

# Under-the-Radar Violence in the Conflict Over Abortion

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In the ongoing battle over abortion, the issue of violence is a consistent theme. Supporters of legalized abortion define it by the eight abortion clinic workers who have been killed as well as the destruction and vandalism that sometimes occurs at abortion clinics. Abortion opponents counter that none of this compares to the violence inflicted upon the unborn inside the nation's abortion clinics. They will also cite the physical attacks that are committed against peaceful anti-abortion protesters.

Lost in all of this is the alarming level of abortion-related violence that takes place outside the public's view. As just one example, in my 1996 book, *Lime 5*, I referenced more than 30 documented criminal cases in which abortion clinic doctors had been charged with raping or sexually assaulting their patients. In just these few cases, several hundred women were known to have been victimized.

A textbook illustration of this problem was seen in 2001. Arizona abortionist, Brian Leslie Finkel, was charged with sexually assaulting a patient who was undergoing an abortion at his Phoenix abortion clinic. When this incident was reported in the local media, more than 100 additional women made similar allegations against Finkel to the Maricopa County Attorney's Office. He was eventually charged with over 60 counts of sexual misconduct involving 35 women. In 2004, he was convicted on 22 of those counts and sentenced to 34 years in prison.

Life Dynamics was peripherally involved in this case and a detective with the Phoenix Police Department sex-crimes unit told me that there was no doubt that the 100-plus women who came forward represented

only a small fraction of Finkel's victims. According to this detective, those in charge of the investigation had concluded that, during his 20 years in business, the actual number of women assaulted by him may have exceeded a thousand.

In *Lime 5*, I wrote that, *"When we originally designed the outline for this book, a chapter on rape and sexual assault was never envisioned. Although we had often heard rumors that this sort of thing happened, we had no reason to believe it was widespread enough to deserve more than a passing mention. However, as more and more data came into our office, we began to see that rape and sexual assault in abortion clinics is not uncommon at all."*

The ensuing years have not only reinforced this view but they have also shown that the patterns seen in the Finkel case are typical. A woman comes forward; her accusations generate publicity; that publicity produces a flood of additional victims; the new accusations reveal that the assaults have been going on for years.

It is not possible to determine with any certainty how widespread this problem is. Within the law enforcement community, it is known that the shame and stigma experienced by sexual assault victims results in only a small percentage of all sex-based crimes ever being reported. In the kind of instances being discussed here, that problem is compounded by the stigma associated with abortion.

Although early proponents of legalized abortion contended that its legality would eventually eradicate this stigma, in practice that never happened. What

this means is that, in order for women who are sexually assaulted at abortion clinics to speak out, they must be willing to be identified with two highly disagreeable stigmas. Logically, this assures that these assaults are going to be reported to law enforcement at an even lower rate than are those committed in other venues.

A second factor contributing to this lower reporting problem is the victim's desire for secrecy. When a woman is abortion-minded, there is usually at least one other person she does not want to know about her pregnancy. In fact, this is often her primary, if not sole, motivation for the abortion. Of course, in order to inform the authorities that she was sexually assaulted at an abortion clinic, she has to be prepared to give up that secrecy.

This pursuit of secrecy is common in all age groups but it is especially prevalent among the youngest abortion clients. Some are hiding their pregnancies from friends, relatives, classmates or fellow church members. Others are trying to keep their parents from finding out that they are sexually active. It should also be remembered that, among girls 15 and younger who get pregnant, studies show that the majority are impregnated by adults. Given that, it is logical to expect that many of these girls have abortions in order to keep their partners from going to jail. It is also known that men in adult-child sexual relationships often use intimidation and violence against their victims in order to keep them silent.

For underage girls, these additional barriers are going to reduce even further the already low reporting rate for sex-based crimes.

In the final analysis, women and girls who are raped or sexually assaulted at abortion clinics are silenced by: (a) the stigma of having been sexually assaulted, (b) the stigma of having had an abortion and/or (c) a desire for secrecy that they often see as trumping every other consideration.

In effect, they face a decision comparable to the one faced by married men who are robbed while

frequenting prostitutes. In both situations, if the victims report the crimes committed against them, information about their own behavior will be revealed that they do not want known. Under those circumstances, it is easy to understand why they are rarely going to say anything. When that reality is considered in light of the number of instances that are reported, it is apparent that a startling number of women are being sexually assaulted inside American abortion clinics.

Beyond that, there are several other categories of subterranean abortion-related violence. The largest of these, and the subject of this report, is women who are attacked for refusing to have abortions. Over the years, we have collected data on a large volume of these cases, the bulk of which are non-fatal assaults. Although the victims of these attacks often suffer horrifying and crippling physical injuries, we chose to concentrate solely on instances in which the victim died. Therefore, those are the only types of case histories you will find in this document.

It is crucial to understand that, whether the issue is injury or death, several factors make it impossible to do a comprehensive study of this subject. The most powerful of them is the hard-wired human instinct for self-preservation. It dictates that most people are going to do what they are told if the alternative is to be the recipient of pain and violence – especially if the end result could be their death.

Pregnant women are certainly not immune to this. When told that they will be beaten, shot, stabbed or worse unless they have abortions, almost all of them are going to comply. The problem is that, while this is an entirely understandable response, it virtually guarantees that no one will ever know about the violence done to these women. From a research perspective, these cases become invisible at the moment the victims decide not to end up in the police station, the emergency room or the morgue.

Also contributing to this invisibility is the abortion stigma mentioned earlier. Despite almost 40 years of legality, this stigma remains as strong as ever and it

prevents the vast majority of women from wanting others to know about their abortions – even if those abortions were forced upon them. Clearly, this is going to significantly reduce the number of cases in any study about abortion-related violence.

Another factor that makes these cases difficult to uncover is the deceptive manner in which the media reports on them.

It is hardly a secret that the American press corps is, with almost no exceptions, firmly attached to the “pro-choice” side of the debate and, during our research, it became clear that this bias impacts their coverage of this area of abortion-related violence.

For example, when we were able to obtain copies of police reports, indictments, court records or other similar documentation for these cases, they would almost universally show that when a perpetrator is confronted by an unwanted pregnancy, his first response is not violence but a demand that his partner have an abortion. When violence ensues, it is inevitably a reaction to her refusal to comply.

However, the media’s coverage of these incidents often contains no mention of abortion. Instead, they either portray women who are attacked for refusing to have abortions as women who are attacked for getting pregnant, or they characterize the incident as one of simple “domestic violence” in which the victim’s pregnancy is basically inconsequential.

The effects of these manufactured illusions are twofold. First, they take violent episodes in which abortion is the driving force and quietly remove abortion from the equation. Second, they reduce – and sometimes eliminate – the possibility that these cases will ever be uncovered, much less studied.

The bottom line to all of this is simple. In almost every incident in which women are told that they will be physically harmed unless they abort, they are going to comply, never tell anyone and, thus, fade into anonymity. For those who resist and end up on a stretcher or an autopsy table, they can expect to

have their experiences hidden under a thick blanket of media deception.

From these realities, the inescapable conclusion is that the case studies in this document can represent no more than the tiniest tip of an enormous iceberg. A reasonable question to ask is whether the people who operate facilities that provide abortions bear any responsibility for addressing this violence.

As stated earlier, women who are threatened with physical violence unless they have abortions are going to submit in almost every case. Additionally, at Life Dynamics, we can document that abortion clinic operators realize how common this problem is.

Over the years, we have acquired tape recordings of National Abortion Federation (NAF) conventions in which discussions about women being forced to have abortions were held. The prevailing attitude expressed in these sessions may best be described as one of “convenient indifference.” Attendees will acknowledge the problem’s existence and talk about it in disapproving tones, while making it clear that they feel no obligation to let it influence the way they deal with these women.

Their philosophical position seems to be that, even if a woman chooses to have an abortion she doesn’t want because of threats from others, it remains within the “pro-choice” purview since she was still the one who ultimately made the decision. In fact, on the NAF tapes mentioned above, some abortion clinic employees can be heard paraphrasing this very argument and using it to justify their habit of looking the other way. It is a truly bizarre rationalization analogous to saying that women who submit to sexual relations at the point of a gun are not really being raped since, technically, they are consenting.

At the clinic level, there are also two additional considerations. First, those who provide abortions have a financial interest in the woman’s decision. If she aborts a profit is made, if she doesn’t a profit is lost. This remains true whether free-will or force was driving her decision.

Second, the victims of this particular category of abortion-related violence are not hard to identify. If a woman is brought to an abortion clinic because she has been told that she will be killed or brutally beaten if she refuses, her body language, facial expressions, speech patterns, and general demeanor are going to indicate a level of distress far beyond that normally associated with having an abortion.

The only plausible explanations for why an abortion would be performed on her are that (a) no counseling is done, (b) the counselor is grossly incompetent and should never have been trusted with this responsibility or (c) the counselor's personal, financial or political bias in favor of abortion neutralizes any concern for the victim.

It is interesting to note that Herculean efforts have been made to protect abortion providers against violence. The United States Congress has held hearings on abortion clinic violence; federal laws have been passed to restrict pro-life activities in ways that have never been contemplated with any other issue; RICO statutes enacted to go after organized crime have been used against individual pro-life activists; the FBI and the Department of Justice have created special task forces solely for the purpose of protecting abortion providers; federal marshals have been assigned to stand guard at abortion clinics; police departments continue to openly and routinely violate the First Amendment rights of peaceful pro-life protesters; and the list goes on ad infinitum.

In order to appreciate how out-of-proportion these responses have been, it should be remembered that only eight abortion clinic homicides have occurred in the almost 40 years since abortion was legalized. By any reasonable analysis, infrequent acts of violence against a tiny group of abortion doctors have been given a level of attention that is so extraordinary, nothing remotely similar has ever been given to any other segment of society.

This effort has been the result of enormous pressure exerted upon the American political process by the

abortion lobby. Interestingly, the group being given this historically unprecedented level of protection is overwhelmingly male. At the same time, however, these same abortion lobby activists have shown a stark indifference toward the exponentially larger number of women who are being brutalized or murdered for refusing to have abortions.

From this comparison, it is obvious that, among those who most staunchly support abortion, these men count and these women don't.

Adding to this is the fact that the leaders of the contemporary "women's movement" are acutely aware of this situation and remain stone cold silent about it. For political and public relations reasons, those who most loudly proclaim "a woman's right to choose," have shown no interest in "a woman's right *not* to choose." On one hand, they may not approve of women being bludgeoned or killed for refusing to have abortions. But on the other hand, they have made it clear that they are willing to write-off these women as just collateral damage in the war to keep abortion legal.

To comprehend the scale of this betrayal, note that the abortion lobby has spent the past 40 years marketing abortion as the indispensable cornerstone of women's equality. They have done this despite the fact that, with almost no exceptions, the pioneers of the American women's-rights movement were outspoken opponents of legalizing abortion.

Moreover, this opposition was only partially based on the contention that abortion takes a human life. People like Susan B. Anthony, Mattie Brinkerhoff, Sarah Norton, Emma Goldman, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and numerous others routinely and strongly argued that legalizing abortion is also profoundly harmful to women. Just one example of this was Alice Paul – the author of the original Equal Rights Amendment – who referred to abortion as the ultimate exploitation of women. Even suffragist newspapers like *Woodhull's and Claflin's Weekly* had editorial policies that openly attacked both abortion and those who performed them.

What these early feminist leaders understood is that legalized abortion does not advance the cause of womens' equality but is, instead, a safety net for sexually predatory and sexually irresponsible males. They were warning that, in practice, legalized abortion would become a mechanism for these kinds of men to avoid any commitments to the women whose bodies they use or any responsibility for the children they father.

Regrettably, that is what we see being played out in front of us today. American society has now devolved to the point where a male's responsibility for an unplanned pregnancy he helped to create is often defined as a willingness to pay for half the abortion and provide transportation to the clinic.

This phenomenon may be best evidenced in a way that is probably unknown to most people.

Across the country, there are a significant number of anti-abortion activists who stand in front of abortion clinics and try to dissuade women from going inside. These people are called "sidewalk counselors" and most of them are female. In fact, in many locations, they are exclusively female. Generally, they provide abortion-seeking women with information about fetal development, the risks and alternatives to abortion and whatever support services may be available to them if they choose not to have abortions.

Perhaps the most revealing thing about this process is how often women who come to abortion clinics are willing to stop and talk to the sidewalk counselors, but are prevented from doing so by the males who brought them there. In many cases, these men are belligerent and it is not uncommon for them to become verbally or physically abusive toward either these women, the sidewalk counselors or both.

These incidences occur because the men involved understand whose interests are actually being served by these abortions. In effect, they are perfect illustrations of what the Susan B. Anthony's and Elizabeth Cady Stanton's of the world predicted decades ago.

But the legalization of abortion also introduced another question into the mix that even they may not have anticipated. The question is: How would the kind of men who rely on abortion as a safety net react when the women they impregnate are unwilling to jump into it?

The answer to that question is found in the following case studies.

As you read them, there are several things to keep in mind. First, because of the formidable reporting barriers outlined earlier, they represent no more than a tiny fraction of the actual number of instances. In fact, they do not even include all of the instances we uncovered but are, instead, just a representative sample of them. Second, these are only episodes in which the victims died and do not include the much larger group of women who were physically injured.

It is also important to understand that the details of these cases are not at all unusual. To the contrary, they are typical of the injury and death cases we found. In fact, we often softened the descriptions of them in order to keep this report from becoming unnecessarily graphic and difficult to read.

At the beginning of each file, the victim's name is given followed by her age, the year she was killed and the state in which her death took place. Also included is whether her refusal to have an abortion was either the **Confirmed** or the **Self-Evident** motive for her murder.

This latter designation was necessary in order to address the fact that media and law enforcement reports often state that the victim was killed because the perpetrator "was angry about the pregnancy" or "didn't want the baby" or "claimed that the baby wasn't his" or said that he "wasn't ready to be a father," etcetera. As explained earlier, our research shows that when a male displays these kinds of attitudes about his partner's pregnancy, his first reaction will be to demand that she have an abortion. In almost every incident in which violence ensues, its motive will be that she refused to comply.

**Adams, Cherica | 24 | 1999 | NC | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Ms. Adams was pregnant with the child of former National Football League player, Rae Carruth, when she was shot to death by Van Brett Watkins and Michael Kennedy. At trial, it was revealed that Carruth had paid them \$6,000 to kill Ms. Adams because she had refused his demand to have an abortion. Watkins and Kennedy eventually pleaded guilty to second-degree murder. In 2001, Carruth was convicted of conspiracy to commit murder and was sentenced to 18-to-24 years in prison. *[Salt Lake Tribune 4-26-2006 • Associated Press 2-16-2011]*

**Ambrosino, Susan | 26 | 2005 | NY | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Steven Schiovone was the father of Ms. Ambrosino's unborn child and was demanding that she have an abortion. Because she refused, he killed her by shooting her in the back of the head. In 2007, Schiovone admitted to the crime and was allowed to plead guilty to manslaughter rather than face a murder charge. *[The New York Daily News 2-28-2005 • Newsday 4-17-2007]*

**Anderson, Linda | 25 | 2010 | NY | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

Authorities say that Jimmy Humphrey strangled Ms. Anderson because she was pregnant with his child and he did not want to start a family with her. After she was killed, her apartment was burned and police speculate that Humphrey set the fire in an attempt to cover-up the crime. Ms. Anderson's two-year-old son died in that fire. *[NY1.com 8-2-2001 • The New York Times 7-16-2010]*

**Baker, Tammy Lynn | 24 | 1997 | VA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Witnesses stated that when Ms. Baker told her boyfriend, Coleman Leake Johnson, that she was pregnant by him, the two had a heated argument over her refusal to have an abortion. When Johnson realized that Ms. Baker was not going to change her mind, he hid two homemade pipe bombs under a garbage can lid outside her apartment. When she lifted the lid, the bombs exploded and killed both her and her unborn daughter. In 2001, a jury found Johnson guilty of her murder and gave him life in prison. *[The Washington Post 12-19-2004 • Richmond Times Dispatch 5-15 & 17-2001]*

**Bakley, Bonny Lee | 44 | 2001 | CA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Ms. Bakley was pregnant by actor, Robert Blake, when she was shot to death while sitting in his car. In court, witnesses testified that Blake had planned to abduct Ms. Bakley and hire a doctor to abort the baby and, if that didn't work out, he said that he intended to "whack" her. Blake also admitted that he had offered Bakley \$250,000 to have an abortion but she refused. In 2005, a jury found that there was not enough evidence to convict Blake of the criminal charges but, in a subsequent civil trial, the jury found him responsible for Ms. Bakley's murder and ordered him to pay \$30 million in damages. *[Court TV 10-3-2005 / 12-14-2005 • The Herald Sun 1-21-2005]*

**Betts, Cassandra | 25 | 2000 | OH | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Ms. Betts was six weeks pregnant when her boyfriend, Tony M. Ringer, lured her to the parking lot of a local business under the pretense that he was having car trouble. When she arrived, he stabbed and shot her to death. The victim's seven-year-old daughter was in the car at the time and was still with her mother when they were discovered the next morning. In 2002, Ringer received 21 years in prison after pleading guilty to voluntary manslaughter. The county prosecutor said that he killed Ms. Betts because she refused his demand to have an abortion. *[WLWT-TV Channel 5, Cincinnati 12-22-2000 • The Cincinnati Enquirer 3-10-2002]*

**Bonaventure, Sandra | 21 | 2002 | NY | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Ms. Bonaventure was strangled by Emmanuel Pierre. Law enforcement officials say that Pierre killed the college junior because she was pregnant with his child and had refused to have an abortion. One witness quoted Pierre as telling Ms. Bonaventure that, "You'll have that baby over my dead body." Another stated that Pierre was complaining to him "every other day" about her refusal to have an abortion. In 2005, Pierre was convicted of her murder and given 25-years-to-life in prison. [*The New York Daily News* 4-17-2004 / 4-8-2005; *The New York Post* 4-5-2005]

**Bost, Tinesha Amdricko | 17 | 2000 | NC | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Ms. Bost was murdered by her 29-year-old boyfriend, Charles Francis Graham. According to court documents, Ms. Bost was pregnant with Graham's baby and he had ordered her to get an abortion because he said he already had too many kids. When she refused, Graham enlisted the help of two other men to lure Ms. Bost to a local pond where she was shot in the back of the head. In 2002 he was found guilty of murder and sentenced to life without parole. [*North Carolina Court of Appeals No. COA 03-788* • *Charlotte Observer* 2-25-2000 / 12-10-2001]

**Boyd, Anastasia Latrice | 24 | 2010 | FL | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

Law enforcement officials say that Larry J. Reed shot Ms. Boyd in the chest during an argument over her pregnancy. Family members told investigators that Ms. Boyd was determined to have her baby despite Reed's fierce objections. Police say that Reed initially told them that Ms. Boyd had committed suicide but he later admitted that he shot her. In 2010, he was indicted for second-degree murder. [*St. Petersburg Times* 3-25-2010 • *Channel 8 News St Petersburg* 3-24-2010]

**Browne, Zaneta | 29 | 2002 | NY | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Ms. Browne was pregnant with the twins of Jerold L. Ponder when he shot her in the head. Ponder's wife, Keya, was also charged in the killing because she bought the gun used in the attack and later helped to dispose of the body. Investigators were able to determine that Ms. Browne was murdered because she refused Ponder's demand to have an abortion. Eventually, both Jerold and Keya Ponder were found guilty of murder and given prison sentences of more than 25 years. [*Rochester Democrat and Chronicle* 2-1-2003 / 5-3-2003 • *WHEC-TV News 10* 7-22-2002]

**Burnett, Stephanie Nicole | 16 | 2002 | GA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

According to law enforcement officials, Matthew John Wiedman killed Ms. Burnett because she was pregnant with his baby and would not agree to have an abortion. During a meeting with Wiedman, he and an accomplice, Raymond Anthony Soto, attacked Ms. Burnett with a steel dumbbell and repeatedly stabbed her with a long-bladed knife. An autopsy revealed that every bone in her face was broken, her skull was crushed and her throat was slashed. In 2003, Wiedman and Soto were convicted of her murder and given life in prison. [*The Augusta Chronicle* 4-23 & 24-2002 / 4-23-2003]

**Carter, Ardena Marie | 23 | 2003 | GA | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

Michael Antonio Natson killed Ms. Carter by shooting her in the head. Investigators determined that Ms. Carter was pregnant with Natson's child and had stated that she intended to give birth to the baby. They say he killed her to avoid paying child support. In 2007, a jury found him guilty of murder and sentenced him to life in prison without parole. [*WSFA-12 News* 3-5-2007 • *FBI Press Release* 6-22-2005]

### **Chambers, Tara | 29 | 2002 | NC | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

According to police affidavits, Ms. Chambers was pregnant with the baby of Tyrone Raynard Gladden who ordered her to have an abortion so he would not have to pay child support. When she refused, he hired a hit man to kill her. A short time later, her body was found with four gunshot wounds. In 2007, Gladden was convicted of Ms. Chambers' murder and given life in prison without parole. [*The Charlotte Observer* 5-19-2004 / 7-3-2007; *The Washington Post* 12-19-2004; *Court Of Appeals of North Carolina* No. COA09-626]

### **Christensen, Irene Francis | 20 | 1994 | UT | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

Calvin Shane Myers stabbed Ms. Christensen at least 12 times with a rusty hunting knife almost decapitating her. Two weeks later, her frozen body was discovered in a snow bank. Myers told police investigators that Ms. Christensen was pregnant with his baby but that he was "not ready to have children." In 1996, he confessed to the crime and was given life in prison. [*Salt Lake Tribune* 9-10-2000 • *The Supreme Court of the State Of Utah* Case No. 20010955]

### **Colon, Christina Joyce | 24 | 2004 | PA | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

Damien Michael Schlager shot Ms. Colon to death then dumped her body in a rock quarry where it was discovered eight days later. Police investigators say that Schlager, who was married with two children, killed Ms. Colon in order to keep their relationship a secret and to avoid paying child support. In 2006, he was found guilty of murder and sentenced to life in prison. [*The York Dispatch* 7-30-2004 • *The Lancaster New Era* 9-22 & 28-2004 • *Lancaster Intelligencer Journal* 10-3-2008]

### **Croudy, Helen | 16 | 2002 | NJ | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

On New Year's Day, Ms. Croudy was bludgeoned to death with a ball-peen hammer. Then in 2003, Cordell Harper admitted in court that he killed her because she was pregnant with his child and he didn't want the inconvenience of a baby. The judge in the case sentenced him to 50 years in prison. [*Philadelphia Inquirer* 1-3-2002 • *The Press of Atlantic City* 8-18-2003]

### **Davis, Jessie Marie | 26 | 2007 | OH | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

Former police officer, Bobby Lee Cutts, killed Ms. Davis and dumped her body in a public park. Prosecutors say that Cutts, who was married to another woman at the time, killed Ms. Davis in order to avoid paying child support. A third woman, Stephanie Hawthorne, testified that she was also pregnant by Cutts and that she had an abortion on the same day Ms. Davis went missing. In 2008, Cutts was convicted for Ms. Davis' murder and given life in prison. He will not be eligible for parole for at least 57 years. [*CBS News* 2-25-2008 • *ABC News* 6-24-2007 • *Associated Press* 2-5-2008]

### **DeLain, Niasha | 25 | 2008 | NY | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Ms. DeLain was a bank teller and accounting student when she was stabbed more than 20 times killing her and her unborn baby. Authorities charged Derrick W. Redd with murder after finding evidence that he killed Ms. DeLain because she was pregnant with his child and would not agree to have an abortion. Investigators say Redd told them that he had argued with Ms. DeLain about her refusal to have the abortion and that when he can't avoid a problem he "eliminates it." Redd was convicted of murder and, in January of 2012, he was given 25-years-to-life in prison. [*New York Daily News* 12-9-2009 / 11-3-2011]



**Demery, Valicia Andrea | 19 | 2009 | MD | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

When Bernard Bellamy Jr. learned that Ms. Demery was pregnant with his child, he ordered her to have an abortion. Because she refused, he intentionally ran over her with his car and left her to die on the campus of the Forestville Military Academy. The night before the murder, Bellamy had sent a text message to Ms. Demery telling her that she should come to her senses about the abortion before it's too late. When she asked, "B4 what's too late," he replied, "U will C." In 2009, Bellamy pleaded guilty to second-degree murder and received 30 years in prison. *[Washington Post 5-12-2009 • Statement of Charges, Prince George's County Maryland, Case 0E00318584]*

**DePaul, Lisa Ann | 26 | 1991 | PA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

In 1992, Dominic Fierro received 13½-to-27 years in prison for the murder of Ms. DePaul. Law enforcement officials were able to establish that Fierro strangled her because she refused to have an abortion. He then tried to stage her apartment to make it appear that a burglary had occurred. Ms. DePaul's father found her body on Christmas morning. An autopsy indicated that she might have miscarried prior to the murder. *[Pennsylvania's Intelligencer 9-15-1992 • Philadelphia Inquirer 9-15-1992]*

**Derosia-Waters, Melody | 19 | 1991 | NH | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Ms. Derosia-Waters was killed after suffering three gunshot wounds to the face and back. Prosecutors said that Shane Pitts killed her because she was pregnant with his baby and refused to have an abortion. Pitts was eventually found guilty of second-degree murder and given 40-years-to-life in prison. *[New Hampshire Union Leader 12-5-1991 • Supreme Court of New Hampshire syllabus 12-28-1993]*

**Dethrow, Roselyn | 35 | 2002 | NC | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

According to law enforcement officials, when Ricky Kenard Royster learned that Ms. Dethrow was pregnant with his child, he insisted that she have an abortion in order to conceal the pregnancy from their church. When she refused, he tried to force her to miscarry by giving her poison and kicking her in the stomach. That failed and he then smothered her with a pillow and staged the scene to make it appear that she had been killed during an attempted rape. In 2005, Royster was convicted of murder and given life without parole. *[The Winston-Salem Journal 4-7-2005 • North Carolina Court of Appeals No. 02-CRS-61547]*

**Eatmon, Lisa D. | 33 | 2005 | NY | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Roscoe Ginton II threw a hair dryer into Ms. Eatmon's bathwater in a failed attempt to electrocute her. Ten days later, he fatally shot her in the back of the head and dumped her body into the Hudson River. According to prosecutors, Ginton's motive was that Ms. Eatmon was pregnant with his child and had refused to have an abortion. In November of 2006, he was sentenced to 25-years-to-life for her murder. *[New York Post 10-5-2006 • NBC10 4-11-2005 • Court TV News 10-12-2006]*

**Ebron, Karesse | 16 | 2006 | NY | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Ryan Ross drove Ms. Ebron to a wooded area near her home and bludgeoned her to death with a baseball bat. In 2007, he confessed to the murder and was sentenced to 22-years-to-life in prison. He told investigators that he killed Ms. Ebron because she was pregnant with his baby and would not have an abortion. *[New York's Journal News 3-2-2007 / 6-30-2006]*

**Erazua, Omoyeme “Christine” | 19 | 2011 | TX | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Authorities in Houston say that Joseph Mike Devia stabbed Ms. Erazua in the neck more than 20 times and threw her into a ditch to die because she refused to abort their unborn child. Devia, who was linked to the crime by DNA evidence as well as text messages he sent to the victim, was arrested in Illinois and sent back to Texas where he awaits trial for capital murder. [*Houston Chronicle* 12-6-2011 • *My Fox News Houston* 12-7-2011 • *HoustonPress.com* 12-8-2011 • *Harris County District Court* SPN 02592732]

**Escamilla, Anyssia Katherine | 17 | 2010 | CA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

According to investigators, Jesus Francisco Avitia, Jr., told them that he killed Ms. Escamilla because she was pregnant with his child and refused to have an abortion. After being choked to death and placed in a garbage can, her body was hidden under 60 feet of trash in a nearby landfill. Avitia has been charged with two counts of murder. [*The Associated Press* 5-25-2010 • *The Press-Enterprise* 8-16-2010]

**Espeleta, Jeanette Gomez | 20 | 1998 | CA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

According to press reports, when Ms. Espeleta told Richard Tovar that she was pregnant with his child, he ordered her to have an abortion. Because she refused, he shot her to death. Afterward, Tovar and two accomplices rented a boat and dumped her body into the Pacific Ocean. In 2000, he was convicted for her murder and given life in prison with no possibility of parole. [*The Orange County Register* 11-4-2000]

**Figuroa, LaToyia | 24 | 2005 | PA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

After Ms. Figuroa became pregnant by Stephen Poaches, he demanded that she have an abortion. Authorities say that, because she refused, Poaches strangled her and dumped her body in a vacant lot. In 2006, he was convicted in the case and given life in prison without the possibility of parole. [*Associated Press* 10-17-2006 • *Philadelphia Inquirer* 10-18-2006 • *Philadelphia Daily News* 10-14-2006]

**Fludd, Shameka | 23 | 2003 | MD | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

According to authorities, Tjane Charmoise Marshall shot Ms. Fludd to death because she was pregnant with his child and would not have an abortion. Friends of the victim stated that she had told them that Marshall was enraged about the pregnancy but that she could not bear the thought of having an abortion. In 2005, Marshall received life-plus-20-years for Ms. Fludd’s murder. [*Washington Post* 12-20-2004]

**Fox, Tanika Rachelle | 17 | 1999 | NC | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Ms. Fox was pregnant with the child of Shawn Kristopher Holliman when he shot her to death. Law enforcement investigators discovered that the motive for the murder was that Ms. Fox had refused Holliman’s demand to have an abortion. In 2001, he was convicted of her murder and given life in prison. [*North Carolina Court of Appeals* No. COA02-133 • *The Greensboro News and Record* 7-11-2001]

**Graham, Shawnte | 19 | 1994 | IL | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Prosecutors say that when U.S. Navy Petty Officer, Weldon May, was told that his girlfriend was pregnant, he demanded that she have an abortion. When she refused, May recruited Michael Sapp to kill her. In exchange, May said he would see that Sapp was admitted to the Navy even though he had been previously rejected for poor vision. Sapp went to Ms. Graham’s apartment, forced her to strip naked and fatally shot her in the left eye with a .32-caliber handgun. In 1996, May pleaded guilty to first-degree murder and Sapp was convicted of the same charge. [*Chicago Tribune* 2-25-1994 / 9-21-1996]

**Grayson, Latrice | 24 | 2008 | CA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

When former postal worker, Aaron Ashley, found out that Ms. Grayson was pregnant with his child, he ordered her to have an abortion. Because she refused, he stabbed her to death with a pair of scissors. Ms. Grayson's body was found by her four-year-old son. In 2009, a jury sentenced Ashley to 32-years-to-life in prison for her murder. [*The Oakland Tribune 1-22-2009* • *KTVU 7-31-2009*]

**Grill, Kristina | 15 | 1993 | PA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

According to police investigators, Maurice Bailey stabbed Ms. Grill in the neck and beat her severely because she would not abort their child. A seven-year-old boy discovered her body on an elementary school playground. Bailey was eventually convicted of her murder and given life without the possibility of parole. [*Pittsburgh Post-Gazette 9-14-1994* • *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review 9-22-2008*]

**Harrell, Dawnette Marie | 29 | 2006 | MI | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

Court records state that, when Justin Scott Stair found out Ms. Harrell was pregnant with his child, he wanted her to have an abortion so he would be free to join the military. She refused and Stair shot her in the back of the head. Her body was eventually found in a shallow grave near the home of Stair's parents. In 2008, he was convicted for her murder and given life without parole. [*The Traverse City Record Eagle 5-6-2007* • *Channel 9 News 2-25-2008* • *State of Michigan Court of Appeals No. 288175*]

**Harris, JoAnn Crystal | 29 | 2007 | CA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Scott Allen Ansman was convicted of beating Ms. Harris to death with a baseball bat. According to authorities, Ansman was married and having an affair with the victim and, when she became pregnant, he demanded that she have an abortion. Because she refused, he tried to recruit someone to beat her enough to cause a miscarriage. When that was unsuccessful, he decided to kill her himself. In 2009, Ansman was given life without the possibility of parole. [*California Second Appellate District, Division Seven Los Angeles County Super. Ct. No. SA065166* • *The Culver City Patch 5-31-2011* • *The Front Page Online 5-28-2009*]

**Hayes, Althea | 27 | 1993 | AZ | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

According to court documents, Ms. Hayes was shot four times including twice in the back of the head. At the time, she was pregnant with the child of Jerrod Mustaf, a former player with the National Basketball Association's Phoenix Suns. Prosecutors said that Mustaf recruited his cousin, LaVonnie Wooten, to kill Ms. Hayes because she refused to have an abortion. In 1996, a jury gave Wooten life after finding him guilty of murder. However, despite eyewitness testimony that Wooten said he traveled from Maryland to Arizona "to take care of business" for his cousin, police did not have enough evidence to bring criminal charges against Mustaf. [*Arizona Casa Grande Dispatch 1-30-1996* • *Seattle Times 10-20-1996* • *CNN Sports Illustrated 9-19-1998* • *Arizona Court of Appeals Division One No. 1 CA-CR 96-0579*]

**Hayes, Sonya | 27 | 1999 | OH | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Court records show that Terrence Davis shot Ms. Hayes six times because she refused to abort their unborn child. In 2002, Davis was convicted of murder in what prosecutors called a "street abortion" and given life in prison without the possibility of parole. [*The Associated Press 2-7 & 11-2000* • *Toledo Blade 2-10-2000* • *Ohio Court of Appeals Sixth Appellate District No. L-00-1143, Trial Court No. CR-99-1588 June 2002*]

**Hill, Kimberly Diane | 24 | 1989 | AL | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

The body of Ms. Hill was found hog tied with telephone cords. She had been beaten and stabbed 21 times and a towel was stuffed down her throat in an apparent attempt to muffle her screams. It was later revealed that she was pregnant by Joseph Ward Gentry, her co-worker at a Birmingham bank. In a taped confession, Gentry told police that he killed Ms. Hill because her pregnancy posed a threat to his career and marriage. He originally received the death penalty but it was overturned on appeal and replaced with a lesser sentence. *[The Birmingham News 1-25-2007 • Supreme Court of Alabama No. 1970962]*

**Jackson, Sharon | 32 | 1993 | PA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Harvey Colvin intentionally ran over Ms. Jackson with her own car. Prosecutors determined that, at the time of her death, she was pregnant with Colvin's baby and that the two were fighting over her refusal to have an abortion. In 1994, he pleaded guilty to manslaughter and was given 50 years in the state penitentiary. *[The Philadelphia Inquirer 7-30-1993 / 12-23-1994]*

**Johnson, Tonya M. | 36 | 2009 | TN | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Tarence L. Nelson was convicted on two counts of first-degree murder in the deaths of Ms. Johnson and their unborn child. Investigators say Nelson was angry that she would not have an abortion and decided to kill her. Ms. Johnson was shot in the head and in the abdomen, reinforcing the prosecution's claim that he was trying to kill both mother and child. In 2011, Nelson was given two life sentences. *[Greenfield Daily Reporter 6-27-2011 • WMC-TV 9-27-2009 • My Fox Memphis 9-28-2009]*

**Lovato, Sarah Marie | 17 | 2009 | NM | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

Charged in the double homicide of Ms. Lovato and her father is Marino Leyba, Jr. Police investigators say that Ms. Lovato was pregnant with Leyba's baby and that his motive for shooting her was his anger over her decision to carry the pregnancy to term. Apparently, her father was killed simply because he was present at the murder scene. *[The New Mexican 4-26-2010 / 7-6-2010]*

**Lyons, Ashley Renee | 18 | 2004 | KY | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Ms. Lyons was pregnant with the child of Roger McBeath when he shot her twice in the head and once in the neck. Investigators say that McBeath had told Ms. Lyons to have an abortion but she refused. They say he then solicited people to physically assault her and cause a miscarriage. During his trial, it was also revealed that he had called a former girlfriend of his who worked in a hospital emergency room and asked her about the availability of abortion-causing pills or other products. In 2009, McBeath confessed to killing Ms. Lyons and was given a 42-year prison sentence. *[Associated Press State & Local Wire 9-22-2004 • Lexington Herald Leader 3-31-2004 / 10-26-2004 • WKYT-TV 8-4-2009]*

**Mackey, Rochelle M. | 27 | 2005 | CA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Witnesses state that when Conroy James Hayes learned that Ms. Mackey was pregnant with his child, he warned her that she "better have" an abortion because he did not want a baby. She was upset by Hayes' demand and told him to leave her apartment. Two days later, he shot her to death. In 2006, he was convicted of her murder and given a 64-year prison sentence. *[NewsBank Info Web 8-25-2005 • Bakersville.com news 3-27-2009 • California Court of Appeals Fifth Appellate District Superior Court No. BF110986A]*

**Marshall, Brandi Nicole | 20 | 2000 | LA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Javier Perry was charged with murder and feticide in the deaths of Ms. Marshall and the couple's unborn child. According to authorities, Ms. Marshall was killed because she refused Perry's demand to have an abortion. Perry admitted to police that he put the gun to her head while they argued about the abortion but that he only meant to scare her. He claimed the gun went off accidentally. Because there were no witnesses, police were not able to prove that Perry actually intended to kill Ms. Marshall and he was acquitted. *[The Times-Picayune 2-23-2002]*

**Mitts, Deana | 24 | 1999 | PA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

On New Years Day, Joseph P. Minerd used a pipe bomb to kill Ms. Mitts. Minerd told police that he killed her because she refused to have an abortion. Also killed in the attack were the couple's unborn child and Ms. Mitt's three-year-old daughter. During Minerd's trial, evidence showed that he had beaten the victim twice trying to force her to have an abortion. In 2002, he was convicted of her murder and given life without parole. *[Associated Press 11-6-2004 • Pittsburgh Tribune Review 11-7-2007 • Pittsburgh Post-Gazette 5-1-2002 • Daily Courier 5-2-2002 • United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit Case No: 02-3305]*

**Moody, Denna | 39 | 1997 | CA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Ms. Moody's body was found in her burned out car but, because it was so badly charred, it was not possible to officially determine the cause of death. Prosecutors say that she was slain by the father of her unborn child, Alfred Elliot Smith, because she had refused his demand to have an abortion. In 1998, Smith was convicted of second-degree murder and given 15-years-to-life in prison. *[The Los Angeles Daily News 8-25-1997 / 5-21-1998 • Los Angeles Times 5-21-1998]*

**Moore, Shorlonda Lynette | 23 | 1999 | TN | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

After being strangled, Ms. Moore's body was found in a burned out car. Prosecutors claimed that Eric Laquinne Brown killed her because she was pregnant with his child and "causing him problems, demanding child support." He eventually pleaded guilty and received a life sentence. *[The Associated Press 11-30-1999]*

**Moreno, Martha | 29 | 2002 | CA | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

Ms. Moreno was stabbed three times in the stomach and strangled by her boyfriend Gilberto Cano. Citing testimony given by a forensic pathologist, prosecutors stated that the stab wounds were clearly intended to kill the unborn child. In 2005, the state agreed to a second-degree murder plea with Cano for a reduced sentence of 17-years-to-life. *[The Modesto Bee 5-8-2003]*

**Munoz, Brittany | 16 | 2009 | TX | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

Ms. Munoz was pregnant with the baby of Garrett Cole Gower when he suffocated her. An investigation revealed that Gower was angry about the pregnancy and that he and Ms. Munoz had been arguing about it for two weeks. According to the prosecutor in the case, Gower was worried that his mother would kick him out of the house if she found out that Ms. Munoz was pregnant. In 2010, he was convicted of capital murder and given life without parole. *[Dallas Morning News 8-23 & 25-2010 • CBS News 8-26-2010]*

**Newman, Rosemary | 18 | 2011 | IL | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

Ms. Newman was beaten and strangled with a phone cord and her body dumped in a forest preserve. The father of her unborn baby, Deandre Minkens, and an accomplice, Shante Thomas, have been charged with

kidnapping and murder. Investigators said Minkens' motive in killing Ms. Newman was that he didn't want to be a father. [CBS/WBBM 4-29-2011 • NWI Times 5-25-2011 • Chicago Tribune 4-29-2011]

### **Ormston, Angel C. | 17 | 1992 | OH | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Ms. Ormston was stabbed to death and her decomposed body was found in an isolated area five months later. The father of her unborn child, Mark J. Sotka, confessed to the crime, telling police that he became angry with Ms. Ormston because she refused to have an abortion. In 1993, Sotka pleaded guilty to aggravated murder and kidnapping and will have to serve at least 30 years in prison before being eligible for parole. [Cleveland Plain Dealer 2-6 & 14-1993.]

### **Peck, Jennifer Montroy | 25 | 1995 | FL | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Ms. Peck was bludgeoned to death with a claw hammer by her husband of six months. Prosecutors in the case said that Joseph L. Peck killed his wife because she was pregnant and would not agree to have an abortion. Almost eight years later, a jury found him guilty of murder and gave him life in prison without parole. [Sarasota Herald-Tribune 9-2-2003 • St. Petersburg Times 6-26-2002 / 9-10-2003]

### **Rabsatt, Stephanie | 17 | 2009 | FL | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Ms. Rabsatt's body was found in a car parked beside a Winn-Dixie grocery store. She died from a gunshot wound to the head. A second shot to her stomach had also killed her unborn child. Authorities charged the baby's father, Edward Jermaine Babbs, with murder after law enforcement investigators determined that he killed Ms. Rabsatt because she had refused his demand to have an abortion. [Sun-Sentinel.com 1-3-2012 • Post Newsweek 1-6-2012]

### **Raynor, Selene Kelsi | 21 | 2009 | PA | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

Ms. Raynor was pregnant with the child of Tyrell Hart when she was killed by a single gunshot to the face. In a signed statement to police, Hart confessed that he killed her because she was going to have the baby. He said he was "angry and frustrated over her being pregnant," adding that "I wasn't ready for that." His trial is scheduled for March of 2012. [Philadelphia Inquirer 10-17-2009 • Philadelphia Daily News 1-13-2010]

### **Rivera, Lorena Iliana | 21 | 1997 | OK | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Ms. Rivera disappeared from Oklahoma City and her body was later discovered in an unmarked grave. Law enforcement investigators were able to determine that she had been shot to death by her ex-boyfriend, Nathaniel Dee Smith, and his new girlfriend, Virginia Ramirez. Affidavits produced during their trial showed that Ms. Rivera was pregnant with Smith's child and that he had threatened to kill her unless she had an abortion. She refused and, about one month later, Smith and Ramirez conspired to kill her. Both were eventually convicted of murder and given life sentences. [Tulsa World News 7-19-1997 • The Daily Oklahoman 7-18-1997 / 12-20-1997]

### **Sepulveda, Elaine Amanda | 15 | 2004 | WA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Two months after Ms. Sepulveda's family reported her missing, her badly decomposed body was found in a shallow grave. Her boyfriend, James L. Sanders, was arrested for the crime after witnesses told police that he was angry about her being pregnant with his child and that the couple had been arguing about her refusal to get an abortion. In 2005, Sanders pleaded guilty to first-degree manslaughter and was given eight and a half years in prison. [KOMO-TV Seattle 1-20-2005 • The Seattle Post Intelligencer 1-20-2005 • The Whidbey News Times 5-4-2005]

**Sills, Tavia | 18 | 2008 | LA | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

Lamondre Markes Tucker and an accomplice shot Ms. Sills twice and attempted to set her on fire with a flammable liquid. After she jumped into a nearby pond, they shot her a third time. Prosecutors stated that Tucker's motive for the murder was that Ms. Sills was pregnant with his child and he didn't want a second baby because he had just had one with another woman. In 2011, a jury convicted him of murder and sentenced him to death. *[The Shreveport Times 3-22-2011 • KTBS News 3-2-2011 • KSLA TV News 3-19-2011 / 6-29-2011]*

**Smith, Antwonya | 18 | 2004 | TX | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

When Terrence Chadwick Lawrence learned that Ms. Smith was pregnant with his child, he told another girlfriend that he was going to "take care of" the problem. He later shot Ms. Smith three times with a shotgun. In 2006, he was convicted of her murder and sentenced to life in prison. The judge in his trial stated that, "...it is clear that Lawrence knew that his victim was pregnant, that he killed her because she was pregnant, and that he intended to kill the fetus..." *[Court of Criminal Appeal of Texas No. PD-0236-07 • The Laredo Times 11-23-2007]*

**Smith, Ingrid | 15 | 2005 | TX | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Ronald M. Hill, a 32-year-old father of four, began a sexual relationship with Ms. Smith after meeting her through an internet chat room service. Prosecutors say that after Hill learned she was pregnant, he slashed her throat because she refused to have an abortion. An autopsy showed that Ms. Smith was not pregnant. In a 2006 trial, Hill received a life sentence. *[Ft. Worth Star Telegram 4-9-2005 / 3-3 & 4-2006]*

**Snyder, Jennifer Lindsay | 27 | 2011 | PA | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

Authorities say that David Adam Rapoport shot Ms. Snyder twice in the mouth and once in the head before dumping her body in a nature preserve. Rapoport was married at the time and law enforcement investigators say that he acted out of anger over the fact that Ms. Snyder was pregnant with his child. One witness told police that Rapoport "flipped out" when he learned about the pregnancy. In December of 2011, he pleaded guilty and was given life without the possibility of parole. *[The Morning Call 5-12-2011 / 12-8-2011 • Associated Press 5-11-2011 • The Express-Times 6-10-2011]*

**Sookdeo, Amelia Sabrina | 17 | 2006 | FL | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

When Dane Patrick Abdool was told by Ms. Sookdeo that she was pregnant with his child, he offered two teenage boys \$400 to kill her in an apparent attempt to conceal the relationship from his new girlfriend. Law enforcement officials say that, when this failed, he lured the victim to a remote area, poured gasoline on her and set her on fire. Her body was still burning when police discovered it the next day. In 2008, Abdool was convicted of murder and given the death penalty. *[WKMG Local 6 News Orlando 3-3-2006 • Orlando Sentinel 2-20-2008 • Ninth Judicial Circuit # 48-2006-CF-002848-O]*

**Stevenson, Tanika | 24 | 1997 | GA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

When Ms. Stevenson told Derrick Clements that she was pregnant with his child, he pressured her to have an abortion and even offered her money to do so. When she refused, he shot her in the back of the head and put her body in the trunk of her car. Police investigators discovered that Clements had insisted on the abortion in order to keep his wife from learning about the affair he was having with Ms. Stevenson. In 1999, he was convicted of her murder and given life in prison. *[Columbus Ledger Enquirer 9-13-2011 • Supreme Court of Georgia S11A0628 and S11X0699]*

**Stewart-McKinnie, Ceeatta Kim | 23 | 2002 | VA | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

Ms. Stewart-McKinnie was killed by Willis Edward Anderson after he learned that she was pregnant with his child. When her body was found, police estimated that she had been struck at least 25 times with a heavy tool or hammer. At trial, it was shown that Anderson killed her because he was concerned that the pregnancy was going to interfere with his way of life and force him to pay child support. One of Ms. Stewart-McKinnie's relatives testified that she had undergone a previous abortion and had repeatedly stated that she would never have another one. In 2002, Anderson was convicted of her murder and given 50 years in prison. *[Washington Post 12-20-2004 • Richmond Times Dispatch 11-8-2002 • Supreme Court of Virginia Record #032661]*

**Stowe, Rebecca Lynn | 15 | 1993 | MI | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

More than two years after Ms. Stowe disappeared from her home, her body was found on property owned by her boyfriend's uncle. She had been strangled and her neck was broken. Authorities established that the boyfriend, Robert Eugene Leamon, had killed her because she was pregnant with his child and had refused his demand to have an abortion. In 1997, a jury convicted Leamon of murdering Ms. Stowe and sentenced him to life in prison without the possibility of parole. *[Michigan Court of Appeals No. 201833 • Detroit Free Press 3-1-1997]*

**Stuart, Carol DiMaiti | 30 | 1989 | MA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Ms. Stuart was shot in the head and her husband, Charles, was shot in the stomach while they sat in the family car. He told police that they were attacked and robbed by a black man, setting off a manhunt in Boston's black neighborhoods and the arrest of a suspect. However, police eventually determined that Charles Stuart had murdered his wife and then shot himself in an effort to support his robbery claim. Witnesses, including Stuart's brother, testified that he had sought their help in killing his wife because she was pregnant and refused to have an abortion. Before the case could go to trial, Stuart committed suicide. *[Newsday 3-6-2003 • New York Times 1-21-1990 • Time Magazine 1-24-2001]*

**Sulk, Daphne Kristel | 15 | 1997 | WY | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Ms. Sulk was pregnant by 38-year-old Kevin James Robinson when her body was found in a wooded area. She had been savagely beaten and stabbed 17 times in the neck and chest. Witnesses testified that Robinson murdered her in a violent rage because he had demanded that she have an abortion and she would not agree to do so. In 1998, he was convicted and sentenced to 22-to-29 years in prison. *[The Associated Press 8-31-1998 / 9-28-2000 • The Supreme Court of Wyoming #99-167]*

**Taylor, Crystal Dejuanna | 27 | 2001 | CA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

According to authorities, Skyler Jefferson Moore ambushed Ms. Taylor in the carport of her home and shot her to death. Homicide detectives say that she was pregnant with the child of Derek Paul Smyder who had paid Moore to kill her because she refused to have an abortion. However, police did not have enough evidence to file charges until October of 2011 when they got a break in the case. Currently, Smyder is awaiting trial for capital murder in Ms. Taylor's death and Moore is serving life without parole for an unrelated murder. *[KABC Ch. 7 News 11-9-2011 • DailyBreeze.com 11-9-2011]*

**Taylor, Kyunia | 15 | 1996 | MO | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

Ms. Taylor was sitting on a school bus when Malik Nettles came on board and shot her to death. At the time, she was pregnant by her 29-year-old next-door neighbor, Mark Boyd. Law enforcement investigators later determined that Boyd had paid Nettles \$4,000 to kill Ms. Taylor because he was already paying support for



two other children. He was also concerned that he might be prosecuted for statutory rape. In 1998, Boyd was convicted of murder and given 26 years in prison. Nettles was convicted of capital murder and given life. *[C-J Online News 1-11-1998 • St. Louis Post-Dispatch 3-31-1998 • Missouri Court of Appeals # 73807]*

### **Thomas, Quinnisha Renee | 18 | 2003 | CA | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

Prosecutors were able to show that Ms. Thomas was shot to death by Deondre Terrell Hudson because she was pregnant with his child and he was concerned that a baby would derail his plans of becoming a rap star. In 2004, he was convicted of her murder and sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole. *[The Sacramento Bee 11-9-2009 • ABC Channel 10 News 5-14-2004]*

### **Tusa, Dawn Elizabeth | 21 | 2004 | PA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Ms. Tusa was found shot to death in her car and police charged her husband, Johnathan Robert Tusa, with her murder. A law enforcement investigation revealed that he killed her because she was pregnant and would not agree to have an abortion. In 2006, he was convicted and sentenced to life in prison without parole. *[Pittsburgh Post-Gazette 12-15-2004 / 10-21-2006]*

### **Walsh, Allison Marie | 21 | 2011 | PA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Authorities allege that Ms. Walsh was pregnant by Matthew Scott Becker when he shot her in the head killing her and her unborn daughter. Witnesses and family members state that Becker was angry with Ms. Walsh because he didn't want the baby and she refused to have an abortion. Prosecutors have filed the paperwork necessary to seek the death penalty when the case comes up for trial. *[Intelligencer Journal 8-19-2011 • Pennsylvania State Police at Ephrata Complaint #J05-13329Z1]*

### **Walters, Elizabeth | 24 | 2007 | MD | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Unknown to Ms. Walters, her boyfriend, David Lee Miller, was married when he impregnated her. Authorities say that he had ordered her to have an abortion in order to conceal what they called his "double life" and that, when he later discovered that she didn't comply, he shot her to death. A witness stated that Miller told the victim, "I thought you got rid of it" and "You're not going to ruin my life" just moments before the shooting. He also shot the witness but she survived to testify against Miller. In 2008, he was convicted and given life in prison. *[The Baltimore Sun 3-25-2008 • Washington Examiner 9-8-2008]*

### **Washington, Cheri | 17 | 2005 | VA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Ms. Washington was pregnant by 27-year-old, Carlos Diangilo Williams, who demanded that she have an abortion. When she refused, he tied her up with duct tape, beat her with a baseball bat and stomped on her stomach with his boot. In 2005, Williams was convicted in the case and sentenced to 48 years in prison. *[Washington Post 1-30-2005 • Richmond Times-Dispatch 5-8-2006 / 12-21-2005]*

### **Watkins, Barbara J. | 15 | 1999 | OH | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Ms. Watkins' decomposing body was found in a wooded area one month after she was murdered. Investigators determined that her boyfriend, Sean Steele, had choked her, dropped a 50-pound rock on her stomach and stabbed her in the neck with a broken beer bottle. Witnesses told authorities that, in the weeks leading up to Ms. Watkins' disappearance, Steele had threatened to kill her if she didn't get an abortion and he later admitted that her refusal was the motive for the murder. In 2000, he was sentenced to 15-years-to-life in prison. *[The Columbus Dispatch 4-1 & 5-2000]*

**Watkins, Samira | 25 | 2009 | FL | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

When Ms. Watkins told Zachary Antwann Littleton that she was pregnant with his baby, he demanded that she have an abortion in order to hide their affair from his wife. She refused and 11 days later her body washed ashore near the entrance of the Pensacola Naval Station with duct tape wrapped around her nose, mouth and eyes. A police analysis of Littleton's computer records and phone calls showed that, after learning of the pregnancy, he sought information on abortion clinics. Later, he researched methods of causing miscarriages and, finally, he looked for material on how to speed up human decomposition. In 2011, Littleton was found guilty and given life in prison. [*Pensacola News Journal* 1-16-2010 / 6-30-2011 • *Citizen's Times* 6-28-2011 • *ABC News Channel 3 Pensacola* 6-27-2011]

**Wells, Marlisa | 16 | 2008 | GA | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

Police say that Matthew Frederick Wilkins followed Ms. Wells into a restroom, slammed her head into a toilet, stabbed her over 60 times and left a fork protruding from her back. Several witnesses stated that he was angry that she was pregnant with his baby and had decided to keep it. In 2010, he was convicted of her murder and given life in prison plus 20 years. An autopsy revealed that Ms. Wells was not pregnant. [*The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* 3-10-2010 • *The Marietta Daily Journal* 3-19-2010]

**Wheeler, Shantay Latrice | 18 | 2001 | VA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Five months after Ms. Wheeler disappeared, her body was found in a wooded area. She died from multiple gunshot wounds including two to the jaw, one to the head and one in the back. Prosecutors were able to prove that Irvin "Jack" Fountain, 28, who was married to another woman at the time, killed Ms. Wheeler because she refused to have an abortion. In 2006, a jury convicted him of capital murder and sentenced him to life in prison. [*The Daily Progress* 9-5 & 6-2007 / 11-19-2007]

**Wilson, Ashley Nicole | 19 | 2004 | TX | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

Ms. Wilson was strangled with the cord from her high school graduation gown. Her boyfriend, Dan Randall Leach, eventually confessed to police that he killed her because she was pregnant with his child and he didn't want to have anything to do with her or the baby. Leach eventually received 75 years in the Texas State Penitentiary. [*Houston Chronicle* 8-11-2004 / 11-10-2004 • *Associated Press* 8-11-2004]

**Young, Daborah | 19 | 2011 | MI | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

Prosecutors say Jomiah Washington shot Ms. Young in the head and set her body on fire. According to witnesses, she was pregnant with Washington's baby and he was angry that she was planning to continue the pregnancy to term. He has been charged with her murder and faces life in prison. Ms. Young was developmentally challenged and, at the time of her death, had the mental capacity of a 14-year-old. [*WJBK, Fox2 Detroit* 6-30-2011 • *Detroit Free Press* 7-1-2011]

**Youngbear, Vanessa | 16 | 2002 | OK | Abortion Motive Self-Evident**

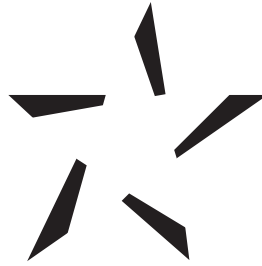
Trevor Wayne Benson and Kelly Don McCarney lured Ms. Youngbear to a remote area and shot her to death. Both were arrested the next day and indicted for first-degree murder. Ms. Youngbear was pregnant by Benson and prosecutors said he was afraid that, if she had the baby, he would go to jail for statutory rape. Following his 2003 trial, Benson received life without the possibility of parole. In exchange for his testimony against Benson, McCarney received only five years. [*Clinton Daily News* 1-24-2003 • *The Daily Oklahoman* 8-29-2003 • *KOCO News* 7-23-2002]

**Yukevich, Ann Marie | 39 | 1993 | MA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

In 1995, Michael Bowler pleaded guilty to second-degree murder in the death of Ms. Yukevich. According to law enforcement investigators and testimony given by members of the victim's family, he suffocated her because she was pregnant with his child and refused his demand to have an abortion. [*Boston Herald* 8-25-1993 • *Appeals Court of Massachusetts Case No: 02-P-1404*]

**Zazueta, Lisa Marie | 29 | 2008 | CA | Abortion Motive Confirmed**

Ms. Zazueta was found lying in a Santa Barbara street dead from a stab wound to the neck. Investigators eventually found a text message written by Ms. Zazueta in which she indicated that she was pregnant with the child of Garren Vance Musser. The message also showed that she was refusing to comply with Musser's demand to have an abortion. A prosecutor in the case stated that, "Even minutes before this homicide occurs, he's telling her to get rid of the child." In 2011, Musser was found guilty of Ms. Zazueta's murder and sentenced to life in prison without parole. An autopsy showed that she was mistaken about being pregnant. [*The Daily Sound* 10-23-2009 • *Santa Barbara Independent* 10-21-2009 / 4-11 & 14-2011 / 6-3-2011]



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