

**Abortion remains  
the supreme  
injustice  
and leading  
cause of  
human death  
in Minnesota  
today.**



unborn child at 4 months

### Help protect the unborn

Please support MCCL's educational and legislative efforts to protect unborn children from the unjust killing of abortion. **Contact your state legislators and urge support for pro-life legislation**, and learn more by visiting [www.mccl.org](http://www.mccl.org).

\* Minnesota Department of Health, *Induced Abortions in Minnesota January-December 2010: Report to the Legislature*.

\*\* Minnesota Department of Health, *2008-10 Positive Alternatives Evaluation Report*.

\*\*\* See, for example, Michael J. New, "Pro-life politicians have made a difference, pro-life laws work," *Public Discourse: Ethics, Law, and the Common Good* 28 Oct. 2008 <<http://www.thepublicdiscourse.com/2008/10/125>>; and Michael J. New, "Analyzing the Effect of Anti-Abortion U.S. State Legislation in the Post-Casey Era," *State Politics & Policy Quarterly* 11.1 (March 2011): 28-47.



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The mission of MCCL is to secure protection for innocent human life from conception until natural death through effective education, legislation and political action.

**[www.mccl.org](http://www.mccl.org)**

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**PRO-  
LIFE  
LAW  
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save  
LIVES**

**How MCCL is  
making a difference  
through legislation**



**MINNESOTA CITIZENS CONCERNED FOR LIFE**

Although the U.S. Supreme Court (beginning in 1973 with *Roe v. Wade*) has imposed legalized abortion upon the nation, certain laws can still be enacted for the benefit of unborn children and their mothers. **Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life has led the efforts to pass such measures in Minnesota.** These laws are saving lives today.

### Woman's Right to Know

The Woman's Right to Know informed consent law was enacted in 2003. Under this law in 2010, 14,208 abortion-minded pregnant women received important factual information about fetal development, abortion procedures, abortion risks and complications, and alternatives to abortion. **That number is 2,703 more than the number of women who actually underwent abortions.** Since Woman's Right to Know became law, as many as 13,122 women have chosen life for their unborn children after receiving the information.\*

### Positive Alternatives

The Positive Alternatives Act of 2005 created a program to provide grants to pregnancy care centers that help women in difficult circumstances and offer life-affirming alternatives to abortion. More than 25,000 women statewide were helped through the Positive Alternatives program in its first four years (July 2006-June 2010).\*\* The program correlates to a four-year trend of declining abortions in Minnesota.

### Positive Alternatives grants serve women

"We have been able to increase our clients served by more than 100 percent, and our return visits increased by six times over 2006. This would not have happened without Positive Alternatives funding!"

— Karen Boots, Choices Pregnancy Center, Redwood Falls

"The entire pregnancy support system in Minnesota would be weakened if this targeted, tangible source of assistance were to be removed."

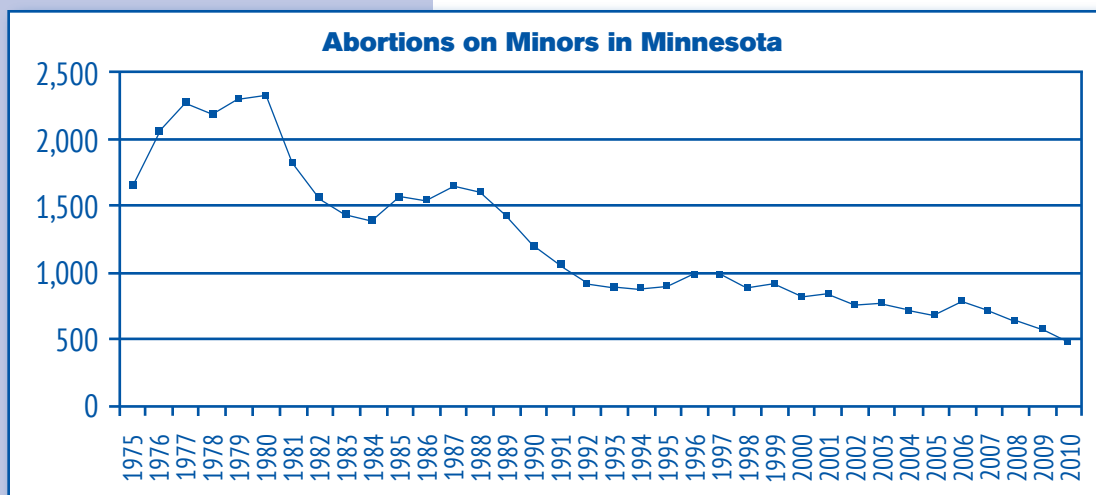
— Kathy Rosenthal, Cradle of Hope, Roseville

"Many new doors were opened for the clients in our community ... Clients served increased drastically since we were awarded the first [Positive Alternatives] grant."

— Bonnie Olson, LifeCare Center, Thief River Falls

### Parental Notification

The number of abortions performed on minors peaked in 1980 at 2,327. In 1981 Minnesota passed a law requiring that both parents be notified at least 48 hours before an abortion is performed on a minor (there is a judicial bypass option, as required by the courts). **After years of steady decline, minor abortions in 2010 fell almost 17 percent to 482, the lowest number on record** (statistics for minors go back to 1975) and only 4 percent of all abortions.\*



The dramatic decline in abortions performed on minors demonstrates the effectiveness of the state's pro-life laws.

### Laws reduce abortions

Extensive research from outside of Minnesota confirms that pro-life laws — informed consent laws, parental involvement requirements, and others — help significantly reduce the number of abortions.\*\*\* **Tens of thousands of Minnesotans are alive today who would have been killed in utero if not for MCCL-backed pro-life laws,** such as Woman's Right to Know, Positive Alternatives and the parental notification law.



### Success in Minnesota

The number of abortions in Minnesota has declined for four straight years, and dropped more than 21 percent from 2000 to 2010. **Abortions are now at their lowest level since 1975.** The abortion rate may be the lowest ever recorded, and is about *half* the national abortion rate.\*

### More work is necessary

Abortion remains the supreme injustice and leading cause of human death in Minnesota today. More than 11,000 unborn children are aborted in the state each year. Continuing political and legislative efforts (in addition to the work of helping pregnant women in need and educating and persuading the public) are **absolutely vital to our goal of saving lives and restoring protection for innocent human beings at all stages of development.**

Pro-life bills MCCL has advanced in recent years (but which have not yet become law) include the Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, a ban on taxpayer funding of abortion, bans on sex-selection and saline abortions, and a ban on coerced abortion.