



MISSOURI RIGHT TO LIFE

Transforming society to respect and protect all innocent human life.

A Action
C Changes
T Things

Please

ACT!

Please

Attend!

**YOU
make
a
difference!**

Missouri Right to Life

“Show Me Life” Pro-Life Action Day

Tuesday, March 12, 2019

Registration begins at 10:00 a.m. ~ Rally at 12 Noon

Missouri State Capitol ~ 1st Floor Rotunda



“See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father.”

Matthew 18:10

Priority Legislation

- Enact Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act and Ban Dismemberment Abortions;
- Defund Planned Parenthood;
- Enact Two Custodial Parent Notification prior to minor having an abortion;
- Require proof, prior to an abortion, that parent or guardian with a minor is the legal parent or guardian;
- When referring a woman for an out-of-state abortion, she must be provided alternative-to-abortion information at time of referral;
- Other pro-life legislation.

Transportation is available from many areas of the state.

Contact the Missouri Right to Life State Office, 573.635.5110, or visit missourilife.org for further information.

WEAR RED FOR LIFE!

Rally Guest Speaker Sue Thayer

No one in the pro-life world has been inside Planned Parenthood longer than Sue Thayer was. Having been a Center Manager for nearly 18 years, Sue believed she was helping women. But that all changed....

Sue began to see the abortion giant in a new light and ultimately shared her insider's knowledge.

Sue is the founder and former Director of Cornerstone For Life Pregnancy Center in Storm Lake, Iowa. She currently works with 40 Days for Life as Director of Outreach. She is passionately pro-life with a deep desire that the whole world understands the darkness of the abortion industry.



This won't hurt
a bit?



Try telling
her that.



The *PAIN* of the *UNBORN BABY*

While an unborn baby cannot verbally express the pain she experiences, all biological indicators suggest unborn children are capable of feeling pain by at least 20 weeks gestation.

Missouri Right to Life's primary legislation for the 2019 session is the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act. In the MO House, Representatives Adam Schnelting and Mary Elizabeth Coleman have each filed the bill. Senators Bob Onder and Ed Emery have filed in the MO Senate.

With the advent of sonograms and live-action ultrasound images, neonatologists and nurses are able to see that unborn babies at 20 weeks post-fertilization or younger react physically to outside stimuli such as sound, light, and touch. This sense of touch is so acute that even a single human hair drawn across an unborn child's palm can cause the baby to make a fist.

Surgeons entering the womb to perform corrective procedures on tiny unborn children have seen those babies flinch, jerk, and recoil from sharp objects and incisions.

Given the unborn child's ability to feel pain, imagine how excruciating their pain must be during an abortion!

"The neural pathways are present for pain to be experienced quite early by unborn babies."

- Steven Calvin, perinatologist, University of Minnesota

"At 20 weeks, the fetal brain has the full complement of brain cells present in adulthood, ready and waiting to receive pain signals from the body, and their electrical activity can be recorded by standard Electroencephalography (EEG)."

- Dr. Paul Ranalli, neurologist, University of Toronto

"An unborn child at 20-weeks gestation 'is fully capable of experiencing pain... Without question, [abortion] is a dreadfully painful experience for any infant subjected to such a surgical procedure.'"

- Robert J. White, M.D., PhD., professor of neurosurgery, Case Western University

"In fact, unborn babies probably feel pain more intensely than adults. This is a uniquely vulnerable time since the pain system is fully established, yet the higher level pain-modifying system has barely begun to develop."

- Dr. Paul Ranalli, neurologist, University of Toronto

"On occasion we need to administer anesthesia directly to the fetus, because even at these early gestational ages the fetus moves away from the pain of stimulation."

- David Birnbach, M.D., president of the Society for Obstetric Anesthesia and Perinatology and self-described as 'pro-choice' in testimony before the U.S. Congress

Despite the unborn child's advanced development at 20 weeks gestation, the following painful abortion method is used:

Dilation and Evacuation (D&E): Sharp-edged instruments are used to grasp, twist and tear the baby's body into pieces, which are removed from the womb.

Given the evidence that unborn babies experience pain, compassionate people are realizing that abortion is an inhumane and intolerable act of violence against defenseless human beings.

Some information courtesy of Wisconsin Right to Life.



At <https://www.lifenews.com/2019/01/30/abortion-activist-charged-with-threatening-to-kill-and-rape-pro-life-groups-staff/>

Kansas Abortion Activist Charged

A Kansas man was charged in Federal Court January 29 with making threats last August to kill Operation Rescue staff members and rape their daughters.

Christopher M. Thompson, 22, faces three counts of threatening communications for a series of phone calls to Operation Rescue's office and to one staff member's cell phone. He faces a maximum penalty of five years in prison and \$250,000 fines for each count.

Thompson told a female Operation Rescue employee he was going to kill her and

her family after he sexually assaulted two female family members. He said that he had often followed the staffer and female family members around Wichita, Kansas, the location of Operation Rescue's national headquarters, and said he knew where the staffer lived.

In addition to the threats of murder and sexual violence, the messages also contained disturbing satanic overtones.

"We are very relieved that this man has been criminally charged. We take threats like this very seriously and always report them to law enforcement. We simply are not going to take any risks with the safety of our staff and our families," said Troy Newman, President of Operation Rescue.



At <https://fox4kc.com/2019/01/27/church-leaders-frustrated-after-pro-life-display-vandalized-in-independence/>

Independence Church Leaders Frustrated

Leaders at a church in Independence MO are frustrated after someone stole and damaged part of a display on the church's

property, designed to discourage abortion.

There are 610 pink and blue crosses planted in the front lawn of New Hope Baptist on Lexington Road. Each cross represents 100,000 abortions in the United States since the passage of Roe v Wade in 1973.

"Just like we would memorialize victims of other tragedies and wars and shootings and people that have lost their lives, those little children need to be memorialized," said Tim Beadles, the youth pastor at the church.

Beadles said the display has been up for weeks. On January 22, which marked the 46th anniversary of the landmark decision, he said someone cut down the sign for the display and damaged some of the crosses.

Beadles said church security cameras didn't catch the culprit in the act.

"We drove around the many blocks surrounding the area looking for it. Maybe they cut it off and just dumped it somewhere but no," Beadles explained.

The church has replaced the stolen sign.

You make good things happen! Thank you!

From the President ~

“Woe to those who call evil good and good evil ...”

Two recent events sent me reeling.

The Michigan Governor vetoed a bill banning webcam abortions -- abortions using RU 486, known as the abortion pills. The pills will be distributed to women across the state via a web encounter with a distant abortionist. No doctor visit necessary. The mother just takes the pills and a couple of days later delivers her dead child into her toilet.

Michigan Planned Parenthood President and CEO Lori Carpenter responded to the veto by saying, “*Let the fun begin!*” My heart broke that these words could be uttered in America.

And New York Governor Andrew Cuomo lit the sky over New York to celebrate a new law that allows poisoning and dismembering children up to the moment of birth -- and in some cases, killing them even after birth. According to the new law, if a child is born alive during an abortion, it is now legal to go ahead and kill that living, breathing child by injecting poison into his or her heart to finish them off. The New York Senate rose to its feet to applaud this new law. Buildings and bridges in New York were bathed in pink light to celebrate this great accomplishment.

What words can describe this *perversion* in our country?

These heinous events have filled me with a resolve to do more. Missouri Right to Life is resolved to do more.

We recently launched our **Pro Life Communication Network** to increase our presence with our legislators, expand our education network and our political activity. It's an easy way to stay up-to-date on critical issues and bills. It also provides an easy, one-touch response from your cell phone to your legislators. Click on, “Join the Pro-Life Network” on our website at www.missourilife.org.

We are working diligently to pass pro-life bills, including the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act and the Ban on Dismemberment Abortions. These bills will save innocent children's lives. Our Pro-Life Communication Network will enable you to help us pass these life-saving bills. That phone app and your presence at our “**Show Me Life**” **Pro-Life Action Day** in Jefferson City on Tuesday, March 12th, will let our state legislators know that we are serious about Missouri not becoming another New York.

In Missouri we don't celebrate death. We celebrate life. And we need you every step of the way.

Thanks for all that you do for Life and God bless!



Steve Rupp

In Your Service,

Steve Rupp

The U. S. Supreme Court and Reversing the Abortion Cases

James S. Cole, General Counsel
Missouri Right to Life

When we pro-lifers consider the role of the U. S. Supreme Court in imposing upon our country a wide-open license to take the lives of unborn babies by abortion, we are cheered to see jurists join the Court who might take the law into another direction. We fervently hope that *Roe v. Wade* and its later elaboration, *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, will be overruled.

Have we given sufficient consideration to what steps are most appropriate to obtaining their reversal? Here are some thoughts.

Institutional Obstacles to Reversal

Abortion law in the United States has been made by the United States Supreme Court under a claim that the Court is interpreting the guarantee of "due process of law" as found in the U. S. Constitution. It will be hard to persuade the Court to overturn its own rulings on a subject that so deeply affects so many people in this country.

... no one who is loyal to an institution wants to admit that the institution has made a serious error in a previous policy.... The Justices of the U. S. Supreme Court are not immune from such human reactions.

For one thing, no one who is loyal to an institution wants to admit that the institution has made a serious error in a previous policy. That is just human behavior. The Justices of the U. S. Supreme Court are not immune from such human reactions.

Second, the Court is not a legislature. It is not supposed to be representative of the people; rather, it is to be independent so as to announce the law. If the courts would allow themselves to be lobbied or intimidated by extraneous pressures into changing their decisions, they would be perceived as governed by expediency rather than law.

The Court expressed just this reason (among others) in the *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* decision, in which it explained why it was not going to overrule *Roe v. Wade*, even

though perhaps a majority thought *Roe* to have been wrongly decided:

[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)

It is right and proper to lobby Congress, but not the courts. The annual March for Life has as its most important goal to lobby Congress, not the Supreme Court. People who see it as a protest directed against the Court misconstrue its most important aim.

Third, and perhaps most importantly, in the *Casey* decision some of the Justices adopted an exaggerated view about the Supreme Court's importance in determining the most important social issues in American life. They wrote that it was the Court's job to decide such issues rather than the role of Congress and state legislatures that represent the people. To reverse an important decision interpreting the Constitution

could represent an admission of error that would cripple the Court's perceived legitimacy to settle once-in-a-century issues in the future.

Ultimately such an admission would impair the nation itself, in the view of these Justices.

The following quote from *Casey* illustrates the extraordinary presumption held by some Justices about the importance of the Court's prestige:

Like the character of an individual, the legitimacy of the Court must be earned over time. So, indeed, must be the character of a Nation of people who aspire to live according to the rule of law. Their belief in themselves as such a people is not readily separable from their understanding of the Court invested with the authority to decide their constitutional cases and speak before all others for their constitutional ideals. If the Court's legitimacy should be undermined, then, so would the country be in its very

ability to see itself through its constitutional ideals. The Court's concern with legitimacy is not for the sake of the Court, but for the sake of the Nation to which it is responsible.

Casey, 505 U.S. at 868
(emphasis supplied)

This is judicial usurpation of the role of the legislatures of this country. The legitimacy of the rule of law in the United States has never been founded upon the courts, but upon the right of the people to govern themselves, making their own laws through their elected representatives. The Constitution is a product of the people, after all.

Rightly or wrongly, pro-lifers have to deal with this overweening presumption of the importance of the Court in American life when we plan how to persuade the U. S. Supreme Court to overturn *Roe v. Wade*.

Convincing the Court: the Civil Rights Movement

One way to convince the Court to reverse itself may be to demonstrate we know more now than was known in 1973 about something important to the *Roe* decision. The Court does not have to admit error when knowledge sufficient to avoid the error was not available. The best historical precedent for such a reversal is found in the civil rights cases of the 20th century.

A Supreme Court case, *Plessy v. Ferguson*, 163 U.S. 537 (1896), created the "separate but equal" doctrine that masked racial discrimination despite the 14th Amendment. Successive lawsuits, primarily by the NAACP, chipped away at the doctrine. Ultimately, *Plessy v. Ferguson* was reversed by *Brown v. Board of Education*, 347 U.S. 483 (1954).

What new evidence did the NAACP bring to the Supreme Court?

1. "Separate" was never really "equal." For example, Missouri refused entry of a black student to the University of Missouri Law School in the 1930's, telling him Missouri would pay his tuition to attend another state's law school. But as in most states, the other state's law school would not give the same education about Missouri law that the University of Missouri would give. The U. S. Supreme Court held that the offer to

pay out-of-state tuition was not equal to granting a seat to the student at Mizzou. *Missouri ex rel. Gaines v. Cannada*, 305 U.S. 337 (1938).

Another case focused on the common practice of writing prohibitions against selling houses to non-whites into subdivision covenants. In a case arising in suburban St. Louis County, a black family challenged these covenants. The common law has held since medieval times that every piece of ground is unique and cannot be deemed exactly equivalent to any other piece of ground. Therefore, the government could not treat people equally while enforcing racially-discriminatory subdivision covenants. *Shelley v. Kraemer*, 334 U.S. 1 (1948).

Perhaps most important as time went on was the accumulating evidence that nowhere were the facilities that were open to black people of the same quality as those open to whites. "Equal" was a sham.

2. The NAACP also found relevant social science research performed in the 20th century that was unavailable in 1896. Most important was research that showed black Americans suffered serious, long-lasting psychological harm from the disrespectful shunning by whites that was inherent in racial segregation. The Supreme Court's opinion in *Brown v. Board of Education* placed some emphasis on these findings.

Convincing the Court: the Pro-Life Movement

What new evidence can the pro-life movement bring to the U. S. Supreme Court that was not known in 1973? Here are two suggestions.

1. Abortion is not safer than childbirth; it inflicts enormous damage upon many women, such as--
 - Long-term grave increase in breast cancer.
 - Other immediate, less-lethal physical effects.
 - Other long-term psychological effects.
2. Fathers as individuals also have important health interests in fatherhood, emotionally and psychologically. The Court's jurisprudence has ignored that many men suffer

enormous pain from the arbitrary deaths of their children when an abortion occurs.

If trial judges, appellate judges, and Supreme Court Justices will listen objectively to well-presented empirical evidence supporting the pro-life position on these or perhaps other points, the Court may reconsider *Roe* and *Casey*.

Some people believe that the evidence of human development in the womb is new evidence to present to the Court. While it is true that important details of human development continue to be discovered and clarified, it is not likely the current Justices would give biological facts any better reception than did the Justices of 1973. Then, the Court ruled that it would not allow any legislature or populace to define human life in a way that impaired "choice." *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113, 161 (1973). It has been noted by others that no Justice has ever openly accepted the idea that unborn humans are persons deserving of full legal protection from abortion.

The importance of trial judges

Here is a good place to clarify an important legal point that many people may not realize. When cases are tried, the trial judge has the job of determining what testimony and written or other records are admissible under the law. In non-jury cases such as constitutional cases, the judge also makes the findings of fact -- in other words, he or she gets to make "the record" on what happened or is happening that the law must be applied to.

On appeal, the appellate judges do not hear the evidence again. With some exceptions, they have to take as a given the findings of fact that the trial judge has adopted based on evidence that was correctly admitted.

In a 2016 case, the Supreme Court held that Texas' most recent regulations of abortion clinics were unconstitutional, *Whole Women's Health v. Hellerstedt*, 136 S.Ct. 2292 (2016). The result proceeded from the trial judge's findings of fact. He found fault with Texas' expert evidence in regard to the risks of abortions in Texas and ruled much of it inadmissible. With insufficient evidence

to show that the new regulations actually promoted women's health, the Supreme Court found that all the new regulations accomplished was to shut down noncomplying clinics, creating an undue burden on the right to abortion that violated *Casey*.

Contrast this with a current case attacking Missouri's clinic regulations. The U.S. Court of Appeals reversed the trial judge's 2017 injunction on Missouri's abortion clinic regulations because he refused to consider evidence on the health risks of abortion in Missouri. *Planned Parenthood v. Hawley*, No. 17-1996, slip opinion at p. 5 (8th Circuit, Sept. 10, 2018).

On remand, the case having been reassigned to another judge, the State was able to produce evidence of grossly deficient conditions at the Planned Parenthood clinic in Columbia as found in a surprise inspection late in September. (Surprise inspections were a feature of the 2017 law.) The new judge rejected Planned Parenthood's claims about the safety of abortion in light of the new evidence. *Comprehensive Health of Planned Parenthood Great Plains v. Hawley*, Case No. 2:16-CV-04313-BCW (Order, W.D. Mo. October 3, 2018). The case remains pending for a full trial.

Hellerstedt and the pending Planned Parenthood case in Missouri prove that the appointment of trial judges and intermediate appellate judges, especially U.S. District Judges in the federal courts, is hugely important. They make the record which the appellate courts, including the Supreme Court, have to use when deciding how the law and the Constitution apply in a case. The cases also demonstrate that an effective and committed Attorney General is needed to present the strongest possible case in the courtroom when abortion regulations are attacked.

Conclusion

It is not just fair and non-ideological Supreme Court Justices that we must put on the bench. Electing a bold President and Senators committed to appointment of non-ideological federal judges at all levels is essential to the pro-life cause.



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Pro-Life Across Missouri

save the date

March 6 - April 14 Spring 40 Days for Life - Columbia MO, St Louis MO, Overland Park KS. See 40daysforlife.com for info on these sites.

Tuesday, March 12 "Show Me Life" Pro-Life Action Day - State Capitol, Jefferson City. Registration begins at 10:00 a.m. Information on the MRL website or in this MRL News.



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 to sign up.



Memorials & Honorariums

In memory or in honor of loved ones or friends, these gifts were made to Missouri Right to Life.

In memory of ~

Rev. Donald Koch

Anna Margaret Luth

Laverne Lydon

Donald Stuckey

In honor of ~

Maria Everding

Tom & Pam Manning
~ Christmas

Christopher Pieknik
~ 60th Birthday

Given by ~

Rosemarie Hughes
Mary & Bill Suntrup

MRL Northeast Region

MRL East Central Area Chapter

Jane Arnold

Given by ~

Tom & Pam Fichter

Nick & Patti Manning
Cary & Stephanie Manning
Brooke & Tim Eiler
Ashleigh & Ron Macke
Quinn & Frank Williams
Kendell & Brad Fletchall

Olivia Pieknik

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



Brrrr! Inclement weather did not stop MRL-Western Region from holding their annual Prayer Vigil in Kansas City to mark the tragic 46th anniversary of Roe v Wade.



Pro-lifers gather for the annual MRL-Sedalia Chapter Roe v Wade Ceremony at the Pettis County Courthouse.



Celebrate a lifetime of giving...

... by giving *beyond a lifetime!* Invest in your vision – a world in which every human life is protected and respected.

Yours is a Legacy of Life and Love

Your decision to enact a planned gift to Missouri Right to Life (MRL) and/or the MRL Education Fund (tax deductible) reflects your commitment to grassroots pro-life work across Missouri. It is a gift that lives on – and saves lives.

For more information or to request a confidential consultation, contact Missouri Right to Life at 573-635-5110.

**"One life,
a little gleam
between
two eternities."
~ Thomas Carlyle**

Hundreds of thousands assemble against abortion in D.C.

Over 4,000 Missourians March for Life in Washington . . .



(L-R) Missourians Patty Schneier, Sr. Mary Dang, Zina Hackworth, Maggie Bick, and Marianne Burkemper stop along the March for Life route for a quick picture.

Tom & Pam Fichter accompany grandson Mike to his first March For Life.



Notice the endless procession of pro-lifers, even behind the tree line, as far as the eye can see. Somewhere in this tremendous crowd are thousands of Missourians marching for life!

. . . followed by the Midwest March for Life in Jefferson City



(Right) State Rep. Adam Schnelting with his wife and daughter join MRL Executive Director Susan Klein at the Midwest March for Life.

Have you
returned your
membership
mailing yet?

If not, please
help support
MRL's
pro-life work
by returning it as soon as
possible -- or, if needed, use
the envelope in this issue.
Thank you!



WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN?

Tiny little fingers
and tiny little toes
What she could have been
only heaven knows

Growing in the safety
of her hiding place
A beautiful little head
and a precious little face

Yawning and stretching
and kicking around
Moving and responding
to her mother's sound

A future chemist
or an astronaut in space
Someone to cure cancer
for the human race

A wonderful mind
that could have found
answers to the questions
that have kept us bound

A precious life
so quickly is gone
And now we're reaping
the death we've sown

To take her life
is a horrible sin
And it's sad to think
What could have been?

Timothy Jarmon
Copyright 2017

Front Page -

Pro-Life Action Day flyer to copy and distribute



Be a Voice for the Voiceless! Join the Pro-Life Communication Network!

Legislators tell us that listening to their constituents is very important to their decision-making process. After almost 45 years of working in the legislative arenas, we know that's true.

Pro-life constituent participation is critical to passing pro-life legislation!

To enhance our lobbying efforts, Missouri Right to Life has initiated the Pro-Life Communication Network to update you on state and national legislative efforts, public policy situations, and action alerts.

With your agreement, we send you a text or email informing you of a need to contact your U.S. or state elected officials.

This network, with the touch of one button, will give you the ability to contact these important individuals with a pro-life message or request.

Please join the Pro-Life Communication Network!

- Go to: <https://www.votervoice.net/MOLIFE/home> and enter your email address and zip code for email alerts.
- To receive text messages, please text MOLIFE to 50457.

You have our guarantee that your private information will be used for no other reason than this Pro-life Communication Network and will never be shared or used for any other purpose.