



London Diocesan Council  
The Catholic Women's League of Canada



To: All Parish Presidents, Christian Family Life Chairpersons

CC: London Diocesan Council

From: Kathy Levesque, Christian Family Chairperson

Date: March 17, 2018

**Directive #10**

“The Spirit is a moving all over this world”

**Family** – I would like to speak on the heart of the family, which is our children. It is always a blessing to hear from a couple that they are expecting a bundle of joy in their near future. So many couples want to have children to complete their family, sometimes adding more than just one child. There is happiness when this happens. It is also sad to say many couples are not able to have children and have so much love to give.

Pope Francis has emphasized the importance of the family, but also the right to life beginning in the womb. It is sad to say that some people would rather abort their child so that they do not have the responsibility of raising their baby. There are many children who are born with many problems, such as, being handicapped, mentally challenged, very sickly, and having Down's Syndrome. These children are very special and it takes a very special couple to take care of them and love them unconditionally.

The other day, I received information from Euthanasia Prevention Coalition regarding euthanasia for children, babies. What is going on?

Canada legalized euthanasia and assisted suicide (known as MAiD – (medical assistance in dying)) on June 17, 2016. The law requires persons to be at least 18 years old and have a condition where “natural death is reasonably foreseeable.

Not long after legalization, the Canadian government announced that the Council of Canadian Academies would examine extending euthanasia to children, people who are incompetent but have made an advanced request, and people with mental illness.

Now the Biennial Provincial Symposium on Paediatric Palliative Care (at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto on April 25) will feature a session titled: “**Developing a policy on Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) for Paediatric Patients.**”

Has the Council of Canadian Academies already decided to extend euthanasia to paediatric patients? Has the Canadian Paediatric Society decided that euthanasia will be extended to children and newborns, using this Symposium to develop a policy for when the killing begins?

Why are they so interested in euthanasia for children? Children can't choose and their autonomy is questionable.

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You can go to EPC – Euthanasia Prevention Coalition for more information. There is a sight at [www.citzengo.org](http://www.citzengo.org) “**I oppose Euthanasia of Children**” petition. If you are interested, you can sign your name to oppose this terrible ideal. **I have signed this petition.** I hope many will also. Council members can also right their MP and MPP regarding this subject.

Our children are a gift from God, to be loved and nurtured even with defects. We are not all perfect.

I wish to thank all the councils for filling out their annual reports. There was much information in them. I hope to see you all at the upcoming convention in London at the Lamplighter Inn. God bless.

**May Our Lady of Good Counsel pray for you.**

*Kathy Levesque*