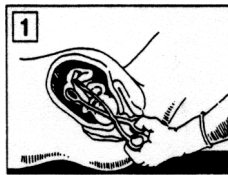


The Daschle "Late-Term Abortion" Bill: four loopholes big enough to drive a scissors through.

These drawings portray a typical partial-birth abortion: a healthy baby 8-10 inches long (measured to scale of the abortionist's hand), which corresponds to the size of a baby at 20-24 weeks gestation.



1 Guided by Ultrasound, the abortionist grabs the baby's leg with forceps.



2 The baby's leg is pulled out into the birth canal.



3 The abortionist delivers the baby's entire body, except for the head.



4 The abortionist jams scissors into the baby's skull. The scissors are then opened to enlarge the hole.



5 The scissors are removed and a suction tube is inserted. The child's brains are sucked out causing the skull to collapse. The dead baby is then removed.

Senator Daschle claims that he wants to "ban" what he calls "late-term" abortions, including partial-birth abortions. A surprising initiative, coming from a senator with a 100% NARAL rating for 1996?

Well, not really. You see, Daschle has some exceptions. In fact, Daschle is really trying to gut the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act by offering a substitute that is *all exception and no ban*.

Daschle wants four loopholes big enough to drive a scissors through.

Daschle Loophole No. 1

When Daschle says he wants to limit "late-term" or "post-viability" abortions, he's really referring only to, in his words, "the last trimester." But the vast majority (probably over 90%) of partial-birth abortions are performed in the fifth and sixth months of the baby's development -- *not* during the third trimester. A vote for Daschle is a vote to condemn healthy babies of healthy mothers, thousands annually, to suffer the brutality of partial-birth abortion during the fifth and sixth months. (In a May 8 letter to the Senate, over 60 law professors wrote, "The destruction of human beings who are partly born is, in our judgment, entirely outside the legal framework established in *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*.")

Daschle Loophole No. 2

Daschle would grant abortionists absolute authority to declare which babies are "viable," and at what stages of development. It's like a senator proposing a bill to ban "assault weapons," with a provision to allow each gun dealer to decide whether any specific gun is an "assault weapon" or not. Such a law is not a restriction -- it is impossible to violate.

The Real Ban

On March 20, the House passed the *real* Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act (HR 1122) by an overwhelming 295-136. It was supported by 77 Democrats, and by all but 8 Republicans. The bill would ban any abortion "in which the person performing the abortion partially vaginally delivers a living fetus before killing the fetus and completing the delivery," unless necessary to save the mother's life. Rejecting Daschle-like ploys, nine states already have passed similar bans (Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Georgia, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, South Carolina, South Dakota).

Daschle Loophole No. 3

Daschle would explicitly allow abortion *even in the third trimester* if an abortionist simply asserts that "continuation of the pregnancy" would "risk grievous injury" to the mother. But these babies have already reached the

point at which they can survive independently of the mother -- *so why not deliver them alive?* There is nothing about a partial-birth abortion -- which, after all, requires delivering the baby feet first *most* of the way, before puncturing her skull and removing her brain -- that will protect a mother's health to a greater degree than the delivery of a live premie.

Daschle Loophole No. 4

The Daschle proposal would allow any abortionist to kill a baby, even after "viability," merely by signing a "permission slip" to himself -- a so-called "certification." Once an abortionist signs such a piece of paper, Daschle gives the abortionist complete immunity from any penalty -- even if there is overwhelming objective evidence that he aborted a healthy, viable baby of a mother who was not at risk.

Cast a vote that will stand the test of time. Reject the Daschle phony ban.

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A detailed factsheet on the Daschle proposal is available from the NRLC Federal Legislative Office, (202) 626-8820. Extensive information on virtually every facet of the partial-birth abortion debate can be found by utilizing the search engine on the NRLC Homepage, at www.nrlc.org.