



**national**  
**RIGHT TO LIFE**  
**NEWS**

July 2023



**national**  
**RIGHT TO**

***"Abortion is not health care. Let's be painfully and uncomfortably clear about what it really is. It's a procedure that intentionally kills a baby."***



**Seth Dillon,  
CEO of Babylon Bee,  
52nd Annual  
National Right to Life  
Convention  
June 24, 2023**

## DeSantis and Abortion...Extreme or Mainstream?

By David N. O'Steen, Ph.D.

Governor Ron DeSantis' decision to sign the recently passed bill limiting abortion in Florida immediately drew the expected reaction from abortion supporters and the abortion friendly media. The political wisdom of his signing the bill was even questioned in some pro-life Republican circles.

"This near total ban is cruel and inhumane, particularly given most people don't even know they're pregnant at six weeks," the National Abortion Federation's



*Pro-life Florida Governor Ron DeSantis signing Florida's Heartbeat Protection Act*

Chief Program Officer said in a statement.

"Everyone will see him (DeSantis) for the dangerous, out of touch, overzealous politician he is." The Executive Director of Planned Parenthood Votes said in a response.

"No one wants the bans extremists like Ron DeSantis are forcing on them..." stated Naral Pro-Choice America's President.

*See DeSantis, Page 41*

## NRLC Gathers in Pittsburgh to Make Abortion Unthinkable!

By Jacki Ragan, Director, State Organizational Development Department and NRL Conventions, Inc.

The 52<sup>nd</sup> annual National Right to Life Convention is over, but the memories, the speakers, what we learned, what we shared, what we walked away with from Pittsburgh, PA with, is not. I learned many years ago that when the National Right to Life Convention is in town, people gather, they listen, they learn, and they remember! And then, they take it back to their local communities to share with other pro-lifers who could not make it to the convention.

One of my favorite quotes about the convention comes from the late Dr. Jean Garton: "The three

days of the National Right to Life Convention represents the annual gathering of America's Pro-Life 'Family' and it is like coming home again." And Dr. Garton was never wrong. It is a Pro-Life Family Reunion of Pro-Life America.

We had **so** many fabulous speakers this year and they did not disappoint! From the very early morning until very late at night, speaker after speaker in the major sessions gave it their best

*See Pittsburgh, Page 49*



*Benjamin Watson at book signing with two fans  
Photo: Lisa Andrusko*

# Editorials

## What can you say about a NPR reporter's coverage of the 52nd annual NRLC Convention? Actually, quite a bit.

It's always an interesting exercise to anticipate what kind of coverage NRLC's annual convention, this year held in Pittsburgh June 23-24, commands. This is, after all, the first year post-*Dobbs*, although it's important to remember that news of the decision to overturn *Roe* came in the middle of a general session last year.

The headline for Sarah Boden's story for the local NPR station is "A year after victory in *Dobbs* decision, anti-abortion activists still in fight mode."

As it happens I encountered her numerous times, sitting in the front rows with her recording device. So, "A" for effort. (I also saw her perusing the hall that was

filled with pro-life exhibitors.)

Execution was, in my opinion, more uneven. Judging by the photos she took that accompanied her story, she did interviews with groups that were first-timers, the kind that would naturally pique a reporter's curiosity. From our perspective that simply proves that the pro-life tent is large and growing larger.

Boden begins by informing her readers of the reaction last year's convention to the news that finally, after nearly 50 years, *Roe* was overturned:

**The room erupted with  
"a lot of tears of joy, cries**

See NPR, Page 32



## Biden "reluctantly" pro-abortion? Let's get serious. This is nonsense.

If you're looking for a man who chooses his words carefully and with precision, the last place you're look is to the current occupant of the White House: pro-abortion President Joe Biden.

Of course, part of his imprecision is a function of age. There are times when you simply scratch your head: what IS he saying?

But on other occasions, you get the drift no matter how imprecise and seemingly callous Biden is. An example? Glad you asked.

"I'm a practicing Catholic," he said at a fundraiser with about 100 donors on Tuesday. "I'm not big on abortion, but guess what? *Roe* vs. *Wade* got it right."

"Practicing Catholic"? The most pro-abortion president in history a "practicing Catholic"? The only "practicing" Biden does is finding new and creative ways to be sure as many unborn babies get dead as possible.

Biden "also criticized states that have passed laws restricting access to abortion," according to Alex Gangitano of *The Hill*. "Over 20 states have passed such laws since the Supreme Court ending the roughly 50-year precedent set by *Roe* that guaranteed a right to an abortion."

But Biden knows while he may not be "big" on abortion (whatever that means), he is first in the teeny weeny hearts of Big Abortion who are big on abortion. Writing for the *Associated Press*, Colleen Long and Zeke Miller observe

**The leading voices on abortion rights were always going to endorse the Democratic president for reelection. But the**

See *Hatchet*, Page 32

# From the President Carol Tobias

## “Choice” Not Allowed



For 50 years, the abortion industry has told us that women should have a “choice” when it comes to abortion; that women had the “right to choose” whether or not to end a pregnancy.

It has been clear, over the years, and is becoming even more clear now, that even though women are supposed to have “choice,” they shouldn’t be allowed to choose life. The abortion industry wants dead babies and that requires assembly-line proficiency. No room for second thoughts.

Many states have enacted informed consent laws to make sure that women seeking an abortion are fully informed about the abortion procedure, its potential risks, and alternatives -- something required for every other surgical procedure performed in the United States. Along with the provision, several states require that she be allowed to view an ultrasound of her preborn baby if she wishes to.

The abortion industry has vigorously opposed these laws. Why?

They seem to think that if she gets information about her baby and the abortion process, she’ll change her mind. So, of course, at the top of their “to-do” list is rushing the pregnant woman into the abortion facility and rushing her through the abortion.

You can see how much they fear real “choice,” which is what pregnancy resource centers provide. The abortion industry detests anyone who provides valuable free services to women who want and need help. The abortion industry claims the pregnancy centers are “deceptive” because they advertise pregnancy help but don’t do abortions. Abortion supporters assume that every woman who becomes pregnant is looking for information on how to get an abortion. Nothing or no one should be allowed to interfere with the deadly outcome.

Some states have tried, and others are still trying, to shut down pregnancy centers or make them become purveyors of abortion information. The US Supreme Court, in *NIFLA v. Becerra*, overturned a California law that required pregnancy centers inform women, among other things, that the state will pay for her abortion. And, yes, that is crazy but the vote was 5-4, not (as it should have been) 9-0.

Democrat members of Congress, led by the rabidly pro-abortion Senator Elizabeth Warren, are pushing legislation that would require the Federal Trade Commission to prohibit what they call “deceptive and

misleading information” by the pregnancy centers. They are upset that the pregnancy centers provide women with the information they deserve to have before making a life or death decision for their babies—information the abortion industry refuses to give them.

Many of these same members of Congress are pushing Google and other tech companies to limit (censor) information from the pregnancy centers when someone searches for information on abortion.

If a woman contacts a pregnancy center but tragically follows through and has an abortion, the center can’t stop her. They will, however, let her know that if she experiences post-

Colorado has gone so far as to pass a law to charge doctors with “medical misconduct” if they help a woman reverse her chemical abortion. “Choice” anyone?

What this all indicates—not wanting women to get information that might dissuade them from going through with the abortion, wanting to shut down and/or censor pregnancy centers, and not wanting women to know about the APR process—is that “choice” is no longer an option, if it ever was.

If abortion partisans actually supported “choice,” they would acknowledge that many women don’t want an abortion, that they would prefer support with the pregnancy.



abortion syndrome, they will welcome her back with open arms for counsel and support.

Along with lobbying to obliterate pregnancy centers, abortion proponents have also set their sights on another real choice: Abortion Pill Reversal (APR). Here’s how that works.

If a woman takes the first of two pills (mifepristone) in the chemical abortion process then changes her mind about the abortion before taking the second pill (misoprostol), she can seek treatment, getting a heavy-dose progesterone treatment to counteract the effect of the mifepristone. The process is effective about 2/3 of the time and more than 4,500 babies are alive because their moms changed their minds and these precious babies survived.

So, of course, abortion advocates hate Abortion Pill Reversal! They say it’s “junk science” and doesn’t work. It may be that they don’t want to acknowledge that any woman would regret her abortion.

“The Handmaid’s Tale,” a novel by Margaret Atwood, is a story about women impregnated and forced to give birth by a controlling patriarchal society. Radical abortion supporters have shown up in various places over the last few years wearing long red dresses, bizarrely claiming that pro-lifers want to force this lifestyle on women.

What is ironic is that the predominate philosophy coming from the abortion camp seems to be that women shouldn’t give birth.

**They are not** to be given information that puts pregnancy and childbirth in a positive light.

**They are not** supposed to enter the door of a pregnancy center willing to provide various services, programs, and love.

**They are not** allowed to change their minds and seek help if they start the abortion pill process but decide to save their baby.

That isn’t choice. That’s looking more and more like coerced abortion.

# House Working to Protect Unborn in Annual Government Funding Bill

By Jennifer Popik, J.D., Director of Federal Legislation

As Congress returns to Washington D.C. following the 4th of July recess, work is set to resume on the annual appropriations process.

Given the current composition of Congress, a national law protecting preborn children and their mothers from the tragedy of abortion is unlikely to happen in the foreseeable future. However, one of the most important impacts that Congress can have is to work to ensure that no taxpayer dollars are used to pay for abortion.

After *Roe v. Wade* was handed down in 1973, various federal health programs, including Medicaid, simply started paying for elective abortions. On September 30, 1976, an amendment by pro-life Congressman Henry Hyde (R-IL) to prevent federal Medicaid funds from paying for abortions was enacted. The Hyde Amendment is widely recognized as having a significant impact on the number of abortions in the United States over an estimated 2.5 million lives.

The Hyde Amendment, and similar provisions, have enjoyed bipartisan support for over 40 years and have proven to be the greatest domestic abortion reduction measure ever enacted by Congress.

Congress must pass all the necessary appropriations bills to fund the government for the upcoming fiscal year by September 30th of each year or pass a continuing resolution, or the government will shut down. With Republicans again in control of the House, each of the committees is working though debating and marking up bills in all 12 appropriations committees, rather than simply crafting a large omnibus bill. This has meant broader member involvement, and more robust pro-life debate.

The presidency of Joe Biden marked one of the sharpest departures from this long-standing principle, that tax dollars should not fund abortion. The Biden Administration has taken numerous aggressive



steps to circumvent the clear Congressional intent in regards to prohibitions of tax-payer funded abortion. The House Republicans are hard at work not only preserving longstanding pro-life protections, but are also trying to reverse the numerous abortion-expanding policies of the Biden Administration.

Some of the committees have completed their bills, and others are set to start or complete their work in the coming weeks. In addition to including existing pro-life protections

(in the bills considered so far), appropriators voted to block the newly-implemented Biden Administration policy which funds elective abortions at Veterans Affairs medical centers with taxpayer dollars. Appropriators also included a provision to stop

aborted very late in pregnancy at Washington Surgi-Clinic in Washington D.C, possibly using illegal partial birth abortions. While relevant D.C. officials and Biden Administration officials declined to investigate, language was included by appropriators to require a report regarding D.C.'s enforcement of the Partial Birth Enforcement Ban Act.

Finally, House appropriators included language to restore the Trump-era "Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance" policy which would make foreign Non-Governmental Organizations that perform and promote abortion overseas ineligible for U.S. funding.

Even in the post-*Dobbs v. Jackson* environment (which returned abortion-related legislating to elected representatives), opposition to tax finding of abortion is about 60%. The 2023 Knights of Columbus/Marist Poll taken between January 6- 9 2023 (1,025 adults) shows that 60% oppose taxpayer funded abortion including 59% of independents. This is an **increase** of 6 pts from the previous year.

In addition, a 2022 McLaughlin & Associates poll conducted after the November 2022 election found that 58% of respondents are opposed to federal funding of abortions.

While House appropriators are working to protect life in the remaining appropriations bills not yet taken up, the Senate is currently under Democrat control, and will make it difficult to add new pro-life provisions over and above the existing Hyde and related amendments. That said, it is imperative that Republicans continue to maintain all current pro-life protections, and to fight to stop numerous abortion-expanding Biden Administration efforts.

the illegal actions of the Food and Drug Administration in regards to mailing chemical abortion drugs. In addition, the 2024 Defense Appropriations bill would block the recent Department of Defense from paying for abortion travel in violation of the long-standing policy against funding elective abortion with taxpayer money.

A few other highlights include a new provision to nullify the 2016 legalization of physician assisted suicide in the District of Columbia. Also, in 2022, it came to light that babies were being

# Where the 2024 Presidential Candidates Stand on Life: Who will protect it and who will endanger it?

By Karen Cross, NRL Political Director

The 2024 presidential primaries and caucuses are right around the corner!

It has been a full year since the Supreme Court issued its landmark ruling in *Dobbs v. Jackson*, but there are still widespread misunderstandings about the decision. Some continue to claim, incorrectly, that the Court handed exclusive authority over abortion policy to the state governments. Some even suggest that there is no role whatsoever for the federal government in establishing legal protections for unborn children and their mothers. This is also incorrect. In fact, *Dobbs* determined that abortion-related policies should be enacted by elected representatives of the American people, not dictated by the courts. Moving forward, both the states and the federal government, including the executive branch, have important roles to play and responsibilities to fulfill in order to protect unborn babies and their mothers.

Presidents can directly influence abortion policy (and save lives) because they have the authority to sign or veto legislation passed by Congress, make judicial nominations (including for the Supreme Court), issue executive orders, shape the priorities of federal departments such as the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Department of Justice, and more. Who we elect as president matters! It matters because the lives of vulnerable unborn children and their mothers will be impacted.

While some on the Republican side of the aisle remain unclear about the *Dobbs* ruling and the role of the federal government, there is little confusion or misunderstanding among our opposition. The pro-abortion movement fully grasps that the states and the federal government

impact abortion policy in unique ways. They know firsthand because at this very moment amidst the new *Dobbs* legal and political landscape, they are reaching for every lever of power currently at their disposal. For example, recently, abortion advocates passed legislation in



Maine to expand abortion for any reason until birth, while at the same time exerting their influence in the Biden Administration to force the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to begin performing abortions for any reason so that women serving in the military may circumvent pro-life protections in various states.

Candidates for federal office who adopt the dubious position that “only the states” can be concerned with the protection of life are heading down a dangerous road. Following the 2022 elections, a McLaughlin and Associates poll found that 51% of voters took the issue of abortion into account when voting. By ducking from the issue and claiming, with no legal basis, that abortion does not fall under their jurisdiction, these candidates risk alienating pro-life voters they need in their coalition, and they give their opponents a golden opportunity to fill the void with misinformation, fear-mongering, and wild exaggeration.

National Right to Life (NRLC)

recently issued a memo to clarify the role of the federal government on this issue. It enumerates numerous ways federal lawmakers and the president can act (and have an obligation to act) in order to protect unborn children and their mothers from abortion. Read more at [https://](https://www.nationalrighttolifene.ws.org/2023/07/where-the-2024-presidential-candidates-stand-on-life-who-will-protect-it-and-who-will-endanger-it/)

[www.nationalrighttolifene.ws.org/2023/07/where-the-2024-presidential-candidates-stand-on-life-who-will-protect-it-and-who-will-endanger-it/](https://www.nationalrighttolifene.ws.org/2023/07/where-the-2024-presidential-candidates-stand-on-life-who-will-protect-it-and-who-will-endanger-it/)

Looking at the current field of presidential candidates, 2024 is shaping up to be a clear contest between a Democrat who supports a policy of unlimited abortions for any reason and a Republican who opposes unlimited abortions and supports at least some protections for unborn children and their mothers. It will be a race between a Democrat who supports using tax dollars to pay for abortions and a Republican who does not. These are the dynamics that are likely to be at play regardless of which candidates win their respective party’s nominations.

Let’s take a look at the Republicans and Democrats who have entered the race thus far and delve into where they stand on the right to life.

*To be listed below, candidates must have officially announced presidential bids and garnered a minimum of 1% support in*

*a national poll conducted by a reputable firm (or garnered 5% in a state poll). Speculative or undeclared candidates are not included. As additional candidates enter the race and as newer polls are conducted, this article may be amended.*

## Republicans:

### Donald J. Trump (Former President)

President Trump supports protections for unborn babies and their mothers, and he opposes the use of tax dollars to pay for abortions. As President, Donald Trump restored the “Mexico City Policy,” which prevents tax funds from being given to organizations operating abroad that perform abortions or lobby to change the abortion laws of host countries. He later expanded the policy as the “Protecting Life in Global Health Policy” to prevent \$9 billion in foreign aid from being used to fund the global abortion industry. Trump issued regulations to ensure Title X funding did not go to facilities that perform or refer for abortions. He supports the passage of the *No Taxpayer Funding for Act*. Trump nominated individuals for the Judiciary who pledged to interpret the Constitution as written rather than to legislate from the bench. Notably, he nominated Justices Neil Gorsuch, Brett Kavanaugh, and Amy Coney Barrett for the Supreme Court, all three of whom were among the majority in the landmark *Dobbs vs. Jackson*. He also holds the distinction of being the first U.S. president to attend the annual March for Life in person.

For more information on President Trump’s record, see the *Presidential Record on Life*: <https://www.nrlc.org/uploads/records/trumprecord.pdf>

# A Convention that exceeded our most optimistic expectations: the 52nd annual NRLC Convention

By Dave Andrusko

By any metric, the 52nd annual National Right to Life Convention was an overwhelming success. Beginning with a Prayer Breakfast featuring Erik Rosales,

Our president, Carol Tobias, not only gave interviews but took the time to talk to the attendees who want to share their experiences with her. (Be sure to read her



*Erik Rosales, our Prayer Breakfast Speaker, with Laura Echevarria, NRL Press Secretary (to his right), and NRL President Carol Tobias.*

*Photo: Lisa Andrusko*

Capitol Hill Correspondent for *EWTN News Nightly* on Friday morning, and extending to the Closing Banquet featuring the Babylon Bee's Seth Dillon on Saturday night, every speaker gave the audiences reasons to celebrate what has happened in the year since *Dobbs* overturned the wretched *Roe v. Wade* decision.

Everything seemed to approach perfection. Registration, which can be a bear, went off without a hitch. People who could and would be offered a comp to attend the two-day convention, insisted on paying.

opening remarks on page 14.)

The atmosphere—the vibe, if you will—was equal proportions optimism, now that we don't have the anchor of *Roe v. Wade* strapped to our ankles, and a joyous willingness to plow ahead until the babies “are protected in law and welcomed in life.”

President George W. Bush frequently used that exact language, including when it signed “The Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003.” President Bush ended his remarks with this powerful reminder:

**The late Pennsylvania**

**Governor Robert Casey once said that: when we look to the unborn child, the real issue is not when life begins, but when love begins. This is the generous and merciful spirit of our country at its best. This spirit is reflected in the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003, which I am now honored to sign into law. God bless.**

The convention will be remembered by all who attended

**the good to disguise its purposes. In this case it is the great good of choice that hides the greater wrong of what is chosen. It is a tempting shrewdly contrived for a free society that has forgotten that freedom depends upon devotion to more than freedom.”**

Missed the convention? Or were there too many sessions that you wanted to go to but couldn't? Browse the sessions at [nrlconvention.com/audio](http://nrlconvention.com/audio) and



*NRL President Carol Tobias with NRL General Counsel James Bopp, Jr. following Mr. Bopp's speech Saturday morning.*

*Photo: Lisa Andrusko*

for years and years to come. As will this from the late, great Fr. Richard John Neuhaus, from his book, “American Against Itself”:

**“Evil, as is its wont, employs the language of**

listen to the recordings! If you would like to purchase all of the sessions (60+ sessions!), you can do so here at a discounted rate of more than half off: <https://nrlconvention.com/shop/2023-all>

# Benjamin Watson electrifies packed house at NRL's 52nd Convention

By Dave Andrusko

How can you gauge how well a speech is received? If we take the Thursday night General Session featuring Benjamin Watson, as an example, we'd look at the packed room and the line of upwards of a hundred people waiting to purchase his new book, "The New Fight for Life: Roe, Race, and a Pro-Life Commitment to Justice" and conclude his talk was a smashing success.

Watson, a former long-time tight end for several teams, describes himself as a "Super Bowl Champion, Believer, Husband, Father, Pro-Life and Justice Advocate." He could add to that spellbinding orator.

In the aftermath of *Dobbs v. Jackson*, some things

have changed, he said, but one thing is constant and unchanging: the need to get down on our knees and pray to our Heavenly Father.

Watson emphasized the role of men in the abortion battle—and challenged men to be good husbands who affirm their wives. He made clear that this is often conveyed man-to-man.

Watson asked a pivotal question: "What's your why?" Why are we in Pittsburgh at a conference that at one and the same time is celebrating Dobbs while girding our loins for a state-by-state battle?

The key for Watson, and many, many others is found in Micah 6:8—

*He has shown you, O*

*mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you?*

is Watson's life verse: Do Justice, Love Mercy, and Walk Humbly.

## BENJAMIN WATSON

Former tight end, pro-life activist & author



*To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.*

In an important way that

When Watson finished the crowd rose to give him a standing ovation—and rush out the door to purchase his book.



# If you missed the National Right to Life 2023 Convention, you missed ...

## **Seth Dillon, CEO of the satire news site *The Babylon Bee*:**

“There was a lot of chatter on Twitter about this Supreme Court [*Dobbs*] decision. I think it was Michelle Obama who said the Supreme Court has taken away the right to abortion. They didn’t take away a right. The Court just stopped pretending that that right ever existed.

“I may run a comedy site but I talk about the abortion often. I don’t know why it comes up so much but it does. And whenever I do talk about abortion I always hear from somebody who says I should just shut up and stick to cracking jokes. They try to put me in my place and say, ‘Why do you care so much?’ And I almost always respond the same way. ‘Why don’t you care? What possible reason could I have for not caring?’ In fact, I can think of about 60 million reasons why I care.’

“So I always try to turn it around on them every single time and make them defend their callousness and their complacency in the face of unspeakable evil.”

*Seth Dillon spoke at the National Right to Life 2023 Convention closing Banquet.*



*Seth Dillon*  
*Photo: Lisa Andrusko*

## **Wesley J. Smith, J.D., award-winning author and internationally renowned expert on bioethical issues:**

“Once you decide that killing is an acceptable answer to human suffering you dehumanize the people who are going to be killed. When you create a killable caste of people, you have stripped them of their equality. And you have stripped them of their humanity. And in some sense they become objects instead of subjects. It is a complete rejection of everything that Western civilization has worked to create over the last 600, 700 years in terms of equal moral worth for every human being without regard to capacities or any other kind of qualification. ...

“By the way, bioethicists are pushing using live harvesting [of organs] as a means of euthanasia. They are pushing the idea that if we’re going to harvest the organs of people who have been euthanized, why do the lethal injection? Why not just live harvest them because that will be better for the organs.”

*Wesley J. Smith, J.D., spoke at the convention general session titled, “Assisted Suicide: It’s Worse Than You Ever Imagined.”*



*Wesley Smith, JD (left) and Alex Schadenberg*  
*Photo: Lisa Andrusko*

## **Alex Schadenberg is the executive director of Canada’s Euthanasia Prevention Coalition and of EPC-USA:**

“One more thing on organ donations. Why would you lethally inject someone and then take their organs if you can take their organs without lethal injections? If you get lethally injected, we can’t use your heart. We can’t use your lungs. ...

“Well doesn’t that seem like a great waste? Let’s be perfectly honest. If you’re going to kill somebody, why would you do it that way? [Harvesting the organs from people while they are still alive] is going to be the big push because it doesn’t make sense not to.”

*Alex Schadenberg spoke at the convention general session titled “Assisted Suicide: It’s Worse Than You Ever Imagined.”*

# If you missed the National Right to Life 2023 Convention, you missed ...

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## **Benjamin Watson, former NFL tight end, author, and vice president of the Human Coalition:**

“There’s this stat that always hits me really hard when women phone to our Human Coalition call centers or perhaps come through our doors or our pregnancy resource centers. Seventy-six percent of these women who are seeking abortions say they would prefer to parent if their circumstances were different. ...



*Benjamin Watson  
Photo: Lisa Andrusko*

“The compassionate part is stepping into someone else’s shoes and saying, ‘what’s the situation, what’s the context, what are the reasons you might make this decision more than someone else would?’ I believe that’s how we love people in the new fight for life.”

*Benjamin Watson speaking at the convention general session titled “Divided Hearts of America.”*

## **Amy Ford, co-founder and president of Embrace Grace:**

“We can talk about our stance and our belief system and have our debates on Facebook and all of that, but without love we are a clanging cymbal. We must have the action behind what we believe. We need to use kindness and love in everything we do because love is what changes lives. And Pro-Love is where the action is. ...

“A church can love a mom forever if she’ll stay connected because we are the church. We’re a spiritual family.

“We can do this together and build a strong spiritual family and make sure that no single mom ever has to walk alone.”

*Amy Ford speaking at the convention general session titled “Love Saves Lives.”*

## **Thomas Glessner, J.D., founder and president of the National Institute of Family and Life Advocates (NIFLA):**

“In 1997 NIFLA launched the medical clinic movement. ... These aren’t bogus clinics. They’re licensed clinics. Bogus clinics? Tell that to the licensed physicians who are working at these centers. Tell that to the licensed nurses. Tell that to the licensed nurse practitioners. The physician assistants. Tell them they’re bogus. ...

“The anecdotal information we have tells us that if you are a non-medical pregnancy center and you’re giving out good counseling, good supplies, good everything, you’re going to see about 20-25 percent of those women who come in and [who] are pregnant choose life.

“But our good information shows that if you go medical and you use ultrasound to confirm her pregnancy and that mother sees the image of her baby, that number jumps to between 80 and 90 percent.”

*Thomas Glessner, J.D., speaking at the convention general session titled “Love Saves Lives.”*

## **Carol Tobias, president of the National Right to Life Committee:**

“There are many ways where we can help develop the environment where life is the best choice. We need to remind everyone about the dangers of abortion. Taking the chemical abortion pill is not as easy as popping an aspirin. ...

“We need to promote the pregnancy resource centers. They do amazing work to help women through a difficult time. ... We have to make sure legislators are not passing laws that penalize the pregnancy centers. They are under heavy attack. ... We need to help to install more Safe Haven baby boxes. ... Let her place the baby where the baby will be safe, quickly found, and then probably released for adoption. ... Several states have created programs to help pregnant women and new moms and their babies. ... We need to promote the Abortion Pill Reversal option.

“The pro-life message is that every life is precious and is desperately needed in today’s society. That is the message we need to carry to our country. So do what you can to make abortion unthinkable. So that even if abortion is accessible, no one wants one because life is a beautiful, wonderful choice.”

*Carol Tobias speaking at the convention general session titled “One Year Later: Surviving & Saving Lives in a Post-Roe World.”*



*(From left to right) Thomas Glessner JD, Carol Tobias, Amy Ford, and Sue Rogacs  
Photo: Lisa Andrusko*

# If you missed the National Right to Life 2023 Convention, you missed ...

From Page 9

## **Erik Rosales, Capitol Hill correspondent for EWTN News Nightly:**

“Now is not a time to celebrate. It’s a time to get into the fight. Roll up our sleeves and continue our mission. That means we have to continue to support pregnancy care centers and other charities that help support women and help them keep their baby. We as Christians need to show support for adoption services. ...

“Just continue to look for opportunities to educate others on right to life issues. Ask God for the strength and the wisdom to stand strong. But when others disagree with you, show love and compassion. Remember, our actions are always being watched, not only by others, not only by God, but also the enemy.”

*Erik Rosales speaking at the convention Prayer Breakfast titled “A Personal Relationship with Christ: Adapt, Improvise, and Overcome.”*

## **Lauren Eden, a woman who survived a second-trimester abortion:**

“If there’s one thing, one thing, that I could share with you all today is that my life is a living testimony that our God is a God of miracles. No life that He creates is an accident, no life is a mistake. My story is proof that God’s plans are bigger than any human’s plans, and doctor’s plans, and president’s plans, any lobbyist’s plans, any Planned Parenthood executive’s plans. And when we join God in His plan He invites us into His story. He is in the business of saving lives and we all have the opportunity to be a part of that.”

*Lauren Eden speaking at the convention general session titled “Abortion Survivors Are NOT a Pro-Life Myth.”*



*Lauren Eden  
Photo: Lisa Andrusko*



*Erik Rosales  
Photo: Lisa Andrusko*

## **David N. O’Steen, Ph.D., former executive director of National Right to Life:**

“We asked this question [in a poll by McLaughlin for created by National Right to Life]. Would you support or oppose allowing abortion only under these four circumstances: when it’s necessary to save the life of the mother, when there’s a medical emergency posing serious risk of substantial irreversible physical harm to the mother, in cases of rape, or in cases of incest?

“72% said ‘yes.’

“A bill like this, that does precisely this would limit abortion to approximately 5 percent of what is being performed today. It would stop about 95 percent of abortions.

“The right to life movement will never abandon any child. But for some children we have to work through other means, such as pregnancy resource centers, to increase at the state level help for mothers with distressful pregnancies, through counseling, to do everything we possible can do for rape victims, and save the babies that way.”

*David N. O’Steen, Ph.D., speaking at the convention general session titled “One Year Later: Surviving & Saving Lives in a Post-Roe World.”*

# Organization of American States' General Assembly Closes with Few Conclusions.

By Raimundo Rojas

The more things change...

On June 23, 2023 (and ironically just a few hours before the *Dobbs v Jackson* SCOTUS decision's first anniversary), the Organization of American States (OAS) gaveled closed their 53rd Annual General Assembly held this year in Washington, DC. Thus ending weeks of negotiations, countless hours of testimony, and many pro-life and pro-family interventions, which produced *some* outcomes but left other resolutions in limbo. It seems not everyone agreed with the liberal and extremist agenda pushed onto a once, and at times still, conservative region.

Borrowing all of the dangerous euphemisms for abortion from their larger and wealthier cousin, the United Nations, several liberal member-states (primarily the United States and Canada) pushed for radical changes in laws across the Americas that would have challenged the sovereign Constitutions of many countries. Some of those efforts were stymied for now – but the groundwork for change has been laid.

The number of countries supporting so-called “Comprehensive Sexual

Education” (which is a rewording of so-called “Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights”) that international bodies use to promote abortion is growing. The never-ending pressure exuded on these countries from pro-abortion countries and lobbying organizations is taking a toll on the resolve of some nations to protect their unborn children and their mothers. Paraguay, Guatemala, and El Salvador are the gate-keepers of life, always standing firm for the unborn and their moms.

Another section of that groundwork was the election of four new Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) members during the final hours of the General Assembly. Tragically, at least two of those new members are radicalized pro-abortionists. The IACHR is a **powerful** agency within the OAS, responsible for some of the most progressive moves toward creating a regional right to abortion.

Even more chilling is the move towards creating a protected class of “human rights defenders” for those who defend, promote, lobby, and perform

abortions in the hemisphere. Were this to happen, any of us who work tirelessly to protect babies and their mothers from abortion would be considered to

stop once all protective laws in the Americas are overturned. We live to fight another day; we covet your prayers as the battle progresses.



be in breach of an abortionist's human rights. We cannot let this happen.

The OAS could not get the language they wanted in this year's outcomes, but agents within the organization will only

So as far as the OAS goes, the more things change.....the scarier things become. Stay tuned, we will be posting on the Inter-American Commission on Human Right's opinion of the historic *Dobbs v Jackson* decision soon.

# Successful persuasion is sometimes just getting someone to rethink their position on an issue and getting them to be open to the pro-life view

By Laura Echevarria, Director of Communications and Press Secretary

Every year, convention workshops give National Right to Life the opportunity to present new information and to see what needs exist on the state or local level. A few years ago, after conversations with several people in the movement who struggled to write opinion pieces and letters to the editor, the communications department introduced a new workshop on writing. It was an instant hit.

If you are interested in writing a letter to an editor or an opinion piece, there are some guidelines we make available at the convention that might prove helpful.

While each publication is different, there are questions you can ask yourself when writing for a newspaper or website.

**What is the word limit?** Some opinion pieces can be 1,000 words while others can only be 450 words. Letters to the editor should be around 250 words.

**Pay close attention to the requirements** because making an editor's job easier means they may contact you and request opinion pieces in the future. For example, do you need to submit a daytime phone number as well as an evening number?

**Know your audience.** Who reads the publication? Are the

readers members of the general community or are they a special class of readers such as educators, pastors, or policymakers? Your writing will need to meet the needs of your reader.



**Use facts when writing** but don't forget that we all have a story. If you have a personal story, use it—if you are comfortable doing so.

**You also need to have a goal.** You are trying to persuade the reader to think about the issue in a new or different way. For the audience you are reaching, do you need to focus more on a story or the facts?

**Stick to one topic or issue** when you are writing for publication.

If you are writing a letter to the editor, it's always possible that the paper or website may have misquoted two people, cited an article that was proven grossly inaccurate, and applied statistics

the development of the unborn child? Focus on that.

Remember that opinion pieces (and even letters to the editor) usually have some kind of call to action. Whether it is encouraging people to vote for a certain candidate or asking people to call their representative about a vital piece of legislation, both usually end with some kind of action being asked of the reader.

**Check your grammar** before sending the piece to the media outlet. There are several programs (such as Grammarly) that can help. There is even a grammar and spell checker in Microsoft Word.

Lastly, before sending it in, it always helps to have at least one reader look over your work. If they ask you to explain more fully something you've written, readers of the publication may not understand what you've written either. You may need to revise the letter or opinion piece to help the reader better understand your arguments.

Remember, persuading your reader may not result in a complete change of mind. Successful persuasion is sometimes just getting someone to rethink their position on an issue and getting them to be open to the pro-life view.

incorrectly. But you won't be able to address everything in a letter to the editor. What will matter most? Address that.

It's the same thing with an opinion piece. While it is tempting to try to address every argument about abortion, focus on one thing. Stay laser-focused on your goal. Do not try to address three or four different pro-life arguments. Make one or two and stay with those until the end. Do you want to write about

# Safe haven “baby box” laws just one of many pro-life laws that save lives

By Casey Romanoff Coffin, Legislative Assistant, Department of State Legislation

There is much talk among abortion advocates and the media about the “devastating impact” that “extremist” pro-life laws have had since *Roe* was overturned. Well, we in the pro-life community beg to differ.

Laws protecting a child once his heartbeat can be detected; laws giving a mother the right to see her child on an ultrasound before having an abortion; laws protecting minor girls from being trafficked by a non-parent to get a secret abortion unbeknownst to their parents—one wonders what is so “devastating” about these protections. Pro-lifers are grateful for the existence of such laws that demonstrate that protective laws do, indeed, save lives.

A recent story from Florida is an example of how life-affirming laws encourage mothers to give life to their child. In January, a newborn was placed in a safe haven “baby box” located at an Ocala, Florida fire station. Safe haven “baby box” laws allow a mother or father to anonymously and safely surrender their newborn child at a continuously monitored facility (usually located at a hospital, fire station, or emergency medical facility) without fear of prosecution.

A “baby box” is a climate-controlled device installed in a conspicuous location at these facilities. When the child is placed in the box, an alarm triggers an alert to the emergency medical personnel that a child is there,

ensuring the baby’s immediate care.

Safe haven baby box laws exist in states including Arizona (called “baby drawers”), Arkansas, Florida, Indiana, Kentucky, Montana, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee.

she thankfully appeared healthy.

The firefighter said he “instantly fell in love with her” and she stopped crying when she looked into his eyes. He accompanied the infant to the hospital. He called his wife, with whom he had been trying for a child for 10 years. He told her about the child and his instant bond

assistance in their time of need. This legislative session saw an uptick in legislation to extend Medicaid coverage to postpartum women up to one year after birth; provide tax credits to promote adoption and contributions to pregnancy resource centers; and to exempt taxes on diapers.



Some of these states do not yet have actual baby boxes.

This legislative session, states like Mississippi increased the age of the child who can be surrendered to 45 days old.

The Florida firefighter and colleague who responded to the baby box alarm at their fire station found a newborn baby girl. They immediately took the girl into the station to see if she needed medical treatment, and

with her. After just a few months, the couple adopted “Zoey.”

What an amazing story of life and love. We pray, too, for the mother who placed her child in the baby box. We pray that she receives all physical and emotional support after giving Zoey a chance at life.

Safe haven baby box laws are just one example of many kinds of laws that give newborns a chance at life and allow pregnant mothers to receive practical support and

Let’s encourage our legislators to support real assistance for families in need.

The words of Pope Benedict XVI come to mind when reading the story of the mom who gave her child a chance at life at the Florida fire station: “The one who has hope lives differently; the one who hopes has been granted the gift of a new life.”

Let us pray for that mom and for the family that adopted Zoey.

# Surviving and Saving Lives in a Post-*Dobbs* world

By Carol Tobias, President

Editor's note. These remarks were delivered at Friday's opening General Session.

In this new post-*Dobbs* ERA, we have many challenges and many opportunities. We, of course, want to pass laws to protect as many children as possible. Several states are already doing that. There has been some discussion in the news and among candidates, addressing the question as to whether the *Dobbs* decision left the decision to the states and whether or not the federal government has a role to play.

The Supreme Court, when reversing *Roe*, made clear that laws were to be enacted by elected representatives. They didn't distinguish between state and federal. There is a role for the federal government.

National Right to Life has presented a plan for Congress and presidential candidates that will save lives. It is effective and doable. I'd like to read it to you:

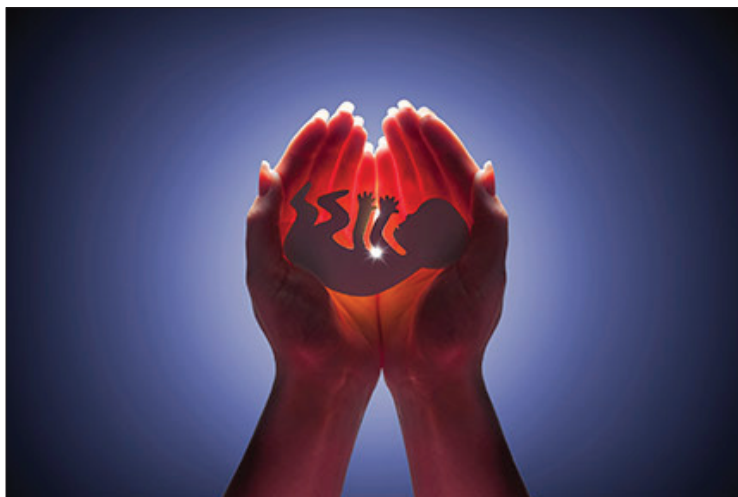
*The Role of the Federal Government in the Protection of Preborn Children*

*On June 24, 2022, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that *Roe v. Wade* was incorrectly decided, that there is no right to abortion in the U.S. Constitution. They also determined, in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, that abortion-related policies (including protections for preborn children and their mothers) should be enacted by elected representatives, not dictated by the courts.*

*Most pro-life laws and policies are being enacted at the state level. However, the federal government, from the executive branch to the U.S. Congress, is uniquely positioned, and has both the opportunity*

*and the responsibility, to protect the most vulnerable members of the human family.*

*Given the current composition of Congress, a national law protecting preborn children and their mothers from the tragedy of abortion is not*



*likely to happen in the foreseeable future. But there are still many life-affirming policies that can be enacted at the federal level that will reduce the number of abortions, help mothers, and save lives.*

*Therefore, we urge all lawmakers, as well as candidates for U.S. House, Senate, and President, to embrace the unique and transformative role the federal government has in advancing life-affirming policies in the United States. This includes:*

- *Ensuring that no taxpayer dollars are used to pay for abortion or subsidize health plans that cover or promote abortion, either in the U.S. or in other countries, and eliminating to the extent possible*

*taxpayer funding of abortion providers.*

- *Recognizing the role of parents to be involved before their minor daughter could get an abortion.*
- *Connecting mothers of newborn and*

*preborn children to resources.*

- *Protecting the lives of babies born alive following an attempted abortion.*
- *Seeking protective protocols on chemical abortions to reduce the risk of death and injury to the mother.*
- *Promoting educational initiatives (and existing right-to-know laws) to provide vital information about fetal development and the physical, mental, and emotional dangers of elective abortion.*
- *Requiring the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to collect*

*meaningful data and publish reports on abortion in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, (e.g., the number of abortions performed, the age of the mother and preborn child, complications and deaths arising from such procedures.)*

- *Protecting the conscience rights of health care personnel and entities who do not wish to perform or participate in any part of the abortion process.*
- *Nominating / confirming only federal judges and justices who will interpret the Constitution fairly and honestly according to its text and history.*

*Presidential candidates should also recognize the ability and responsibility of the chief executive to institute a whole-of-government approach (through the use of life-affirming executive orders and statements of administration policy, as well as personnel appointments, among other tools) to ensure that all Executive Branch departments promote the intrinsic value and dignity of innocent human life.*

I believe a majority of Americans would support these actions if taken by the federal

# NRL Convention celebrates one-year anniversary of *Dobbs*

By Dave Andrusko

Day two of National Right to Life's 52nd annual convention began with a joyous celebration: it was exactly one year ago today that the Supreme Court, in *Dobbs*, dispatched *Roe v. Wade* into the dustbin of history.

In the memorable words of Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito

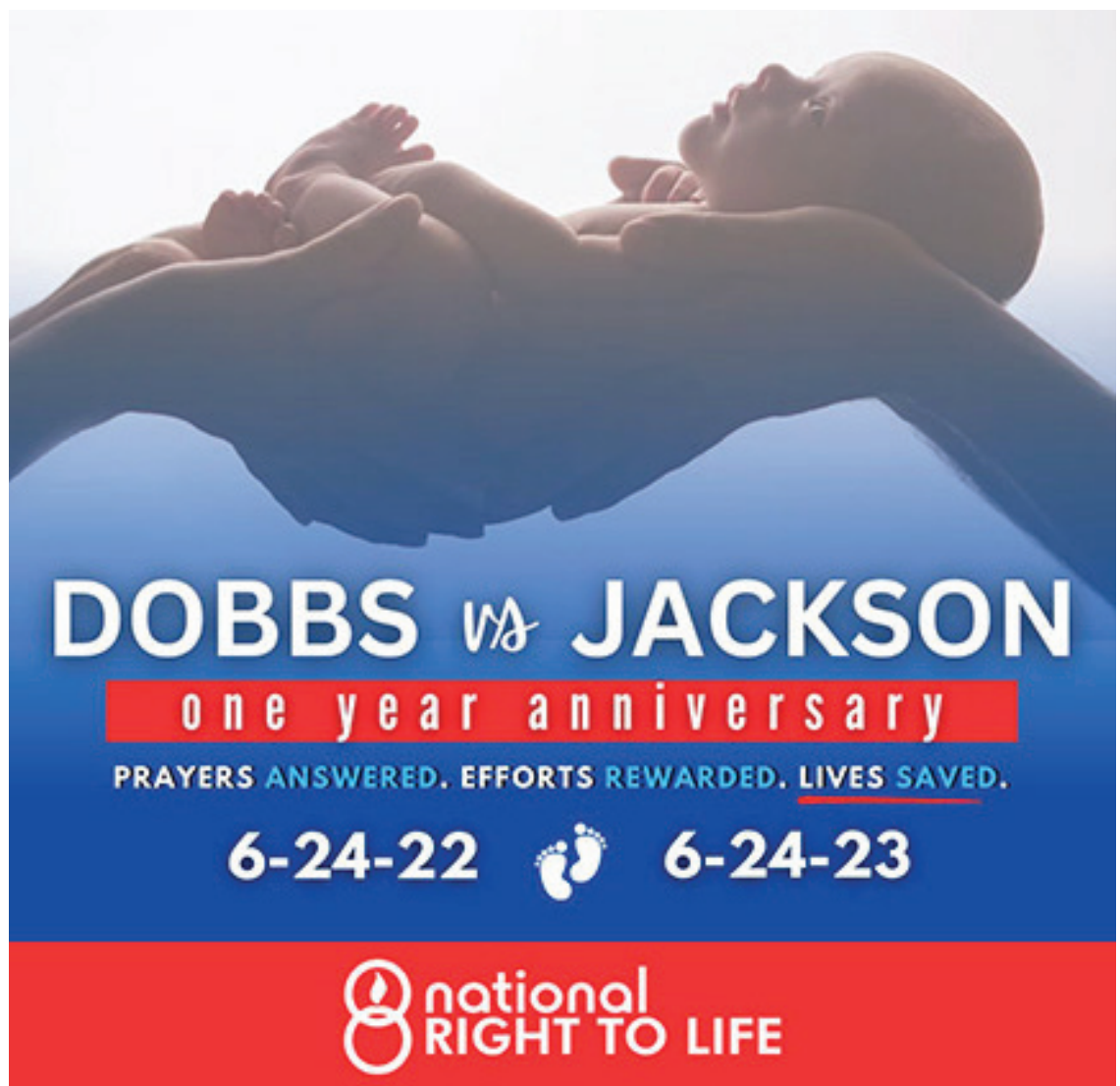
**“Roe was egregiously wrong from the start. Its reasoning was exceptionally weak, and the decision has had damaging consequences. And far from bringing about a national settlement of the abortion issue, Roe and Casey have enflamed debate and deepened division. It is time to heed the Constitution and return the issue of abortion to the people’s elected representatives. ...Our opinion is not based on any view about if and when prenatal life is entitled to any of the rights enjoyed after birth. The dissent, by contrast, would impose on the people a particular theory about when the rights of personhood begin. According to the dissent, the Constitution requires the States to regard a fetus as lacking even the most basic human right—to live—at least until an arbitrary point in a pregnancy has passed. Nothing in the Constitution or in our Nation’s legal traditions authorizes the Court to adopt that ‘theory of life.’”**

David N. O’Steen, formerly the executive director of National Right to Life, provided a fascinating explanation of the real meaning of polls taken before and after *Dobbs v. Jackson*. As he

such as for life of mother, life of mother, rape and incest, life of mother rape, incest, and medical emergency. The latter has vastly more support than the former,

James Bopp, NRLC’s general

Another sign of how the world has changed. Fifty years ago we obeyed the laws, even when we disagreed completely. But “Democrats don’t give a damn what the law says,” Bopp said.



said, “Our job is to dig deeper into the numbers.”

Using polls taken by Gallup, Maris, and McLaughlin it proved beyond a shadow of a doubt, the power of language. O’Steen contrasted “banning” abortion versus “allowing” abortion in very limited circumstances,

counsel, spoke next. “The world has changed” post-*Dobbs*, “and we must change,” he said. For example, Bopp pointed out we can have very strong pro-life laws on the books but we face the dilemma of almost 100 attorneys general who have already said they not enforce a pro-life law.

He offered concrete strategies for fighting back, including the use of civil remedies. Both Bopp and O’Steen agreed pro-lifers are used to combatting pro-abortionists and will continue to do so as long as it takes until all unborn babies are protected in law and welcome to life.



# General Sessions at the 52nd National Right to Life Convention continued to educate, inspire, and motivate

By Dave Andrusko

It's been our pleasure at *NRL News* to discuss the opening Prayer Breakfast of the 52nd annual National Right to Life Convention; the Friday Evening General Session featuring the dynamic Benjamin Watson; the Friday morning General Session discussing what the aftermath was "One Year after Dobbs," featuring experts NRLC General Counsel James Bopp, Jr. and former Executive Director David N. O'Steen, Ph.D.; and the Saturday evening closing Banquet that introduced the CEO of the *Babylon Bee*, the great Seth Dillon.

But that's just the beginning. Following the Prayer Breakfast, Wesley J. Smith, the great pro-life bioethicist, and Alex Schadenberg, executive director of the influential Euthanasia Prevention Coalition, addressed "Assisted Suicide: It's even worse than you ever imagined."

They talked, back and forth, while sitting in comfortable chairs. In Canada, where Schadenberg lives, assisted suicide has metastasized. The United States, Smith warned, is not far behind. Smith drove home the point that the reason assisted suicide has not made the same inroads in the United States is the breadth and depth of the coalition fighting it,

and particularly the opposition of the Disability Rights community.

At the general session Friday afternoon Amy Ford, the co-founder and President of "Embrace Grace," and Thomas Glessner, Founder and President of the National Institute of Family and Life Advocates (NIFLA) spoke of their ministries. Embrace Grace was formed to provide curriculum and leadership support for churches national wide to open their arms to young women with unexpected pregnancies and it is utilized by over a thousand churches. She offered the audience moving examples of what churches have done with and for these young women.

In 2018 NIFLA won a major free speech case before the Supreme Court. NIFLA represented a network of 1,400 pro-life pregnancy centers and ultrasound equipped medical clinics. California had tried to force pro-life pregnancy help centers to advertise for abortion. It should have been 9-0; the actual tally was 5 -4.

Saturday's early afternoon General Session was very important: "Abortion Survivors are NOT a pro-life myth." Lauren Eden told an incredible story of how her mother was determined to have an abortion but through

a series of delays—they were so incredible they must have come from God—her mother did not get the abortion.

Lauren was born at 26 weeks, still inside the amniotic sac. As

**her tiny two-pound, six-ounce daughter.**

Lauren told the audience that she "was a living testimony that our God is a God of miracles."



*Alex Schadenberg (left) and Wesley Smith. Behind them is Scott Fischbach, NRLC Executive Director and Jennifer Popik, J.D., director of NRLC's Medical Ethics department.*

*Photo: Lisa Andrusko*

she told Nancy Flanders

**She was taken to the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) immediately after birth — and though her mother had planned to place Lauren for adoption, she changed her mind when she saw**

Lauren told of the outreach of the Abortion Survivors Network which has connected with 666 abortion survivors. "Abortion Survivors have a voice," she said.

Speaking directly to the audience, Lauren said "You are not here by accident."



# Memorials & Tributes

You, your family, and your friends may remember a deceased loved one by making a memorial contribution to National Right to Life. This memorial gift is a fitting way to remember a lifetime of love for the unborn at the time of death. Your contribution can also be made to commemorate birthdays, new arrivals, anniversaries, Mother's Day, Father's Day, or any other special occasion. An acknowledgment card in your name will be sent to the family or person you designate. The contribution amount remains confidential.

## In Memory of

**Joan P. Allgaier**  
Michael Allgaier

**Alice Bertrand**  
Susan Reggie

**Juliet Campos**  
Juan Jose & Marisa Vizcay

**Josephine Cosby**  
Robert Jeske

**Rena Dempsey**  
John & France Yurek

**Maurice Eckstein**  
Abigail Ferrettie  
Heidi Witte

**Sean Findley**  
Joanne Findley

**Barbara Franquist**  
Candace Becker

**Abby Hernandez**  
Casey Vickery

**Dr Charlie Kelly**  
John & Joan Halajko

**Mildred Martin**  
Jacqueline Wheat

**George McAndrews**  
George & Catherine Dilles  
Karen Dioguardi  
Marbelle Gagliostro  
Troy Lester  
Joanne & Jim Serna

**Marie O'Connell**  
Cathy Longinotti  
Thomas O'Connell

**April Kyle Scatena**  
Lydia Comerford

**Alison Trester**  
Alyssa Furman

**Dorothy Wolfe**  
Wayne Wolfe

**Mieczyslaw & Helena  
Zalewski**  
Edward Zalewski

**My daughter's first baby**  
Elise Happel

**The Child I Never Had**  
Nathan Hatcher

## In Honor of

**Michelle Callender's 25th  
Birthday**  
Becky Callender

**Laverne Cuddy**  
Nicole Cuddy

**Cecelia Leroux**  
Robert Leroux

**George McAndrews**  
William Canavan

July 2023

**You can make your contribution in loving memory or in honor of someone online at [donate.nrlc.org](http://donate.nrlc.org) or by sending your contribution along with memorial and tribute information to the address below.**



*Memorials & Tributes*

Contribution  
amount



Your name \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_ In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Your address \_\_\_\_\_

Name/Address for acknowledgment card \_\_\_\_\_

**Send with a check payable to National Right to Life Committee to:  
National Right to Life Development Office | 1446 Duke Street | Alexandria, Virginia 22314**

# One Year After *Dobbs*, a Reflection on the Overturn of *Roe v. Wade*

By Maria V. Gallagher, Legislative Director, Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation

Where were you when you found out that *Roe v. Wade* had been overturned?

The historic event, made possible by the *Dobbs* decision, is seared in the minds of many of us who struggled for so long and so mightily to see *Roe* eliminated. What follows are the reflections of those who will never forget the elation they felt when the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision was finally and mercifully overturned.

**Christopher Eric Pushaw, Esq., Executive Director & General Counsel, Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation:** *There are two “I was there” events in my life I shall never forget. One was walking crosstown during 9/11. The other was attending the National Right to Life Convention in Atlanta last year, when the Dobbs opinion finally issued. I was in a morning seminar which ironically focused on how “trigger bans” would take effect should Roe be overturned. As the draft opinion had been leaked weeks before, the attendees were on high alert for possible protests or worse during the Convention. [I remember having inadvertently walked through an insensate pro-abortion rally at City Hall in Philadelphia the week before.]*

*When Dobbs dropped, all we heard from inside the conference room were screams from the hallway. While I originally feared the worst, in coming to my senses I realized how blessed I was to be in THAT moment in the epicenter of the national pro-life movement. We had waited 50 years, and the majority of us thought the day would never come when we could walk in a country not darkened by Roe’s shadow.*

*As I hugged my colleagues from across the country in relief, I noticed the tears both of joy and sorrow from women who had*

*lived through this awful scourge to see this day of triumph. Sadly, the work in Pennsylvania has just begun, but we at least labor in these fields knowing that the scales of justice tip back in our favor. —Meanwhile, Michael Ciccocioppo, former executive director of the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation from 2002*



Left to right: Maria Gallagher, Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation Legislative Director; Events Coordinator Debbie Heisey; and General Session Speaker Benjamin Watson  
Photo: Lisa Andrusko

– 2022, was also attending the National Right to Life Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, when *Roe* was overturned:

*On Friday morning, June 24, 2022 most of the speculation was that the Supreme Court was going to wait until Monday morning to announce their final decision in the Dobbs case. So the opening session of the annual convention got underway as usual.*

*What wasn’t usual was the number of news media people present. I attended most of these conventions during my 21 years at the Federation. The news media tended to ignore our gatherings. But this year many news outlets were present and covering the convention. They wanted to know what the nation’s premiere pro-life*

*organization was saying about the possible overturn of *Roe*, and they wanted to get firsthand accounts of our reactions regardless of the final decision.*

*I was monitoring the situation in Washington on my cell phone. So when the decision was announced I left the convention room right away to make some phone calls. Maura*

**affirming outreach called The Voice of John. She was at church the day of the Dobbs decision:** *Little could I have imagined turning on the news later that day and hearing the words “The United States Supreme Court has overturned the U.S. Constitutional right to abortion.”*

*Tears just flowed as I sat alone in disbelief. Tears for JOHN, for 63 million children dead, for mothers wounded. Tears for the lives that would be saved. An overwhelming sense of hope and simultaneously, the question of what “Constitutional right” were they alluding to.*

*A civil rights victory had been won that day, and yet I knew that our work was not yet done. But on that day, I knelt before my statue of the Sacred Heart and said those words from 2 Chronicles “If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.” I felt empowered to continue the good fight; I felt honored to have had some small part in the greatest civil rights battle in history. God save the people.*

**Bonnie Finnerty formerly served as Education Director for the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation. Here are her insights:** *Sometimes it’s years or even decades after a particular event that one realizes its significance. That was not the case with the overturn of *Roe v. Wade*. The import of the Dobbs decision was immediately felt and to us pro-lifers it was a feeling of sheer exuberance.*

**Maryann Lawhon, a seasoned pro-life advocate, runs a life-**

# EXCLUSIVE: Medical resident says hospital left baby to die after failed abortion

By Anonymous

*Editor's note. The following is adapted from a letter to the editor of Live Action News [https://www.liveaction.org/news/medical-resident-hospital-baby-die-failed-abortion]*

I am an Emergency Medicine resident in [redacted for privacy].... While on my OB/GYN rotation at an outside hospital, a woman experiencing a failed abortion came to the hospital. The mom had [an abortion injury] and they transferred her to the hospital. While there, she ended up going into labor. She was 21-23 weeks along when she delivered a beautiful baby girl.

The staff expected the baby to “expire” immediately, but she began crying.

I walked into my night shift, and the baby lay in a bassinet alone. I asked who the cute baby was, and this is when I was told “it” was an abortion attempt and they were just waiting on “it” to die.

## THE ATTENDING DOCTOR CLAIMED “PALLIATIVE CARE IS MEDICAL CARE” – AND LEFT THE BABY TO DIE

For the extent of my rotation, the attending OB/GYN doctor criticized pro-life states and talked about how she is working for legislation to have better ‘abortion care.’ She claimed that “palliative care is medical care” based on the law — and when the baby was born alive, she did nothing. She did not call

pediatrics or a rapid response but stated the baby was an abortion attempt and unwanted, so she would provide palliative care to satisfy the law that requires medical care to be provided.

I picked up the baby and was berated by one of the residents, who instructed me to “put it back because the nurses need to keep checking on it to document when it dies.” I declined, and sat there crying for the remainder of the subsequent sign-out and shift. I was helpless and there was nothing I could do. She had already been alive at that point a few hours, but without respiratory support, I knew she already was experiencing organ failure.

When an unrelated medical emergency caused the entire OB team to rush to the OR, I was an emergency resident just there for my 10 deliveries as required by my program, so I took the baby to a room alone, prayed over her, and sang to her.

The Lord gave me the name “Ada” for the baby, which I later learned means “adornment.” Ada died a few hours later.

I put her back in the bassinet, and she was referred to as “dead baby” by many of the nurses throughout the night. The attending doctor who came on night shift later officially pronounced her dead and remarked, “She could have been president” — making me wonder if she, too, was possibly pro-life.

In my mind, Ada was mine. Even though I’m a single female still in training, I had every

intention of adopting her if she had survived.

I often think about the baby’s mom, too, who heard her baby cry before they rushed the baby

other organs. While practicing, all my colleagues were joking that you get the baby from the uterus and “throw it away” because “we don’t care about a fetus and only



from the room. She was later discharged after being treated for complications. I know she is likely suffering, and was left without any support or counseling.

## “THEY THREW THE SIMULATION BABY ACROSS THE ROOM”

I don’t think people realize that these types of situations are happening even in our hospitals. This little girl clearly looked like a baby. I don’t understand how anyone could see her and do nothing.

Some time later, we participated in a training simulation for perimortem c-sections. By definition, this is performed on women with viable pregnancies “to save the mother” by diverting blood flow away from the uterus and to her

want to focus on helping the mom.” They even took the simulation baby and *threw it across the room*. Again, this procedure is performed on viable babies who could be 24 or even 39 weeks!

I was pretty quiet after this all happened, trying to keep my emotions in check while thinking about Ada — and was essentially chased down the hallway by some fellow residents who lectured me to not *let my politics influence patient care*, which I found ironic.

I’m hoping Ada’s story can shine light on what’s happening every day, with these sorts of things done even by medical professionals.

*Editor's Note: This story has been adapted and is being published anonymously for the safety and privacy of the author.*

# Premature Triplets Graduate High School as Co-Valedictorians

By Kim Schwartz, Texas Right to Life

Ohio triplets Sadie, Gage, and Caydin Barker have defied the odds throughout their lives. Born prematurely at just 34 weeks on September 30, 2004, the Barker triplets recently accomplished a remarkable feat—they graduated as co-valedictorians and salutatorian of their high school class.

Caydin and Sadie were named co-valedictorians at Sebring McKinley High School, while Gage earned the title of salutatorian, according to *NBC 15*. These outstanding students were also members of the National Honor Society, demonstrating their commitment to academic excellence.

Reflecting on their journey, their mother, Becky Pusateri-Barker, recalled the challenging circumstances surrounding their birth. In 2004, she was carrying quadruplets, but tragically lost one of them in the second trimester. To ensure the survival of her remaining three children, she spent an incredible 83 days in the hospital, fighting to delay labor and provide her babies with crucial development time.

Those arduous days in the hospital, Pusateri-Barker shared, were some of the most demanding she had ever experienced. Nevertheless, she expressed gratitude for the outcome, saying, “They have been our biggest blessing and our greatest reward.”

On May 21, the triplets proudly graduated alongside their classmates. They have ambitious plans for their future education: Sadie will attend

the University of Cincinnati to leave home. She anticipates making frequent four-hour drives to Cincinnati and sending care packages to support them on their respective journeys.

this baby girl was highlighted in the journal *Pediatrics* in 2017.

In 2022, twins Adiah and Adrial Nadarajah from Ontario, Canada, achieved a significant milestone.



the University of Cincinnati with aspirations of pursuing law school, Gage will study at the Electrical Lineman trade school, and Caydin will delve into electrical engineering at the University of Cincinnati.

Their mother, while immensely proud of their accomplishments, admits to feeling a tinge of sadness as her children prepare

Medical advancements in recent years have allowed younger and smaller premature babies to thrive. Notably, the smallest recorded surviving baby weighed less than 9 ounces at birth in California. The earliest known premature baby to survive outside the womb was born at just 21 weeks and four days of pregnancy. The survival story of

Born at exactly 22 weeks of pregnancy, they were considered “non-viable.” However, they defied the odds and became the youngest premature twins to survive, earning a place in the Guinness Book of World Records. Their parents, devout Christians, attributed their survival to the power of prayer and their unwavering faith in God.

# Nearly 10,000 babies saved by Texas pro-life law, new analysis indicates

By Sam Dorman

A new study from Johns Hopkins University indicates that Texas' 2021 "heartbeat bill" saved nearly 10,000 babies from abortion, providing additional corroboration for the effectiveness of pro-life laws.

Released on Thursday, the study came amid a flurry of news that women were crossing state lines in the year after the Supreme Court overturned *Roe* and allowed individual states to impose greater restrictions on the procedure. But according to Hopkins' study, which attempted to account for travel to neighboring states, "out-of-state abortions did not fully offset the overall decrease in facility-based abortions in the post-SB 8 period."

The researchers, which included two affiliated with Planned Parenthood, added: "This decrease in facility-based abortion care suggests that many Texas residents continued their pregnancies, traveled beyond a neighboring state, or self-managed their abortion. Moreover, the decrease that occurred following SB 8—when Texas residents could obtain care in all neighboring states—might be even greater now that Texas and many surrounding states have banned abortions."

In total, Hopkins statistical modeling projected that Texas' law was associated with 9,799 "additional live births" in the state. Dr. Allison Gemmill, a Hopkins assistant professor, used

the term "extra" to describe the births – phrasing that provoked criticism on social media.

"There has been a lot of speculation about how restrictive abortion policies will affect the number of babies being born. This research adds valuable information to that discussion," said Gemmill.

the U.S. as unknown numbers of women may seek underground procedures or pills. Yet and still, pro-life and pro-abortion organizations have both produced data alongside analyses that restrictions result in living babies who might have otherwise been killed in the womb.

The pro-abortion Society for

businesses and pro-abortion advocates often complain about the prohibitive costs of the procedure, including from the travel yielded by closing facilities. Just months after the Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs*, the Guttmacher Institute noted that 66 abortion facilities had stopped offering "abortion care."



"Although our study doesn't detail why these extra births occurred, our findings strongly suggest that a considerable number of pregnant individuals in Texas were unable to overcome barriers to abortion access."

*The Washington Post's* Caroline Kitchener reiterated that phrasing, prompting some to call her out on Twitter.

It's difficult to capture the full scope of abortions that occur in

Family Planning has indicated as much and recently released an updated estimate of 24,000 fewer abortions post-*Dobbs* (though this estimate did not include self-managed abortions).

Earlier this week, CLI scholar Michael New also released a revised estimate of 2,566,968 lives saved by the Hyde Amendment, which blocks federal funding for most abortion.

This makes sense as abortion

Since then, news has surfaced that other abortion facilities – like three from Planned Parenthood in Iowa – were shutting their doors.

Newly enacted pro-life laws and corresponding lawsuits have also created an uncertain legal landscape that ultimately stifles or outright halts abortions within states.

*Editor's note: This appeared at Live Action News and is reposted with permission.*

# Rasmussen Reports find majority support for *Dobbs* when reminded the decision overturning *Roe* meant abortion would be decided by each state

By Dave Andrusko

By now, after five decades, pro-lifers appreciate how abortion polls can be so constructed that a pro-abortion conclusion is baked in. That starts with asking the wrong questions about the Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* that overturned the odious 1973 *Roe v. Wade* and the 1992 *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* decisions.

But on June 29, Rasmussen Reports ran a story under this eye-opener of a headline: "Majority Now Approve SCOTUS Abortion Ruling."

Note the straightforward question: "Last year, the Supreme Court overturned the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision, so that each state can now determine its own laws regarding abortion. Do you approve or disapprove of the court overturning *Roe v. Wade*?"

No tilt either way. Here's some of the key breakdowns of the survey taken of 1,051 Likely Voters:

"The latest Rasmussen Reports national telephone and online survey finds that 52% of Likely U.S. Voters approve of the court overturning *Roe v. Wade*, including 37% who Strongly Approve. Forty-four percent (44%) disapprove, including 36% who Strongly Disapprove of the decision. Last June, 50% approved of the Supreme Court's ruling."

Not surprisingly, Republican support the outcome—72%—more than Democrats but what is surprising is that a third of Democrats—34%—also approve. As always, Independents are pivotal with "51% approving the court's decision returning abortion

to states and 44% disapproving."

So what exactly explains the different outcomes?

Other polls omitted the crucial fact that the abortion issue has now returned to the states;



instead the question would just ask about whether they approved or disapproved of "overturning *Roe*" or overturning a woman's "constitutional right" to have an abortion.

By contrast, the Rasmussen Reports matter-of-factly reminds Likely Voters that *Dobbs* means "that each state can now determine its own laws regarding abortion."

Some more data from the Rasmussen Reports latest abortion poll:

- **Fifty-nine percent (59%) of men and 46% of women voters at least somewhat**

**approve of the court's decision overturning *Roe v. Wade*. ...**

- **Forty-nine percent (49%) of whites, 57% of black voters**

**Court ruling, while those under 40 are most likely to think the abortion issue will be important in next year's election.**

Gallup released a poll on June 14 which asked different questions, such as under what circumstances abortion should be legal. The story was headlined "Broader Support for Abortion Rights Continues Post-Dobbs" which was true but misleading.

The key difference from polls other than Gallup's is that ever since 1975 Gallup has asked people what they meant when they say they believed abortion should be legal "only under certain circumstances." Did that mean they want abortion to be legal "in most or only a few circumstances?"

Gallup's Lydia Saad wrote, "Specifically, close to half of Americans, 47%, now say abortion should be legal in all (34%) or most (13%) circumstances, while a similar proportion, 49%, want it legal in only a few (36%) or illegal in all (13%) circumstances."

What were the numbers a year ago in the post-*Dobbs* frenzy?

Gallup found that 53% said abortion should be legal in all (35%) or most (18%) circumstances while 45% said it should be legal in few (32%) or no (13%) circumstances.

So on this benchmark question this year's results showed a net gain of about 4% for the pro-life side. That is important to remember.

**and 57% of other minorities at least somewhat approve of the Supreme Court overturning *Roe v. Wade*.**

- **Eighty-nine percent (89%) of whites, 81% of black voters and 72% of other minorities think abortion will be at least a somewhat important issue in the 2024 election.**
- **Voters 65 and older are most likely to approve of last year's Supreme**

# Indiana Supreme Court overturns judge's decision, rules new abortion law does not violate state Constitution

By Dave Andrusko

On June 30th, the Indiana Supreme Court vacated a temporary injunction issued by Judge Kelsey B. Hanlon against Senate Enrolled Act 1, ruling that the state's new comprehensive pro-life law does not violate the state constitution.

“The court's decision overturns a county judge's ruling that the ban likely violates the state constitution's privacy protections, which she said are stronger than those found in the U.S. Constitution,” reported *The Associated Press's* Tom Davies. “That judge's order has allowed abortions to continue in Indiana since September, despite the ban.”

The Indiana legislature was the first to take advantage of the Supreme Court's *Dobbs* decision overturning *Roe*. Senate Bill 1,

signed by Gov. Eric Holcomb in August, allows abortions only in cases of rape or incest, when there's a serious risk to the life of the mother or when fatal fetal anomalies are present.

Justice Derek R. Molter wrote that the state's constitution “protects a woman's right to an abortion that is necessary to protect her life or to protect her from a serious health risk, but the General Assembly otherwise retains broad legislative discretion for determining whether and the extent to which to prohibit abortions.”

The plaintiffs—“which included Planned Parenthood and multiple other health care providers — unsuccessfully brought a ‘facial’ challenge to the entire law, alleging that the abortion ban is always

unconstitutional and should therefore be voided,” Casey Smith of the *Indiana Capital Chronicle* reported. “The state Supreme



Court said the providers ‘cannot show a reasonable likelihood of success’ with that challenge, however.”

The court's decision strikes down the injunction blocking the ban, Davies wrote, but “it wasn't immediately clear how soon the ban would take effect. The justices returned the case to the

county judge for further action.”

Meanwhile there is a second separate challenge to Indiana's Senate Bill 1 from litigants who claim it infringed on their right to exercise their religion under Indiana's Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA). That challenge was upheld in December by Marion County Judge Heather Welch who also put an injunction on the law.

Attorney General Todd Rokita's office “is appealing the RFRA lawsuit decision,” according to the *Indianapolis Star*. “It was recently given class action status, meaning if plaintiffs win the near-total abortion ban would no longer apply to Hoosiers whose religion permits abortion under the circumstances outlawed by Senate Bill 1.”

## One Year After *Dobbs*, a Reflection on the Overturn of *Roe v. Wade*

From Page 18

*I happened to be attending the National Right to Life Convention when the news broke. Hundreds of us were listening to a presentation inside a huge ballroom when an excited voice from the hallway boomed “Roe is overturned!”*

*Quiet blanketed the attendees. And then the dam broke! Joyful exclamations, teary hugs, and prayers of thanksgiving flooded the ballroom. We gleefully rode the massive wave of a long-awaited, hard-fought victory!*

*As a relative newcomer to the movement, I looked around and realized that many in the room had worked against all odds, overcome innumerable obstacles, and experienced discouraging setbacks as they*

*sought to restore legal protection of the unborn. But they persisted, laboring diligently for 30, 40, even 50 years for this precise moment!*

*THIS was the culmination of their life's work! Their blood, sweat, and tears in fighting for the fundamental right to life were now paying off. I was overcome with gratitude for their commitment to justice. I am so thankful for such heroes. They are the civil rights champions of our generation.*

*While everyone at the convention remained elated, there was a recognition that the fight is not quite over, just shifting.*

*Yet a new day has dawned. A new hope is rising. And the pro-life movement is the brightest and strongest it has ever been!*



# The post-*Roe* era offers promise and possibility—and I am here for it!

By Maria V. Gallagher, Legislative Director, Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation

My Fourth of July festivities seemed brighter this year, and my appreciation of my country appeared greater than ever. Why?

Because I celebrate last year's overturn of the dreadful *Roe v. Wade* U.S. Supreme Court decision. I honor my nation for doing the right thing—determining that there is no federal Constitutional Right to abortion, which takes the life of an innocent human and wounds that child's mother.

I feel more patriotic, knowing that our Supreme Court is back on the track of strict Constructionism. The High Court is no longer reading the Constitution as a pro-abortion blueprint but recognizing it as a time-tested document which mentions nothing of a so-called “right to abortion.”

Since the June 24, 2022, *Dobbs* decision, laws have been enacted in a number of states to provide protection for



the preborn child and her mother. Lives are being saved and hearts are being changed, and that is cause for a red-white-and-blue celebration!

Certainly, we have battles ahead to ensure that every child is welcomed in life and protected under the law. But we have made significant progress in turning the ship of state around through last year's *Dobbs* decision.

We can move boldly forward, knowing that we are no longer ham-strung by a disastrous 1973 Supreme Court decision which caused the deaths of an estimated 64 million preborn children and caused countless numbers of women to suffer the unspeakable pain of losing a child. The post-*Roe* era offers promise and possibility—and I am here for it!

As technicolor fireworks fill the skies, let us celebrate the marvel of human life, and rededicate ourselves to protecting it.

# Gov. Reynolds calls Iowa legislators back for a special session to enact legislation "that addresses abortion and protects unborn lives"

By Dave Andrusko

Undeterred by a non-decision decision by the Iowa Supreme Court, pro-life Gov. Kim Reynolds said she was calling legislators back to the Iowa Capital on Tuesday for special session "with the sole purpose of enacting legislation that addresses abortion and protects unborn lives." The tie vote means abortion in the first 20 weeks of a pregnancy remains legal in Iowa.

Gov. Reynolds was responding to the June 15 Iowa Supreme Court's 3-3 deadlock regarding a lower court injunction against Iowa's 2018 Fetal Heartbeat Law. The 2018 law was designed to protect unborn babies from abortion after the heartbeat has been detected. The split decision by the Iowa Supreme Court allows a lower court injunction against the law to stand.

On the day the Iowa Supreme Court punted on the Heartbeat law, Gov. Reynold said "To say that today's lack of action by the Iowa Supreme Court is a disappointment is an understatement. Not only does it disregard Iowa voters who elected representatives willing to stand up for the rights of unborn children, but it has sided with a single judge in a single county who struck down Iowa's legislation based on principles that now have been flat-out rejected by the U.S. Supreme Court. There is no fundamental right to abortion and any law restricting it should be reviewed on a rational basis standard – a fact acknowledged today by three of the justices. Still, without an affirmative decision, there is no justice for the unborn."

Last Wednesday, when she announced the special session, Reynolds said, "I believe the

pro-life movement is the most important human rights cause of our time. Not only will I continue to fight against the inhumanity of abortion, but I will also remain committed to supporting women in planning for motherhood, promoting fatherhood and parenting, and continuing policies that encourage strong families.



Pro-life Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds

These are the most essential building blocks of our society, and they are what will keep the foundation of our state and country strong for generations to come."

In an emailed statement, Speaker of the Iowa House Pat Grassley said, "While Democrats across the country continue to devalue the life of an unborn child, Iowa House Republicans are unapologetically pro-life. Iowans know we will defend life and have grown our majority." Grassley added, "We believe strongly that the 2018 Heartbeat Law was a good piece of legislation that will save many innocent lives. It is past time for the will of Iowans to be heard and for the heartbeat bill with exceptions for rape, incest, and life of the mother, to be the

law of the land in Iowa."

## BACKGROUND

When Judge Celene Gogerty declined to reinstate the law, it left in place the 2019 injunction issued by Judge Michael Huppert. Last summer, however, the Iowa Supreme Court reversed its 2018 ruling that there is a fundamental

allow the law to take effect.

Reynolds promptly appealed that decision, sending the case to the Iowa Supreme Court where the justices heard the case for and against allowing the fetal heartbeat to go into effect.

But "The court's 3-3 deadlock," the *Des Moines Register* reported, "means the district court's order is the final say on the matter, and the law will remain permanently blocked." Justice Dana Oxley recused herself, which had always raised the possibility of a stalemate.

The newly introduced bill is similar but not identical to the 2018 law. It would prohibit most abortions after fetal heart activity is detected. "The bill creates exceptions for abortions necessary to save the life of the mother, for pregnancies that resulted from rape or incest, and for fetal abnormalities that are 'incompatible with life,'" according to Katie Akin and Stephen Gruber-Miller of the *Register* [<https://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/politics/2023/07/07/abortion-in-iowa-lawmakers-to-reconsider-2018-fetal-heartbeat-law/70391268007>].

So what is the tentative schedule look like? According to Akin and Gruber-Miller

"The House Health and Human Services Committee will hold a public hearing on the bill at 9:30 a.m. The hearing will last for 90 minutes. Supporters and opponents of the bill will alternate two-minute speeches.

"The Senate State Government Committee will consider and subcommittee and committee must conclude by 2 p.m., according to a drafted Senate Resolution."

right to abortion under the Iowa Constitution. They did so one week before the United States Supreme Court, in *Dobbs*, overturned *Roe v. Wade*.

"With the door opened to reviving the 'fetal heartbeat' law, lawyers for Governor Reynolds filed a motion asking the trial court to lift the injunction, arguing that it has the authority to modify or vacate an injunction if there has been a substantial change in the facts or law," according to Rox Laird of *Courthouse News*. In her seventeen page decision, Judge Gogerty, in essence, argued her hands were tied—that she does not have the authority to dissolve the permanent injunction placed on the law by Judge Huppert and

# Harris' net-negative rating (-17) is the lowest for any vice president in the history of *NBC News's* poll

By Dave Andrusko

The truth is inescapable: the pro-abortion team of President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris has reached new depths in public opinion support. You have headlines such as “Why Democrats Should Primary Biden: It would be good for the party — and the president”; “Joe Biden sees public confidence plunge in humiliating Fourth of July poll”; and “Kamala Harris Receives Lowest Vice President Rating in Poll History.”

In a word, yikes!

Veteran media reporter Jack Shafer just crushed the president:

**President Joe Biden needs a tuneup. He's a stiff when speaking at the lectern. When not a stiff, the 80-year-old can be a dolt, saying, as he did this week, that Russian President Vladimir Putin is “losing the war in Iraq” when he meant Ukraine, or blurting out a senseless, “God save the Queen, man,” at a gun control rally last week. The English language has never been his friend, so it's logical that his managers, er, his aides, have limited his exposure to the press.**

The “tuneup” could be almost anyone but Harris:

**But when was the last time somebody you trust told you Harris could easily fill those shoes, let alone sprint to the nomination if the hereafter called Biden home before November 2024?**

Jacob Paul, writing for the *Daily*

*Mail*, started with plunging public confidence.

**But now, the US has plummeted to the bottom of the charts under Biden's leadership, with a staggering 69 percent of Americans saying they do not have confidence.**

**While Gallup notes Americans' confidence has declined sharply over the years, there was a six percent drop when Biden first assumed power, falling from 46 percent to 40 percent.**

**Support dropped again to 31 percent in 2022, matching the record-low levels of confidence seen in 2013, 2016 and 2018.**

Of course, as we get closer to the 2024 presidential election, there will be more and more talk about Biden's less and less ability to handle the job due to his age. Writing for the *Daily Express US*, Paul observes

**Meanwhile, in a DailyMail.com/J.L. Partners poll conducted from June 12 to 15, 71 percent of those likely to vote in the presidential election believe the 80-year-old is too senior to be running the show from Washington D.C.**

**It was not just Republicans who held this view as even 49 percent of Democrats believe the right candidate should be younger.**

**Meanwhile, just 28 percent think he is “about the right age.”**

As for Vice President Harris, it's going from bad to worse. On

Monday's “Meet the Press: First Read” we're told

**Data Download: The number of the day is ... 32%**

**That's the share of registered voters in a new**

**protect abortion rights at both the state and federal level.” After she left the stage, the vice president requested an exclusive interview with Teen Vogue, because she**



*Pro-abortion Vice President Kamala Harris*

**NBC News poll who say they have a positive view of Vice President Kamala Harris. That's compared with 49% who have a negative view of her, including 39% who have a “very negative” view.**

**Harris' net-negative rating (-17) is the lowest for any vice president in the poll's history.**

Of late, Harris has done all the heavy lifting on several controversial topics, including abortion. Here's a sample, from Abigail Olsson:

**At the one-year anniversary of the Dobbs ruling, Harris gave a speech in Charlotte, “highlighting the fight to**

**wanted the teen readers to know that they “are leaders” in the pro-abortion movement.**

**“You are leaders by virtue of the fact that you are reading this,” she said. “And I'm counting on you because your voice and your perspective is so important to the future of our country. And one of the significant ways you will express your voice is with your vote, your ability to organize, [and] your ability to remind each other that you are leaders and can help lead the direction of our country.”**

What a pair.

# Supporters of a pro-abortion amendment to the Ohio constitution file enough signatures to put measure on the November ballot

By Dave Andrusko

On July 5th pro-abortionists submitted more than 700,000 signatures to Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose to place a radical constitutional amendment on the November ballot.

including abortion, contraception and miscarriage care.” Supporters expect to spend at least \$35 million, which underestimated what opponents believe they will spend by at least \$15 million.

Ohioans for Reproductive Freedom and Protect Choice Ohio worked together to collect signatures for the proposed constitutional amendment, according to Balmert. “Members

daughter who is being pressured into an abortion or even a sex change operation.”

Range said that help was needed to defeat the measure and outlined three steps pro-lifers should take:

1. **Pray.** Specifically, pray every morning at 7:14 a.m. and every evening at 7:14 p.m. In a spirit of 2 Chronicles 7:14, which states: “If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”
2. **Volunteer.** We need door-knockers, phone bankers, and local county captains willing to bring awareness to this extreme amendment.
3. **Donate.** We expect the ACLU and their allies to spend 50 million dollars here in Ohio to pass their extreme anti-parent, anti-life agenda. Please, consider giving all you have for the cause of life and for family here in our state: [www.ohiolife.org/donate](http://www.ohiolife.org/donate).



“Backers of the measure filed 710,131 signatures – more than the required 413,487 signatures to account for possible errors and mistakes,” Jessie Balmert reported for *The Columbus Dispatch*.

‘The proposed amendment to the state constitution would ensure ‘every individual has a right to make and carry out one’s reproductive decisions,’

“The ACLU’s attempts to hijack Ohio’s constitution to further its own radical agenda would be pathetic if they weren’t so dangerous,” said Protect Women Ohio spokeswoman Amy Natoce, citing the American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio’s involvement in the ballot measure. Opponents say that proponents relied on paid signature collectors to make the ballot.

include Planned Parenthood Advocates of Ohio and Ohio Physicians for Reproductive Rights.”

Peter Range, CEO of Ohio Right to Life said “The ACLU’s radical amendment would allow for abortion until birth with no protections for the preborn. Additionally, it would eliminate parental rights and notification laws if you have a teenage

# Mississippi AG launches donation campaign for crisis pregnancy centers surrounding *Dobbs* anniversary

*The donation drive being spearheaded by AG Lynn Fitch is an opportunity for pro-lifers around the country to contribute to families in need.*

By Jean Mondoro

The attorney general of Mississippi announced this week a collaborative Dobbs Donation Drive for pro-life pregnancy centers across the country, launched in celebration of the one-year anniversary of the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*.

Republican Attorney General Lynn Fitch, whose defense of Mississippi's 15-week abortion ban led to the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* Supreme Court decision that there is no Constitutional "right" to abortion in America, announced the initiative in a Twitter post on Tuesday.

"One year ago, the Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade* and returned policy making about this very important issue to the people with the Mississippi Dobbs decision," Fitch began her brief video message. "The task now falls to us to pass the laws that match the compassion in our hearts, to pass the laws that both empower women and promote life."

"Across the United States, there are about 3,000 pregnancy centers," Fitch continued. "These centers provide loving care and practical support to

women and their babies, before and after birth. These centers are usually staffed by volunteers, and they rely on the generosity



*Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch*

of others to support their good work."

She told listeners that her team is joining forces with pro-life organizations and attorneys general throughout the U.S. to gather donations for crisis pregnancy centers in numerous states. The goal of the drive is "showing these centers that we

appreciate the work that they do" and "showing these women and children that we're here for them."

are sent directly to the facilities, which are in turn distributed to women and children in need.

"We asked the Court for this job," Fitch said at the end of her message. "Let's show them how we're rising to the challenge: empowering women and promoting life."

The Dobbs Donation Drive comes amid a slew of initiatives and legislation to promote life in post-*Roe* America. In Mississippi, Republican Gov. Tate Reeves recently signed eight bills which will increase state support for alternatives to abortion. Similarly, crisis pregnancy centers in Tennessee were given up to \$100 million, as Republican Gov. Bill Lee announced in February.

After pro-life laws were established in Texas, locals bought a building previously used to murder the unborn and transformed it into a parenting support center. In April, a Florida hockey team donated ticket proceeds to local pro-life pregnancy organizations.

*Editor's note. This appeared at Life Site News and is reposted with permission.*

To participate, pro-lifers are encouraged to select a state from the website, which includes a list of crisis pregnancy centers in the given states along with a wish list for each. From the registry, participants may select as many or as few items they wish to purchase as material help for the pro-life center. All donations

# Abortion provider sends woman abortion pills not realizing she's 32-34 weeks pregnant

By Monica Snyder, Executive Director, Secular Pro-Life

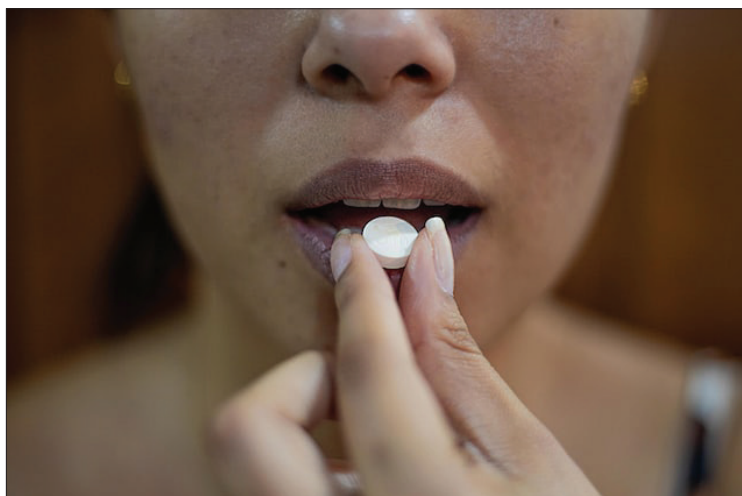
The *BBC* published “Mother jailed for taking abortion pills after legal limit,” neglecting to mention in the title just how far past the legal limit the mother was.

In the UK it's legal to induce an abortion at home via pills up to 10 weeks gestation, get an elective abortion in a clinic up to 24 weeks gestation, and abort up until birth if there is a fetal diagnosis (including Down syndrome).

It used to be the case that abortion providers had to see a woman in person before providing her pills in order to examine her for, among other factors, probable gestational age. During COVID, BPAS (basically the British Planned Parenthood) and others lobbied to legalize abortion via telemedicine (which involves all sorts of higher risks).

BPAS provided Carla Foster abortion pills via telemedicine

after she indicated she was 7 weeks pregnant. She was actually 32-34 weeks pregnant (a reality that would have been impossible



to miss had they examined her). Her daughter was born not breathing and was confirmed dead 45 minutes later.

Foster was initially charged with

child destruction, which she denied. She plead guilty to administering drugs to procure illegal abortion. She will spend at least 14 months

in custody, away from her three sons, including one with special needs. During sentencing the judge reflected that this is a tragic case, and Foster is clearly wracked by

guilt. Historically there have been similar reactions to mothers who commit infanticide. There are no victors here. Just trauma and death.

Does BPAS view this case as an example of the risks of telemedicine abortion? No. Instead they and other abortion activists are using Foster's case to argue that a law which allows abortion for any reason up until 24 weeks and for fetal anomaly up until birth is “archaic,” and that “we need urgent reform to make safe access for all women in England, Scotland, and Wales a human right.”

They're arguing that aborting a 32-34 week healthy fetus should be a human right. What else is there to say?

*Editor's note. This appeared at Secular Pro-Life and is reposted with permission.*

## Celebrate a baby, not a “fetus”

By Dave Andrusko

Focus on the Family has produced some terrific pro-life videos. Reading Gary Bauer today, I was directed to “It's a baby,” which brought a smile to my face.

Of course, it's not the first time a pro-life organization has pointed out how clunky, how absurd it is to call a baby a “fetus.” [www.choice42.com](http://www.choice42.com) has produced a whole series of hilarious video including here.

Choice42.com pokes fun at the absurdity of other standard pro-abortion arguments such as here and here.

The Focus ad starts with a woman happily telling her husband “We're having a “fetus””; a woman looking at a monitor about to deliver her “fetus””; a couple of guys jogging with one asking the other if they'd picked out any names for the “fetus””; and a doctor encouraging a woman to deliver her “fetus.”

Just before Focus lowers the boom, we hear a voice over saying, “Focus on the Family would like to remind you...that no matter where you are on your pregnancy journey, call it what you want but the truth does not change...”

We then see a very pregnant women asking their young daughter, “You want to feel the fetus kick?” The young girl looks at her Mom and Dad and patiently informs them, “Ah, It's a baby.”

The voice over ends the one minute long video with “It's still a baby.”

Out of the mouths of babes... [[www.youtube.com/watch?v=KZH5RKvMbJo&t=2s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KZH5RKvMbJo&t=2s)].



# NRLC Oratory Contest Winner Turns the Tables on the Pro-abortion Attacks on Pregnancy Resource Centers

By Lisa Andrusko

Public speaking is usually at the top of people's biggest fears, but not for the high school-age contestants who participated in this year's National Right to Life Oratory Contest. The contest is held every year in conjunction with the National Right to Life Convention, this year hosted by the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation in Pittsburgh. Each participating state sends their winning contestant to the National

American Medical Association Journal of Ethics and titled 'Why Crisis Pregnancy Centers are Legal but Unethical.' Accusation after accusation was thrown at crisis pregnancy centers," Clare says of the AMA article.

Then she cleverly pivots, and using studies and health department reports, sets out to prove that "each accusation was actually true of abortion clinics. Now let's consider how abortion

guides to medical practice." And again, Clare, takes those four principles and lays out that it is in fact the abortion clinics who miserably fail to adhere to those guiding principles.

Director, said "Congratulations to Clare and to all those who participated in the 2023 National Right to Life Oratory Contest." He added, "To participate in the 2024 National Right to Life Oratory



Clare C. from Waterford, Pennsylvania giving her winning speech at the 2023 NRLC Convention.  
Photo: Lisa Andrusko

Right to Life Contest, where their speeches are judged by people from around the country.

The 2023 winner was Pennsylvania's own Clare C. from Waterford. She was presented an award and check and gave her speech before Seth Dillon's talk at the closing Banquet.

Clare, the ninth of ten children and home educated, began her speech by pointing out that an internet search for crisis pregnancy centers brings up not a list of locations but "article after article appears bashing them. They are called unethical, fake clinics, and providers of misinformation. The first article that came up for me was by the

clinics are legal but unethical."

Clare recounts how the Pennsylvania facility run by infamous abortionist Kermit Gosnell violated the HIPAA Act by failing to secure patients' private information. She notes that "none, not one, of the five Illinois Planned Parenthood facilities, the nation's top abortion provider, were licensed by the state. Not only that, but of the 13 clinics that were licensed almost 200 health, and sanitary, and life code violations were discovered."

Finally, Clare tells her audience that the AMA article claims that these pro-life pregnancy centers "don't abide by the four fundamental principles that are



Left to right: First Place Clare C. of Pennsylvania; 2nd Miriam P. of Oregon; Katharine R. of Virginia; Kinsey C. of Indiana  
Photo: Lisa Andrusko

"Therefore," Clare concludes, "by the four fundamental principles, by their unlicensed status, and by their violation of HIPAA it is the abortion clinics which are legal but unethical."

Oratory Contest Coordinator Scott Fischbach, NRLC Executive

Contest, please contact your state affiliate of National Right to Life."

To purchase a recording of Clare's speech and all the talks given at the National Right to Life 2023 Convention, please go to [NRLConvention.com](http://NRLConvention.com).



All 13 contestants give excellent speeches at the NRL Oratory Contest  
Photo: Lisa Andrusko

# Celebrating the End of *Roe*

By Ryan Scott Bomberger

*Editor's note: Mr. Bomberger is Co-Founder, Chief Creative Officer of Radiance Foundation. As he wrote, "This op-ed/Commentary originally appeared in The World and everything in it." It is reposted here with permission.*

I'll never forget where I was on June 24, 2022. I was alone in our Radiance Foundation offices. My kids were at summer camp for the week. My wife, Bethany, and our staff were at the Pro-Life Women's Conference.

The phone rang. It was my wife crying as she tried to get out the words: "They did it. They did it. *Roe* was overturned!" It was an insanely surreal moment. I created a video for Instagram to announce the landmark Supreme Court ruling. I was so overwhelmed. With tears flowing, I tried to express my joy in this video.

I was conceived in rape but adopted in love. Ten of my twelve siblings were adopted – all marked with the dehumanizing and false label of being "unplanned, unwanted and unloved." I'm married to the love of my life who was a single mom for nearly two years. She walked away from an abusive relationship only to find out she was pregnant. The biological "father" wanted the baby aborted, but Bethany refused. She named that precious baby girl, Radiance – the reason for the name of our pro-life organization, the Radiance Foundation.

Today, we're the homeschooling parents of four awesome kiddos. Two were adopted. All are so deeply loved. And none of this would've happened if my life had been snuffed out by the violence of abortion.

This is why I celebrate the overturning of that supremely

wrong 1973 Supreme Court decision. *Roe* enabled the most marginalized to become the most mutilated. It weaponized the myth of the "unwanted child" to enrich a corrupt industry rooted in fear and exploitation. It allowed Planned

fourteen states have banned nearly 100% of abortions. All include exceptions to save the physical life of the mother and most with rape and incest exceptions. Georgia banned abortions after 6 weeks. North Carolina's 12-week

passed in Arizona, Utah, Indiana, Montana, Ohio, South Carolina, Wyoming and Iowa. Tragically, abortion is still currently legal in varying limits from 22 weeks up until birth in thirty states plus Washington DC.



Parenthood and abortionists, nationwide, to prey on vulnerable women with substandard care.

But *Dobbs* changed the trajectory of limitless abortion-on-demand. *The New York Times'* Tracking the States database reveals how much has changed. Since the monumental decision,

ban begins July 1st. Nebraska and Florida banned abortions after 12 and 15 weeks respectively, although the Sunshine State recently passed a 6-week ban which is under judicial review. In fact, many states have had judges unjustly interfere with existing state laws or new legislation

I rejoiced over the historic *Dobbs* victory at the National Celebrate Life Day on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in DC. Even so, I know we have many battles to win before legal abortion is history.

I'm Ryan Bomberger.



## What can you say about a NPR reporter's coverage of the 52nd annual NRLC Convention? Actually, quite a bit.

From Page 2

of excitement," recalled Carol Tobias, president of the National Right to Life Committee. "And then it was kind of impressive. Everybody sat back down, kept on going with the general sessions and the workshops because we knew we had work to do."

The important point—the most important point—came in the next two paragraphs:

That buckle-down and keep-at-it approach also pervaded this summer's convention, held in Pittsburgh at an airport hotel. There were

few overt victory laps. Attendees acknowledged the gains they had made in the year since the Dobbs ruling. But they were more focused on states where abortion remains legal or the societal forces that they believe contribute to women ending pregnancies that they might otherwise keep.

"We know we have a lot of challenges ahead, but our hands are untied," Tobias told conference attendees. "This is a great day."

There were some very

interesting (I'm trying to be gentle here) faux pas. For example, Boden writes

Abortion care has changed in the half-century since Roe first conferred a federal right to abortion up until the point of viability. Now, slightly more than half of abortions are achieved through oral medications that induce a miscarriage — usually through a two-pill regimen, which people can receive through the mail, or travel to neighboring states to pick up before returning home to terminate a pregnancy.

Abortions induced chemically are abortions, not miscarriages. They simply aren't.

One other of many evaluations that could be made. Catherine Jacobs is a retired art teacher who heads Teachers Saving Children. So far, so good. Then Boden writes Jacobs appeared heartbroken that, in her view, babies are still being killed in the U.S., despite Roe's toppling.

"Appeared"?

But then Boden writes "Through her art, she tries to show the individuality of each fetus."

Yes!

## Biden "reluctantly" pro-abortion? Let's get serious. This is nonsense.

From Page 2

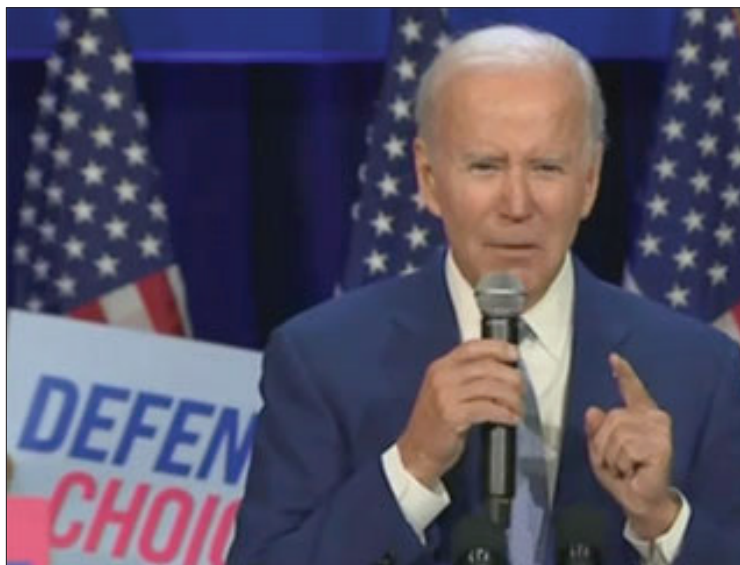
heads of Planned Parenthood Action Fund, NARAL-Pro Choice America and Emily's List say getting out early and loudly behind Biden and Harris is important on an issue that will animate voters.

"I am so proud of the bold actions that this administration has taken to protect patients and to protect providers to give them accurate information and to let them know they are not alone," said Alexis McGill Johnson, president and chief executive of Planned Parenthood Action Fund.

At the federal level, *CBS News's* Melissa Quinn writes

Mr. Biden has directed his administration to take steps to protect access to abortion care following the Supreme

Court's decision wiping away the constitutional right to abortion, including by making a commonly used abortion



Pro-abortion President Joe Biden

pill, mifepristone, easier to obtain and ensuring members of the military can access reproductive health care.

Of course that paragraph only scratches the surface of the Biden administration's zealotry on abortion. And the president is just getting started.

*Politico* wrote this headline: "Biden, once uncomfortable around abortion debates, set to make it a central part of his reelection." Holly Otterbein

and Myah Ward added, "But as 2024 election comes into focus, Biden is poised to run the most overtly abortion rights platform of any general election candidate in political history as he and his team navigate the first presidential cycle in the post-Roe era."

What to say about how "uncomfortable" Biden supposedly is? Ed Morrissey writes

Has Biden ever been "uncomfortable" around abortion debates? Hardly. He's been inconsistent and incoherent at times, but has shown no sign of "uncomfortable" at all. Here are just a few instances of Biden's supposed reticence over the past year.

Followed by a long list of actions the Biden administration has taken to make sure the machinery of abortion runs smoothly.

What a guy.

# Little Boy Speechless When Dad Tells Him His Adoption is Official

By Ashlynn Lemos, Texas Right to Life

Almost a million people have now seen this heartwarming video of a young boy left speechless when he is told that his adoption has been finalized.

His father, Chris Overton, posted the clip on TikTok, saying, “[A]fter a few years of court the battle is finally over and my son is now indisputably my son.” With nearly 850,000 views on TikTok, and thousands more on YouTube, this heartwarming video has swept across the internet.

In the video, the young boy named Jameson is enjoying a swim in the pool when Overton unexpectedly jumps in, despite having a broken leg. After some playful moments together, splashing around and having fun, Overton leans in and whispers, “I’m your dad now,” leaving Jameson stunned before bursting into ecstatic squeals of joy.

Overwhelmed with happiness, Jameson immediately embraces his newfound father, tightly wrapping his arms around him. While both of them are taking in the moment, Overton whispered,

“It’s over, buddy.”

Overton posted a follow-up video, captioned, “My best friend in the whole entire world... he’s now officially my son!” In the

I will always love you, for you, forever and ever and ever, for the rest of existence.”

This father-son duo appeared for an interview on ABC News,



video, Jameson records, saying, “I love YOU! You’re the best dad in the whole wide world, and you are the best dad. And I will always love you, with all my heart. And

giving a message to families going through a similar adoption process!

“Don’t give up,” Overton shares. “It was incredibly difficult,

incredibly challenging, but when you just follow your heart, you just know the right thing to do.”

On Facebook, he publicly wrote how this process has impacted his life. “I can’t tell you how full my heart is watching how many people have had their hearts touched by such a beautiful act of love,” he said.

“We wanted to quit so many times. The amount of physical pain I endured just to try and pay for this and not go bankrupt was at a level at which I never knew was possible. [A]nd there was nothing I could do. I could either quit and go out on disability and suffer no matter what, or I could fight. And we did just that.”

The fight might not be easy, but it is rewarding! Because of Overton’s persistence, he can now call Jameson his son.

We are praying for those walking through a story like this right now. Because of your persistence and prayer, a child could have a forever family! What a blessing!

# States with laws that legalize assisted suicide violate the Americans with Disabilities Act that codified disability as a protected class

By Dave Andrusko

Not many people, including me, are aware of a lawsuit against California's 'End of Life Options Act' that has enormous implications for people with disabilities. In an op-ed appearing in *The Hill* Matt Valliere lays out the case why, under EOLOA, "people with life-threatening disabilities and only people with life-threatening disabilities who say they want to die can get a state-facilitated death. Everyone else gets suicide prevention and the protections afforded by the law and professional standards. That's not choice, it's eugenics."

This is squarely at odds with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). "In the health care context," he writes, "if you provide a certain standard of care to people — say, suicide prevention care — you cannot provide different or lesser standard of care to others based on disability."

This is not news—or shouldn't be—to policymakers. "I wrote a few years ago in these pages that Congress should be mindful of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) when addressing assisted suicide public policy," Valliere explains. "Assisted suicide laws violate the landmark legislation that codifies disability as a protected class."

Meaning "Every underlying condition qualifying a person for lethal drugs under assisted suicide laws also qualifies the same person for protection under the ADA."

If you go to their homepage, you'll find an excellent synopsis:

**Individuals who are facing life-threatening conditions qualify as people with disabilities under the ADA, as those conditions themselves not only cause physical and/or mental impairments, they are impairments that substantially limit major life functions. The lawsuit seeks to establish that California's assisted suicide law is a violation of the Americans**

**with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and the equal protection and substantive due process clauses in the 14th Amendment of the US Constitution.**

So why are people with disabilities, nonetheless,



disproportionately at risk from assisted suicide laws? For one thing

**Despite more than 30 years of the ADA being on the books, physician perceptions of the lives of people with disabilities remain abysmal. A recent Harvard study reports, "In [a] survey of 714 practicing U.S. physicians nationwide, 82.4% reported that people with significant disability have worse quality of life than nondisabled people. ... [T]hese findings about physicians' perceptions of this population raise questions about ensuring equitable care to people with disability. Potentially biased views among physicians could contribute to persistent health care disparities affecting people with disability."**

There is second reason, illustrated by what happened

during the pandemic: Triage. The treatment for people with disabilities in states that had assisted suicide laws was drastically different that those states (thankfully, for now, a large majority) that do not have such laws. Valliere explains

**As we saw in the pandemic, states across the country promulgated**

**Crisis Standards of Care, the triage rationing protocols put in place for medical professionals to know how best to mete out the limited resources. Multiple complaints were filed with the HHS Office for Civil Rights due to these policies systematically deprioritizing people with disabilities for life-saving medical resources, based on a misguided utilitarian view that non-disabled lives are worth more than the lives of people with disabilities.**

This is an important essay that I encourage you to read and to ponder. Let me add one other lengthy but essential quote:

**In every medical appointment nowadays, doctors ask, "Do you feel safe at home?" and "Have you considered self-harm?" Whenever patients express a desire to harm or kill**

**themselves in a medical setting, the standard of care is to initiate harm and suicide prevention care and services.**

**In most states, if medical professionals react to those same warning signs by saying instead, "Sure, I can help you with that," and their patients kill themselves with their help, those caregivers would be prosecuted in criminal court, likely sued by patients' families in civil court, and lose their licenses to practice medicine.**

**If, however, you happen to live in a jurisdiction where assisted suicide is legal, and you have a condition perceived by your doctor as limiting your life to six months or less, then both the standard of care and the usual criminal, civil, and professional protections afforded to everyone else are out the window for you. You, along with all other supposedly terminal patients, are shunted into the "better off dead" funnel, so long as doctor death is "acting in good faith."**

By any standards, a chilling essay, one that should remind us of what is at stake for people with disabilities under "assisted suicide":

**In our fight for health care equity, however, it has become abundantly clear that California's assisted suicide law disproportionately affects people with disabilities, funneling medically expensive people away from real healthcare and providing just one "treatment" to which we all have equal access — death.**

# A call to “truly empower women,” Heartbeat talks to AG behind *Dobbs*

By Lisa Bourne

Working to provide pregnancy help to women changes lives, the woman who was pivotal in the Supreme Court case that struck down *Roe v. Wade* and returned to the U.S. states their right to regulation abortion.

The first anniversary of the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* decision was a very special day, Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch told Heartbeat International.

“You know, to think that a year ago today we got the *Dobbs* decision, we never thought that would happen,” Fitch said. “Fifty years, here it is ... But all of us never stop believing.”

Fitch spoke with Heartbeat International VP of Communications & Marketing Andrea Trudden just before taking the stage at the National Celebrate Life Day rally. Fitch and others addressed a crowd of pro-life supporters from across the U.S. who assembled at the Lincoln Memorial June 24 for the one-year anniversary of the *Dobbs* ruling overturning *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* in June 2022.

Fitch was instrumental in the *Dobbs* outcome in that she appealed the case concerning the Mississippi Gestational Age Act banning abortion at 15 weeks with some exceptions up to the Supreme Court. She has been a supporter of life and pregnancy

help while in office.

“We continue to know there’d be a better day, a new chapter in history that we would write together, and we’re doing it,” she told Trudden.

Fitch was among several speakers to implore pro-life

to see everybody rally together and be empowered to make a difference is what we’re going to continue to see as we grow, and we build, and we truly empower women and their children and promote life.”

Fitch is leading eight other state

PLAN and Heartbeat International on the *Dobbs* Donation Drive which runs through July 1.

“It’s incredible working together,” Fitch remarked to Trudden at the National Celebrate Life Day rally. “That’s how we’re changing lives. That’s how we’re empowering women and truly promoting life.”

“Being able to work together on our donation drive for our pregnancy resource centers is amazing,” stated Fitch. “What an opportunity that we can do to help across our respective states.”

Fitch said she and the other eight AGs are requesting people to look at the wish lists online, fill out a donation, and send it to their favorite pregnancy center.

“They will greatly appreciate it,” she said. “And it speaks to the tapestry of who we are and how we’re trying to truly lift up these women and their children.”

Fitch said she was grateful for Heartbeat’s work in pregnancy help, for lifting women up, empowering them, making a positive change.

Specifics on the *Dobbs* Donation Drive are available at <https://herplan.org/dobbs-donation-drive-2023/>



Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch with Heartbeat International's Andrea Trudden at the Lincoln Memorial for National Celebrate Life Day rally.  
Photo: DayLora Current

advocates to continue fighting for life and supporting pregnancy help efforts for women.

“So, we have a call to action for all of us,” she said. “And truly,

AGs in a multi-state pregnancy help initiative benefitting more than 60 pregnancy help organizations across the U.S. The Mississippi or working with Her

*Editor's note: Heartbeat International manages Pregnancy Help News where this first appeared. Reposted with permission.*

# Book Review: The First 56 Days of You

By Kelsey Hazzard, Board President, Secular Pro-Life

*The First 56 Days of You: How Your Human Journey Begins* is children's book written by Brooke Stanton and Christiane West, illustrated by Francesca Rosa, and published by Mascot Books.

Why 56 days? Because that is the timeframe covered by the Carnegie Stages of human embryonic development. In this charming story, a school bus full of children arrive at a museum featuring a Carnegie stages exhibit. The children are well-illustrated and have diverse body types. The children interact with actual embryonic photographs, paired with age-appropriate explanations of the baby's size and organ systems.

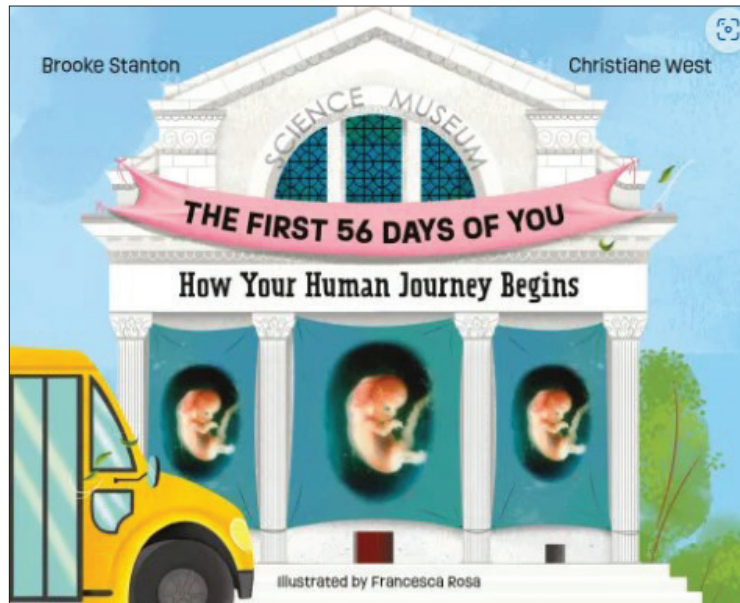
Abortion is not mentioned, nor should it be. In the science-based world of this book, the embryo's humanity is a given:

**A human life starts when two special cells—**

**one from a female human being and one from a male human**

**process is fertilization. Fertilization transforms two cells that are merely**

**big! Carnegie Stage 1 is fertilization—when YOU begin to exist as a new, whole, individual, and living human being.**



**being—make contact and fuse together. The scientific name for this**

**parts of other human beings into a new human being who is one cell**

*The First 56 Days of You* is secular, entertaining, and an excellent way to inoculate children against “clump of cells” propaganda. It joins a growing body of pro-life children's literature, including Stanton and West's first book, *When You Became You*.

*When You Became You* is well-suited for preschool aged children, while *The First 56 Days of You* has a slightly older target audience. I hesitate to use the word “sequel,” because each book stands independently. However, if your child enjoyed *When You Became You* and wants to learn more, *The First 56 Days of You* is perfect.

# The Power of One to choose life and to change the course of history

By Maria V. Gallagher, Legislative Director, Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation

As I stood before the crowd, a soft breeze cut through the sweltering humidity, giving me a second breath.

I had come to share a few words of insight with hearty pro-life advocates in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania two days after the 52nd annual National Right to Life Convention.

The day before, I had racked my brain, trying to figure out what I would say to these dedicated individuals who had devoted so much of their time and talent to the pro-life cause.

And then, it hit me: The Power of One.

I spoke of the Power of One to change the world for the better. Where would we have been as a nation without the one and only Abraham Lincoln? How could the Civil Rights Movement have progressed without Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.? How would the poor and disenfranchised

have fared without the dynamic Mother Teresa?

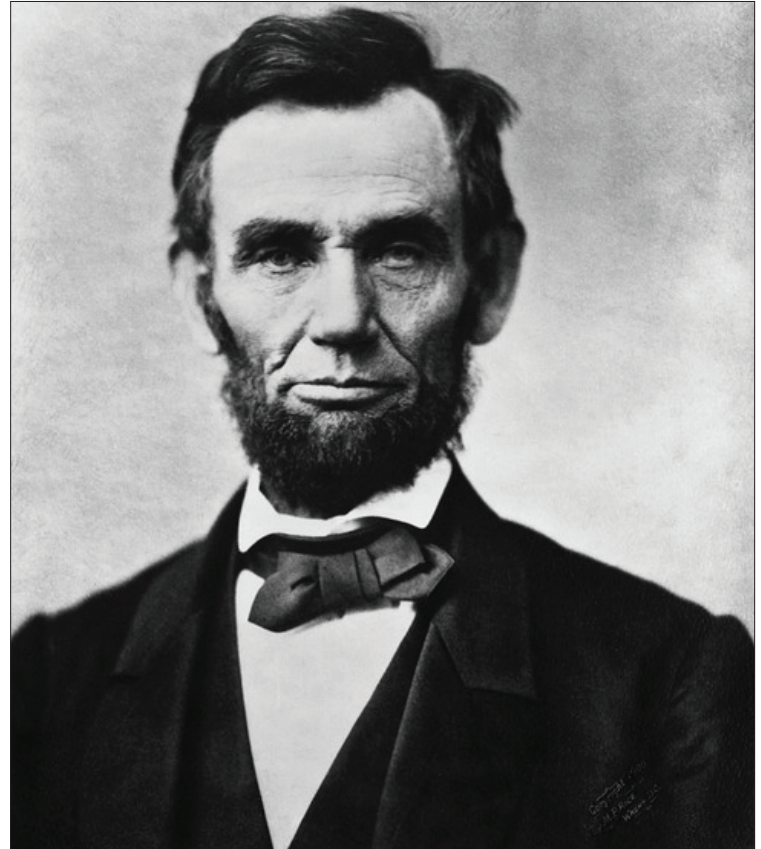
I also invoked a study that was conducted of women who had had abortions, but who regretted their decisions. Eighty-five percent of the women said they would have chosen life for their children—had only one person offered support.

The Power of One.

With all the threats to innocent life in this world, the effort to stem the tide can seem daunting—at times, insurmountable. But it can take just one courageous person to choose life and to change the course of history.

The Power of One is the power to sustain, preserve, and protect innocent human life.

My personal “Gettysburg Address” will not go down in the history books. But I truly believe in the Power of One to make the world a safer, more hospitable place for mothers and their babies.



# Where the 2024 Presidential Candidates Stand on Life: Who will protect it and who will endanger it?

From Page 5

**Ron DeSantis** (Current Governor of Florida, former Congressman)

Governor DeSantis supports protections for unborn babies and their mothers, and he opposes the use of tax dollars to pay for abortions. He recently signed legislation in Florida to protect unborn children when they have detectable heartbeats. He also signed a parental consent measure so that secret abortions cannot be performed on minor girls without a parent signing off. In addition, DeSantis has allocated millions of dollars for pregnancy support and prenatal health services. He removed the sales tax for baby clothes and diapers in Florida. As a member of Congress, he voted in favor of the *Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act*, the *Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act*, and the *No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act*. Throughout his terms in Congress, DeSantis held a 100% pro-life voting record with National Right to Life.

**Nikki Haley** (Former UN Ambassador, Governor of South Carolina)

Ambassador Haley supports protections for unborn babies and their mothers. She opposes the use of tax dollars to pay for abortions and has voiced support for the Hyde Amendment, which bars taxpayer funding of abortion in many federal programs. In her role as U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, she was instrumental in cutting off U.S. funding for the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), which promotes abortion globally. As Governor of South Carolina, Haley signed legislation to protect unborn babies who are capable of experiencing pain from brutal late abortions. She has stated that she would like to see similar legislation passed on the federal level. Haley has

also urged Congress to pass the *Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act* to ensure infants born during failed abortions receive the same degree of medical care as any other baby born at the same gestational age. She signed similar legislation on the state level in South Carolina.

**Mike Pence** (Former Vice President, Governor of Indiana, Congressman)

Vice President Pence supports protections for unborn babies and their mothers, and he opposes the use of tax dollars to pay for abortions. As Governor of Indiana, Pence signed non-discrimination legislation to protect babies from being aborted on the basis of a disability or condition such as Down syndrome. As Governor and as a member of Congress, Pence worked to redirect taxpayer funds from abortion providers to local community health centers. In Congress, he voted in favor of the *No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act*. Pence has voted for a measure to protect unborn babies who can feel pain from late abortions, and he has stated that he supports the passage of legislation that protects unborn babies when they have detectable heartbeats.

**Tim Scott** (Current U.S. Senator from South Carolina, former Congressman)

Senator Scott supports protections for unborn babies and their mothers, and he opposes the use of tax dollars to pay for abortions. Scott has a 100% pro-life voting record with National Right to Life. Scott voted in favor of the *No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act*, which would stop federal tax dollars from being used to pay for abortions. Scott voted to protect unborn babies who are capable of feeling pain from excruciating late abortions,

and he voted for the *Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act*. He voted against the so-called *Women's Health Protection Act*, a radical pro-abortion bill that would enshrine abortion in federal law and strike down state level protections for unborn children and their mothers.

**Vivek Ramaswamy** (Entrepreneur, author, commentator)

Mr. Ramaswamy has described himself as “unapologetically pro-life,” and he opposes unlimited abortions, but he does not accept the federal role in the protection of unborn children and their mothers. “It’s an issue for states,” he told *CNN* in April. Ramaswamy described his position in this manner on *Fox News*; “Life ends right when brainwaves end. That’s how we determine when life ends on the back end. I think we should apply a consistent principle on the front end, that’s around the six-week mark that brainwaves do begin.” But, he added, “This is not an answer for the president, because I think the federal government should be out of this.” Ramaswamy has called out corporations for pushing pro-abortion viewpoints and chided pro-abortion proponents of cancel culture.

**Asa Hutchinson** (Former Governor of Arkansas)

Governor Hutchinson supports protections for unborn children and their mothers, and he opposes the use of tax dollars to pay for abortions. Following the overturning of *Roe v. Wade* last June, he signed legislation protecting unborn children throughout pregnancy in Arkansas. Throughout his terms as Governor, Hutchinson signed numerous protective measures for unborn children and their mothers, including a law protecting live

unborn babies from the gruesome practice of dismemberment abortions, Arkansas’s Safe Haven Law to protect newborns, and a law requiring abortion providers to inform women about the potential for abortion pill reversal if she should change her mind. Hutchinson also ended state contracts with abortion providers and redirected taxpayer funds to local community health centers.

**Chris Christie** (Former Governor of New Jersey)

Governor Christie supports protections for unborn children and their mothers, and he opposes the use of tax dollars to pay for abortions. As Governor of New Jersey, Christie vetoed taxpayer funding for the nation’s largest abortion provider. In a June statement to the *Washington Post*, Christie opined that abortion policy should be determined exclusively by state governments. In an April *Semafor* interview, Christie echoed that the federal government “should not be involved” in enacting protections for unborn children and their mothers. However, Christie has previously voiced support for protecting unborn babies by the point at which science shows they are capable of feeling pain. He previously argued, “America is one of just seven countries that permits elective abortions past this point. We can do far better than this. I urge Congress to take swift action on this important issue.”

**Doug Burgum** (Current Governor of North Dakota)

Governor Burgum supports protections for unborn children and their mothers, and he opposes the use of tax dollars to pay for

# Where the 2024 Presidential Candidates Stand on Life: Who will protect it and who will endanger it?

From Page 38

abortions. Following the Supreme Court's ruling in *Dobbs*, Burgum signed his state's trigger law, which protects unborn children throughout pregnancy. Since the ruling, he signed a series of bills to aid pregnant women, including measures exempting children's diapers from the sales tax, establishing an adoption tax credit and a tax credit for contributions to maternity homes, child-placing agencies or pregnancy help centers, and developing a state HHS-run pregnancy and parenting resource website. Previously, he signed a measure protecting unborn babies in North Dakota at the point when a heartbeat can be detected. Burgum declined to elaborate on the types of pro-life proposals he would sign as president when asked by the *Washington Post*, instead stating, "It's a hypothetical question. Whenever people asked me that about bills in North Dakota, I say I'll answer that question after it's on my desk, but it's not on my desk yet."

**Will Hurd** (Former Congressman from Texas)

Congressman Hurd supports protections for unborn children and their mothers, and he opposes the use of tax dollars to pay for abortions. As a member of Congress representing Texas's 23<sup>rd</sup> District from 2015-2021, Hurd voted for several protective measures for unborn children and their mothers, including the *No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act* as well as proposals to redirect federal taxpayer dollars from abortion providers to local community health centers. In addition, Hurd voted in favor of the *Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act* and the *Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act*. He has also expressed support for helping pregnant

women in need, tweeting recently, "As a country, we must do the hard work to prevent unplanned pregnancies and do a better job of supporting women who have an unplanned pregnancy, as well as their children, regardless of circumstances. They need compassion and care."

**Larry Elder** (Former California gubernatorial candidate and conservative radio host)

Larry Elder supports protections for unborn children and their mothers, and he opposes the use of tax dollars to pay for abortions. Elder ran against pro-abortion Governor Gavin Newsom (D) in the 2021 California gubernatorial recall election. During that race, a stark contrast was drawn between Elder's pro-life views and Newsom's support for unlimited abortion for any reason until birth. Elder pledged to oppose the expansion of abortion in California (a top priority for Newsom), to appoint conservative judges, and to halt the flow of California tax dollars to pay for abortions.

## The Democrats:

**Joe Biden** (Current President, former U.S. Senator from Delaware)

The Biden-Harris Administration is the most pro-abortion presidential administration in U.S. history. That's not an exaggeration. The Biden Administration has employed a whole-of-government approach in their push for unlimited abortions nationwide for any reason even until the moment of birth. And they have made it no secret that they want to use our tax dollars to pay for it. In fact, in one of his first acts as president, Biden rescinded the Trump-era Protecting Life in

Global Health Policy, allowing American tax dollars to resume flowing to organizations that provide and/or promote abortions abroad. For judicial nominations, Biden has vowed to only appoint individuals who support a right to abortion. Among these was Ketanji Brown Jackson, who now sits on the Supreme Court. Joe Biden and Kamala Harris are strong supporters of the so-called *Women's Health Protection Act* (WHPA), which would enshrine unlimited abortion in federal law and policies and strike down existing protections for unborn children and their mothers on the state level. Passage of the WHPA remains a top priority for the Biden Administration. Biden has threatened to veto any bills passed by pro-life lawmakers in Congress that would protect unborn children and their mothers from abortions. If given four more years in the White House, when they would no longer have the looming prospect of going before the American voter, it is reasonable to expect that the Biden-Harris Administration would only intensify the push for their abortion-without-limits agenda.

For a one-page summary of Joe Biden's pro-abortion record, check out *The Presidential Record on Life*: <https://www.nrlc.org/uploads/records/bidenrecord.pdf>

**Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.** (Attorney)

Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. supports a policy of unlimited abortion for any reason, and he opposes legal protections for unborn children. At a townhall meeting in New Hampshire, Kennedy stated that while he believes "every abortion is a tragedy," he does not think "the government has any business telling people what they can and

cannot do with their body."

**Marianne Williamson** (Author, Speaker)

Marianne Williamson supports a policy of unlimited abortion for any reason, and she supports the use of tax dollars to pay for it. She opposes protections for unborn children and their mothers. In addition to calling herself "one hundred percent pro-choice," she states on her campaign website that she "would vigorously resist any effort to restrict, limit, or diminish the reproductive rights and freedoms granted by *Roe v. Wade*." She advocates the repeal of the Hyde Amendment and similar statutes that bar or limit taxpayer funding for abortion, and she supports using tax dollars to fund abortion providers. Williamson is committed to nominating pro-abortion individuals to the Judiciary, including to the Supreme Court.

## Additional Resources:

6 Ways to Defeat a Pro-Life Candidate: <https://www.nrlvictoryfund.org/content/6WaysBrochure.pdf>

What Every Candidate Needs to Know About Abortion: <https://www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/2023/04/what-every-candidate-needs-to-know-about-abortion/>

15-Week Phantom Ban: <https://www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/2023/05/a-15-week-phantom-ban-is-no-ban-at-all/>

By: David N. Osteen, Ph.D.

Consensus on Abortion- Why and Why Not?: <https://www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/2023/05/a-pro-life-consensus-for-12-15-week-abortion-bans-why-and-why-not/>  
By: David N. O'Steen, Ph.D.



# Fighting for Life

By Pete Ricketts, U.S. Senator, Nebraska

One year ago, the Supreme Court of the United States handed down one of the most important decisions in its history. For years, loud voices on the left have demanded the right to an abortion be absolute, including horrific practices like third-trimester and partial birth abortions.

Despite an unprecedented leak and a politically-motivated assassination attempt against a sitting Supreme Court Justice, in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health*, the Court restored the right of the American people, through their elected representatives, to make laws regarding the practice of abortion.

As a pro-life state, Nebraska has seen significant progress in recent years to support pregnant mothers and protect unborn children. When I was Governor, I signed into law bills to ban the barbaric practice of dismemberment abortion and bolster our state's informed consent protections for moms. We provided pregnant mothers priority parking spots and nursing mothers' rooms at state buildings. We cut maternity and childbirth health care costs and allowed teammates in state government the option to donate unused vacation leave to support expectant mothers. In addition, Nebraska lawmakers recently passed a historic bill to protect

life starting at 12 weeks gestation. These efforts have and continue to save many lives, and we should celebrate how far our state has come.

As U.S. Senator, I continue to



*Sen. Pete Ricketts*

prioritize the fight for life and have co-sponsored three key pieces of pro-life legislation. Regardless of where individuals fall on the issue of abortion, a strong majority of Americans agree taxpayer dollars shouldn't be used to fund abortions. That's why Senator Roger Wicker's (R-Miss) "No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act," would establish

a permanent, federal government-wide prohibition on funding for abortion.

I also co-sponsored Senator John Thune's (R-SD) "Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act." This bill would protect babies who survive abortion attempts by requiring babies born alive in abortion facilities receive the same level of care he or she would receive had the baby been delivered in the hospital. While this bill shouldn't be controversial, it continues to be blocked by pro-abortion Democrats.

I also co-sponsored Senator Marco Rubio's (R-FL) "Child Interstate Abortion Notification Act," which would make it a federal crime for physicians to perform an abortion on a minor from another state without parental consent or judicial authorization. The bill would also prohibit predators from knowingly hiding their crimes by trafficking minors across state lines for the purpose of getting an abortion. Under current law, the safety of minors and the rights of parents are at risk for exploitation in states that lack parental involvement laws.

Earlier this year, I voted to block an illegal rule from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs that sought to provide taxpayer-

funded abortion services. This attempt violates not just federal law, but also state and local laws across the country, including in Nebraska. It also represents a significant flip-flop for President Biden who, as a Senator, supported such prohibitions for over 30 years.

While I am proud of my record on this issue, I believe being pro-life is about more than just passing legislation. Our pro-life culture is evident in communities all across Nebraska. We see it in volunteers who give support and hope to the women who visit crisis pregnancy centers. We see it in the way Nebraskans give generously to help young families preparing to welcome a newborn into their home. We see it in churches who rally around young mothers to provide resources and care. We see it in the women and men who make the decision to adopt or foster children in need of a family. These acts of compassion demonstrate daily why to be pro-life is to be pro-mom, pro-baby, and pro-family.

As we celebrate the one-year anniversary of *Dobbs*, we remember that our work to protect life has still only just begun. Together, we must continue encouraging a culture of life in our state and our country.

# DeSantis and Abortion...Extreme or Mainstream?

From Page 1

Of course, to the abortion industry, a measure that saves even one baby is Extreme! Extreme! Extreme! But when we pull back the layers of hysterical rhetoric evidenced in the above quotes and actually examine the new Florida law, we see how far off the mark those characterizations are.

Florida law allows abortion for any reason up until six weeks of pregnancy, the time at which the child's heartbeat can be detected, and throughout pregnancy to save the mother's life or in case of a medical emergency. In cases of rape or incest abortion is allowed through the 15th week of pregnancy.

The four exceptions all have over 80% support, according to recent polling by the McLaughlin Group.

So, the law does not "Ban" abortion. Rather, it limits abortion in order to protect an unborn child with a beating heart from an abortion performed for family planning and social reasons.

What about support for such a "heartbeat" law?

Abortion supporters like to cite polls such as an April 2023 Marist poll for NPR/PBS *NewsHour* which asked:

**Do you support or oppose a law that allows abortion, but only up to the time cardiac activity is detected about 6 weeks into pregnancy?**

Forty percent said yes and 59% said no.

But that poll question doesn't accurately describe the Florida

heartbeat law, or a similar heartbeat law recently passed in South Carolina.

In March a National Right to Life poll done by the McLaughlin Group asked a question that much more accurately portrays the

**case of rape, or 4) in case of incest?**

Sixty four percent supported it and 30% opposed it.

The inclusion of the 4 exceptions, each of which has 80% or more

Control reported that 45% of all abortions in 2020 were performed by 6 weeks of pregnancy. More recently a report just released by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control showed that 51.48% of abortions in 2022 in that state were performed by the sixth week of pregnancy.

Since about one half of all abortions are done by 6 weeks, if most women don't know they are pregnant by then, it follows that some women who don't even know they are pregnant are getting early abortions anyway. That makes no sense.

Further, if a woman has any reason to think she can possibly be pregnant, modern pregnancy tests are highly accurate, readily available and relatively inexpensive. Some pregnancy care centers offer them free.

Far from being "extreme" or "out of touch," the Florida heartbeat law Governor DeSantis signed can garner close to two thirds public support when properly understood, while potentially saving about one half of all children who are at risk to die from abortion.

In Florida that means a LOT of babies can be saved. The Florida Agency for Healthcare Administration reported that 82,581 abortions were performed in 2022. Half of that number would be over 40,000 children's lives saved annually.

Is the Florida law perfect? No, but no law is. And for each child whose life is spared it is really, really, really good. They would say, "Thank you Governor DeSantis."



*Lynda Bell, president of Florida Right to Life, with Florida pro-life governor Ron DeSantis*

Florida and South Carolina laws:

**Would you support or oppose allowing abortion only before six weeks when there is no detectable heartbeat and later only under these four circumstances: 1) when it is necessary to save the life of the mother, 2) when there is a medical emergency posing serious risk of substantial irreversible physical harm to the mother, 3) in**

public support, makes a very big difference in support for heartbeat laws such as the ones in Florida and South Carolina.

It is crucial that these laws be publicly and accurately described, including the exceptions, in order to gain majority support.

But women don't know they're pregnant by 6 weeks, right? The numbers belie that assertion.

The trend has been for abortions to be performed earlier and earlier. The Centers for Disease

# U.S. OB-GYN association will not debate; says abortion as health care is “settled science”

By Patty Knap

What does it say when a major medical organization that holds to strong statements and beliefs refuses to debate on a straightforward topic?

In early May, the American Association of Pro-Life Obstetricians and Gynecologists (AAPLOG) invited the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) to a scholarly debate at Duke University on whether induced abortion is consistent with good medicine.

Duke University’s Civil Discourse Project of the Kenan Institute for Ethics agreed to host the debate.

A letter sent by AAPLOG suggested the debate between AAPLOG’s CEO Dr. Christina Francis and ACOG’s CEO Dr. Maureen Phipps, and emphasized the importance of open debate on, “pressing questions of meaning, value, and spirit that confront us as human beings and citizens.”

The letter went on to say:

**“The Civil Discourse Project believes that “we are best able to consider such questions when we expose our convictions to the scrutiny of an intellectually diverse community of friends who will both support and challenge us.” It maintains that “the pursuit of truth and healthy civil discourse require the freedom of thought, inquiry, and expression.” We share in those beliefs about civil discourse and it is in that very spirit that we extend this invitation. Scientific progress and advancement depend on the free exchange of ideas; debate only benefits the wider medical community. Having this debate at a university setting will also aid attending medical students and**

**residents, as they deserve to be given all available information with the freedom to personally discern their approach. Given the cultural climate, openly debating induced abortion is of utmost importance and of national interest.”**

However, even that plea emphasizing the importance of



the very timely topic was met with a rejection.

The short response was:

**“The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists will not debate abortion as a part of essential reproductive healthcare. Rather, we will continue to affirm that the role of abortion in our patients’ lives is settled science.”**

*The Washington Examiner* reports Dr. Francis’s reaction:

**“Stating that this is settled science ignores the fact that the vast majority of OBGYNs do not perform elective abortion. But it also clearly ignores the vast majority of the medical evidence out there that shows that elective abortions do not improve the health outcomes of our patients, and in many**

**cases, actively worsen the health outcomes. What ACOG is trying to do is make it appear that all OBGYNs feel this way, when that’s very clearly not the case.”**

Francis told the *Washington Examiner* that someone who believes “settled science” can apply to most things in the medical field “probably need to

that abortion is ‘settled science’ is more a statement of faith in abortion that is meant to deflect inquiry. At one time blood-letting and frontal lobotomies were ‘settled science.’ Not only does the science need continual rigorous investigation, but the moral implications of the science also needs continual clarity as culture changes. The use of science is a cover for political persuasions and special interest power that has gripped ACOG for decades and encouraged the leadership to routinely ignore the science. Otherwise, they’d be much more interested in the actual science of abortion pill reversal.”

“As a voice for Big Abortion, ACOG has been pressing abortion into healthcare for the past fifty years,” points out Christa Brown, senior director of Medical Impact for Heartbeat International. “ACOG cannot defend its position that abortion is healthcare or that it is based on “settled science” so clearly a debate would be out of reach for them,” Brown said.

**“Ending the lives of preborn patients with surgeries and chemicals is not healing or an attempt at restoring health. Abortion clearly does not belong in any type of medical care. ACOG does not desire public discourse, but rather only wishes to converse with those who are in agreement with their political agenda to expand abortion through all stages of pregnancy.”**

*Editor’s note. This appeared at Pregnancy Help News and is reposted with permission.*

Jor-El Godsey, president of Heartbeat International, points out the hypocrisy of the situation: **“ACOG’s assertion**

# “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world.”

By Dave Andrusko

*Editor's note. Wesley J. Smith and Alex Schadenberg teamed up to address the American and Canadian experience with euthanasia and assisted suicide at the 2023 National Right to Life Convention.*

We repost many, many stories written by pro-life bioethicist Wesley J. Smith. Perhaps not surprisingly I revisit his stories often. That's what happened this morning.

Back in October 2021, we reposted a story — “Doctors Kill 10 Percent of All Babies Who Die in Flanders”—which sent a chill up and down my spine then as it does again today.

His first paragraph read

**Belgium has no age limit for its euthanasia. Now, a letter published in a British Medical Journal publication reports that 10 percent of babies who died from 2016 to 2017 in Flanders — up to age one — were given drugs by their own doctors with “an explicit life-shortening intention.”**

Should I have been shocked? What would it say about me if I wasn't?

Wesley concluded

**The moral of the tale? There is no such thing as a little euthanasia. Granting doctors (and, increasingly, nurses) a license to kill eventually corrupts medicine — from the beginning of life to the far reaches of old age.**

What doctors do with those who are defenseless and entirely at their mercy has profound repercussions.

The great Pope John Paul II in 1995 famously described Western society as a “culture of death.” Read what he prophetically said carefully.

**On a more general level, there exists in contemporary culture a certain Promethean attitude which leads people to think that they can control life and death by taking the decisions about them into their own hands. What really happens in this case is that the individual is overcome and crushed by a death deprived of any prospect of meaning or hope.**

We see a tragic expression of all this in the spread of euthanasia—disguised and surreptitious, or practiced openly and even legally. As well as for reasons of a misguided pity at the sight of the patient's suffering, euthanasia is sometimes justified by the utilitarian motive of avoiding costs which bring no return and which weigh heavily on society. Thus it is proposed to eliminate malformed babies, the severely handicapped, the disabled, the elderly, especially when they are not self-sufficient, and the terminally ill.

Nor can we remain silent in the face of other more furtive, but no less serious and real, forms of euthanasia. These could occur for example when, in order to increase the availability of organs

**for transplants, organs are removed without respecting objective and adequate criteria which verify the death of the donor.**

Wesley defined this culture as referring “to a civilization that endorses lethal omissions and even outright killing by doctors to



alleviate suffering or resolve life crises.”

Human solidarity is priceless. A student asked the late anthropologist Margaret Mead what she considered

**to be the first sign of civilization in a culture. The student expected Mead to talk about clay pots, tools for hunting, grinding-stones, or religious artifacts.**

But no. Mead said that the first evidence of civilization was a 15,000 years old fractured femur found in an archaeological site. A femur is the longest bone in the body, linking hip to knee. In societies without the benefits of modern medicine, it takes about six weeks of rest for a fractured femur to heal. This particular bone had

been broken and had healed.

Mead explained that in the animal kingdom, if you break your leg, you die. You cannot run from danger, you cannot drink or hunt for food. Wounded in this way, you are meat for your predators. No creature

survives a broken leg long enough for.

A broken femur that has healed is evidence that another person has taken time to stay with the fallen, has bound up the wound, has carried the person to safety and has tended them through recovery. A healed femur indicates that someone has helped a fellow human, rather than abandoning them to save their own life.

“Helping someone else through difficulty is where civilization starts,” Margaret Mead said, “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world.”

Amen

# Hospital staff describe brutal scene after teenager gave birth in bathroom, tossed baby in garbage

*Remarks made by nurses and cleaning staff describe the heartbreaking and horrific scenes they witnessed in a restroom of Artesia General Hospital where the baby boy was born and died.*

By Ashley Sadler

ARTESIA, New Mexico — Months after a teen mom threw her newborn baby in the trash after giving birth in a hospital bathroom, hospital staff members recounted the horrific scenes they witnessed upon discovering the deceased infant. The young mother has been charged with first degree murder for killing her newborn in New Mexico, which does not restrict abortion at any stage of pregnancy.

Alexee Trevizo, 19, was charged with first degree murder and tampering with evidence in May after employees of Artesia General Hospital in New Mexico discovered the teen mom's dead newborn baby in a bathroom trash can in January.

Trevizo reportedly locked herself in a bathroom and gave birth to the baby after having previously checked into the hospital for back pain, failing to tell staff that she was pregnant. After delivering the baby in the restroom, she allegedly severed the umbilical cord, put the baby in the trash can, and attempted to clean up the blood.

Reports from hospital staff suggest that Trevizo had lied about her status during her hospital stay, telling employees that she had never even had sexual relations. However, the 19 year old admitted to throwing the baby in the trash, saying that she was frightened and “didn’t know what to do” and that the little boy “was not crying or nothing.”

Remarks made by nurses and cleaning staff in recorded

interviews obtained by *The New York Post* describe the heartbreaking and horrific scenes they witnessed in the restroom where the baby was born and



died.

A hospital cleaner identified only as “Dia” in the *Post*’s reporting told investigators that she had been called to clean the bathroom after nurses said they thought Trevizo had undergone a miscarriage. In an April 25 interview, the cleaner described the state of the restroom as a “gory, bloody, massacre mess,” adding “[t]here was blood everywhere,” including “on the floor, wall.”

“After I picked up the trash bag at the top to change it, that’s when I seen the baby,” she said, adding the boy had been wrapped in a clear plastic bag and was of a “purple-ish” color.

“It was a clear bag,” a nursing assistant identified as Lori told investigators. Lori reportedly arrived to help after Dia called for assistance. “All I saw was black

and purple but when we picked it up, that’s when it suctioned to his face.”

“I noticed the umbilical cord looked like an animal had torn

it apart,” she added, describing her impression that the teen had “really ripped this thing apart” since umbilical cords “are hard to cut.”

“This blood was fresh, you could even smell it,” she told investigators. “I’ve dealt with death before but never like this. It was horrible.”

Chris, a triage nurse, said he also “saw the baby in the trash can.”

“[The baby] was just laying at the base of the trash can under the liner,” he said. “It did not look alive.”

According to the *Post*, surveillance footage from just moments before the discovery of the deceased baby show Trevizo “running to the bathroom clutching her buttocks before locking herself inside.”

“Nurses recalled hearing repeated flushing and use of the paper towel dispenser before they eventually ordered her to come out,” the outlet reported.

The teen’s baby was reportedly taken to a trauma room after being retrieved from the trash but was pronounced dead. An autopsy conducted by the New Mexico Office of the Medical Investigator found the newborn boy was the victim of homicide.

The 19 year old mother was arrested and faces charges of first degree murder and tampering with evidence, though she has been released from jail and allowed to complete the school year while awaiting trial. She has not been fitted with an ankle monitor or placed under house arrest. Her attorney, Gary Mitchell, has emphasized his client’s lack of criminal record, highlighting what he has called “major discrepancies about what happened” and arguing that the incident “isn’t a classic child abuse case.”

Meanwhile, though Trevizo faces murder charges for killing her newborn infant, New Mexico law is extremely welcoming of the murder of babies while inside the womb.

Abortion is currently legal in the state with no gestational limits, mandatory waiting periods, or requirements for parental notification.

# South Carolina Abortions Increase 16% in 2022

By Holly Gatling, Executive Director, South Carolina Citizens for Life

COLUMBIA, S.C. – Abortions occurring in South Carolina increased by 997 (or 16 percent) in 2022 over 2021 according to the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) abortion report released today.



Titled “A public report providing statistics compiled from all abortions reported to DHEC 2022”, the report did not list the abortions by facility nor abortions by race. There are three free-standing state-licensed businesses where the majority of the abortions are performed: Planned Parenthood in Columbia and Charleston, and the Greenville Women’s Clinic.

It is unclear why the DHEC report excluded the number of abortions by facility or by race. South Carolina Citizens for Life staff is working

to update the information which has been available in years past.

Some of the data information shows:

- 51.48% of the abortions in 2022 occurred by the sixth week of pregnancy.
- 99.96% of pregnancies used ultrasound to determine the probable post-fertilization age.
- 57.16% of the abortions occurred in the age group of 20-29 years old.
- 71.7% of pregnancies were ended by lethal drugs, commonly called the abortion pill.
- There were 97 abortions performed on underage girls including 19 under the age of 15.
- There were five abortions between 20-23 weeks when the baby can feel pain.

This is a developing report and will be updated when additional data is available.

Read the published report at [https://scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/media/document/2022-Abortion\\_SC-Report.pdf](https://scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/media/document/2022-Abortion_SC-Report.pdf)

## Hospital staff describe brutal scene after teenager gave birth in bathroom, tossed baby in garbage

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In April, New Mexico’s far-left Democratic Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham reinforced the state’s radical pro-abortion stance by signing a law codifying legal protections to kill babies in the womb. The measure enshrines a previous executive action by

Gov. Lujan Grisham to establish New Mexico as a sanctuary for abortion in opposition to laws recently passed in pro-life states.

And Trevizo isn’t the first New Mexico teen in the past several years to face charges related to the disposal of a newborn infant,

*The New York Post* noted. Alexis Avila, 19, was sentenced to 16 years in prison after she tossed her baby in a dumpster in January 2022.

Avila’s baby had been discovered by three people searching through the garbage.

Police transported the newborn boy to the hospital where he was reportedly listed in stable condition.

*Editor’s note. This appeared at LifeSiteNews.*

# Father Regrets Wanting an Abortion

*When hidden, people are enslaved to guilt and shame.  
As Jesus said, “the truth sets us free.”*

By John Stonestreet and Kasey Leander

A *Harvard Business Review* article once advised: “Forget PowerPoint and statistics, to involve people at the deepest level you need to tell stories.” Those hoping to defend innocent life should take note.

A few weeks ago, a powerful story went viral on social media. A young father holding his infant daughter posted a confession, “God please forgive me: see the beautiful soul I wanted to abort.”

Of course, there are millions who have gone forward with that terrible choice and who know the full regret of abortion. The Silent No More Awareness Campaign is the place where these stories are told. “I didn’t defend the life of my own daughter based on misinformation, selfishness, fear, and shame,” one man admitted, “I let her die to an abortionist knife, and I died the same day.”

These stories are hard to hear and harder to tell, but they need to be told. When hidden, people are enslaved to guilt and shame. As Jesus said, “the truth sets us free.”

*Editor’s note. This appeared at Breakpoint and is reposted with permission.*



# Planned Parenthood is closing three Iowa facilities. Here's why.

By Cassy Fiano-Chesser

Planned Parenthood is planning to close three facilities in Iowa, with a plan to consolidate abortions at other facilities.

According to the *Associated Press (AP)*, Planned Parenthood North Central States said it has

it hard for patients to keep up, and that creates a chilling effect to accessing health care,” Ruth Richardson, president and CEO of Planned Parenthood North Central States, told the *AP*. “This new landscape is unfair — but in

commit to increase even more. The facilities remaining open will be in Ames, Cedar Rapids, and Des Moines, and in Omaha, Nebraska. “I must emphasize that, while the number of Planned Parenthood health centers will

blocked. Gov. Kim Reynolds signed a bill banning abortions after detectable heartbeat in 2018, which contained exceptions for rape and incest. It was struck down in 2019, first by a district judge and then by the Iowa Supreme Court, which Reynolds appealed.

The most recent ruling upheld the previous decision to keep the law protecting preborn children blocked, meaning abortions can continue being committed there.

Still, there is the possibility of a new law being introduced; the Iowa Supreme Court reportedly refused to ‘legislate from the bench’, but nothing prevents lawmakers from enacting a new, identical, law. Reynolds said at that time that lawmakers would continue fighting to protect life in Iowa.

*Editor's note. This appeared at Live Action News and is reposted with permission.*



committed 9% more abortions since *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* was decided last year, overturning *Roe v. Wade*. Yet staff shortages have allegedly led to the facility closures.

“The shifting legal sands make

all honesty, it's been unfair for quite some time for structurally marginalized communities.”

Though some facilities are closing, they will be redirecting staff to other facilities, allowing the number of abortions they

decrease, these changes will increase the number of patients that we can see,” spokesperson Mazie Stilwell said.

Earlier this month, the Iowa Supreme Court issued a ruling keeping the state's heartbeat law



# Missouri AG Details Fiery Lawsuit Against Biden's 'Vast Censorship Enterprise'

By Autumn Johnson

Missouri Attorney General Andrew Bailey is attempting to hold the Biden administration accountable for alleged collusion between the government and Big Tech to censor Americans during the COVID-19 pandemic and 2020 election season, calling it “the worst First Amendment violation in this nation’s history.”

Bailey discussed developments in his lawsuit against the Biden administration on the show “Washington Watch” with Family Research Council President Tony Perkins. The attorney general noted that he has solid evidence of one-sided censorship that occurred before the lawsuit, but he also said that the censorship has actually increased since the litigation began.

“[T]wenty thousand documents have been turned over in discovery, we’ve taken numerous depositions, and we’ve uncovered this vast censorship enterprise emanating across the federal government,” Bailey told Perkins. “My fear is that censorship enterprise has actually grown since we initiated this lawsuit.”

Bailey noted that the Biden administration struggled to show evidence that the censorship was not one-sided. “The government was hard-pressed in court when asked by the judge to identify a single liberal’s voice that was

suppressed,” Bailey said. “The only example they had was one political opponent of the president.”

“This is the worst First Amendment violation in this nation’s history,” he said, adding, “we’re going to continue to fight



Missouri Attorney General Andrew Bailey

When Perkins asked about the constitutionality of the government’s censorship, Bailey did not mince words.

to protect Americans’ right to free speech.”

So far, it seems the federal judge overseeing the case is

also skeptical of the Biden administration’s arguments. Earlier this month, RC Free Speech America reported that, according to Bailey, “the federal government had a hard time convincing [Chief District Judge Terry A. Doughty] that it hasn’t been working with and coercing social media companies to censor free speech.” He added that Doughty “asked the feds if they had ever read George Orwell’s 1984, pointing out the similarities between the case and the book.”

Doughty also warned that the censorship would continue unless stopped: “The threat of future censorship is substantial, and the history of past censorship is strong evidence that the threat of further censorship is not illusory or merely speculative.”

*Missouri v. Biden* notably cites an MRC Free Speech America study that revealed that “Big Tech” social media platforms censored criticism of Biden online 646 times between March 10, 2020, and March 10, 2022.

The Family Research Council is a member of the Free Speech Alliance.

*Editor’s note. This appeared at Newsbusters and is reposted with permission.*

# NRLC Gathers in Pittsburgh to Make Abortion Unthinkable!

From Page 1

and the attendees listened with rapt attention.

From Erik Rosales at the opening Prayer Breakfast, followed by Wesley Smith, J.D., and Alex Schadenberg on Assisted Suicide, to Amy Ford and Thomas Glessner, J.D., on Pregnancy Resource Centers to Benjamin Watson who wrapped up day one that evening, every speaker was motivational, filled with knowledge that they shared. It was a wonderful first day at NRLC 2023.

And, we had 24 workshops on important pro-life topics tucked in around all the major sessions.

Saturday opened with a session discussing what we have learned in the first-year post-*Dobbs* and great lessons, information, and suggestions on going forward

were passed along. Next, we were held spellbound by a group of abortion survivors. Leading off with a video from Melissa Ohden, the session next featured Lauren Eden, the co-founder and President of “Embrace Grace, and then the abortion survivors who spoke about their stories. They provided that “Abortion Survivors are NOT a pro-life myth.” Our Federal Legislative Director, Jennifer Popik, J.D., wrapped it all up by suggesting what the attendees could do to help us pass, once and for all, the Born-Alive bill that is currently before Congress.

For the convention wrap up on Saturday evening, we were thrilled to welcome none other than Seth Dillon, founder and

CEO of the famous Babylon Bee! Seth was amazing and funny, and a fabulous speaker. His speech ended the 52<sup>nd</sup> annual National Right to Life Convention on the highest of high notes. Add an additional 24 workshops to Saturday and it was a fact-filled day.

All sessions are now available for purchase of MP3s, and you can find what you are looking for here: <https://nrlconvention.com/product-category/audio>

For me, one of the best parts of a National Right to Life Convention is connecting with old friends and making new ones. It is seeing those folks we see only once a year and catching up with the latest news. Visiting the exhibit hall and seeing the many vendors

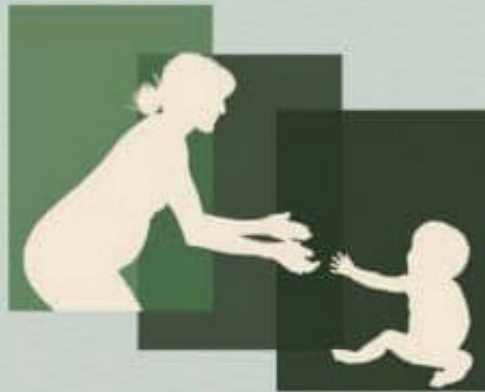
with their materials and offers is another exciting opportunity to get the latest information to take back home. This year did not disappoint on either front.

So, start now, by saving the dates for the 53<sup>rd</sup> annual National Right to Life Convention which will be held in Arlington (Crystal City), Virginia on Friday and Saturday, June 28, 29, 2024. The theme is “*Strength in Numbers*,” and we hope you will show us your strength by joining us there.

As we continue 2023, and early 2024 in making great strides in saving lives, let’s plan now on making next year’s convention one for the books! I look forward to seeing you there and working with you in the meantime.

Have a great rest of the summer!

## Making Abortion Unthinkable



# Surviving and Saving Lives in a Post-*Dobbs* world

From Page 14

government. And yet, Democrats in Congress, and certainly the Biden administration, are unlikely to support even these modest proposals. But we will try.

In those places where abortion will remain legal, we have to find other ways to save babies and help the mothers. Our convention theme is “making abortion unthinkable.” Our goal should be that, even if abortion is legal, no woman wants one. We want women to think bringing a new life into this world is wonderful; I could never do “that” to my baby.

There are many ways we can help to develop that philosophy, to bring about that environment where life is the best choice.

We need to remind everyone about the dangers of abortion. Taking the chemical abortion pill is not as easy as popping an aspirin. And we should especially remind them that the abortion pill was created solely to end the life of an innocent human being. It isn't used for any other purpose.

Many states enacted legislation to require that a woman seeking a chemical abortion receive a physical exam. The FDA is trying to eliminate in-person visits but one reason that is so important is that about 2% of all pregnancies are ectopic; the new little human is growing outside the uterus. If that condition is not diagnosed, the woman could die.

One study, done by abortion advocates, determined that an oral exam over a video call was just as safe as having a physical in-person exam and that the abortion pills were 95% effective. But more than 36% of the women did not complete the study. Why did such a large number of women not complete the study? And if more than a third of the subjects didn't complete the study, how can you say the results are 95% positive?

A 2015 study by researchers at the University of California, San

Francisco of emergency room visits is one of those often cited as proof that the rate of serious complications from the abortion pill mifepristone is “less than 1%.”

But that study doesn't include full data. The research included only what they determined to be “major” complications— “... unexpected adverse events requiring hospital admission, surgery, or blood transfusion.”

Complications not taken into account include hemorrhage, infection, incomplete or “failed” abortion requiring a follow-up surgical abortion, and even things like “uterine perforation.”

If you add *these* dangers, the complication rate for chemical abortions was over five percent, meaning the complications were serious enough to send more than one out of every twenty abortion pill patients to the emergency room.

Another study, again by abortion advocates, found 6% of known outcomes from the abortion pill were severe enough to result in a visit to the emergency room or urgent care, with additional women experiencing serious adverse events. If the events are serious, shouldn't they be included in the results?

Research in the United Kingdom found that “5.9% of women using medical abortion are subsequently treated in hospital for complications arising from an incomplete abortion, including retained products of conception, hemorrhage, and infection.”

Our pro-life counterparts in the United Kingdom report that after abortion pills were allowed to be mailed into homes, there was a dramatic increase in emergency calls from women who had taken the pills. And in some areas, the number of emergency calls doubled.

Researchers from the University of Toronto found that more than

10% of chemical abortion patients visited the emergency room with some concern of complaint.

And yet another study in Finland, with data from nearly 50,000 women, found almost 7% of women needed surgical intervention after taking the abortion pill.

Giving abortion advocates the benefit of the doubt, using the 95% effectiveness rate—with our abortion numbers, that still means 25,000 women every year rushing to the emergency room with complications or having to find someone to surgically address an incomplete abortion. Chemical abortions are not as quick and easy as just swallowing a couple of pills.

Here's another problem. The abortion industry tells women that if they go to the emergency room because of complications from the abortion pill, “tell them you're having a miscarriage.”

I fully expect, in the coming years, we will see an increase in visits to the ER, but the medical record won't show it as an abortion complication. And if a woman dies, it will be reported as maternal mortality, looking like pregnancy is more dangerous for women.

Full disclosure—all the studies and statistics I'm using here are the result of extensive research by our director of education and research, Dr. Randall K. O'Bannon. This has all been printed in the National Right to Life News. His information is readily available for you to use.

We don't want women to take a chance on these dangers, so what are some ways we can help her to choose life?

Promote pregnancy centers. They do amazing work to help women through a difficult time. With our structure and knowledge of legislation and lobbying, we can help by keeping destructive or punitive laws from being passed.

Promote adoption — Some women just aren't ready to be a mom, or they just don't want to be a mom. Encourage them to give them privilege and blessing to someone else.

Help to install more safe haven baby boxes around our states. If a woman doesn't want the responsibility of raising a child or believes she just can't do it, letting her place the baby in a safe place where the child can be rescued and cared for is a loving, compassionate act on her part.

Several states have created programs to provide support services for pregnant women, or new moms and their babies. That's a far better, a far more compassionate, response than telling someone she will be better off if she ends the life of her child. I love the many programs that have been created to promote a pro-life, pro-mom-and-baby culture.

Some states have created grants for pregnancy resource centers or provide tax credits for donations to these centers. Some have extended the period for Medicaid coverage to a new mom, others allow a child to be deducted for tax purposes in the year the child was conceived, not waiting until the year he or she is born.

I believe we will see these comprehensive approaches in more states as abortion laws change.

And we need to promote abortion pill reversal. If a woman takes that first set of pills in the chemical abortion process, then decides she doesn't want to go through with the abortion, she can get a heavy-dose progesterone treatment to counteract that first pill. It's effective about 2/3 of the time and more than 4,500 babies have been born because their

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moms, who took the abortion pill, changed their minds and their babies survived.

More than half of all abortions are now chemical abortions. Fourteen states have amended their informed consent laws to require that a woman starting the chemical abortion process be told that, if she changes her mind and acts quickly enough, she may be able to counteract the pill and save her baby's life. We can urge more doctors to be part of the network.

Our opponents hate APR – say it's junk science and doesn't work. They don't want to recognize that any woman would regret their

abortion.

Some people do believe this is a matter of letting women decide whether to continue with a pregnancy. But there is a growing contingent who doesn't want her to have a choice. They're trying to shut down women helping centers and trying to stop abortion pill reversal. Their end goal is simply the death of unborn children.

The late Pope Benedict XVI, spoke to the General Assembly of the Pontifical Academy for Life in 2007, and offered this profound truth: “[L]ife is the first good received from God and is fundamental to all others; to guarantee the right to life for all

and in an equal manner for all is the duty upon which the future of humanity depends.”

Think about that for a minute: The future of humanity depends on the guarantee of the right to life for all and in an equal manner for all.

People are different from each other. We look different. We act differently. We have different ideas and opinions. We have different wants and needs. We have different talents and abilities.

It's not up to us to decide who should be here. It's not up to us to decide who lives and who dies. The pro-life message that all life is precious is desperately needed

in today's society.

Do what you can to make abortion unthinkable so that, even if abortion is accessible, no woman wants one because Life is a beautiful, wonderful choice!

*Missed the convention? Or were there too many sessions that you wanted to go to but couldn't? Browse the sessions at [nrlconvention.com/audio](https://nrlconvention.com/audio) and listen to the recordings! If you would like to purchase all of the sessions (60+ sessions!), you can do so here at a discounted rate of more than half off: <https://nrlconvention.com/shop/2023-all>*

