



PRO-LIFE
Nation



**A STRATEGY TO END ABORTION
JOIN THE REVOLUTION!**

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Pro-Life Nation: A Strategy to End Abortion

By Troy Newman, President, Pro-Life Nation and
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Introduction

Thirty-nine years after the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision unleashed the floodgate to decriminalized abortion at the cost of over 50 million innocent lives, we believe that we are very close to stopping abortion in America. A unified strategy within the pro-life movement could soon bring the final end to this unparalleled national scourge.

Over the course of the last 39 years, the pro-life movement has accumulated a number of victories that have made significant strides in several areas, including providing support for women in crisis pregnancies and turning public opinion toward life.

However, most efforts have been reactionary in nature. An abortion clinic opens, so pro-lifers open a crisis pregnancy center. Someone's minor daughter tragically gets hurt during an abortion without her parent's knowledge, so pro-lifers pass parental notification laws. An abortionist invents the partial-birth abortion method, so the pro-life movement works to outlaw it. All of those things are good and have served to advance debate and save lives, but what we have never seen is a unified, offensive goal-oriented strategy to bring the era of decriminalized abortion to a permanent end in our nation.

It is often difficult to get pro-life organizations to work together. Many simply do not share the same vision. The crisis pregnancy center director is concerned with how she can get help to abortion-vulnerable women on a shoestring budget. The political activists are concerned about how they can get pro-life men and women elected that will act on their pro-life promises. The activists on the street battle for the lives of each baby that is scheduled to die at the local abortion clinic, often wondering why

they do not have more help and support. Other kinds of groups have other concerns.

While such diversity in the movement can present challenges, it can be a great strength. The Bible uses the illustration of the body having many different members, all working together to make a person function as a whole. Different ministries with different functions are necessary if a unified strategy to end abortion is to succeed.

Unfortunately, unified, goal-oriented efforts are not what we have seen in the pro-life movement over the past three decades. More often, each group is off on its own agenda without thought of long-term goals or how their projects will affect the work of others. Tragically, we have even seen pro-life groups in active opposition to each other's projects and ideas. This division has thwarted the implementation of many outstanding ideas that could have saved thousands of lives and has worked to delay the day of decisive victory.

New Trend Toward Unity

Today, however, we are seeing a new trend among members of various pro-life groups to form coalitions and work together to the extent possible to defeat a bill or a political nomination, or support a grassroots movement.

The success of the Stop Abortion Mandate and Defund Planned Parenthood campaigns are cases in point. Numerous groups came together in unprecedented unity to oppose tax-funded abortion in the federal health care reform proposal. The Manhattan Declaration and other compacts show a desire for unity and cooperation. Campaigns such as 40 Days for Life are tapping into an increasingly energized base of grassroots support that cross organizational lines.

Now is the time to try something the pro-life movement has never tried before. It is time to put aside minor differences and our

sometimes over-inflated egos, and work together with a unified strategy – not just to oppose abortion – but to permanently stop it.

It is time for us to act like a Pro-Life Nation.

The Time is Right

There are several factors that make the current conditions in our nation the ideal timing for a unified pro-life strategy to abolish abortion.

Public Opinion

Polls show that Americans are becoming increasingly pro-life, especially among the younger generations. For the first time in decades respected public opinion polls show that the majority of Americans identify themselves as “pro-life.” Not only is pro-life sentiment rising, but sympathy for the “pro-choice” position is falling dramatically. A recent Gallup poll shows that we are nine percentage points ahead of those who advocate for abortion on demand.

One need only look at the raucous debate on health care to see the shift in public opinion. Polls show that 71% of Americans -- an overwhelming majority -- are opposed to taxpayer funded abortions.

It is clear that public opinion has now shifted in favor of the pro-life movement. We are a Pro-Life Nation.

Imploding Abortion Cartel

Along with changing attitudes toward abortion, we are also seeing a decline in the number of abortions nationwide, a decrease in the number of abortion clinics, and a lack of replacement abortionists for those who quit or retire.

In 1991, there were 2,176 abortion clinics. Today there are just

663. The pro-life movement should take encouragement in the fact that since 1991, 70% of all abortion clinics have permanently closed.

The implosion of the abortion cartel is documented at AbortionDocs.org, a web site that is the inaugural project of Pro-Life Nation, which maintains a running total of every abortion clinic and abortionist in the country.

In developing AbortionDocs.org, Pro-Life Nation has researched the data and determined that abortion is a failing industry whose days are numbered due to changing attitudes toward abortion and decreased demand because of those changes. In addition, Pro-Life Nation and other pro-life groups are increasingly working to expose abortion clinic wrong-doing, which has led to the closure of dozens of abortion clinics, the arrest of several abortionists, license revocations, and in some cases, jail sentences.

We have found that closing abortion clinics saves lives and helps create an environment where women are less likely to seek out abortion services.

This trend is documentable through available statistical data. In fact, statistics show that the abortion rates have continued to decrease each year from a national high of 25 per 1,000 in 1980 to a national rate of 15 per 1,000 in 2005, the latest year for which there is available data. As public opinion shifts toward the pro-life position and as access to abortion services decreases, women are increasingly rejecting abortion in favor of life for their babies.

This decrease in demand for abortion has placed the abortion industry in a financial crisis where collapse is inevitable. Public funding of abortion groups has artificially allowed some organizations, such as Planned Parenthood, to expand.

With the new public zeal to stop the tax-funding of abortions, the abortion industry has never been more discouraged or vulnerable.

But what about the U.S. Supreme Court?

Today, we have a Court that has indicated that it is willing to reverse itself on abortion for the first time since *Roe v. Wade*, a decision which is far from fire-proof. The 2007 decision to uphold the ban on partial birth abortions signaled to the world that, under the right conditions, the Court may be willing to take a fresh look at *Roe*. This was noted even by the editorial boards of such bastions of liberalism as the Los Angeles Times.

Justice Harry Blackmun, who wrote in the majority opinion for *Roe v. Wade* in 1973 stated, "The appellee and certain amici [pro-lifers] argue that the fetus is a 'person' within the language and meaning of the Fourteenth Amendment. In support of this, they outline at length and in detail the well-known facts of fetal development. If this suggestion of personhood is established, the appellant's case, of course, collapses, for the fetus' right to life would then be guaranteed specifically by the Amendment."

During Blackmun's time, the "well-known facts of fetal development" were a far cry from what is known today. Ultrasonography and DNA testing were yet to be invented. In 1973, most held that "life" began at "quickening," or when a woman first feels movement of the baby in the womb at 18 to 24 weeks. Some even held to the "Recapitulation Theory," the scientifically debunked notion that the human baby underwent his entire evolutionary cycle in the womb, being first a simple one-celled creature, then later a fish, then later a mammal, then finally a human, which of course now seems absurd.

The science of fetology in 1973 was not able to prove, as it can now, that a fully human and unique individual exists at the moment of fertilization and continues to grow through various stages of development in a continuum (barring tragedy) until natural death from old age.

While we are still one vote away from a slam-dunk on the Supreme Court, if the right case was to be presented, a moderate

vote may be persuaded to fall our way. With even the current composition of the Supreme Court, for the first time in over three decades, there is realistic hope that the new information about the humanity of the pre-born can be legally reconsidered, and the matter of personhood revisited.

Obama's Plummeting Popularity and its Political Backlash

With Obama's popularity plummeting to new lows, and with the activation of the grass roots through the Tea Party Movement, we have every hope that Barrack Obama will be a one-term president. The 2010 mid-term elections eclipsed the success of the Republican Revolution of 1994 and in 2012, the country is poised to elect a pro-life President and Congress that will actually take meaningful action to abolish abortion. In any case, it will be up to the pro-life movement to hold their feet to the fire.

Activation of the Grass Roots

As mentioned, the Tea Party Movement has activated the conservative grassroots like never before. That activation has benefitted the pro-life cause since opposition to abortion and public funding of abortion is a concern to at least some of these people. Along with that are various efforts inside the pro-life movement that have shown the grassroots are ready and motivated to act. The people simply need direction to amplify their voices and exercise their newly found muscle. We as a movement must provide that direction through a unified strategy, or risk losing the momentum and the opportunity to tap into one of the largest groundswells of pro-life fervor in decades.

States Willing to Do Their Part

Also for the first time we are seeing that an increasing number of states are willing to introduce near-total bans on abortion while they pass legislation that is closing abortion clinics now. State legislators around the nation are now very open to sponsoring anti-abortion bills. Too often, the legislative process has been

reactionary and aimed at reducing abortions instead of ending abortion. A comprehensive legislative plan must be developed for the state level that will work toward the goal of ending abortion.

All these are very encouraging signs that abortion on demand may soon be a tragedy of the past. They are also evidence that the pro-life movement has done many things right over the years, accumulating victories that have begun to change the culture and the laws to reflect those changes. However, the fact that abortion remains legal in our nation is an indication that the movement has not done enough.

Accumulated Victory Through Principled, Goal-Oriented Action

It is said that the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over, yet expecting a different result. Clearly, while we have had some success as a movement, we cannot hope to abolish abortion by doing the same things in the same ways that we have done them for over three decades.

All or nothing?

There is frustration within the movement that after 39 years of child-killing we are not closer to our goal of stopping the abortion holocaust. That frustration is well-founded.

Certainly each and every human individual conceived is valuable and deserving of life and protection. The loss of even one is a grievous human tragedy. We want to save them all. Ultimately, we agree that we must take direct action to restore the right to life to the pre-born and stop abortion once and for all. We are disappointed that after so many years of hard work, we still have not achieved this goal.

As a reaction to the frustration, many have become angry and bitter. They see efforts to legislate or litigate an end to abortion as a waste of time. They oppose any legislation that does not save

every baby immediately.

They want a perfect solution, and they want it now.

For example, some pro-life groups opposed the historic effort in South Dakota to ban abortion in that state because the law included an exemption for the health and life of the mother. Under the proposed ban, 97% of all abortions would have been outlawed.

Not good enough, said those who opposed the ban. They were perfectly willing to continue to allow every baby to die, rather than save the 97% of the babies, then go back on another legislative term and try to save the remaining 3 percent.

This was an example where standing blindly on “principle” worked against the lives of the innocent.

The reality of the situation is that abortion is a business that is subject to the economic laws of supply and demand. No business can suffer the loss of 97% of its business and remain solvent. If that ban had passed, even with the exceptions, it would have effectively closed the only remaining abortion clinic in that state and stopped every abortion.

Unfortunately, there remain a few within the pro-life movement that are willing to sacrifice the lives of innocent children that we have it within our ability to save, in order to maintain their illusion of ideological purity and personal piety.

No “Silver Bullet”

There is no “silver bullet” that will stop abortion immediately. If there was, abortion would already be ended. Stopping abortion is not an “all or nothing” gambit. In fact, the “all or nothing” scheme can never achieve victory because no plan can ever be good enough, or pure enough, or fast enough.

That is because a plan requires steps. One cannot take a cake mix

out of the cupboard, set it on the counter, and expect it to be a cake. A nation does not go to war and expect to win a decisive victory in the first battle. Lasting social change does not happen overnight. Every plan, even the most dogmatic, must include steps toward achieving the goal.

The problem that the movement has faced is that it has not recognized a common goal, much less a cohesive plan to achieve it.

Let us be clear. Our goal must be to stop abortion, not simply reduce it or limit it or restrict it. While we work to abolish it, a decrease in abortions will be a natural result, but we cannot settle for reduction alone.

Tactical Victories Make The Decisive Victory Possible

We must face the reality that conditions may never be as perfect as we would like and that every plan will have its weaknesses. Instead of wasting more decades awaiting all the planets to align, we must come up with a strategy that can be implemented now under the conditions that exist today.

The pro-life movement needs to take a realistic look at the current situation and devise a unified plan or strategy to achieve victory. That will require coordinated action on a number of fronts.

Military strategists teach us that tactical victories are those that may not actually win the war, but create the conditions wherein the war can be won. The decisive victory is the one that ends the war in favor of one side or the other.

The pro-life movement has achieved a number of tactical victories, but most of them have been in an unfocused manner. One step must provide the foundation for the next step, otherwise we will continue to chase in circles, never reaching our goal.

For example, many states have recently passed legislation that would require that a pregnant woman have access to the

ultrasound images of her pre-born baby before obtaining an abortion. Some would lead us to believe that such legislation is evil because it still allows the abortions to take place, thus, according to their argument, putting a stamp of approval on abortion and diminishing the lives of pre-born children. For them, if the legislation does not save every child, it should be opposed. However, this thinking is fatally flawed.

Abortions are already approved and allowed, with or without the legislation. Such laws do not make more abortions allowable. In fact, they have the opposite effect.

Ultrasound laws save thousands of lives because we know that when women see images of their babies, they are less likely to go through with an abortion. It also stimulates debate on abortion and the humanity of the child in the womb, and flushes out our political enemies that might otherwise fly below the radar. These are all positive aspects to such legislation and alone justify their passage.

Opposition to such laws actually lends support for unrestricted abortion and assures that as many babies as possible continue to die. While masquerading as the “principled” approach, it is hard to imagine a more unethical and inhumane way to approach abortion laws.

But even at that, if an ultrasound bill is all there is to the legislative plan, it is woefully inadequate, since it does not necessarily move us any closer to abolition. The passage of such laws should be viewed in terms of a tactical victory that will lay the foundation to the next step in the plan. When taken in turn, the accumulated victories create conditions where decisive victory is not only possible, but is inevitable.

The Plan – Activate the Pro-Life Nation

The strategy we propose is simple and has proven to work on a small scale. The plan should first focus on areas where victories

can be easily achieved, in order to build momentum, encourage the grass roots, and demoralize the enemy. There are four main elements to this basic strategy. (Pro-Life Nation has developed a specific plan to initiate this strategy. Please contact us for more information about that plan.)

1. Research & Expose

The abortion cartel is rife with problems that risk the lives of women and take the innocent lives of pre-born babies. Some documentable abuses include botched abortions, illegal abortions, unsanitary conditions, unlicensed abortionists and abortion workers, falsifying medical records, drug violations, sex abuse (including rape), non-reporting of child sex abuse, illegal disposal of human remains, illegal disposal of private medical records, billing fraud, dishonesty, and the list goes on.

Abortionists are their own worst enemies, and exploiting that weakness can work to our advantage.

The foundation for our strategy involves first doing our homework. We must research, document, and expose wrong-doing in the abortion industry. There are plenty of horror stories out there now, and others are surfacing almost daily. We must use our carefully documented information exposing abortion abuse as the basis for legislative plans, media/public relations campaigns, and judicial action.

2. Use Information to Advance the Plan on Key Fronts

Activism drives legislation, and that was never more apparent than in Texas, where an undercover investigation by Operation Rescue of widespread abortion abuses in that state helped create a sense of urgency that aided in the passage of a law that now mandates abortionists give pregnant women ultrasounds prior to their abortions. Such legislation is proven to save lives.

Once activists have armed themselves with the evidence of abortion abuses, they need to work with pro-life lobbyists and

legislators to provide them with the documentation they need to enact new laws that will put abortion clinics out of business until such time as total abortion bans can be enacted.

As we work our comprehensive legislative plan to ban abortion, the natural result will be a decrease in abortions. Legislators must be encouraged to sponsor abortion ban legislation as soon as feasibly possible. Now is the time to get a ban on abortion passed by a state that can get in the legal pipeline for eventual consideration by the U.S. Supreme Court, which has recently shown a new willingness to overturn itself on abortion cases.

Activists are the ones that can supply legislative committees, medical oversight boards, district attorneys, litigation attorneys, the news media, and the general public with the evidence that abortion clinics are dangerous places that should all be closed in the interest of public safety, and that abortion is a destructive act that adversely affects families at a high cost to the state.

We all know that abortion clinics violate laws, injure women, and create a threat to public safety, but if we do not get documentation about what we know to be true about abortionists and abortion clinics to the appropriate people who can effect change, influence public opinion, or administer discipline and justice, then we will never rid our communities or our nation of abortion.

3. Demand Enforcement

The pro-life movement has been better at enacting laws than it has been at making sure the laws are enforced. For decades, abortionists have acted outside the law and as if they are above it. There was little if any oversight and few if any consequences for even the most egregious behavior.

The AbortionDocs.org website is filled with cases involving one abortionist after another who committed the most heinous acts, only to be allowed back into the abortion clinic by medical boards

that ignored complaints or simply slapped their wrists and sent them happily on their way. Even if an abortionist killed someone, only rarely would he end up behind bars.

Our laws are only as good as our ability to have them enforced.

However, a new day has dawned. More and more we are seeing state attorneys general and medical oversight boards take abortion abuses more seriously. Arrests and convictions are increasing and the publicity these cases generate help us to show the world the horrific truth about the abysmal conditions and gross negligence that characterize the American abortion cartel.

We must continue to press for enforcement at every turn, not only to hold these abusers accountable for their actions and to protect the public, but also to use to our tactical advantage in the public relations war on abortion. Abortion is dangerous and ugly, the industry is corrupt, and yet most people believe that because abortion is legal, it is safe.

Every time an abuse is exposed, a license is revoked, or an abortion law is enforced, it gives us the opportunity to use the abortionist's own unsavory actions against the abortion cartel and turn public opinion in a similar way that public opinion was turned against slavery, racial prejudice, and other social ills.

4. Creating a Pro-Life Nation: Connectivity and Sense of Community

The pro-life movement, as with everything, must keep pace with the changing times in order to deliver the death-blow to the abortion cartel. That means changing the fundamental way we approach the fight against abortion.

Websites can be viewed 24 hours a day by anyone around the world with an Internet connection. The Internet is an excellent place to post our carefully collected documentation. Once it is on the Internet, it is accessible to nearly everyone, and it becomes harder for the abortionists to maintain the secrecy under which

they flourish. We must wisely use this resource to inform and influence society.

Today, through the use of the Internet, the smart phone, and other cutting edge modes of communication, we have the ability to network like never before. Social networking sites keep people connected and create a sense of community. This presents an opportunity for the pro-life movement to inform and activate the base almost instantaneously. Through the use of the Internet, we can organize and employ a unified strategy to end abortion by creating a sense of community among pro-lifers, and turning them from observers to activists.

This is what we call the Pro-Life Nation. It is out there tweeting away, posting to Facebook, and blogging its heart out. Now is the time to harness that energy and direct it into a unified effort to abolish the scourge of abortion.

A Word About Unity

We have talked a lot about unity and the need for organizations to work together toward the common goal of ending abortion, yet we fully understand that not every group or individual is suited to this kind of cooperation.

Amos 3:3 asks, “Can two walk together except they be agreed?” The answer to that question, of course, is no.

We must be willing to work with like-minded groups who want to push forward with a strategy to stop abortion. However, many groups and individuals have proven themselves to be obstructions to the process, or believe that their way is the only one that is right and righteous. We cannot compromise our goals of stopping abortion to cater to the obstructionists or naysayers, and we cannot allow successful tactics to be sidelined in order to kowtow to those who think that theirs is the only way.

We believe in the Biblical principle that various members of the Body of Christ all serve different functions. We view pro-life

ministries that do not share our views and goals as being simply different members of the Body – not the enemy. We must cease from publicly and personally attacking those with whom we may disagree, or those who do not agree with us. As we extend grace to each other, we may actually find that the work of those with whom we may tactically disagree actually has merit.

But we are weary of those who can only bite and devour the brother next to them in the fox-hole with such vigor that they have little energy left to actually be productive in the real battle. Unfortunately, we have been forced to face the fact that those who relish in undermining the work of others may always be with us, but we can minimize their damage by not sinking to their level. We simply will not waste another moment allowing such attacks to divert our attention from the true enemy of abortion. If those who insist on sowing discord and division are, in the end, ignored and isolated, it may encourage them to amend their ways.

Therefore, we propose a “coalition of the willing” of sorts. We seek cooperation and community with those who share our vision to work a unified plan to end abortion now, at this momentous time in history. We seek to build a Pro-Life Nation.

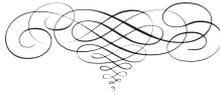
Conclusion

As a movement, we cannot continue to do the same things we have done for the past three decades and expect a different result. At this crucial and rare juncture in history, we need take stock of our movement with a critical eye and be willing to jettison the things that are not working while pressing forward with the things that are. We must be willing to change with the times and take better advantage of opportunities to advance the cause of life.

We, as a movement, need to be courageous and wise enough to try new tactics and work “outside the box” yet inside the system. We need to work a plan that will build on each victory to create the conditions where abortion becomes unthinkable, unavailable, and illegal with the protections of the law extended to the pre-

born. With a unified, coordinated, goal-oriented strategy, such as the one presented here, we will finally stop abortion in America.

For those of us who subscribe to this approach, we are the Pro-Life Nation. Join us now. This is your cause, your nation, your fight.





We are making a America Pro-Life Nation.
Join the revolution!

Visit us at www.ProLifeNation.org
and check out more of our work at
www.AbortionDocs.org.