

reader reaction

Call for moratorium on clinic protests supported

by Virginia Robertson
Fergus Falls, MN

I believe abortion is the ultimate form of child abuse. However, I agree with Cardinal Bernard Law's request for a moratorium on protests at abortion clinics. We need to change hearts (and then laws) by love, education and example. •

Contraceptives are real basis of all the violence

by Patty Cronin
Isanti, MN

I am writing in response to Father Dave Rieder's letter, "Violence of abortion root of other forms of violence" (*reader reaction*, Jan. 12).

Father Rieder, I agree with you that violence breeds violence but we need to look at where that violence truly starts.

We are fighting a battle on the wrong battlefield. Violence starts with the acceptance of contraceptives, not with the acceptance of abortion. If we accept contraceptives then we are also just as guilty as those who accept abortion. For conception means life, "contra" means against life.

So our battle should be against contraceptives, not abortion. Abortion is a result of accepting contraceptives.

Has this truth of the Catholic Church ever changed? We need to speak out against this falsehood that has taken hold of us and is heading us down the path of abortion, euthanasia and infanticide. For it is only then that we will be able to embrace our people rather than kill them. •

Thanks for clearing up miscarriage-cancer link

by Father Tom Knoblach
Wadena, MN

I want to thank Fran and Eric Mildebrath for their *reader reaction*

in the February 2 *Visitor*. I greatly appreciate their clarifications to some unintended ambiguity in my column, and the additional information they provided.

It was not my intention to alarm or mislead anyone, but in fact to suggest that the connection between breast cancer and abortion, whether induced or spontaneous (miscarriage), is a complex and unclear one. Clearly, further study is needed and warranted, precisely to prevent undue alarm.

My mention of the use of the Pill and mammogram was only to point out that they can be factors in developing breast cancer which perhaps have not been sufficiently taken into account in the current research. This adds to the uncertainty about drawing conclusions from studies to date, as the Mildebraths rightly assert.

As I admitted, I am not a medical expert, nor do I claim to be. I do try to be careful in presenting facts, but I am always open to learning from those whose knowledge exceeds my

own, for the common good. The concern and compassion shown in the Mildebraths' letter is heartening. Thank you! •

Reader finds ironies in the January 26 edition

by Genevieve Eva Schoenborn
Milaca, MN

Responding to Jan. 26 issue of the *St. Cloud Visitor*: Polished my anti-abortion halo, then read page 5. Pope admonishes people not to kill another human because of the abortion cause. On the same page, Vatican dismisses Bishop Jacques Gaillot — a bishop working for the poor, immigrants, people with the AIDS virus. How ironic. Yes, thou shall not kill, but why destroy a man's good works because of politics.

Also, I disagree with the Mardi Gras fund-raising wording (page 3). Patron \$100, to Saint \$1,000. The Bible teaches the saints were poor and gave of themselves not money. •