



## **Heartbeat Bill Proponent Testimony from Troy Newman, President, Operation Rescue and Pro-Life Nation**

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you in favor of H.B. 2324, the Kansas Heartbeat Bill.

My name is Troy Newman, and I'm the president of Operation Rescue and Pro-Life Nation. We are a national organization with members in all 50 states but we are based here in Wichita, Kansas. The Operation Rescue office is located in a former abortion mill once known as Wichita Family Planning during the Summer of Mercy in 1991.

You would remember this building as the site of the largest act of civil disobedience by clergy members since the civil rights movement of the 60's. My colleague Cheryl Sullenger will testify to the atrocities that took place in that building and in other abortion chambers throughout Kansas and the United States.

But I want to focus more on the question of why 6,000 people from Kansas and across the United States would be willing to do a sit-in at an abortion mill. The Summer of Mercy, as we have come to know the six hot weeks in 1991, saw over 6,000 men, women and children arrested for peacefully sitting in front of the doors of abortion clinics in Wichita, and then be arrested, booked into Sedgwick County jail, charged with trespassing, and forced to pay a fine. For some the risk was higher and jail time was mandated by the court.

So why would good folks with no prior criminal record; grandmothers and grandfathers, wives, nursing mothers, men with good jobs, and people from all parts of the United States come to Wichita to participate in an act of civil disobedience, be handcuffed and sent to jail?

And why would members of the Christian clergy – Protestants, Catholics, and Orthodox, as well as Rabbis – even atheists -- join hands and willingly participate in an action that defied the laws of our state?

The answer my friends, is much simpler than opponents of this legislation would have you believe. The pro-abortion left want you to think that abortion is complicated issue, that the beginnings of human life is – to quote our President, "above our pay grade", it's too difficult for us to understand, and this question ought to be left to each individual – a subjective standard of right or wrong.

But the answer to the question of why Kansas became the epicenter in the struggle against abortion is very simple indeed.

The youngest of children know that it's a baby inside mommy's tummy. Every mother can attest to the quickening they feel at the babies' first kick. As a father of five children I was speechless every time I felt my children move in my wife's womb.

Honest philosophers can point to only one moment when life begins. Additionally, science has proven that a unique human life, and the attributed DNA, is present the moment the egg and seed unite. And medical technology displays in vivid color the developing baby in utero via 3D and now 4D sonograms. In fact, every advance in technology, science and medicine point to the objective fact that it is a baby developing inside her mother and not a clump of cells or a blob of tissue – as my opponents like to describe the fetus – which is the Latin term for little one or baby.

And even amateur Christian theologians point to the powerful history of our Lord's conception, as evidence that all human life begins at the moment of fertilization. All of Christendom knows that as we prepare our hearts during this Holy Week for Resurrection Sunday that first must come Christmas – Our Saviors' birth.

Yes, the answer to my question is clear. The sacrifices made by people 22 years ago were not those of anarchists, rebels or revolutionaries, but of a compassionate moral people driven by the fact innocent children were being murdered.

And for 40 years this killing has taken away 50 million of the most innocent Americans. The Heartbeat Bill may not completely end child-killing, but then again, it may. We cannot determine the future, but we can set in motion events that will shape the history.

Thomas Chalmers, the Scottish minister once said, "Let us be neither over-sanguine nor over-melancholy of immediate results. Our perspective of time is only slowly synchronized to the clock of providence."

So you have in your power to pass a law that would further erode that heinous decision Roe v. Wade made 40 years ago by the goulash oligarchy called the Supreme Court. You have in your capacity to vote for good, and for life. You have the ability, and dare I say responsibility, to do less evil by passing this Heartbeat Bill into law.

On the other hand you could continue, through your actions or inactions, the cold, stale, despicable act of slicing little babies into pieces.

I therefore, urge you, with all of my being to do what is right before God and on behalf of your constituents – born and unborn – to cast your vote for Life and put one more nail in the coffin of the wretched Roe v. Wade