

I. OBAMA & LIFE

Barack Obama is the most pro-abortion presidential candidate the Democrats have ever nominated. From the fundamental question of when life begins to the issue of late-term abortions, Barack Obama always takes the position of the abortion-on-demand extremists.

- “ABOVE MY PAY GRADE”

At the Saddleback presidential candidates forum on August 16, 2008, Pastor Rick Warren asked Barack Obama at what point he believes a baby gets human rights. Obama responded: “Well, you know, I think that whether you’re looking at it from a theological perspective or a scientific perspective, answering that question with specificity, you know, is above my pay grade.”¹

Above his “pay grade”? What else is “above his pay grade”? How can voters trust Obama to handle tough issues like health care, judges, war and peace if he can’t get this fundamental issue right?

Of course, everyone has an opinion on when life begins, and the Harvard educated Obama no doubt has one too. He simply didn’t want to answer the question. If a baby deserves human rights, then it is a life worth protecting and the whole abortion argument falls apart! As Ravi Zacharias recently said, “We cannot talk about human rights without the right to be human.”

So Pastor Warren asked a follow up question: “Have you ever voted to limit or reduce abortions?” Obama offered 200 words of fluffy rhetoric essentially to say, “No.” Not one. Not ever.

- LIVE BIRTH ABORTIONS

Believe it or not, some abortions fail and don’t destroy the unborn child. The result is the birth of a live baby. A recent *American Spectator* article carried an interview with Gianna Jessen, who was born after surviving a botched saline abortion.² Unbelievably, Barack Obama repeatedly opposed legislation in the Illinois state legislature that would have protected the lives of babies like Gianna, who were born after failed abortions.

At that stage we are no longer debating a fetus in the mother’s womb or a woman’s “choice” to control her own body. We’re talking about babies outside the womb, living and breathing on their own. Obama callously voted to deny them medical care so that these children would be left to die.

¹ CNN Transcripts, Saddleback Presidential Candidates Forum, Aug. 16, 2008
<http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0808/16/se.02.html>

² *American Spectator*, “The Audacity of Death,” June 6, 2008, http://www.spectator.org/util/print.asp?art_id=13313

A similar bill, the Born Alive Infants Protection Act, passed the United States Senate without objection and was signed into law by President Bush in 2002. Not one Senate Democrat objected – not Hillary Clinton, not Ted Kennedy, not Barbara Boxer. There was no filibuster. Even the radical pro-abortion group NARAL refused to oppose the bill because no one wanted to be seen defending infanticide.³ But that didn't stop Barack Obama in the Illinois legislature. That's just how extreme Barack Obama is when it comes to defending abortion-on-demand.

- FREEDOM OF CHOICE ACT

Here's another example of Obama's commitment to the pro-abortion lobby. On the 35th anniversary of the Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* decision, Senator Barack Obama took time out from the campaign trail to issue a statement. The candidate of "hope" and "change" apparently wants no change when it comes to America's current abortion-on-demand regime, and, sadly, he offers no hope to the unborn. Here is what Obama said:

"Thirty-five years after the Supreme Court decided *Roe v. Wade*, it's never been more important to protect a woman's right to choose. Last year, the Supreme Court decided by a vote of 5-4 to uphold the Federal Abortion Ban, and in doing so undermined an important principle of *Roe v. Wade*: that we must always protect women's health.

"With one more vacancy on the Supreme Court, we could be looking at a majority hostile to a women's fundamental right to choose for the first time since *Roe v. Wade*. The next president may be asked to nominate that Supreme Court justice. That is what is at stake in this election.

"Throughout my career, I've been a consistent and strong supporter of reproductive justice, and have consistently had a 100% pro-choice rating with Planned Parenthood and NARAL Pro-Choice America.

"...And I will continue to defend this right by passing the Freedom of Choice Act as president."⁴

What is the Freedom of Choice Act? It is "a proposed federal law to nullify virtually all federal and state limitations on abortion."⁵ It was introduced in Congress the day after the United States Supreme Court upheld the federal law banning partial-birth abortions.

³ Kaisernetwork.org, "NARAL Says It Does Not Oppose Born Alive Infants Act," June 20, 2001, http://www.kaisernetwork.org/Daily_reports/rep_index.cfm?DR_ID=5334

⁴ Obama campaign press release, Jan. 22, 2008, http://www.barackobama.com/2008/01/22/obama_statement_on_35th_annive.php

⁵ National Right to Life, "Pro-Abortion Lawmakers Propose 'FOCA' to Invalidate All Limits on Abortion," April 25, 2007 <http://www.nrlc.org/foca/LawmakersProposeFOCA.html>

So, to be clear, the law was specifically written to repeal the ban on partial-birth abortions, but it does not stop there.

The law's sponsor, Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-NY), said he wrote it to "bar government – at any level – from interfering with a woman's fundamental right to choose to bear a child, or to terminate a pregnancy."⁶ That means Obama and Nadler not only want to repeal the federal law banning partial-birth abortions, but they also want to repeal state parental notification laws, state laws mandating waiting periods for abortions and informed consent. There is nothing "moderate" about sweeping away every pro-life law in America.

- DO PARENTS MATTER?

In the closing days of the 2006 congressional session, Republicans fought hard to pass the Child Interstate Abortion Notification Act. This law would have upheld state parental notification laws by making it a federal crime to transport a minor girl across state lines to get an abortion with the intent of evading parental notification laws in the child's home state.

Polls have consistently found that parental notification for abortion is overwhelmingly popular with the American people. For example, a July 2005 Quinnipiac University poll found that 74% of registered voters supported laws that required a parent be notified before a minor girl could get an abortion.⁷

The idea that it is not already criminal for a total stranger to take your minor daughter to another state to get an abortion without your knowledge is unconscionable. But when Republicans tried to strengthen support for state parental notification laws, Obama joined a last-ditch effort to scuttle the bill, and he voted to filibuster the Child Interstate Abortion Notification Act.⁸

- ✘ Against parental notification
- ✘ Against the ban on partial-birth abortions
- ✘ Against the Born Alive Infants Protection Act
- ✘ Against all pro-life state and federal laws
- ✘ Won't say when a baby deserves protection

THAT'S BARACK OBAMA'S RADICAL PRO-ABORTION RECORD!

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⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Quinnipiac University press release, Jul. 27, 2005, <http://www.quinnipiac.edu/x1295.xml?ReleaseID=820>

⁸ Senate Roll Call No. 263, 109th Congress, 2nd Session