

December 1, 2023

Dear Friend of South Dakota Right to Life,

"The More Things Change...The More They Stay the Same."

That old adage is true ... sometimes.... somewhat.



And it came to mind as I considered what has changed, and what has not, one and a half years after the historic Dobbs v. Jackson decision of the U. S. Supreme Court.

Dobbs was the decision that struck down the tragic Roe v. Wade ruling which had ushered in 49 years of unlimited abortion and the slaughter of over 63 million unborn baby girls and boys. Roe was the epitome of evil itself and it had to be reversed!

Reversing Roe was a tremendous, hard-won victory for the pro-life movement and for everyone like you and me who care about life and have worked and prayed so hard to defend it.

That victory was achieved through decades of non-stop work in the halls of Congress, our state legislature, in the voting booth and in countless educational talks, events, and rallies across South Dakota and across the nation.

And the Dobbs decision did bring change! America was no longer stained by the wicked Roe mandate that had made killing innocent children a fundamental right. Such child sacrifice was no longer the "law of the land."

It is now up to us, acting through our elected representatives, at the ballot box and through our sphere of influence, to determine if unborn children will be protected - or not.

In many states like South Dakota it has already been possible to pass strong protections for unborn children, in others lesser protections have been passed, while in others pro-abortion legislators, governors or judges have blocked protective legislation or even sought to expand and promote their abortion business to women in other states!

Something else changed with the Dobbs decision as well. The pro-abortion forces of death roared back with a vengeance like never before. From the print, TV, and radio media to the entertainment industry and across the pro-abortion political landscape, the beast that is the abortion lobby fought back with their lies and distortions.



They **falsely claimed** that any pro-life legislation would mean that women could not get the most basic maternal care needed. They claimed that the pro-life movement sought to punish women and "put them in jail". And they continued to deny what abortion really is.

And the abortion industry does have the big bucks to broadcast their lies about abortion and pro-life efforts. Remember, Planned Parenthood alone has an annual income of about one and one half BILLION dollars.

But despite the pro-abortion propaganda onslaught, there is already strong evidence that abortion numbers are being lowered and lives are being saved. We praise God for that. Sadly, there is also clear evidence that many, many babies are still dying.

So yes, many things have changed, and more lives are being saved. But many things have stayed the same.



*** Babies are still dying, and our **educational efforts** are needed more than ever to tell the truth about unborn human life and the cruelty of abortion - for mother and child.

*** Babies are still dying, and our **legislative efforts** are needed more than ever, not only to pass meaningful protections for life, but to also thwart pro-abortion efforts to ingrain abortion in our state's laws and Constitution.

*** Babies are still dying, as South Dakota may well face a **November, 2024, ballot measure** that will place in our state's Constitution a right to abort a baby through all nine months of pregnancy. The list of 'horribles' with this ballot measure is lengthy and it's NOT who we are. **It must be stopped!**

*** Babies are still dying, and you are needed more than ever to help protect them & their mothers!

Can I count on you to still stand with us for the children? Yes, we won a great victory with the fall of Roe. However, what really was won was an opportunity... an opportunity that can be easily lost forever if we lessen our efforts even a little.



Remember, when you help **South Dakota Right to Life** you are also helping the effort to save children nationwide because **SDRTL** is the only organization in South Dakota that is part of the National Right to Life network of statewide affiliates and 3,000 chapters across the nation. Our unified voice is heard strongly for life both here in South Dakota, in Washington, DC and throughout the land.

Please help today. Whatever you can send, \$50, \$100, \$500 or more, really matters.

Every donation counts and is used as carefully as possible to advance the cause of life for those innocent children who can't speak for themselves... children who need your voice to speak for them.

On their behalf, I thank you from the bottom of my heart. May your **Christmas Season** be filled with joy and peace as we continue to protect the 'Sanctity of Human LIFE' in South Dakota.

Dale Bartscher, SDRTL Executive Director



P.S. May God bless you and your loved ones for all the good you do in this world.

These are troubled times, and the world is blessed because pro-life people like you are in it. Please keep the work of **South Dakota Right to Life** in your prayers and thank you again for helping today.