There is no doubt that we are living in a consequential moment for life. With the Yes for Life Constitutional Amendment on the November 8 ballot in Kentucky, our beloved Commonwealth is center stage in the fight to protect the unborn.

I continue to praise God that the U.S. Supreme Court overturned the disastrous Roe v. Wade decision on June 24, declaring: "It is time to heed the Constitution and return the issue of abortion to the people's elected representatives."

But abortion advocates have now sued in state court and an activist Louisville judge is attempting to once again wrongly take the issue of abortion out of the people's hands and force his will upon Kentucky.

This act of judicial extremism amplifies the need to protect the Commonwealth from judicial abuse and secure a permanent victory for life at the state-level, through passage of the Yes for Life Amendment.

David Walls, executive director of The Family Foundation, speaks at a Yes for Life training event.

The will of Kentuckians and our 140+ year pro-life history couldn't be clearer —
Kentucky prohibited abortions for at least 94 years before Roe v. Wade wrongly voided our laws in 1973.

In its next session (1974), the Kentucky General Assembly proclaimed that, upon reversal of Roe v. Wade, "the declared [pro-life] policy of this Commonwealth... shall be fully restored."

Since then, the General Assembly has repeatedly reaffirmed the Commonwealth's pro-life policy by prohibiting abortions, except to save the mother, to the fullest extent allowed.

Removing all doubt, three-fourths of our elected legislators (with bipartisan support) voted in 2019 to expressly prohibit abortion if Roe was overturned.

Kentuckians have passionately stood up for the sanctity of life in their homes, churches, and communities. On November 8, pro-life Kentuckians will have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to show up at the ballot box and vote their pro-life values into the Kentucky Constitution!

I hope this pro-life edition of the Citizen is a great resource to you, your family, and your church!
Roe Overturned: U.S. Supreme Court says the people should decide abortion policy, not judges

U.S. Supreme Court: "It is time to heed the Constitution and return the issue of abortion to the people's elected representatives."

Roe v. Wade — the exercise of raw judicial power in 1973 that sparked a national controversy and embittered our political culture for a half-century by taking away the right of states and their citizens to craft public policy on abortion — was overruled on June 24, 2022.

For the first 185 years after the adoption of the U.S. Constitution, each State was permitted to address the issue of abortion in accordance with the views of its citizens. But when Roe v. Wade invented a previously unknown right to abortion within the U.S. Constitution 50 years ago, it voided prohibitions on abortion in 30 states across the nation.

Not only was the reasoning in Roe so bad that even the late U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, known for being a leading liberal feminist, called it a “heavy-handed judicial intervention [that] was difficult to justify,” but it also imposed a pro-abortion framework more radical than nearly anywhere else in the world.

"The permissibility of abortion, and the limitations, upon it, are to be resolved like most important questions in our democracy: by citizens trying to persuade one another and then voting.”
— Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization, 2022

Roe’s extremism had drastic consequences as 63+ million unborn children would be killed in the 50 years that followed, including 296,000+ in Kentucky. Planned Parenthood, America’s largest abortion provider, would report $1.6 billion in income and over $2 billion in net assets in its 2019-2020 annual report.

The majority in Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization heeded the requests of Kentucky and the 25 other states that asked the Court to return the issue of abortion to the people and their elected representatives. The Court wrote that “States may regulate abortion for legitimate reasons… [including] respect for and preservation of prenatal life at all stages of development; the protection of maternal health and safety; the elimination of particularly gruesome or barbaric medical procedures; the preservation of the integrity of the medical profession; the mitigation of fetal pain; and the prevention of discrimination on the basis of race, sex, or disability.” But now one activist judge... (see below)

BUT one activist Louisville judge threatens to thwart the will of the people and our pro-life laws

Louisville judge invents state constitutional right to abortion — disregards science, law, and history to overthrow the will of the people.

On June 30, only six days after the U.S. Supreme Court declared that the authority to decide public policy questions on abortion belonged to the people and their elected state representatives (see above), an activist Louisville judge blocked the clear will of the Commonwealth's citizens and their elected officials to protect unborn children at every stage of development and prevent a beating heart from being intentionally stopped. (see page 4)

The same activist judge, Jefferson Circuit Court Judge Mitch Perry, revealed his extremism when he made the absurd claim that there was a right to abortion in the Kentucky Constitution — a right that somehow remained a secret during the Commonwealth's 140+ years of being pro-life.

Kentuckians, through their elected representatives, have clearly declared that life begins at fertilization and is worthy of protection. Alarming, Perry's July 22 opinion and order overrode the will of the people as he dismissively claimed this is "a distinctly Christian and Catholic belief." Apparently blinded by his extreme agenda and hostility towards Christianity, Perry failed to even consider scientific reality — 96 percent of surveyed biologists agree that life begins at fertilization and 63 percent of them are non-religious.

Like Roe v. Wade, Judge Perry’s extremism is "egregiously wrong," "its reasoning [is] extremely weak," and it will have "damaging consequences."

Kentuckians can pass the Yes for Life Constitutional Amendment on Nov. 8 in order to ensure that the people and their elected representatives have the freedom to protect living unborn children in the womb, protect the health and safety of mothers, and preserve the integrity of the medical profession.

On August 18, the Kentucky Supreme Court issued an order keeping Kentucky’s Heartbeat Bill and Human Life Protection Act, also known as the trigger ban on abortion, in effect while the pro-abortion industry’s challenge to the laws continues.

The order leaves in place a ruling by the Kentucky Court of Appeals that overturned Judge Perry’s activist order temporarily stopping enforcement of both laws. Kentucky’s Supreme Court has also accepted the case and set oral arguments for November 15, 2022.

To be clear, at stake in this case is the will of Kentuckians, as expressed by the overwhelming and bipartisan support of their elected officials in the Kentucky General Assembly; the Commonwealth's 140+ year pro-life history; and the lives of unborn Kentuckians.

As Kentucky Supreme Court Justices Keller and Nickell noted in their concurring opinion, “prior to the oral arguments in this case, the citizens of this Commonwealth will have an opportunity to embrace or reject an amendment to our Constitution bearing directly on many of the issues in the underlying circuit court action. We look forward to that expression of the will of the Commonwealth.”
AMENDMENT #2 TEXT: “To protect human life, nothing in this Constitution shall be construed to secure or protect a right to abortion or require the funding of abortion.”

Reasons to Vote Yes for Life

Voting Yes will... Save Unborn Babies
EVERY human, including babies in the womb, deserves the most fundamental human right — the right to life. Passing the Yes for Life Amendment will ensure Kentucky’s Human Life Protection Act, Heartbeat Law, and other pro-life laws continue to prohibit the killing of unborn children in the womb.

Voting Yes will... Protect our Tax Dollars from Funding Abortion
Passing the Yes for Life Amendment will ensure our tax dollars can’t be used to pay for ending the life of an unborn child. Protecting tax dollars from funding abortion is a broadly supported, bipartisan issue. Unfortunately, the increasingly radical pro-abortion industry wants to force taxpayers to pay for abortion-on-demand.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Yes for Life Constitutional Amendment?
The Amendment will affirm there is no right to abortion or the funding of abortion in Kentucky’s Constitution. This important language will prevent state judges from asserting their own preferences over the will of legislators and the voters. Kentuckians can vote Yes for Life at the ballot box on November 8, 2022 by voting YES on Constitutional Amendment #2, which will be at the very end of the ballot.

Why is the Yes for Life Constitutional Amendment needed?
Kentucky’s pro-life laws are under attack by the pro-abortion industry and an activist state judge who is asserting his own abortion-on-demand extremism over the will of the people and our elected officials. The Yes for Life Amendment protects our pro-life laws by ensuring that activist state judges can not invent a right to kill an unborn child in our Constitution.

Does the Yes for Life Amendment or recent Supreme Court ruling threaten women’s access to healthcare, contraception, or fertility treatment?
No! This is fear mongering by pro-abortion activists. Kentucky’s pro-life laws clearly protect medically necessary healthcare for women, access to contraception, and do not threaten access to fertility treatments. Kentucky women will still have full access to prenatal care, including for heartbreaking cases of ectopic pregnancies or miscarriage.

What does the Yes for Life Amendment mean for cases of rape or incest?
Rape and incest are horrific crimes, and perpetrators of these violent acts must be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. Yet, violence should not beget more violence. The innocent life of the child should not be violently ended because of the violent act of another person. Kentucky’s pro-life laws protect the right to life no matter a child’s sex, race or circumstance of their conception. The Yes for Life Amendment respects the ability of the people and the General Assembly to address these important abortion policy issues – not activist state judges.

How can I help and can my Church get involved?
The Family Foundation is a founding member of the Yes for Life Alliance that is equipping Kentuckians on the Yes for Life Amendment. Our alliance needs your prayers, engagement, and financial support to raise awareness of this Constitutional Amendment. And YES, your Church can get involved! Because this constitutional amendment is a ballot measure voted on by the people, and not a political candidate or party, Churches and other 501(c)(3) non-profits can directly advocate for the passage of the Yes for Life Amendment.

Go to KentuckyFamily.org/YesforLife and YesforLifeKY.com for updates, resources, and to financially support our efforts protecting life in Kentucky.

#2 November 8, 2022 | YesForLifeKY.com
The will of the people and their elected representatives is clear — KY values life

KY's Declared Policy: "to recognize and to protect the lives of all human beings regardless of their degree of biological development"

Kentucky Pro-Life for 140+ Years

In short, since 1879, Kentucky courts have recognized the General Assembly's legislative prerogative to protect unborn lives by prohibiting all abortions except to save the mother. From 1910 until Roe, the General Assembly did just that, with an exception to protect the mother's life. And, even after Roe, three members of Kentucky's high court reiterated the General Assembly's legislative power in this regard.

Since 1974, the General Assembly has continually expressed Kentucky's desire to protect all human life if Roe were overturned.

Highlighting Some of KY's Most Prominent Pro-Life Laws

- Pain Capable Unborn Child Act (2017)
  Shall not terminate the life of an unborn human being after the child is capable of feeling pain.

- Live Dismemberment Abortion Ban (2018)
  Shall not terminate the life of an unborn human being in a manner that results in bodily dismemberment, or cutting of the child.

- Heartbeat Bill (2019)
  Shall not terminate the life of an unborn human being after the child has a detectable heartbeat.

- Unborn Non-Discrimination Act (2019)
  Shall not terminate the life of an unborn human being because of the child's sex, race, color, national origin, diagnosis, or disability.

- Human Life Protection Act — KY "trigger law" (2019)
  Shall not terminate the life of an unborn human being.

- Humanity in Healthcare Act (2022)
  A pro-life omnibus bill addressing chemical abortion pills and other pro-life policies.

NOTE: ALL of these pro-life laws allow for the mother to receive medically-necessary treatment and NONE of them criminalize the woman.
Building a Culture of Life in Kentucky

Pro-Life Pregnancy Centers Stand Ready to Help Families Across the Commonwealth!

A network of over 50 pregnancy centers is already providing free support and assistance to families across the Commonwealth.

The pregnancy help center movement is a remarkable and unique resource with a widespread physical presence in every state, serving on the frontlines as they help parents navigate unplanned pregnancies.

Understanding the important complementary role these pregnancy help centers play, The Family Foundation helped form the Kentucky Association of Pregnancy Care Centers in 1994.

A network of 50+ centers throughout the Commonwealth is already encouraging, supporting, and assisting parents in need.

In order to see our vision of a pro-life Kentucky fulfilled, these critical ministries will need to multiply and existing centers will need to grow and expand.

Now is the time for churches and pro-life individuals to increase their support and partnerships.

Learn more: kentuckyfamily.org/pregnancycenter

Memorial for the Unborn

A place of healing and closure.

The Kentucky Memorial for the Unborn was established in historic Frankfort Cemetery as a living garden, place of healing, and a unique place of closure for those who have lost unborn children.

Many individuals in our communities need healing from the deep emotional and spiritual wounds caused by abortion and miscarriage, and we are committed to seeing these wounds healed through Jesus Christ our Lord.

To help with this healing, a state monument has been established on hallowed ground that offers a unique place of closure and reconciliation to all who grieve and suffer as a result of the loss of an unborn child. Through this monument, we hope to reach out to those whose broken hearts can be healed by God.

It serves families whose hearts have been broken by miscarriage, stillbirth, and abortion by allowing them to inscribe the name of their lost child on the granite memorial wall.

Learn more about the design and location of this special memorial and how you can plan a visit: kymemorialfortheunborn.org

Choose Life Plates

A way to support & promote life.

The official Kentucky CHOOSE LIFE license plate has been a huge boost to the state’s pregnancy help centers that provide information, practical resources, and support for women facing unplanned pregnancies.

Though the pregnancy help centers need the funds to do what they do, the big winners in the CHOOSE LIFE license plate project have always been the Kentucky women who are caught in untimely pregnancies and who do not feel that they have life-giving options.

Since 100 percent of the money generated by the plates goes to the local pregnancy help centers that dot the state, it is the women in need that experience the most meaningful impact from the funds given. (The Family Foundation contributes the cost of the annual audit, as well as the administrative and distribution expenses.)

Currently, in Kentucky, there are over 50 pregnancy help center offices. They range significantly in staff and budget, yet each is committed to the well-being of the mother in need and the health of her child.

Learn how you can get your "Choose Life" license plate: kentuckyfamily.org/choose-life-plates
WHY PRO-LIFE? Science opens window into womb, reveals complexity of living unborn child

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC: "using new 3D and even 4D scanning techniques, a window has opened on the womb... reveal[ing] that the fetus behaves in a much more complex way than previously imagined."

**Fertilization**

“The two cells gradually and gracefully become one... this is the moment of conception; when an individual's unique set of DNA is created, a human signature that never existed before and will never be repeated... the genes she's inherited have already predetermined her looks and much of her character; whether she's stubborn, intelligent, a thrill-seeker, or good at music, and even her vulnerability to certain diseases...”

**Heartbeat (3 weeks)**

“One of the first organs to form is the heart... after 22 days, a single cell stirs, as if jolted to life... other cells in the cluster pick up the rhythm. Incredibly, they all begin to beat in perfect unison... If she lives to 75, that'll be nearly 3 billion heartbeats.”

"Fetus" or "offspring" (8 Weeks)

"After growing for eight weeks, the embryo looks more like a tiny human and becomes known as a fetus, which in Latin means offspring."

**All Organs Formed (11 Weeks)**

“The period from 6 to 11 weeks has seen the most dramatic transformation of the entire pregnancy... In a frantic five-week burst; over 200 types of cells have been made, muscles and nerves are twitching, there's a liver, two kidneys, and a stomach no bigger than a grain of rice, all the organs of a human baby have formed, and it's still less than 3 inches long.”

**Decreased Risk of Miscarriage (12 weeks)**

“After 12 weeks, the fetus enters the second trimester... Although she's still no bigger than a fist, she's much less delicate and there's less risk of a miscarriage.

**Sense of Hearing (13 weeks)**

“At three months old, the fetus's most developed sense is hearing... her ears start picking up... the gurgles and rumbles made by her mother's body... [she] makes her own noises as she kicks and swishes in the amniotic fluid... She can also hear the competing thud of heartbeats... [and] sounds from the world outside...”

**Nervous System Up & Running (16 weeks)**

“Her nervous system is up and running and her movements are increasingly being controlled by her brain... Muscles are flexing, fingers and toes are separate and defined, and her bones are hardening... She's becoming sensitive to touch... She can bend, flex, and twist her extremities; her fingers, wrists, legs, and toes. More incredible, she's already beginning to develop an awareness of the space around her.”

**Mimics Life Outside the Womb (18 weeks)**

“At 18 weeks, the fetus begins to mimic life outside the womb. Her digestive system shows signs of activity... Around this time... the mother may become aware of its movements for the first time. Although the fetus has been active for quite some time, it's only now that her movements are strong enough for her mother to feel...”

**Possible to Survive Outside Womb (22-24 weeks)**

“After six months of pregnancy, at the end of the second trimester, everything is developed and is functioning as it will in the fully grown baby... the fetus reaches a major landmark. Though barely longer than her father's hand, it's possible that she could survive outside the cradle of the womb.”

**Little Difference Between Brain of Fetus & Newborn (33 weeks)**

“At 33 weeks, just over eight months, the fetus may recognize a particular piece of music and even jump in time to it. Some scientists argue that there's very little difference between the brain of a newborn baby and that of a 33 week old fetus. Where once it seemed that the mental development of a baby began at birth, now it appears that birth could be a relatively insignificant event in developmental terms."

"She may have to support herself after birth, but for the process of thinking, learning, and remembering she's already been hard at it for three months and her brain will continue to grow at the same rate for the next year.”

**Dreaming (33-34 weeks)**

“One of the many things revealed by the 4D scans is the fact that babies have rapid eye movement sleep... This gentle flicker of an eye could be a sign that the fetus, still with a month to go before being born, is already dreaming... In just over eight months, the brain has grown approximately 100 billion neurons with 100 trillion connections."

**Birth**

“She's gone from egg, to embryo, to fetus, to trillions of cells of newborn baby. Her birth marks the beginning of her journey in the world, but she has already traveled an incredible path during her nine-month odyssey in the womb... following her own unique genetic blueprint, she has grown a face, arms, eyes, and legs. She has a brain and nervous system to control her body, stomach and intestines to digest food, and a heart to pump blood. She has learned to breathe, to hear, to feed, to remember, and to tell her parents when she is hungry, tired, happy, or in pain... all before being born and now she is ready to face the world.”

*Roe v. Wade allowed abortion at ANY stage of pregnancy and forced States to legalize abortion up to 22-24 weeks. The Yes for Life Amendment would prevent activist state judges from doing the same.*

ALL quotes transcribed from *In the Womb*, National Geographic, 2005
WHY PRO-LIFE? Recognizing the dignity, equality, & rights of all humans is foundational to freedom

**PRO-LIFE: The belief that all human life is created equal regardless of size, level of development, education, or degree of dependency.**

Why does abortion — the focus of "a national controversy that has embittered our political culture for a half century" — matter so much?

Science, our nation's founding principles, the bedrock of international human rights, and Scripture (see below) are all in agreement — recognizing the inherent dignity, equality, and rights of all humans is foundational to freedom and justice. That makes the issue of abortion a matter of societal justice.

Science is clear that human life begins at fertilization. When 5,577 biologists from 86 countries and representing 1,058 academic institutions were asked when life began, 96 percent of biologists declared it to be an undisputable reality that human life begins at fertilization. In case you are tempted to dismiss this reality as merely a religious belief, like Louisville's activist judge did, it is worth noting that 63 percent of those biologists identified as non-religious.

But science doesn't just tell us when life begins, it also provides us clear glimpses of an unborn human child's complex design and behavior in the womb (see left).

An unborn human child is alive, growing according to its unique DNA, and exhibiting complex behaviors — that's a scientific reality.

The foundational and inspirational promise and hope of America is that "all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life..."

Remarkably, this is even acknowledged by cultures, religions, and governments throughout the entire world (all 193 nations belonging to the United Nations) as the foundation of freedom, justice, and peace.

Michael Johnson, our Policy Advisor, has a passion for what is right and true — especially protecting the inherent dignity and worth of each human life. This pursuit has led him to serve on a local human rights commission and citizen foster care review board. He obtained his Doctor of Jurisprudence from Liberty University School of Law.

**WHY PRO-LIFE? Abortion kills a human and rips apart God's most cherished creation**

Scripture is clear that all humans have worth and deserve protection because they are created in the Image of God, His masterpieces.

The Biblical standpoint is plain and distinctive, children in the womb are just as much a human at the point of conception as those who are already born. This is demonstrated in two key Scriptures.

First, from the Old Testament, Genesis 25:21-22 reads: "Isaac prayed to the LORD on behalf of his wife, because she was childless. The LORD answered his prayer, and his wife Rebekah became pregnant. The babies jostled each other within her; and she said, 'Why is this happening to me?' So she went to inquire of the LORD."

It is important to note here that the occupants in Rebekah's womb are addressed in these verses as "babies." The Hebrew word used here for "babies" is בנים (banim) which can also be translated into English as "children" or more specifically "sons." It is of significant importance to also realize that the word “banim” is repeatedly used throughout the Old Testament to refer to children outside the womb.

This important truth is, furthermore, reaffirmed in the New Testament.

Luke 1:41 states: "When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb... " The Greek word used for baby in this verse is βρέφος (brephos) which is a term that is commonly used also to refer to a baby outside the womb (Luke 2:12;16).

Furthermore, it is of great importance to also understand that because the occupant of the womb is a person, he or she is endowed with intrinsic worth and value.

The merit of the person in the womb is directly related to the fact that each and every person is made in the image of Almighty God. Genesis 1:27 states, "So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them."

Humanity is the only aspect of all creation that God specifically created in His image. This magnifies humanity as the focal point or highlight of His creation.

Humanity is so special to our Creator that He decided to put His fingerprint directly upon us. In other words, those inside and outside the womb are God’s prized creation, they are His masterpieces. Abortion not only kills a human person but also rips apart God’s most cherished creation.

Baxter Boyd, our Christian Engagement Coordinator, has a heart for equipping Christians to effectively engage the culture for righteousness. He obtained his Master of Divinity from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in public theology from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

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**2 WAYS YOUR CHURCH CAN SUPPORT AMENDMENT #2**

1. Advocate for Amendment #2 — Your pastor can promote the Yes for Life Amendment from the pulpit, in emails, on social media, and in bulletins.

2. Distribute Yes for Life resources — Including this Citizen publication, yard signs, flyers & more.
Kentucky has the opportunity and responsibility. . .

It'll take all of us going “all-in” to ensure Kentucky resoundingly says “Yes for Life” on Nov. 8!

We are truly in an “all-in” moment for life. In this consequential hour, Kentucky has the opportunity, and I firmly believe the responsibility, to lead our nation in restoring a culture of life that honors God and protects all His image bearers. The Lord will help us do it!

A critical component of that effort is Kentucky’s pro-life Yes for Life Constitutional Amendment that will be on the ballot on November 8. Just in the last month, The Family Foundation has helped lead Yes for Life training events all across our Commonwealth — in Owensboro, Paducah, Somerset, Bowling Green, Morehead, Lexington and Louisville! With Roe overturned, this pro-life amendment has taken on even more importance and will require significant resources to reach every pro-life Kentuckian.

I am grateful to share that several of our faithful supporters are going “all-in” by pledging a Matching Challenge that will DOUBLE the impact of your gift to The Family Foundation. Will you help us seize this pro-life moment for Kentucky? Your gift today will be DOUBLED!

We also need your prayers and engagement! You can help distribute this Citizen and be a Yes for Life Ambassador in your Church, or share Yes for Life yard signs and other resources in your neighborhood and community. Let us know how we can help equip you! It will take all of us going “all-in” to ensure Kentucky resoundingly says “Yes for Life” at the ballot box on November 8!