



# Jewish Life League Letter

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Jewish Life League

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info@JewishLifeLeague.org

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## Transforming a Culture of Violence to a Culture of Life

The month of Av is the saddest month on the Jewish calendar. The 9<sup>th</sup> of Av, Tisha B'Av, is when the [worst tragedies](#) that befell the Jewish people throughout history occurred. On this day in 423 BCE, the Babylonians destroyed the First Temple. And on this day in 70 AD the Romans destroyed the Second Temple. In 1290 the Jews were expelled from Spain. In 1942, deportations from the Warsaw ghetto to the Treblinka death camp began, a horrific camp in which between 700,000 and 800,000 Jews were exterminated by the Nazis.

Today, violence is escalating in the United States. This month we saw two deadly gun massacres in Ohio and Texas, dozens of innocent lives taken and many more seriously injured. My discussion on these two senseless slaughters appear in a recent article on my [blog](#) at The Times of Israel and on [Renew America](#). It seems to be a pattern in our country now, where mass murders occur, our politicians take notice and make public statements about gun reform. The incidents are then temporarily forgotten until the next mass slaying occurs, which inevitably it will.

Fifty years ago, on August 8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> and almost coinciding with this year's Tisha B'av, five innocent people including beautiful actress Sharon Tate were savagely murdered by the Manson family. Actually six people died that day but the killers were not charged in the death of Sharon's unborn child. It was during the turmoil of the late 1960s when states began liberalizing their abortion laws. In 1973, the Roe v. Wade decision legalized murder for innocent and defenseless human beings.

This year, several films have been released about the gruesome Tate murders. Sharon Tate's sister, Debra, had positive comments about only one of the films, entitled simply "Tate." Debra Tate said of the film: "At long last I have found filmmakers who are interested in the life story of my sister Sharon." That film focused on Sharon Tate's life. The remaining films are exploitative and glorify Charles Manson and death.

Meanwhile, the pro-life movie "Unplanned" was just [released on DVD](#) and hit #1 on Amazon.com. This is not surprising. People know that abortion is murder, and when a Planned Parenthood director has a conversion and is now pro-life, this indicates that transformation in our culture is happening. There are many abortionists who have had conversions and are now pro-life. On this page numerous videos can be viewed of [former abortionists](#) who have become pro-life.

This is not to say that the pro-life movement is without challenges. When lawmakers pass legislation to save babies, such as the life-saving Heartbeat Laws and laws restricting horrific late-term abortions, the ACLU and Planned Parenthood take legal action to stop these laws from going into effect. Infanticide laws in states like Illinois, New York and Virginia set us back.

There are fashion magazines that inform pregnant teens how to get abortions [without their parents' knowledge](#).

Dangerous abortion drugs and [mail-order at-home abortions](#) are pushed by the radical left. Pro-abortion violence has increased exponentially as pro-life gains are made. The pro-life movement has a lot of work to do to combat the radical left. It can sometimes seem that the entire country is death-obsessed.

But it isn't true. The more extreme the pro-aborts become, the more their true agenda is exposed. They want to kill as many babies as possible, for profit. We want to save the lives of babies and women. When films like *Unplanned* are released, go see them, promote them on websites and social media and buy the CD's. Boycott all pro-death films, the Manson films, and wherever possible boycott pro-abortion companies and their products. Actively do pro-life work at Pregnancy Resource Centers. Encourage young people to get involved.

We won't be able to stop every domestic terrorist from committing violent acts, or prevent the release of films glorifying killers. But we can send a strong unified pro-life message and a cultural shift will take shape. The success of *Unplanned* proves that. Highlight pro-lifers who are working to save babies' lives. Publish news stories of [amazing doctors](#) who are saving babies' lives and scientific evidence proving that [life begins at fertilization](#). Most important, vote pro-life. Call your Members of Congress to protest pro-abortion laws. We need to stay on message and remain diligent.

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## Rabbis Speak Out for Life

Rabbi Daniel Korobkin, first vice president of the Rabbinical Council of America:



*"The removal of any restriction from abortion access and the redefining of the word 'homicide' to exclude abortion, indicate a further erosion of the moral values of our society, where killing babies is no longer construed as immoral in any way, even when the fetus has a measure of personhood, actual or potential."*

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## The Torah is Pro-Life



*The children agitated within her, and she said, "If so, why am I thus?" And she went to inquire of Hashem. And Hashem said to her: "Two nations are in your womb; two regimes from your insides shall be separated; the might shall pass from one regime to the other and the elder shall serve the younger." (Genesis: 25:22-23)*

The Biblical account of Rebecca's unusual pregnancy connects fetal life with future events. In Parashas Toldos, (Genesis 25:22-23) the verses relate the struggle between Jacob and Esau that began in the womb, foreshadowing their future rivalries and the conflicts between two nations.