

## Press Release – Reclaim Rosslyn Road campaign

Issued: 13 September 2016 - Twickenham

### Local clinic protesters make false ‘abortion causes cancer’ claim

The same anti-abortion group behind a two-year picket at an East Twickenham clinic has been exposed pedalling false information to vulnerable women in an investigation by The Times.

An undercover reporter visited a clinic in Dublin connected to the “Good Counsel Network”. She was told, among other things, that abortion increased the risk of breast cancer – a claim that the Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists described as outrageous and “absolutely incorrect”.

The same claim is being made locally. The Richmond & Twickenham Times has seen a leaflet being handed out in East Twickenham with a list of “possible physical complications of abortion” including breast cancer. The Dublin clinic’s phone number is given on the leaflet.

A member of the public living in the area, who asked to remain anonymous for safety reasons, said: “People are entitled to their own views on the ethics of abortion, and to freedom of speech. But residents have had to put up with these people patrolling our street for over two years, bang next door to the local doctors’ surgery. Now we know that the organisation behind them is extreme enough to lie to vulnerable women. We want them moved away from our local street. We have petitioned Richmond Council, and Cllr Arbour committed to “do whatever is lawful to stop these protesters.” But that was 10 months ago and nothing has changed.”

#### Notes for editors:

- **Confidential:** contact in case of queries email: [reclaimrosslyn@gmail.com](mailto:reclaimrosslyn@gmail.com).
- **Background** is give on our website here <http://e-voice.org.uk/reclaimrosslynroad/>
- **The Times article** (5 Sep 2016) exposing advice being given at The Women’s Centre in Dublin is here, including a video <http://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/abortions-cause-cancer-women-s-centre-claims-kvkc8qvrs>
- **Leaflets** being handed out outside the clinic on 6 Sep 2016 are copied below, highlighting the false information about breast cancer and evidence of their association with the Women’s Centre, Dublin.
- **About us:** Reclaim Rosslyn Road (RRR) was started in July 2014 by a local resident who had become frustrated and upset by the activities of anti-abortion protesters from the “Good Counsel Network” outside BPAS family planning clinic on Rosslyn Road, Twickenham. The clinic is in a quiet street, next door to a doctors’ surgery. Every day when the clinic is open, protesters patrol the street outside, targeting women of child-bearing age to dissuade them from going in. We were the first local group in England to mobilise against anti-abortion picketing. We do not want to curtail freedom of speech, all we ask is the ability to go about our lives without being disturbed.

## What we can do for you now...

- ❖ Give you a FREE pregnancy test.
- ❖ Offer counselling and alternatives to abortion.
- ❖ Counsel as needed with parents, boyfriend or husband.
- ❖ Provide you with sound medical advice.
- ❖ Show you how you can continue studies or your job.
- ❖ Help with accommodation.
- ❖ Help arrange financial assistance.
- ❖ Help you find out about resources in the community which may be useful.
- ❖ Provide contacts in many other countries who can offer similar services.
- ❖ Offer help and guidance in all related areas.

**All services offered  
in strict confidentiality**

### ❖ What am I going to do?

How can I be sure I am pregnant?  
How should I tell my family?  
Can I continue in school or keep my job?  
Where can I obtain good medical care?  
What about finances?  
Can I keep my baby?  
Should I keep my baby?  
Is marriage the solution?  
Where can I live until my baby is born?

### Who will help if...

You are pregnant –  
And your first thought is  
“No – not me – oh, Please – not me!”

You are scared ... resentful ... angry.  
You feel sick and your nerves  
are like hot wires.

Your whole world is changing  
and you don't want to face it.  
Not now – not yet.

You want yesterday again.

Who will listen and really understand how  
scared and sick and angry you are?

**We will!**

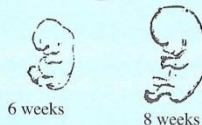
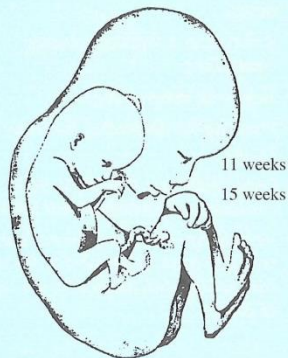
## ...and later on

- ❖ Ongoing personal counselling.
- ❖ Help with fostering healthy relationships.
- ❖ Both prenatal and postnatal guidance.
- ❖ Provide maternity clothes and baby things.
- ❖ Referral for adoption/fostering counselling.
- ❖ Help with baby-sitting.
- ❖ Planning for the mother and baby's future.
- ❖ Other assistance suitable to your particular circumstances and needs.
- ❖ Help foster self-development from which to learn responsibility for one's own actions and respect for the rights of others.

**No judgements are made  
No strings attached**

This little unborn baby's  
heart is beating on the 18th day,  
and by the 24th day it has eyes, spinal  
cord, nervous system, thyroid glands,  
lungs, stomach, liver, kidney and  
intestines.

**A tiny person ... his actual size and  
appearance**



## Reach out for life

You and your unborn baby are important  
valuable human beings with basic rights and  
individual needs.

*We care about you.* We know you are facing  
perhaps the greatest personal crisis of your life.  
You don't have to face it alone now!

### Possible physical complications of abortion:

- ❖ Perforation of the uterus or cervix
- ❖ Haemorrhage
- ❖ Infection
- ❖ Retained placenta or foetal parts
- ❖ Inability to become pregnant in future
- ❖ Disruption of menstrual cycle
- ❖ Breast cancer

### Possible psychological complications:

- ❖ Guilt, fear, anxiety
- ❖ Depression or thoughts of suicide
- ❖ Obsession with the would-be birth date
- ❖ Re-experiencing the abortion
- ❖ Preoccupation with becoming pregnant again
- ❖ Feeling unworthy or incapable of motherhood
- ❖ Damage to maternal instinct and to bonding process with any other children you have
- ❖ Alcohol and drug abuse; eating disorders

**Our help is free**

Outside BPAS clinic  
Rosslyn Road, East Twickenham  
6 Sep 2016

**Pregnant...**

**Worried?**



**We'll help!**

**Freephone Pregnancy Advice**  
Tel. 0800 096 2518  
Landline 020 77246465

**Help in Ireland**  
From UK: 00 353 1 878 0066  
From Ireland: 01 878 0066

Mum,

Are you thinking about having an abortion?

We know you are probably upset and confused. Even if you have already had medication, it is not too late to save the life of your BABY. Please don't do anything now that will HURT YOUR CHILD because you will later regret it.

Please feel free to come and talk with us. We are waiting to LISTEN and to HELP you.

Freephone Pregnancy Advice  
0800-0962518

Centre for Pregnant Women  
020 8930 3792

*Counselling and further assistance are available to you.*

**IF YOU ARE NOT  
A RESIDENT HERE ...**

Many other countries have groups which offer similar help and support. We can put you in touch with these groups.

UK  
Freephone Pregnancy Advice  
0800-0962518

**IRELAND**  
The Women's Centre  
for Dublin and all areas:  
From UK: 00-353-1-878-0066  
From Ireland: 01 878 0066

Outside BPAS clinic  
Rosslyn Road, East Twickenham  
6 Sep 2016

~~~~~  
**Believe in  
Yourself  
&  
Follow  
Your Heart**  
~~~~~

*Please choose life for your baby!*

### The First Three Months

#### The Baby at the End of 4 Weeks



- about 1/4 inch
- about 7/10,000 oz.
- heart pulsates and pumps blood
- digestive system, back bone and spinal cord begin to form, small buds appear for arms and legs

#### The Baby at the End of 8 Weeks



- about 1 1/8 inches
- about 1/4 oz.
- has a face, eyes, nose, legs and tongue; eyelids are fused.
- brain has taken shape
- internal organs developing
- limbs begin to form arms, elbows, forearms, hands, thighs, knees, feet

#### The Baby at the End of 12 Weeks



- about 3 inches, 1 1/2 oz.
- hands, fingers, legs, feet and toes are fully formed
- eyes almost fully developed, lids are still fused; tooth sockets & buds in the jaw bones form
- baby possesses most of its organs & tissues
- heartbeat can be detected with special instrument

### The Second Three Months

#### The Baby at the End of 4 Months



- about 6 1/2 to 7 inches
- about 7 oz.
- muscles and bones are formed
- mother may feel movement
- heartbeat is strong
- skin is bright pink, transparent
- ears, eyes, nose, mouth take final appearance

#### The Baby at the End of 5 Months



- about 10 to 12 inches
- about 1 lb.
- internal organs maturing at a fast rate
- eyelids still fused
- eyebrows and hair on the head have appeared

#### The Baby at the End of 6 Months



- about 11 to 14 inches
- about 1 3/4 lb.
- skin still bright pink, wrinkled, covered with a heavy protective creamy coating
- eyelids separate, eyelashes form
- fingernails grow to ends of fingers

### The Final Three Months

#### The Baby at the End of 7 Months



- about 14 to 17 inches
- about 2 1/2 to 3 lb.
- skin still wrinkled and red
- all vital organs formed: further development is mainly in size

#### The Baby at the End of 8 Months



- about 16 1/2 to 18 inches
- about 4 1/2 to 5 1/2 lb.
- head bones are soft and flexible
- fat deposits under the skin eliminate wrinkling

#### The Baby at the End of 9 Months



- about 20 inches
- about 7 1/4 to 7 1/2 lb.
- skin covered with creamy coating; fine hair is gone
- baby is now fully developed and ready for life outside the womb