

LifeFacts



PRO LIFE VOTERS GUIDE EDITION!

Perspective for the Fall Season

By: Dale Bartscher, SDRTL Executive Director

I am sure, that like me, there has been a lot on your mind lately. This fall, with coronavirus issues still impacting our nation and our families, there are many questions about what the future looks like for America. Maybe you're wondering, "When will life return to 'normal'?" or "How long will it take for our economy to recover?" or "What will this mean for defending the Sanctity of Human Life?"

Martyn Lloyd-Jones, in his great book *Spiritual Depression: Its Causes and Its Cures*, gives a wonderful definition of faith: "Faith is a refusal to panic." The passage he uses as support for his definition is Luke 8:22-25 where the disciples wake Jesus from sleep as their boat is being tossed about in the stormy sea. This is a great reminder... Jesus doesn't panic...why should I? This fall I am refusing to panic. Instead I am looking UP in faith to God and FORWARD to His providence.

Every fall, growing up in South Dakota with my nine brothers and sisters, we would wait with great anticipation for the televised hit movie -'The Wizard of Oz'. Here are my LIFE lessons from this movie:

- The Scarecrow needed a BRAIN! Today, we need to use our brains to be wise in our fight for that which is right - defending human life at ALL stages.
- The Tinman needed a HEART! Today, we need a heart of compassion for those women and men struggling with the future of their babies' lives, the physical and mental health of their children and the care of their elderly family members.
- The Lion needed COURAGE! Today, we must be bold and courageous. We need pro-life advocates, of all ages, who are filled with integrity, truth and tenacity for doing what is right in spite of today's aggressive opposition to civil discourse and behavior.



One of the most famous lines from "The Wizard of Oz" is "Pay no attention to the man behind the curtain." As you may recall, Dorothy and her companions were facing a thundering, formidable "wizard" covered in smoke, and yet her tiny dog tugged on a curtain to reveal that it was all "smoke and mirrors" that a weak, little man was using to intimidate and confuse the travelers. During this election season, I am borrowing that phrase to ask you to pay no attention to those who will take to the airwaves or stand on the street corners promoting rebellion against life and raging against God's natural order. No person's future is better because of the death of an unborn baby or the destruction of someone's life and their opportunity to be all that God would enable them to be.

Carol Tobias, president of National Right to Life, pulled no punches saying, "Leaders of the Democratic Party are working in lock-step with pro-abortion groups and their demands.....The Democratic Party and its leadership have failed vulnerable women and their unborn babies." Carol is right and thus my advice is, "Pay no attention to the Democrat Party and their message of despair and hopelessness."

The one to pay attention to instead is President Trump. Fr. Frank Pavone, National Director of Priests for Life, said it rightly, "Things have changed in America, and it's important that we do pay attention to what the President is saying about how America itself is on the line in this election."

My friends, we have to make sure we are helping our fellow citizens prepare for this election come November 3. Make sure you are registered to vote. Whether they are national or local candidates, know their positions and records on LIFE. Pay no attention to their talk but pay attention to their walk; is it for life or against life? Vote your PRO-LIFE values, and share your PRO-LIFE position with wisdom, compassion and courage with anyone who will give you a listening ear. And above all, always PRAY for America!

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South Dakota Right to Life is a non-profit, non-denominational organization whose philosophy is that all innocent human life is inviolable and is to be guaranteed protection from conception until natural death.

President's Column

By: Dr. Fred Deutsch, SDRTL President and Region 2 Board Member



Someday, future generations of Americans will look back on us and wonder how and why a society that prided itself on its commitment to human rights precluded virtually all protection to the weakest and most vulnerable—unborn children. As we approach the elections, our choices could not be clearer.

At the national level, President Trump has proven his pro-life commitment. As president he has appointed pro-life advocates in his cabinet and administration, restored the “Mexico City Policy,” and he has pledged “to veto any legislation that weakens current pro-life federal policies and laws, or that encourages the destruction of innocent human life.”

Joe Biden supports the current policy of abortion on demand, and supports the Democratic platform of unlimited abortion through birth. If you are pro-life, our choice could not be clearer.

At the state level, our rating of candidates can be found starting on page 6. Individuals with a voting record are clearly displayed. People who haven't served before are provided an opportunity to state their beliefs about Life. For those who haven't served before and choose not to respond about their beliefs . . . I usually interpret that to mean they are not pro-life.

The choice in this election has never been clearer and the stakes for people who cherish life have never been higher.

For the sake of the unborn, I hope you can find it in your heart to VOTE PRO-LIFE.

National Right to Life Report

By: Valerie Johnson, NRLC Delegate

Things are heating up! It's never been quite so clear that life, per usual, is on the line. As part of National Right to Life, SDRTL works to get and keep pro-life people, who vote to protect defenseless human life, in public offices.

NRLC executive director David N. O'Steen, Ph.D., wrote: “In a post-election poll taken in 2016 by the polling company/Women Trend on November 8, 49% of all voters said that abortion affected their vote. How did they vote?

“31% of those “voted for the candidates who oppose abortion (pro-life),” while only 18% “voted for the candidates who favor abortion (pro-choice).” This was a 13% advantage for the pro-life candidate.

“When you think how close the vote was in Pennsylvania and other states which determined the election, it is clear that abortion made a clear difference in the election. “Fully 29% of voters recalled hearing, seeing or receiving information from National Right to Life and 17% recalled hearing, seeing or receiving information from a state right to life group such as an NRLC affiliate.”

Check out NRLVictoryFund.org and nrlpac.org for ways you can influence the direction of the USA. (Remember, 13% pro-life advantage!)

As someone recently reminded me, we are not ultimately in control of what other people do, which doesn't mean it's okay to sit on our own hands and do nothing. Keep up the great work South Dakota! Vote as if life depends on it - it does!



National Right to Life Endorses President Trump, US Senator Rounds and US Representative Johnson for Re-Election

By: Dale Bartscher, SDRTL Executive Director



National Right to Life Committee, the federation of state right-to-life affiliates (like SD Right to Life) and state local chapters, endorses pro-life **President Donald Trump** for his re-election.

“We are proud to endorse the only presidential candidate who stands for the unalienable right to life,” said Carol Tobias, president of the National Right to Life Committee. “From his first day in office, President Trump and his Administration have been dedicated to advancing policies that protect the fundamental right to life for the unborn, the elderly, and the medically dependent and disabled.”

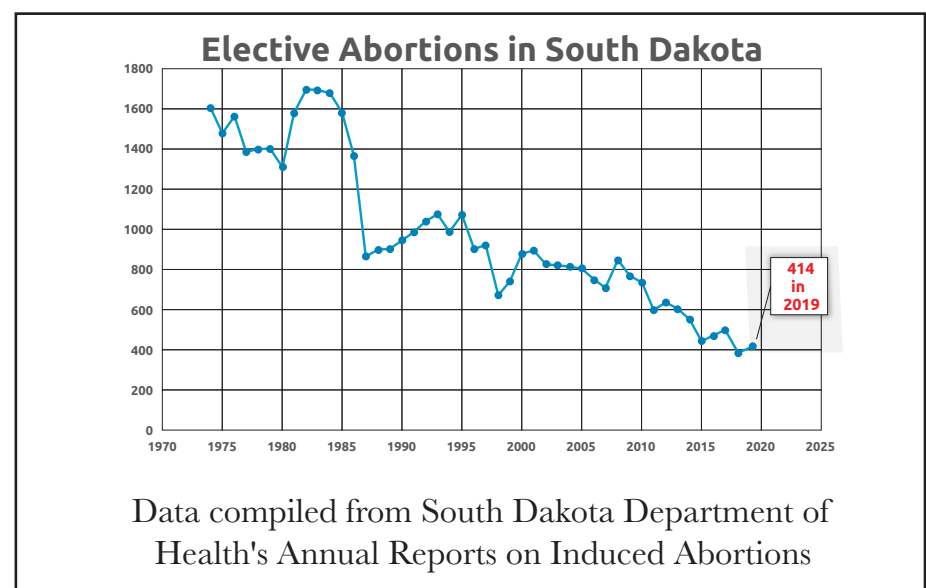
One of the president’s first acts in office was to restore the Mexico City Policy, which prevents tax funds from being given to organizations that perform abortions or lobby to change abortion laws of host countries. Later, the president expanded this policy to prevent \$9 billion in foreign aid from being used to fund the global abortion industry.

The Trump Administration also cut off funding to the United Nations Population Fund because of that agency’s involvement with China’s forced abortion program. President Trump pledged “to veto any legislation that weakens current pro-life federal policies and laws, or that encourages the destruction of innocent human life at any state.”

National RTL Committee (NRLC) has also endorsed the re-election candidacies of both **US Senator Mike Rounds** and **US Representative Dusty Johnson** to Congress. In a statement release on Monday, May 4, 2020, NRLC Committee leadership wrote: “All voters in South Dakota who are concerned with the right to life and with the protection of the most vulnerable members of the human family should vote to return...Senator Mike Rounds and Representative Dusty Johnson to Congress...so that, ‘they may’ continue to work to advance vital pro-life public policies.”



NOTE: To view National RTL Committee’s Endorsement Letters, which includes the endorsed candidate’s strong Pro-Life Records of accomplishment, go to www.sdrightrighttolife.org



South Dakota Right to Life

Life Celebration Weekend and 49th Annual Convention

Friday, October 2, 7:00 PM -8:30 PM – Free to Public

Saturday, October 3, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Sunday, October 4 Life Chain - 2:00

Speakers and Presentations by:

- Scott Klussendorf - President of Life Training Institute
- Dr. Patti Giebink - Former SD Abortionist and Now Pro-Life Champion
- Jon Hansen - State Representative and SDRTL Board Member
- Chris Motz - South Dakota Catholic Conference Executive Director
- Joanna Hyatt - Live Action

-- Plus --

Special Breakout Session for Youth – Middle and High School ages



Name(s) of Attendees:

Address

City/State/Zip

Email/Phone

Make checks payable to SFARTL (Sioux Falls Area Right to Life)	(lunch included)
Registration Fee: \$30.00 per adult	# of Adults: _____
\$50.00 per couple	_____
\$10.00 college	_____
Youth (18 years of age and under) FREE!!	# of Youth: _____
Total Enclosed	\$ _____

49th Annual SDRTL Convention Schedule

October 2 & 3, 2020

Sioux Falls First Church

6300 W 41st St, Sioux Falls, SD

Life Chain - Sunday, October 4 2:00-3:00 pm

FRIDAY, October 2: Open Free to the Public!

6:00 pm - Doors Open (Refreshments, Vendor Browsing of 25+ Vendor Tables)

7:00 - 8:30 pm - General Session (Keynote Speaker: Scott Klusendorf - "Standing Firm for Life in a Cancel Culture")

SATURDAY, October 3: Please Register to Attend!

8:00 am - Doors Open (Registration, Breakfast, Vendor Browsing)

9:00 am - General Sessions Begin

5:00 pm - Convention Concludes!

"MyPillow, Inc" has gifted the Convention with 150 "Roll & Go Anywhere Pillows" (75) in Daybreak Blue (75) in Frosted Grey. We want to bless the FIRST 150 Attendees (Teenagers & Adults) who walk through the door on Friday night, October 2 with one of these pillows, compliments of MyPillow, Inc.



Who is Scott Klusendorf

Scott Klusendorf is president of Life Training Institute, where he trains pro-life advocates to make a persuasive case for life in the public square. Scott's talks have been featured on nationally syndicated programs like Focus on the Family, The Albert Mohler Radio Program, Truths that Transform, and Moody Radio—to name a few. Scott is also a staff speaker for the Rethink Conferences, Summit Ministries, and the Alliance Defending Freedom's Blackstone Academy. His book "The Case for Life: Equipping Christians to Engage the Culture" is published by Crossway (Wheaton, IL). In addition to reaching students with pro-life presentations, Scott helps pregnancy resource centers raise money to reach women at risk for abortion. Scott is a graduate of UCLA and holds a Masters degree in Christian Apologetics from Biola University. He and his wife Stephanie have been married since 1985 and have four children.



Humanitarian of the Year Award: Beth Hughes

Beth Hughes to be honored at the SDRTL convention on Saturday! Beth Hughes loves the saying, "God doesn't call the equipped, He equips the called." She was born and raised in Tripp, SD, where she was active in 4-H, choir, band, track, FHA, and pretty much anywhere else needed, one of the many benefits of growing up in a small town. She attended SDSU and was active in choir and theatre. In 1976 she represented SDSU in the Miss South Dakota Pageant, and went on to represent our state in the Miss America Pageant. One of her fondest memories was singing Andre Crouch's "My Tribute, To God Be The Glory" on stage in Atlantic City. When she returned to complete her last year of college, she met and married her husband, John Hughes. Together they launched out into the world, and they found that their map wasn't necessarily the one God was following. John attended the University of Nebraska Law School and accepted a position as a corporate attorney with a large Omaha firm. Beth worked for KFAB Radio as a news reporter.

Their lives took a different direction when they felt the call to return to South Dakota, where Beth worked for KELO TV as a news reporter, producer and morning and afternoon anchor. In 1989, after struggling with infertility for several years, their first son, Elliott, was born, followed by Stuart and Evan within 3 ½ years. Needless to say, the pace of life quickened! Beth was a stay-at-home mother for 10 years. In 2000, she joined John at Hughes Law Office as office manager, but that direction changed also as she became increasingly involved in the adoption area of John's practice, which started after a couple from their church small group asked John to help with their adoption. John replied he was a business attorney and had never done an adoption. Their response was, "You'd better learn." Now after 29 years of working in the area of adoption, Beth and John say that God knew so much better the direction for their lives. They say it's been an honor and privilege to help build families through adoption. The fast pace of the news business and years of infertility, coupled with John's legal training, have equipped them for doing adoption work. John and Beth have now been married 42 years, and two daughters-in-law and three grandsons have joined their family. To quote a line from My Tribute, "The voices of a million angels, could not express my gratitude. All that I am, or ever hope to be, I owe it all to Thee."



SDRTL 2020 Voters Guide

By: *Spencer Cody, SDRTL Treasurer and Region 6 Board Member*

South Dakota’s general election is Tuesday, November 3. Due to the large number of matchups between candidates with varying pro-life records and views, SDRTL is distributing a voter guide in an attempt to cut through some of the campaign rhetoric. Percentages were assigned to each legislator based on voting record. For candidates without voting records, a uniform effort was made to contact each for a statement about his or her position. Some candidates did not respond. When this occurred, the statement “failed to respond” is listed next to the candidate’s name. If a nonresponsive candidate has elsewhere expressed a life-related opinion, a copy of that statement is provided. If the race in your district is not listed in this voter guide, it is not a contested election. Remember, voting records always trump campaign rhetoric, and candidates can be intentionally ambiguous about their intentions. Absentee voting for the general begins on September 18. Contact your county auditor to have an absentee ballot mailed to you if you cannot vote on November 3; your absentee ballot must be returned to the county auditor’s office by 5 PM on November 2; voters can early vote in person at the county auditor’s office starting on September 18 by bringing a photo ID. October 19 is the deadline to register for the November 3 election. Polls will be open from 7 AM to 7 PM, local time, on November 3. Visit the South Dakota Secretary of State website <https://sdsos.gov/> to find out more information about voting locations and absentee voting.

Information for this voter guide was compiled from the following sources: LRC website, NARAL Pro-choice SD Voter Guide, Dakotavoter.com, SDRTL Pro-life Rating Scorecards, SDRTL Primary and General Election voter guides, candidate campaign websites, and mailed and electronically submitted statements from candidates. Please contact Spencer Cody with any comments or concerns regarding this publication at spencercody@hotmail.com or 605-228-4886. Don’t forget to turn out to vote for LIFE on November 3!

<div><div>DISTRICT 1</div><div>SENATE</div><div>Michael H. Rohl (R)</div><div>States: “I am a pro-life candidate. I am also very troubled by the use of infanticide in a handful of other states and grateful the SD legislation has continually sided with human life.”</div><div>Susan Wismer (D)</div><div>Received a 25% pro-life rating from SDRTL for her 2019-20 legislative voting record.</div><div>HOUSE</div><div>Tamara St. John (R)</div><div>Received an 87% pro-life rating from SDRTL for her 2019-20 legislative voting record.</div><div>Steven D. McCleerey (D)</div><div>Received a 0% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record.</div><div>Jennifer Healy Keintz (D)</div><div>Failed to Respond</div></div>	<div><div>DISTRICT 4 CONTINUED</div><div>Daryl Root (LIB)</div><div>States: “I am personally against abortion, with the exception of a mother’s life. However, from a political standpoint, we are bound by past rulings of the Supreme Court of the United States. Roe vs. Wade grants women the right to an abortion but it does not ban limitations on them as long as that right remains intact for all. South Dakota recognizes the UDDA definition of death as the irreversible non-functioning of the heart and lungs. Therefore, life must exist when either function occurs. A fetal heartbeat can be detected as early as six weeks through vaginal ultrasound, and by the twelfth week through non-invasive means. Therefore, from legal and political viewpoints, I would support laws banning abortion as early as week 12.”</div><div>HOUSE</div><div>Fred Deutsch (R)</div><div>Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record.</div><div>John Mills (R)</div><div>Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record.</div><div>Becky Holtquist (D)</div><div>Failed to respond.</div></div>	<div><div>DISTRICT 6 CONTINUED</div><div>HOUSE</div><div>Ernie Otten (R)</div><div>Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record.</div><div>Aaron Aylward (R)</div><div>States: “I am 100% pro-life and if voted into the state house, my voting record will prove it. I believe that life begins at conception, and we should voluntarily do what we can to promote and advance these ideas. If life is formed, it should then be up to God to take that life away. It should not be done through the force of another human being.”</div><div>Cody Ingle (D)</div><div>Failed to Respond</div></div> <div><div>DISTRICT 7</div><div>HOUSE</div><div>Timothy Reed (R)</div><div>Received a 83% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record.</div><div>Larry Tidemann (R)</div><div>Received a 60% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2017-18 legislative voting record.</div><div>Louise Snodgrass (D)</div><div>Failed to respond; however, on Twitter she responded to Governor Kristi Noem’s pro-life remark by stating, “Correction: The fight for reproductive rights is the right one. Our work doesn’t stop until comprehensive & quality healthcare is available to everyone, women included.”</div><div>Bill Adamson (D)</div><div>Failed to Respond</div></div> <div><div>DISTRICT 8</div><div>HOUSE</div><div>Marli Wiese (R)</div><div>Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for her 2019-20 legislative voting record.</div><div>Randy Gross (R)</div><div>Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record.</div><div>Val Parsley (D)</div><div>Failed to Respond</div></div>
<div><div>DISTRICT 3</div><div>HOUSE</div><div>Drew Dennert (R)</div><div>Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record.</div><div>Carl E Perry (R)</div><div>Received an 87% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record.</div><div>Justin Roemmick (D)</div><div>Failed to Respond</div><div>Leslie McLaughlin (D)</div><div>Failed to Respond</div></div>	<div><div>DISTRICT 5</div><div>SENATE</div><div>Lee Schoenbeck (R)</div><div>Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record.</div><div>Adam Jewell (LIB)</div><div>Failed to Respond</div></div>	
<div><div>DISTRICT 4</div><div>SENATE</div><div>John Wiik (R)</div><div>Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record.</div></div>	<div><div>DISTRICT 6</div><div>SENATE</div><div>Herman Otten (R)</div><div>Received a 87% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record.</div><div>Nancy Kirstein (D)</div><div>Failed to Respond</div></div>	

<p>DISTRICT 9 SENATE Wayne H. Steinhauer (R) Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record. Suzanne “Suzie” Jones Pranger (D) Failed to respond. HOUSE Rhonda Milstead (R) Received an 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for her 2019-20 legislative voting record. Bethany Soye (R) States: “All human life has value and should be protected. I believe that we should treat the unborn, the elderly, and the disabled with dignity and care. As your representative I will fight to protect the sanctity of life and promote strong families in South Dakota.” Michael Saba (D) Received a 42% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record. Toni Miller (D) Failed to respond.</p>	<p>DISTRICT 12 SENATE R Blake Curd (R) Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record. Jessica Meyers (D) Failed to respond HOUSE Arch Beal (R) Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record. Greg Jamison (R) Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2017-18 legislative voting record. Erin Royer (D) Failed to respond</p>	<p>DISTRICT 14 CONTINUED HOUSE Erin Healy (D) Received a 12% pro-life rating from SDRTL for her 2019-20 legislative voting record. Mike Huber (D) Failed to respond.</p>
<p>DISTRICT 10 SENATE Maggie Sutton (R) Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for her 2019-20 legislative voting record. Nichole Cauwels (D) Failed to respond. HOUSE Steven Haugaard (R) Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record. Doug Barthel (R) Received an 87% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record. Michelle L. Hentschel (D) Failed to respond.</p>	<p>DISTRICT 13 HOUSE Sue Peterson (R) Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for her 2019-20 legislative voting record. Richard L Thomason (R) Failed to Respond Kelly A. Sullivan (D) Received a 12% pro-life rating from SDRTL for her 2019-20 legislative voting record. Norman B. Bliss (D) Failed to Respond</p>	<p>DISTRICT 15 SENATE Thor Bardon (R) “I believe all life is important starting from conception through natural death. I lived in the foster care system as a teen, and I know from personal experience that those who have it rough have a ton of life to live and grow into something amazing regardless of age or adversity faced.” Reynold F. Nesiba (D) Received a 50% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2017-18 legislative voting record. HOUSE Cole Heisey (R) “I believe being pro-life is one of the least controversial positions one can take. Every person, at the very least, has a right to live and be born. Failing to accept this, the whole notion of human ‘rights’ becomes absurd. If we do not value and protect life in its most vulnerable state, what to say of the value of life later on? I’ll tell you. Individual rights become more and more disrespected and infringed upon. The institution of family weakens also. Are we to celebrate life and the pregnancy of a woman and her ‘right’ to kill the baby simultaneously?” Matt Rosburg (R) “I am strongly pro-life. I believe that abortion is morally wrong. More practical, stable support for crisis pregnancies is needed. This support needs be strong enough and readily available to help parents choose life for their baby, and support them after birth. I support pro-life counseling for expectant parents and post-abortion counseling. Adoption resources should be more accessible, and get more support. I do not support euthanasia or assisted suicide, which should not be confused with end-of-life or palliative care. I support the pro-life position from conception until natural death.” Jamie Smith (D) Received a 12% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record. Linda Duba (D) Received a 12% pro-life rating from SDRTL for her 2019-20 legislative voting record.</p>
<p>DISTRICT 11 SENATE Jim Stalzer (R) Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record. Tom Cool (D) Failed to respond; however, in 2015 he was given a 100% rating by NARAL Pro-choice South Dakota. HOUSE Mark Willadsen (R) Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record. Chris Karr (R) Received an 87% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record. Margaret M Kuipers (D) Failed to respond. Sheryl Johnson (D) Failed to respond.</p>	<p>DISTRICT 14 SENATE Larry P. Zikmund (R) Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record. Timothy Reed (D) “I support a woman’s right to choice and am interested in moving South Dakota forward. The Supreme Court decided this issue in 1973 and I will include a link to their full decision in my response. We have 47 years since then of other unsolved problems that I intend to work on. I would add that more recently and locally, in both 2006 and 2008, a majority of voters in 32 out of 35 legislative districts in South Dakota supported a woman’s right to choice. In addition, Pierre and the current legislature are also not supportive of a pathway that favored strong families. Children lack access to early childhood education, affordable housing for families, paid family leave for parents and other important policies including affordable or cost free access to healthcare. I cannot in good faith support being pro-life in a state that clearly, also is not post-birth.” HOUSE Tom Holmes (R) Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2017-18 legislative voting record. Taylor Rae Rehfeldt (R) “I am pro-life, pro-children, and pro-women. As a mother, woman of faith, and registered nurse, I believe in the sanctity and power of human life. I believe life is a gift. As a nurse my responsibility includes not only protecting the lives of men, women, children, and the unborn, but ensuring all have the ability to live healthy and fruitful lives. I support women’s health and strengthening adoption procedures. We need to empower women with access to healthcare and informed decision-making. Healthy women create healthy children and families.”</p>	<p>DISTRICT 17 SENATE Arthur Rusch (R) Received an 85% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record. Ailee Johns (D) Failed to respond. Gregory Baldwin (LIB) Failed to respond. District 17 continued on next page...</p>

<p>DISTRICT 17 CONTINUED HOUSE</p> <p>Sydney Davis (R) “I believe life begins at conception. I want to see policies that discourage abortion and encourage mothers to seek adoption. We need to support families and social programs; by doing these things, we help others choose life over abortion. As a healthcare provider, I recognize there are difficult circumstances surrounding pregnancy such as danger to the mother, rape, or incest. In these difficult circumstances, I believe there should be reasonable exceptions. As I stated above, I believe life begins at conception and plan to support families and discourage abortion. Thank you for the opportunity, I hope to earn your vote.”</p> <p>Richard Vasgaard (R) I am for pro-life. I believe life begins at conception. There needs to be ongoing support and more education to deal with this issue.</p> <p>Al Leber (D) “I believe in the right to life, but recognize that the US Supreme Court has allowed women the right to an abortion. As long as this is the law of the land, I believe that women who are considering abortion should have access to counseling and provided alternatives to abortion such as adoption after the child is born.”</p> <p>Caitlin F. Collier (D) Failed to respond.</p>	<p>DISTRICT 21 CONTINUED HOUSE</p> <p>Rocky Blare (R) Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record.</p> <p>Caleb Finck (R) Received a 87% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record.</p> <p>Jessica Hegge(D) Failed to respond</p>	<p>DISTRICT 25 CONTINUED SENATE</p> <p>Rick W Knobe (IND) “I’m an independent, not locked into either party’s sometimes rigid positions. I agree with the position of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. Any bill dealing with life issues will get my full attention and review.”</p> <p>HOUSE</p> <p>Jon Hansen (R) Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record.</p> <p>Tom Pischke (R) Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record.</p> <p>Jeff Barth (D) “The short answer is that I am pro-choice. Now let’s work together to prevent unwanted pregnancies.”</p> <p>Jared Nieuwenhuis (D) “My position is clear. You and your organization are a sham group of hypocrites who despite having every opportunity to stop abortion through free contraceptives have decided even that isn’t good enough. You’re not interested in protecting life, you’re interested in subjugating women.”</p>
<p>DISTRICT 18 SENATE</p> <p>Jean Hunhoff (R) Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for her 2019-20 legislative voting record.</p> <p>Jordan Foos (D) Failed to respond; however, his campaign website states: “My outlook on life is shaped by my formation in the Catholic Christian tradition. As such, I look to this tradition when it comes to upholding the dignity of all life, be that life in the womb or life at the border. I strive to consider all things from a consistent ethic of life. This said, it’s incredibly important to me that all people are heard, be they members of a religious tradition or not. I will never use my faith as a weapon.”</p>	<p>DISTRICT 23 SENATE</p> <p>Bryan J. Breitling (R) “I am a supporter of Right to Life and will work toward the recognition of human right to life education and alternatives to abortion.”</p> <p>CJ Abernathey (LIB) Failed to Respond.</p>	<p>DISTRICT 26 SENATE</p> <p>Joel Koskan (R) “I believe life begins at conception and that the sanctity of life remains until a natural death occurs. I believe abortion, euthanasia, and assisted suicide take away the right of a human to be alive and that no one has the right to destroy the life of another person. Abortion, euthanasia, and assisted suicide isn’t a matter of choice but of how we view life and respect the One who gives life. I believe we are all fearfully and wonderfully made in God’s image.”</p> <p>Troy Heinert (D) Received a 33% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record.</p>
<p>DISTRICT 20 SENATE</p> <p>Joshua Klumb (R) Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record.</p> <p>Alexander Martin (LIB) Failed to respond.</p>	<p>DISTRICT 24 HOUSE</p> <p>Mike Weisgram (R) “As a cradle and loyal Catholic, I respect the life of the unborn and disfavor abortion for birth control. I am supportive of the State of South Dakota’s commitment to fund programs that help parents (or guardians) provide food, shelter, health care, and the education of their children. Human life is a gift of the Holy Spirit and is sacred. No one may dispose of it at will.”</p> <p>Will D Mortenson (R) “I support an unborn child’s right to life. I believe Roe v. Wade was wrongly decided and should be overturned. I support measures to protect the lives of unborn children. I believe our pro-life cause is set back by efforts that burden pregnant moms without reducing abortions. We should strengthen and support adoption procedures to give moms choices while guaranteeing a child’s right to life.”</p> <p>Amanda Bachmann (D) Failed to Respond.</p>	<p>DISTRICT 26B HOUSE</p> <p>Rebecca L Reimer (R) Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for her 2019-20 legislative voting record.</p> <p>Tim Feliciano (D) “I personally believe in the women’s right to choose; however, since I’m in a South Dakota House District that is very pro-life, I believe that if I am elected it would be my job to represent those views to the best of my ability to support and defend the views of the people within my district. This is something that I believe every legislator should do.”</p>
<p>DISTRICT 21 SENATE</p> <p>Erin Tobin (R) “I am pro-life. All lives are important. God gives us life, and we have a duty to protect it. Because life should be cherished, I do not believe in assisted suicide or euthanasia, and I do believe abortion creates two victims, mother and child. We can make adoption easier and should give support to mothers who are struggling with their pregnancy. In the very rare case of a threatened maternal life, physicians should be able to decide when their patients are at risk and take quick action, if needed, under the guidance of their patient.”</p> <p>Dan Kerner Andersson (D) “I don’t like abortions. No one does. No woman celebrates with champagne after an abortion. In an ideal world there would be no abortions. But banning abortions is not the best way to have as few abortions as possible. A ban drives abortion underground, away from government oversight, and leads to more women and fetuses faring badly. Very few abortions happen after the 21st week and they are always heartbreaking moments. To have fewer abortions, we should focus on access to contraception, sex education, more support for families with children, and paid family leave. Born lives matter.”</p>	<p>DISTRICT 25 SENATE</p> <p>Marsha Symens (R) “I am pro-life from conception to natural death.”</p> <p>Seth William Van’t Hof (IND) “I believe life begins at conception and would hope and pray that at one point Roe vs. Wade is challenged and overturned. I feel that when history looks back, they will see abortion as one of the biggest tragedies in the world. There is no point in a pregnancy that the baby is not a living human being and should be protected as one under the US constitution.”</p>	

DISTRICT 27

SENATE

Judd Schomp (R)

Failed to respond; however, according to Dakotavoter.com’s candidate survey he stated, “I support right to life.”

Red Dawn Foster (D)

Received a 50% pro-life rating from SDRTL for her 2019-20 legislative voting record.

HOUSE

Elizabeth May (R)

Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for her 2017-18 legislative voting record.

Peri Pourier (D)

Received a 42% pro-life rating from SDRTL for her 2019-20 legislative voting record.

Ernest Weston Jr (D)

Failed to respond.

DISTRICT 29

SENATE

Gary L. Cammack (R)

Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record.

Kent Wilsey (LIB)

“As a South Dakota Senator, I will work to remove barriers to adoption. I will work to improve the ability of youth and other hard-to-employ people to find work and help support their child. Socialized medicine will eventually lead to a ‘crisis’ that will drive a pocliy that will mandate euthanasia in terminal and elderly patients as a cost saving measure. For this and other reasons, I always work for less government involvement in health care. If ever in this country there comes a time where people are creating laws that mandate abortions, I take up arms if needed to stop it. But, as an elected ofical, I will not support any law that would return us to the days of back-alley, coathanger abortions.”

HOUSE

Kirk J. Chaffee (R)

Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record.

Dean Wink (R)

Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2015-16 legislative voting record.

Jade Addison (IND)

Failed to respond.

DISTRICT 30

SENATE

Julie Frye-Mueller (R)

Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for her 2019-20 legislative voting record.

A. Gideon Oakes (LIB)

“Forcible termination of any human life, born or unborn, is morally inexcusable to me. I believe the era of on-demand, elective abortion is an ugly blight upon our nation’s legacy. As a rule, I will consistently vote on the side of minimal government intrusion. However, the right to life is inherent to all individ- uals, and that right must be protected for those who cannot protect themselves.”

DISTRICT 31

HOUSE

Scott Odenbach (R)

“Abortion is the moral issue of our time. All good men and women should work for alternatives that lead to its elimination. Let’s be honest about what we’re really talking about here: Not a ‘fetus,’ but little boys and little girls. I think if everybody would start referring to the defenseless unborn as ‘little boys and girls,’ we could really begin to change people’s hearts and minds about this issue. We should respect innocent human life from birth to natural death.”

Mary Fitzgerald (R)

“The unexpected death of my young nephew was a remind- er to my family how precious and valuable life is to all of us. Human life begins at conception. No right to abortion exists in our Constitution. An unborn child has a right to life given by God and protected by our Constitution. Scientific evidence proves that an unborn child is a human being at an early stage of development. Judicial activists created the aboriton right, which is difficult for people of faith to accept as it conflicts with God’s law that ‘thous shall not kill.’”

Brooke Abdallah (D)

Failed to respond

DISTRICT 32

SENATE

Helene Duhamel (R)

Received a 66% pro-life rating from SDRTL for her 2019-20 legislative voting record.

Michael Calabrese (D)

Failed to Respond

HOUSE

Chris Johnson (R)

Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record.

Becky Drury (R)

“Psalm 139: 13-14 ‘For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made...’ I believe in the sanctity of life. A baby in the womb is a unique human life. I am pro-life.”

Toni Diamond (D)

Failed to Respond

James Preston (D)

Failed to Respond

DISTRICT 33

SENATE

David Johnson (R)

Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record.

Ryan A. Ryder (D)

Failed to respond

DISTRICT 34

HOUSE

Michael G Diedrich (R)

Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record.

George Nelson (D)

Failed to respond.

HOUSE

Jess Olson (R)

Received an 85% pro-life rating from SDRTL for her 2019-20 legislative voting record.

Mike Derby (R)

Voted to protect unborn children from partial birth abortions (HB 1088, 1997). Voted to prohibit non-physicians from per- forming abortions (HB 1282, 2000).

Nick Anderson (D)

Failed to respond.

Rick Stracqualursi (D)

Failed to respond.

DISTRICT 35

SENATE

Jessica Castleberry (R)

Received a 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for her 2019-20 legislative voting record.

Brian Gentry (IND)

“Abortion may or may not be against the Constitution, but it is against the American spirit. With the knowledge that an unborn child is, without a doubt, a human being, we cruelly deny them the rights that Americans have fought and died for the past two centuries. ‘All men are created equal,’ all people, born or unborn. We must protect the rights that the unborn deserve, the rights that can’t be denied them. We must give them the chance to become good American citizens who may become great peo- ple and do great things for their country. And it all starts with that little decision of letting them live. Abortion is the greatest act of cowardice, because it preys on those who cannot defend themselves. We have the right to make choices, but what are we choosing? We have an obligation to protect the weak and the innocent. There will never be a day when it’s justifiable to take another person’s right to live simply because we can.”

HOUSE

Tina L. Mulally (R)

Received an 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for her 2019-20 legislative voting record.

Tony Randolph (R)

Received an 100% pro-life rating from SDRTL for his 2019-20 legislative voting record.

Pat Cromwell (D)

Failed to respond.

David A. Hubbard (D)

Failed to respond.



A Lasting Impact

By: *Kassidy Peters, SDRTL Youth Outreach Coordinator and Region 10 Board Member*



As the 2020 South Dakota Right to Life Convention approaches, I can't help but get excited about the potential we have to reach our youth in Sioux Falls and all across South Dakota. One of the reasons I am so passionate about outreach to youth is because I know the lasting impact and importance of being taught at a young age. Everyone can remember certain times in their childhood that stuck with them and shaped them into who they are today.

We have an incredible opportunity to create that lasting impact this year at the convention. I am looking forward to leading the youth in presentations, discussions and speakers that will hopefully stick with them. While we will be with the adults for part of the time, I think it's important that the youth are able to have their time to interact with each other and learn on a different level.

The age group for our youth breakout session is middle and high school. Please make sure you register your kids as it will help us plan and have a number in mind. I encourage you to bring your kids out so we can learn together what it means to value life and have fun while doing it!

Share with the Teens in Your Life

By: *Debbie Pease, SDRTL Vice President*

We are now accepting entries in our 2020 Essay Contest (deadline November 1). Please encourage the teens in your life to write an essay on "Why I am Pro-Life" and enter the contest. A pdf of this flyer and rules can be found on our website: sdRightToLife.org.



Topic: Why are YOU pro-life?



\$\$\$ prizes for TOP 5 essays in each division!

1st	\$150
2nd	\$125
3rd	\$100
4th	\$75
5th	\$50

Junior division: grades 7 - 9
Senior division: grades 10 - 12

Essays will be judged on:
• Originality
• Content
• Accuracy

Essays must be 300 - 500 words
& must be emailed by Nov. 1, 2020.
Email entries to: dpease84@yahoo.com

Deadline: November 1, 2020
Accepting entries now!

**Find additional information, including rules, at www.sdrightrighttolife.org
Questions? Call Debbie at 605-929-4933**

UPCOMING EVENTS

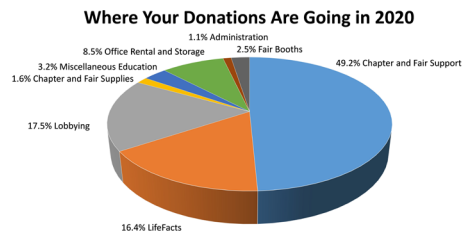
[All Are Contingent Upon Covid-19 Restrictions]

Sept. 10: SDRTL's Booth at the "Unbelievable" RTL Event (Hot Springs, 7 pm)	Oct. 2-3: SDRTL STATE CONVENTION (Sioux Falls)
Sept. 11: RTL "Golf Tournament" (Rapid City Executive Golf Course, 12 noon)	Oct. 3: SDRTL's Board of Directors Meeting (Sioux Falls, 5:30 pm)
Sept. 12: National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children	Oct. 4: "Life Chain" (Sioux Falls, 2:00 - 3:00 pm)
Sept. 13: "Life Chain" (Rapid City, 2:00 - 3:00 pm)	Oct. 8-9: SDRTL's Booth at the Dakota Baptist Pastor's Convention (Rapid City)
Sept. 17: Northwest Area RTL Chapter Informational Meeting (Sturgis, 6:30 pm)	Oct. 22: Bella Pregnancy Center's "Gala for Life Dinner" (Spearfish, 6:30 pm)
Sept. 21, 22, 23: Family Heritage Alliance's "Stand Dinners" (Keystone, 6:30 pm)	November: National Adoption Month!
Sept. 25-27: SDRTL's Booth at the Federation of Rep. Women's Conv. (Sioux Falls)	Nov. 3: SD General Election Day...Please Vote Pro-Life!
Sept. 28: Alpha Center's "Defenders Dinner" (Sioux Falls)	Dec. 1: South Dakota "Day of Giving" (Please remember SDRTL)

Where Your Donations are Going

By: *Spencer Cody, SDRTL Treasurer and Region 6 Board Member*

Let us take a look at how South Dakota Right to Life has worked to ensure that the most is made of every contribution that we have received and hope that you will partner or continue to partner with us as a sustaining member in 2020. So far in 2020, roughly 49% of your donation has gone toward providing staff in support of chapters, pro-life outreach, and coordinating booths and exhibits at fairs and other events. Lobbying for pro-life legislation each session in Pierre has taken up another 17.5% of our budget. The LifeFacts that you receive goes to 16,000 households and makes up more than 16% of this year's budget. A remaining 3% of donations are spent on miscellaneous education outreach. Only 1.1% of your donation is being spent on administration of membership mailings, postage, and office supplies. Fortunately, due to your generosity, we were able to restore a portion of our fair and chapter supplies budget and our entire LifeFacts budget. This just proves that every level of support makes a big difference in determining what programs and outreach we can implement. Every dollar that you donate gets fully utilized in the most meaningful and impactful way possible. Thank you so much for supporting South Dakota Right to Life!



Thank You!

Donations in Memory of:	Submitted By:
ELDON BARTSCHER.....	DALE & JANET BARTSCHER
DON BASYE.....	BARBARA BASYE
PAT MOORE.....	DORIS FERWEDA
TAMRA M. WELBIG.....	ANDY & JOANN GROOS
JAMES TRYGSTAD.....	ANDY & JOANN GROOS
GREG BEEBE.....	GREG & ANNE HANSON
DUANE RAUSCH.....	KEVIN & PAM HOLT
DUANE HOLT.....	KEVIN & PAM HOLT
GEORGE STULC.....	MELODY JOHNSON
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Cut & mail to: SDRTL, 1107 Mt. Rushmore Rd, Suite 1-B, Rapid City, SD 57701

Name_____Mailing Address_____

City_____State____Zip____Phone_____Email_____

My Special Gift in Support of Life: \$_____

My Sustaining Gift in Support of Life (check one)

____Bronze: \$10/mo. or \$120/yr.

____Silver: \$25/mo. or \$300/yr.

____Gold: \$50/mo. or \$600/yr.

____Platinum: \$100/mo. or \$1200/yr.

____Titanium: \$250/mo. or \$3000/yr.

____Diamond: \$500/mo. or \$6000/yr.

____Amount of your choosing \$_____/mo.

*Due to IRS regulations donations to SDRTL and the SDRTL PAC are not deductible. If you wish to make a tax-deductible donation, then please donate to the SDRTL Education Trust Fund. A donation may yet also be given "In Memory of" or "In Honor of" of a loved one upon request.

I would like to donate by: (check one)

____Online bank transfer or Bill Pay (I will contact my bank for this option)

____Credit Card- (costs us 3% of your gift)

Card Number: _____Card Month: _____

Card Year:_____Card CVV Number: _____

____Check (Make out to either - SDRTL, non tax deductible; or SDRTL Ed Trust Fund, tax deductible)

How Often May We Anticipate This Donation? ____Once; ____Monthly

This Donation is made... (check one if it applies)

____"In Memory of": _____

____"In Honor of": _____

If you wish to donate electronically please visit SDrighttolife.org

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48th Annual Hour of Reflection

"The Sanctity of Human Life"

Sunday, Jan. 31st 2021 2:00 p.m. at the State Capitol Rotunda, Pierre, SD

Master of Ceremonies

Dale Bartscher

Executive Director
SD Right to Life
Rapid City, SD



Keynote Speaker

AG Jason R. Ravensborg

Pierre, SD



Guest Speaker

Dr. Pat Castle

Life Runners
President & Founder
Omaha, NE



Invited Guest Speakers: Governor Kristi Noem & US Senator John Thune

Special Music, Refreshments, SDRTL's Essay Contest Winners



- Walk for Life -
Sunday, January 31, 2021
12:00 - 1:00 p.m. (CST)
State Capitol, Pierre, SD

