

Supreme Court Victory!!!!

Court Upholds Ban on Partial-Birth Abortion

"We are delighted that the U. S. Supreme Court upheld the constitutional validity of the federal partial birth abortion ban in *Gonzalez v. Carhart*. The Court rightly pointed out that the definition of the procedure in the federal law was far more precise than that of the Nebraska law that was the subject of the Court's opinion in *Stenberg v. Carhart* several years ago. Therefore, the federal statute does not outlaw true abortions, only procedures in which the baby is partially delivered before being killed," said Pam Fichter, President of Missouri Right to Life.

The court ruled that no health exception was needed for the law because there was conflicting evidence in the lower courts that the law would have any negative effect on women's health.

Missouri Right to Life is also pleased that the US Supreme Court on Monday ordered that its decision to uphold the ban on partial-birth abortion must be applied to a long-delayed lawsuit in Missouri. This directive struck down a ruling from the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals that had concluded that the 1999 Missouri law was unconstitutional.

"It is very gratifying to have the Supreme Court's acknowledgement that an unborn child is worthy of some protection and that there are limits to what can be construed as the health of the mother," said Fichter.