# Justice Aborted

A Four Part Exposé
Examining the Grand Jury
That Investigated
Late-Term Abortionist
George R. Tiller
in the Third-Trimester
Abortion Death of
Christin A. Gilbert



Produced by Operation Rescue

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#### **Operation Rescue**

P.O. Box 782888 Wichita, KS 67278 www.operationrescue.org

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Late-term Abortionist George Tiller

### **Justice Aborted**

Operation Rescue has interviewed a source inside the grand jury that investigated late-term abortionist George Tiller for the abortion death of 19-year old Christin Gilbert. That source, who spoke with Operation Rescue on condition of anonymity, has revealed new information about what really happened to Christin Gilbert, and why the grand jury narrowly failed to indict Tiller in the young Down Syndrome girl's death. Operation Rescue published this information in four parts.

## PART ONE: "What Really Happened to Christin Gilbert?"

Christin Gilbert was 19 years old. She had Down Syndrome, and had recently graduated from the Special Education Program of her hometown high school in Keller, Texas. She lived in a quiet neighborhood with her mother, father, and older sister. Christin loved sports and was a regular at the Keller Special Olympics where she once won a gold medal in the softball throw. Christin had served as batgirl and team inspiration for the Keller Girl's High School Soft Ball team that won the State Championship in 2003.



Christin Gilbert was known for her loving hugs. She was an inspiration to her high school championship softball team.

But in spite of her seemingly happy life and

loving personality, Christin had a dark secret. She was the victim of sexual abuse that resulted in pregnancy sometime in 2004. Her parents' decision to abort Christin's baby – in the third trimester of pregnancy – led to Christin's death<sup>1</sup> in Wichita, Kansas, on January 13, 2005.

A complaint<sup>2</sup> was filed with the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts asking for abortionist George R. Tiller to be disciplined for Christin's

death, but the Board refused to take action<sup>3</sup> against him after Gov. Kathleen Sebelius<sup>4</sup> intervened in the case.

Because of this, a grassroots citizens group gathered signatures, as allowed by Kansas Law, and successfully convened a grand jury<sup>5</sup> to investigate possible criminal wrongdoing in Gilbert's death. It was announced on July 31, 2006,<sup>6</sup> that the grand jury had returned no indictments and had been dismissed.

#### **Anonymous Source Comes Forward**

But now a source inside the grand jury process wants to talk. This person wants people to know the truth about what happened to Christin and the frustration faced by the grand jury that was denied the information they needed to make proper decisions.

According to the source, the grand jury had access to a large amount of documents in the case, including written reports from George Tiller and numerous other individuals. They were able to interview many people associated with Christin's death, but were denied access to others.

#### **Suspicious Behavior**

The source tells Operation Rescue that from the outset, there were some concerns about what was going on within Christin's family. Christin had the mental capacity of a six year old, according to testimony given to the grand jury. Why did it take so long for Christin's family to discover her pregnancy?

There was some evasion of this question by the family. The mother indicated that she just thought Christin was putting on weight, but given the fact that she would have to be helped with the use of feminine products each month, that explanation raised more questions than it answered.

Christin's mother, Paula Gilbert, indicated that one day she noticed a "pooch" on Christin's stomach as she was getting into the bathtub. The

next day, she took Christin to a Planned Parenthood clinic in Dallas, Texas, where her pregnancy was confirmed to be in the 28th week. They were told an abortion that late could not be done there, and referred the family to Women's Health Care Services, a late-term abortion clinic run by George Tiller in Wichita, Kansas.

"Disregarding the situation" with Christin, according to the source, the family went forward with plans for a vacation cruise that was scheduled to leave that Sunday. The following week, the family returned to Texas on Sunday, January 9, 2005, and drove on that afternoon to Wichita, Kansas, to get Christin an abortion. They checked into the La Quinta Hotel, which at that time had an arrangement with Tiller to provide rooms for his late-term abortion patients and some of his staff. The La Quinta Corporation has since terminated those arrangements.<sup>7</sup>

#### **Troubled Abortionist Neuhaus Resurfaces**



Ann Kristin Neuhaus in a picture submitted to the KSBHA in 1987. (Courtesy of Kansans for Life)

The family took Christin to Women's Health Care Services on Monday morning, January 10, 2005, where she was evaluated by a "psychologist," Dr. Kristin Neuhaus, of Lawrence, Kansas. According to Kansas law, post-viability abortions may only take place when there is an agreement from a second doctor who is not professionally or financially associated with the abortionist. Neuhaus has an arrangement with Tiller to evaluate all his late-term patients at the Women's Health Care Services office when they first come in on Mondays or Tuesdays. Neuhaus is in fact a former abortionist<sup>8</sup> who came under fire in 2001 for aborting a woman who had withdrawn her consent. She once served as the abortionist at

Central Women's Services, the Wichita abortion mill that closed in June and is now owned by Operation Rescue. Neuhaus closed her Lawrence, Kansas, abortion mill in 2002, amid mounting scandal and debt.

"Because of all her professional problems, Neuhaus pretended to get out of the abortion business, but in reality she just changed jobs," said Operation Rescue President Troy Newman. "Now, instead of killing the babies with her own hands, she is earning her blood money by signing their death warrants."

A member of the grand jury asked Neuhaus if there was ever a time that she did not sign off on an abortion when asked. Neuhaus pled the Fifth Amendment and refused to answer that question.

After the evaluation, the Gilbert family directly paid Newhaus with a personal check for her services. A grand jury member asked to see the cancelled check and Neuhaus' records, but was told by prosecutor Ann Swegle that it would take an "act of God" to get those documents.

Of the arrangement between Neuhaus and Tiller, the source said, "It was wishy-washy to be honest with you."

#### **Carhart Begins the Abortion**

Christin was then administered the digoxin shot to her baby's heart by Nebraska abortionist LeRoy Carhart, who is employed by Tiller and works at the Wichita abortion clinic 1-2 weeks per month. Her cervix was filled with laminaria and she was sent back to her hotel. Christin did not eat dinner that evening.

The next morning, Christin was loaded into the family van where she expelled her dead baby on the way to the abortion clinic.



Nebraska abortionist LeRoy Carhart was responsible for Christin Gilbert's abortion.

"She passed the fetus coming into the clinic in the family van and we couldn't get anyone to even talk about that." the source said.

Once at the clinic, a D&C procedure was done on Christin and a "tear in the uterus" was sutured. According to the source, the grand jury could not get anyone to testify about that, and were unable to get questions answered about whether or not this was problematic.

#### Misuse of RU 486 Revealed

At this point, Christin was administered the abortion drug RU 486. This drug is approved for medical abortion in pregnancies prior to the 6th week of gestation. The drug has been responsible for at least six death<sup>9</sup> in the United States since 2001.

The source told Operation Rescue that RU 486 was meant to be an "insurance policy" to make sure everything had been expelled from the uterus. But when the grand jury compared Christin's symptoms to the symptoms of other women who have died from RU 486, the source said that the symptoms were "identical to a 'T.'"

There is no doubt in the source's mind that this off-the-label, unapproved misuse of RU 486 contributed to Christin's death.

#### Other "Issues" and Fifth Amendment Stonewalling

There were apparently "issues" with Christin's condition on this second day, and the clinic staff indicated she should stay in Wichita for another night. Those issues were never fully explained.

To the frustration of some of the grand jury members, the abortion process was not explained, and they did not fully understand the procedure or terminology used when describing the medical intervention. Clinic workers, with the exception of one, pled the Fifth Amendment. Tiller and Carhart never testified. Technical loopholes in the law were fully exploited by Tiller's high-priced legal team to prevent him from ever facing the grand jury. Carhart evaded his subpoena by remaining in Nebraska.

"We couldn't make decisions, because we couldn't get anyone involved to speak," the source said.

#### **Undocumented Treatment**

After Christin returned to the hotel on Tuesday night, her condition began to deteriorate. She was taken to the abortion clinic on Wednesday morning and treated for severe dehydration. However, the clinic staff made no documentation of her treatment, or how much fluids were administered to her. That lack of documentation proved to be a prominent factor on the day Christin died.

#### The Mystery of the Missing Abortionist

Wednesday evening, the family went out for dinner, but Christin would not eat. Sometime that evening, Christin was cramping, bleeding, and vomiting, at times passing out. Between midnight and 4 AM – there is a discrepancy in the testimony – the family called Tiller employee Cathy Reavis who was staying at the La Quinta on call. Reavis is Tiller's longest employee, having worked for him for 29 years. Reavis is Tiller's "head nurse" but she is not licensed, and neither are any other Tiller employees.

Cathy Reavis, an unlicensed "nurse," has been a Tiller employee for 29 years.

"They get six weeks training," said the source. "That's nothing."
Christin was placed into a warm bath, which

may have contributed to extra bleeding and infection. Reavis then helped get Christin cleaned up and back to bed.

Reavis called abortionist LeRoy Carhart, who was supposedly also staying at the La Quinta and was on call for emergencies. Carhart never responded and never saw Christin at the hotel. Testimony was inconsistent as to the whereabouts of Carhart and why he did not respond to calls for help.

Reavis, who was the only Tiller employee to offer testimony without

pleading the Fifth Amendment, claims she returned to her hotel room and "overslept," not arriving at the clinic until the ambulance was taking Christin away to the hospital.

The next morning, Christin's family tried to get her ready to go to the clinic. Christin fainted and could not be revived. Although the grand jury was told that the family had been informed that they could dial 911 if they believed they needed help, her family did not do that. Instead, they loaded their bleeding, unconscious daughter on a luggage rack and wheeled her to the family van. Testimony was inconsistent as to whether Christin was able to sit up in the vehicle on her own during the 5-minute ride to the clinic.

The source was clearly disturbed by the attitude of the family toward Christin and stated, "The normal reaction was not how they reacted."

#### Information Blackout

Christin arrived at the clinic and walked inside "with assistance." Once inside, Christin "crashed," meaning her heart and respiration ceased. For the next 40-45 minutes, there are *no notations in the medical records about the care and treatment of Christin Gilbert.* There are reports that she was "bagged" but this seemed curious to the source since the clinic had the capability of administering oxygen.

The family indicated that they were placed in a separate room and had no idea what was going on with their daughter.

Tiller, who was busy with another abortion when Christin arrived at the clinic, "poked his head in" to see what was going on. He later reported to the family that Christin was being cared for, but did not reveal to them the fact that she was technically dead.

After approximately 45 minutes, a call was finally placed to 911. Tiller employee Marguerite Reed was evasive with the 911 personnel and placed them on hold for 45 seconds while she walked back to find out why an ambulance was needed.

#### **Possible Perjury**

Reed testified that she was met in a hallway by Cathy Reavis, who had earlier said she had overslept and did not arrive at the clinic until the ambulance was taking Christin to the hospital. Photographs taken at the clinic by pro-life sidewalk counselor Judi Weldy clearly show Reavis' vehicle in the parking lot when the ambulance arrived at the clinic. Did Reavis commit perjury by lying to the Grand Jury about not being present at the clinic when Christin lay dying?

Reed testified that Reavis told her that she couldn't tell her why, but that she just needed to get the ambulance.



This photo was taken by pro-life sidewalk counselor judi Weldy on the morning of January 13, 2005, at Women's Health Care Services in Wichita, KS. The ambulance (center) had just arrived after being directed by Fire Department personnel (right). Cathy Reavis told the Grand Jury she overslept at the La Quinta Inn and arrived only as Gilbert was being being taken away in the ambulance, yet her vehicle is clearly seen in the red circle at the left. Could Reavis have committed perjury? The grand jury was denied access to these photos dispite the fact they were submitted as evidence twice by the grass roots coalition that convened the grand jury.

The source was disturbed by this exchange. Reed was asked, "Is there no sense of urgency? You guys are arguing about giving information to the people who are trying to help you."

Reed indicated that she never knew which employees were with Christin and had no idea what happened.

"I personally don't think she knew what was going on," the source said. "I think they [the Tiller employees] are very much controlled."

#### **Paramedics Arrive**

The first to respond to the 911 call was the Fire Department. The ambulance arrived later, but missed the driveway and had to come back around. They were directed where to go by the Fire Department.

When paramedics arrived, they saw Christin laying in what was described as "huge amounts" of "coffee grounds" blood and fluid – "way more than you would normally see."

In spite of the fact that Christin's heart had not been beating, nor had she been breathing for 40-45 minutes, LeRoy Carhart was on top of her trying to physically force fluids from her stomach. Paramedics indicated that they first thought he was a male nurse who may not have known what he was doing. The paramedics ordered Carhart away from the girl but he did not comply. A male paramedic was forced to "very sternly" demand that Carhart step away from the girl. One report indicated that the paramedics may have actually pulled Carhart off her.

#### **Rush to Wesley Medical Center**

Christin was placed in the ambulance and rushed to Wesley Medical Center. Although Christin's pulse was briefly revived enroute to the hospital, she never regained consciousness from the time she "crashed" at the clinic earlier in the morning.

Tiller arrived several minutes later, driven to the hospital by employee Sara Phares. Pro-lifers photographed Christin's and Tiller's arrivals at Wesley, but none of the photographs, including those taken at the clinic, were given to the grand jury, even though they were twice submitted as evidence.

#### **Disconnected Family**

At the hospital, Christin was bleeding from the mouth, vagina, eyes,

and every other orifice. The family was advised of her condition, and reacted by telling the doctors to harvest her organs for donation.

The source was again disturbed by the behavior of the family. "I mean, this is your daughter. They should be crushed...It was a very strange deal. Here is a parent whose retarded daughter is pregnant. The normal reaction would not be how they reacted. There was no sense of urgency. [They were saying] 'We're trying to put it behind us,' and 'We're trying to move on with our lives.' They want to retire and travel. I thought, oh, that's real convenient that your daughter is not around because she was a real third wheel."

Christin's eyes were donated but the rest of her organs showed signs of hemorrhage and were not suitable for donation.

An autopsy<sup>11</sup> was conducted by the Sedgwick County Forensics Science Center. The coroner who testified before the grand jury indicated that Christin died at 1:14 pm on January 13, 2006, from sepsis caused by a therapeutic abortion, but added that she also hemorrhaged.

#### **Grand Jury Frustration**

The jurors expressed frustration at the inability to question those directly involved in treating Christin. Lack of information, inconsistencies in testimony, and other unanswered questions prevented them from being able to make informed decisions.

"We couldn't get any information out of anyone," said the source. "Without anybody speaking, we couldn't get any information out of nobody. These people can do what they want to, plead the Fifth, and walk. And I'm thinking, 'How stupid is this?""

### PART TWO: Inside the Grand Jury

A Sedgwick County grand jury was convened on May 22, 2006, at the request of a citizen petition initiated by a grassroots coalition that included Operation Rescue. The job of the grand jury was to investigate late-term abortionist George R. Tiller in the death of a 19-year old Down syndrome girl, Christin Gilbert, who died from complications to a third-trimester abortion received at Women's Health Care Services in Wichita, Kansas, in January of 2005.



Judge Richard Ballinger oversaw the grand jury that investigated abortionist George Tiller.

The grand jury panel consisted of 15 jurors selected from citizens in Sedgwick County. Judge Richard Ballinger oversaw the grand jury and Ann Swegle of the Sedgwick County District Attorney's office acted as prosecutor.

#### **Limited Investigation**

A confidential source inside the grand jury process told Operation Rescue that the grand jury met for about three months and had access to a large amount of documents in the case. The grand jury also interviewed a number of witnesses, but were prevented from talking to some of the people most involved in Gilbert's death.

The grand jury investigation was limited in scope to investigating only the charges listed on the petition documents, and no further.

When interviewing a representative from the ambulance company, the question was asked how many times on average that the service was called to George Tiller's clinic.

The source told Operation Rescue, "He said, 'Seven times.' We asked, 'Seven times a year?' and he said, "No, seven times a month."

The grand jury was not allowed to investigate those incidents. "We could only investigate what the petition asked for."

"We were under the impression that the grand jury would have latitude to explore whatever they needed to," said Operation Rescue President Troy Newman. "This was not how we were told grand juries work."

#### "Hands Off" DA

While District Attorney Ann Swegle behaved professionally, she appeared to be a neutral figure outside the investigation process, employing a "hands off" approach to her interaction with the grand jury.

Of Swegle the source said, "She was very articulate but not very personable. She was very good with putting things together, but we did not get the right information. She was totally 'out here' [gesturing away from the group] and we were either going to figure it out ourselves or we were not going to figure it out."



Prosecutor Ann Swegle represted the District Attorney's office during the Tiller grand jury investigation.

"The DA wouldn't say anything unless we asked them stuff because that's how it's set up. You [the grand jury member] are the investigator, they are there just to guide you. How do you know how to be guided if you don't know what to ask for?"

#### Not a Kansas Matter

It did not take long for frustrations to arise as the jurors began their investigation.

Questions were raised as to how Christin, who had the mental capacity of a six-year old, became pregnant. Jurors were told that a grand jury investigation into that issue was ongoing in the state of Texas and would not be of concern to them. "That is a Texas matter, not a Kansas matter," they were told.

#### Fifth Amendment Fiasco

While large amounts of documents and hand-written accounts were available to the grand jury, access to information from those most directly involved in Christin's death was denied.

A number of Tiller employees were called before the grand jury, but all took the Fifth Amendment, which prevented they from testifying. The one exception was that of long-time Tiller associate Cathy Reavis, who was with Christin at the La Quinta Inn the night before she died. The source said that Reavis spoke to the grand jury for about an hour and a half, but that she insisted she was not present during the final episode with Christin at the abortion clinic the day she died, in spite of photographic evidence that contradicts that testimony, and gave them no helpful information when it came to uncovering what happened to Christin that morning.

"We couldn't get any information out of anyone," said the source. "Without anybody speaking, we couldn't get any information out of nobody. These people can do what they want to, plead the Fifth, and walk. And I'm thinking, 'How stupid is this?""

#### **Carhart Dodges Subpoena**

It was revealed that Nebraska abortionist LeRoy Carhart actually was responsible for Christin's abortion, and was "treating" her on the day of her death. A subpoena was issued for him, but on the day the grand jury convened to interview him, they were told by District Attorney Ann Swegle that Carhart would not be available because he was in Nebraska.

The source told Operation Rescue, "From questioning we found out the [doctor's] rotation from the 'nurses' talking, and so the week he was scheduled to be here [in Wichita] we convened two days, and she [Swegle] was supposed to subpoena him. Well, he got smarter than us and he never came in. He was never served because he was never in the state."

"We couldn't subpoena him because he wouldn't come back into town. That's what the DA told us. Because he wasn't in the confines of the State of Kansas. He was in another state, Nebraska."

"We know that Tiller was subpoenaed by a Texas grand jury investigating Christin's sexual assault. If the State of Texas can issue a subpoena to someone in Kansas, why can't Kansas subpoena someone in Nebraska?" asked Operation Rescue's Troy Newman. "There is something very fishy about that."

#### **Missing Time**

From the time Christin was brought to the clinic and "crashed" on the day she died until the time paramedics arrived 40-45 minutes later, there was an information blackout in records and testimony.

Medical records provided to the grand jury were devoid of notations concerning Christin's care during this missing time.

"We couldn't get any information out of anyone," the source said about the missing information. "We couldn't even find out who was back there" with Christin as she was being worked on for those undocumented minutes.

There were indications that unlicensed worker Edna Roach was assisting Carhart when Christin first "crashed."



Unlicensed abortion worker Edna Roach, (pictured here with an ambulance carrying another botched abortion victim from Tiller's mill), was arrogant and uncooperative with the grand jury investigation.

The source noted that when Roach appeared at the grand jury she seemed arrogant and very unwilling to cooperate. She took the Fifth Amendment to avoid giving testimony.

"Certainly not someone you'd like to invite to your Christmas party.

Just a horrible disposition. She was just a very, very unpleasant lady. She was just blatantly laughing at the law. 'There's nothing you can do to touch me.' That was her attitude."

The source believes that witness after witness pleading the Fifth kept them from finding the truth.

Even a representative from the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts, the state agency that conducted an investigation that "cleared" Tiller of wrongdoing in Christin's death late last year, would not reveal what they think transpired during those critical minutes.

#### **Technicality Helps Tiller Avoid Grand Jury**

Tiller was able to avoid testifying before the grand jury due to a technicality in the law that was fully exploited by his legal team. The threat of drawing out the process for up to eighteen months – and still not getting any pertinent information – did not appeal to the jurors. In the end, they gave up trying to interview him.

"George Tiller never showed his face," the source said. "He got his attorney to give us a little by-law where he could go beyond pleading the Fifth and it could stretch this thing out to up to eighteen months. We took a vote. If he did show up, would we ever get any information out of him? No. We chose to leave him still to be able to be charged instead of giving him immunity. The judge would not let us do that anyway. He said, 'I'm not – there's no way I'm giving him immunity."

#### Overwhelmed

The grand jury was flooded with medical and legal terms that they were not able, as laypeople, to adequately evaluate or process.

"There are so many laws. We had all these laws being shoved right at us like we're in law school. We're just average Joes, and then if you want medical terms, I mean, there was just so much stuff to handle, which I think is ridiculous," said the source.

Their ability to make an informed decision was hindered by this. The source believed that there should have been more explanation and guidance given to the grand jury concerning the technical legal and medical terms, and what their implications were.

#### **Tiller Escapes Four Indictments By One Vote**

Some of the charges in the petition were discounted very quickly, among them the charge of second degree murder.

"Second degree murder ain't gonna happen and I'll tell you why based on very simply – nobody at that clinic intended to kill her. That's what it boils down to. If someone intended to do that, there was no way to prove 'I'm out to get Christin." The vote on that charge was 15-0 against it.

In the end, the grand jury considered four counts of negligence.

**First,** they looked at the lack of education and training of Tiller's staff. Testimony was given that there were no licensed nurses employed by Tiller. His staff receives six weeks of training, after which they were considered competent to assist in complex and dangerous late-term abortion surgeries.

Unfortunately, it was the understanding of the grand jury members that Kansas law does not prohibit clinics from using untrained personnel. The grand jury was told that many clinics are set up this way. "If it's legal, it's legal," the source said, noting that such laws desperately needed to be changed.

**Secondly,** they looked at the way Christin was treated when she was brought in the day she "crashed." The lack of notation in the medical records seemed problematic, and prevented them from making informed decisions about the care she received.

"We know of a doctor in California who was disciplined by the medical board for doodling on a medical chart to the extent that his notations could not be read," said Newman. "But making no notations at all as to patient care during a fatal episode is just unbelievable. How can anyone think that there is nothing wrong here?"

The third area of concern for the grand jury was the delay in placing



Marguerite Reed placed the evasive 911 call from Tiller's abortion clinic on the morning Christin Gilbert died.

the 911 call and the way the 911 call took place. "They should have had her to the hospital immediately, not 45 minutes later," the source said.

They were concerned about Reed's evasiveness and the 45 seconds that the emergency dispatcher was placed on hold. "I could walk a half a block in 45 seconds. A minute could have saved somebody's life," the source said.

**Finally,** the grand jury took a look at the "gray area" of time from when Christin entered the clinic on the day she died to when the paramedics arrived 40-45 minutes later. What happened to Christin during that time

and why was everyone involved pleading the Fifth Amendment?

"The Fifth Amendment protects a person from giving testimony that may incriminate himself. If there is no possibility of incrimination, there is no reason to plead the Fifth," said Newman. "An honest person with nothing to hide would just tell the truth. That tells us that something did happen that was illegal or unethical, and everyone involved is covering it up."

In order to issue an indictment, the votes of at least 12 of the 15 jurors were required.

Votes were taken on each of these four counts of negligence. Each vote was <u>11-4</u>, *one vote short of indictment*. The same four jurors voted each time not to indict.

The problem seemed to be in the actual working of the negligence law. According to the source, the law had two parts connected with the word

"and." An English expert was called in to explain the wording to the jurors. It was told them that because of the word "and" that the action had to be both negligent AND purposeful. Because no one intended to kill Christin, the negligence charge was problematic, in spite of the evidence that there were big questions about the quality of care she received, especially during the black out minutes prior to the arrival of the paramedics.

"So in other words, it wasn't enough, that the clinic personnel were bungling idiots on the day Christin died, but they had to *intend* to be bungling idiots," said OR's Troy Newman.

#### **Truth Stonewalled**

The frustration expressed by the source was evident. The lack of testimony from those closest to the events surrounding Christin's death, the non-appearance of Tiller and Carhart, and the reticence of the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts to discuss the details of their investigation prevented the grand jury from being able to adequately investigate and make informed determinations.

"How in the world can you ever find anything out when you can't get any one to speak about it?"

The jurors were told by Swegle, "They can do that. That's how the process works."

"We were very frustrated to sit on that to try to make decisions on all the things the petition was asking for, and we couldn't make decisions because we couldn't get anyone involved to speak. We couldn't get anyone to say anything," the source said.

"So here we are trying to put this together. We're understanding what's going on here, but we can't make a judgment call when nobody has said anything to allow us to judge them."

The source concluded, "These laws, these things have to be changed because all you're doing is letting these people walk."

### Part Three: The Cover-up

There is little doubt in the mind of the grand jury source that a cover-up of the true facts in the death of Christin Gilbert is underway. The grand jury investigation was obstructed at every turn from access to information and witnesses that would have helped the jurors make more informed determinations during their investigation.

#### This obstruction came in four areas:

- 1. Kansas State Board of Healing Arts' lack of cooperation in sharing details of their so-called investigation.
- 2. The lack of ability to subpoena and compel testimony from abortionists George Tiller and LeRoy Carhart.
- 3. Fifth amendment stonewalling by Tiller employees, and a suspected arrangement with the Gilbert family.
- 4. The "hands off" approach by the prosecutor that kept the grand jury not only from accessing witnesses and information, but understanding the implications of the information they did have.

#### **KSBHA** Arrogance

Two representatives from the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts (KSBHA) appeared before the grand jury. One was attorney Mark Stafford and the other was an unidentified woman. Their testimony did little to answer questions about the care Christin received, especially during the 45 minutes she was at the clinic on the day she died.



KSBHA attorney Mark Stafford gave the run-around to the grand jury investigating abortionist George Tiller in the death of Christin Gilbert.

"These people all had attitudes," said a confidential source inside the grand jury process that spoke with Operation Rescue. "The people involved from the Healing Arts, those people were arrogant, 'We're better than you.' Their attitude was, 'We can do no wrong."

#### **Standard Protocol?**

The KSBHA representatives did not reveal details of their investigation to the grand jury. It seemed that they expected the grand jury to simply accept their findings, without question.

"You know what this is, just normal protocol,' were the words they all kept using," said the source. "This is standard protocol, and we had our own investigator, and he found no fault in what was going on.' It was just the whole attitude from all these people that are in – in my opinion – a small fraternity."

But details that have surfaced indicate that Christin's third-trimester abortion was anything but "standard protocol." Irregular treatment included a gross misuse of RU 486, which is approved only for use in early abortions under six weeks gestation. Abortionist LeRoy Carhart instead used the dangerous drug, which is responsible for at least 6 U.S. deaths since 2001, 12 as an "insurance policy" to make sure the contents of the uterus were expelled in case Carhart left something behind after the D&C.

"If a doctor cannot competently perform a D&C, he is incompetent to practice medicine," said Operation Rescue's Troy Newman. "There is just no gray area here or any question. Carhart's misuse of RU 486 put Christin's life at risk and may have killed her. That is not 'standard protocol' in anyone's book."

Also irregular was the lack of notation as to the amount of fluids Christin received for dehydration on the second and third days of her abortion, and the lack of documentation of the treatment Christin received during the 45 minutes she was at Tiller's clinic on the day she died.

"Is it standard protocol to pump someone's stomach when she hasn't been breathing or had a heartbeat for 40 minutes? Is it standard protocol not to call 911 for 40 minutes after someone has gone into cardiac and respiratory arrest? Is it standard protocol to omit from a patient's chart the care received, especially during a fatal incident?" asked Newman. "These questions were not answered by the KSBHA or any other witness."

The grand jury source indicated that the jurors were given the runaround by KSBHA witnesses. "'No, no, no, we had our own investigator, Mr. So-and-so, da,-da, da-da, da-da.' And that's really how this thing went," said the source. The KSBHA representatives expected the grand jury not to question their findings, and addressed questioning with condescension.

"The thing was just – from the Healing Arts people we interviewed – it's like there is no 'wrong.' But yet, there's someone dead over this," said the source.

#### "Three and Out"

The grand jury was told that the KSBHA has a "three and out" policy, meaning if a doctor appears before the Board three times and is convicted, he loses his license.

It was asked how many times Tiller had appeared before the Board. The response was seven times.

"We asked, 'Well, what happened to your 'three and out' policy?' 'Well...' and they go into their little justification of Tiller," the source said.

When the source was asked if he believed that the KSBHA was covering for Tiller, the source said, "That's right! That's exactly what it is."

#### **KSBHA** Investigation Farce

Operation Rescue filed a complaint with the KSBHA against Tiller in

Christin's death on January 25, 2005, and received confirmation<sup>13</sup> that an investigation had been initiated. At this time a bill was working its way through the Kansas legislature, which would have set minimum standards for abortion clinics and would have placed their oversight in the hands of the State Health Department. Gov. Kathleen Sebelius, who was the recipient of large campaign contributions from George Tiller, strongly opposed the bill.

Operation Rescue widely publicized the tragedy of Christin Gilbert's death and a number of other incidents of botched abortions requiring emergency hospitalization that had occurred at Tiller's abortion clinic



Gov. Kathleen Sebelius, recipient of large campaign contributions from abortionist George Tiller, intervened in the KSBHA investigation that later cleared Tiller of wrong-doing in the death of Christin Gilbert.

within the previous few months. As the bill gained support due to outrage over Gilbert's death, Sebelius issued a letter<sup>14</sup> to the KSBHA, asking that agency report their findings directly to her.

KSBHA members, including Executive Director Larry Buening, are appointed by the governor, who has direct oversight over the agency. Buening's wife, Vicki, serves as Gov. Sebelius' head of constituent services.

Then on March 25, 2005, just two days before an important vote on the clinic regulations bill, Larry Buening publicly released a politically motivated letter to Sebelius indicating that the KSBHA's preliminary findings were that the care Gilbert received was "standard and accepted medical practice" in spite of the fact that the autopsy report<sup>15</sup> had not been released, nor had an official cause of death been determined. Buening's letter<sup>16</sup> was full of factual inaccuracies, such as a statement that Christin died on the second day of her abortion, when she actually died on the fourth day.

Sebelius had hoped that the Buening "findings" would erode support

for the clinic regulations bill and take some of the heat off her campaign benefactor, George Tiller. In the end that bill was passed by a stunning two-thirds majority in both houses, but was vetoed by Sebelius. The veto was sustained by two votes.

Finally, on November 23, 2005, Buening issued a letter<sup>17</sup> to Gov. Sebelius indicating that the case against Tiller had been closed. He indicated that the previous committee's findings in March were what he relied upon to determine that the standard of care had not been violated in Gilbert's death. After new evidence was presented in the autopsy report that Gilbert's death was a result of complications to her abortion, the KSBHA did not reevaluate the issue.

Because of this apparent miscarriage of justice, a grassroots citizen's coalition in Sedgwick County, Kansas, gathered signatures to force a grand jury investigation, hoping that process could bring justice for Christin and her baby.

However, the KSBHA simply continued their defense of Tiller and their stonewalling of the truth during the grand jury process.

#### Abortionists are "no-shows"

Also obstructing the grand jury from obtaining the information they required was their inability to interview abortionists George Tiller and LeRoy Carhart. Jurors were told that they could not interview Carhart, the doctor who was responsible for Christin's abortion because he did not come to Kansas the day the subpoena was to be issued. Carhart lives outside Omaha, Nebraska.

Tiller evaded testimony by pleading the Fifth Amendment through his attorneys, and using the threat of drawing out the grand jury process up to eighteen months to convince the jurors to give up trying to get his testimony.

"We took a vote. If he did show up, would we ever get any information out of him? No," said the source.

#### Gut Feeling: "Major cover-up"

The third area of obstruction was the Fifth Amendment stonewalling of Tiller's employees. Because they would not testify, the grand jury was left in the dark as to what really happened to Christin Gilbert at the abortion clinic,



Abortionist George Tiller was photographed entering the Wesley Medical Center emergency room minutes after a dying Christin Gilbert was rushed inside on January 13, 2005. Tiller avoided giving testimony before the grand jury that investigated him in Gilbert's death.

especially on the day she died.

"What is the use of having a grand jury if you can't get anything out of anybody," the source asked.

Again, the source indicated that the Tiller employees had an arrogant "you can't touch me" attitude, and believes there is a cover-up in place inside the clinic.

"I can just tell you my gut feeling. There is a major cover-up from his clinic, without a doubt. There's no question. When you don't speak about – when you tell your people to take the Fifth" it has to be to cover the truth, said the source.

"We observed several meetings taking place at Tiller's Women's Health Care Services that were attended by Tiller's cadre of attorneys and his staff while the grand jury was in session," said Newman. "We are sure they all got their ducks in a row before being called to testify."

"Innocent, honest people with nothing to hide do not plead the Fifth Amendment," said Newman. "The Fifth Amendment protects against selfincrimination. If there was no wrong-doing they would simply testify. Why the secrecy? It is because there were incriminating actions that the clinic workers can't talk about, or they might be indicted as well."

#### A family affair

The source also indicated that he believes strongly that an agreement had been reached between Tiller and Christin's parents, Jack and Paula Gilbert, of Keller, Texas. The nature of that agreement is unknown.

"I'll tell you my personal opinion. I think there was money exchanged, and he's [Tiller] got the money to do it," said the source.

"Tiller, his exact writing was, after all this took place that he took and got [the parents] a room at the Marriott," the source said.

An Operation Rescue eye witness observed Tiller and clinic worker Edna Roach leaving Women's Health Care Services together in Tiller's private van on January 14, 2005, the day after Christin's death. They were observed going to the Marriott Hotel. Tiller and Roach, who was carrying manila file folders, entered the Marriott and stayed for about twenty minutes before returning to the abortion clinic.

"We always suspected that Tiller and Roach met with the Gilbert family at that point, but now, our source from the grand jury confirms this," said Newman. "We can only wonder what kind of arrangement they have."

The source was disturbed by the behavior of the family and noted, "There was no concern."

"These people went to court to get guardianship of their daughter. They made a decision that killed her. They need to be held responsible for it. She couldn't make a decision. Mom made the decision, Dad made the decision that killed her. There needs to be liability there."

#### Appearance of impropriety at the DA's office

The final area of obstruction was perhaps more subtle. The manner in

which prosecutor Ann Swegle handled the grand jury prevented them from getting and assimilating information.

"She was very good with putting things together, but we did not get the right information. She was totally 'out here' [gesturing away from the group] and we were either going to figure it out ourselves or we were not going to figure it out," said the source.

The lack of access to witnesses, and the inability to fully assimilate the implications of the vast amount of legal and medical terms prevented the grand jury from making informed decisions.

"Why would the District Attorney's office handle the investigation into the death of a disabled girl in this manner? Sedgwick County District Attorney Nola Foulston is a well-known abortion supporter and a



District Attorney Nola Foulston (right) averts her eyes from the Truth Truck bearing a photo of George Tiller with a botched abortion victim. Foulston appointed Ann Swegle to the grand jury investigation of Tiller in the death of Christin Gilbert. Foulston is a long time friend of Tiller's.

personal friend of George Tiller. Did Foulston order Swegle to take a 'hands off' approach in the investigation of her long-time friend?" asked Newman. "These questions should be answered, otherwise, the grand jury will remain tainted with the appearance of impropriety."

#### Lack of indictment is not exoneration

From the confidential grand jury source, it appears that anything but justice was done. Legal wrangling, stonewalling, and a conspiracy of cover-up were clearly evident to the source in the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts, with the clinic employees, and with the "hands off" approach of the prosecutor.

"It is important to note that Tiller and his staff were not exonerated – they simply weaseled out of indictments using legal loopholes and technicalities," said Newman. "There is still the unknown, unspoken, and incriminating truth that the Fifth Amendment was used to protect. The KSBHA is covering it up. Tiller and his staff are covering it up. The family is covering it up. The DA's office is covering it up. A girl is dead, we are not going to just let that go."

## Part Four: Unanswered Questions And What Must Be Done

A Sedgwick County grand jury that was convened earlier this year through the citizen petition process has concluded their work and disbanded without issuing an indictment against abortionist George R. Tiller in the death of a Down syndrome teen, Christin Gilbert. While some portrayed this lack of indictment as exoneration for Tiller and his staff, a source inside the grand jury process has told Operation Rescue surprising details of that investigation that are raising new questions about Gilbert's death and efforts to cover it up.



#### "Wishy-washy" Neuhaus-Tiller Arrangement

Christin Gilbert reported to Tiller's Women's Health Care Services on Monday, January 10, 2005, and was evaluated at the abortion clinic by former abortionist Kristin Neuhaus of Lawrence, Kansas.

The grand jury source told Operation Rescue that Neuhaus has an arrangement with Tiller to come to his clinic in Wichita on Monday or Tuesday each week and evaluate his late-term abortion patients to see if their abortions fall within the scope of Kansas law (KSA 65-6703).

The law states, "(a) No person shall perform or induce an abortion when the fetus is viable [22 weeks or later] unless such person is a physician and has a documented referral from another physician not legally or financially affiliated with the physician performing or inducing the abortion and both physicians determine that: (1) The abortion is necessary to preserve the life of the pregnant woman; or (2) a continuation of the pregnancy will cause a substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function of the pregnant woman."

The grand jury source told Operation Rescue that the Gilbert family directly paid Neuhaus with a personal check. Since Neuhaus is paid by each client separately from Tiller, the determination was made that the two are not financially associated with each other, according to the prevailing interpretation of the law.

"This is just not an honest interpretation of this law, and certainly violates the original intent of this legislation," said Operation Rescue President Troy Newman. "These two are in obvious collaboration to circumvent the Kansas ban on post-viability abortions for mutual financial gain. Late abortions can cost as much as \$18,000 each. If Tiller does ten per week, which is a conservative number, you can do the math. That is a lot of money."

Tiller provides Neuhaus with free office space on prearranged days in return for her services and access to his patients, from whom she profits. Once Neuhaus signs off on the abortion, Tiller is able to charge his fees. If Neuhaus did not sign off on an abortion, Tiller would be out thousands of dollars. This is a financial affiliation in every sense.

Of the arrangement between Neuhaus and Tiller, the source said, "It was wishy-washy to be honest with you."

#### "An Act of God" not forthcoming

One of the exceptions to the Kansas post-viability abortion ban is to save the life of the mother. Testimony was given to the grand jury that indicated that Christin was perfectly healthy and in the third trimester of an uncomplicated



This ambulance carried a dying Christin Gilbert from Tiller's abortion mill to Wesley Medical Center. What happened to Christin during her 45 minutes at the mill was hidden from the grand jury.

pregnancy on the day she reported to Tiller's clinic. **How would** carrying the baby to term threaten Christin's life? There were no answers to that question given to the grand jury.

Also problematic with KSA 65-6703 is the wording referring to "substantial and irreversible impairment of a bodily function." Which bodily function of Christin's did Neuhaus determine would be substantially and irreversibly impaired by carrying her baby to term?

A grand jury member asked to see the cancelled check and Neuhaus' records, which should have indicated her reasoning behind signing off on Gilbert's third-trimester abortion, but was told by prosecutor Ann Swegle that it would take an "act of God" to get those documents.

They were never produced.

A grand jury member also asked Neuhaus if there was ever a time when she did not sign off on a post-viability abortion. At that point, according to the source, Neuhaus pled the Fifth Amendment to avoid having to answer on the grounds that her answer might incriminate her.

"The information that the grand jury requested was critical to determining whether Kansas Law had been followed," said Newman. "Denying the grand jury access to those documents obstructed the jury from making any determination about the legality of Christin Gilbert's third-trimester abortion."

#### 24-hour waiting period ignored?

After her "evaluation" by Neuhaus, Christin was then immediately sent to Carhart who began the abortion process on her. Kansas' "Women's Right to Know Act," KSA 65-6701, requires that a woman receive certain state mandated information 24 hours prior to receiving an abortion. What happened to the 24-hour waiting period in this case? The grand jury source indicated that the family told the grand jury that they returned to their home in Texas from a week long vacation cruise on Sunday, January 9, 2005. They did not unpack, but drove

immediately to Wichita that afternoon with Christin for her abortion appointment.

"Christin had signed – scratched like a first grader – Christin and Mom signed. Dad didn't sign anything," the source said, referring to the documents giving consent of the abortion that were signed at Tiller's clinic on January 10, 2005, the day her abortion began.

There was no time for the 24-hour waiting period after receiving the information required by law.

"Does the 24-hour waiting period mandated by state law not apply to disabled women who have guardians making life and death decisions for them?" asked Newman.

# Mysterious Tear and the Gross Misuse of RU 486

The following day, Christin delivered her dead baby in the family van enroute from the hotel to the abortion clinic. Why was Christin not taken to the clinic sooner? Why was she allowed to undergo labor at the hotel, which was not equipped to handle medical emergencies, and not at the clinic where she could have been more closely monitored?

After arriving at the clinic, the source told Operation Rescue that Carhart performed a D&C on Christin, and repaired a suspicious "tear in the uterus."

Something to hide:
Abortionist LeRoy Carhart
dodged the grand jury
investigating the death of
Christin Gilbert.

"We couldn't get anybody involved to testify about this," said the source, referring to the uterine tear. They were told by

representatives from the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts (KSBHA) it was just "standard protocol."

Carhart then administered the dangerous abortion drug RU 486 as an "insurance policy" to make sure everything had been expelled from the womb.

A D&C procedure is one where a spoon-shaped curette is inserted into the uterus. It is used to scrape clean the uterine walls. RU 486 is designed to cause early abortion by tricking the body into believing it is not pregnant, triggering the uterine lining to slough off. It is usually given in combination with another drug that stimulates uterine contractions. RU 486 has proved to be extremely dangerous and is responsible for the deaths of at least 6 women since 2001.

The grand jury looked carefully at this. They were given access to the medical records of women who died from RU 486 complications, including those of Holly Patterson, a California woman who died from an RU 486 abortion at a Planned Parenthood clinic. Based on their comparison between those records and Christin's, the source strongly believes that the misapplication of RU 486 contributed to Christin Gilbert's death.

"Her symptoms were identical to many other women who died from that [RU 486]. Identical. I mean identical to a 'T,'" the source said. "I'm not a medical doctor, and I'm not smart on those topics, but that's what my conclusion was."

"The use of RU 486 on Gilbert was completely off the label and irresponsible," said Newman. "If a doctor cannot competently perform a D&C, he is incompetent to practice medicine. There is just no gray area here or any question. Carhart's misuse of RU 486 put Christin's life at risk and may have killed her. That is not 'standard protocol' in anyone's book."

Yet, the KSBHA inexplicably continues to insist that the "standard of care" was not violated in Gilbert's case nor was anything in her treatment outside "standard protocol."

"I believe the average thinking person can clearly see that is not true,"

said Newman.

### Kansas vs. Alabama

The KSBHA handling of Gilbert's case is completely inconsistent with the way similar cases have been handled in other states. Recent events in Alabama contrast heavily with Kansas' response to this abortion death. In February of 2006, a woman was



The KSBHA is in desperate need of reform. Its history of protecting dangerous abortionists, including Tiller, is partially responsible for the death of Christin Gilbert and the lack of justice in her death.

misprescribed RU 486 for a late-term abortion at Summit Medical Center in Birmingham, Alabama. Six days later, she later delivered a nearly full term 6 pound, 4 ounce dead baby at a local emergency room.

The State of Alabama health officials closed the abortion mill<sup>18</sup> on May 17, pending further investigation. The medical license of abortionist, Deborah Lyn Levich,<sup>19</sup> a Georgia resident operating in Alabama, was suspended and the Alabama attorney general launched an investigation into the abortion business.

On June 20, Summit Medical Center voluntarily surrendered its license<sup>20</sup> rather than reveal to the investigating authorities the shoddy conditions that existed there.

Then on August 14, their investigations led the State of Alabama to close Reproductive Health Services, <sup>21</sup> a Montgomery abortion clinic, saying inspections revealed a lack of emergency medical arrangements with a hospital and other issues. Health department officials determined that the clinic "constitutes a danger to public health and welfare."

Currently, Alabama health officials are revising abortion clinic regulations<sup>22</sup> for their state after determining that the laws were unclear during the investigation of the now defunct Summit Medical Center in Birmingham.

"We need to make sure the rules say what we're intending them to say," said Rick Harris, Director of the State Bureau of Health Provider Standards.

Meanwhile, in Kansas, the KSBHA insists the death of a healthy Down syndrome teen from a botched third-trimester involving the misuse of a dangerous abortion drug and a torn uterus did not violate "the standard of care" and has blocked a grand jury investigation from accessing details about the victim's treatment.

"The Kansas governor continues to veto clinic regulations bills that would provide inspections and minimum standards for abortion clinics," said Newman. "Then, to top it off, we have convoluted interpretations of current laws restricting abortions that make the laws essentially null and void. Kansas has prided itself on having just about every imaginable kind of 'pro-life' legislation, but we don't have the laws we think we have. It is a sad joke."

## **Access Denied**

A number of factors contributed to the inability of the grand jury to get the information they needed to make informed decisions. The grand jury was denied access to the two doctors responsible for Christin's abortion, George Tiller and LeRoy Carhart. The way these two men dodged testifying implies cover-up and guilt.

Tiller pled the Fifth Amendment through his attorney then took advantage of a legal loophole that would have strung out the grand jury process as long as eighteen months if they were to compel him to testify. This lack of access to Tiller frustrated the jurors.

Carhart simply evaded subpoena by staying out of Kansas. This raises

some very serious questions about the subpoena process as handled by prosecutor Ann Swegle. The grand jury had discovered the doctor rotation at Tiller's abortion clinic and planned to meet two days during the week Carhart was scheduled for work. When they arrived at the courtroom, the jury was told that Carhart would not be appearing because he did not come down to Kansas from his home near Omaha, Nebraska.

How was it that Carhart knew a subpoena was waiting for him? Was he tipped off by someone in the District Attorney's office? Is tipping off a grand jury witness so he can avoid subpoena unethical conduct?

It is known that a Texas grand jury subpoenaed Tiller in their investigation into Christin's sexual assault. If the State of Texas can issue a subpoena in the State of Kansas, why would the prosecutor not issue a subpoena for Carhart in Nebraska?

Carhart obviously did not cooperate with the grand jury investigation. If there was nothing to hide, why did he not testify and clear his name of any suspicion in Gilbert's death?

# **DA Connections to Tiller, Sebelius**

The District Attorney's handling of the case contributed to the lack of information the grand jury received. DA Nola Foulston is well known in Wichita as a pro-abortion democrat who is friends with George Tiller. Rumors of a deeper connection with Tiller have circulated for years.



A newspaper article published in *The Oklahoman*<sup>23</sup> on December 30, 1993, indicates that Tiller has used arranged adoptions as paybacks for political favors. About the time this was in the news, Nola Foulston

admitted in an interview with the *Wichita Eagle*<sup>24</sup> that she and her husband, Steven, adopted a son 'through a friend,' and not through traditional channels. Foulston refuses to discuss the day she met her son or details of the adoption.

Did Foulston adopt her son through her friend, George Tiller, as the widely circulated rumor insists? If so, did that influence her appointment of Ann Swegle, a loyal Democrat who has given campaign contributions<sup>25</sup> to pro-abortion Gov. Kathleen Sebelius as the prosecutor in the Tiller grand jury? Did Foulston give Swegle instructions to take a "hands off' approach?

Of the prosecutor, Swegle, the grand jury source said, "She was very articulate but not very personable. She was very good with putting things together, but we did not get the right information. She was totally 'out here' [gesturing away from the group] and we were either going to figure it out ourselves or we were not going to figure it out."

"The DA wouldn't say anything unless we asked them stuff because that's how it's set up. You [the grand jury member] are the investigator; they are there just to guide you. How do you know how to be guided if you don't know what to ask for?"

"District Attorney Nola Foulston's part in this matter needs to be looked at more fully," said Newman. "The saying goes something to the effect that a good prosecutor will be able to indict a ham sandwich. There are a lot of questions there that were not answered and too much information denied the grand jury. The responsibility for that has to lie with the DA's office."

### **Need for reform**

It is obvious that several areas need to be addressed by the State of Kansas in order to avoid more tragedies of this kind in the future.

First, the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts is in desperate need of reform. Their arrogant, condescending attitude, and stonewalling

prevented the grand jury from accessing important information about Christin's care. The agency, which is under the direct authority of Gov. Kathleen Sebelius, is protecting dangerous abortionists at the expense of public safety. Politically motivated findings have no place in such an organization, yet the KSBHA releases such findings on a regular basis. The corruption of this organization must be addressed.

Secondly, an independent investigation is needed into the misapplication of the dangerous drug RU 486. The Kansas Legislature should consider banning its use in this state in the interest of public safety.

Third, abortionist LeRoy Carhart should be the subject of a separate investigation.

"We have not ruled out convening another grand jury to investigate Carhart," said Newman.

The grand jury source clearly indicated that he interfered with the paramedics who were summoned to the clinic on the day Christin Gilbert died. There was a torn uterus that no one has explained and missing notations on Christin's records about the amount of fluids she received for suspected dehydration. There has been no documentation or testimony of her treatment by Carhart for the 45 minutes between the time that Christin suffered cardiac and respiratory arrest at the clinic and the time the paramedics arrived and pulled Carhart off of her while he was attempting to push fluids from her stomach.

"He dodged the grand jury summons and never testified. There is more than enough suspicious activity on his part in Christin's death, and someone needs to hold him accountable for it," said Newman.

Fourth, the abortion laws in Kansas need to be enforced or rewritten. "It is nonsensical to have a law that bans post viability abortions, yet contains loopholes that allow a clinic to be the world's foremost provider of late-term abortions," said Newman. "The portion of the law that prohibits the two consenting doctors for late-term abortions from having financial associations is a joke. The Neuhaus-Tiller collaborative must

be investigated and their little late-term abortion ring broken up."

"We urge the Kansas Legislature to take a hard look at the laws that are just not working and amend them to mean what they were intended to mean," said Newman.

Also, the lack of training on the part of Tiller's staff should be addressed. Kansas law should provide minimum educational and training requirements before someone is allowed to assist in an abortion, especially the more dangerous late-term procedures.

"It is shocking that Tiller can simply hire an uneducated person off the street, give them a mere six weeks of training, then expect them to be competent to assist in surgeries," said Newman. "My dog's vet currently has to meet stricter requirements than abortion workers. It is no wonder there have been so many botched abortions requiring emergency hospitalization at Tiller's abortion mill."

Unless Kansas is willing to reform, it is assured that more tragedies like Gilbert's are inevitable.

Reform must come in the political arena where cronyism and pandering to the abortion lobby must cease. The KSBHA needs to be depoliticized. Trading political advantage for the lives of women simply must not be tolerated.

Laws must be reformed to mean what they are intended to mean. Loopholes need to be closed that allow abortionists like Tiller to profit from activities that are meant to be banned in the State of Kansas.

Investigations into the suspicious actions of Neuhaus and Carhart must be allowed to go forward unimpeded by those who know Tiller, or have a vested interest in protecting him and his large campaign contributions.

"I think this grand jury has revealed a lot of areas in Kansas that must be changed in the interest of public safety," said Newman. "Kansas officials must be willing to root out corruption and restore protections to the women and their pre-born babies. Anything less is a miscarriage of justice. Innocent girls like Christin Gilbert and her baby deserve better."

Perhaps the grand jury source said it best, "We were very frustrated to sit on that to try to make decisions on all the things the petition was asking for, and we couldn't make decisions because we couldn't get anyone involved to speak. We couldn't get anyone to say anything."

"So here we are trying to put this together. We're understanding what's going on here, but we can't make a judgment call when nobody has said anything to allow us to judge them."

The source concluded, "These laws, these things have to be changed because all you're doing is letting these people walk."

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# Will There Ever Be Justice For Christin?

On January 13, 2005, a healthy 19-year old Down's syndrome woman named Christin Gilbert tragically died from complications to a third-trimester abortion procured at George R. Tiller's Women's Health Care Services in Wichita, Kansas.

As Operation Rescue conducted its investigation and documentation of her death, it became increasingly apparent that a cover-up involving state and local officials was underway. The trail of corruption ultimately led OR straight to the Kansas governor's office.

Unable to secure justice through normal governmental channels, Operation Rescue joined a grassroots coalition that was able to force the county to convene a grand jury to investigate Tiller in Gilbert's abortion death.

After three months of investigation, the grand jury disbanded with out indictment, stunning the pro-life community.

But now, a confidential source inside the grand jury and reveals the shocking new information about Christin's death, and tells OR that the grand jury was obstructed from discovering the truth. In an Operation Rescue exclusive, the source tells why there is reason to believe that justice was aborted!

