



A Pro-Life Religious Outreach Newspaper

Pro-Life Candidates Dominate 2010 Election!

Pro-life candidates benefited as the American people demonstrated that they have become increasingly pro-life. The 2010 mid-term election brought forth a passionate rejection of Obama's pro-abortion and health-rationing agenda.

Out of the 30% of voters who said abortion affected their vote, 22% voted for pro-life candidates, and only 8% voted for pro-abortion candidates. Over the years, National Right to Life has observed a clear advantage for candidates who take a pro-life stance, and this advantage was also present in this election.

Abortion funding in health care was a big issue: 27% of voters said it affected their vote and most of these voted for candidates opposing Obama's Health Care Law which funds abortions, while only 4% voted for candidates favoring the law.

Rationing of health care included in the Obama Health Care Law also drew opposition: 44% of voters said this issue affected their vote and voted for candidates who opposed the law, compared to 10% who said rationing affected their vote and voted for candidates who favored the law.

National Right to Life PAC supported 285 candidates for national office and of those, 235 or 82%, won, despite the

fact that NRL PAC was greatly outspent by pro-abortion groups. Of the 122 federal races in which NRL PAC was most actively involved, 84 or 74% won and nine were still undecided the day after elections. NRLC PAC only supports candidates who will work to further the goals of the pro-life movement. The education that accompanies this effort helps to overcome the myths about the abortion issue and the electoral process, providing National Right to Life an opportunity to defend those who cannot speak for themselves and to strengthen support in Congress for pro-life concerns. A poll found that 24% of voters recalled hearing or seeing information from National Right to Life.

The majority of the American people oppose most abortions: 53% oppose abortions except in, at most, cases of life of the mother, and of rape or incest. Another 25% only support abortion in the first three months of pregnancy. This leaves only a small percentage of individuals who actually support Roe v. Wade's legalization of abortion in essentially all nine months of pregnancy for any reason.

Prospective Speaker of the House, Rep. John Boehner (R-OH), pointed out that, "actions speak louder than words." At the NRLC convention in June, he queried: "Is your Member of Congress committed to the defense of life? Or is it negotiable?" Many Americans considered this question seriously and voted overwhelmingly for a pro-life House of Representatives.

Pro-Life Governors Elected and Pro-lifers Win State Houses!

The future of pro-life legislation at the state level looks promising as pro-life candidates swept to victory across the nation. Now 26 states will have pro-life governors and of these, many also will have pro-life majorities in both state houses. Some states will have pro-life governors without pro-life control of the legislative houses.

In Kansas, where Sam Brownback will now be governor, pro-lifers won most of the significant state offices and increased the pro-life majority in the Kansas House to two-thirds. Kansas for Life reports that 80% of the state

representatives they supported won their races.

In Virginia, eight pro-life candidates for Congress endorsed by the Virginia Society for Human Life PAC won election, and one race remains at this time too close to call. Two candidates defeated first term incumbents who favored federally-funded abortion in the health care law, and a third pro-lifer defeated in an upset a 28-year pro-abortion incumbent.

In West Virginia, the governor's post will be filled temporarily by the president of the Senate since current Governor Joe Manchin has won a U.S. Senate seat.

News Note

Archbishop Dolan Chosen to Head USCCB

In what was considered a bit of a surprise, the nation's bishops chose Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan of New York, as successor to outgoing USCCB President Cardinal Francis George in a 128-111 vote. Archbishop Dolan is warmly regarded by pro-lifers.

When Pope Benedict appointed Dolan Archbishop of New York, he was Milwaukee's Archbishop. Local pro-lifers were filled with praise for his service. "He quickly established himself as a strong advocate of the sanctity of Life in Milwaukee and Wisconsin," said Barbara Lyons, executive director of Wisconsin Right to Life.

Archbishop Dolan has said about Catholic politicians who support abortion: "It bothers me if any politician, Catholic or not, is for abortion. Because in my mind, we're talking about a civil right, we're not talking about a matter of Catholic Church discipline. We can't allow the noble pro-life cause to be reduced to a denominational issue."

We wish you a
holy and joyful
Christmas!



EU Parliament Resolution Confirms Medical Conscience Rights

In October, the Council of Europe's Parliamentary Assembly voted to uphold the right to conscientious objection of medical practitioners. A contrary proposal by British politician Christine McCafferty had called for a resolution that would abolish the right of medical staff to refuse to refer a woman for abortion. However, instead, the assembly decided to replace her proposal with another text entitled, "The Right to Conscientious Objection in Lawful Medical Care," which was approved, affirming and defending the right to conscientious objection.

According to the European Centre for Law and Justice this was a "historic reversal."

"The Council of Europe reaffirms the fundamental value of human conscience and of liberty in the face of attempts at ideological manipulation of science and of medicine," stated Gregor Puppink, director of the Centre. "Independence of science and of medicine is also an essential value at the heart of democracies," he noted.

The new text states: "No one hospital, institution or person may be subject to pressures, or be held liable or suffer discrimination of any kind for refusing to perform, allow or assist an abortion, miscarriage or induced euthanasia, or for refusing to perform any intervention to cause the death of foetus or an embryo, whatever the reasons."

The EU assembly invited member states to develop their own regulations to guarantee this right to conscientious objection.

Puppink pointed out the problem that would ensue if abortion and euthanasia were to become the rule and conscientious objection considered an exception.

"To reduce the fundamental right of moral objection to a mere exception amounts to a refusal in the moral relationship between abortion or euthanasia and conscientious objection. Conscientious objection would become in some way immoral because it is contrary to the [supposed] 'right to abortion,'" Puppink said, recalling the Nuremberg trials at which the fundamental liberty of conscience in medical practice was affirmed.

Andrew Fergusson, former chairman of the Professional Conduct Committees of the U.K. General Medical Council, told the assembly: "Practicing good medicine is a moral activity and not just a technical one. The foundational values of medicine are part of physicians' understanding of who they are and they have provided the basis for historical codes of medical ethics such as the Hippocratic Oath, the Declaration of Geneva and the U.K. General Medical Council's Good Medical Practice." Fergusson emphasized how important these are for the doctor's self identity and reason for practicing medicine.

"When a person is coerced by employers, or by the power of the state, to act in a way which transgresses these core ethical values, Fergusson warned, "then their internal moral integrity is damaged."

Rabbinical Alliance Supports Pro-Life Catholic Cardinal

The Rabbinical Alliance of America, representing a thousand Jewish rabbis, issued a pre-election statement praising Cardinal-designate Raymond Burke who has challenged Catholic pro-abortion politicians to reform their abortion views.

"As Rabbis we welcome with great enthusiasm and strongly endorse the inspiring and clear Pro-life, Pro-family message delivered by American Cardinal-designate Raymond L. Burke, Prefect of the Catholic Church's highest court," the statement said.



Rabbi Yehuda Levin, spokesman for the Rabbinical Alliance of America

"In these crucial times in which we live, where many clerics tread with fear, Cardinal-designate Burke is to be commended and emulated as a voice of leadership. This moral teaching of the Catholic church set forth in Burke's interview with Thomas McKenna is clearly found in the Torah and serves to give solid guidance to voters whether they are Christian, Jew or any man of faith," the rabbis further stated.

"The Vatican Official got it right when he stated that a voter should keep in mind the Golden Rule," the statement added, referring to Burke's query, "Do you consider it really fair to advance some interest you have, which may be a good interest...at the cost of denying to other members of society, and especially those who depend upon us completely for life itself, to deny them the right to life?"

National Right to Life News's Special January 22 Commemorative Issue

Pro-Lifers on the Comeback Trail Against Pro-Abortion President Barack Obama and His Congressional Allies

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Bulletin Inserts

January 2- How like King Herod today's abortion providers are. First, he pretends he wants to worship the new born Baby Jesus, but hidden behind his deceitful words is a heart set on destruction of the Child. The magi, wise men that they were, saw in a dream Herod's true intentions and did not report the child's location to the destruction-minded king. Today's Herods tell women that they have their best interests at heart, meanwhile planning the destruction of their unborn children.

January 9 – The following is the answer that Academy Award winning actress Patricia Neal gave to an interviewer who asked what, if anything, she would change in her life:

“If there is one thing I wish I had the courage to do over in my life, **I wish I had the courage to have that baby (the child she aborted). Alone in the night for over 40 years I have cried for my child.**”

January 16 - A new report in a prestigious medical journal (*American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*) confirms what previous studies have shown: abortion is associated with an increased risk of premature birth in subsequent pregnancies. Although the link is well-established, women are not normally informed of the risk when they are counseled at abortion centers. (*Life News*)

January 23 – As we mark the 38th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, the following quote aptly summarizes the feelings of those of us who fight for life: “I am boggled at how in one breath you can call killing a baby ‘murder’ and in the next breath you can justify this murder because you don’t want to tell others what to do. I cannot fathom how someone can say that life is precious and should be protected, then turn around and support ‘the choice’ to destroy that very life.” Brian Kemper of Stand True Ministries in *The Southern Cross*, 2/10

January 30 – The Vatican condemned the recent decision by U.S regulators to begin using embryonic stem cells in clinical tests on human patients. The destruction of human embryos involved in such research amounts to “the sacrifice of human beings and is to be condemned.” *The Southern Cross*, 8/10

February 6 – Pope John Paul II’s words speaks a message of hope to the elderly: “**You are not on the margins of the life of the Church, passive elements in a world of excessive motion, but active subjects of a period of human existence which is rich in spirituality and humanity. You still have a mission to fulfill and a contribution to make.**”

February 13 – The “No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act” would, if passed, institute a permanent, government-wide statutory ban on federal funding of abortion. “Every reputable poll shows that large majorities of Americans want no complicity whatsoever in paying for the evil of abortion,” stated Rep. Chris Smith, chief sponsor of the bill. (Population Research Institute press release, 7/29/10)

February 20 –A Florida abortionist lost his medical license after he killed a healthy unborn baby while trying to destroy the baby’s twin diagnosed with Down syndrome. This was a legal but careless “selective reduction” for the parents who had used IVF reproduction. After the mistake was discovered, the parents decided to abort the remaining twin. *NRL News*, Apr./May, 2010

February 27 –In an article headlined “100 million ‘missing’ girls,” *Boston Globe* columnist Jeff Jacoby describes the practice of aborting unborn girls in societies as varied as South Korea, India, Japan, China, Singapore, and some of the former Soviet republics. He notes, “It is not material poverty that leads these cultures to blithely accept the killing of their very youngest girls. It is a poverty of values, an ancient prejudice that views daughters as a financial burden, rather than a blessing to be cherished.” *Boston Globe*, 3/14/10

Suggested Prayers

January 2 - That our celebration of the birth of the Christ Child and the gift of a new year may renew our commitment to protect the lives of all unborn children, we pray

January 9 –May we recommit ourselves to secure justice for those whose right to life is not recognized, we pray

January 16 – That the recognition by Isaiah that God had called him from the womb may remind us of the precious gifts that are lost with the abortion of each child, we pray

January 23 – That the work and sacrifice of those in the pro-life movement may soon bring forth a harvest of justice, we pray

January 30 – That all those tempted to abort an unborn child will take shelter in the Lord, we pray

February 6 – That each of us may be a light to the world by witnessing to the sanctity of human life, we pray

February 13 – God commands us to choose life or death, let us pray for the conversion of those in the abortion industry, we pray

February 20 – That we may show kindness and respect to the elderly in their time of need, we pray

February 27- For each woman facing a difficult pregnancy that she may look with tenderness on the dependent child in her womb, we pray

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More News

Catholic Medical Association Conference Expounds Pro-Life Dedication

Catholic doctors from across the nation gathered in Seattle, Washington, at the end of October for the 79th annual convention of the Catholic Medical Association (CMA). The presentations at the three day conference unanimously reaffirmed CMA's commitment to defense of the unborn, disabled and elderly.

Joseph Seifert, Ph.D., of the International Academy of Philosophy, described as "anti-medicine" the false concept that abortion, RU 486, euthanasia, refusal of food and water, and in vitro fertilization are "medical" since they directly cause death of human persons. Rational consciousness is a high value, but it is not higher than the life of the person which lies deeper than consciousness. Further, the human person should never be used as a means for research in which he is harmed or killed, as in embryonic stem cell research. The human being cannot be property for someone else's use. The source of his dignity is in his essential being as a person; it is not from subjective opinion and it does not have degrees or ranking in value.

Professor Seifert also discussed the moral act for which a doctor is responsible. The good of the physician's own act transcends his practice. He is also a person who has the glory of God as a goal. The moral abuse of medicine can lead to the loss of the profession's moral stature, for example if medical practice is reduced to utilitarian goals that contradict the commitment to protect and heal human life.

Wesley J. Smith, esq., expert on the topic of assisted suicide, related that in Belgium organ harvesting from victims of assisted suicide can be an option that "pushes a depressed person over the edge." He said 50% of euthanasia there is non-voluntary. Also alarming is a comment in the liberal journal, *Huffington Post*, that women who abort their child should wait until the child is developed enough that fetal organs can be harvested at the time of the abortion. Another problem is

that some would like to redefine "permanent vegetative state" as death so that organs can be harvested.

On the positive side, Smith pointed to the noncooperation with assisted suicide in Washington State. One example is Watkins Hospice in Bellingham who declared, "We don't participate in 'death with dignity.'" One leader of hospice said this practice would ruin hospice which is supposed to intervene in patient depression. Smith challenged the doctors to proclaim, "We don't kill. We heal."



St. Luke, physician and depicter of Mary and the Child Jesus (CMA graphic)

Stephen W. Mosher, president of the Population Research Institute, addressed the problem of "reproductive health" (code word for abortion) versus the real health needs of women in underdeveloped countries. He said that in a PRI survey in which women were asked to prioritize their health needs, "reproductive health" came last, which he believed indicated they really did not want "reproductive health"

but wanted positive health for their families. Mosher also mentioned how dangerous vacuum aspiration abortions and RU 486 are for women in poor areas.

Two speakers, Dr. Alan Shewmon and Professor D.Scott Henderson, Ph.D., addressed the question of brain death as the criteria for death. Published studies show that patients survive an average of 41-45 days after brain death, according to Dr. Shewmon, and that it is therefore not disabled brain function that causes the disintegration of the body. He stressed that being comatose does not equal dying. Dr. Henderson warned that a utilitarian drive toward harvesting of organs for transplantation could lead to overly hasty declarations of death.

Other topics relevant to the pro-life movement included the role of ethicists in Catholic health care institutions, conscience rights of medical personnel, the problem of fetal tissue being used in vaccine production, and the importance of the Hippocratic Oath.