

# Day 44—Understanding the Pro-Life Movement. Praying for unity.

By Terry Wood

Dear prayer warriors:

It is no secret that the Pro-Life movement is more than fractured in the Hoosier Heartland. There are actually two

different camps among Hoosier citizens who are Pro-Life. One group has spent 49 1/2 years awaiting for the overturn of Roe v. Wade to protect the preborn. The other group has desired nothing less than to see abortion abolished in our state, now, regardless of the Supreme Court's rulings.

From here on, it will be important to identify these two camps as *Indiana Right to Life* (a subsidiary of *National Right to Life*, NRTL), and the Abolitionists (a growing movement across America, *click here*).

Let's be transparent. I've spent the last eight years on the side of ending abortion now, in Indiana, with no exceptions. Most readers of this series are also in this camp.

It is a fact the Abolitionists approach the issue of the sanctity of life from a spiritual/moral ideology. This worldview acknowledges the Word of God as supreme truth and absolute authority and they seek to honor it above all else. Upholding the commandment "Thou shall not kill" is paramount to their application of the Bible. This paradigm also operates within the realm of honoring the inalienable rights bestowed upon mankind by Almighty God and not from any government. They recognize the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in the preservation of all life from conception.

On the other hand, *National Right to Life* (NRTL) has stated they refuse to acknowledge abortion as "murder" and thus it operates from a different ideological viewpoint. They approach the issue of preserving the sanctity of life as a philosophical/political issue. This is not a spiritual battle, for them. NRTL does not see itself as a Christian organization, although most people involved in this movement are Christians. (If this seems debatable, please take the time to watch this documentary, *Babies Are Still Murdered Here*.)

Where this gets blurred is that many communities have *Right to Life* chapters that are serving and ministering to pregnant women in an effort to help babies live. Within the state, then, is also a political component of *Indiana Right to Life* that is an active lobbying group. It is this lobbying group which is setting the course, often behind the scenes, for legislative developments.

For 49 1/2 years, NRTL has stood behind the false pretense **that Roe v. Wade was the "Law of the land."** That's wrong, it was a Supreme "Opinion." Feel free to fact-check this point on the SCOTUS website (*click here*). **Only Congress makes laws**. NRTL has also accepted Roe v. Wade as constitutional, ignoring the 10th Amendment that clearly states powers not given to the federal government are retained by the states.

With the June 24, 2022, Dobbs decision by the Supreme Court, we now know the 1973 ruling was unconstitutional. Roe v. Wade has been referred to as the "Lie in our Land." The ratification of Roe v. Wade was built on a faulty scientific understanding of when human life begins and predicated on the idea that what is conceived in the womb is not human life. This was further supported by false research, deception, and outright lies put forth from Alfred Kinsey's research from the late 1950s through the 1960s. Consider if you will what abortion portrays...you cannot abort something that has not begun. In this case human life. There simply is no debate on this today. It has now been proven that testimony from that trial in 1973 was false and yet the lies and fabrication of testimony played vital roles in the ruling in the actual case. Once again, please note this case ruling was classified as a SCOTUS OPINION and never ratified as LAW.

The original Hoosiers for Life "Protection at Conception" video presents this history, Click Here.

When attempting to understand this chasm among professing believers, we must consider these ideological approaches are vastly different and thus their outcomes are vastly different. Scripture

states, "If a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand," Mark 3:25. Thus, the dilemma of two diametrically opposed ideologies bring into focus the wide chasm among the Pro-Life movement.

This explanation gets more complicated as we have Christ followers who uphold God's Word as the final authority, are in closer alignment with Abolitionists in their beliefs, but are fully engaged with a national organization (NRTL) that does not share their views. Then we have Indiana politicians who may sell themselves as "Pro-Life" but view that label as a political marketing advantage, rather than a core value.

If you haven't watched this, it may be helpful to watch the first 13 minutes of this exchange between two Indiana House Representatives. This illustrates these two conflicting ideologies. **One Rep says abortion is murder, the other, the House sponsor of the Special Session abortion bill, says abortions is not murder. This is a fundamental difference which cannot be bridged with a compromise.** 

# CLICK HERE TO SEE TWO REPS DISCUSS SB 1.

For decades, NRTL has said they cannot make much headway with banning abortion as long as Roe v. Wade remains in place. Well, on June 24, 2022, that scenario changed. When the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade, they affirmed individual states always had the constitutional authority to determine laws of life within their state. Thirteen states anticipated this ruling change and proactively passed what was called "trigger laws," effective if Roe v. Wade was overturned. Indiana was not among those states. That created this situation where Hoosiers, along with all of America, awaited to see how Indiana would handle the overturning, being the first state after June 24th to deal with this legislatively. Some political observers think the Indiana GOP Supermajority was not prepared for this historic moment. Even the *Indiana Chamber of Commerce*, generally supportive of the GOP Supermajority, took a position against SB 1 and concluded that it was rushed and not adequately developed.

Before we move on, let's revisit the earlier point about the 10th Amendment. It reads: "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people." What part of this is difficult to understand? A strong Indiana State Government, grounded in the U.S. Constitution, should have rejected the implications of Roe v. Wade in 1973. Why didn't the NRTL lead us down that path, since they are focused on public policy?

In common everyday language, this means the issue of abortion could have been taken up by individual states to determine how they wanted to legislate the issue of abortion rather than treating a SCOTUS OPINION as LAW in America. However, NRTL's strategy has been to chip away at Roe v. Wade in the courts and regulate abortive practices, waiting for the proper time to challenge the original 1973 ruling.

Leading up to our Special Session, the abortion topic quickly took precedence and a bill was first offered up in the Senate (SB1). Only Governor Holcomb can call a Special Legislative Session and he announced it would begin on July 6, 2022. Please note, a Special Session is limited to 40 days from its inception to completion and our legislators were dealing with two issues, abortion being one. However, the convening of legislators did not happen until July 25, 2022. Thus, nearly 20 days elapsed between the calling of a Special Session and the gathering of our law makers to offer the public legislation to address abortion. Are we confident that these 20 days were filled with special closed door meetings and gatherings of legislators to put together a solid bill that would determine just how Pro-Life many legislators truly are? Many of our elected representatives have campaigned vigorously in our recent primary elections on the Pro-Life platform, including endorsements and financing from their respective camps.

Is Pro-Life truly the protection of ALL LIVES or just a SELECT FEW?

For some, PRO-LIFE includes the protection of ALL LIVES, whereas, for others, circumstances determine the RIGHT TO LIVE. At the center of this decision is when life begins!

To add insult to injury...it is more than disappointing to witness our elected officials allow the less than 4.5% of overall abortions to remain the focus within their newly drafted legislation. For instance, SB 1 exceptions on abortion included incest (0.01%); rape (0.15%); life of the mother endangered (0.20%); fetal fatal anomalies (0.98%); the woman's physical health threatened by the pregnancy (1.48%); the woman's psychological health threatened by the pregnancy (1.88%). Since when should 4.5% become the

## control group from which legislation is formulated?

It would be worth noting here, that in 2011 the Indiana General Assembly (Senate and House of Representatives) codified into law the recognition of when human life begins. IC 16 34 2 1.1 states, "That human physical life begins when a human ovum is fertilized by a human sperm." This law has been on the books for nearly 11 years and yet the protection of life from conception has been violated and approximately 95,000 baby Hoosiers have been murdered as a result. What makes this story worse, is that the same legislators who confirmed life begins at conception, are the ones who twisted other laws so this life could be legally killed. Then, later, our legislators required mothers who wanted to kill their babies to sign a paper acknowledging that this baby was a human life. As long as a mother would recognize this was life, the abortionist was good to go. There is something spiritually sick about all of this. But, if your camp only sees abortion as a public policy issue, then what's one more regulation?

That is where we as voters have remained uninformed and apathetic toward holding our Senators and Representatives accountable for not doing the job they were hired to do. I stand in total agreement and concur with President James A Garfield's remarks, who stated, "Now, more than ever before, the people are responsible for the character of their Congress (as well as their state legislators). If that body be ignorant, reckless, and corrupt, it is because the people tolerate ignorance, recklessness, and corruption. If it be intelligent, brave, and pure, it is because the people demand these high qualities to represent them in the national legislature (state legislature). If the next centennial does not find us a great nation with a great and worthy Congress, it will be because those who represent the enterprise, the culture, and the morality of the nation (state) do not aid in controlling the political forces." (James Garfield *The Founders Bible* page 991; personal parentheses added by author.)

Let us consider in closing the ripple effect of lazy legislation and the caustic chaos created in our halls of government and behind closed doors, where the general public have little to any clue of how our elected officials behave and carry on the day-to-day work of establishing legislation. As it pertains to lazy legislation, why is it that we find our elected officials repeatedly standing in violation to our State Constitution when authoring/advocating law? When it comes to the submission of bills within legislative chambers, the Indiana State Constitution states in Article 4 Section 19 the following:

"An act, except an act for the codification, revision, or rearrangement of laws, shall be confined to one subject and matters properly connected therewith." (*History*: *As Amended November 8, 1960; November 5, 1974.*)

And Section 20..."Every act and joint resolution shall be plainly worse, avoiding, as far as practicable, the use of technical terms."

How about an exercise in critical thinking about now? How many times did Hoosiers hear statewide the multiplicity of topics discussed in seeking to communicate SB1? It was clear and actually testified by the bill author Senator Sue Glick that the original vagueness and wording of the bill would be improved upon the further the bill went into the process. She, herself, stated her own bill was weak and needed much help in her opening remarks on July 25, 2022. When Ms. Glick was questioned about the vagueness and general scope of language, why didn't a single Senator in the room address her violation of the State Constitution? Let me give you a hint, our legislators don't know the content, much less the application of such a powerful document. I would say with confidence, there are many people in the general populous better versed in both State and Federal Constitutions than our elected legislators! We the people must demand at a minimum they understand both constitutions, before holding office. Once again, we the people must take responsibility in their negligence to represent us in the halls of government. After all, we voted and sent them there. They work for us! They are our employees.

Now on to the caustic chaos that is created as much behind the scenes as it is on rally days when controversial bills are introduced. Make no mistake, those who stand in support of Pro-Choice want to limit the equal protection offered to every living human being and supported in our *Declaration of Independence*. It is interesting how many of these who desire to terminate life have already been born. What about the voiceless who cannot speak out on their own behalf?

"We hold these **Truths** to be self-evident, that all **Men** are created equal, that they are endowed by their **Creator** with certain inalienable **Rights**, that among them are **Life**, **Liberty**, **and the pursuit of Happiness**. That to secure these **Rights**, **Governments** are instituted among **Men**, deriving their just **Powers** from the **Consent** of the **Governed**, that whenever any **Form** of **Government** becomes destructive of these **Ends**, it is the **Right** of the **People** to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new **Government**, laying its **Foundation** on such **Principles**, and organizing its **Powers** in such **Form**, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their **Safety** and **Happiness**."

This statement clearly places civic duty and personal responsibility upon we, the voting citizens, to mandate,

#### **NOTICE**

termination of employment...

### **WE THE PEOPLE**

are hereby serving you

#### **NOTICE**

that due to your

failure to keep your oath

to the Constitution

of the State of Indiana...

YOU'RE FIRED!!!

enforce, and demand our elected officials fulfill their oath of office they took upon being elected to their positions. If they choose to neglect this oath and fail to represent their constituents, they should be sent packing by way of a pink slip. Here is where we the people should hold each elected official accountable.

These very elected officials are responsible for maintaining decorum and order in our halls of legislature. They must know moving forward how serious their employers are about performance reviews. We will hold them accountable for fulfilling their job description. It is the role of government to protect our inalienable rights as outlined in both Federal and State Constitutions and our Declaration of Independence.

Fellow Prayer warriors, make no mistake about it, the blood of over 65 million babies cries out before God in the earth and we must continue to stand in the gap as their

representation. Thank you for taking time to become educated by following *Conquest to Conquer* these past 44 days. May these lessons only fortify our voice, our engagement, and our participation in taking back a government that has been slowly ripped away from us to establish tyranny upon us as citizens. Your voice and your vote are powerful weapons!

## Let's pray:

Father it has been an eventful last month in our state and we plead for your forgiveness for apathy and lack of engagement with our elected officials. We have abdicated our duty as citizens to hold them accountable for their representation and their fulfillment of their job description...to write laws clearly defined and easily enforced. We pray for continued clarity and participation on behalf of Hoosiers in the upcoming 2023 General Assembly. We must be engaged in saving the babies! Give us boldness and courage to represent you well in our public squares and among those who desire to harm our efforts. In Jesus' Name!

#### **Battle Ready Warriors Unite!**

## **Terry Wood**

Founder of Indiana P@triot\$ Alliance, #OperationPinkSlip

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- Yesterday, Hudson Schrank, went back home from the hospital! We wrote about him on <u>Day 8</u>, and we've been praying. Your prayers continue to be needed. God continues to protect this little guy and the road continues to be challenging. Brad Skiles has created a <u>Facebook Fundraiser</u> that can be found by <u>clicking here</u>. Thank you for considering a gift! We will close this fundraising after this series, on August 14th.
- Archive folder of these daily devotionals: <u>click here</u>. List of 14 Indiana Prayer Requests: <u>click here</u>.

## Wednesday Special Session Update

- ◆ Yesterday was a full day of testimony in the House Committee assigned to Senate Bill 1. If you didn't hear it, this eleven-year-old boy made a big impression, *click here*. There is a purpose and value in these testimonies, but for the Committee members, the testimonies had little impact. After the testimonies, SB 1 passed through the House Committee by a vote of 8-5, but not before an amendment transferred the baby killing from the abortion industry to a hospital setting—another step of regulating abortion rather than ending abortion! The House does not meet today (Wednesday). PHONE CALLS AND EMAILS ARE ESSENTIAL. The bill moves to the floor on Thursday and this is when amendments will have an opportunity to save babies. As it stands, SB 1 does nothing to save babies. It is a disgrace to the GOP Supermajority which has raised money with the image of being "pro-life." None of this has caught God by surprise. As you pray for Jesus to encounter Representatives before Thursday, consider how God intervened in these situations: Genesis 41, Judges 7:12-15, Daniel 4, Matthew 27:19, Acts 9:10, Acts 10:1-16, Acts 16:9-10, and Acts 18:9-11. Let's pray legislators encounter God in ways that move them to change SB 1 to end abortion with no exceptions. Only God can accomplish that. Fortunately, it is as easy for Him as breathing.
- **♦ FIND YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS IN INDIANA, click here.**
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- For a list of 14 Indiana Prayer Requests, <u>click here</u>.