



THE PRESIDENTIAL RECORD ON LIFE

President Barack Obama 2009-present

“Thirty-five years after the Supreme Court decided Roe v. Wade, it’s never been more important to protect a woman’s right to choose....Throughout my career, I’ve been a consistent and strong supporter of reproductive justice, and have consistently had a 100% pro-choice rating with Planned Parenthood and NARAL Pro-Choice America.”

-Barack Obama

- On his second day in office, January 22, 2009, which was the 36th anniversary of the *Roe v. Wade* Supreme Court ruling that legalized abortion on demand, President Obama issued a statement reaffirming his commitment to defend that ruling, which he said protected “reproductive freedom.”
- On his third day in office, President Obama nullified the pro-life “Mexico City Policy.” By this action, President Obama made organizations that perform and promote abortion as a method of family planning eligible for U.S. foreign aid funds.
- In March 2009, the Obama Administration released \$50 million to the United Nations Population Fund – an agency that had received no U.S. funds under the Bush Administration because of its involvement in China’s population-control program, which relies heavily upon coerced abortions.
- In March 2009, President Obama issued an executive order that opened the door to federal funding of research that requires the killing of human embryos, reversing President Bush’s 2001 order that blocked federal funding of embryo-killing research.
- In March 2009, the Obama Administration announced that it would rescind (cancel) a conscience-protection regulation issued by the Bush Administration, which prevents the penalization of health-care providers who refuse to participate in providing abortions.
- President Obama has named persons with extreme pro-abortion records to senior positions on the White House staff, including Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel, a former congressman with a 100% pro-abortion record; Domestic Policy Adviser Melody Barnes, previously a board member for the Planned Parenthood Action Fund; and Communications Director Ellen Moran, former executive director of the pro-abortion group EMILY’s List.
- President Obama has selected persons with extreme pro-abortion records for the top offices overseeing federal health programs, including Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, former governor of Kansas, and Food and Drug Administration Commissioner Margaret Hamburg, former New York City health commissioner.
- President Obama has nominated persons with extreme pro-abortion records to senior positions in the U.S. Department of Justice, including Deputy Attorney General David Ogden and Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Counsel Dawn Johnsen, the former legal director of the National Abortion Rights Action League.
- President Obama has nominated persons with extreme pro-abortion records to senior positions in the U.S. Department of State, including Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women’s Issues Melanne Vermeer.