

# OUR READERS WRITE

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

from LETTERS on page 7  
 young children to comprehend such a thing. They have all advised against parents introducing such a topic as abortion because a young child's inability to apply logic to their thinking and that there is no real way of making a child that young understand it. They also found it unbelievable that Mr. Kennedy would approve of showing children as young as four graphic material on how abortions are performed, which he stated he would do on the CBC radio show.

Mr. Kennedy is not the only individual responsible for this, other members of the Knights of Columbus, along with the church, are responsible for this mock cemetery our children must be subjected to every day they go to school.

If the Knights of Columbus are truly concerned with the well-being of children they should remove or relocate their display.

Kim Newman S.S.W.  
 Concerned Parents Group

## An issue of freedom

Dear Editor:

Re: "Anti-abortion display angers resident" *The Champion* May 12 issue.

I'm writing, first, to congratulate the Knights of Columbus and Father Talbot for the appropriately prominent witness for Christ and for His followers which is the pro-life display erected on the front lawn of the Holy Rosary Church.

There would be no need for such a memorial to the 50 pre-born babies whose humanity is terminated annually at the Milton District Hospital, if the 78 per cent of Canadians who identify as "Christian" (*Macleans*, April 12), demanded the judicial and legislative agenda of this nation were based on the values of Canada's Judeo-Christian heritage.

With abortion, the pivotal issue on which the future of freedom in our nation will be determined for at least a generation, thank God for the "Baby Doe Memorial Cemetery" on Martin Street, Milton. May it tweak the conscience of Miltonians to take a thoughtful pilgrimage to the cenotaph in front of our town hall, to reflect at that "memorial cross" on the fact that the fight for freedom must be waged in every generation and there's still a high price to be paid to achieve it.

Ken Campbell  
 Milton

## Offensive at every level but democracy

Dear Editor:

The "Baby Doe Graveyard" display in front of Holy Rosary Catholic Church is offensive on

every level except that of democracy. Living in a democracy ensures the right of one and all to speak and hold their own beliefs. The Knights of Columbus (who I'm sure do marvelous charity work) are exercising that right.

My right in a democracy, and the right of my neighbours, is to suggest that having to tolerate an ugly and insensitive display on a main street in Milton around Mother's Day is a mild-enough irritation. It asserts its presence in a polarizing, not entirely neighbourly way.

It is the sort of grisly low-functioning emotional terrorism one would expect from sanctimonious, chuckle-headed religious fanatics not the Knights of Columbus. But then, the Knights (who, barring an as-yet unprecedented act of Immaculate Conception, will never have to experience either pregnancy or abortion) announce that this vulgar charade will last well into the summer.

Quite apart from the fact that the "graveyard" display is in the worst possible taste, it is a cruel and callous insult to the women involved. Furthermore, it demonstrates a shocking and shameful disregard on Holy Rosary's part for the private, anguished history behind these abortions, and a ghastly presupposition that these women have treated their abortions as some blithe form of birth control.

Judging by the "graveyard" few perceptions have changed since St. Thomas Aquinas wrote that "woman is subject to man because of the weakness of her mind as well as her body", or since the infamous 15th-century Dominican monks Heinrich Kraemer and Jacob Sprenger wrote that "when a woman thinks alone she thinks evil." I see no evidence of Christian love or compassion for these 50 women, most of whom have made the most difficult and agonizing choice of their lives, some of whom no doubt regret it.

Lastly, I see no respect whatsoever for the 50 "babies" who "died by abortion" and are now ghoulishly and sacrilegiously flaunted in effigy on the front lawn of a church on a busy main street for any passing motorist to stop and gawk at.

Michael Rowe  
 Milton

## Babies remembered

Dear Editor:

I would like to say that I am in support of the Baby Doe Cemetery. I am not in favour of abortion.

When I pass the Baby Doe Cemetery I want to cry. I feel these babies need to be remembered.

Two years ago, I went to see my pregnant daughter's ultrasound at 12 weeks. There was clearly a baby there.

I will never forget the little thing moving its stubs back and forth. I

am sure that baby could feel pain. With a waiting list of more than eight years to adopt, these babies could be alive and doing well.

Phyllis Learmont  
 Milton

## Viewpoint inaccurate: MPP

Dear Editor:

I am writing in response to a column which appeared in the April 23 edition of *The Canadian Champion*. I am referring to *Viewpoint* by Patrick Kelly and, more specifically, to his comments about the duties and salaries of "baby ministers."

Mr. Kelly first referred to me — quite correctly — as a parliamentary assistant but then proceeded to classify me as a minister without portfolio or, to use his words, a baby minister.

He also suggested that I had received a 17 per cent increase in salary as a result of my appointment

and that I earn about \$85,000 annually. I would like to set the record straight.

All members, regardless of party affiliation, are paid a basic salary of \$44,675 per year. They are also entitled to additional remuneration as committee chairs or vice-chairs, chief whips, and house leaders, for example, or for duties as parliamentary assistants or ministers but not for more than one of these responsibilities at the same time.

Before I was appointed as parliamentary assistant to the minister of consumer and commercial relations, I chaired the standing committee on the legislative assembly and received an extra \$9,092 for those duties.

That brought by salary up to \$53,767. I am now entitled instead to the sum of \$9,808 for my new role as parliamentary assistant. That adds up to \$54,483 — an increase of less than 2 per cent over my previous salary.

All members are also entitled to a tax-free expense allowance of \$14,984. And, contrary to what Mr. Kelly has suggested, all of the above positions do entail specific duties and responsibilities.

Although I would prefer not to engage in a discussion with Mr. Kelly by way of the newspaper and have refrained from responding to his imprecise comments in the past, I could not overlook his distortion of the facts on this particular occasion.

Noel Dulgnan, MPP  
 Halton North

## Bill Johnson's passing has created a vacuum

Dear Editor:

I suppose we knew when Bill and Mary moved out west for Bill's last time he was going to leave a vacuum. Now that he has passed on,

see LETTERS on page 11

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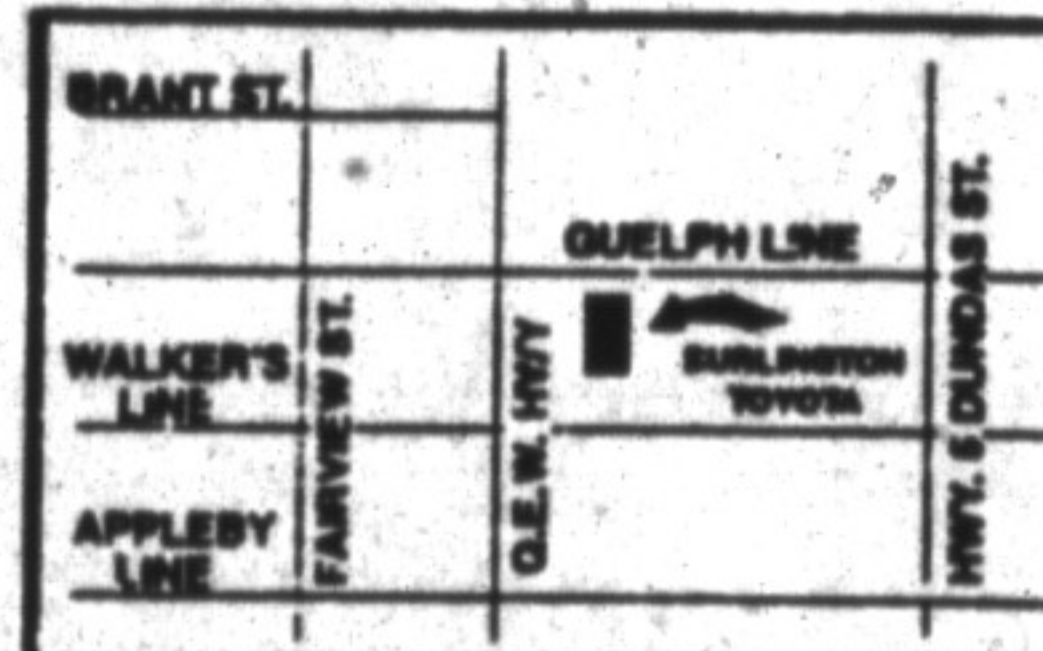
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REPORT ON LABOUR MARKET DATA

(Manufacturing, Construction, Business Services, Retail Sectors)

PANEL:

Representatives from Canada Employment Centres, HAPITAC, Jobs Ontario, Ontario Skills, Economic Development

(opening remarks by Mayor Gordon Krantz)

Date:

May 20, 1993

Time:

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Location:

Bishop Redding High School  
 1800 Main St., East, Milton

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