



Pro-Life Bulletin Board

A project of American Life League, Inc.

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Total protection: A bedrock of pro-life principle

Have the lives of preborn children been reduced to political commodities? Has the pro-life movement forgotten its ultimate goal of total protection for all innocent human life? These questions must be examined at this crucial juncture in the pro-life struggle. We must examine where the pro-life movement started, where it is and where it must go to end abortion.

Some pro-lifers are told we have to be *politically realistic*; we have to be *less rigid*, and that if we are, at least some preborn children will be protected. But we have to ask: if we forsake the pro-life principle of personhood for even one baby, because of a Gallup poll result or a politician's whim, what will happen? The answer is obvious: we will have discriminated against some of the most vulnerable of these babies—those conceived because of rape, incest or those who perhaps are viewed as a threat to the mother, or those who might suffer from a disability. The fact is that such compromises haven't led us to victory.

Foundations of personhood

Every child is created in the image of God. Aren't we willing to protect them all? Jesus tells us in Matthew 18, "Beware that you don't look down upon a single one of these little children... Just so, it is not my Father's will that even one of these little ones should perish." Jesus did not instruct us to leave behind those who may be more difficult to protect.

Do our actions match our message? When the pro-life movement introduces legislation and supports candidates that permit certain children (usually handicapped children or those conceived in rape or incest) to be legally killed, should we expect the

public to believe us when we say that abortion murders a defenseless child? Society sees us as hypocritical when we accept exceptions to the right to life.

Political courage has evaporated

Where have pro-life elected officials gone? The answer is rooted in the pro-life movement itself. Our movement sets the standard of what it means to be pro-life; as our standards have lowered, the number of truly 100 percent pro-life elected officials and candidates has dropped drastically. On the other hand, the pro-abortionists are utterly unwilling to compromise.

When legislators who occasionally throw pro-lifers a bone receive the same campaign support from the movement as do solid, no-exceptions officials, what incentive is there for a politician to be truly pro-life?

Abortion not just a political issue

By being faithful to our God-given principles, the pro-life movement will be successful. By reclaiming what it means to be "pro-life" and standing firm in the truth that every human life, from fertilization to natural death, is created by God and cannot be given away no matter what the political reality, the hearts and minds of our fellow Americans will change.

After more than three decades of legal abortion, we need to send a strong message to America. The lives of preborn children are not a commodity that can be sold at a political price. As pro-lifers, we must defend them—without exception, without compromise.

Pregnant and in need of help?

Heartbeat International: 800-395-4357