

Merry Christmas!

Could *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* be the Christmas Gift we've been waiting for 50 Years?

The Christmas season basically ends the year of 2021 and New Year's Day catapults us into the year 2022. Will the Supreme Court give the pro-life movement the best new year's gift it could ever wish for: the end of *Roe v. Wade*?

Fifty years is a long time to wait for a gift. But maybe by next spring we will have the gift in our hands—the reversal of *Roe v. Wade* and for us in Michigan, the return of our 1846 law that bans abortion throughout all nine months of pregnancy!

The back story: Between 1967 and 1972 18 states changed their century-old anti-abortion laws during a late 1960s push to reform existing laws that formerly protected babies and punished abortionists. Only four states actually repealed their old laws: Alaska, Hawaii, Washington, and New York. New York was the grand prize and in the law's first year (1970-71) over 250,000 women came to the Empire State from all over the nation to terminate their pregnancies. Women could get abortion in the first 24 weeks of pregnancy for any reason, basically abortion-on-demand in the first six months of pregnancy. The other 14 states merely reformed their laws, permitting abortion in the first three months for rape or incest or for fetal deformity—bad but nowhere near the holocaust against the unborn in New York. In 1973 the Supreme Court ruled in *Roe v. Wade* that all 50 state laws (even New York's) were unconstitutional. A woman could get an abortion for no reason before fetal viability, roughly at 28 weeks gestation. In 1992, in *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, the Court reaffirmed *Roe*'s core tenant on viability but allowed states to enact restrictive laws as long as they did not impose an "undue burden" on her ability to procure an abortion.

Now 29 years after the *Casey* decision, the Supreme Court will hear oral arguments on the *Dobbs* case emanating from Mississippi. Passed in 2018, the state law bans abortion after the 15th week of pregnancy. This law is in direct conflict with both *Roe* and *Casey*. The issue is fetal viability.

Will the justices use *Dobbs* to overturn *Roe*? That is the Million \$ question. We just do not know. Justices Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito have already spoken out against *Roe* so it is very likely that they will uphold *Dobbs* and vote to strike down *Roe v. Wade*. Chief Justice John Roberts will probably prefer a middle course, upholding *Dobbs*, thus striking down *Roe* and *Casey*'s viability standard, but not overturn altogether. This brings us the three newest justices: Neil Gorsuch, Brett Kavanaugh, and Amy Coney Barrett. They are considered originalists in judicial philosophy like their mentor Antonin Scalia. Does that mean they will vote to reverse *Roe*? Maybe. PRAY and PRAY some more!

Focus on Life Dinner: Success!

NO Tent, Back Inside

Last year Kalamazoo Right to Life hosted a covid-tent dinner. While the 2020 dinner was successful accept for the chilly night air, we resolved to have the 2021 dinner back indoors. That became a reality on October 21 when about 230 people enjoyed a wonderful dinner and heard two stirring speeches: one from high school Oratory Contest winner James Asher, and our guest speaker, Bobby Hesley.

Hesley's remarks touched on the theme for the evening: Abortion in the Black Community. He sees the abortion industry engaged in black population control, keeping blacks ignorant about their declining numbers and influence in American culture. Like the OT pharaoh who feared the growth of the Israelites and sought to control their

population, Hesley considers the abortion conglomerate as "evil pharaohs" who fear the black community and have used abortion as a method of control. This he calls "reproductive racism." The number of black babies aborted is staggering. In Michigan, where blacks comprise only 14 percent of the total population, 55 percent of all abortions are performed on black women. The most recent numbers from the State of Michigan: total yearly abortions were 26,801, for black women 14,854. In an astounding statistic, the actual number of black residents declined by some 25,000 people from the 2010 census to the 2020 census. Fewer babies, fewer children.

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Pro-Life News Round-Up

Election Wins, pro-lifers gain

Unless you have been out of the country for two months or did not rely on the internet for news, you are well aware that several states held elections on November 2. In the state of Virginia, Republican Glenn Youngkin, a newcomer to politics and a pro-lifer to boot, defeated former governor and pro-abortion ideologue Terry McAuliffe. McAuliffe's loss was his own making. He was expected to easily defeat the neophyte Youngkin but verbal gaffes doomed the campaign. His statement that parents should have no say in what their local schools should teach was a horrendous blunder. The race was decided on educational and economic issues, not abortion. Yet, abortion played its role. In a debate earlier this fall, McAuliffe tried to paint Youngkin as a pro-lifer who would restrict women's rights. Youngkin countered that McAuliffe was too extreme on abortion and supported abortion throughout all of pregnancy. The New Jersey race for governor was not decided for several days, the pro-abortion incumbent governor defeating the

GOP candidate (pro-choice but supports abortion ban after 20 weeks) 51 to 49 percent. The surprising strength of Republican candidates in 2021 portends well for the future. As Joe Biden stumbles on practically every issue, and as Congress trends dangerously toward socialism, Republicans expect good results in the mid-term elections next year.

House Committee Hearing reveals pro-abortion ignorance and Arrogance

On November 5 the House Judiciary Committee convened to hear testimony regarding the Texas Heartbeat Bill. Republican congressman Mike Johnson of Louisiana, a strong pro-life advocate, asked some simple yet penetrating questions to two abortion providers. His queries and their responses is all you have to know when it comes to the pro-abortionists refusal to confront medical science. If the elephant in the room was the overwhelming accumulated medical knowledge regarding the unborn infant over the last 40 years, the ladies offering their expertise on abortion had no idea that medical knowledge was even an issue in the abortion debate. All they could repeat was the

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Hesley spoke about other issues that face the black community as they pertain to abortion. Ninety-two percent of black women getting abortions are unmarried. This high percentage corresponds to the over 70 percent of women having children out-of-wedlock. The institution of marriage and the stability of the home with fathers present and actively involved is the best antidote for saving the black family.



He concluded by saying that if black lives matter, Americans must face the cold reality that the most vulnerable people are black babies in the womb...the black lives that matter most.

New Surveys on Abortion: More lean pro-life!

Dave Andrusko, the long-time editor of the National Right to Life Committee's *NRL News*, reports that more people identify as pro-life (at least moderately) than strongly pro-abortion. In a recent Gallup Poll 48 percent of Americans believe that abortion should remain legal but only under certain circumstances, 32 percent legal under all circumstances, and 19 percent illegal in all cases. While the last number reflects the genuine pro-life position, we must remember that *Roe* permits abortions in all circumstances (the woman's age, her health, financial condition, family relations, for fetal handicap, in sex selection, etc.) If the 48 percent supported abortion in cases of rape, incest, and fetal handicap in the first trimester, then 98 percent of all abortions would be deemed illegal. Again, while this is not the ideal pro-life position, it is a reminder that Americans are far less inclined to support *Roe v. Wade* than the Democrats, the feminists, and the media contend. In another poll (this time surveying Texans about their heartbeat law) 55 percent support the law. Among ethnic groups Latinos support it by 58 percent compared to 55 and 47 percent for white and black citizens, respectively. Fifty-nine percent of men support the Heartbeat Law, 52 percent of women, 74 percent of Republicans, and 38 percent of Democrats.

typical list of slogans demanding abortion up to the point of birth.

Question: "Does abortion kill something that's alive, take the life of something that's alive?" Answer: "Sir, the way that you're asking these questions actually intentionally invites violence and harassment to both of us—to all of us." Question: "When you dismember something in the womb, is that a human being or not? Is it a living being, yes or no?" Answer: "I'm here to discuss medical care." Question: "Are we killing something that's alive? Is it a life? Yes or no?" Answer: "What you are discussing is not the reality of how abortion care is delivered in this country." Question: "Are sex-selection abortions OK?" Answer: "I do not believe that there should be any restrictions on bodily autonomy."

Thank you Rep. Johnson for asking the questions that the other side refuses to answer. Does abortion kill something that's alive. Medical science says YES. In a dismemberment abortion, is what is being killed a human being? Medical science says YES.

President's Corner by Rob Karrer

The Supreme Court will hear oral argument this December 1 on the Mississippi law that bans abortions after the 15th week of pregnancy. This case is a direct challenge to *Roe v. Wade*. While most pro-lifers arrive at their convictions through the lens of what the Bible says about human life, or that we are made in the image of God, we must not fall into the pro-abortion trap that our sole objection to abortion is based on religion. The other side has spent 50 years trying to convince everyone that abortion is a "Catholic issue," or a "religious issue." This framing has harmed the pro-life movement's effective voice for we hold medical, scientific, legal, natural law, and historical objections as well. Should we bury our faith? Never! But we should be as expansive in our clear denunciations from all of the above disciplines. If the Court reverses *Roe* in this Mississippi case (*Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*) it will be because they finally agree that *Roe* was wrongly decided in 1973. Back then, the Court's pro-*Roe* majority relied (very uncritically) on two historically flawed articles written by a pro-abortion zealot. If the justices objectively look at the true history of nineteenth-century laws that banned abortion, at the original intent of the 14th Amendment that protected people "of the human race," and of the multiple state court decisions of the 1850-1950 period in which judges ruled in favor of the unborn child, the Supreme Court may very well rule in our favor. *Roe* was wrong then; it is wrong now. *Roe* was built on historical lies; we must declare the truth! We must use the law and history and past decisions to frame the issue that unborn life has always been protected in Western civilization, but especially in English and American law. Let's just not use the Bible to prove our point. Meantime, pray and fast. Mention each justice in your prayers. If God can turn the heart of the king, then he can turn the heart of the Supreme Court.

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