Obama Misrepresents His Role in Killing Bills To Protect Infants Born Alive After Abortions

President Barack Obama has been accused of misrepresenting his role in protecting infants born alive after abortions. As an Illinois state senator, Obama was a leading opponent in 2001, 2002, and 2003 of the Born-Alive Infants Protection Act, a proposed state bill to recognize any newborn infants and are not neglected and left to die. We must protect girls from exploitation and statutory rape through a parental notification law. We oppose the practice of abortion without qualification. Obama has now shifted arguments, claiming that an old Illinois law already required medical care for infants born alive during abortions. But that law only protected babies that abortionists declared had reached the point where they could survive long-term, sometimes referred to as viabiliy, and it left the decision about this up to the abortionist.

In a “white paper” issued on August 28, 2008, National Right to Life Legal Director David Douglas Johnson and Legislative Counsel Susan Musket concluded, “Obama’s words and action support this conclusion: He is determined to defend the practice of abortion without qualification was so absolute that it led him to reflexively view the issue of babies born alive during abortions through the prism of Roe v. Wade, and worse, to conclude that a breathing, squirming, fully born pre-viable baby is still covered by Roe v. Wade. Once he realized how difficult his position was to defend, he turned outside the halls of the Illinois Senate, he began to misrepresent his record.”

For more information on this issue, see www.nrlc.org.

Republican Party Platform Defends the Unborn

Faithful to the first guarantee of the Declaration of Independence, we assert the inherent dignity and sanctity of all human life and affirm that the unborn baby is a unique individual right to life which cannot be infringed. We support a human life amendment to the Constitution, and we endorse legislation to make clear that the Fourteenth Amendment’s protections apply to unborn children.

We oppose using public revenues to promote or perform abortion and will not fund organizations which advocate it. We support legislation to direct federal monies from the Health and Human Services Department to programs that respect the sanctity of human life.

Democratic Party Platform Promotes Abortion

Because we believe in the privacy and equality of women, and we stand proudly for a woman’s right to choose, consistent with Roe v. Wade, and regardless of her ability to pay. We stand firmly against Republican efforts to undermine that right. At the same time, we strongly support family planning and adoption incentives. Abortion should be safe, legal, and rare.

National Right to Life Religious Council

The National Right to Life Religious Council (NRLRC) is a Christian coalition which acknowledges Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and works to encourage every Christian denomination, and to support the biblical standard of the value, dignity and sanctity of human life, and to foster ministry to those vulnerable to the violence of abortion or euthanasia.

Anglicans for Life

Common Good

Conservative Congressional Christian Conference (CCCC)

International Communion of the Charismatic Episcopal Church (CEC for Life)

Life Education and Resource Network (LEARN)

Lutherans for Life (LFL)

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS)

National Black Pro-Life Union

National Clergy Council (NCC)

National Pro-Life Action Center

Presbyterians Pro-Life (PPL)

Priests for Life (PFL)

Religious Outreach

National Right to Life Committee

Taskforce of United Methodists on Abortion and Reproductive Justice (TUMAS)/Lifewatch

United Friends for Life (UFL)

Elections: Take Practical Action!

By Fr. Frank Pavone, President, National Pro-Life Religious Council

The final weeks and days before an election should spur us on to practice and promote concrete action. This action is aimed at increasing the turnout of voters who support the candidate of your choice. Here are a few hints:

1.Understand the issues. Many states allow voters to go to the polls for days or weeks before Election Day itself. Be sure you know if your state allows this, and work throughout that period of time to get people to the polls. The dates for early voting in the various states can be found at Pray for Life’s election website www.PoliticalPiosity.com.

2.Remind the homebound and those who may miss their vote because of travel to cast their vote by absentee ballot.

3.Distribute voter guides so that people will know where candidates stand on the issues. See www.VoteYourResponsibilities.com for voter guides in your area.

4.Contact the campaign of the candidate of your choice. Donate to the campaign, volunteer to make phone calls or do other tasks that the campaign needs.

5.Express your support for the candidate of your choice by means of yard signs, bumper stickers, and buttons. Such things remind others to vote, and can encourage conversations whereby you can inform other voters about the candidate of your choice.

Remember, elections aren’t contests between two candidates; they are contests between two teams. Make sure you are an active part of your candidate’s team, mobilizing as many votes as possible.

For 35 years the judicial fiat of the Supreme Court decisions Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton that legalized abortion for all nine months of pregnancy for any reason has torn our country apart, killed scores of million unborn children, left millions of mothers and fathers hurting and relationship broken and damaged. Now our country is faced with the possibility of ending this federal judicial fiat, or of continuing it for another generation. In the coming four years, the next president is likely to appoint one to three new Supreme Court Justices.

Last April, the Supreme Court upheld the federal ban on partial-birth abortions, but on a bare 5-4 vote. The four dissenting justices laid out a legal theory that would be even more sweeping than Roe v. Wade, and that could end the pro-life gains of the recent years, if they were joined by a fifth vote.

On his website, Barack Obama says, “With one more vacancy on the Court, we could be looking at a majority hostile to a woman’s fundamental right to choose for the first time since Roe versus Wade.” The next president may be asked to nominate that Supreme Court justice. That is almost certain to take place in this election year. In a July 17, 2007, speech to Planned Parenthood, Barack Obama confirmed his commitment to maintain Roe v. Wade.” On this fundamental issue, I will not yield.

John McCain “believes Roe v. Wade is a flawed decision that must be overturned, and as president he will nominate judges who understand that courts should not be in the business of legislating from the bench.” McCain also stated that “Chief Justice [John] Roberts and Justice Samuel Alito … would serve as the model for my own nominees if that responsibility falls to me.”

Fall 2008

Please copy and distribute freely
I attended a special Anglican conference in Israel called GAFCON in late June. The Global Anglican Future Conference was an incredible event, with more than 300 bishops and their wives from the worldwide Anglican Communion and many ordained and lay leaders for a total of 1200 pilgrims, touring Jerusalem, Bethlehem and Galilee! I’m still struggling to put words together adequately describe what it meant for me to be a part of such a historic event. As a lay person representing the most important issue in the Anglican Communion, I walked a careful line between being agenda-driven and Spirit-led. Anglicans for Life was there to provide witness to the sanctity of life and seek to have it included in the foundational principles being established during the conference. I am saddened that our goals were not achieved, but I am encouraged, and it is a privilege for me to share the following comments by Professor Stephen Noll, Secretary of the Statement Committee, that highlights the importance of Anglicans for Life being present at the conference.

“As a member of the Statement Committee, I would like to point out two articles in the Jerusalem Declaration relevant to the pro-life cause:

• Declaration Point 9 - We acknowledge God’s creation of humankind as male and female and the unchangeable standard of Christian marriage between one man and one woman as the proper place for sexual intimacy and the basis of the family. We repent of our failures to maintain this standard and call for a renewed commitment to lifelong fidelity in marriage and abstinence for those who are not married.

• Declaration Point 10 - We stand in solidarity with the religious leadership of the state to uphold and advocate justice in society, and to seek relief and empowerment of the poor and needy.

Article #8 addresses the specific crisis issue facing the Anglican Communion over the past decade. It does not specifically address another crisis issue, the protection of unborn life. However, I think one can deduce from the logic of this article the direction that the GAFCON movement will take on the latter issue. We go back to the basic understanding that sin is at the root of the problem and that the church needs to get back the primary purpose of the church. The very definition of the church has to be that it is the people of God who are called to be the body of Christ, to address sin and sin in our world in a way that seeks to bring about justice.

I experienced in Israel. The only one so far that comes close to summing up GAFCON for me is Holy Life in a Holy Land worshiping a Holy God. Let’s understand what opposing this important legislation means. Suppose that a woman is pregnant. The virtually identical legislation to protect babies who survive abortion was passed by the virtually identical legislatures to each other across the nation. For example, there is this stunning quote from Fr. Pavone, national director of Priests for Life: “Abortion is not about the law, but about what kind of people we are to be as the Church and as Christians.”

We acknowledge God’s creation of humankind as male and female, and certainly by extension to uphold and advocate justice in society, and to seek relief and empowerment of the poor and needy.

I had a lot of fun achieving the second goal; making new friends and renewing relationships. For example, on the bus ride to Bethlehem, I sat next to The Rev. Benjamin Mbago, Dean of St. Philip’s Theological College in Tanzania. By the time we departed the bus, we were discussing the idea of me going to Tanzania to speak to the students and their wives on life issues.

I hope that in time I will be able to put into words all that I encountered in Israel. The only one way I know how to do this is by summarizing GAFCON for me is Holy Life in a Holy Land worshiping a Holy God. Let’s understand what opposing this important legislation means. Suppose that a woman is pregnant. The virtually identical legislation to protect babies who survive abortion was passed by the virtually identical legislatures to each other across the nation. For example, there is this stunning quote from Fr. Pavone, national director of Priests for Life: “Abortion is not about the law, but about what kind of people we are to be as the Church and as Christians.” I had a lot of fun achieving the second goal; making new friends and renewing relationships. For example, on the bus ride to Bethlehem, I sat next to The Rev. Benjamin Mbago, Dean of St. Philip’s Theological College in Tanzania. By the time we departed the bus, we were discussing the idea of me going to Tanzania to speak to the students and their wives on life issues.

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