



national RIGHT TO LIFE NEWS

July 2022

"All the News That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

VOL. CLXXI . . . No. 59,465 © 2022 The New York Times Company SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 2022

ROE OVERTURNED

A 6-to-3 Ruling Ends 50 Years of Federal Abortion



The Washington Post

Mostly sunny 90/70 • Tomorrow: Partly sunny 91/73 B6 Democracy Dies in Darkness SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 2022 • 82

Supreme Court overturns nearly 50-year-old precedent, allowing states to outlaw abortion

Conservatives celebrate long-fought triumph as liberals mourn what Biden calls 'a sad day for the country'

Roe v. Wade struck down

Conservatives ignore public opinion with recent rulings

Roberts says court went too far, doesn't join majority

BY ROBERT BAKER AND ANN E. MARSH

The Supreme Court overturned the right to abortion nearly 50 years ago. Wade, a stunning decision that could alter the national landscape and lead to drastically reduced law a procedure rights groups say end's equality and "Roe was egg from the start. It exceptionally w quences. And about a nation abortion issu have enflamed division Alito Jr. wrote is time to h and return to the peo tives." The vo restrictiv Chief Ju

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

It's Worth Knowing What's Really Going On.

Early Sunday Edition

TOP STORY SUPREME COURT

OVERTURNED

Supreme Court strikes down Roe v. Wade, leaving abortion regulation to states.

In Georgia, both sides await court decision on restrictive law that had been on hold.

Battles expected to continue in legislatures, Congress and upcoming elections.



national RIGHT TO LIFE NEWS

Unanswered Prayers: my timing was not God's timing for *Dobbs v. Jackson*

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

Some say that “unanswered prayers” are the greatest gift God can give us. I was reminded of that during the opening of our NRLC Convention.

I had decided that the best time for the *Dobbs* decision to come down was after the convention (Atlanta, Georgia June 24, 25), and prayed that it be so. It seemed logical to me, and it seemed practical for the Justices.

But God had other plans and as always, He was absolutely correct.

The opening day of the convention, we had a wonderful Prayer Breakfast featuring Ms. Catherine Davis, Founder, The Restoration Project, and she was



amazing. Guest after guest came out of the room the breakfast was held in asking how they could reach her to speak for them.

We were off to a great start.

The next session featured Wesley Smith, J.D., of the Discovery Institute and a full-time advocate for human beings threatened by euthanasia and assisted suicide. The session began at 9:30 am. Shortly after 10 am, as Wesley was in the midst of his presentation, several people burst into the room shouting, “Roe is overturned.” After almost a

See “Prayers,” page 18

49 - 5 - 2

By David N O’Steen, Ph.D., Executive Director

Forty-nine years, five months, two days; that was the time I had really been in the right to life movement. It was also the age of *Roe vs. Wade* when it finally fell.

I had left the University of Houston in the summer of 1972 to take a position at the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth, MN. That summer I met two of my math majors, who turned out to be the best students I ever had in my short teaching career.

More important, when they found that I shared their conviction that killing babies by abortion was wrong - that unborn children should be protected - they introduced

me to the local chapter of the state pro-life group Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life (MCCL). That chapter was without a chairman and that fall, in my absence, the group elected me the chairman.

I said no. I wasn't a speaker, an organizer, an activist. I did not even know that a case involving abortion was before the Supreme Court and I had never even heard of a pro-life organization before. I paid the chapter dues, \$15, I think, and wished the group well.

See “49-5-2,” page 33



Left to right. Congresswoman Michelle Fischbach, NRL Executive Director David N. O’Steen, Karen Cross, Political Director, and Carol Tobias, NRL President

Editorials

Can you imagine a better time to be a champion of unborn babies?

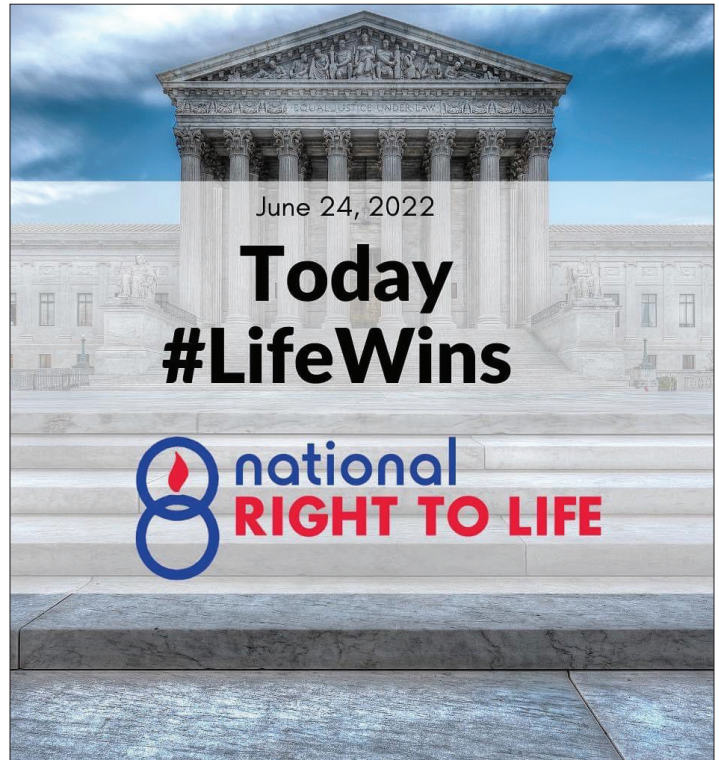
I've been blessed to be the editor of *NRL News* since August 1981. There have many peaks—and valleys—in those four decades but nothing to compare with the excitement of being at the opening General Session of National Right to Life's 51st annual convention in Atlanta and hearing a voice in the back of room boom out, "Roe is overturned!"

Many, many thoughts raced through my mind. All the heroes. All the dedication. All the sacrifice. But my first thought was, "Thank you, President Trump!" It was his three appointments to the High Court—Justice Neil Gorsuch, Justice Brett Kavanaugh, and Justice Amy Coney Barrett—that made this decision possible. Thank you, President Trump.

But—you knew there would be a "but"—*Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health* did not end our struggle for the littlest Americans. It was a necessary but not a sufficient victory. As Jacki Ragan, our indefatigable convention director, tells us in her story, it was NRLC Executive Director, Dr. David N. O'Steen, who said that the decision in *Dobbs* gave us "freedom to protect unborn children." But "when evil is cornered, it comes back ferociously," he warned us. "We have a real struggle before us."

Part of that struggle is because the fate of unborn babies is caught up in the Democrats' war against democracy. President Biden

See "Champion," page 25



A fascinating look at where pro-abortion Democrats went off the rails

The "red wave" that is supposed to be coming this November which, (it is said) will give control of the House and perhaps the Senate to Republicans is not some inexorable force. No matter how rosy a party's political fortunes may look four months out, inevitably something will happen that could change all that in a heartbeat.

Pro-lifers know these facts of political life. That's why we celebrated the overturning of *Roe v. Wade* and *Casey* for a couple of weeks and then rolled our sleeves up and got back to work.

Why the quick return? Because we fully understand how crucially important the next elections are. We know that with rare exceptions, Democrats are enthusiastic about multiplying the number of abortions and are not particularly choosy how that is accomplished. Fair play is not in the Democrats' playbook.

"How Democrats Lost Their Majorities" appeared in the *Wall Street Journal* yesterday. It is an overview that in a few hundred

words captures where Democrats went off the rails.

Robert Showah tells us that "Since the Senate revised the filibuster rule in 1975 to make 60 votes the threshold, Democrats have twice earned supermajorities of that size and held more than 55 seats five times. Republicans have topped out at 55 seats." But....

But Democratic Senate power is waning for a reason. In a union of states, power is earned by notching multiple victories proximate to voters. For much of the 20th century Democrats won by sustaining an impressive coalition of Southerners—a mix of conservative Dixiecrats and neoliberal Blue Dogs—along with a pro-union arm of Midwesterners. This coalition provided

See "Democrats" page 32

From the President Carol Tobias

What *Dobbs* Means for Us



Roe v Wade and *Planned Parenthood v Casey* are gone! We've worked for the overturn of *Roe* for nearly five decades and the pro-life movement was ready for the next step. Some states had a "trigger"

law on the books, ready to go into effect the moment this happened or soon after. Pro-lifers in other states would continue efforts to protect as many babies as possible as soon as possible.

In response, the Biden administration is trying to override state laws that regulate chemical abortions—"medication abortions." President Biden on Friday said he had directed HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra to "take steps to ensure that these critical medications are available to the fullest extent possible."

Lawrence Gostin, a Georgetown University law professor specializing in public health, called on the FDA to clearly state that its scientific review of the abortion drugs trumps any state actions that restrict their use, "and that states don't get to pick and choose which FDA-approved medications it will or won't allow," according to *The Hill*.

The federal government is being asked to set up abortion camps on federal property so the killing can continue. And there is pressure on the federal government to ignore the Hyde amendment and pay expenses to transport women across state lines to get an abortion.

I knew supporters of abortion would be furious but, I admit, I didn't fully expect the hysterical, irrational response we have seen. Some believe (or act like) abortion is now illegal in the United States. It isn't.

News stories strongly hint that women who get an abortion will be penalized, failing to mention the very public position taken by NRLC and more than 70 organizations opposing such actions. That just begins the lies and distortions.

News stories abound about how apps that track a woman's menstrual cycle will

be used to document whether or not she is pregnant. Or that if she searched for abortion information, her search record could be used as evidence against her.

Even more reprehensible, women are being told they will die if there is a problem with their pregnancy. They are being told that doctors will be unable to, or will be afraid to, treat ectopic pregnancies, miscarriages, or serious challenges to mother or baby during pregnancy. Such distortions are an abomination.

Some abortion supporters are going after pregnancy resource centers—more than they usually do—accusing the centers of deception. Why? Because they don't perform abortions.

In short, the abortion industry is doing everything it can to scare women into seeing her unborn child as the enemy, being used by politicians to subjugate her into second-class status.

We shake our heads in bewilderment, or anger, but we keep on doing what needs to be done to protect babies and their mothers.

If you live in a state with a trigger law, you may have assumed that much of the work was done. Babies are being protected and you can now concentrate more of your efforts on supporting the increasingly valuable pregnancy resource centers.

But don't assume anything. The abortion industry will try to find a judge that says your state constitution contains a "privacy" clause which will not allow those protections. Or they will initiate a petition drive to place a measure on the ballot, probably in 2024, hoping to override your pro-life legislature. So be prepared.

Some states, because of a divided government—a pro-life legislature but a pro-abortion governor with a veto pen—may take a couple years to determine what protections are possible.

And some of you live in states that, tragically, have gone in the opposite direction by removing what few protections they had for unborn children. Do what you can to keep the issue alive with measures that will generate support even from many people who support abortion.

For example, no tax funding of abortion; conscience protections for medical personnel; the requirement that abortionists provide information about abortion pill reversal; that parents be notified if their minor daughter is seeking an abortion, to name just a few. Make sure people in your state realize how anti-life the state law is.

But whether we are able to pass laws to protect unborn children, or keep the ones we have, will depend on the November elections.

The U.S. House has passed the radical "Women's Health Protection Act" but our stalwart, pro-life friends in the Senate have stopped the bill twice.

The only thing preventing this from becoming a horrible national law is the filibuster. Right now, there are 48 votes in the Senate to end the filibuster. With Vice President Kamala Harris ready to break a tie vote, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer only needs two more.

If Democrats do pick up two more senate seats in November, Schumer would have the votes necessary to eliminate the filibuster, and a pro-abortion wish list becomes reality.

Along with passing the Women's Health Protection Act, Congress would repeal the Hyde Amendment and tax dollars would pay for abortions.

We would likely see the District of Columbia and possibly Puerto Rico added to the union as states, giving Schumer four more senators to do his bidding. And in order to overturn *Dobbs* and protect unlimited access to abortion, Democrats will add four more radical pro-abortion justices to the U.S. Supreme Court.

If Chuck Schumer and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi are in full control of Congress next year, much of what we won with the *Dobbs* will be lost. That could happen at the state level as well.

We have to elect pro-life candidates!

Our opponents know what is at stake: President Joe Biden, Chuck Schumer, and Nancy Pelosi have all said that abortion is on the ballot in November. Let's make sure the headlines after the election read, "And Life won!"

National Right to Life Committee Proposes Legislation to Protect the Unborn Post-Roe

Editor's note. This memo was distributed by NRLC General Counsel James Bopp, Jr. two days before the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade. We are reposting it because of its intrinsic importance and because some readers may not have seen it when it first ran. In the memo, NRLC proposed a Post-Roe Model Abortion law for the states to adopt.

“For decades, National Right to Life and its state affiliates have led the effort to pass life-affirming laws at the state level that protect unborn children and their mothers – efforts that have drastically reduced the number of abortions and brought us to this moment in our nation’s history,” said Carol Tobias, president of National Right to Life. “With this model law, we are laying out a roadmap for the right-to-life movement so that, in a post-Roe society, we can protect many mothers and their children from the tragedy of abortion.”

The model law recommended by the National Right to Life Committee would first protect the lives of unborn children

from abortion except when necessary to prevent the death of the mother, which has been the accepted policy of the pro-life movement since 1973 and for many years before. In addition,

well beyond the actual performance of an illegal abortion. It also includes aiding and abetting an illegal abortion, and a variety of other acts in furtherance of illegal abortion;

plaintiff has suffered actual injury or harm from the defendant’s conduct; punitive damages, payable to the not-for-profit organization of the plaintiff’s choice, that provides



the model law ensures that no criminal or civil penalty will be imposed on a pregnant woman.

Second, because current realities require that abortion laws have a robust enforcement mechanism to ensure that they are effective, the model law provides criminal penalties, but also broad criminal enforcement authority—granted to both local prosecutors and states’ attorneys general—and civil remedies and licensing revocation for physicians who perform illegal abortions.

The model law also reaches

trafficking in abortifacients; trafficking minors to obtain illegal abortions; and, in a RICO-style provision, the use of proceeds from a pattern of illegal abortion activity to engage in such activity.

On the civil side, the model law would allow state or local officials and affected persons to bring a civil action against any person or entity that violates any provision of the model law, permitting a court to enjoin the offender to prevent future violations; permitting compensatory damages if the

services to pregnant women; and costs and reasonable attorney’s fees.

“Our model law builds on the substantial experience the right-to-life movement has had in developing pro-life legislation and we believe it presents the best opportunity to protect the unborn,” James Bopp said. “It is important that states not only prohibit illegal abortions, but also employ a robust enforcement regime, so that these laws are sure to be enforced.”

The Post-*Dobbs* Future in Congress

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

After nearly 50 years of living under the *Roe v. Wade* decision, the pro-life movement celebrated the U.S. Supreme Court's *Dobbs v. Jackson* decision. While this is the first critical step in a long battle ahead, this decision overruled the *Roe* and *Casey v. Planned Parenthood* decisions and returns the abortion issue to elected representatives in Congress and the state legislatures.

Many states have already begun protecting unborn children, while others seek to expand abortion. As for Congress, there are still battles ahead as the 117th Congress closes in on its final months. These upcoming elections will be critical to the future of the pro-life movement and pro-life members of Congress are gearing up for a fight ahead.

While it is becoming clear to most Americans that abortion will now be debated anew in statehouses across the country and in Congress, the Biden Administration is at work attempting to short circuit the will of the people. Today, President Biden delivered public remarks and signed an executive order related to abortion. In part it would instruct Health and Human Services to explore options related to expanding access to chemical abortions, and to amass an army of lawyers to defend those violating the law.

As *Politico* explained in an article, "Biden signs abortion rights executive order amid pressure,"

Biden already asked the administration to explore many of these

steps, while others remain vague on their exact mechanisms. The president stressed Friday that none of them would fully restore abortion rights to the tens of millions of people who recently lost them and said the solution is at the ballot box in this November's midterms.



"We need two additional pro-choice senators and a pro-choice House to codify Roe as federal law," he said, acknowledging the current situation as "frustrating." "Your vote can make that a reality."

The President's remarks today were littered with glaring falsehoods, mainly as it relates to giving women treatment in emergency situations or punishing women who have aborted. What the President deliberately ignored is that the pro-life movement is vehemently opposed to women being prosecuted for having or seeking an abortion. An open

letter to state legislators stating the opposition of the movement to the prosecution of women was signed by over 70 pro-life groups.

Further, pro-life legislation explicitly makes clear that treatment for miscarriages does not fall under the legal meaning of abortion. No law exists that outlaws the treatment of ectopic pregnancies. No existing definition of abortion

applies to the treatment of ectopic pregnancy.

Battles ahead

If Republicans are able to retake majorities in Congress, not only can they start working on pro-life bills, but they can also stop the Democrat abortion agenda. This is not to say that challenges won't remain. Regardless of the midterm outcome, President Biden and his pro-abortion administration will still remain in power another two years. And even if a Republican piece of legislation could pass the House and attract 60 votes in the Senate, the President will still wield veto power.

The first step is to elect pro-life Republicans to Congress

in the upcoming midterm elections. If the Democrats keep or grow their majorities in Congress, there is a great deal at stake. While any effort to "codify *Roe v. Wade*" would be likely to fall well short of the 60 votes needed, it is due to the fact that the filibuster remains intact in the U.S. Senate. While support among Senate Democrats to end the filibuster rule has grown in recent years,

they would need 50 votes to do so. Currently, Sens. Manchin (D-Wv.) and Sinema (D-Az.) have committed to keeping the filibuster intact.

If the Democrats were able to gain two or three seats, however, it is extremely likely that they would eliminate the filibuster and only require simple majority votes to pass sweeping legislation such as the "Women's Health Protection Act." While this legislation remains stalled in the Senate, Democrats in the House are planning yet another vote on this legislation this coming week.

See "*Congress*," page 27

Harnessing the Political Winds to Build a Pro-Life Wave in 2022 Elections

By Karen Cross, National Right to Life Political Director

“Democrats face a nightmare scenario,” wrote *The Hill’s* Niall Strange back in April about the upcoming midterm elections. In the same report, an anonymous Democratic strategist conceded, “I think this is going to be a biblical disaster.”

A *New York Times* headline, quoting Obama White House press secretary Robert Gibbs, declared, “It’s time to head for the lifeboats.”

If these forecasts come to pass, it will be fantastic news for unborn children and their mothers, and it will be devastating for the abortion industry and their allies in Congress. The Supreme Court’s ruling in *Dobbs v. Jackson* has thus far failed to become a silver bullet aiding Democrats in bucking political headwinds and preserving their fragile majorities in the House and Senate.

But even with 75% of registered voters saying America is headed in the wrong direction, according to a July YouGov/Economist poll (versus just 16% who say we are headed in the right direction), the midterm elections are not a done deal. The lives of countless unborn children and their mothers hang in the balance. We must roll up our sleeves and put in the work if we want to see a wave of pro-life leaders elected in November.

Despite dire predictions, many Democrats have held out hope that if the U.S. Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade*, such a ruling would galvanize Democratic voters, tip Independents their

way, and put a stop to some of the bleeding the party is currently experiencing among key groups such as suburban women, young people, and Hispanic Americans.

for any reason, at any time in pregnancy, funded by American tax dollars, continues to stand on the outside the American mainstream. In the two weeks following the official handing

Review summarized the results, “Out of the options presented to them, 72 percent of respondents said that they supported abortion up until 15 weeks — the exact issue at stake in



Harnessing the Political Winds to Build Pro-Life Wave in 2022 Elections

 national
RIGHT TO LIFE

TIME Magazine published an article entitled, “The Fall of *Roe* May Save Democrats in the Midterms, at Least in the Suburbs” while analysis from the *Washington Post* bore the headline, “Democrats are losing White women. Will repealing *Roe* bring them back?” along with dozens of similar headlines from other publications with demonstrably pro-abortion bents, give more the impression of wishful thinking than actual fact.

Public opinion surveys do *not* indicate any significant new advantage for Democrats as a result of the Supreme Court’s ruling.

Unfortunately for Democrats (and fortunately for unborn children), their party’s full-throated defense of abortion

down of the *Dobbs* decision, several polls confirm that the deeply held views of Americans on the issue of abortion have not drastically changed. If anything, there are encouraging signs and emerging opportunities for the pro-life movement moving forward.

Unchanged is also the fact that many Americans still do not understand *Roe v. Wade* and its companion case *Doe v. Bolton*. A Harvard-Harris poll, taken entirely after the Court overturned the 1973 decisions, saw 55% of Americans say they opposed the overturning with 45% saying they support it. However, the same poll also found noteworthy support for legal protections for unborn children and their mothers.

Charles W. Cooke at *National*

Dobbs — while 49 percent went only to six weeks. Both of these views were incompatible with *Roe*, which means that, whether they knew it or not, many Americans said they supported *Roe* while opposing what *Roe* actually did.”

Rasmussen Reports surveyed likely voters on similar topics but framed the question about the *Dobbs* decision as such: “The Supreme Court recently 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*?” When the question is presented in this way with a

See “Winds,” page 12

State Legislation in light of *Dobbs*

By Ingrid Duran, Director, Department of State Legislation

The 2022 legislative session has recently ended for most states and with the recent win for the unborn at the nation's highest Court, states are now poised to go back into special sessions to guarantee the effective protection of unborn children. Let's take a look at just how successful our movement was in securing the rights to the unborn in this past legislative session.

Lets start with the bad news so that we can end on a high note. While there were an incredible number of prolife wins, there were also some laws enacted in states that are not friendly to the unborn or the prolife cause. Some trends that we saw which show total disregard for life include extreme abortion on demand policies; allowing non-doctors to perform abortions; and creating a safe haven for abortion doctors that may break the law by directing state officials to refuse to participate or provide information from law enforcement in other states.

Five state legislatures -- California, Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, and Washington -- all implemented some type of legislation creating a safe haven for abortionists. The Connecticut law directs officials to avoid compliance with any investigations from other states when the matter is related to reproductive health. New York's law prohibits cooperation with any investigation dealing with abortion. New York's governor also signed five more laws that range from increasing protections for abortionists, to studying the effectiveness of pregnancy resource centers (a tactic used to undermine these helpful centers), to prohibiting

medical malpractice insurance agencies from taking adverse action against any reproductive healthcare provider.

Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, and Washington State now have laws allowing non-doctors to perform abortions, so that now, low-



level healthcare personnel are allowed to perform them. Maryland widened its scope on who can perform abortions to physicians, nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, certified midwives, physician assistants and "any other individual" licensed to practice in the state. This should be alarming to everyone.

California eliminated any out of pocket costs for elective abortions, Oregon codified an appropriations bill designating \$15M for abortion coverage, and both Colorado and New Jersey enshrined into their state laws a right to abortion on demand. Illinois enacted a law that repealed their parental consent law, so now parents do not have the right to protect their minors who obtain abortions in that state.

While the number of laws protecting innocent unborn life overwhelmingly surpassed

the laws that disregard human, we know that, even with the successful legislative session, we must remain vigilant. Our work is never finished.

Now the good news. And there was lots!

Some prolife trends this session include legislation

protecting the preborn at 15 weeks gestation.

Three states also passed a law making it illegal to force or coerce a woman into having an abortion. These were passed in Indiana, Iowa, and South Dakota. Five states focused on helping pregnant mothers. Arkansas and Missouri increased funding to their state alternatives to abortion funding program; Mississippi created a \$3.5 million fund for tax credits for individuals and businesses to use in support of donations for non-profit pregnancy resource centers and crisis pregnancy centers around the state. Arizona also passed a law that adds an inflator to the charitable tax credit that provides funding for pregnancy resource centers. In Georgia, under the direction of our affiliate, Georgia Life Alliance, the legislature passed a first-ever "Betsy's Law," which provides definitions of and guidelines for maternity supportive housing facilities for homeless pregnant women and their minor children.

In order to address the rise of the use of chemical abortions, four states passed protective laws curbing their use. The Louisiana legislature passed a law making it illegal to mail chemical abortion pills; Tennessee and South Dakota passed a law that would prohibit telemedicine abortions.

The Kentucky legislature overrode the Governor's veto of a prolife omnibus bill that not only protects unborn babies at 15 weeks gestation or greater, but also strengthens the state's parental

introduced similar to the Texas heartbeat law, and bills passed in anticipation of the *Dobbs* decision. We saw many bills protecting babies in early stages of pregnancy or at 15 weeks gestation, bills aimed at preventing coerced abortions, bills that regulate chemical abortions, and bills increasing funding for pregnancy resource centers. Idaho and Oklahoma passed laws protecting an unborn child in the early stages of pregnancy or when the baby's heartbeat is present.

The Louisiana and Oklahoma legislatures amended their trigger abortion laws (these laws are written to go into effect when the Supreme Court reverses *Roe v. Wade*). Wyoming also passed a trigger law this session. Standing in solidarity with Mississippi's gestational act, three states (Arizona, Florida, and Kentucky) enacted a law

Where were you when Roe was overturned?

A day that will forever be ingrained in our history and our hearts.

By Melissa Ohden, Founder and CEO, The Abortion Survivors Network

Like me, I'm sure you'll always remember where you were and what you were doing when the Supreme Court ruling overturning Roe was announced. I'd love to hear from you where you were.

Me? I was in my hotel room at the National Right to Life Committee Convention, running through press release edits on the phone with a

did my tears.

"I can't breathe. I can't breathe!" Bless you, my teammate Emily, for letting me be breathless and stunned and elated and overwhelmed all at once.

As we suddenly stepped into this new moment in time, a time we all have worked for, prayed for, believed in, dreamed of, my phone began to blow up.

continued to grow with the Alito leak.

But every dream, every plan for how I was going to handle the day when my death sentence, Roe vs. Wade, was overturned, couldn't prepare me for actually experiencing it.

The hustle and bustle of press releases, statements, media requests...they're all part of the job as the CEO of a pro-life non-profit on a historic day like Friday. But the emotions of it all, the text from my birthmother, Ruth, proclaiming excitement over the ruling... the texts and emails from not only pro-life colleagues but abortion survivors around the world who we've served...

...Then the flood of emails and messages from abortion survivors, families and professionals including doctors caring for young abortion survivors, looking for help for both survivors and mothers parenting their young children who survived their abortion attempts and need help....

Nothing could have prepared me for it all, even though we had long believed that Roe falling would usher in a new time and space for healing for all impacted by abortion, especially abortion survivors and families impacted by failed abortions.

There's so much I could say right now.

But more than anything, I simply want to say thank you. Thank you for all you've done to get us to this historic point in time. Thank your acknowledging and supporting abortion survivors and families. Thank you praying for us and believing in our mission at The Abortion Survivors Network.

As we enter this new era post-Roe, you can depend on us to continue on in our mission: Creating a world where the incidence of failed abortions and the lives of abortion survivors is openly discussed and accepted, survivors and their families are supported and healed, and abortion is unthinkable.

And with six new survivors reaching out and two new families being referred to us since Friday's ruling, it's clear we're needed now more than ever. Survivors and families from before Roe, survivors and families from during Roe, and still survivors and families who will come after Roe need our programs and supports.

Our Education and Policy Center has been working diligently on Federal and State policy and advocacy efforts, including Born Alive legislation and reporting and contributing to research that not only shapes policy but educates and equips adoption agencies, social workers, medical providers, mental health providers and more about the unique needs of abortion survivors.

I'll keep you posted on all of these continued efforts. Until then, follow us on social media for all of our interviews in this historic time including two Fox & Friends appearances with survivors served through our Network, two Newsmax shows, and more coming by the day. Breaking through the media silence on failed abortions is what leads more survivors and families to us, so keep praying for our team!

Again, thank you for all you've done and all you'll continue to do as we rebuild a culture of life in America.



Communications team member from the Kansas Value them Both Amendment. (I've been part of their team for months now, leading up to the important August 2nd vote, that's needed to ensure Kansas doesn't become a destination for late-term abortions).

As we worked through edits, we both agreed we had "a few more days" to tinker with it, as it seemed unlikely for the ruling to come out that day.

As we talked, I had the SCOTUS blog running on my laptop.

WE HAVE DOBBS!

I'll never forget the words on the screen.

I held my breath for what felt like a lifetime.

And then the ruling hit and so

My first text?

It was from my oldest daughter, Olivia. She was downstairs in a pro-life teen workshop.

"The ruling came out!!"

"Roe was overturned!!"

"Where are you, mom?"

"I need to see you!"

People used to ask me when I thought this day might come. "Maybe in my children's lifetime," I used to say. And then, when the Court took up the Dobbs case, I knew the likelihood was that it wouldn't be my children's lifetime, but my own.

That feeling grew stronger when I attended the Dobbs rally and oral arguments on December 1st. My hope

Biden Slams the Supreme Court, Calls on Congress to Eliminate the Filibuster to Force State to Allow Abortion on Demand

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

President Biden, while on the world stage in a NATO conference in Madrid, was asked if the U.S. was on the right track as a nation. Biden took the opportunity to blast the Supreme Court as “destabilizing” stating it showed “outrageous behavior” for simply issuing an opinion that he disagrees with. Biden was referring to the recent ruling in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*, which overruled the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision. This decision returns the abortion issue to Congress and the state legislatures.

In response, Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) issued a statement which reads in part,

Attacking a core American institution like the Supreme Court from the world stage is below the dignity of the President. Beyond that, President Biden’s attacks on the Court are unmerited and dangerous. He’s upset that the Court said the people, through their elected representatives, will have a say on abortion policy. That does not destabilize democracy – it affirms it. By contrast, it is behavior like the President’s that undermines equal justice and the rule of law.

The President went on to say, “I believe we have to codify *Roe v. Wade* in the law and the way to do that is to make sure that the Congress votes to do that....”

And if the filibuster gets in the way ... we provide an exception for this.”

The following day, during a virtual meeting with Democratic governors, the President conceded that “The filibuster

for [overcoming] filibuster also hasn’t changed despite Biden’s comments, per spox [spokesperson].” *NBC* reporter Sahil Kapur similarly tweeted, “For those wondering: Kyrsten Sinema and Joe Manchin remain



Pro-abortion President Joe Biden
Photo: Gage Skidmore

should not stand in the way of us being able to do that, but right now we don’t have the votes in the Senate to change the filibuster.” He added, “That means we need two more votes.”

While any effort to “codify *Roe v. Wade*” would be likely to fall well short of the 60 votes needed, it is due to the fact that the filibuster remains intact in the U.S. Senate. While support among Senate Democrats to end the filibuster rule has grown in recent years, they would need 50 votes to do so. Currently, Sens. Manchin (D-Wv.) and Sinema (D-Az.) have committed to keeping the filibuster intact.

Today, *CNN* reporter Manu Raju posted on Twitter, “Manchin’s position opposing reducing 60-vote threshold

opposed to a filibuster exception for *Roe*/abortion protections, per their offices, despite Biden’s call today.”

With midterm elections rapidly closing in, there has been no shortage of pro-abortion votes taken in Congress, but none of them have even garnered a simple majority in the Senate, let alone the 60 votes needed to advance.

The Democrat-controlled U.S. Senate and House have voted three times this Congress on a bill they claim will codify *Roe v. Wade*. However, the so-called “Women’s Health Protection Act,” would go far beyond codifying *Roe*, invalidating laws upheld by the Court in the time since *Roe*.

On May 9th, 2022 (shortly

after the leaked *Dobbs* draft opinion became public) Majority Leader Schumer delivered floor remarks after filing cloture to set up a vote on the radical so-called “Women’s Health Protection Act” (S. 4132). He said in part,

It will be one of the most important questions this chamber confronts in decades, because for the first time in fifty years, women in America face the real possibility of living in a world where the protections of *Roe v. Wade* are a thing of the past. It will set up a situation where our children, women children, female children have less rights than their grandparents, something that is so un-American, taking away rights, stepping backward on rights in such a dramatic way.

This May vote failed by a vote of 49 to 51. Nearly identical legislation was voted down by the Senate in March as well. Neither a single Republican nor Sen. Joe Manchin (D-Wv.) supports the legislation.

However, the Democrats embrace of running roughshod over even the most common-sense state abortion restriction is complete. 49 of 50 current Democrat Senators co-sponsored the measure, and 218 Democrat House members voted for the measure.

The so-called “Women’s Health Protection Act” would enshrine into law abortion-on-demand and would overturn existing pro-life laws and prevent new protective laws

“Overturned”

By Laura Echevarria, NRL Director of Communications and Press Secretary

Such a simple word but it contains so much meaning for the pro-life movement and for the lives we work every day to save.

On Saturday, June 25th, I woke up anxious to see newspaper headlines after the *Dobbs* decision was released on Friday. To our great delight, *Dobbs* overturned *Roe v. Wade* and *Casey*.

National Right to Life staff was in Atlanta, Georgia for the annual convention and one of the first items in my inbox that morning was the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. On the front page with an article headlined “Overturned.” Above the fold was a photo of convention attendees hugging after the *Dobbs* decision was handed down and next to it was a photo of protesters in downtown Atlanta.

From about 10:40 a.m. on Friday, press requests poured in from both national and international press. Outlets ranging from the *BBC* in the U.K. and the *Sydney Herald* in Australia to *ABC* and *CBS* called looking for comment.

Our press room fielded calls from outlets as diverse as CNN and Japan’s NHK television network to *Al Jazeera* and *Reuters*. We also spoke with reporters from *National*

Catholic Register, *Newsy*, the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, *USA Today*, the *Associated Press* and *Politico* to name a few. Staff—and even former staff attending the convention—were scrambling to keep up with media requests. Over the course of just a few days, we

I was on the plane home, my assistant, Andrew Bair, set up the interview with NRLC President Carol Tobias.

Carol Tobias, as always, did a fantastic job Monday morning—just as she did in probably a hundred other interviews that weekend.



Great news, hot off the presses!!

fielded and completed over 150 media requests.

On Sunday afternoon, *NBC* called while I was standing in line to board a plane home. They wanted an interview Monday morning and, while

orders from a misinformation campaign being pushed by pro-abortion groups.

Misinformation is all that the pro-abortion groups have at their disposal now and many reporters are adhering to the talking points. For example, despite statements to the contrary as well as an open letter to state legislators stating that the pro-life movement opposes the prosecution of women who have abortions, pro-abortion groups still argue otherwise.

We’ve seen requests come in asking for our opinion about businesses who claim they will pay for women who travel to have abortions. Some reporters have acted as if this is a “gotcha” question, but our response has been to tell reporters that companies that do this are doing it because it helps their bottom line, not because they are helping women.

The misinformation campaigns will continue. Pro-abortion groups are only concerned about the bottom line. They will pursue whatever they think will preserve abortion on demand including, first and foremost, misinformation that hurts women and their unborn children.

For the most part, many of the articles and news stories were balanced and fair. As days progress, however, we are seeing more questions from reporters who are clearly getting their marching

“*Roe v. Wade* is now behind us, consigned to the list of infamous cases that collapsed under the weight of its errors”

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

As I joined with people from around the country in a spirited rendition of God Bless America, a feeling of intense gratitude swept over me. This was the first time I had sung the beloved hymn in the post-

that the U.S. Supreme Court had overturned the disastrous court ruling known as *Roe v. Wade*.

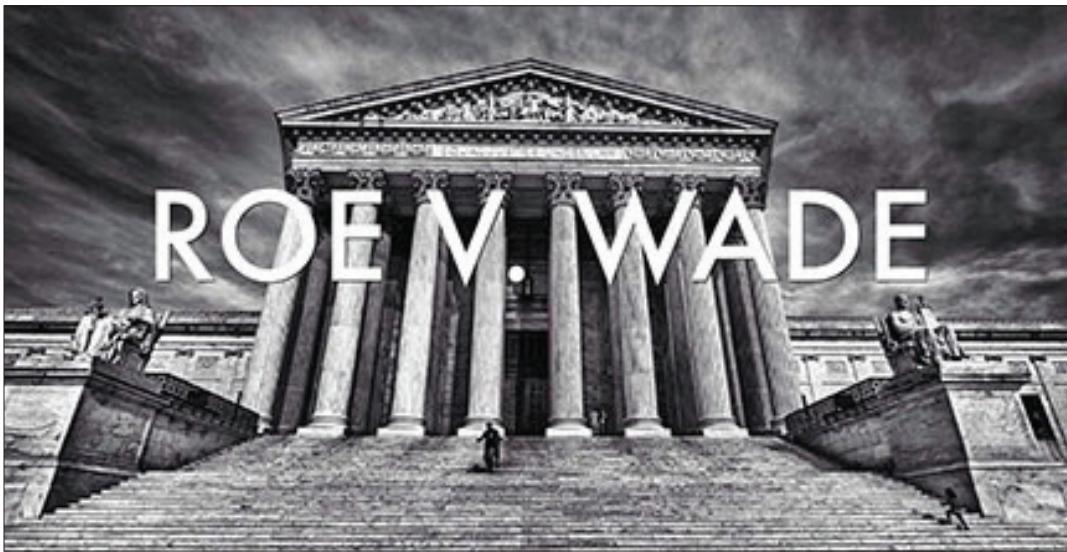
The song took on a new meaning, as I reflected on the fact that the worst decision in the history of American

when our nation finally would be free of the tyranny of *Roe*.

I had prayed each day for years for this victory—boldly claiming that it would happen in my lifetime. The thought that any grandchildren I might have

Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization. The case involved a Mississippi law barring abortion after 15 weeks. As Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch stated:

“*Roe v. Wade* is now behind us, consigned to the list of infamous cases that collapsed under the weight of their errors. This decision is a victory not only for women and children, but for the Court itself.”



Roe era. I happened to be attending the National Right to Life Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, when the news broke

jurisprudence had been swept away on a tide of sound judicial reason. This is the moment I had been awaiting for decades—

in the future would be post-*Roe* babies sent my spirit soaring.

The catalyst for *Roe*’s reversal was a case known as

I realize that much work remains to be done to protect precious preborn babies and their mothers from harm throughout the country—including the Commonwealth in which I live, Pennsylvania. But the fact that the decision on abortion policy now rests with the people, through their duly-elected representatives in the states, fills me with awe. God bless America indeed.

Biden Slams the Supreme Court, Calls on Congress to Eliminate the Filibuster to Force State to Allow Abortion on Demand

From page 9

from being enacted at the state and federal levels. This bill seeks to strip away from elected lawmakers the ability to provide even the most minimal protections for unborn children, at any stage of their pre-natal development.

This legislation would invalidate nearly all existing state limitations on abortion and prohibit states from adopting new limitations in the future, including various types of laws specifically upheld as constitutionally permissible by the U.S. Supreme Court. Further, it would invalidate most

previously enacted federal limits on abortion, including federal conscience protection laws and most, if not all, limits on government funding of abortion.

Should Democrats gain seats in the Senate this fall, it is extremely likely that they would eliminate the filibuster and only require simple majority votes to pass sweeping legislation like the “Women’s Health Protection Act.”

In press release responding to the *Dobbs* decision Carol Tobias, president of National Right to Life stated, “This is a

great day for preborn children and their mothers. The Court has correctly decided that a right to abortion is not in the constitution, thereby allowing the people, through their elected representatives, to have a voice in this very important decision.”

The release went on to state: In the majority opinion, written by Justice Samuel Alito, the High Court noted:

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.

Elections have consequences, and it is critical now, more than ever, to elect pro-life representatives to both Congress and state houses across this country.

Panel lays out “The Guide to Winning for Life” at NRLC General Session

By Dave Andrusko

In a Saturday morning General Session at National Right to Life’s annual convention, a panel of experienced pro-life office holders and right to life champions provided years of insight in laying “The guide to winning for Life.”

The theme was urgent and straightforward: the 2022 Mid-term elections are of paramount importance. The Supreme Court’s June 24 decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health* “gave us freedom,” said NRL Executive Director Dr. David N. O’Steen, “the freedom to protect unborn children.”

But “when evil is cornered, it comes back ferociously,” he continued. “We have a real struggle before us.”

The freedom we gained on June 24 “can so easily be lost” if pro-lifers do not take back the House and Senate. Pro-abortion Democrats would attempt to

pack the Supreme Court, pass radical legislation such as the absurdly named “Women’s Health Protection Act,” and add two or four more Democrat to the



Left to right, Karen Cross, Political Director, Congresswoman Michelle Fischbach, and NRL Executive Director David N. O’Steen

Senate by conferring statehood on the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, O’Steen said.

Congresswoman Michelle Fischbach (R-Mn.) said the *Dobbs* decision overturning *Roe* and *Casey* finally admitted what proliferers have known

for almost a half-century: the decisions are “garbage.” She grew emotionally when she called on those who were active in 1973 to raise their hands.

“You know life is precious” and must be defended, she said.

Fischbach cautioned that we “can’t slowdown” in the fight and that we must “redouble our efforts.”

Political Director Karen Cross reminded us there are

136 days until the elections and that our focus has to be there, above all else. Cross said that Planned Parenthood, EMILY’s List, and NARAL have pledged to spend a \$150 million to elect pro-abortionist. She quipped, “They need a \$150 million just to lose to us.”

NRL President Carol Tobias encouraged pro-lifers to continue to fight the good fight. She said that pro-abortionists continue to consistently underestimate our staying power and determination.

She pointed out that pro-abortionist have taken refuge in the misnomer that they merely wish to “codify *Roe*.” But she drew applause when she said “there is no *Roe*” to codify after Thursday’s Supreme Court decision.

Tobias ended her remarks by calling on all pro-lifers to pray, work hard, and to make the next 136 days count.

Harnessing the Political Winds to Build a Pro-Life Wave in 2022 Elections

From page 6

brief but accurate description of what the *Dobbs* decision does, we see an inverse of the Harvard-Harris numbers. 50% of likely voters in the Rasmussen poll approve of the Court ruling in *Dobbs*, including 38% who strongly approve of the decision, while 45% disapprove.

A midterm election is historically a referendum on the sitting U.S. President. With just a 38% approval rating according to RealClearPolitics, President Biden is less popular than Presidents Trump, Obama, Bush, and Clinton

were at similar points in their presidencies. In his speech to the nation on the day of the *Dobbs* ruling, Biden signaled that Democrats would be doubling down on their extreme pro-abortion agenda, declaring, “This fall, *Roe* is on the ballot.”

The centerpiece of this agenda is the so-called *Women’s Health Protection Act*, known by critics as the “Abortion Without Limits Until Birth Act” because it would enshrine abortion on demand in federal law and policies. Going even beyond the scope of *Roe*, the bill would also tear down pro-life

protections on the state level including parental involvement and informed consent laws.

Currently, the U.S. Senate is divided 50-50 between Republicans and Democrats, with pro-abortion Vice President Kamala Harris (D) as the tiebreaker. On November 8th, there are 14 Democrat and 21 Republican Senate seats on the ballot across the nation. If they expand their Senate majority, Democrats have indicated that they will seek to eliminate the filibuster, pass the radical *Women’s Health Protection Act*, and expand and

pack the Supreme Court with new pro-abortion justices. We cannot let that happen.

In a roundabout way, Biden was correct that abortion will impact the elections. If you support protections for vulnerable members of the human family, including unborn children and their mothers, it is vital that you engage and participate in the 2022 elections. While there are indications that we have strong political winds in our sails this fall, our involvement and especially our votes are as essential to securing victory as ever.

New Harvard/Harris poll has much encouraging results for pro-lifers

By Dave Andrusko

At the risk of stating the obvious, it is more important than ever to carefully read surveys on abortion now that the Supreme Court has overturned *Roe v. Wade*. Doubly so for the latest Harvard-Harris poll which probes many dimensions of the abortion issue. Hint: they are very encouraging.

By way of gauging interest, to the question “How closely have you been paying attention to the Supreme Court repealing *Roe vs. Wade* last week?” a total of 72% responded very closely (34%) or somewhat closely (38%)!

First question: “Do you support or oppose the Supreme Court’s decision to overturn *Roe vs Wade*, which allows each state to decide its own standards for abortion instead of a set right?” 55 percent of respondents said that they opposed the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Care*, with 45 percent saying they supported it.

“In and of itself, this isn’t exactly resounding,” Charles Cooke writes.

“Just 55 percent against? In this media environment? But when one adds in the

subsequent questions in the poll, the case for *Roe* as a beneficial political settlement (which was made by



Justice Breyer during oral arguments, by the majority in *Casey*, and by anyone who was too embarrassed to pretend *Roe* was law) falls apart. Out of the options presented to them, 72 percent of respondents said that they supported abortion up until 15 weeks — the exact issue at stake in *Dobbs* — while 49 percent went only to six weeks. Both of these views were incompatible with *Roe*, which means that, whether they knew it or not, many Americans said they supported

***Roe* while opposing what *Roe* actually did.**

To be precise, Harris/Harvard found 37% “would

allow” abortion only for rape and incest. Another 12% “would allow” abortion up to 6 weeks—the Heartbeat Law. Another 23% “would allow” abortion up to 15 weeks.

Thus a total of 72% [37%+12%+23%] would not allow abortions after the 15th week.

What else does the survey, conducted by Harvard University and the Harris polling firm, tell us? 44% believe it is “better for abortion standards to be set by the legislatures of each individual state?” Only 25% believe it is better that judges set the standards and “less than a third of voters say abortion should be set federally by congressional vote.” In other words, the

dominate public opinion agrees with the *Dobbs* decision: the abortion issue should return to the states.

In addition to being desperate to win additional Senate seats so they can pack the High Court, Democrats insist the Court is “illegitimate.” Does the public’s agree?

Question: “Do you consider the Supreme Court of the United States to be legitimate or illegitimate?” A whopping 63% say legitimate. A followup: “Is it right or wrong for democrats to call the Supreme Court illegitimate?” 59% say wrong, including 34% of Democrats!

If you follow the media assault on the justices, this results is extremely welcomed news.

Finally, how about the political impact? “The *Roe* decision has a net neutral impact on the mid-term voting.” 36% are more likely to vote for a Republican. 36 percent say they would be more likely to vote for a Democrat.

We have been inundated with stories of a wave of angry resentment which will topple pro-life office holders. It wasn’t, isn’t, and won’t be true come this November.

The pro-life movement is about help and hope, not about judgment

By Dave Andrusko

I'll bet many of our readers will be familiar with Kathryn Jean Lopez. For those who aren't, she is terrific writer and pro-life through and through. She is the former editor and current editor-at-large of *National Review Online*. Kathryn is also a nationally syndicated columnist.

In a recent column, she posed the question "Does America Prefer Abortion?" She began with pro-abortion Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi who, as she often says when queried about abortion, that she is the mother of five and grandmother of nine—and a "Catholic." Her own archbishop recently took the extraordinary step of barring Pelosi from receiving Communion over her support for abortion.

Kathryn then holds up the Catholic Church as a model for compassionate care for women. "The fact of the matter is that the Catholic Church throughout the country has the utmost compassion for women — some dioceses run pregnancy-care centers, while others offer a whole host of resources for not only pregnant women but also women and children and families beyond birth," Lopez writes. "To be a very Catholic person is not to be defensive and insist on expanding abortion but to be beacons of the words of Pope John Paul II in *Evangelium*

Vitae (The gospel of life). He wrote directly to women who have had abortions:

The Church is aware of the many factors which may have influenced your decision, and she

women who have had abortions to encounter God's mercy," Lopez writes.

Indeed, the pro-life movement "is not about judgment," she writes. "We are about help and hope. To target pro-life centers

view of *Roe* is. If you are pro-choice, please stand in condemnation of violence and disruptions at pregnancy centers and churches. If you are pro-choice, please consider supporting places where life is



does not doubt that in many cases it was a painful and even shattering decision. The wound in your heart may not yet have healed. Certainly, what happened was and remains terribly wrong. But do not give in to discouragement and do not lose hope.

Pope John Paul II "encourages

by law and arson, activists — and terrorists — are making it more difficult for a mother to choose life for her baby. Nancy Pelosi and others say they are "about choice." What about the choice to be a mother? What about the other heroic choice, adoption? This should be celebrated."

To be sure the choice for life "takes tremendous courage and should be universally supported, whatever one's

embraced and abortion isn't the predominant option."

We can hope that the Supreme Court will use the *Dobbs v. Jackson* case to free us of bondage to abortion on demand, "A declaration of independence from *Roe* affords a new freedom for life in a country where there are all too many pressures and excuses for death," Lopez concludes. "Unless we prefer abortion."

Abortion Advocates Hoping to Beat *Dobbs* with Mail Order Abortifacients

By Randall K. O'Bannon, Ph.D. NRL Director of Education & Research

Editor's Note. This is adapted from Dr. O'Bannon's June 24th speech at NRLC Convention 2022

Today, we stand at the threshold of what looks to be a whole new era, the first time in nearly 50 years that abortion has not been treated by the Supreme Court as some sort of “super duper” right or precedent hidden somewhere in the shadowy emanation and dark penumbras of the Constitution.

A great day in which our states can finally pass laws protecting unborn children and their mothers from the horrors of abortion without the threat of *Roe* handing over our work.

It is not a day, however, when we should expect abortion's long time defenders and supporters to suddenly give up their efforts. Far from it.

Just as this is a day we have long worked and prayed for, it is also a day that our opponents on the other side have been planning and preparing for for decades. They have developed a particular type of abortion – chemical or “medication” abortion with pills – that they can perform on a woman without her ever having to come to a clinic, one where she can order abortion pills on line and have them delivered to her home.

Abortion pills that they think you and your state cannot effectively legislate against, whose sale you cannot easily monitor or prohibit.

It is a time of great possibility and of great danger. So exactly how did we get to where we are today and what can we do about it?

A very old dream

1973 certainly wasn't the first time women first woke up pregnant and decided they didn't want to be.

As far back as Ancient Times we encounter recipes for herbal concoctions that were supposed to help women “strip off” or “loosen the child” in the her belly. These “potions” included dangerous chemicals like mercury or sulfur or bizarre combinations of herbs like wormwood, pennyroyal, castor beans and other delicacies like fermented dough or crocodile dung that could either be drunk, eaten, or inserted into the birth canal and act as a pessary.

None of these every really caught on in any major way. Most women only experienced two basic outcomes – either those potions didn't work, or, if they did, they were as likely to kill the woman as to kill her child.

Though some of these herbal recipes continued to exist on in fringes of folk medicine over the next several centuries, the medical profession as a whole began to turn towards surgical methods in the 18th and 19th century. Even still, surgical abortion didn't become common for at least a hundred years more when physicians learned how to control bleeding, infection, and pain with better surgical techniques and improved antiseptic methods.

While surgical techniques advanced, advocates of abortion never entirely gave up on the idea of finding a chemical abortifacient.

When the pregnancy hormones progesterone and

estrogen were discovered in 1929 and 1934, a whole new avenue of research opened up.

Gregory Pincus used funding from Margaret Sanger and his own knowledge of hormones and steroid receptors to develop the progesterone based birth

control in the late 1950s. in 1980, the antiprogesterone drug they were looking for. Baulieu tested his new compound, given the generic name mifepristone, in 1981, aborted nine of the 11 pregnant women upon whom he tested. He announced his “success” in



control in the late 1950s.

Though **not** the abortion pill we know today, in the process of his research, Pincus theorized that any drug that could be developed to counteract progesterone, it could also function as an “implantation inhibitor.”

A young French chemist named Étienne-Émile Baulieu who visited Pincus during trials of birth control pills in Puerto Rico in 1961 was intrigued by Pincus' theory. When Baulieu returned to France, where he was working as a consultant to pharmaceutical maker Roussel Uclaf, he began looking for chemical compound which could block progesterone.

A functional abortifacient hits the market

Under Baulieu's direction, Roussel scientist George Teutsch discovered RU-486

1982 and petitioned the French government to approve his “abortion pill”

France told Baulieu to add a prostaglandin to increase effectiveness and then approved mifepristone for sale in 1988. China put out its own version later that year. Approvals in Britain and Sweden followed within a couple of years.

Of course, once the abortion pill got approved in Europe, the American media and abortion lobby began clamoring for the abortion pill to be brought to this country.

Once President Clinton took office, he set the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) to the task of bringing the abortion pill to the U.S. After wrangling

See “Mail Order,” page 16

Abortion Advocates Hoping to Beat *Dobbs* with Mail Order Abortifacients

From page 15

with the French company over American rights to the pill, an American group did national testing of the pills and arranged to have them manufactured in China. Ultimately Mifeprex – mifepristone’s trade name – was approved for use September of 2000.

Abortion advocates like to tell this as a tale of triumph, of progress, as the introduction of a new, easy, safe, simple, effective alternative to the already old, increasingly unpopular, surgical abortion.

It was presented as a softer, kinder, “more natural” abortion for women who were turned off by the intimidating, mechanical, bloody cutting of surgical abortion. The industry saw it as a way of enlisting a whole new class of doctors, nurses, and others in the cause who weren’t surgically trained, and never had an interest in adding surgical abortion to their practices.

But even with approval, it was a mixed verdict. The FDA did not simply approve the drug for general use. It approved the drug under “Subpart H,” a special administrative rule that allowed the FDA, because of the drug’s inherent safety issues, to set a number of conditions on mifepristone’s use and distribution.

Approval came with strings attached

Here’s what the FDA mandated: Two drugs, three visits, for women no more than 7 weeks LMP (Last Menstrual Period).

This was just the start. There were more limits, each one hated by the abortion industry.

Women were to be no more than 49 days pregnant

(measured since their last menstrual period – the baby would be two weeks younger). They were to visit the clinic, be screened and counseled to make sure they were the appropriate gestational age, did not have an ectopic or tubal pregnancy, and then receive three pills of mifepristone, which they took there in the doctor’s office. Those pills began the process of blocking progesterone in her system, shutting down the baby’s life support system and initiating the shedding of the child and uterine lining.

They came back two days later to take the prostaglandin, misoprostol, to initiate powerful uterine contractions to expel the dead or dying baby. In the FDA’s original protocol, the woman came back a third time at two weeks to determine whether or not the abortion was complete or additional drugs or surgery were required to complete the abortion.

The FDA also declared that these drugs would only be available directly from the U.S. distributor. They were only to be prescribed and administered under the supervision of a physician certified able to date pregnancies and diagnose ectopic pregnancies. The ordering physician had to be able to provide emergency surgical backup for failure, bleeding, or refer to someone who could do so. Paperwork on risks and procedures had to be signed by both patient and prescriber. The FDA required mandatory reporting of failures, complications, and deaths.

The FDA had considered more protections than these. Abortion advocates successfully talked the FDA out of requiring surgical training

or mandating ultrasounds, but they were still unhappy with the restrictions the FDA left in place.

Their immediate complaints were the dosages, the cutoff date, and the required second visit. However, advocates made clear that they wanted even more concessions.

Ignoring the FDA, paying the price

Almost immediately, abortion advocates began promoting an alternate protocol of their own. They wanted reduce doses of the more expensive mifepristone (from three pills to one) and doubling the dose of the cheaper misoprostol prostaglandin.

Instead of taking the misoprostol orally in the office, they gave women the misoprostol at their first visit to take home and self-administer vaginally. Some of the follow up seems to have been done over the phone rather than in person.

Evidence that the FDA’s safety concerns were justified began to surface once the abortion pills hit the market. A young teenage girl from the San Francisco area died in 2003 after coming into contact with a rare bacteria. Soon information surfaced that the same rare bacteria, *Clostridium sordellii*, had killed at least four other mifepristone patients. All had used the vaginally self-administered misoprostol of the National Abortion Federation’s alternate mifepristone protocol. Some felt was how the deadly bacteria entered their system.

News then came out about Swedish and British teens who had bled to death after taking mifepristone. A mifepristone

patient in Chattanooga died when her undetected ectopic pregnancy ruptured.

The FDA’s official record showed other deaths and hundreds of women hemorrhaging, getting infections, being hospitalized, having their ectopic pregnancies missed by the doctors prescribing their pill

The FDA investigated the deaths, issued public health advisories, added warnings to the label. But instead of reconsidering the pill’s safety and the wisdom of their industry protocol and its modifications, abortion advocates continued to push for even fewer restrictions.

FDA caves (somewhat) to unrelenting abortion industry pressure

After years of pushing by abortion advocates, the FDA, under President Obama, granted some of these requests in March of 2016. They adjusted the dosages, allowing the misoprostol to be taken at home (though not vaginally), extended the cut off to 10 weeks, and broadening the list of approved prescribers to any “certified health care provider.”

All these changes made it easier, cheaper, and more convenient for abortionists. Nothing made it safer.

Advocates were still not satisfied. A group of abortion all-stars calling themselves the Mifeprex REMS Study Group published an article in the February 27, 2017, issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*. They argued that after 16 years of

See “Mail Order,” page 17

Abortion Advocates Hoping to Beat *Dobbs* with Mail Order Abortifacients

From page 16

“overregulation” it was time to “unburden” Mifeprex.

However, even while modifying the protocol to meet many of the abortion lobby’s demands, the FDA continued to keep the abortion pill under strict distribution limits – still requiring certification of prescribers, still requiring paperwork, still requiring that patients come to the clinic to receive their pills and receive necessary instruction and counseling.

In 2011, the FDA put mifepristone under its new safety monitoring program, its “REMS” or Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategies program. This is “a drug safety program that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) can require for certain medications with serious safety concerns to help ensure the benefits of the medication outweigh its risks.”

Again, advocates were concerned that these regulations gave women the (fully accurate) idea that these pills were dangerous. They also felt all the certification process discouraged many would be prescribers, doctors, nurses, and clinicians. They felt they would find this process, and all the accompanying paperwork, unnecessary and onerous.

Using COVID for Cover

When COVID hit, abortion pill advocates saw their opportunity. They said women could have their consultations virtually, on the computer or over the phone. They argued that women didn’t need to expose themselves to the virus by coming into the clinic for their pills.

Backed by their political allies, abortion advocates, sued the FDA in the courts to suspend the REMS regulations. A federal district judge accepted their argument and ordered the FDA to comply in July of 2020. Though the Supreme Court overturned that and reasserted the FDA’s authority to regulate the use and distribution of drugs in January of 2021, that victory was short-lived.

Shortly after the Biden administration took over, it directed the FDA to suspend the REMS again in April of 2021 and pledged to consider overturning the regulations permanently before year’s end. This it did, in December of 2021, saying the drugs no longer had to be dispensed in person and pharmacies could become certified prescribers. The FDA kept some of the basic REMS regulations in place, still requiring certifications, paperwork, limited distribution, and keeping a ten week cutoff. But essentially the FDA authorized abortions by telemedicine and set it up that the drugs could be shipped from on-line pharmacies.

Even before the latest tussle over regulations, there were renegades like Dutch abortion activist Rebecca Gomperts with Aid Access who were already selling unauthorized foreign abortion pills online. But as soon as the rules were first suspended in 2020, many telemedical, online providers in the U.S. sprung up, such as Choix, Just the Pill, Hey Jane and online pharmacies like HoneyBee Health. These had much more liberty to promote themselves and their products once the FDA’s rules

on in person distribution were permanently dropped.

Many of these may have been more entrepreneurial than medical ventures, perhaps seen as a chance to make a quick buck. But the industry as a whole wanted much more.

Insurance against Roe’s fall

Abortion advocates have been aiming for abortion pills that can be given to women with NO rules, no oversight whatsoever, no exams, no tests, and no direct consultation. They have made clear that they want women to be able to buy these over-the-counter, without a prescription, to be able to stock and keep in their home medicine chest for us “as needed.” Essentially, “DIY” or “Do it Yourself” abortions.

What had been implicit for many years has been made explicit in the last few months: abortion advocates have been playing the long game. For more than three decades, they have been developing a unique product, clearing all obstacles that stood in the way of an abortion method that could bypass all the rules, the laws, the normal medical safeguards, one that can be ordered online and sent directly to a woman’s home. One that she can access even if abortion is illegal in her state.

Over the last several years, they have methodically gotten rid of every legal and logistical barrier that stood in their way. They’ve had insiders – their good buddies in the industry – do studies supposedly establishing the safety and efficacy of telemedical chemical abortions, of pills delivered to women who have not been

examined, have not received an ultrasound to determine their gestational age or identify ectopic pregnancies, who have not been checked for the Rh factor which can harm future pregnancies, whose completion of the abortion process has not been verified.

They’ve infiltrated and corrupted the some of the nation’s top medical societies and convinced sympathetic government authorities that the high numbers of patients lost to follow up can just be ignored, that hundreds or thousands of women being hospitalized for bleeding, for severe infections, for ruptured ectopic pregnancies, for surgery for incomplete or failed abortions really don’t matter and don’t affect the drug’s safety or efficacy profile.

To them, everything’s fine so long as a young woman can go online, see an unrealistically rosy sales pitch about a safe, simple abortion, and then order pills sent to her in an unmarked box or envelope.

Those who have problems are welcome to try to get to their local ER before they bleed to death. It’s all good, so long as abortion advocates have a way to continue the killing and keep the industry going after Roe’s fall.

A tough road ahead

We have been watching and we have been preparing for this development.

Many states have passed regulations either directly prohibiting the online prescription and mailing of

See “Mail Order,” page 21

Unanswered Prayers: my timing was not God's timing for *Dobbs v. Jackson*

From page 1

half-century, the Supreme Court had reversed *Roe v. Wade*. There was stunned silence for about a half a second before people erupted in tears, hugs, and disbelief.

Many of us in that room, had spent our adult lives fighting

of breakout sessions at 11:15. The one thing that continued throughout the rest of the convention was smiles on everyone's faces. We knew we had won a historic victory but we also knew that abortion was now largely a state issue.

"Like me, I'm sure you'll always remember where you were and what you were doing when the Supreme Court ruling overturning Roe was announced.

Me? I was in my hotel room at the National Right to Life Committee Convention... As we suddenly stepped into this new moment in time, a time we all have worked for, prayed for, believed in, dreamed of, my phone began to blow up.

"I need to see you!"

As the afternoon continued, periodically, someone would just walk up and hug you and smile and say, "did you ever think?" We went through 24 breakout sessions and ended Friday with an amazing session featuring Matt Birk, Super Bowl Champion, author, and a huge promoter of adoptions; Bishop Peter Christensen who honored National Right to Life



Lynda Bell (right), chairman of the NRLC board of directors, joyfully embraced the person next to her when they heard the historic news that Roe had been overturned.

to restore legal protection to unborn children. This was a moment most of us thought we would not live to see.

The attorney's and staff of NRLC gathered in the convention office as the decision was read and a statement prepared for the press. As the convention director, I wondered how in the world I would get the convention back on track and it even crossed my mind that maybe I shouldn't.

But we regrouped and we were ready for the first round

We had to keep educating the public about the injustice of abortion.

The convention continued with a session featuring Melissa Ohden of the Abortion Survivors Network. Imagine knowing that you were supposed to be among the 63,000,000 plus babies who died by abortion, and yet, here you were, standing on the stage telling your story on the day *Roe* died. I believe Melissa's words are well worth repeating here:



Like hundreds of other, Barbara Holt scanned the Dobbs opinion on her phone.

My first text?

It was from my oldest daughter, Olivia. She was downstairs in a pro-life teen workshop.

"The ruling came out!!"

"Roe was overturned!!"

"Where are you, mom?"

in the midst of the pandemic by suggesting if the folks in his Diocese did not need all

See "Prayers," page 19

Unanswered Prayers: my timing was not God’s timing for *Dobbs v. Jackson*

From page 18

the stimulus money, they were receiving that they give back half and donate it to NRLC; and David Scotton who is featured in the upcoming Kendrick Brother’s film on adoption, “LifeMark.” It was a perfect way to end the day.

Saturday morning opened with a political session featuring Congresswoman Michelle Fischbach from MN 7th district. Her words are also worth repeating here: “I never imagined when I agreed

months ago to speak at the @nrlc convention that I would have the honor to celebrate the repeal of *Roe v Wade* with the people who fought for decades to make it possible. I also visited with the next generation committed to defending life!”

Our Executive Director, Dr. David N. O’Steen was part of that same session – “Yesterday’s decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health*. “*Dobbs* gave us freedom,” said Dr. O’Steen, “the freedom to

protect unborn children.”But “when evil is cornered, it comes back ferociously,” he continued. “We have a real struggle before us.”

He reminded us of the challenge ahead. The freedom

we gained on June 24 “can so easily be lost” if pro-lifers “do not take back the House and Senate,” said Dr. O’Steen.

See “Prayers,” page 20



Bishop Peter Christensen of the Diocese of Boise receives an award of appreciation from National Right to Life President Carol Tobias. A congressional stimulus package in 2021 not only provided many Americans with \$1400 checks, it also funneled millions to abortion providers. In response, Bishop Christensen encouraged parishioners throughout Idaho to donate as much as half (or as much as they were able) of their stimulus money to the National Right to Life Educational Foundation or the pro-life organization of their choosing. The Bishop's efforts were copied by other bishops across the country and ultimately resulted in more than \$170,000 in donations to the National Right to Life Educational Foundation.



Prayer breakfast speaker Catherine Davis opening the NRLC convention with "The evil of eugenics."



NRL President Carol Tobias, with the next generation of pro-life leaders, showcasing the Atlanta Journal-Constitution's front page.

2022 NATIONAL RIGHT TO LIFE CONVENTION

JUNE 24-25, 2022
ATLANTA, GA

Unanswered Prayers: my timing was not God’s timing for *Dobbs v. Jackson*

From page 19

Still buoyed by *Dobbs*, the convention carried on throughout Saturday with session after session providing wisdom, advice, praise for where we are, and love and support for NRLC to continue

with the task of saving lives. As our president, Carol Tobias said, “We’ll rejoice! We’ll celebrate! Then we’ll get back to work.” Having the *Dobbs* decision come down, and the *Roe v.*

Wade decision overturned on the opening day of our convention – well, there just are not words sufficient to describe it. It was exhilarating beyond belief, and as always, God knew best.

So next year, June 23, 24, 2023 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, plan NOW to be with us! One never knows what will happen at the National Right to Life Convention. See you there!



John and Irene Walsh gave the “V” for victory when they heard the news that *Roe* had fallen.



Focus on the Family’s Jim Daley and NRLC President Carol Tobias



At a General Session entitled “Why I am Pro-life” are (left to right) Martha Zoller, executive director, Georgia Life Alliance; Jim Bopp, Jr., NRLC General Counsel; Lynda Bell, Chairman of the NRLC board of directions; and Melissa Ohden, founder of the Abortion Survivors Network.



Olivia Gans Turner, President of Virginia Society for Human celebrates the end of *Roe*.

S.C. Fetal Heartbeat Law Now in Effect

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

The Fetal Heartbeat and Protection from Abortion Act is now in effect in South Carolina, according to pro-life Attorney General Alan Wilson.

On Friday, June 24, 2022, after the U.S. Supreme Court overturned the Roe and Casey decisions, General Wilson petitioned the U.S. District Court of South Carolina to lift its injunction that was blocking implementation of the lifesaving legislation that pro-life Governor Henry McMaster signed into law

in February of 2021. The Supreme Court ruled in the *Dobbs v. Jackson* case that there is no constitutional right

to abortion. Abortions laws now are up to the individual states.

“The Heartbeat Law is now

in effect,” General Wilson said in a statement from his office. “Once *Roe v Wade* was overturned by the Supreme

Court, the decision on legally protecting the lives of unborn babies was returned to the states, so there was no longer

any basis for blocking South Carolina’s Heartbeat Law.”

The Heartbeat bill gives a pregnant woman the right to know her unborn child has a heartbeat and gives her the right to hear the heartbeat if she so chooses. The law also protects most unborn children with a detectable heartbeat from death by abortion.

“Our state is now carrying out a government’s most sacred and fundamental duty, protecting life,” General Wilson said.



Abortion Advocates Hoping to Beat *Dobbs* with Mail Order Abortifacients

From page 17

abortion pills or have at least mandated that these pills only be dispensed in person by a physician who has met, counseled, and examined a woman.

These laws have already kept many of these groups from marketing telabortions in those states.

But they are challenging our laws in the courts and looking for ways around them. They are angling to have doctors in other states ship pills across state lines. They are actively talking about prescribing these pills in

states where mail order abortion pills are prohibited by claiming they are being shipped not for abortion, but for “miscarriage management.”

Of course, they are still pushing the FDA to drop the REMS entirely. They want to skip the telemedical interview entirely and just have women fill out an online application. They want this available for sale over the counter.

We are continuing to tweak our laws to address the new realities. We are considering some new ideas. We are

beefing up our education program so that women know how dangerous these abortion pills are and what they do to their babies.

But with *Roe* now consigned to the dustbin of history and states gaining the power to limit abortions, this is where the battle is going to be played out over the next several years.

So let’s celebrate our great victory, but be prepared. Stop thinking of abortion as something only done at dilapidated clinics by old

grey haired abortionists with a tired suction machines or a rusty scalpels. The new, modern menace is a chemical or “medical” abortion with pills ordered online and mailed directly to a woman’s home. It’s hard to detect and even harder to control.

Can it be stopped? Yes. Will it be easy? No.

But we have faced tough challenges before, and we have triumphed with compassion, determination, and ingenuity. It’s going to take every bit of that to win this fight.

Congressional Pro-Life Caucus leaders applaud Supreme Court decision

WASHINGTON—The Co-Chairs of the Congressional Pro-Life Caucus—Reps. Chris Smith (R-NJ), Michelle Fischbach (R-MN), Andy Harris (R-MD) and Kat Cammack (R-FL)— applauded the Supreme Court’s decision on *Dobbs* that empowers elected representatives to protect unborn children.

“For decades—right up to this very moment—abortion advocates have gone to extraordinary lengths to ignore, trivialize, and cover up the battered baby victim,” said Rep. Smith. “Today, at long last, Justice Alito writing for the majority of the U.S. Supreme Court has reversed *Roe* (and *Casey*) and has returned the power to lawmakers to significantly regulate or even prohibit abortion.”



Rep. Chris Smith



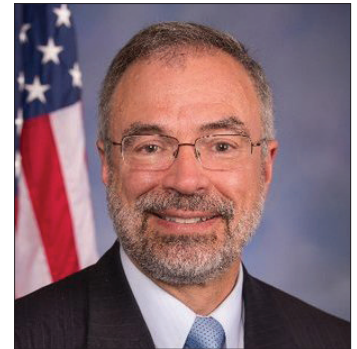
Rep. Michelle Fischbach

“Today’s Supreme Court decision was a step to protect the most precious and basic right: the right to life,” said Rep. Fischbach. “*Roe* put judges in charge of abortion policy, imposing laws legislated by unelected judges that left Americans without a voice. Now, thanks to this Supreme Court, the American people will be able to decide the issue of abortion through

their elected officials. This is what democracy looks like. Elected leaders, accountable to the people they represent, propose and pass

the laws that the people support. The Constitution gives the people this job. The people are ready to protect life.”

“Finally, the U.S. Supreme Court has overturned the incorrectly determined *Roe* opinion that treated young human life as not worthy of protection under our Constitution,” said Rep. Harris. “As I have long said, human life should be protected from conception until its natural end, and I am thankful that this ruling now affirms that. It is my hope that this decision will be respected on the legal merits upon which it was written.”



Rep. Andy Harris



Rep. Kat Cammack

“The monumental news in *Dobbs v. Jackson* is historic,” said Rep. Cammack. “Since the founding of our nation, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness have been key tenets in the United States, and today’s news has solidified our most basic right—the right to life. For the most vulnerable among us, this decision affirms the undeniable value of life and the protection and respect for

all unborn children. This is a historic day. Life wins!”

“Now, more than ever, women and men of conscience must act to protect the weakest and most vulnerable,” Smith said.

Strong opposition from MPs to introducing euthanasia and assisted suicide in the UK

By Care Not Killing Alliance

Care Not Killing is pleased at the “strength and breadth” of opposition from MPs towards the policy of introducing euthanasia and assisted suicide (EAS) in the UK.

During last week’s Westminster Hall debate, parliamentarians heard about just some of the dangers of introducing so-called “assisted dying”, including evidence from Oregon, Canada, and the Netherlands, with vulnerable people feeling pressured into ending their lives prematurely, and the growing link between introducing EAS and increases in a jurisdiction’s suicide rate.

Danny Kruger, Chair of the Dying Well All-Party Group, referred to considerations of financial savings in extending euthanasia in Canada beyond terminal illnesses, and the reality of care rationing within the NHS.

Stephen Timms described the NHS as his party’s greatest achievement, and said it’s being underfunded was not a reason to give up on seeking achievable, high-quality, equally-accessed palliative care. He said

“I agree with the organisation Care Not Killing that we want... a funded policy for comprehensive hospice, community and hospital specialist palliative care services across the country, with a duty placed on NHS trusts to ensure these services are made available to all who need them.”

As the debate drew to a close, the Minister restated the Government’s longstanding position: the ultimate decision

is for Parliament, as with other issues of conscience, and “our neutral stance means that this would have to be via private members legislation.”

Dr. Gordon Macdonald, Chief Executive of Care Not Killing, commented:

“Doctors’ groups such as the Association of Palliative Medicine, disability rights organisations, and all those who oppose the introduction of euthanasia and assisted suicide will be pleased at the strength and breadth of opposition to changing the law in Parliament.

“We heard MPs acknowledge that palliative care remains a Cinderella service, hugely reliant on charity with many patients who would benefit from this type of care not currently receiving it; this should be the priority. MPs like Sir Peter Bottomley recognised the growing body of evidence that shows legalising assisted suicide or euthanasia does not reduce the suicide rate in the general population but increases it. This was explored convincingly in a recent peer-reviewed study from the UK’s Anscombe Bioethics Centre published in February, which showed a ‘consistent association’ between the passing of assisted suicide and euthanasia laws and

an increase in suicide rates (including assisted suicides) among the general population across those countries

saw the chilling case of Roger Foley, who was repeatedly offered the drugs to kill himself, while being denied the



that have introduced euthanasia or assisted suicide.”

Dr. Macdonald continued:

“Some MPs rightly expressed concern at the mission creep we see in countries like Canada, which legalised so called ‘medical assistance in dying’ in 2015. The law was originally limited to those whose natural deaths were ‘reasonably foreseeable’, but in September 2019 the Quebec Superior Court struck down that restriction. This followed the case of Alan Nichols, a former school caretaker who was physically healthy, but struggled with depression. His life was ended by lethal injection in July 2019. That same year also

social care to live a dignified life, due to the cost.

“At the same time, deaths from lethal injection continue to rise in Canada. In 2020 7,595 had their lives ended this way, including 1,412 who cited loneliness as a reason for opting to be killed, no doubt this was compounded by COVID. Now the Canadian law has been expanded to include those with chronic conditions, and soon, mental health conditions.

“Our current laws protect vulnerable people and do not need changing, instead we need to refocus our attention on how to ensure we provide the very best palliative care to those who need it.”

The prolife movement is “pro-baby, pro-mom, and pro-science. We’re ready to speak the truth with love”

By Senator Ben Sasse (R-Neb.)

Editor’s note. This appeared at World Magazine.

The Supreme Court’s *Dobbs* decision should be a cause for celebration—not just for pro-life Americans but for every American. Human dignity, the core American principle, now has the chance to prevail at the state level because of a cultural movement that did the hard work of building institutions and winning hearts and minds.

America is rooted in an extraordinary belief: Every human being is created equal and endowed with intrinsic, inexhaustible dignity. Our history has been a struggle to uphold this principle—living up to the high standard set by universal human dignity is a never-ending task. In 1973, when the Supreme Court fabricated a constitutional right to abortion in *Roe v. Wade*, it turned its back on this principle of dignity and equality. Last week, the Supreme Court corrected *Roe*’s injustice.

For the first time in 49 years, states will be able to extend the protection of law to the most vulnerable persons among us. With *Dobbs*, we have taken an important step toward the recognition of the dignity of every American. This issue will be debated in the 50 states, and 330 million Americans will work through this debate in a way that’s healthier than *Roe*’s top-down mandate. Our pro-life movement is uniquely suited for these coming debates.

This legal victory was not a fluke. It’s the fruit of a half-century of relentless work. *Roe v. Wade* inspired a movement

that has swelled with each generation. This movement worked not to destroy and subvert American institutions but to develop trust, build new institutions, and work toward a more perfect union.

Our politics has been



Sen. Ben Sasse

transformed by campaigners and activists who engaged and persuaded their neighbors and held politicians accountable to their principles. It was a transformational First Amendment undertaking unlike anything this nation has seen before. Ordinary citizens volunteered to organize county, state, and federal groups to educate, lobby, and campaign.

Our law has been transformed by generations of litigators and scholars who have worked within our constitutional framework to defend life and uphold a fuller understanding of justice.

But the most important thing the pro-life movement did to overturn *Roe* was not political or legal, it was cultural. The pro-life movement’s strength

never came from laws or court cases—it came from truth and love.

Over the last 50 years, the lives of millions of women, children, and families have been transformed by the pro-life volunteers and caregivers who, with love and compassion and generosity, have shown that there are better options than abortion. There is a reason that pregnancy care centers now outnumber abortion businesses nationwide: Every day pro-life advocates prove that it’s possible to love mother and child. Mothers in difficult situations don’t have to submit to a false choice.

The pro-life movement has worked slowly, unyieldingly, through setbacks and disappointments, because it is buoyed up by hope and the firm conviction that this country can make good on its founding principles: that America can recognize the dignity of every man, woman, and child. The pro-life movement is self-government at its best: The will and intelligence of the people have been engaged and elevated by a campaign of charitable dialogue, political action, and neighborly love.

As we look to the next 50 years of the pro-life movement, the same guiding principles will win. *Dobbs* is not the end of a struggle. It is, in a certain sense, only the beginning. Many states recognize abortion rights until the moment of birth. In the last few weeks, we have seen large corporations promise to pay employees’ out-of-state travel costs to obtain an abortion. And, of course, pro-

life advocates face a national media environment that is openly hostile to our arguments. Abortion’s advocates are still rich and powerful. Our movement is still kind and compassionate.

More than ever before, we have reason to be hopeful. We are pro-baby, pro-mom, and pro-science. We’re ready to speak the truth with love. We’re ready to win arguments with compassion and truth while our opponents continue to hide behind euphemisms. With *Dobbs*, a new future is possible. Let’s come to the aid, like never before, of pregnant women in distress. Let’s give them the help they need—material, emotional, spiritual. Let’s cherish every baby and make it possible for them to flourish no matter what circumstances they happen to be born into. Let’s make sure that every time someone chooses life, a community of love and support is gathered around them.

For 49 years, *Roe v. Wade* has poisoned our politics, distorted our law, and destroyed lives. The wounds of that decision are not only visible in the anger and mistrust that mark our body politic; the wounds, visible and invisible, are borne on the bodies and in the hearts of countless women, children, and families.

It doesn’t have to be that way. Let’s celebrate *Dobbs*. Let’s love our neighbors. Let’s envision a future renewed by love for every person, no matter how small. Grace brought us this far, and grace will lead us home.

Can you imagine a better time to be a champion of unborn babies?

From page 2

chose, of all days, Independence Day, the 4th of July, to smear us. Speaking at a NATO meeting in Spain, he said

“After doing the hard work of laying the foundation for a better

universally declared that this was a reference to the Supreme Court’s *Dobbs* decision and the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*.” A not surprising conclusion, given what he had just said at a press conference.

on abortion policy. That does not destabilize democracy — it affirms it.”

Far from representing “rights we assumed were protected [that] are no longer,” *Dobbs* stood for a restoration of rights—to the American people and to unborn children. *Dobbs* was about the rights of the citizenry to settle questions such as abortion in spirited debate at the state level.

But, no matter. Every Democrat will read off the same script in spite of what Supreme

to abortion and no other right. Nothing in this opinion should be understood to cast doubt on precedents that do not concern abortion.”

To Democrats, desperate to debate **anything** but abortion, *Dobbs* had to be about same sex marriage and contraception.

The Democrats’ standard bearers—most of the media and particularly the *New York*



Dave Andrusko, NRLC News Editor, Marji Higgins, Assistant in the NRLC State Organizational and Development Department, and Dr. Jorge Delgado who gave a General Session on “Risky Business – Important Truths Women are Not Told About Chemical Abortions”

future, the worst of our past has reached out and pulled us back on occasion. . .

“Liberty is under assault. . . In recent days, there’s been reason to think that this country is moving backward, that freedom is being reduced, that rights we assumed were protected are no longer. A reminder that we remain in an ongoing battle for the soul of America, as we have for over 200 years.”

The “one thing that has been destabilizing is the outrageous behavior of the Supreme Court of the United States and overruling not only *Roe v. Wade* but essentially challenging the right to privacy,” Biden said. “We’ve been a leader in the world in terms of personal rights and privacy rights, and it is a mistake, in my view, for the Supreme Court to do what it did.”

But “Attacking a core American institution like the Supreme Court from the world stage is below the dignity of the president,” said Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell. “He’s upset that the court said the people, through their elected representatives, will have a say



Speaking at the Friday Morning General Session were (left to right) Wesley J. Smith, JD, award-winning bioethicist; Jennifer Popik, JD, Director of National Right to Life’s Robert Powell Center for Medical Ethics; and Wayne Cockfield, NRLC’s Vice President for Medical Ethics.

Court Justice Samuel Alito had said:

“And to ensure that our decision is not misunderstood or mischaracterized, we emphasize that our decision concerns the constitutional right

Times and the *Washington Post*—pitched in to do their part to delegitimize the Supreme Court. They blew off how incredibly dangerous this ploy

See “Champion,” page 26

As Gary Bauer observed, “The left-wing media

Can you imagine a better time to be a champion of unborn babies?

From page 25

was if it served their purposes—to soften resistance to packing the court or to “providing an exception” to the filibuster rule.

That’s why you must read Dr. O’Steen’s and Political Director Karen Cross’s stories. The stakes this November cannot be exaggerated. The Democrats will do anything and everything to win.

You need these, for example, to counter *The New York Times’s* Blake Hounshell’s interview with fellow *Times* reporter Kate Zernike. According to Zernike, “[T]he anti-abortion side has skillfully played that to accuse Democrats of wanting ‘abortion on demand’— anytime, in any circumstance, right up until birth.”

What is “that” which we have so “skillfully played”?

Younger leaders in particular are upset about what they see as too much compromising from Democrats on abortion. They want to talk about

an absolute, inviolable right to abortion: You have to trust women to make their own

Democrats” of wanting abortion on demand because of “younger leaders.” Congressional leadership,

ahead of us, but what else is new? The gigantic difference is we don’t have the anchor of *Roe v. Wade* hanging around



The NRL Convention crowd reacts to the news Roe is overturned!

decisions, they say, and any infringement takes away from women’s autonomy and equal rights.

anything but young, are working feverish to pass the Women’s Health Protection Act which would erase present—and future—limitations on abortion: any limitations!

our necks. As are you, I am reinvigorated and ready to work harder than ever.

Can you imagine a better time to be a champion of unborn babies?

We aren’t “accusing

We have multiple challenges

State Legislation in light of *Dobbs*

From page 7

involvement law and amends their abortion pill reversal law with consent provisions. The bill additionally requires: that only a doctor can prescribe/perform a chemical abortion in order to prevent mail-order, do-it-yourself abortions; that the doctor be credentialed and report complications; chemical abortion reporting (location of abortion, demographic info of mother, baby’s age, etc.); and promulgates regulations. Finally, the bill directs the

Health Department to provide annual statistics, and prohibits chemical abortion distribution in schools.

Also, due to court decisions that have been hostile to the unborn, Kansas and Kentucky both have a ballot measure to amend their state constitution to clarify that there is no right to abortion or the funding of abortion in that state. Voters in Kansas will decide this during their August 2022 primary, and voters in Kentucky will decide

on Election Day this November. Also in November, Montana voters will decide if their state should adopt a law that protects infants that survive abortion attempts. On the opposing side, Vermont is attempting to amend their constitution with language securing a right to abortion on demand; California will do the same. Nevada will have a question on the ballot for state-level Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) policy in that state.

There was so much momentum gained recently on behalf of unborn, with so many victories. This is a reflection of the heart of this movement. There have been ups and downs, but as long as we keep our focus on protecting the vulnerable and their mothers, we will continue to see the rewards. And the best part: this is just the beginning.

Mississippi Attorney General Fitch: *Dobbs* decision “is a victory not only for women and children, but for the Court itself.”

Editor’s note. As our readers know, the case which the U.S. Supreme Court used to overturn Roe v. Wade was “Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization.” This was the Mississippi law which Attorney General Lynn Fitch defended brilliantly. The following is her statement on the Court’s historic decision.

Today marks a new era in American history — and a great day for the American people. *Roe v. Wade* is now behind us, consigned to the list of infamous cases that collapsed under the weight of their errors. This decision is a victory not only for women and children, but for the Court itself. I commend the Court for restoring constitutional principle and returning this important issue to the American people.

Now, our work to empower women and promote life truly begins. The Court has let loose its hold on abortion

fairness in child support and enhance enforcement of it, laws for childcare and workplace policies that support families,

challenging circumstances and gives their children life and hope. This is about more than the fundamentals of prenatal vitamins and diapers; it is about helping to connect them to opportunities for education and job training to support their families. And always, it is about love and respect for them through whatever struggles they face. This is what it means to both empower women and promote life.

I am grateful to the Court for this opportunity and even more grateful to the millions of women and men across our nation who will lead us into this new post-*Roe* world. I have been proud to stand with you in the fight to get to this day and I will be proud to stand with you as we build a new framework for the life movement.



Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch

policymaking and given it back to the people. The task now falls to us to advocate for the laws that empower women – laws that promote

and laws that improve foster care and adoption.

We must renew our commitment to weaving a safety net that helps women in

The Post-*Dobbs* Future in Congress

From page 5

If Republicans were to retake Congress, many of the same important pieces of legislation they have been attempting to pass for many years will continue to be a priority. While some states will protect unborn children, it is imperative that Congress continues to advance legislation that will affect the over half of states where abortion on demand remains legal.

For example, Republicans have committed to continue to preserve the Hyde Amendment to prevent taxpayer-funded abortion and to work to make it permanent and government-wide. Additionally, House leadership has worked hard to pass the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act to ensure that babies born alive in an attempted abortion receive

proper medical care.

Also on the table is the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act to prevent abortions on babies capable of experiencing pain, at the 15th week of pregnancy. There are also important measures such as the Heartbeat Bill, to prevent an abortion once a baby has a detectable heartbeat, typically around 6 weeks.

With the Biden Administration’s vehement commitment to abortion, it is critical to ensure that pro-life members are elected to majorities the 118th Congress. While we celebrate the victory in the *Dobbs* decision after decades of work keeping this debate alive, we cannot rest until every baby is welcome in life and protected in the law.

Justice Alito's brilliant rebuttal to *Dobbs*' dissenters

By Dave Andrusko

Not many of us are going to plow through all 213 pages of *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, the Supreme Court decision that overturned *Roe v. Wade* and *Casey*. In the days and weeks to come, as time permits, we talk about some of the highlights of the opinion. We'll begin with Justice Samuel Alito's painstaking rebuttal to the three dissenters.

Often, the best part of a decision are justices' rebuttals to the arguments of their fellow justices. This one is no exception. In just a few pages, Justice Samuel Alito polishes off the dissents of justices Beyer, Sotomayor, and Kagan. He is largely reiterating points he had made in the draft opinion leaked to *Politico*. With all that time, it would have helped if the three dissenters had engaged them directly

Point #1. No foundation.

"The dissent is very candid that it cannot show that a constitutional right to abortion has any foundation, let alone a 'deeply rooted' one, 'in this Nation's history and tradition.'" The dissent does not identify any pre-*Roe* authority that supports such a right—no state constitutional provision or statute, no federal or state judicial precedent, not even a scholarly treatise"

Point #2, Mystery of Life passage, Part Two, meets bad history. In the 1992 *Casey* decision, the plurality invoked

gibberish so untethered to the Constitution it was reminiscent of Justice Blackmun's original *Roe v. Wade* decision. As Alito writes,

The largely limitless reach of the dissenters' standard is illustrated by the way they apply it here. First, if the "long sweep of history" imposes any restraint on the recognition of unenumerated rights, then *Roe* was surely wrong, since abortion was never allowed (except to save the life of the mother) in a majority of States for over 100 years before that decision was handed down. Second, it is impossible to defend *Roe* based on prior precedent because all of the precedents *Roe* cited, including *Griswold* and *Eisenstadt*, were critically different for a reason that we have explained: None of those cases involved the destruction of what *Roe* called "potential life."

So without support in history or relevant precedent, *Roe*'s reasoning cannot be defended even under the dissent's proposed test, and the dissent is forced to rely solely on the fact that a constitutional right to abortion was recognized in *Roe* and later decisions that accepted *Roe*'s interpretation. Under the

doctrine of *stare decisis*, those precedents are entitled to careful and respectful consideration, and we engage in that analysis below. But as the

(same), *Lawrence* (sexual conduct with member of the same sex), and *Obergefell* (same-sex marriage). Perhaps this is designed to stoke unfounded



Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito

Court has reiterated time and time again, adherence to precedent is not "an inexorable command." There are occasions when past decisions should be overruled, and as we will explain, this is one of them.

Point #3. Failure to realize that abortion is fundamentally different and that state's have a legitimate interest in "potential life."

The most striking feature of the dissent is the absence of any serious discussion of the legitimacy of the States' interest in protecting fetal life. This is evident in the analogy that the dissent draws between the abortion right and the rights recognized in *Griswold* (contra-ception), *Eisenstadt*

fear that our decision will imperil those other rights, but the dissent's analogy is objectionable for a more important reason: what it reveals about the dissent's views on the protection of what *Roe* called "potential life." The exercise of the rights at issue in *Griswold*, *Eisenstadt*, *Lawrence*, and *Obergefell* does not destroy a "potential life," but an abortion has that effect. So if the rights at issue in those cases are fundamentally the same as the right recognized in *Roe* and *Casey*, the implication is clear: The Constitution does

See "Alito," page 34

Bombarded by a Media that alters our words to fit their official narrative

By Addia Wuchner, Kentucky Right to Life Executive Director

Editor's note. This was published just before the Supreme Court's great decision to overturn Roe v. Wade. But it addresses a perennial obstacle pro-lifers face.

With the potential overturn of *Roe v Wade* in shouting distance, the media is hungry for news and comments. We accommodate all news outlets without bias.

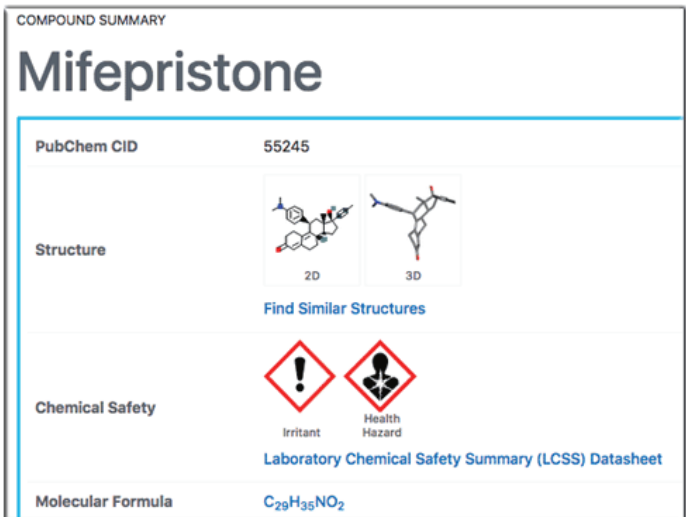
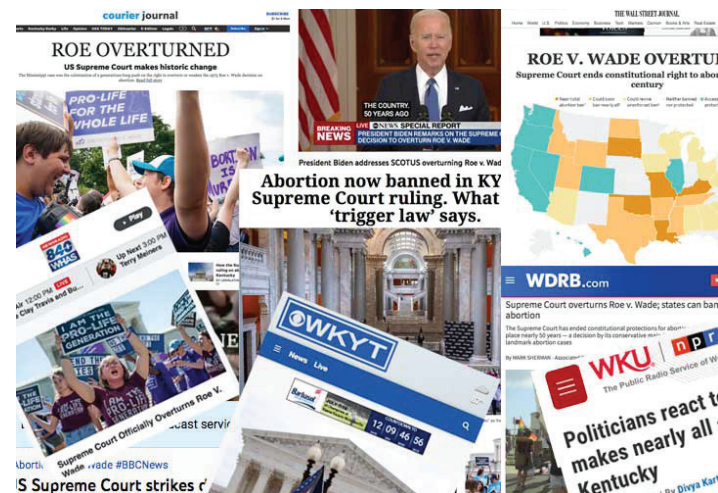
Unfortunately we can't report that all the news people and platforms are open to our views even while we respond to their questions. This is made clear when they alter our words to fit their official narrative.

For example, we often use the term 'abortion facility' but they change it to 'reproductive healthcare clinic.' We use the term 'surgical abortion' to define abortions that require the use of instruments to crush the heads and to scrape the body parts of pre-born babies from mothers' wombs. They use the term 'abortion procedure.'

In fact, surgical instruments may be required as early as 12 weeks if the fetus' head will not pass through the birth canal unless crushed. Up to 14 weeks the abortion may be accomplished by suction aspiration, but after that the normal procedure is Dilation and Evacuation, D&E, using curette steel instruments.

The American College of ObGyns (ACOG) has an *Abortion Language Guide* which directs its members not to use the term 'Dismemberment Ban', for example, but instead to say, 'Dilation and Evacuation Ban.'

Their *Guide* says doctors should not say 'womb' but 'uterus'; don't say 'partial-birth-abortion,' just say 'intact dilation & evacuation.'



We use the term 'chemical' for abortions that are done by RU486 or abortion pill regimens. They use 'medical' to avoid the implication that harsh chemicals are involved. However, you can see in the screenshot below from the National Institute of Health website that harsh chemicals are used.

In addition to the ACOG Guide, the *Associated Press Style Book* provides a 'style book' for the news media. It's a conspiracy!

A pro-life author who submits a piece taking a position against abortion will see the words "pro-life" changed to "anti-abortion," because the *AP Stylebook* instructs, "Use anti-abortion instead of pro-life and pro-abortion rights instead of pro-abortion or pro-choice." It goes on, "Avoid abortionist," saying the term "connotes a person who performs clandestine abortions."

Roe says VIABILITY is the test for when abortions may be performed. Yet we now have legislators, doctors and states that advise or permit abortion of full-term babies, even those alive outside the womb, that is, VIABLE. How unbelievable!

I accommodate these in person, in the office, on zoom, at media locations or wherever— to be sure that our Kentucky Right to Life is front and center on the abortion controversy. I want to bring a thoughtful and caring expression so that we will help to build a culture of life in our morally devastated nation and world. We count on your support for this work.

A family on the line; a dad has his say on abortion pill reversal

By Kim Hayes

Manuela and Chris's two-year-old son Oliver was saved after Manuela had a successful abortion pill reversal. The couple could not be happier to have Oliver, and they were also happy to share their story with the recent Babies Go to Congress initiative in Washington D.C., including Chris's perspective as a father

progestosterone, the natural hormone in a woman's body that sustains pregnancy, to counter mifepristone, the first of the two drugs in the chemical abortion regimen.

Heartbeat, the largest network of pregnancy help in the U.S., manages the APRN, which administers APR through roughly 1,100 providers

they share their experiences with the various meetings.

Manuela said the day on Capitol Hill went very well, and both she and Chris were happy to be able to share about the abortion pill reversal process.

"That's what saved our baby," she said. "And we know it's going to save so many more babies and that's what we're hoping for."

But Chris struck a chord when sharing his perspective of their experience seeking help with trying to reverse the chemical abortion and save their son.

"When we started, when we had that regret of taking the first dose, we called Planned Parenthood," Chris said. "And they literally said, 'That's it, it's done. You made that choice.'"

Chris recounted hearing kids in the background over the phone with the Planned

being turned away by Planned Parenthood.

"And you know, if it wasn't for us doing that research, we would've never found, the help we needed," Chris told the Babies Go to Congress gathering of their finding the APRN.

"And there's so many women that they just call that Planned Parenthood hotline. And they say, 'That's it.' And they just give up without knowing this (the availability of APR)," he said.

"How many babies could have been saved?" Chris asked.

Manuela said after their experience with abortion pill reversal it was their mission to get the word out about abortion pill reversal.

"That's what we're hoping to get through," Chris said.

Heartbeat has taken almost 200 moms and babies to nearly



Chris and Manuela at Babies Go to Congress
Photo: Lisa Bourne

desperate to save his son from chemical abortion.

Chris and Manuela were not prepared when they learned Manuela was pregnant, and felt they had to choose abortion.

After Manuela took the abortion pill the couple immediately felt regret.

Manuela searched online for a way to reverse the effects of the abortion pill and she found Crossroads Pregnancy Center through the Abortion Pill Abortion Pill Rescue® Network (APRN).

The pregnancy help center was able to confirm for Manuela and Chris that their baby still had a heartbeat and helped them to begin the APR protocol.

"And it worked," Manuela said. "And Oliver's here with us and we couldn't be happier."

Abortion pill reversal (APR) consists of prescribing

worldwide, who are reached through the APRN hotline.

With its Babies Go to Congress project, Heartbeat International invites Congress members to hear the stories of moms who have been helped by pregnancy help centers to raise awareness among lawmakers of how life-affirming pregnancy help centers are good for America.

Chris and Manuela were part of the latest group to take part in Babies Go to Congress, bringing Oliver to Capitol Hill where he stole hearts and was instrumental in one Congressional lawmaker learning firsthand by meeting him in person that APR saves lives.

Following the day of visits with staff and Members of the U.S. House and Senate, Babies Go to Congress participants gather for a luncheon where



Oliver with Rep. Ralph Norman (R-SC)
Photo: Lisa Bourne

Planned Parenthood representative and it struck him how the abortion staff member was dismissive of their situation.

"It's like, well, I guess you don't care," he said. "You have your family, you know. It's not your family on the line."

The couple kept searching for help to save Oliver after

400 Congressional offices since 2009 with the Babies Go to Congress effort.

Editor's note: Heartbeat International manages the Abortion Pill Rescue® Network (APRN) and Pregnancy Help News.

Parental consent abortion laws are designed to protect teens

By Nancy Flanders

A recent article from *NPR* laments that judicial bypass laws allowing teens to get abortions without their parents' knowledge or consent may "disappear completely" in pro-life states if *Roe v. Wade* is overturned. In reality, the end of judicial bypass laws for abortion would be a good thing.

"Teens can't travel as easily as adults can, especially if they're keeping their pregnancy confidential. They have to explain missing school, missing work, being away from home for a day or two," says Rosann Mariappuram, executive director of Jane's Due Process, an organization that helps teenagers navigate judicial bypass and travel across state lines for secret abortions. She's concerned that teens in pro-life states will have to get to pro-abortion states without parental consent laws in order to undergo abortions. She said that since teens can't vote, they don't have the ability to stand up to legislators.

"Because minors are often vulnerable in the sense that they can't vote, [and] they often don't have voices at the legislature, it will continue to be that anti-abortion lawmakers try to attack judicial bypass," she said.

But the same reasoning behind why minors can't vote is the same reasoning that says abortion without parental consent or knowledge is a bad idea. Research has shown that the human brain continues to mature and develop into early adulthood. In fact, the frontal cortex, the area of the brain that controls reasoning and allows us to think before we act, is the part of the brain that is not fully developed until well after the teenage years.

According to the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, the brains of teenagers work differently than the brains of adults when making decisions or solving problems. Teens' decision-making processes are led by emotions rather than logic. Teens are therefore more likely to act on impulse and engage in risky behaviors while they are also less likely to think before they act or consider the consequences of their actions. The range of emotions any teenage girl would be feeling when learning she is pregnant could be enough to lead her to an abortion she doesn't want in order to keep a secret from the parents who may have supported her in giving birth to her child.

Abortion proponents know that if teens talk to their parents, there is the potential to lose abortion clients. It's the reason Planned Parenthood has dedicated itself to "educating"

have the primary legal authority to make health decisions for their children. This isn't exclusive to abortion. They also need permission to leave school



children on sex — getting teens to see their parents as less of an authority figure on matters of sex helps to create contraception clients, STD testing and treatment clients, and, ultimately, abortion clients. Placing themselves between parents and children is strictly a business tactic.

Minors generally need parental consent for taking medications and undergoing medical treatments because parents and legal guardians

property during school hours and in many states need permission to get a tattoo or a piercing. Abortion procedures are far riskier to a teen's physical and mental health than a tattoo.

Parental consent laws allow vulnerable teens — children — to turn to their *parents* for support before they undergo a risky abortion procedure — exactly what the abortion industry doesn't want.

A fascinating look at where pro-abortion Democrats went off the rails

From page 2

Democrats a bench of figures with statewide name recognition to succeed retiring Senate Democrats or compete for Republican-held seats. But since then, Democrats broadly have staked their attainment of federal power on the imperial coattails of presidential politics while neglecting to fend off a decadeslong ground-level offensive by Republicans emboldened by Democrats' lurch leftward, including on abortion policy.

Or, as the subhead to his opinion piece reads, "The party narrowed its appeal to the left and surrendered its edge. Now it gripes that the Constitution is unfair."

There are many points of interest but we'll just talk about one other.

Republicans, aided hugely by pro-lifers voters, did the grunt work. And it paid off!

The first sign of return on the GOP's grass-roots investment came in 1994, when Republicans went from fully controlling seven state legislatures to 15 and took control of

the U.S. House for the first time in 40 years, even after Democrats largely controlled redistricting in states

as favoring less populous states. Apart from being the point of the Senate, that structure was decisive

response was to attempt to overcome their weaknesses by short-circuiting democracy. "Stack the court," eliminate the filibuster, and do an-end



comprising about two-thirds of the national population.

Showah continued

Yet rather than look for ways Democrats can win back voters, some in the commentariat focus on expediently timed structural critiques of the Senate

in advancing legislation during the Obama and Clinton presidencies, which relied on several Democrats from states their party's nominee failed to carry.

In other words, rather than put in the necessary time, energy, and resources at the state level, by and large the Democrats'

around protective state laws by passing legislation such as the "Women's Health Protection Act" that would obliterate pro-life, pro-woman laws, present and future.

By eliminating virtually all candidates who are pro-life, Democrats put themselves in the position they now so bitterly lament. Turnabout truly is fair play.

49 - 5 - 2

From page 1

Someone else could do this better than I.

On January 22, 1973, the same two students came in my office and told me that the Supreme Court had struck down every law restricting abortion in the country and ruled that there was a constitutional right to abortion--for any reason. That was the day I truly became part of the right to life movement.

I was stunned! I happened to have a booklet with a copy of the Constitution in my desk. I read it immediately that day. It was clear that there was nothing in the Constitution about abortion or forbidding the states, under the Tenth Amendment, from protecting unborn children from abortion. As quickly as I could I obtained a copy of the Court's opinion and read it. It was so much tragic nonsense!

And I immediately told the MCCL chapter that was still without a chairman that yes, I would do it. In 1975 I said yes again when asked to be Executive Director of MCCL. And in 1984 I became Executive Director of National Right to Life, the federation of the state pro-life organizations.

Forty-nine years, five months and two days later I was stunned again. I always believed *Roe* would fall. Surely the final decision of the United State of America would not be that the best we had to offer our children was to kill them. The fall of *Roe* would come someday - by God's grace and in His time.

But I had increasingly come to often think that it would not come in my lifetime on earth.

I was in the best possible place to be when the news of the decision came - the National Right to Life Convention surrounded by fellow pro-life friends and workers. I confess

that my eyes became rather misty. Long time National Right to Life General Counsel James Bopp, Jr. laid his hand on my shoulder--his eyes were misty too--as were most in the

pro-abortion propaganda of almost the entire media and entertainment industry arrayed against the grassroots; volunteer based right to life movement?

considered quitting no matter the setback.

Finally, there was a majority of Justices who would honestly interpret the Constitution according to what was actually written and meant by its authors.

And *Roe* was gone.

What we have won is freedom, the freedom to work in our states and with our elected state legislatures to secure protection for unborn children. But freedom is a fragile thing and must always be carefully guarded and protected.

Killing unborn babies is the epitome of evil and evil when cornered and corralled will fight back ferociously with tooth and claw. We are witnessing that today, from the lies and hysterical distortions in the media to the violence and threats against right to life groups, pregnancy help centers and even the Court and Justices themselves.

We know that the Democratic party of abortion plans to use every trick at their disposal to try to thwart the Constitution and thwart the right of the people to govern themselves through their elected representatives. Court packing, creating new states, passing a federal abortion until birth paid for with tax dollars law--anything goes for them as long as it prolongs the killing.

We know that we cannot protect life immediately in many Democrat controlled states. But in many states, we can and will and are. And we will organize, educate, legislate, and vote until we can protect children everywhere in America.

We have been there before. We will not quit. There is an election this fall.

We will be there.

Forty-nine years, five months, two days. And worth every minute of it.



OVERTURNED

“Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary.”

Galatians 6:9

Our Work on Behalf of Unborn Children Continues



room as the enormity of what had happened sank in.

I couldn't help but think of the many, many pro-life friends and co-workers who were no longer with us to see this - both those whose names are known only in their own chapters and communities and those whose names are legend, like former National Right to Life President, Dr. Mildred Jefferson. But I do believe they each knew when *Roe* fell.

How did it happen? How could it have happened with the vast financial resources of the abortion industry and Planned Parenthood and the constant

It happened because we never gave up and had/have both committed people in every nook and cranny of America and had/have the truth--the truth that killing innocent human beings is wrong, wrong, wrong and that our unborn children are the most innocent of human beings.

We educated, we organized, we put forth legislation, and we voted. And during those dark years when the Court held firm for death we kept working for Life.

We drove down the annual abortion numbers from a high of about 1.6 million to about 900,000 today. We never even

Pregnancy Help Centers “stick to the truth, delivered with compassion and mercy”

By Dave Andrusko

Pro-abortionist seethed in 2018 when, on his last day on the Supreme Court, Justice Anthony Kennedy wrote a concurring opinion in which he described a 2015 California law known ironically as the “California Reproductive FACT Act” as a “paradigmatic example of the serious threat presented when government seeks to impose its own message in the place of individual speech, thought, and expression.”

In a nutshell under the umbrella of the so-called “Reproductive FACT Act,” the state of California was requiring both pregnancy help centers that offer medical services and those who don’t (as one attorney put it) to “act as a ventriloquist’s dummy for a government message”—abortion.

The suit, brought by the National Institute of Family and Life Advocates, challenged a California law requiring licensed pregnancy resource centers to disclose where women could receive free or low-cost abortions, and requiring unlicensed centers to insert state-dictated material in their advertising, thus violating the First Amendment rights of all pregnancy resource centers in the state.

The basic argument for the Reproductive FACT Act is that the pregnancy help centers were allegedly misleading women, a charge for which there is precious little evidence. As for those who were not licensed medical centers, they had an obligation to all-but-

scream to pregnant women that they weren’t licensed medical facilities.

The Abortion Industry bitterly decried the 5-4 decision in *National Institute of Family and Life Advocates v. Becerra*. Four years later they are still on a crusade to ruin pregnancy help centers.



The other day—June 28—Sen. Elizabeth got in the harassment act. “Warren said she has co-introduced legislation on the federal level, the ‘Stop Anti-Abortion Disinformation Act,’ which would be aimed at stopping those ‘front’centers from employing false advertising to dissuade pregnant women from getting abortions,” according to Gayla Cawley of the *Boston Herald*. They “mislead and deceive” women, she insisted.

I suspect what really sticks in Warren’s craw is the “proliferation” of women helping centers.

Warren urged the Legislature to seek similar legislation on the state level, saying that in Massachusetts, crisis pregnancy centers outnumber legitimate abortion services by a “3-1” margin.

misleading? Nothing is more misleading than the claim that abortion is simply healthcare, that terminating a pregnancy is the key to a happy life free from unwanted burdens. My experience of talking with and helping more than 4,000 women at Good Counsel over almost four decades tells me that the pain of abortion can be devastating. Nobody should have to face it alone.

The Supreme Court’s decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson* “has brought renewed attention to the work done by maternity homes and crisis pregnancy centers,” he writes. “‘Love them both’ is not just a sign we carry at the March for Life every year. It’s the key to ensuring that frightened and abandoned pregnant women understand that they have options other than abortion.”

Of course, with regards to Ms. Warren, Bell is wasting his breath, right? Probably, but he ends with this gracious invitation:

Ms. Warren is welcome to visit Good Counsel anytime she wants. I think she will see that we don’t mislead or deceive anyone. We stick to the truth, delivered with compassion and mercy.

3-1. Sounds about right.

Christopher Bell is co-founder and president of Good Counsel Homes. He has worked with homeless women, pregnant mothers and babies for 37 years. Mr. Bell wrote a piece that appeared yesterday in the *Wall Street Journal* under the headline “Elizabeth Warren Smears Pro-Life Charities: we tell women the truth: Abortion isn’t their only option.”

It’s a wonderful read. And you can see instantly why the Elizabeth Warrens of this world hate them so: they offer an alternative to abortion. (So much for “choice.”) Let me quote briefly:

Want to talk about

Allowing babies with disabilities to live is not ‘grotesque’ or ‘cruel’

By Cassy Fiano-Chesser

The topic of abortion is currently one of the country’s most hot-button issues, and abortion advocates are doing all they can to argue that abortion is desperately needed. The latest example comes from a Virginia newspaper, which ran an editorial complaining that preborn children with disabilities will actually get to live if abortion is not legal across the country.

The *Daily Progress* is the only daily newspaper serving the area of Charlottesville, Virginia. Recently, they published an editorial slamming the notion of laws protecting preborn children with disabilities from eugenic abortions. “Forcing a woman to give birth to a baby with severe abnormalities because she is poor is grotesquely Orwellian,” they wrote, adding, “Being compelled to bring a child into the world who will suffer chronically or die young because you cannot afford to pay to spare them the suffering adds nothing to society. It is cruel.”

The op-ed is in response to a proposal from Governor Youngkin that would strip state funding for discriminatory, eugenic abortions. Yet the *Daily Progress* doesn’t see this as a matter of protecting a vulnerable class of people who already face discrimination in virtually every sphere of life; they clearly see abortion as a way to keep parents from being saddled with a child who isn’t worth the effort.

“Who wants to sentence a human being to a lifetime of pain or suffering? If Youngkin’s

budget amendment forces a single poor woman to do that, it will be an abomination,” the paper continued. They further point to Trisomy 18, as opposed to Down syndrome, as “proof” that these eugenic abortions are needed, as many children with Trisomy 18 only live for a short time after birth, and those that



have survived have intellectual disabilities. The idea is clearly to paint as negative a picture as possible.

Medical advances are giving children with Trisomy 18 the chance not only to survive, but thrive; the problem is not the condition itself, but the reticence of the medical community to actually treat those who have it. When children with Trisomy 18 are given the treatment they need, everything changes. But if preborn children with Trisomy 18 are aborted in such large numbers, it will make it less and less likely for more medical professionals to learn about the condition and how best to treat it.

This treatment is essentially the same thing the Down

syndrome community went through decades ago; in the 1980s, a little baby boy with Down syndrome was left to slowly die, alone and suffering, merely because of his disability. His doctor decreed it would be worse for him to live than to die, so his parents agreed, and let him slowly starve to death.

At that time, the life expectancy for people with Down syndrome was about 30 years. Today, it’s approximately 60 years, though many people with Down syndrome live even longer.

Yet for the *Daily Progress*, this is merely a matter of choice, of acting against “forced pregnancy” under “some of the worst circumstances imaginable.” These supposedly terrible circumstances are merely disabilities. Just because someone’s life may look different than what is considered the norm doesn’t mean that it is acceptable for an able-bodied person to decide to kill him.

Karen Gaffney is a champion swimmer who has Down

syndrome. She’s also the president of a non-profit organization, the Karen Gaffney Foundation, which advocates inclusion for people with Down syndrome and other disabilities. She attended the University of Portland, where she was awarded an honorary doctorate degree in 2013 for her work in raising awareness for people with Down syndrome, as well as her advocacy work. Gaffney appeared in a Live Action video rebutting the notion of aborting people simply because they have a disability.

“Ending the life of an unborn child because he or she will have a disability is wrong, it is very, very wrong,” she said. “This comes from a belief that people with disabilities are weak and need to be weeded out from society. This view is unjust, tragic, and deserving of international outrage. It has no place in a world that stands for basic human rights.”

Rather than ending the lives of people with disabilities before they’re born, simply because they’re different, Gaffney said we should celebrate these differences and work to make the world a more inclusive place. “Let’s embrace those moms and dads that are choosing life for their babies who may be born with disabilities,” she said. “AND let’s band together, to focus on improving lives, not preventing them.”

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

Biden Administration's new website directs minors to abortion businesses

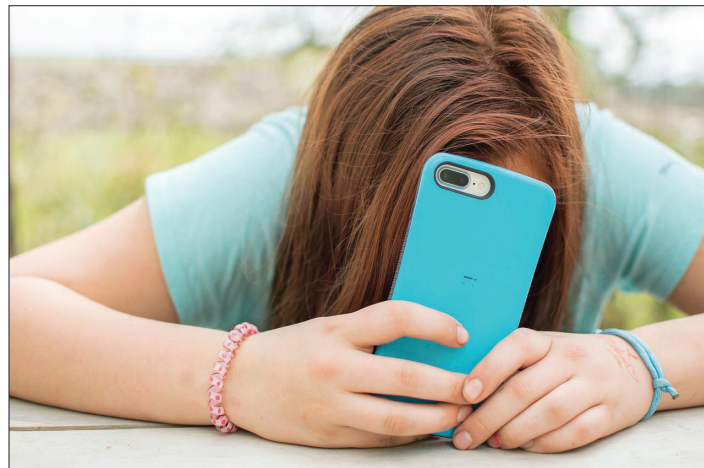
By Nancy Flanders

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has created a new website aimed at directing Americans to abortion and contraception, including minors. It had been developed ahead of time in preparation and anticipation of the Supreme Court's ruling in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* overturning *Roe v. Wade* and launched the same day, June 24.

The website, ReproductiveRights.gov, tells women and girls that they have a "right to access abortion" and warns them that since *Roe* has been overruled, the level of abortion access is going to vary more than before from state to state. It also says the abortion pill is safe (though it's been found to be four times more dangerous than a first-trimester surgical abortion) and available to be mailed to them at their homes.

With the development of the new government website, the Biden Administration has made it easier for young girls to access abortion and for predators to find abortion options for their victims.

The site appears to be part of the administration's plan to expand abortion in any way possible, as discussed by HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra, who said "all options are on the table"



when it comes to protecting abortion accessibility.

The site connects women and girls — and, quite possibly, predatory men — to resources on how to learn about and access state funding for abortions through Medicaid, and it links to information on abortion funds that will help them pay to kill their preborn children.

It also links to legal assistance with navigating any state laws through AbortionFinder.org.

This site, which is funded by Planned Parenthood and the National Abortion Federation,

will work to help girls ages 15 and under find an abortionist near them or determine if they should attempt to access abortion pills via a telehealth visit with an abortionist.

AbortionFinder.org also teaches girls how to obtain a judicial bypass to get an abortion without a parent or guardian finding out and,

according to Texas Right to Life, features a "quick exit" button so girls can quickly exit the site if a parent walks in the room. ...

Though the Supreme Court has determined that no right to abortion exists in the Constitution, Biden promoted the new government website on Twitter, advising followers, "Get accurate and up-to-date information on our right to access reproductive health care at ReproductiveRights.gov."

He also recently stoked fears by claiming that U.S. states may soon arrest women who cross state lines for an abortion, saying, "I don't think people believe that's going to happen. But it's going to happen." Yet he also said that the government would ensure access to the abortion pill in states that choose to protect human beings in the womb.

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

Justice Alito's brilliant rebuttal to *Dobbs*' dissenters

From page 28

not permit the States to regard the destruction of a "potential life" as a matter of any significance. That view is evident throughout the dissent.

Point #4. *Dobbs* resembles other decisions now seen as "infamous."

"Like the infamous decision in *Plessy v. Ferguson*, *Roe* was also egregiously wrong and on a collision course with the Constitution from the day it was decided. *Casey* perpetuated its errors, calling both sides of the national

controversy to resolve their debate, but in doing so, *Casey* necessarily declared a winning side. Those on the losing side—those who sought to advance the State's interest in fetal life—could no longer seek to persuade their elected representatives to adopt policies consistent with their views."

Justice Alito's opinion is a delight to read.

Secrets Surrendered, Hearts Healed

By Bonnie Finnerty, Education Director, Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation

It's the babies. Always the babies. Every time I set up an educational display, it's the fetal models that draw people to our table like moth to flame. And that was the case at Creation Music Festival, a Christian music event attended by tens of thousands of people each year.

It's become a predictable pattern. The babies are spotted from a distance. People approach, touch

women refused abortion, choosing open adoption instead. Both have a beautiful, loving relationship with the children who once grew within their bodies. One even shared the picture of her six-year-old biological son who is thriving with his adoptive family.

Over four days, I talked with hundreds of people and listened to dozens of stories. Many young children delighted in

big deal, she had a few. But she was not at peace. She suffered. She regretted. She mourned. She felt that she had been lied to. It was only through a relationship with Christ, she said, that she finally found forgiveness and peace. And she wants her son to learn from her journey and be armed with the truth.

Then there was another young woman looking to start

On the last day, it was a man that stopped by. With his long hair, red bandana, and heavily tattooed body, I could easily imagine him riding his Harley to the festival. He almost walked by, but suddenly turned around. He stared at the babies. "Hard to believe that we even have to tell people they are human beings," he said. I agreed.

Then he shared his story. When he was a young man, he discovered his wife had an affair with his own brother. She became pregnant. Heartbroken over the dual betrayal, he paid for her abortion. For many years it haunted and grieved him. He told me he wasn't always a Christian but is now. It is how he has found forgiveness, healing, and love.

There were several others who disclosed their abortions. They didn't have to. They could have walked by. They could have stopped and not shared that piece of themselves. But they did stop. Did share. They want others to know. Not just their woundedness, but their redemption. Not just their hurt, but their hope.

As we enter a post-Roe America, let's remember that so many have been wounded by abortion. Some are healed. Many are not. They sit at our tables, in our pews, and on the other side of our computer screens.

Let us love them into the truth. Let us pray for their healing. Let them feel our acceptance, not judgment. Let us be bridges, not walls.

It's often said that the church is not so much a museum for saints, but a hospital for sinners. Let us say the same for the pro-life movement.



them, hold them, marvel at them. A conversation ensues. Information is shared. Stories are told. Many different stories.

Like the woman told to abort her child twenty-four years ago, after a sonogram revealed that her child had no brain. She refused and instead prayed that a future test would show a different result. It did. Her daughter was born perfectly healthy.

Two different women told me their stories of getting pregnant as teens and being pressured to abort by their families. Despite feeling alone and unsupported by those closest to them, both

holding our babies and posing for pictures. The one group I did not anticipate the babies attracting, however, were those who were post-abortive.

Never before had so many people disclosed to me that they had one or more abortions. All of them said they silently bore shame and grief for years afterward.

One woman came to our table with her teenage son. She was born into a politically-connected liberal family that counted Faye Wattleton, the former head of Planned Parenthood, as a close friend. Raised to think abortion was no

a Respect Life ministry in her church, hoping to use some of the literature we had on our table. She told me that she had an abortion many years ago. Anytime abortion was brought up at church, she would inwardly panic, thinking her body language would reveal to everyone the secret she carried for so long. It was by encountering another post-abortive woman who shared her testimony that she finally got the courage to talk about her abortion. She found healing in a program called Surrendering the Secret. Now she hopes to help others choose life.

Steph Curry's mom was in a Planned Parenthood parking lot when she felt the presence of the Holy Spirit

By Dave Andrusko

It's not uncommon but every time an athlete praises his parents for their contribution to his success, it's a reminder of how important all parents are.

If you wish to watch grace under pressure, check out Steph Curry who last week led his Golden State Warriors' team to another world championship. His three-point shooting was otherworldly. (He was named the NBA Finals' Most Valuable Player.)

But there was a moment in time, 34 years ago, when Sonya Curry, his mom, was all the way into a Planned Parenthood parking lot. As she was about to enter, she felt the Holy Spirit intervene, as she relates in her new memoir, "Fierce Love: A Memoir of Family, Faith, and Purpose."

"God had a plan for that child. There could be no Stephen. If I would have gone through that, there would have been no Wardell Stephen Curry II," Sonya Curry said, Alethea reports.

But it was oh so nearly a different fate. Writing for the *Christian Post* Maria Donovan says

Writing in an intimate tone, Sonya offers an honest account of motherhood and her accidental way of getting there. Growing up poor, Curry was always determined to be a success, focusing intently on her education and her athletic skills as a competitive volleyball player. What she

viewed as her plan for her life went in a different direction when she faced an unplanned pregnancy. Unsure if a future with the child's father was

parking lot when she had a change of heart and decided to take a leap of faith.

Fierce Love is an "in-depth look into the challenges Sonya



Steph Curry

possible, and with her education unfinished, Sonya scheduled an abortion at a Planned Parenthood facility in Virginia. She was sitting in the clinic's

facial raising three kids and running a Montessori school while her husband Dell, also a prolific shooter, was often away from home over the course of a 16-year NBA career," Donovan wrote.

As Steph Curry shared: "From the beginning, my mom has been a rock of encouragement, faith, discipline, and gratitude for me and my siblings." He shared with *Christianity Today* the origins of the celebratory gesture he uses on the court:

"I pound my chest and point to the sky, it symbolises that I have a heart for God, something that my mom and I came up with in college. I do it every time I step on the court as a reminder of who I'm playing for. People should know who I represent and why I am who I am, and that's because of my Lord and savior."

The dad of three also shares his love of God physically, with a tattoo on his wrists with the words from Corinthians 13:8 that say "Love never fails" in Hebrew. He also has some lace loops on his "Curry One" basketball shoes that have "4:13" on them, in reference to Philippians 4:13: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Writes Cerith Gardiner, "It is incredible that over 34 years ago his mom was a young woman on the verge of making a life-altering choice. Thankfully, she found the strength to listen to God and take a leap of faith."

SCCL Intern Shares Her Experience at the Historic 2022 NRLC Convention

By Anna Kelley, South Carolina Citizens for Life Intern

My story is not unique. Like so many others, I was just a kid when I discovered the horror of abortion—twelve years old. As the oldest of four and very into reading, I frequently got dropped off at the public library to lurk around the bottom floor and launch myself into a new book. Being the kid I was, I refused to look in the kid's section: it was straight to the adult non-fiction for me. For some reason, I came across a book about the procedure of abortion and what it was. The pictures of the "medical procedures" broke my heart and my life was changed forever. My naïve twelve-year-old self was horrified; I had just discovered the greatest evil and I had to tell others. Clearly, no one would allow this to happen. They must not have known about it, right? My research continues. Wrong. My heart was further broken when I realized that it not only happened in my country, but that it was a controversial topic.

Now, I am twenty. I have been a member of this movement

for eight years and I attended my first March for Life this January. My journey in the Pro-life movement has led me to an internship with South



Clara-Anne MacLeod (L), Jim Daley, president of Focus on the Family (center), and Anna Kelley (R) at the 2022 National Right to Life Convention, Atlanta, Georgia

Carolina Citizens for Life and this past Friday, June 24th, 2022, I had the great honor of being at the National Right to Life Convention when the news broke: *Roe* was no more.

Our hands were untied, and we could finally get legal

protection for the unborn across the country through the democratic process. We sat in a general session of the convention when we heard

yelling in the hallway. My first thought was, "Oh no, here it goes. Something bad is about to go down." Then, someone yelled, "*Roe* is overturned." The cheering and applause that broke out were soon followed with there being not a dry eye in

the house. Young and old, black and white, man and woman: we were a family, a family that had just gotten what we had been praying for for fifty years.

Finally, the boulder blocking our path to legal protection for the unborn was removed, clearing the path for the fight ahead. Just like that. With only a measly eight years in the fight, I got to celebrate that win and I will never forget it. I will never forget the feeling of that day. I will never forget the men and women who have been fighting endlessly for almost fifty years through every possible obstacle that could be thrown at them. And I will never forget that Jesus Christ, in His infinite love and mercy, overturned the fictional right to abortion on the Feast of His Sacred Heart. For the rest of my life, I will fight to protect the unborn and their mothers from the violence that I saw that day in that book when I was twelve; not one day will go by when I don't thank God for that beautiful day at the 2022 National Right to Life Convention.

Indiana's special legislative session will include new pro-life legislation

By Dave Andrusko

Indiana has pushed back until July 25 the start of a special legislative session in which they will pass additional strong pro-life legislation thanks to the Supreme Court's Dobbs decision which overturned *Roe v. Wade*.

The special session originally was to begin July 6 and would take up a tax refund proposal. But when the Supreme Court issued its June 24 ruling, legislative leaders quickly decided to include protective abortion laws as well.

"In light of the historic Supreme Court decision overturning *Roe v. Wade*, legislative leaders are anticipating a multi-week special session versus one or two days," Erin Wittern, spokesperson for the Indiana House Republicans, said in a statement. "Due to this extended session and to minimize logistical issues, leaders worked with the governor to push the start date to July 25," the *Indianapolis Star* reported.

She added "Logistically, July 25 was the date that worked best to try to get as many members back here as possible."

House Speaker Todd Huston and Senate President Pro Tempore Rodric Bray "expect state legislators 'to take action to further protect life and support new and expectant mothers,' Wittern said.

"I am pleased that the House and Senate will return on July 25 for the special session that begins July 6," Holcomb said in a statement. "I look forward to continuing to protect life and return \$1 billion back to Hoosier taxpayers during the time of economic strain."

This year's regular legislative session ended in March. "State law allows legislators to consider any issues during a special session lasting up to 40 days," The Associated Press reported.

Senate President Pro Tem Rodric Bray said "With the final decision in hand, we can begin to formulate a policy that is right for Indiana that protects unborn children and cares for the health and lives of mothers and their babies."

