



The Catholic Women's League
Manitoba Provincial Council

71st Annual Convention
June 9, 2019

ORAL REPORT
Community Life
Marielle Rigaux, Chairperson

My report can be found on page 43 of your Convention booklet.

Since my annual report I attended in the Age & Opportunity Conference on "Ageism", held at the Human Rights Museum. The conference was opened by the Manitoba Governor General Janice Filmon. This is a program that originated in California and is now being provided by 3 provinces, Manitoba, Ontario and a Maritime Prov. There were 5 speakers which dealt with topics of law, health, senior sexuality. This program deals with Support services for Seniors and is called "Senior Centre without Walls", which means that you can live anywhere in Manitoba and access what this program offers thru "tele-conference" which means by phone at no expense to you. Once you have registered with them, they will send you a calendar of events and you can sign up for whatever is going on at a specific time, specific subject, on a specific day. There is no limit to how many topics you choose. They call you at that time and you and how many others are part of that teleconference. There's anything from Bingo to Brain Surgery. This program is great for shut-ins or those seniors with mobility problems and helps them to connect with others. Monday is the busiest day as most seniors don't have much activity going on around them on weekends and they are lonely.

I have provided you with a sheet with the registration information, topics of interest like Health and Wellness, Book Club and Short Stories. Once registered they will send you a booklet with a calendar of events of 4 months.

There are Social Workers and other professionals available to help seniors and families who have seniors with problems such as hoarding etc.

The Inquiry for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women is now completed. Sadly, enough every week there seems to be pictures posted on Facebook of families looking for their missing children (in Manitoba) most times they are found. It makes me wonder why these children were missing in the first place? More, and more we hear of children being abducted and put into the sex trade. Doesn't it make you wonder what more we could do? When I think of "Care for our Common Home" it doesn't include recycling children.

This year is my 30th. year as a CWL member. In those years I have 16 years of service 2 as a council President, 4 yrs. on diocesan and 10 yrs. on Provincial. I have participated on the Fundraising committee for last year's National Convention, helped my councils with this past springs St. Boniface Diocesan Convention, attended the Age and Opportunity Conference, attended all the meetings held in the past two years (there were some long ones).

I have enjoyed my time here, in good company. I have assisted where I could and I have served under some of the most knowledgeable Presidents you could find. That was the greatest of blessings.

Remember to:

Give. But don't allow yourself to be used.

Love. But don't allow your heart to be abused.

Trust. But don't be naïve.

Listen. But don't lose your own voice.

(Power of positivity)



The Catholic Women's League
Manitoba Provincial Council

70th Annual Convention

June 3, 2018

ORAL REPORT
COMMUNITY LIFE
Marielle Rigaux, Chairperson

The Catholic Women's League of Canada supports in many ways various organizations and causes throughout the country. As the Community Life Chair my world revolves around some very serious issues. These have been issues with a never-ending battle and as long as we keep the fight up others will know it's not OK.

I have my world here that represent Life and Death.

RED DRESSES: represent the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women. You can see there are a few red and white dresses as it's not only the Indigenous women who are missing and murdered but they do out number other women by far greater numbers.

BROWN CASKETS: represent Palliative care and end of life care and how that life needs to be respected to its last breath. The caskets also represent those who choose Euthanasia and how WE believe that what God has given, only HE can take it away.

PINK FETUS: represent death as we continue to fight for the life of the unborn from conception. These also represent the 25,000 babies being born in Rohingya refugee camps these next coming weeks. These babies are being born because all of these women and girls were raped. These children are the product of evil men against defenseless and innocent women.

BLACK & PINK DRESSES: represent the darker side of life. The black dresses represent the women who live their life on the streets, a life of prostitution. The pink dresses represent the young innocent girls who are lured, kidnapped and forced into prostitution. Both are a sad situation to be in and need our support to find a way out and to prevent it from happening.

JOY SMITH FOUNDATION has an Education Documentary that was launched at the D-Division office headquarters in Winnipeg, then on Parliament Hill and at an Abused Women's Shelter in London. The documentary is called "Human Trafficking-Canada's Secret Shame".

This documentary is for a school program for the grades 8 to 12. It teaches parents, teachers and students how to recognize the signs of human trafficking and how predators work. There is another documentary being made in a more cartoon style for the grades 5 to 7.

Also available is a book written by Paul Boge called "THE TRUE STORY OF CANADIAN HUMAN TRAFFICKING". It tells the true story of Joy Smith's journey on Parliament Hill through the eyes of a survivor.