scars that can last forever in our memory, in our hearts, and in our consciences.

[We in America like to consider ourselves a compassionate people. We pride ourselves on wanting to protect the weak, to help those in need. But we refuse to acknowledge the suffering of a baby whose skull is cracked and whose brain is sucked out. Yet this happens at least 5,000 times each year in America. That means that every day 14 babies die hidden from our view. Babies need our protection, our care, and our concern. We have been elected to protect those who need our help, to make a difference in the lives of others. I, for one, feel the weight of knowing that all of those babies suffer so much and so needlessly. We have the power to stop their suffering, and to end this barbaric procedure.]

A mother's womb is where a baby should feel safest, free from all harm and literally surrounded by love. Every partial birth abortion is a failure of love. Every partial birth abortion is a failure of justice. And every partial birth abortion is an unnecessary procedure. Not only are these types of brutal degradations not required, the AMA says they should never happen in a medically advanced country like ours.

Let us all agree to go beyond partisan ways of thinking and consider what is really at stake: the life of an innocent, weak, and defenseless human being who needs our protection. Does not justice and conscience and respect for life cry out for passage of this legislation?

MONMOUTH MEDICAL CENTER
PRESENTS THE PINNACLE
AWARDS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 12, 2000

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, April 15, 2000, Monmouth Medical Center in Long Beach, NJ, will present the sixth biannual Physician Recognition Dinner and the presentation of the Pinnacle Awards. The event will be held at the Oyster Point Hotel in Red Bank, NJ.

Mr. Speaker, these awards will be presented in recognition of six physicians whose contributions have helped to establish Monmouth Medical Center as one of the foremost community teaching hospitals in New Jersey. The six outstanding physician recipients of the Pinnacle Award for 2000 have been leaders and achievers. Each has devoted a lifetime of faithful service to Monmouth Medical Center, exemplifying the ideals and traditions of the practice of medicine. More importantly, they have devoted a lifetime of service to the care and healing of innumerable grateful patients.

The Pinnacle Awards are presented on behalf of the entire household family, by authority of the administration of Monmouth Medical Center and the Medical and Dental Staff. The recipients of the Pinnacle Awards are:

Richard A. Daniels, M.D. Besides practicing medicine, Dr. Daniels has had another love for the past 49 years—teaching it. Although he officially retired from his internal medicine practice last year, he can still be seen on the patient floors of Monmouth Medical Center, providing one-to-one instruction to medical school students and medical residents. Dr. Daniels has been actively involved in Monmouth's medical education program since the early 1960s. Throughout his career, he's placed a major focus on cardiology, serving as president of the Monmouth County Heart Association. Later, he combined that interest with geriatric medicine, becoming board certified in that specialty.

A 1955 graduate of the State University of New York, Dr. Daniels completed his residency in internal medicine at Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, serving as chief resident in his final year of training. He then spent two years in the military as chief of medicine at the Air Force Hospital in Minot, ND. He joined Monmouth's attending staff in 1961, and entered into private practice the same year. Since 1968, he has been an associate clinical professor at MCP Hahnemann School of Medicine, the teaching affiliate of Monmouth Medical Center. Dr. Daniels is a diplomat of the American Board of Internal Medicine, a fellow of the American College of Physicians and the American Society of Internal Medicine, and a member of the Teachers of Family Practice and an associate of the American College of Cardiology. His research work has been published in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*, *American Journal of Medicine* and *New Jersey Medicine*.

Dr. Daniels and his wife Norma divide their time between Long Beach and Vermont. They have two sons, Steven and Jeffrey, both of whom are doctors—as is one of their sons-in-laws. They also have two daughters, Cathy Zukerman, an architect, and Barrie Markowitz,

a director at American Express. Their four children have presented Dr. and Mrs. Daniels 12 grandchildren.

Barry D. Elbaum, D.D.S. Since joining Monmouth Medical Center's Medical and Dental Staff in 1996, Dr. Elbaum, an oral and maxillofacial surgeon, has been a driving force in the growth of the Department of Dentistry. For the past 11 years, Dr. Elbaum has served as department chairman. Under his leadership, the number of dentists on the attending staff has quadrupled to 80 dentists. Having established his discipline as a major department that holds a permanent seat on the hospital's Medical Executive Committee, Dr. Elbaum is credited with changing the attending staff's official name to the Medical and Dental Staff. The dentists on the staff, under Dr. Elbaum's guidance, provide instruction to four resident dentists each year, providing hands-on training in one of the busiest facilities of its kind in the state. He has also offered direction in bringing in the most advanced dental and oral techniques. He has also helped to raise significant funds to establish the Samuel Elbaum Continuing Dental Education Program. He is also in private practice at several locations in Monmouth County.

Born in Poland, Dr. Elbaum is a Holocaust survivor who was 12 years old when he came to the United States in 1950. During his three-month stay at Ellis Island, he mastered both the English language and table tennis, which he later won a championship in. He graduated from the New York University College of Dentistry in 1962. After a four-year residency at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York, he established his practice in Asbury Park, NJ. He became chairman of the oral and maxillofacial surgery and dental implantology. Dr. Elbaum is a fellow of the American and International Sciences of oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and of the American Dental Society of Anesthesiology. He is also a former board member of the Jewish Community Center and the United Jewish Federation.

Dr. Elbaum's wife Libbie, a certified public accountant, has been involved in the book-keeping and financial activities of her husband's practice. Their son, Jeffrey Elbaum, D.D.S., and their daughter, Gayle Elbaum Krost, D.D.S., have both followed in their father's footsteps. Gayle's husband, Brian Krost, D.M.D., is also a practicing dentist. Their other daughter, Rochelle Matalon, has completed a master's degree in social work, and her husband, Albert Matalon, M.D. is completing a fellowship at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center. The Elbaum's, who live in Ocean Township, NJ, have nine grandchildren.

Carlos G. Garcia, M.D. In 1963, Dr. Garcia fled Cuba with his pregnant wife, young son and sister-in-law. Thirteen years later, he opened a private practice in cardiology in Long Branch, and has gone on to become one of the most well respected cardiologists in the region, having served as director of Cardiology at Monmouth Medical Center for 15 years before his retirement last year.

Dr. Garcia began his medical training in Cuba, where he also worked as an EKG technician for a cardiologist. The political unrest and the intolerable social and political pressures of the Castro communist dictatorship compelled him to seek a better life in the U.S. After a brief stay in Miami, Dr. Garcia and his family moved to New York. He eventually found a job at Mount Sinai Hospital, and then

continued his studies in Spain. After earning his medical degree, he returned to the U.S. to continue his postgraduate education at Monmouth Medical Center, where he completed an internship and residency in internal medicine. He entered private practice in 1970, the same year he became a member of Monmouth Medical Center's Medical and Dental Staff. Three years later, the Garcias became naturalized U.S. citizens. In 1984, Dr. Garcia was named acting director of Cardiology at Monmouth Medical, and he soon assumed that post in a permanent capacity. During his tenure, the Department made major strides, providing the full range of services to patients, from the first signs of a heart attack through treatment, recovery and rehabilitation. One of the highlights of his tenure was the 1996 opening of the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory.

Dr. Garcia and his wife Josephine are longtime residents of West Long Branch, NJ. Their daughter Maria is a registered nurse and lactation consultant, and their son Carlos is president of a managed care brokerage. They have five grandchildren. Dr. Garcia's brother, Juan Garcia, M.D., is also a practicing physician in the Central New Jersey area. The Garcias have relatives in Miami and some in Cuba, whom they hope to see soon.

H. Lawrence Karasic, M.D. During his 35 years with Monmouth Medical Center's Department of Anesthesiology, Dr. Karasic has witnessed much change among his ranks on the surgical floor. The department has grown from a staff of four to 20 anesthesiologists, many of whom completed their residency training at Monmouth Medical. Monitoring equipment has become more sophisticated and anesthetic agents are more effective. The surgeons they support are also becoming ever more effective in saving lives, treating illnesses and reducing recovery times. Throughout those years, Dr. Karasic has remained committed to medical education, a dedication that was recognized when he received the 1999 Alumnus of the Year Award from MCP Hahnemann School of Medicine, which provides clinical training for more than 300 Hahnemann students each year. Since 1982, he has served as associate clinical professor of anesthesiology at Hahnemann.

Dr. Karasic earned his medical degree from Philadelphia-based medical school, where he completed his internship and residency. He spent two years in the military, as the head of anesthesiology at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, before joining Monmouth's attending staff in 1965. He served as coordinator of medical education in anesthesia and became instrumental in establishing the hospital's fully accredited anesthesiology residency program in 1982. For the next four years, he filled a dual role as department chairman and residency program director. Throughout his career, he has served on many clinical, educational and peer-related committees of Monmouth Medical Center, Hahnemann and the American Society of Anesthesiologists. From 1993 to 1996, he was clinical director or anesthesiology for O.R. operations at Monmouth. He is a diplomat of the American Board of Anesthesiology and a fellow of the American College of Anesthesiologists.

Dr. Karasic wife, Honey Karasic, owns and operates the Back Relief and Comfort Store in Oakhurst, NJ. Mrs. Karasic's business often

provides much needed relief for the doctor after he engages in two of his favorite activities, downhill skiing and racquetball. The Karasics have four children—Robert, Shara, Leslie and Neal—and two grandchildren—Zachary and Emily.

Albert A. Rienzo, M.D. The opening last year of the Cranmer Ambulatory Surgery Center at the Monmouth Medical Center campus last year marked the beginning of a new era in otolaryngology. For Dr. Rienzo, the center's debut marked the culmination of years of hard work to bring state-of-the-art surgical systems to the region, paving the way for him and his colleagues to perform the latest procedures in treating disorders of the ears, nose and throat. The center is now performing three of the most advanced procedures offered at any medical facility in the nation, employing high-tech equipment and techniques to achieve an unprecedented degree of precision, safety, painlessness and non-invasiveness.

A member of Monmouth's Medical and Dental Staff for 25 years, Dr. Rienzo has served as section chief of Ear, Nose and Throat since 1980, participating in the many initiatives that have shaped this surgical specialty over the past two decades. Under his leadership, otolaryngologists at Monmouth became the first in the region to perform endoscopic functional sinus surgery to treat chronic sinus disease. They also pioneered the removal of benign or malignant lesions from the larynx with minimally invasive techniques. During the early 1990s, Dr. Rienzo established the Department of Rehabilitation Services' Vocal Dynamics Laboratory. He also served as director of Monmouth's cochlear implant program, which was one of only three designated by the state to perform the surgical procedure, which involves placing an electrical device in the inner ear of a profoundly deaf patient to restore hearing.

A 1966 graduate of the University of Bologna School of Medicine in Italy, Dr. Rienzo completed his internship and surgical residency at Monmouth. He also served in the military, serving for a year as director of the ENT clinic at the U.S. Army Hospital at Fort Devens, MA. After continued training at the Newark Eye and Ear Infirmary, he returned to Monmouth Medical Center in 1974, and also established private practice in Long Branch. He has been active in the medical education program, and is a clinical senior instructor at MCP Hahnemann School of Medicine. Dr. Rienzo is a member of the American Academy of Otolaryngology and the International Society of Otolaryngologists.

A resident of Rumson, NJ, Dr. Rienzo has three children—Anthony, Caroline and Benedetta. His daughter Elsa died three years ago. He is one of six physicians in the Rienzo family.

Charles Sills, M.D. Dr. Sills has been at the forefront of the high technology boom that continues to revolutionize the field of surgery. Since joining the Medical and Dental Staff of Monmouth Medical Center in 1968, Dr. Sills, a thoracic surgeon, has played a major role in maintaining Monmouth's leadership position in New Jersey for excellence in the field. During the mid-1980s, Dr. Sills introduced laser surgery to Monmouth and Ocean counties as the first to perform endobronchial laser surgery. Since then, Monmouth Medical has been on the cutting edge of bringing to the region minimally invasive procedures, allowing for proce-

dures to be performed on internal organs without the trauma of open surgery.

For the past nine years, after spending a year as vice president of the Medical and Dental Staff, Dr. Sills has been chairman of the Department of Surgery and director of the general surgery residency program, which provides training to resident physicians who plan to enter the surgical field or to those who seek surgery training for preparation to enter other medical specialties. In 1994, he guided a multidisciplinary medical team that earned Monmouth the distinction of being the only hospital in New Jersey to participate in the Lung Volume Reduction Surgery study, which provides significant relief to emphysema patients.

A 1967 graduate of Chicago Medical School, Dr. Sills completed a five-year residency program in general surgery at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York. He received fellowship training in surgery from the National Institutes of Health before embarking on cardiothoracic surgery training there and at Montefiore Hospital in New York. After joining Monmouth in 1968, he entered private practice five years later. Since 1975, he has been a clinical associate professor of surgery at MCP Hahnemann School of Medicine. He is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and the American College of Chest Physicians. He is also a member of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons, the American Society of Laser Surgery, and other professional societies.

Not content to have mastered one field, Dr. Sills is an undergraduate student at Rutgers University Mason Gross School of Fine Arts, and plans to seek his master of fine arts degree there. His sculpture has been exhibited in New Jersey and New York. Dr. Sills and his wife Caryl, chairman of Monmouth University's English Department, live in Rumson, NJ. They have three sons—Peter, Keith and Adam—and two grandsons—Liam and Zachary.

IN SUPPORT OF THE "JENNIE FUND"

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 12, 2000

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, today I highlight this Saturday's Jennie Ramus Memorial Benefit to be held at Thomas More High School, in Milwaukee, WI. Jennie Ramus, the daughter of Wayne and Theresa Ramus, was a Thomas More senior whose life was cut short by a drunk driver in December of 1998.

The Jennie Fund, an initiative to create a \$100,000 endowment fund, was established in January 1999 at Thomas More High School to provide scholarships for students seeking financial assistance and willing to take an active role in the Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) program and support community awareness and prevention of drinking and driving, drug abuse and violence. Thanks to the support and generosity of many, the fund has received over \$80,000 to date.

Saturday's event, sponsored by the Wisconsin Polka Hall of Fame and Thomas More High School, will begin with a Mass to be followed by a community music festival, dancing, SADD and Jennie Fund presentations.

I commend the Jennie Fund and SADD for their efforts and the Thomas More High