



*You did it!*  
*Congratulations*

## Missouri Pro-Life Voters Carry the Day!

Pro-life Missourians delivered a win over well-funded abortion forces by electing Missouri Attorney General Josh Hawley to the United States Senate. Hawley defeated entrenched incumbent Claire McCaskill in a decisive referendum on her voting record against the unborn, conservative judicial appointments, and her anti-life policies.

“Senator-elect Josh Hawley is publicly committed to preserving the values of life and liberty in an increasingly hostile culture,” said Steve Rupp, President of Missouri Right to Life. “With his experience defending pro-life legislation and our religious freedoms, Hawley is perfectly suited to continue his life-affirming efforts in Washington, D.C.”

Rupp continued, “We are so excited to have two pro-life



Senator-Elect Josh Hawley

senators in Washington to represent our Missouri values!”

Missouri Right to Life Federal Political Action Committee and National Right to Life Political Action Committee are proud to have supported Hawley’s candidacy with early endorsements.

MRL PACs worked tirelessly through volunteer hours, mailings, calls, and various GOTV strategies to elect strong pro-life federal and state lawmakers.

In state races, the MRL State PAC endorsed in 146 races, achieving an 88% victory. In addition, the MRL Federal PAC worked successfully to return all our pro-life Congressional delegation to Washington.

We deeply appreciate President Donald Trump and Vice-President Mike Pence for leading the efforts to elect Attorney General Josh Hawley to the U.S. Senate.

Thank you to all MRL PAC volunteers! Job well done! We are also grateful to the people of Missouri who have placed their trust in our evaluations and endorsements. Together we have made a difference, elected pro-life legislators, and now we have to get back to our critical pro-life work.

We look forward to working with our state legislators and all our Congressional delegation, especially Senator-elect Josh Hawley and Senator Roy Blunt, to save innocent human lives!

## Congratulations to Missouri’s Attorney General-Elect Eric Schmitt

Missouri Right to Life applauds Governor Mike Parson’s selection of Eric Schmitt to be Missouri’s next Attorney General. In the last two years, the Attorney General’s office has been key in protecting the right to life of all innocent human beings and in defending Missouri’s pro-life laws.

Missourians elected former Attorney General Josh Hawley for his pro-life values. We are thankful that Governor Parson has appointed another strong pro-life Attorney General who respects and believes that life is precious from inception to natural death.

Attorney General-Elect Eric Schmitt, in his acceptance speech, spoke of his early years of life and why he became a lawyer. He spoke of the values with which he was raised and

wants to use as our chief law enforcement officer. He spoke about protecting our way of life for his family and for generations to come.

Missouri Right to Life has enjoyed a working relationship with Schmitt during his years of public service as a Missouri state senator, and we look forward to his work to defend innocent human lives in his new position.

Congratulations to Missouri’s Attorney General-Elect Eric Schmitt and his family!



Attorney General-Elect  
Eric Schmitt

### **You are a voice for the voiceless! Let’s speak up, let’s defend LIFE!**

Missouri Right to Life is initiating a new communication tool to update you on legislative efforts and action alerts. To join this effort, contact us at [righttolife@missourilife.org](mailto:righttolife@missourilife.org) with your email address and/or cellphone# for texts. Your personal information will be well protected and used for no other purpose.



At <https://www.lifenews.com/2018/11/13/>

### **Church's Sign: "Don't Vote for Democrats on Tuesday and Sing 'Oh How I Love Jesus' on Sunday"**

A Florida church sign caught the attention of liberal activists for urging Christians not to vote for Democrat politicians.

Grace of God Church in New Port Richey, Florida, served as a polling place for elections, but complaints about the sign prompted local officials to prevent it from being one in the future, according to the *Huffington Post*.

The sign, created by Pastor Al Carlisle, read, "Don't vote for Democrats on Tuesday and sing, 'Oh how I love Jesus' on Sunday."

In a Facebook post, Carlisle explained more about his reasons for the sign. "If you're a Christian, you cannot vote for a person or party that slays babies in the womb," he wrote on Nov. 6 after posting the sign at his church.

Here's more from the report:

[Pasco County Supervisor of Elections Brian] Corley said the church's senior pastor, Al Carlisle, put up the sign and refused the supervisor's requests to take it down.

Corley said it's "not unlawful" but highly "inappropriate" for a polling place to display prominent political signage to "instigate voters" in a particular precinct. As a result, he has decided not to use Grace of God Church as a polling location as long as Carlisle is its pastor.

"I'm not going to continue using a polling place where we have the proprietor mocking one political party or another," Corley said.

Responding to the controversy, Carlisle told the local news: "I'm not telling you not to vote Democrat. I'm not telling you to vote Republican. It's directed at those who profess to be Christians. There is a line drawn in the sand by Jesus that we ought not cross."

For many Christians, it has become

increasingly difficult to vote Democrat because of the party's radical pro-abortion stance. The party and almost all of its leaders support laws and policies allowing abortions for any reason up to birth, as well as taxpayer-funded abortions. Pro-life Democrats are being told they are not welcome in the party anymore. And last year, Democrat National Committee Chair Tom Perez even called the killing of unborn babies a "fundamental value" of his party and said "every Democrat" should support it.



At <https://www.liveaction.org/news/pro-life-business-owners-donate/>

### **These pro-life business owners donate millions to life-affirming groups**

Pro-lifers often hear about businesses they may want to avoid because of those businesses' support for organizations like Planned Parenthood. But for each of these businesses, there are others who donate their money to life-affirming organizations. Here are a few.

**Robert Rolling** is the owner of Gold's Gym and Omni Hotels. The Texas businessman has been listed as one of Forbes 400 wealthiest Americans, and he is a trustee of the family foundation which has donated millions to charities since it was founded in 2004. One such charity to benefit from Rolling's donations is Dallas' Downtown Pregnancy Center which assists women facing unplanned pregnancies with free ultrasounds, newborn safety, baby gear, breastfeeding, and educational classes such as Family Budgeting, Infant CPR, and childbirth prep.

**Michael Lindell** has a net worth of about \$300 million thanks to his invention, MyPillow. Lindell runs the Lindell Foundation and recently gave \$1 million to help fund the movie "Unplanned," detailing pro-life activist Abby Johnson's time as a Planned Parenthood manager and the events that led her to leave the abortion industry.

**Jim Mischel** is the CEO of Electric Mirror, a family-owned business in Washington state. In 2015, Mischel spoke before Washington state legislators on behalf of pro-life business owners and their employees who were against proposed legislation to require that all health insurance plans cover abortion. He shared with them his personal and emotional pro-life story.

"Thirty-nine years ago, a 14-year-old girl was raped," he said. "When she discovered she was pregnant, she went to a clinic to have an abortion, but then changed her mind. She courageously carried her child to term and a couple adopted the baby. That baby is my brother Aaron, and that couple is our parents."

Aaron now acts as the family company's vice-president and is a husband and father. Mischel told the state legislature that pro-life business owners love life, and, therefore, provide comprehensive health care coverage to their employees. He said the proposed law would end their ability to provide life-affirming insurance policies.

**Brothers Dan and Farris Wilks** are the billionaire owners of Wilks Masonry and Frac Tech. They are also pro-life. In 2018 the Wilks family made \$1.9 million in campaign contributions to the Texas Right to Life Political Action Committee, and since 2014 they have donated \$3 million in campaign contributions to Texas Right to Life PAC.

Combined, the men and their wives have donated \$835,000 through The Thirteen Foundation and the Heavenly Father's Foundation to the Texas Right to Life Educational Foundation. In addition, they have donated \$1.1 million to Heartbeat International and \$450,000 to Care Net — two of the largest pregnancy resource center organizations in the country.

They have also donated \$600,000 to pregnancy centers in Texas, and The Thirteen Foundation has given \$2.25 million to Life Dynamics, an organization with the mission to "end legalized abortion in America and restore legal protection to the unborn."

**Gary and Diane Heavin** are the founders of the women's only fitness franchise Curves International. The couple has donated hundreds of thousands to pregnancy help centers in Texas and to the National Right to Life Committee, which works to protect the right to life from conception to natural death. The couple also gave a five-year \$150,000 annual donation to Care Net.

"There's nothing healthy about abortion," Gary Heavin told *Today's Christian* in 2004. "I'm not afraid to tell the truth."

In 2002, the couple ended support for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation's fundraising events because of the groups ties to Planned Parenthood.



*From the Executive Director ~*

*Christmas blessings to you*

## *Perspective . . . .*

*"We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers." I Thessalonians 1:2.*

As Paul sat in a Roman prison thinking about those who were being persecuted for their faith, he thanked God for them and prayed for them to have wisdom and revelation to know God better and for them to continue in their good work. His message, "Stay the course .... God will bless your work."

As we begin a new year in the comfort of our homes with all of God's blessings, we, like Paul, need to remember each other in prayer and also pray for the wisdom needed to continue the work that is set before us. Hearts and minds are being changed! We must stay the course .... and remember that God will bless our work.

While we are saddened by the many years we have been fighting this battle, our work together is making a difference! Abortion clinics are closing and abortion numbers are declining! We must stay the course .... God is blessing our work.

Paul's perspective was from a seat of captivity and persecution. Our perspective is from a seat of captivity to an unjust court decision that has led to the persecution of innocent babies and to a society that has deceived women and families into believing that abortion is good when it, of course, is not. We must stay the course .... and pray that God continues to bless our work.

We are thankful for each of you! We thank you for your support throughout the year and for all you do in your communities to educate about the right to life, to work fair booths, and speak in your churches! We are grateful that you stand up and vote for pro-life endorsed candidates, that you March in Washington in January, and that you are an active force across Missouri and in Jefferson City at 'Show Me Life' Pro-Life Lobby Day in March. Through all these activities, and so many more that foster a respect for life, you stay the course!

It is a blessing to work along side each of you. You are the faithful who have such compassion for innocent lives, from the tiny baby in the beginning of life through those approaching the end of this life's journey. We are thankful we do not stand alone in this work. We are thankful God walks with us each day and continues to bless our work. We must never give up, we must stay the course ....

2019 .... here come God's soldiers! We have work to do.



Susan Klein

Gratefully,

*Susan Klein*



# Personhood and Heartbeats in Reversing the Abortion Cases

Jim Cole, General Counsel  
Missouri Right to Life

Many proponents of personhood proposals argue that *Roe v. Wade* allows for definitions of personhood to be enacted that would overturn *Roe* itself. Here is why such measures can never do that. At the end is a postscript on heartbeat bills.

## What *Roe v. Wade* held

*Roe v. Wade* ruled that abortion was a Constitutional right of the woman, as follows:

*This right of privacy, whether it be founded in the Fourteenth Amendment's concept of personal liberty . . . , or . . . in the Ninth Amendment's reservation of rights to the people, is broad enough to encompass a woman's decision whether or not to terminate her pregnancy.*

\* \* \* \*

*We, therefore, conclude that the right of personal privacy includes the abortion decision, . . . "*

*Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113, 153, 154 (1973).

In response, some personhood proponents find hope in the following two portions of the *Roe* opinion, taken out of context:

*We need not resolve the difficult question of when life begins. When those trained in the respective disciplines of medicine, philosophy, and theology are unable to arrive at any consensus, the judiciary, at this point in the development of man's knowledge, is not in a position to speculate as to the answer.*

\* \* \* \*

*If this suggestion of personhood is established, the appellant's case [i.e., "Roe" who sought an abortion], of course, collapses, for the fetus' right to life is then guaranteed specifically by the [14th] Amendment.*

*Roe*, 410 U.S. at 157, 159.

The hope is vain. The Supreme Court was not so foolish as to describe how to evade its own interpretation of the Constitution. We need to consider what else *Roe* said. Space prevents more than summary treatment here.

In *Roe v. Wade*, "Texas urge[d] that . . . life begins at conception and is present throughout pregnancy, and that, therefore, the State has a compelling interest in protecting that life from and after conception." To counter that argument, the Court cited mostly pro-abortion sources in describing the history of philosophical, theological, and medical theories of human development in the womb. It ignored the fact that until the 19th century, the scientific facts of fertilization were simply not yet known.

In this notably biased analysis, the Court classified the scientific evidence about the humanity of an unborn child as a theory of life which it would not adopt. (Hence the line about the judiciary's inability to speculate on the issue of "when life begins.") The woman's right to abortion would not be subjected

to "theories of life." As the Court stated,

*In view of all this, we do not agree that, by adopting one theory of life, Texas may override the rights of the pregnant woman that are at stake.*

*Roe*, 410 U.S. at 161.

## What *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* held

The 1992 decision in *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* did not affect this aspect of *Roe* but reaffirmed it.

*To protect the central right recognized by Roe v. Wade while at the same time accommodating the State's profound interest in potential life, we will employ the undue burden analysis as explained in this opinion. An undue burden exists, and therefore a provision of law is invalid, if its purpose or effect is to place a substantial obstacle in the path of a woman seeking an abortion before the fetus attains viability.*

\* \* \* \*

*Our adoption of the undue burden analysis does not disturb the central holding of Roe v. Wade, and we reaffirm that holding.*



Jim Cole

*Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, 505 U. S. 833, 878-79 (1992).

## End result for personhood proposals

The end result of these decisions? The

Supreme Court held in *Roe* that although judges could not "determine when life begins," no one else could, either. No legislature or executive would be allowed to "adopt" a "theory of life," that would "override the rights of the pregnant woman that are at stake." Personhood bills and personhood amendments to state constitutions are DOA in the courts.

## Enforcing the 14th Amendment

At the federal level, some claim that Congress can enact a definition of unborn babies as "persons" under its power to enforce the 14th Amendment by appropriate legislation. (See section 5 of the Amendment.) Such a definition, they claim, would put personhood right into the U. S. Constitution and do an end-run around *Roe v. Wade* so that unborn lives could be protected.

Such proposals run aground on Supreme Court decisions that Congress cannot define Constitutional rights under its 14th Amendment enforcement powers. Defining the scope of 14th Amendment rights is different from enforcing them, the Court says. Only the Court may define the parameters of Constitutional rights.

(continued next page)

***We need compelling reasons to offer the Court for overturning *Roe*. Such reasons may consist of evidence of important aspects about abortion (e.g., how it affects women's health) that were not known by science in 1973. We get nowhere by attempting to force the Court to admit it was wrong on such a contentious issue as abortion.***

In *City of Boerne v. Flores*, 521 U.S. 507 (1997), the Court ruled the federal Religious Freedom Restoration Act was unconstitutional as applied to state governments because, among other things, it attempted to define the right to freedom of religion more broadly than the Supreme Court allowed in a 1990 decision, *Employment Division v. Smith*, 494 U.S. 872 (1990). See also *Tennessee v. Lane*, 541 U.S. 509, 520 (2004) (Congress cannot change Supreme Court's interpretation of 14th Amendment rights).

Thus, even if Congress, invoking the 14th Amendment, were to enact a definition of personhood, the decisions cited above demonstrate that such a definition will not be allowed to overcome the holdings of *Roe* and *Casey*.

### ***The futility of personhood for reversing Roe***

Some may argue that a personhood proposal may not directly overrule *Roe*, but it could serve as a catalyst for the Court to recognize its error in *Roe* and repent, so to speak. But the *Roe* Court has already considered and rejected the relevancy of the personhood of the unborn, as indicated above. It has held and reaffirmed that the rights of the woman trump whatever rights the baby may have.

In fact, the *Casey* Court refused for a sixth time an invitation to overrule *Roe v. Wade*. Among the reasons it gave was this: *[T]o overrule under fire in the absence of the most compelling reason to reexamine a watershed decision would subvert the Court's legitimacy beyond any serious question.*

*Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, 505 U.S. 833, 867 (1992).

We need compelling reasons to offer the Court for overturning *Roe*. Such reasons may consist of evidence of important aspects about abortion (e.g., how it affects women's health) that were not known by science in 1973. We get nowhere by attempting to force the Court to admit it was wrong on such a contentious issue as abortion. A separate article will deal with this strategy for overruling *Roe*.

### ***Personhood laws may be good for other pro-life issues***

There may be good reasons besides ending abortion for enacting a state personhood law or constitutional amendment, for example, to stop cloning of human embryos and then destroying them, or to end the destruction of frozen embryos. The right of a woman to an abortion would not trump a personhood declaration in such situations.

### ***Postscript on heartbeat bills***

In recent years, several states have enacted statutes under which, if a heartbeat is detected using normal medical procedures, an abortion of the child is forbidden.

Perhaps one goal of such proposals is to educate the public that even at only 6-8 weeks in gestation, an unborn human is not a mere "blob of cells" but a real, live human infant. That is a desirable goal. But if another goal is to demonstrate the personhood of an unborn infant to obtain reversal of *Roe v. Wade*, the effort is futile. As described earlier, the Supreme Court will not allow the humanity of the unborn to overcome a woman's right to an abortion.

Two quite recent Court of Appeals' cases apply the Supreme Court's principle.



In 2013, an Arkansas law generally forbade abortions upon infants of 12 weeks or more if a heartbeat was detected. In 2015, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, making clear that its ruling was compelled by the precedents of the Supreme Court, held that the law was unconstitutional. *Edwards v. Beck*, 786 F.3d 1113 (8th Cir. 2015).

In 2007, North Dakota enacted a law that provided, among other things, that if the unborn child has a detectable heartbeat, an abortion was banned. Just as in the Arkansas case, pursuant to the precedents of the Supreme Court, the North Dakota law was ruled unconstitutional. *MKB Management Corp. v. Stenehjem*, 795 F.3d 768 (8th Cir. 2015).

The opinion of the Eighth Circuit went out on a limb in the North Dakota case by explicitly urging the Supreme Court to reevaluate its abortion precedents on several grounds, including the medical advances that make viability attainable earlier than in 1973 and the risks of medical harm to women that accompany all too many abortions. *Stenehjem*, 795 F.3d at 773-776.

The request had no effect. The Supreme Court refused without comment to take the case. *Stenehjem v. MKB Management Corp.*, no. 15-627 (Order denying certiorari, Jan. 25, 2016). It is clear that heartbeat bills are DOA in the courts and will not save a single baby's life.

### ***Conclusion***

Thus, anyone supporting a personhood bill or a heartbeat bill should not do so on the grounds that it will serve to overrule *Roe v. Wade*.



## Eastern Region Hosts Celebration of Life to Benefit Missouri Right to Life Education Fund

A Celebration of Life dinner was held in St Louis on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and such a celebration it was. From Archbishop Robert Carlson's reception of the Champion For Life Award to Jason Jones' uplifting keynote address, it was a wonderful event for the over 400 who attended. Thanks to those who organized this special evening!



The committee who planned the evening did a commendable job!



Archbishop Carlson receives the Champion For Life Award from MRL President Steve Rupp.



(Left) A few of the guests gather before dinner to enjoy each other's company and to celebrate life. Thanks for being there!



## JOIN OUR MEDICAL NETWORK

We need physicians, physician midwives, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants to join the Abortion Pill Rescue Network and help women who want to reverse the effects of the abortion pill.

Go to [www.AbortionPillReversal.com/Medical-Network](http://www.AbortionPillReversal.com/Medical-Network) to sign up.



## Memorials & Honorariums

*In memory or in honor of a loved one or a friend, these gifts were made to Missouri Right to Life.*

### In honor of~

Steve & Nancy Flynn  
Steve Rupp

### Given by~

Rich & Linda Tochtrop  
Sherry Tyree

### In memory of~

Irene Abbett  
  
Michael Rupp

### Given by~

East Central Area  
Chapter - MRL  
  
Katherine Brillhart

*Missouri Right to Life thanks those who honor their deceased loved ones or who celebrate an important event by making a gift to MRL.*



## Pro-Life Across Missouri

### save the date

Jan. 18

**46th Annual March for Life** - Washington, DC - For bus/trip information for the **Sedalia area**, contact Carol Turner at 660.620.1590. For bus/trip information for the **St. Louis area**, call 314.434.4900 or e-mail [mrl.eastern@yahoo.com](mailto:mrl.eastern@yahoo.com).

### Roe v Wade Anniversary Observances

Jan. 18

**Western Region** - Prayer Vigil, 12 noon Federal Court House, Illus Davis Plaza, KC MO. Parking available at Catholic Center, 20 West 9th St.

Jan. 20

**Barton County Chapter** - Prayer service and speakers, 3:00 p.m., Memorial Hall, Lamar MO. Will include a collection of baby shower items for Life Choices.

Jan. 22

**Sedalia Chapter** - Memorial, 12 noon Pettis County Courthouse lobby.

Jan. 26

**St. Louis** - Respect Life Apostolate Annual Roe v Wade Memorial Mass, 10 a.m., Cathedral Basilica of St Louis.

Tuesday,  
March 12

**"Show Me Life" Pro-Life Action Day** State Capitol, Jefferson City. Registration begins at 10:00 a.m. Complete information on the MRL website.

**Celebrate  
a lifetime of giving  
by giving  
beyond a lifetime!**



A planned gift to Missouri Right to Life through your will, trust, or an annuity reflects your commitment to pro-life work across Missouri. It is a gift that lives on and saves lives.



For information or to request a confidential consultation, contact Missouri Right to Life at 573.635.5110.



# WOW!

*You made good things happen  
all year long!*



**March for Life ~ Washington DC**



**Southwest Region at  
Ozark Empire Fair Booth**



**Western Region at  
Liberty Fun-Fest Booth**

**Sedalia Chapter Billboard**



**MRL "Show Me Life" Lobby Day  
Missouri State Capitol**



**East Central Area Chapter at  
"Show Me Life" Lobby Day**



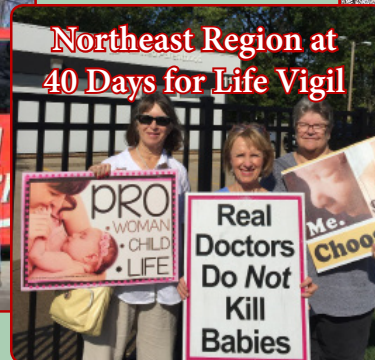
**Missouri Right to Life at  
NRLC Convention 2018**



**Western Region  
Jan 22 Observance**



**Missouri Life Caravan Bus  
to the March for Life**



**Northeast Region at  
40 Days for Life Vigil**



**Sedalia Chapter at the  
Sedalia Christmas Parade**

## Thanks to You!

*During this season of joy, we are again mindful of how important you are to us.*

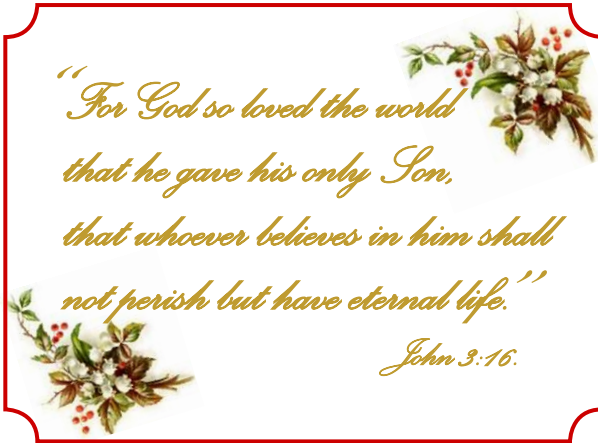
*Together we are the family of Missouri Right to Life.*

*Without you the work would be so much more difficult.*

*Thank you for all of your efforts to defend life, keep this special ministry in your prayers,  
respond to our pleas, and make the donations that keep the mission alive.*

*May the Holy Child in the manger bless you abundantly at Christmas and in the New Year!*





## You Might Want to “Just Say No” to Girl Scout Cookies

January is Girl Scout cookie season in most of our state.

You might think that by ordering some thin mints or trefoils, you are supporting young women in healthy pursuits. But think it over before purchasing those munchies.

A few things to consider:

- Girl Scouts USA (GSUSA) and local councils encouraged and celebrated girl members' participation in the 2017 and 2018 pro-abortion Women's March.
- Girl Scouts' G.I.R.L. 2017 mega event, “the largest global gathering of girls and influencers,” featured prominent abortion rights supporters Chelsea Clinton and Barbara Pierce Bush.
- Girl Scouts' curriculum for girls, sold and promoted by every local Girl Scout council, recommends pro-abortion role models/organizations such as Betty Friedan, Gloria Steinem, Geraldine Ferraro, Hillary Clinton, Amnesty Intl., Population Council, ACLU, and National Organization For Women.

- GSUSA and local Girl Scout councils' on-line content honors and promotes pro-abortion politicians (Hillary Clinton), activists (Margaret Sanger), celebrities (Emma Watson), and media sites (Teen Vogue).

- GSUSA confirms that its local councils and troops may collaborate with Planned Parenthood.

Because of significant, well-researched information about Girl Scouts USA activities and affiliations, Missouri Right to Life issued a policy statement in 2013 and later updated it:

Because Girl Scouts USA promotes, both directly and indirectly through other organizations, policies and behaviors clearly contradictory to the goals and purposes of Missouri Right to Life, Missouri Right to Life urges citizens to consider carefully whether to participate in Girl Scouts or support them in any way.



Recently updated information is available on Missouri Right to Life's website, [www.missourilife.org](http://www.missourilife.org). On the homepage, the drop-down box for “Policies” lists Girl Scouts USA which includes several helpful documents.

The website <http://mygirlscout-council.com> is another helpful, well-researched source.

**American Heritage Girls is a good alternative** for families wanting a wholesome group for their young girls. Many troops are in Missouri and may be found on their website, [www.americanheritagegirls.org](http://www.americanheritagegirls.org).

Encouraging “faith, family, and fun,” their vision statement notes that American Heritage Girls is the premier national character development organization for young women who embrace Christian values and seek family involvement.

That's a vision we can all support!

