

Kentucky is standing up to those hellbent on annihilating babies in the womb

by Schu Montgomery, Opinion contributor

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“All we are saying is give LIFE a chance!”

Echoes from a bygone anthem (“Give PEACE a chance”) reverberate through many a state capitol rotunda these days as the quest for peace — peace in the womb — grows ever louder. Once the safest place for an unborn child, a mother’s womb has too often become the killing fields.

Our astute Gov. Matt Bevin articulately stated on Fox News’ Tucker Carlson Tonight recently that the reason a flurry of legislatures and governors have stepped up their defense of innocent human life with bills challenging *Roe v. Wade* is because “people are appropriately outraged” that whole “generations of children” are being wiped out — all in the name of “reproductive freedom” or “choice” (certainly misnomers for those hellbent on annihilating little ones in the womb).

More than 60 million preborn babies have lost their lives since *Roe’s* companion case, *Doe v. Bolton*, stripped the states (and, therefore, the people) from protecting the preborn during all nine months of a woman’s pregnancy for reasons of “health,” not medical necessity. “Health,” the court so broadly mandated must include the “physical, emotional, psychological, familial, and the woman’s age.”

“With the insanity coming out of New York and Virginia ... where you got lawmakers and governors basically advocating and celebrating abortion on demand, the country needs to know that there are still some sane people in this world in public office,” said Mississippi State Sen. Angela Hill. Mississippi has joined Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Ohio, and most recently, Missouri, among others before this year, in passing heartbeat bills.

“We protect baby sea turtles better than we protect unborn human life, and that is just insanity,” Hill lamented.

The peoples’ representatives, especially in America’s heartland, are simply fed up with the court’s seemingly fixed abortion policy that socially engineers, rather than acknowledges evidence that living, breathing, thumb-sucking, somersaulting acrobat of an individual we see on the ultrasound screen is indeed a person whose life is every bit as precious and worth fighting for as the readers of this op-ed piece.

Heartbeat bills, bans on abortion for reasons of gender, race or disability, and prohibitions of D&E second-trimester methods that tear, crush and grab hold of the limbs of babies targeted for destruction, are admittedly “designed as a vehicle to challenge *Roe*.” But a case of such magnitude won’t be heard by the Supreme Court, according to Americans United for Life’s Steven Aden, “unless you can convince four members of the court that a fifth member would go with them to uphold” such protections.

Indeed, the addition of more originalist justices like Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court has lifted spirits that enough justices will move to reconsider *Roe* and grant

states the right to set their own abortion standards.

No other decision, other than Dred Scott in 1857, has garnered more sustained resistance, than the 1973 Roe ruling. The uptick of violent attacks against peaceful, prayerful pro-lifers on college campuses and outside abortion clinics by unhinged pro-abortion extremists, have only fueled the flames of righteous indignation.

Recent release of movies like “Gosnell” and “Unplanned,” both real-life stories of the seamy, unsafe and mercenary side of the abortion industry, has enlightened and educated tens of millions who had been clueless about abortion, but who converted to the pro-life side once presented with the truth.

Polls are showing more consistent support for the pro-life position. In arguing for Alabama’s Human Life Protection Act, signed into law by Gov. Kay Ivey last week, proponents recalled how at least 50% of babies killed by abortion are female. Last year, 55% of the voters who approved an amendment to the Alabama Constitution assuring the right to life to unborn babies in the event of a Roe reversal, were women.

Meanwhile, a May 10-11 poll by Hill-HarrisX shows more than half of registered voters believe laws banning abortion after the sixth month of pregnancy are correct, and an even higher percentage think the Supreme Court should revisit and actually change Roe.

“The American people want a fresh debate and a new direction achieved by consensus and built on love for both mothers and babies,” said Marjorie Dannenfelser, president of the Susan B. Anthony List.

Often lost in the hysteria over what could still be a long road ahead in restoring the right to life to unborn children, is the reality that women will still need help once the scourge of abortion is no longer sanctioned by our government.

The ever-expanding network of crisis pregnancy centers, in direct response to Roe v. Wade, will continue! Alabama is home to more than 70, each offering free services such as pregnancy tests, ultrasound scans, parenting classes, post-abortion healing and extensive material support. The same could be said for Kentucky, where volunteers staff nearly 50 centers from as far west as Paducah to Ashland in far Eastern Kentucky. Across the U.S., more than 2,750 pregnancy help centers are doing the same work. In 2017 alone, these caring communities served nearly 2 million clients, saving states and localities an estimated \$161 million.

Schu Montgomery is a member of the board of directors for Right to Life of Louisville.

<https://www.courier-journal.com/story/opinion/2019/05/21/abortion-battle-kentucky-standing-up-save-babies/3746544002/>