

*From the Heart of the Director*

*One heart at a time...one life at a time*

## **Doe v. Bolton decision defines front lines**

With the 46th anniversary of the *Roe v. Wade* decision upon us, it's easy to think of the courts as the front lines in the battle to protect innocent human life. Looking back to 1973, one could easily conclude that because the first battle was in the courts, that's where the battle rages today.

In recent news, the state of New York passed a radical bill that would legalize abortions up to birth and withdraw protections for babies who are born alive after failed abortions. LifeNews reports that New Mexico, Vermont, Rhode Island, Illinois, and Massachusetts are pushing similar legislation that would allow abortion at any time until birth.

### **LOOKING BACK: The facts of Roe**

The 1973 press accounts told us that Roe legalized abortion for just the first trimester of pregnancy, totally misunderstanding the decision. Of course, we now know that the Roe decision went much further.

In the second trimester, Roe placed no limits on abortion, only allowing states to pass laws on who and where abortions are performed. And in the third trimester, Roe allowed states to limit abortions—but not where the life or “health” of the mother is in any danger. The word “health” was defined by another major decision handed down that day, the *Doe v. Bolton* decision from the state of Georgia.

### *Doe gives us third trimester abortion*

In the *Doe* decision, the Court held that “health” would be defined by The World Health Organization (WHO). WHO's definition of health is one's physical, emotional or familial well being—essentially anything falls under this broad umbrella.

So regardless of any state laws, a woman could walk into an abortion clinic in the last day of pregnancy and claim that her mental or emotional health would be harmed by giving birth—and the Court would be satisfied as this act is protected by *Roe*—and *Doe*.

### **LOOKING FORWARD: Heartbeat bills are gaining momentum**

In the midst of all of this, there is good news. In the state of Kentucky, the House and Senate recently passed legislation to protect life of the unborn at the detection of a heartbeat (6 weeks) and the Governor is expected to sign it into law. Other states proposing similar heartbeat bill legislation are Florida, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee and West Virginia. On the federal level, similar legislation has been introduced by Sen. Ben Sasse (R-Neb) whereby infants would be protected who were born alive after failed abortions.

Some of the greatest atrocities against humankind were not won in the courts but by the fervent diligence of many sympathetic defenders of human life. William Wilberforce was one of them. This passionate politician from England said (regarding slavery): **“Let us not despair; it is a blessed cause, and success, ere long, will crown our exertions. Already we have gained one victory; we have obtained, for these poor creatures, the recognition of their human nature, which, for a while was most shamefully denied. This is the first fruits of our efforts; let us persevere and our triumph will be complete. Never, never will we desist till we have wiped away this scandal from the Christian name, released ourselves from the load of guilt, under which we at present labour, and extinguished every trace of this bloody traffic, of which our posterity, looking back to the history of these enlightened times, will scarce believe that it has been suffered to exist so long a disgrace and dishonour to this country.”**

As William Wilberforce was encouraged by the progress that was made to recognize slaves as human beings, we must persevere with the same fervor to uphold that the unborn child is a person, a living human being with the same inalienable rights and protections endowed to us by our Creator.

### **LOOKING UPWARD: “I have said these things to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”** *John 16:33*

God is sovereign and rules from His throne. Christ is our blessed Hope and the Light of the world. He is the Giver of all good things and He is the Creator of life. The Bible tells us that “God is angry with the wicked every day.” (*Ps. 7:11*) He sees what is happening and His heart is grieved by sin. (*Gen. 6:5-6*) Yet, God calls us to: pray without ceasing (*1Thess. 5:17*), keep our eyes on Christ (*Pbl. 3:14*), stand firm in the faith (*1 Cor. 16:13*), let your light shine before men (*Matt. 5:16*), deliver those who are being taken away to death, and those who are staggering to slaughter (*Prov. 24:11*), and proclaim the Gospel to all of creation. (*Mark 16:15*)

Thank you for standing with us. Thank you for being a voice for the unborn.

Kathryn Enloe, Director



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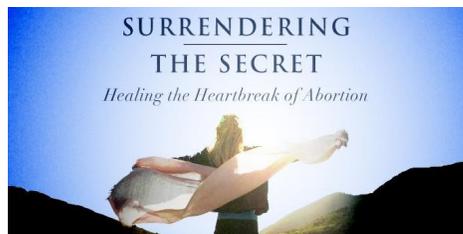


Barbara Beauchamp and Cheryl Miller

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**Surrendering the Secret:** If you are one of the many women who have had an abortion and believe that your decision has had a negative impact on your life, be encouraged! There is help and healing available.

**Surrendering the Secret**, a beautiful 8-week Bible study is for women to begin or continue healing the brokenness that so often accompanies abortion. Each woman will learn of tearing down the roadblock of anger, of forgiveness, of dealing with grief, and finding restoration and true peace in Jesus Christ. If you or anyone you know would benefit from this study, a new class will begin in **March** and is offered at no cost. If you have any questions or want to register, please call the Center at 583-1900, Liz at 816-3368., or e-mail Liz at [lizwagner93245@gmail.com](mailto:lizwagner93245@gmail.com). ***This study and all communications are confidential.***



## Upcoming Volunteer Training: March 14-16, 21-23.

We look forward to another training session with our new client advocates next month. Since these dates are rapidly approaching, our deadline to sign up for this training has passed. However, if this is something you are interested in, our next training will be held in July. You can access and print our preliminary volunteer application from the website and send it in any time. Or, if you're in the area, feel free to stop by and pick one up or we can mail it to you. We'd love to have you! If you have any questions, please give us a call.

