



Heartbeat

The beat of Students for Life at SLU

Volume 1, Issue 4, December 2007/January 2008



Upcoming Events

March for Life Registration DEADLINE

December 14, 2007

Register today at

<http://pages.slu.edu/org/sfl>

March for Life

January 19 - 23, 2008

Washington, D.C.

Meetings

Every Tuesday at
8:00pm, in the John
Cook School of
Business, room 330

(Note the time change for
the spring semester)



Students for Life prepare for the 2008 March for Life

By Sarah Schumacher

Students for Life will make their annual journey to Washington, D.C. for the March for Life on January 19th-23rd. As in years past, Truman State University pro-life supporters will join SLU students for the March.

This year, the March for Life buzz began on November 13th with the "Pack the Buses" event, held in the Busch Student Center. To a room full of students interested in learning more about the March, SFL advisor Steve

Fowler spoke of the reasons he travels to D.C. each year. March for Life co-chairs Greg Ellermann and Matt Von Rueden then outlined the itinerary.

On the first day in D.C., Students for Life will attend the Students for Life of America Conference at Catholic University of America. The following day is a free day to see the sights in Washington, D.C. The third day will begin with Mass and breakfast with other Jesuit universities, and then students will join other *Roe v. Wade* protesters to march to the Supreme Court. Students can expect to be back in St. Louis in time for classes on January 23rd. A more detailed itinerary can be found on the Students for Life website at <http://pages.slu.edu/org/sfl>.

Marching alongside thousands of pro-lifers in the nation's capital to peacefully protest abortion is an incredibly empowering experience. Reaching the top of Capital Hill and seeing the ocean of people shows the strength of the pro-life movement. It gives hope that one day the unborn of America will be safe in their mothers' wombs.

The March for Life registration deadline has been extended to this Friday, December 14th. Space is available but limited, so register today at <http://pages.slu.edu/org/sfl>.



**Be a part of the
March for Life!**

***Register
by Dec. 14th!***

"Being pro-life doesn't save babies, acting pro-life does."

~Dennis Green

FACT:

In the U.S., 95% of women who have had an abortion say that the abortion clinic gave them little or no information about the fetus living inside of them.

-Centers for Disease Control and Prevention & The Allen Guttmacher Institute



A note from a host family

We look forward to each January, as we know our "SLU daughters" will be returning for their annual Students for Life rally here in Washington, D.C. We've hosted the same girls for the last two years and look forward to continuing this relationship for as long as they are attending SLU and hopefully beyond. They become members of the family and share their college and family stories with my two teenagers. What great role models, especially because they are neat as a pin! Thank you to SLU and Gonzaga College High School for coordinating this worthwhile effort!

JoAnn Vilhauer
Alexandria, VA



Review of U.S. abortion law in preparation for the March for Life

By Tim Wright

No decision handed down by the U.S. Supreme Court is better known than the infamous *Roe v. Wade* (1973), which legalized abortion in this country. For nearly thirty-five years, the United States has been split over the consequences of this decision. In a few short weeks, throngs of people will once again descend upon the National Mall and the steps of the Supreme Court building in Washington, D.C. to protest the legality of abortion.



Their opposition often exalts *Roe* as the most important and necessary decision of the modern age. Yet those who look carefully at what *Roe* says—indeed, even those who strongly support abortion rights—can see that its reasoning is flawed. When the Court upheld abortion rights in *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* (1992), they did so based on the notion that “what’s done is done” and the end results are justified, no matter how corrupted the means.

While many will talk about *Roe* and the “right” it granted, few discuss *Doe v. Bolton*, the case decided the same day as *Roe*. Together, these cases guaranteed abortion on demand until the moment of birth. “When life begins is irrelevant,” the Court has said. Pro-life supporters have never remained quiet in their refusal to accept this.

There is hope, however. When *Gonzales v. Carhart* was decided in April of 2007, upholding the Partial Birth Abortion Ban of 2003, *Roe*’s proclamation that abortion is a guaranteed right of privacy was completely abandoned. There has always been dissent on the bench, and perhaps one day soon, the Court will attend to their mistake honestly and openly.

Colorado ballot initiative could provide unborn with constitutional rights

By Teresa Val



Under the 14th Amendment, the United States Constitution grants the rights to life, liberty and property to any person, stating that no state may deny him equal protection of these laws. In the past, the 14th Amendment was pivotal in extending rights to former slaves after the Civil War and in ending racial segregation during the Civil Rights movement. Now, this amendment could

provide fetuses with the right to life, as well.

After a unanimous vote on November 13th, the Colorado Supreme Court granted permission for Colorado for Equal Rights to collect signatures for a ballot initiative. According to *LifeSiteNews.com*, this ballot seeks to grant the status of legal personhood to the unborn.

LifeSiteNews.com quoted founder of Colorado Right to Life and National Right to Life John Archibold, who said, "Colorado, which regrettably was in the forefront of the movement to deny the right to life to millions of the unborn, has now taken the first step to restore the right to life to all Americans, regardless of age, dependency, national origin or condition."

The measure, if passed, would define personhood as beginning at the moment of fertilization and would change Colorado law to provide the unborn with legal protection. Children in the womb would be granted constitutional protections — those inalienable rights to life, justice, and due process of law, according to *Catholic Online*.

Spokeswoman for Colorado Right to Life Kristi Burton was quoted in *LifeSiteNews.com* as saying, "It [the ballot initiative] doesn't outlaw abortion, it doesn't regulate birth control...It's just a constitutional principle. We're laying a foundation that every life deserves protection...If it's a human being, it's a person, and hey, they deserve equal rights under our law." Colorado Right to Life has six months to collect 76,000 signatures, according to *Catholic Online*. If this initiative succeeds, it will be placed in the November 2008 ballot. Similar action is under way in other states, including Montana, Georgia, Oregon, Michigan, and South Carolina.

"The care of human life and happiness and not their destruction is the first and only legitimate object of good government."

~Thomas Jefferson

FACT:

Abortion is the most frequently performed surgery in America.

~ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention & The Allen Guttmacher Institute



We hope you enjoy this issue of *Heartbeat*. If you have any comments or suggestions, or if there is anything you would like to see in future issues, please do not hesitate to contact us at sfl@slu.edu.

**Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year!**

Luke 1:26

A young woman sits in her home
unmarried, alone, unsure

She is surprised
startled by the news:
unto you
a child
will be born

How can this be so?
I have no husband
I am all alone
I cannot do this all alone

Take courage
be strong
a child
will be born
and you will be blessed
because of it
this child can change the course of your life
this child can change the course of the world

You must make your choice.

A baby cries in the cold night
he stops
secure, safe, and warm
in the arms of one who loves him deeply
and becomes a man
whose life changes the course of the world.

~Rachel Allen



*"The answer to a
crisis pregnancy is
to eliminate the
crisis, not the
child."*

~Jeannie W. French,
National Women's
Coalition for Life

Like What You See?
Support SFL at SLU!
Send check donations to:

Students for Life
20 N Grand Blvd, MSC 11
St. Louis, MO 63103-2005

Thank You for supporting
life!

"A Voice for the Voiceless"



Our Mission:

Unwavering in its defense of the unborn, Students for Life at Saint Louis University is dedicated to protecting each and every human life from the moment of conception. With the distinct understanding that college-aged women are one of the most susceptible age demographics to abortion, we seek to educate, to engage, and to inform college men and women on the destructive nature of abortion.

Visit Our Website at <http://pages.slu.edu/orq/sfl>

Pregnant? Need Help?

The local Pregnancy Resource Center is within walking distance of SLU, at 4331 Lindell Blvd. Call them at 314-783-3040, or visit their website, www.prcmo.net.

FREE. CONFIDENTIAL. COMPASSIONATE.

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