



Dear Long Salutation,

Eliminating the person is never the answer to eliminating the “problem”.

You and I watched in horror as headlines spoke of eliminating Down Syndrome in Iceland – as if they had CURED it. Let us be clear, abortion is not a cure to Down Syndrome, nor is it a cure for any other situation or suffering that a woman or family or child might be experiencing. America has to do better.

October is Down Syndrome awareness month. As a leader in pro-life medicine, I have a responsibility to better educate our community on this issue. I’ve invited Madame Birthe Lejeune, the wife of the late Servant of God, Dr. Jerome Lejeune, to speak to us on October 18th in Herndon, VA. Because of your generous support, this lecture is free and open to the public. Please register for the event at divinemercycare.org.

In the 1990s, **Dr. Lejeune gave a scientific, yet profoundly emotional, court testimony on the existence of human life at the embryonic stage. This witness was a vital part of my conversion story away from the abortion industry**, about which I’ll be sharing more at the October event. Jerome’s willingness to spend time and money educating others on the truth of human life helped changed my heart, and is part of the reason I make time to speak for Divine Mercy Care, doing my best to carry on his legacy.

In my speaking I often tell a story from back in my abortion days, when I supported a couple who chose to abort a baby because genetic testing showed their child’s chance of Down Syndrome increased from about 1 in 12,000 to 1 in 4,000! I’ve transformed, and I believe the culture can transform too. Please help me to **build the culture of life – through both education and patient care.**

At a mainstream OB/GYN, pregnant women are pressured to undergo genetic testing, then told they should abort if any slight abnormality is found. Pro-life practices like Tepeyac OB/GYN take an entirely different approach. Women who receive a prenatal Down Syndrome diagnosis are NEVER advised to abort. Tepeyac supports women who chose to opt out of genetic testing altogether, even when it means they won’t receive a Down Syndrome diagnosis prior to delivery. **I’ve attached the story of one such Tepeyac family, who found for their little Eva the same kind of love and care as for all their other children delivered through Tepeyac.** I know you will find it as touching as I do.

Your financial support of \$21, \$221, or even \$2,121 can help Divine Mercy Care educate on this important issue, while also granting funds so Tepeyac OB/GYN can continue to operate entirely in line with your pro-life values – protecting the person above the profit of abortion.

I need your help. [Short salutation], would you please consider:

- **Registering** for the Madame Lejeune lecture and spreading the word!
- **Praying** for the hearts of doctors who are stuck believing the lies of the culture of death like I once was.
- **Giving** generously to support DMC’s educational efforts and Tepeyac’s life-affirming patient care.

Dr. John Bruchalski – DMC Founder

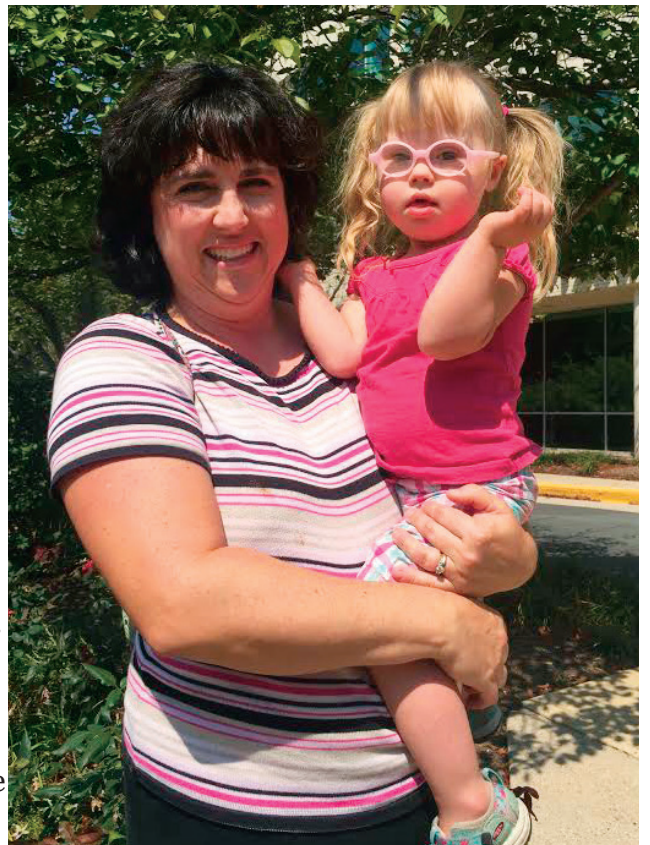
P.S. Down Syndrome children should not be destroyed. Would you make a donation today to protect those with Down Syndrome through Divine Mercy Care education and Tepeyac patient care?

From Acceptance to Embracing: Carole Tessier's Story

Before she married, Carole Tessier, then serving as a campus minister, fell in love with the mission and the vision of Dr. John Bruchalski and his pro-life creation, Tepeyac OB/GYN. Hearing him speak at a public event, she told herself he would be the doctor she would turn to for care if she were to marry and have children. And then it all came true. Baby after baby of Carole's was delivered by Tepeyac doctors—caregivers she knew she could trust to share and support her views on the sanctity of life.

When she found herself pregnant with the child who would be baptized Eva, Carole was already forty years old and the mother of eight. She and her husband, Rob, had found an attractive, manageable plot of rural acreage and had moved the tribe onto it to farm, to enjoy, and to transform into a home. Neither planned for nor stringently guarded against, this most recent “tiebreaker” pregnancy would unbalance the perfect proportion of four each male and female Tessier offspring.

The physical, mental, and emotional changes of her pregnancies were an old story to Carole and Rob. Other than the need to turn the baby when it was discovered that Eva was in the breech position, there was nothing particularly different about this ninth pregnancy. Refusing such prenatal testing as amniocentesis, since her child would be given its chance at life regardless of its prenatal diagnosis, Carole continued entrusting her care to Tepeyac doctors and staff.



Labor for the birth of each little Tessier had been protracted. Figuring that by now she had the birthing routine well and truly in hand, Carole wasn't really alarmed when, after the onset of unusually intense contractions signaling Eva's arrival, Dr. Fisk told her to go and walk around a bit more. When greater intensity developed, she promptly delivered. The baby girl she produced earned high APGAR scores but, at first glance, didn't seem greatly to resemble her siblings.

Closer examination revealed that the newborn was displaying at least two of the markers for Down Syndrome. Flashing through Carole's consciousness came recollections of having visited with a couple at church several weeks before who were rearing their Down Syndrome child, of having wondered at her own unfailing attraction to such children, and of having asked herself more than once “Will we ever be given a child like this?” Among the various attending doctors and nurses, including Tepeyac's Dr. Fisk, who delivered the baby, no one had said the words. For a good while to come, no one *would*.

Realization of little Eva's condition came to Carole and Rob there in the hospital room. As they held each other in silence, mixed feelings warred with each other—fear at the prospect of the lifelong rearing task that lay ahead of them, gratitude for the tender, supportive care received from Tepeyac, and humility at having been chosen to rear one of the most precious and vulnerable of God's creations. Then Rob squared his shoulders and turned to his wife. “Let's do this!” he declared with a strength and firmness he had never before been called upon to display.

And so they did. “*Now*,” Carole says, “We'd be *cheering* throughout the delivery [of our Down Syndrome child] instead of *fearing* that we might not be equal to the parenting task. We've moved from accepting to embracing what God has given us in her.”

The support from Tepeyac had been there from the beginning and was with them now as they faced the prospect of notifying their other children, family members, and friends of Eva's birth and condition. Within the hospital, Dr. Bruchalski was quick to deal with the quasi-sympathetic speculation from a young intern “Was it maternal age that accounts for the Down Syndrome in that child?” “No.” Having taken the opportunity to know the couple well over a period of years, Tepeyac personnel and staff accepted with no surprise the Tessiers' willingness and competence to embrace the rearing of a Down Syndrome child with complete composure.

Today, little Eva Tessier is three years old, as muscular, active and alert as a pint-sized gymnast. When her mother speaks of her, of the family, of the gift that Eva has been to all of them, her pretty face is animated, glowing, lit from within by her earnestness and enthusiasm for the topic. In her salute to Tepeyac's supporting role in the Tessiers' ongoing commitment to life, she's no less articulate. “It's such a *haven*,” she affirms, “All the doctors are so inspiring, so reliable, so trustworthy. Tepeyac is such a *light* in the world!”