



The Least of My Brothers

LIFE NOTES

Planned Parenthood to Open New Health Center in Charleston

Planned Parenthood Health Systems, Inc. (PPHS) plans to open a new health center at 200 Rutledge Avenue in Charleston, SC in the fall of 2008.

(Editors Note) Please call and/or write Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr. Executive Office 80 Broad Street Charleston, SC 29401 (843-577-6970) or other elected officials. Also send a letter to the editor. (Post and Courier - <http://web.charleston.net>)

The community of Charleston, the surrounding areas, and our state deserve better than the Planned Parenthood organization. Our children are being put at risk, and many of the unborn to the sword.

What do the following women have in common? Michelle Marie Perreira, Edrica Goode, Diana Lopez, L.K.D.H, Lorraine Thul, Holly Patterson, Hoa Thuy Tran. All of these woman or their families have sued Planned Parenthood for injuries or wrongful death suffered as a result of their abortions. (NRL News June 2008)

“Just look at South Carolina, where pro-lifers got several laws on the books. Abortions in South Carolina peaked at 14,133 in 1988. In 2004, the number of abortions had dropped to 6,565—a 53% reduction that far exceeds the national decline.” Wanda Franz

In her June 2008 column “Let Common Sense Prevail”, Wanda Franz, Ph.D. ,President NRLC, points out that the pro-life movement must focus on getting Supreme Court justices appointed who are guided by the Constitution. In an election year, these efforts must be guided by plain common sense, as summarized in the following principles.

First, “elections have consequences.” Just recall how Bill Clinton wrecked the pro-life policies of his presidential predecessors, how he gave us judges such as Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg,

Second, “there are no ideal candidates for political office”—or, at best, very few of them. Anyone who thinks that one day there will be a majority of saints running Capitol Hill is foolish.

Third, “the point is not to make a statement but a difference”—more accurately, a positive difference.

Fourth, “don’t fall in love with your candidate.” We all know candidates who are 100% pro-lifers, but have no chance of getting elected.close ranks behind the pro-life winner and support him in the general election.

Fifth, “the perfect is the enemy of the good.” By insisting on the unattainable we may lose the attainable. And when we lose as pro-lifers, babies die.

The thing about pro-life common sense is that it compels you to act, instead of pontificating about your “principles.” Act!

Father Pavone of Priests for Life reminds us that we cannot choose evil, even the lesser of two evils. He does however urge us to vote intelligently to limit the danger to our unborn, elderly and disabled brothers and sisters threatened by the pro abortion mentality.



Sen. Jesse Helms

In a 1995 profile of the staunchly conservative senator, a reporter observed, "Unlike many of his Republican counterparts, Senator Jesse Helms has changed little over the past 50 years." , we salute a gentleman who was unwavering in his convictions and devoted to faith, family and freedom.

Unlike the many who are changed and influenced by their time of service, Senator Helms was among the few who have influenced the world. He unflinchingly withstood mockery from radical abortion activists in defending the unborn.

KC FORUM

THE BASIC ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST ABORTION -There are three steps, or premises, to the argument for outlawing abortion.

The first is that one of the most fundamental purposes of law is to protect human rights, especially the first and foundational right, the right to life. The second is that all human beings have the right to life. The third is that the already-conceived but not-yet-born children of human beings are human beings. From these three premises it necessarily follows that the law must protect the right to life of unborn children.

There are only three possible reasons for disagreeing with this conclusion. "One may deny the first, second, or third premises. For if all three are admitted, the "pro-life" conclusion follows. First, there are those who admit that all persons have a right to life and that unborn children are persons, but deny that this right should be protected by law (the first premise). This is a serious legal error.

The inalienable right to life of every innocent human individual is a constitutive element of a civil society and its legislation. The inalienable rights of the person must be recognized and respected by civil society and the political authority. These human rights depend neither on single individuals nor on parents; nor do they represent a concession made by society and the state; they belong to human nature and are inherent in the person by virtue of the creative act from which the person took his origin. The moment a positive [human] law deprives a category of human beings of the protection which civil legislation ought to accord them, the state is denying the equality of all before the law. When the state does not place its power at the service of the rights of each citizen, and in particular of the more vulnerable, the very foundations of a state based on law are undermined....⁸¹" (C 2273).

Second, there are those who admit that the law should protect the right to life and that unborn children are human beings, but deny that human beings have the right to life (the second premise). This is a very serious moral error.

It is essentially the philosophy of power, of "might makes right." Those in power - doctors, mothers, legislators, adults - decree the right to kill those who lack the power to defend themselves: the smallest, most vulnerable, and most innocent of all human beings. No good reason can justify this decree; a good end does not justify an intrinsically evil means. If the babies shared the powers of the abortionists and could fight back with scalpels, there would be few abortions.

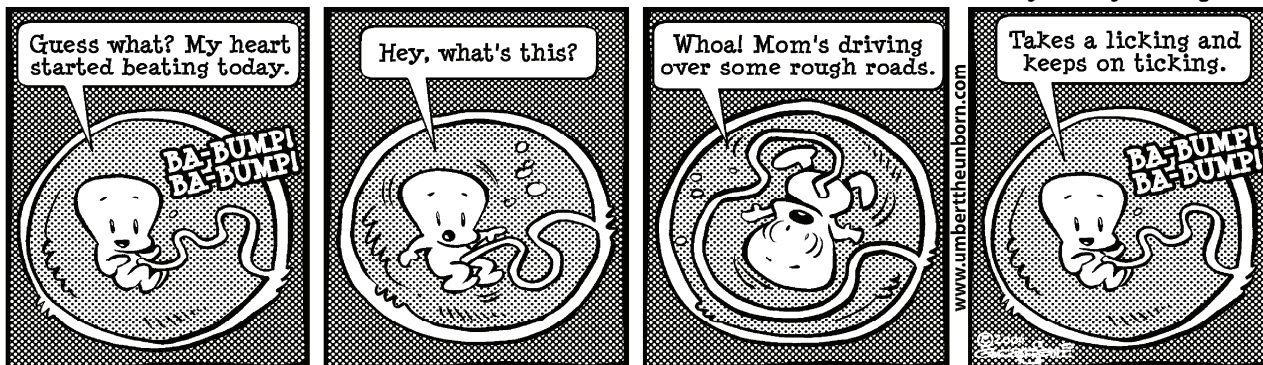
Third, there are those who admit that the law should protect the right to life and that all humans have that right, but deny that unborn children are humans (the third premise). This is a serious factual and scientific error.

Before Roe v. Wade legalized abortion, all science texts taught the biological understanding that the life of any individual of any species begins at conception, when sperm and ovum unite to create a new being with its own complete and unique genetic code, distinct from both father and mother. All growth and development from then on is a matter of degree, a gradual unfolding of what is already there. There is no specific or distinct point in our development when we become human. (What were we before that, birds?) Only when abortion became legal did the science textbooks change their language and cease teaching this understanding - not because of any new science but because of a new politics. (This article was excerpted from the Luke Hart series "Basics Elements of the Catholic Faith" (section 7) published by the Knights of Columbus. The series is available free of charge from New Haven.)

Abortion is not "a complex issue." Few moral issues could be clearer. As Mother Teresa has said, "If abortion is not wrong, nothing is wrong."

Umbert the Unborn

by Gary Cangemi



Send Comments to

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