



A Pro-Life Religious Outreach Newspaper

Obama Misrepresents His Role in Killing Bills To Protect Infants Born Alive After Abortions

Presidential Candidate Barack Obama is desperately trying to cover up the fact that he voted repeatedly against an Illinois bill that would have provided legal protection for babies who are born alive after abortions.

As an Illinois state senator, Obama was a leading opponent in 2001, 2002, and 2003 of the Born-Alive Infants Protection Act, a proposed state bill to recognize any baby who is completely expelled from the mother, and showing signs of life, as a legal person.

Since the time he ran for the U.S. Senate in 2004, Obama had claimed that the state bill he opposed had contained language to undermine legal abortion, which he strongly supports -- but he insisted that he would have voted for the federal version of the Born-Alive Infants Protection Act, if he had been a member of Congress in 2002, when the bill passed both houses of Congress without a dissenting vote.

However, documents uncovered by National Right to Life and released on August 11, 2008, proved that in 2003, Obama had actually chaired an Illinois Senate committee meeting that killed a state bill that was virtually identical to the federal law. This occurred even though Obama had personally heard testimony



Barack Obama Addresses Planned Parenthood
Photo courtesy of Lifenews.com

from nurses who said they witnessed aborted babies left alone to die without even care to keep them comfortable.

Asked about the NRLC charges during an August 16 television interview with David Brody of CBN, Obama said, "I hate to say that people are lying, but here's a situation where folks are lying." But on August 25, the independent group FactCheck.org (www.factcheck.org) issued a review of this question that concluded, "Obama's claim is wrong. . . . The documents from the NRLC support the group's claims that Obama is misrepresenting the contents of SB 1082."

Obama has now shifted arguments, claiming that an old Illinois law already required medical care for infants born alive during abortions. But that law only protected babies that abortionists declared had reached the point where they could survive long term, sometimes referred to as viability, and it left the decision about this up to the abortionist.

In a "white paper" issued on August 28, National Right to Life Legislative Director Douglas Johnson and Legislative Counsel Susan Muskett concluded, "Obama's words and action support this conclusion: His commitment to defend the practice of abortion without qualification was so absolute that it led him to reflexively view the issue of babies born alive during abortions through the prism of his concept of *Roe v. Wade*, and worse, to conclude that a breathing, squirming, fully born pre-viable human baby is still covered by *Roe v. Wade*. Once he realized how difficult his position was to defend in the world outside the halls of the Illinois Senate, he began to misrepresent his record."

For more information on this issue, see www.nrlc.org.

News

Aborted Israeli Baby Survives After 5 Hours in Freezer

A baby aborted at 26 weeks of pregnancy was put into a freezer for five hours but then came back to life when officials at Western Galilee Hospital pulled her out so her father could see her.

A medical test had shown the baby seemed to be experiencing internal bleeding and doctors thought she demonstrated no signs of life, reportedly having no pulse at the time of the abortion. She weighed 610 grams. The doctors pronounced her dead and she was put in a medical cooler.

After the tiny girl was retrieved from the cooler, officials saw her start to breathe, so she was rushed to intensive care.

Dr. Moshe Daniel, deputy chief of staff at the hospital, said that "Because of just how premature she is, her chances are very slim.... We're doing everything we can for her."

This incident highlights the humanity of babies who survive abortions and deserve medical care.

Sarah Palin as McCain's VP Greeted with Enthusiasm by Pro-Life Movement!



Gov. Sarah Palin
Photo courtesy of LifeNews.com

Alaska Governor, 44 year old Sarah Palin, strongly supports pro-life positions on abortion and bioethics. As a wife and mother of 5 children, she lives her principles, demonstrated by refusing to abort her fifth child who has Down Syndrome

U.S. Catholic Bishops United in Rebuking House Speaker Nancy Pelosi for Her Twisted Tale of Catholic Teaching on Abortion

“Anyone who dares to defend that the unborn child may be legitimately killed because another human being “chooses” to do so or for any other equally ridiculous reason should not be providing leadership in a civilized democracy worthy of the name.” Cardinal Egan

On NBC’s *Meet the Press* Sunday, August 23, Tom Brokaw asked House Speaker Nancy Pelosi **when human life begins**. Pelosi, whose pro-abortion activism in Congress is well known, responded that as an “ardent practicing Catholic, what I know is, over the centuries the doctors of the Church have not been able to make that definition. St. Augustine said at three months... We don’t know...” Brokaw pointed out that the Catholic Church states that human life begins at conception, but Pelosi countered, “I understand. And this is like maybe 50 years or something like that. So again, over the history of the church this is an issue of controversy.”

These comments stirred a chorus of Catholic bishops to denounce this misrepresentation of the Church’s teaching on abortion that Pelosi made on national public television, and to clarify the historically consistent and clear teaching of the Church on the sinfulness of abortion. Following are some of their statements.

Cardinal Justin Rigali, chairman of the U.S. Bishops’ Committee on Pro-Life Activities, and **Bishop William Lori**, chairman of the U.S. Bishops’ Committee on Doctrine:



Cardinal Rigali

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches, *“Since the first century the Church has affirmed the moral evil of every procured abortion. This teaching has not changed and remains unchangeable. Direct abortion, that is to say, abortion willed either as an end or a means, is gravely contrary to the moral law.”* (#. 2271)

While in canon law [inadequate theories about embryology] led to a distinction in penalties between very early and later abortions, the Church’s moral teaching never justified or permitted abortion at any stage of development.

These mistaken biological theories became obsolete over 150 years ago when scientists discovered that a new human individual comes into being from the union of sperm and egg at fertilization.

In keeping with this modern understanding, the Church teaches that from the time of conception (fertilization), each member of the human species must be given the full respect due to a human person, beginning with respect for the fundamental right to life.

Cardinal Edward Egan, Archbishop of New York:



Cardinal Egan

What the Speaker had to say about theologians and their positions regarding abortion was not only misinformed; it was also, and especially, utterly incredible in this day and age.

We are blessed in the 21st century with crystal-clear photographs and action films of the living realities within their pregnant mothers. No one with the slightest measure of integrity or honor could fail to know what these marvelous beings manifestly, clearly, and obviously are, as they smile and wave into the world outside the womb.

In simplest terms, they are human beings with an inalienable right to live, a right that the Speaker of the House of Representatives is bound to defend at all costs for the most basic of ethical reasons. They are not parts of their mothers, and what they are depends not at all upon the opinions of theologians of any faith. Anyone who dares to defend that they may be legitimately killed because another human being “chooses” to do so or for any other equally ridiculous reason should not be providing leadership in a civilized democracy worthy of the name.

Archbishop Donald Wuerl of Washington, DC:



We respect the right of elected officials such as Speaker Pelosi to address matters of public policy that are before them, but the interpretation of Catholic faith has rightfully been entrusted to the Catholic bishops. Given this responsibility to teach, it is important to make this correction for the record.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church is clear... [See quote on the left by Cardinal Rigali] The current teaching of the Catholic Church on human life and abortion is the same teaching as it was 2,000 years ago. The Catechism goes on to quote the Didache, a treatise that dates to the first century: *“You shall not kill the embryo by abortion and shall not cause the newborn to perish.”*

From the beginning, the Catholic Church has respected the dignity of all human life from the moment of conception to natural death.

Archbishop Charles Chaput, O.F.M. Cap., of Denver and **Auxiliary Bishop James Conley** of Denver:



Archbishop Chaput

Since Speaker Pelosi has, in her words, studied the issue “for a long time,” she must know very well one of the premier works on the subject, Jesuit John Connery’s *Abortion: The Development of the Roman Catholic Perspective* (Loyola, 1977). Here’s how Connery concludes his study:

“The condemnation of abortion did not depend on and was not limited in any way by theories regarding the time of fetal animation. **Even during the many centuries when Church penal and penitential practice was based on the theory of delayed animation, the condemnation of abortion was never affected by it.** ... Abortion from the time of conception was considered wrong, and the time of animation was never looked on as a moral dividing line between permissible and impermissible abortion.”

Ardent, practicing Catholics will quickly learn from the historical record that from apostolic times, the Christian tradition overwhelmingly held that abortion was grievously evil. In the absence of modern medical knowledge, some of the Early Fathers held that abortion was homicide; others that it was tantamount to homicide; and various scholars theorized about when and how the unborn child might be animated or “ensouled.” But none diminished the unique evil of abortion as an attack on life itself, and the early Church closely associated abortion with infanticide.

Of course, we now know with biological certainty exactly when human life begins. Thus, today’s religious alibis for abortion and a so-called “right to choose” are nothing more than that -- alibis that break radically with historic Christian and Catholic belief.

Abortion kills an unborn, developing human life. It is always gravely evil, and so are the evasions employed to justify it. Catholics who make excuses for it -- whether they’re famous or not -- fool only themselves and abuse the fidelity of those Catholics who do sincerely seek to follow the Gospel and live their Catholic faith.

Bishop Samuel Aquila of Fargo, ND: Nancy Pelosi’s misinformed



comments do not reflect the true teaching of the Catholic Church.... Those who oppose the true teaching are not in good standing with the Church.... Catholics who support so called abortion rights support a false right, promote a culture of death, and are guided by the “father of lies” rather than by the light and truth of Jesus Christ. Out of respect for the teaching of Jesus Christ and the Church, any Catholic who supports abortion

rights has placed himself or herself outside of visible unity with the Church and thus should refrain from receiving holy Communion.

Bulletin Inserts

November 2 - “The best way to respond to those who face pregnancy in difficult circumstances is to demonstrate our love and support for the mothers and children who are at the center of such challenges. The pro-life movement has done this for decades by participating in and supporting thousands of pregnancy care centers that help women and children to meet these challenges.” (Senator John McCain, remarks to 2008 National Right to Life Convention)

November 9 - “By defending the embryo, we defend the idea of human life as having inherent dignity. If we dismiss the embryo as a form of life we can destroy at will for supposed medical benefits, we leave little basis for defending other unpopular or marginalized members of the human race once someone sees them as being worth more dead than alive.” (Richard Doerflinger, Associate Director of USCCB’s Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities)

November 16 – The provision of nutrition and hydration, even by artificial means, should be considered part of ordinary care and therefore obligatory. Withholding fluid and nutrition does not allow any disease to “take its course.” Rather it leads to another cause of death: starvation or dehydration. Starvation and dehydration do not prevent suffering; they cause it. (Dr. George Delgado, Culture of Life Family Services)

November 23 – “Abortion is the leading cause of death in the black community. People are not aware of that. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control Abortion Surveillance Report, 35% of abortions in the United States are performed on African-American women, who make up only 12 % of the U.S. population.” Beverly Anderson, National Black Catholic Apostolate for Life (*The Southern Cross*, July, 2008)

November 30 – “Over more than two centuries of our national history, we Americans have been a people who have struggled to widen the circle of those for whom we acknowledge a common responsibility. . . . This great trajectory in our national experience—that of inclusion—has been shattered by *Roe v. Wade* and its progeny. By denying an entire class of human beings the protection of the laws, we have betrayed the best in our tradition.” (Henry Hyde, former U.S. Congressman)

December 7 – A new book entitled *My Child, My Gift: A Positive Response to a Serious Prenatal Diagnosis* quotes one mother of a child with Down syndrome, “The greatest surprise is this: Our life together has been less about my helping him reach his potential than about him helping me reach mine.”

December 14 – Despite efforts to downplay abortion’s roles in its lucrative business, Planned Parenthood has become responsible for nearly a quarter of all abortions performed in the United States. And while the organization advertises itself as nonprofit, its latest annual report shows America’s top abortion chain setting records in revenues—over a billion dollars. (*NRL News*, April, 2008)

December 21 – The Christmas story chronicling Jesus’ life in the womb of Mary and birth in a stable again draws our attention to the humanity of the unborn child and God’s great love and plans for each and every human baby, regardless of the circumstances of the child’s conception or birth.

December 28 – “If abortion is bad for children because it kills them, and we find out through good, solid research that abortion is harming the mental or physical well being of women—and subsequently the fathers of those child as well as members of their extended families—then at some point we will have to ask as a society, ‘if abortion is bad for all these people and causing all this damage, who is it good for?’ We all know the answer: the abortion industry.” (Olivia Gans, Director, American Victims of Abortion)

Suggested Prayers

November 2 - That we may remember the right to life is the most important issue of all, we pray

November 9 – For those who profit from abortion that they may see the error of their ways, we pray

November 16 - That husbands and wives may nurture a culture of life within their homes, we pray

November 23 - For all women who have had abortions that they may turn to the Good Shepherd for healing and comfort, we pray

November 30 – As we journey toward Christmas, may we more deeply appreciate the sacredness of life in the womb, we pray

December 7 – That we may reach out in love and understanding to women experiencing difficult pregnancies, we pray

December 14 – That the holiness of the season may touch those whose hearts are hardened to the plight of the unborn child, we pray

December 21 – That all men who have fathered children may imitate St. Joseph’s protective actions toward Mary in her time of pregnancy, we pray

December 28 – That the slaughter of the innocents through the practice of abortion may come to an end, we pray

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*“When human life begins
...is above my pay grade”
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More News

Next President Can Appoint Judges to Overturn or Entrench *Roe v Wade*

For 35 years the judicial fiat of the Supreme Court decisions *Roe v Wade* and *Doe v Bolton* that legalized abortion for all nine months of pregnancy for any reason has torn our country apart, killed some 50 million unborn children, left their mothers and fathers hurting and relationships broken and damaged. Now our country is faced with the possibility of ending this federal judicial fiat, or of continuing it for another generation. In the coming four years, the next president is likely to appoint one to three new Supreme Court Justices.

Last April, the Supreme Court upheld the federal ban on partial-birth abortions, but on a bare 5-to-4 vote. The four dissenting justices laid out a legal theory that would be even more sweeping than *Roe v. Wade*, and that could sweep away the pro-

life gains of the recent years, if they are joined by a fifth vote.

On his website, **Barack Obama** says, “With one more vacancy on the Court, we could be looking at a majority hostile to a woman’s fundamental right to choose for the first time since *Roe versus Wade*. The next president may be asked to nominate that Supreme Court justice. **That is what is at stake in this election.**” In a July 17, 2007, speech to Planned Parenthood, Barack Obama confirmed his commitment to maintain *Roe v Wade*: “**On this fundamental issue, I will not yield ...**”

John McCain “believes *Roe v. Wade* is a flawed decision that must be overturned, and as president he will nominate judges who understand that courts should not be in the business of legislating from the bench.” McCain also stated that “**Chief Justice [John] Roberts and Justice Samuel Alito ... would serve as the model for my own nominees if that responsibility falls to me.**”

Republican Party Platform Defends the Unborn

Faithful to the first guarantee of the Declaration of Independence, we assert the inherent dignity and sanctity of all human life and affirm that the unborn child has a fundamental individual right to life which cannot be infringed. We support a human life amendment to the Constitution, and we endorse legislation to make clear that the Fourteenth Amendment’s protections apply to unborn children. We oppose using public revenues to promote or perform abortion and will not fund organizations which advocate it. We support the appointment of judges who respect traditional family values and the sanctity and dignity of innocent human life.

We have made progress. The Supreme Court has upheld prohibitions against the barbaric practice of partial-birth abortion. States are now permitted to extend health-care coverage to children before birth. And the Born Alive Infants Protection Act has become law; this law ensures that infants who are born alive during an abortion receive all treatment and care that is provided to all newborn infants and are not neglected and left to die. We must protect girls from exploitation and statutory rape through a parental notification requirement. We all have a moral obligation to assist, not to penalize, women struggling with the challenges of an unplanned pregnancy. At its core, abortion is a fundamental assault on the sanctity of innocent human life. Women deserve better than abortion. Every effort should be made to work with women considering abortion to enable and empower them to choose life. We salute those who provide them alternatives, including pregnancy care centers, and we take pride in the tremendous increase in adoptions that has followed Republican legislative initiatives.

Respect for life requires efforts to include persons with disabilities in education, employment, the justice system, and civic participation. In keeping with that commitment, we oppose the non-consensual withholding of care or treatment from people with disabilities, as well as the elderly and infirm, just as we oppose euthanasia and assisted suicide, which endanger especially those on the margins of society. (pp.52-53)

Democratic Party Platform Promotes Abortion

Because we believe in the privacy and equality of women, we stand proudly for a woman’s right to choose, consistent with *Roe v. Wade*, and regardless of her ability to pay. We stand firmly against Republican efforts to undermine that right. At the same time, we strongly support family planning and adoption incentives. Abortion should be safe, legal, and rare. (p.42)