

Caring in Good Conscience

NAPN is a not-for-profit organization uniting nurses who seek excellence in nurturing and caring for all, including the unborn, newborn, disabled, mentally and/or physically ill, the aged and the dying.

Beginning with 1973, when abortion was accepted as a legal alternative to pregnancy, healthcare professionals have been confronted by an ever-increasing number of morally challenging life issues.

The list of ethical dilemmas continues to grow: in vitro fertilization, cloning, fetal experimentation, organ donation and transplantation, nutrition and hydration, patient rights, certain sterilization practices, looming rationing of medical resources, assisted suicide and euthanasia, and embryonic stem cell research with its promise of advances in the treatment of disease.

No one is more affected by these morally challenging issues than the nurse and the pressure to utilize unethical techniques and practices in the care of patients is increasing.

Through a united, educational, professional organization such as NAPN, nurses can, in good conscience, deliver the best possible patient care while preserving, protecting and defending respect for all human life.



Legal Defense

NAPN seeks to secure protection of the rights of nurses who refuse participation in procedures that are counter to the beliefs held in our mission statement.

NAPN maintains a legal defense fund for use in representing nurses involved in disputes in which values promoted by NAPN are being challenged.

The fund also provides the resources needed to submit Friend of the Court briefs in cases heard by the United States Supreme Court. Such briefs are filed when life issues involving the nursing profession are at stake. NAPN has filed several of these briefs to date.

The Legal Defense Fund also maintains a legal information database. Members may request legal advice on disputes involving ethical values and the protection of rights for those in the nursing profession.

***Dedicated to promoting respect
for every human life
from conception to natural death,
and to affirming that the destruction
of that life, for whatever reason
and by whatever means,
does not constitute
good nursing practice.***

Education

- Members are kept informed on the issues through the Pulse Line, NAPN's quarterly newsletter
- Members enjoy access to information on life issues pertinent to the medical profession
- A \$1,000 annual scholarship is given annually to a selected nursing student based on the applications submitted
- NAPN provides continuing education at its general meetings
- Speakers are provided for local nursing events on life topics

