

RIGHT TO LIFE ACTION COALITION OF OHIO POLICY DOCUMENT

THE HUMAN FAMILY

Our efforts are focused on strengthening the culture of life through allowing each new life the human right to be nurtured and grow within the family unit consisting of his/her mother and father. Such family is sacred and is consistent throughout the ages. The place in which human life can be properly welcomed and protected from harm and can develop to his/her full authentic human growth. Thus the family is the very heart of the culture of life which we strive to protect and defend.

ABORTION

Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio opposes abortion at any point of gestation, as it destroys a living, growing human life. We oppose the RU 486/prostaglandin abortion technique because it kills unborn babies whose hearts have begun to beat and has injured, and even killed, women. In the rare case that the mother's life is indeed endangered by a continuation of the pregnancy, sound medical practice would dictate that every effort be made to save both lives. Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio supports a Human Life Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which would guarantee the right to life of all persons from the moment of fertilization until natural death.

RAPE/INCEST

Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio opposes abortion for pregnancy resulting from rape or incest. Whereas we understand the trauma involved in such situations, the unborn child conceived is no less human than one conceived under more favorable conditions. Instead of the further violence of abortion, we believe women should be provided with compassionate, competent emotional and health care. In the case of rape, we assert the need to educate women to seek immediate medical attention after they are victimized. In the case of incest, we stress the need to help the entire family correct the situation, which led to the pregnancy.

PARENTAL CONSENT

Until our goal of total protection for the unborn is reached, Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio supports legislation requiring parental consent before an abortion is performed on a minor child. The involvement of the family could be crucial to helping the girl in such a stressful time when she is making decisions regarding a problem pregnancy.

DEFINITIONS

ABORTION NOTIFICATION

The goal of Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio is the total protection for the unborn child. Until such time as this is achieved, we support legislation requiring that both parents of a minor child be notified before an abortion is performed. We likewise support legislation requiring that the fathers are notified before the mother undergoes an abortion.

ADOPTION

Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio supports adoption as one possible, positive solution for a woman bearing a child she is unable to rear. We support legislation designed to facilitate the adoption process, thus making it easier to place children with eligible couples.

AMNIOCENTESIS

Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio recognizes the many positive values of these procedures though we also acknowledge the medical fact that these tests can cause a miscarriage. In addition, we oppose any non-therapeutic, prenatal diagnosis for non-treatable genetic disorders and handicaps if the results of the diagnosis lead to abortion.

CHILD ABUSE

Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio abhors child abuse but rejects abortion as a means of preventing unwanted, battered children. Studies have shown that up to 91% of battered children were planned pregnancies. Child abuse is a medical, legal, social, moral, and psychological problem for the family, and it will require the involvement of all those disciplines to arrive at a solution.

EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio is opposed to an ERA that would protect the "right" to abortion created in 1973. This would promote a broader range of abortion "rights."

EUTHANASIA

Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio opposes the intentional killing of a dependent person for his or her alleged benefit, whether by active intervention or omitting treatment. We approve the accepted medical practice of administering pain-relieving drugs with the dosage necessary to alleviate a terminally ill patient's suffering as long as there is no intent to administer, overdose, or withhold treatment to cause or hasten death. We oppose legislated surrender of a patient's right to life to an agent, committee, or court through measures such as so-called "death with dignity," "right to die," "living will," "medical aid in dying," "natural death without comfort care," or "medical orders for life sustaining treatment" (MOLST, MOST, POLST) acts.

FETICIDE

Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio supports [current law](#), which criminalizes any intentional, negligent or illegal activity that harms a pregnant woman and results in the death of her unborn child. The coalition will insist on the enforcement of these laws.

FETOSCOPY

Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio opposes any non-therapeutic, prenatal diagnosis for non-treatable genetic disorders and handicaps if the results of the diagnosis lead to abortion.

GENETIC SCREENING

Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio, while recognizing the possible benefits of genetic screening for couples at risk of chromosomal abnormalities, opposes genetic screening or eugenics programs for the identification of non-treatable, genetically defective children if the testing results lead to abortion.

HUMAN CLONING

Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio supports state and national legislation to ban all human cloning, including experimentation on human embryos, which mistreats human beings as products or commodities.

INFANTICIDE

Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio opposes the killing of newborn infants either directly or by withholding necessary care for their survival.

INFORMED CONSENT

Until our goal of total protection for the unborn is reached, Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio supports legislation designed to help a woman make a decision concerning abortion which is based upon full knowledge of the development of her unborn child, the physical and psychological complications which could result from the abortion, and the availability of alternatives to abortion.

IN VITRO FERTILIZATION

While Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio empathizes with the many couples who turn to IVF as a treatment for infertility, we caution that some commonly used procedures surrounding this practice can cause the deaths of children at the embryonic stage. To protect both mothers and children, Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio calls for parents undergoing the in vitro process to limit the number of human embryos created in a single cycle to the number to be transferred in that cycle. In IVF, as in any other means of procreation, the responsibility of parents to protect and nurture their children begins at fertilization.

POPULATION CONTROL

Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio views human beings as producers and problem solvers rather than mere consumers and problems. We accept the conclusion of experts who find the earth's resources and agricultural lands capable of supporting two to ten times the earth's present population. We reject population control programs that rely on the promotion of contraception and abortion.

RESEARCH AND FETAL EXPERIMENTATION

Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio opposes any fetal experimentation, which requires or results in the death of an unborn child. Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio supports research that can save lives of human beings without causing harm to other lives. Stem cell research, where adult stem cells, cord blood, or other sources are used receive the support of Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio. We oppose all forms of research where living human embryos are destroyed; this includes destructive embryonic stem cell research, as well as aborted fetal tissue research.