

Until *Roe* is Overturned



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Seven men decided the fate of over 40 million pre-born babies. We can help change that.

This January marks 35 years since the Supreme Court's shameful decision of *Roe v. Wade*. We've come a long way since then. What was once treated like a law of the Medes and Persians, a decree that could not be altered, is now cracking under the weight of challenges as persistent as

Daniel's prayers.

Daniel's witness — praying, in spite of a law against it, to the true God Who saved Daniel from hungry lions — helped changed the mind of the king. Two of today's most powerful witnesses against abortion are changing the minds of citizens and lawmakers

alike. Technology and testimonies have splintered support for abortion, paving the way for more protection for women and unborn children.

Advances in technology, particularly 3D and 4D ultrasound, provide a window into the womb, a picture that this is indeed a human being, not — as many abortion clinics tell unsuspecting women — a “blob of tissue.” Whereas *Roe* claimed we do not know when life begins, ultrasounds show that it is clearly before birth.

This knowledge, that abortion kills a child, was discovered too late for millions of women. They are now speaking out, describing the pain and life-long regret of their abortions and the damage that this choice visited on them and their families. Their testimonies speak louder than the seven male justices’ opinions in *Roe* that treated abortion as something good and necessary for women.

Changes in the Court

It may take awhile before *Roe* completely crumbles under the weight of evidence against it. In the meantime, a new attitude in our culture toward abortion, new justices on the Court and subsequent rulings have opened windows of opportunity to protect life even while *Roe* barely stands.

In court, abortion has enjoyed a

special status commonly called the “abortion distortion.” The usual rules to determine a law’s constitutionality are thrown out the window when *Roe* is in play.

That is, until recently. In *Gonzales v. Carhart*, the 2007 decision upholding

“Three times in six months, a 22-year-old Connecticut man impregnated a 14-year-old girl. Not even after the third abortion did the clinic notify authorities.”

a federal partial birth abortion ban, the Supreme Court acknowledged it had in the past been “antagonistic” to laws regulating abortion.

With two new justices on the Supreme Court, it announced a new day when it comes to abortion jurisprudence. Abortion cases should be treated like any other. This paves the way for more common sense laws that are absolutely necessary to protect mothers and babies.

Possible New Laws

Pro-abortion politicians now claim that they want to reduce the number of abortions. One proven way to do this is by regulating abortion. Studies show



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that state laws limiting abortion result in fewer abortions.

Possible measures to protect life include:

- **Alternative to abortion programs:** Provide resources to programs and services that offer options to abortion, such as pregnancy resource centers.
- **Abortion reporting:** Require reporting of abortions performed to decipher the true needs of women. Currently, abortion advocates manipulate this information — for example, inflating the number of abortions — to impact policies.
- **Fetal pain:** Require abortionists to tell mothers that their unborn child at 20 weeks and beyond can feel pain.
- **Informed consent:** Provide information to women considering abortion on the development of their unborn child

and the physical and emotional risks associated with abortion.

- **Ultrasound:** Provide women considering abortion the option to see an ultrasound of their baby.
- **Partial-birth abortion ban:** The Supreme Court upheld the national ban against this gruesome procedure. States need to also pass bans to ensure it is enforced.
- **Right of conscience:** Protect pharmacists and other health care professionals from being forced to promote, provide, or recommend abortion or abortifacients.
- **Clinic regulations:** Require abortion clinics to follow specific health and safety standards.
- **Restrict government funding of abortion clinics:** Abortions or abortion

providers should not be subsidized with tax dollars.

- **Ban on sex selection abortions:** Restrict this abhorrent practice of discrimination against girls.

Defying Laws

We pass laws, but abortion clinics defy them. Officials must hold abortion providers accountable.

Every state has laws against statutory rape (adults having sex with minors). And states require authorities, such as school and health officials, to report suspected cases of rape. Yet for years abortion providers around the country have ignored these laws, allowing rapists to continue abusing girls. A few cases include:

Denise Fairbanks had been sexually abused by her father from age 13. When she became pregnant at 16, her father took her to Planned Parenthood, Southwest Ohio Region. She told clinic staff that she was being forced to have sex. They did not report this, and after the abortion, handed her back to her abuser.

A 12-year-old girl was impregnated by her foster brother. An Arizona Planned Parenthood clinic performed an abortion and did not report the crime. She was returned to the foster



Ultrasounds and women's testimonies have helped turn people against abortion.

home, where she was raped and became pregnant a second time.

An adult male raped a 12-year-old Pennsylvania girl while she was unconscious. The man's mother took her to an abortion clinic in another state, which did not report it, and dropped her off 30 miles from home as she suffered severe post-abortion complications. The police found the girl and returned her to her mother.

Three times in six months, a 22-year-old Connecticut man impregnated a 14-year-old girl. Not even after the third abortion did the clinic notify authorities.

Enforcing Laws

This insolence is reflected in the 107-count indictment filed against Planned Parenthood in Kansas. According to the criminal charges, Planned Parenthood purposely

committed illegal late-term abortions and falsified documents to conceal that fact. They also stand accused of failing to comply with the required medical reporting guidelines.

Planned Parenthood's response to the allegations, charges that a judge found credible, is to accuse the prosecutor, Phill Kline, of bias, smearing his character.

Mr. Kline also initiated investigations against notorious late-term abortionist George Tiller. The evidence he obtained resulted in 19 charges and indicates that this is just the tip of the iceberg. Tiller has enjoyed the protection of politicians (many who received large campaign contributions from Tiller), government regulators and medical oversight boards that historically bury complaints against abortion providers.

Getting officials to enforce abortion

regulations is as challenging as getting laws passed. But it is well worth the effort.

Overturing *Roe* will throw the issue to the states to determine how to handle abortion. Passing and enforcing laws now will not only save lives, but also provide a positive landscape for that day. ■

By: Wendy Wright, President, and Mario Diaz, Esq., Policy Director for Legal Issues

PRAY

For mothers to choose life, and government officials to pass and enforce pro-life laws.

PRAISE

For people who defend the weak and vulnerable.

ACT

Test your knowledge of *Roe* at www.RoeIQTest.com

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