



Transcript of Right to Life Michiana's *Life Update* Radio Interview with Dr. Alveda C. King
Aired on WUBS 89.7 FM (South Bend) on Saturday, October 14, 2023 at 8:30 AM

Introductory Music

Griffin: Welcome to a very special episode of *Life Update* with Right to Life Michiana. In all life's joys and its challenges, Right to Life Michiana is right there with you through it all. For Right to Life Michiana, I'm Griffin,

Carolyn: and I'm Carolyn,

Griffin: and we're very happy to join you on this Saturday morning here on WUBS 89.7. Joining us today is an amazing woman who needs very little introduction, but I want to honor her for taking the time to speak with us today. Dr. Alveda C. King is an evangelist, a civil rights activist, and is also known for her creative contributions in film, music, and journalism. She is also an actress, a singer, songwriter, blogger, author, television and radio personality, and a former college professor. As a guardian of the King Family Legacy, Alveda is the daughter of civil rights leaders Rev. A.D. King and Mrs. Naomi King, the granddaughter of Rev. Martin Luther King, Senior and Mrs. Alberta Williams King, and the niece of Dr. Martin Luther King, Junior. She is also Director of Civil Rights for the Unborn for Priests for Life. How are you doing today, Dr. King?

Dr. King: I am wonderful and delighted to join you, to thank you for all of the work you are doing in the Right to Life community, and hi to all your listeners! Hello, everybody! Glad to join you.

Griffin: Thank you very much, Dr. King. Probably a shorter list to say what you haven't done, and I know I am probably forgetting things from that list. What out of all those accomplishments are you most proud of, Dr. King?

Dr. King: I'll tell you, because there are many things that I admire people for, I am horrible at math and science, and there are many things that I cannot do that I admire tremendously. The things that I am blessed to do, I enjoy, of course, I serve God, I am a mother and a grandmother, and I really love both opportunities. My mom is still living, she is ninety-one years old,

Griffin: Oh, wow.

Dr. King: and the time that I am still enjoying with her, that is what I enjoy about my life. I do work in the pro-life community and as a civil rights activist, I am an evangelist of the Gospel of Jesus Christ--

Griffin and Carolyn: Amen.

Dr. King: so those are things that I do, but I am blessed with a beautiful life and loving my family.

Griffin: Absolutely, family is most important. So, Dr. King, you are a fierce fighter in the cause of life and civil rights. You actually spoke at our pro-life benefit fourteen years ago in 2009, and they still have great memories of you here at the station, and you came out in-person and prayed out on Dr. Martin Luther King Boulevard, right here in South Bend. How have you seen the country and the pro-life cause change over that time, since fourteen years ago?

Dr. King: Well, what we don't see and hear in the media, for example, and not necessarily even on social media, on television, radio, and places like that, we don't always hear the victories, of people's hearts are being tender towards others, how people are choosing life over death, and many sources, not just the pro-life in the womb, but in the womb and then in life, and then even beyond over into eternity. So, I think it is very important for us to report the good news and the wonderful testimonies, and they will grow, so I spend my time not so much fighting against abortion, but fighting for life. I am against abortion because I believe that there are better opportunities and choices than to abort a child. Also, transgender surgeries of little children--

Griffin: Hmm.

Dr. King: I think there are some better opportunities to serve little children, so there are so many things we can do that bring life, and I think it is important to let people know about that.

Griffin and Carolyn: Amen.

Griffin: Yeah, I mean, you have probably had an opportunity to see a lot of that up close, you know, speaking around and just working with people personally.

Dr. King: Absolutely. And my own testimony, you mentioned one of my books when we were getting ready to do the interview, *How Can the Dream Survive If We Murder the Children?* I had abortions myself as a young woman. And if I had known about the other opportunities, I would not have aborted those babies. So, I think if we give people other opportunities--my goddaughter has Auntie Angie's House, and they take

in women who feel that though they have no other choice than abortion, and they say, "No, come on in, and we will help you,"—

Griffin: Yeah.

Dr. King: and we do. So, I think it is very important to promote that truth of what can be done rather than what cannot be done.

Carolyn: Awesome.

Griffin: Yeah, yeah, I mean, that is one of the most heartbreaking things that we hear from women, is they say that "if I had known that x, y, z resource was available, I would never have gone through with it," and even here local in South Bend, there is hundreds of places that will help you with rental assistance and evictions, I mean, legal, food, housing, childcare, all the different things, the reasons why someone might choose an abortion, there is plenty of compassionate care out there for people that want it, and they can find that at HerMichiana.org. There's, we just launched where it is now separated out by county, and there is, we just redid the website, but it is just a really good resource, and there is people here, too, like you can call, you know, go to your local church, or call Right to Life, you know, 574-232-5433, and we'll help walk with you if you are struggling, if life is just hectic and you can't handle it right now, we'll make sure that you have everything you need to keep going and choose life.

Dr. King: Absolutely.

Griffin: Yeah, Dr. King, in your book, you talk about your personal journey undergoing a voluntary but also an involuntary abortion, which that's something that I actually never heard of, you know, unsolicited abortions. So, what were the repercussions in your life following those abortions? What did you wish you knew before undergoing them?

Dr. King: Well, I'll tell you what has happened in many communities, especially African-American communities, women go in for a check-up and would get an involuntary D&C. The doctor says, "Let's see what's happening." And especially before abortion was legal, that happened a lot.

Griffin: Wow.

Dr. King: And I have known many women, who have said, well, several, who said several testimonies, and I know some testimonies who said that when they had their abortions, their doctors went ahead and clipped their tubes without asking 'em.

Griffin: Ugh!

Dr. King: So that means they never conceived again, so we have had all those kinds of experiences, as well. Abortion is not healthcare. Abortion kills babies and often hurts women.

Griffin: Mm-hmm, yeah, amen. That's, I mean, horrific. I even in my work in the pro-life cause, I hadn't actually heard that. I mean, that's just like the initiative of a doctor just deciding that for you?

Dr. King: Uh-huh, and it essentially was done quite a lot in the black community.

Griffin: Ugh, that's terrible.

Carolyn: That's horrible.

Griffin: Yeah, I mean, you talk about your abortions, and just ones that you have seen, too, having an impact on everyone around you. How do abortions affect more than just the woman and the victim children?

Dr. King: Well, the father is affected whether he admits it or not because he is losing fatherhood, and sometimes fathers realize that and you hear them say, "oh, I regret lost fatherhood." Grandparents lose grandchildren, the community loses people who participate and help the community, social security begin to suffer because of sixty million-plus abortions—

Griffin: Sure.

Dr. King: so there are not enough people there to work in those jobs, all of that.

Griffin: Hmm. Yeah, I mean, you share it in your book, your own mother wanted to abort you at a time to continue college, but your grandfather was able to persuade her to bring you into the world, and I just think of how many beautiful souls have been lost to this terrible practice and how the world would be a little darker place without you and the work that God has done through you, and who knows what lives have yet to come, you know? So, how did you begin to find healing after that dark part of your life?

Dr. King: I was born again in 1983 after my abortions, and I repented, and I began a path to beautiful healing—

Griffin: Praise God.

Dr. King: I am still on it today. Sometimes, when I talk about my abortions, I can get sad, right now, right this minute. So, the healing is continual, and the forgiveness of God is in my life, so God can forgive, and God does forgive.

Griffin: Yeah, I mean, that is the only reason I dare to go into such a sensitive topic, is because I know that God is a loving, merciful God and forgives, and that there is hope after that.

Dr. King: Yes, hope and healing. Absolutely.

Griffin: Hope and healing. What were the Scripture verses, you know, that helped you come to see the sanctity of all human life?

Dr. King: Well, "Choose life so that you and your future, your generations can live" is one that comes immediately. And "Choose life," Jesus says, "He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life." "L-I-F-E." So, those are a couple Scriptures that come just immediately. And my uncle, Martin Luther King, Junior, said the Negro cannot win if he is willing to sacrifice the futures of his children for immediate personal comfort and [indecipherable-10:20]. So, those are things that I think about.

Griffin: Yeah, absolutely.

Carolyn: It's such a needed message, that young women and young men can know that you identify, that there are people who have gone through what they are going through, that decision, and that you came out, and you are able to take what our Enemy meant for evil and turn it into a blessing by being able to share that they can come to Jesus and find forgiveness and find a future of hope, and that they can keep spreading the word that Jesus does forgive, and they can have an impact in this world by sharing their experience like you are.

Griffin: Amen. Yeah!

Dr. King: Amen.

Griffin: So, I mean, you have endured so much tragedy in your life, but by God's grace, you have come out a powerful warrior in His Name. If someone is listening who has undergone an abortion, what would you want them to hear today?

Dr. King: I would say that there are other options and other opportunities, and when we choose life, we and our children live. And I want to encourage people, if it seems impossible, with God, all things are possible.

Carolyn: Amen.

Dr. King: Reach out to your pregnancy care centers, to those people in the community who will help you, pray with you, and do practical things, like help you to find housing, to find jobs, to find ways to care for your children. There are some doctors that volunteer medical care during the pregnancy. So, there are so many opportunities for healing. And if you have had an abortion, like I have had two, and a miscarriage because of damage done to my body by the abortion, God can and will forgive. You have to seek repentance.

Griffin and Carolyn: Amen.

Griffin: Yeah, what do you think people—this might be a similar question, but—what do you think people misunderstand about pro-life issues?

Dr. King: I'm not sure, because I didn't think about it until I was actually born again in 1983, when I began to meet people who say life is important, all human life is important, all human life should have human dignity. And when I heard those truths, I believed and accepted.

Griffin: Yeah, yeah, I mean, sometimes it is just that simple, and it speaks to your heart. A powerful quote I remember from your book I wrote down, you said, "As a repentant post-abortive mother, I boldly proclaim that abortion is not a civil right. Life is a civil right." And you constantly frame the life issues as civil rights issues, which is very powerful coming from a member of your family. Could you elaborate more on how we might have a distorted view on civil rights in a culture that kills the most innocent?

Dr. King: Well, I, this is going to have to be the last question until I pause after that—

Griffin: Oh, that's fine.

Dr. King: I am going to have to run, but life is a civil right, it is a God-given gift, and a right. So, life is sacred, life is important, and we should learn how to have faith, hope, and love together, and to be kind towards each other, and to bring truth to people with hope. And I believe with faith, hope, and love, then we can accomplish many things. Now, you can find me at alvedaking.com, and that is a way to find out about my messaging, my music, all the work that I do, my civil rights work. There are many things that I am involved in. When we started the conversation, I told you things that I can't do. I'm terrible at math and other things. [Griffin laughs] But the things that I do, I embrace with joy.

Carolyn: Have you thought about running for President?

Griffin: Ooh.

Dr. King: No, I've been elected to office when I was younger. Those days are gone.

Carolyn: Well, you've got a powerful message to share, and we sure appreciate you taking time out today.

Griffin: Well, thank you so much for joining us, Dr. King.

Dr. King: God bless you! Thank you!

Carolyn: God bless you.

Griffin: We have our benefit dinner coming up on Thursday, October 19th from 5 to 8:30 PM, featuring keynote speaker—

Shane: This is what I'm waitin' on!

Griffin: Yeah, Dr. Alveda King! Do you remember when she came here that last time?

Shane: Yes! I remember when she came here that last time, we interviewed her, we took her right outside, 'cause that was when this street was named Martin Luther King Drive, so we took her right outside and interviewed her right there on that street.
[laughs]

Griffin: Yeah, yeah. It would be shorter to list things that she hasn't done in her life, because she has done everything, you know, she has done film, and music, and journalism, she is an actress, a singer—

Shane: Quite a lady, quite a lady.

Griffin: Yeah, and activism, that she has been, you know, carrying on the King legacy, and so we are excited to welcome her, and you are all invited to come and celebrate with us this year. We've had a lot of victories, like we're saying, we're winning—

Shane: We're winning!

Griffin: and so, we're able to offer our friends at WUBS a special discounted ticket with the promo code "WUBS" if you register at prolifemichiana.org. That gives you twenty dollars off, it's a sixty-dollar ticket, which I know is a lot, but we're trying to make it the best we can for our friends here.

Shane: Wait, wait, wait, man, so you mean our friends here at UBS will get a twenty dollars off?

Griffin: Yeah!

Shane: Oh, wow, wow, wow!

Griffin: Yeah, so it's a forty-dollar tickets, I mean, it's nice food—

Shane: Take advantage, take advantage!

Griffin: It's the nicest food, you know, I'll have all year, probably, it's—

Carolyn: And a great cause.

Griffin: Navarre Catering. Yeah, it's a fundraiser, so, but we want as many people from here, you know, to come out and get to see Dr. King speak.

Shane: How do they register again? How do they register?

Griffin: Yeah, you can register at prolifemichiana.org. There is a button on there.

Shane: ProLifeMichiana.org!

Griffin: Yeah, yeah, so we'd love to see you there, WUBS has got a table, you know, they're--

Shane: We'll be in the house.

Griffin: They're one of our best sponsors.

Shane: We'll be in the house.

Griffin: We're always pleased to sponsor and partner with them, and yeah, so come on out, October 19th at the, it's in the Dahnke Ballroom at Notre Dame. There will be more details to come, you know, as you go on the website, and have to find that, but yeah, we would love to see you all there. You can register at prolifemichiana.org; there's a button on there.

Shane: ProLifeMichiana.org.

Griffin: Alright, what you just heard was our exclusive interview with Dr. Alveda King, who is going to be coming to our benefit dinner, and we'll tell you more about that, but, we wanted to just take some time to praise God and pray, to thank Him for this great gift of life. Today, I wanted to pray with Jeremiah 22:3, "Thus sayeth the Lord, execute ye judgment and righteousness, and deliver the spoil out of the hand of the oppressor, and do no wrong. Do no violence to the stranger, the fatherless, nor the widow, neither shed innocent blood in this place." Jesus, we entrust to You all of the children, born and preborn. They are Yours, and we give them back to You. We ask that You would protect them and to deliver them from threats that await them there in the womb, but as they are born to this world, too, that's not always the safest place. And You know that You were born and immediately had to flee for Your life, Your family, was pursued. We pray that You would be protected from violence [sic], all those children. We pray for the mothers who carry them, that they had been given the grace to bring them into the world, that they would be overwhelmed with love and find all the help they need to joyfully choose life, you know, to have that joy of family, to see the joy before them that allows them to take up the suffering that is sometimes called upon in bearing children. For the joy that lay before You, Christ, You bore the Cross for us. You saw the joy of redemption, you know, past the suffering and the evils of the world, You saw the joy that was laid there at the end, and You endured the Cross for us. Please help us to endure our crosses, our little pieces of Your Cross, that we bear in our lives. We pray for anyone who is confused, you know, unconvinced that they have what it takes to bring a child into the world or to support that child, we pray that You would change their hearts. Make them like Thine. Lord Jesus, we need You for everything, and we praise You and thank You for giving us the grace. Thank You for remaining with us in those terrible, dark moments and bringing us through, seeing us through to the end. Thank You, Lord Jesus. I am just grateful, just grateful for life. Thank You, Lord, thank You for Dr. King's witness. Thank You for all the good that her ministry has done. Yes, thank You, Lord. Please help--I pray for our benefit coming up this next month--er, this month, it is a couple weeks. Lord, I pray that You would just touch hearts through Dr. Alveda King's words, that You would powerfully transform this community into one that respects life at all stages. Amen. Amen, Lord Jesus. In Your Name, we pray, Amen.

Griffin and Carolyn: Amen.

Griffin: So yeah, yeah, like I, we mentioned, we have the benefit dinner coming up. That is going to be on Thursday, October 19th, 2023. The social hour starts at 5, the dinner and program is at 6:30 PM, it's a good dinner, dinner by Navarre Catering. Right now, we only really have discount seats left, it is a forty-dollars-a-person. But yeah, we're filling up. I mean, by the time this airs, we might be completely full. But if it doesn't, why don't you call us? 574-232-5433. If you really want to get there, we'll find a way! You know, we'll, you can come on as an eleventh seat at my table if that's what it takes, but yeah, you can come be able to hear Dr. King speak in-person, it's at the University of Notre Dame at the [mispronounces] Dahnke Ballroom. I think it's [correctly pronounces] "Dahnke," pronounced. Yes. Yeah, just join us for a delightful evening, it's benefitting the life-saving work of Right to Life Michiana. You can come together with hundreds of pro-life supporters in our community and help build a culture of life during this pivotal time. Yeah, I mean, other than that, we just had a pretty successful Life Chain event this weekend that was really, really blessed of a standing, I was out in Elkhart, so we had two—it happens all over the country with thousands just stand out on the streets and pray quietly. And it's just silent, you know, we're not even singing, you know, we're just praying quietly, holding signs, and witnessing to life. You know, and they're not abrasive signs, you know, they're just "smile because your mom chose life," or you know, "family is a gift." You know, they're just very positive messages to try to just awaken, you know, awaken a sense of love and acceptance in our community. You know, there's pictures of babies, and, yeah, it's Respect Life Sunday. A lot of churches choose to celebrate and, you know, maybe preach about a pro-life message this last Sunday, and, yeah, it was just a very blessed thing to be a part of. Yeah, do you have any thoughts? I mean, you're not going to be able to join us, I don't think, for Dr. King's talk, but, yeah, glad you got to be talk with her today with us.

Carolyn: Yes, that was quite an honor just to be able to talk with her, and hopefully if you come to the fundraiser, that you will get an opportunity to meet her—

Griffin: Mm-hmm.

Carolyn: and I was just thinking with the legacy that she has carried on with the King name and the work that she's doing, and in her book she talked about that her mother even thought about aborting her, and I just wanted to just say that if we didn't choose life, if whoever out there is listening and you think that you might make that choice, think twice, and think about the legacy that Dr. King has been able to carry on in her family and the child that you may be carrying even now or later could carry on a legacy that would impact millions of people's lives.

Griffin: Yeah, I mean, 'cause listen to what she's most proud of is her family, you know, her grandkids—

Carolyn: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: like that's what's most important to her at this time in her life, you know, and that's what I'm looking forward to, you know? I'm not a father yet, I'm working on the wife part, but--[laughs]

Carolyn: [laughs]

Griffin: but kids, you know, and grandkids, one day. You know, that's the legacy that you leave behind, the love that you shared, and the family you raised... in the Faith, you know, bringing them to Christ and spending eternity with them in Heaven. That's, that's what it's about. So yeah, we want to thank you for listening again; this has been *Life Update* with Right to Life Michiana. For all of us over here at WUBS 89.7—love ya!

Carolyn: Love ya!

Concluding Music