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Mr. Douglas Johnson
Legislative Director
National Right to Life
512-10th Street Northwest
Washington, DC 20004

Mr. Johnson:

I am a board-certified obstetrician/gynecologist and a Fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. I performed both first and second trimester abortions from 1977 until 1985 including D&E abortions up to twenty-two weeks gestation. I was Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Albany Medical College from June 1993 to September 2000 during which time I served as both Residency Program Director and Medical Student Education Director. I also served as the ACOG District II, Section IX Vice Chairman from 1995 until 1998. Currently I am engaged in the private practice of obstetrics and gynecology in New Mexico. My resume is attached.

The partial-birth abortion illustrations that I have forwarded to you were painted by Mrs. Tanja Butler who is currently a professor of art at Gordon College in Massachusetts. They were prepared under my supervision and, in my professional judgment, they accurately depict the D&X abortion described by Dr. Martin Haskell in his 1992 paper entitled "Dilation and Extraction for Late Second Trimester Abortion". This type of late-term abortion later came to be known by the legal term of art "partial-birth abortion" because of its similarity to full-term delivery of infants in breech position. The images are size-appropriate to a fetus of approximately 24 weeks gestation. This is a typical gestational age for partial-birth abortion although many of these procedures are performed at even later gestational ages.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions

Very truly yours,



Anthony Levatino, MD, JD