

2010 NEVADA RIGHT TO LIFE CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

ABORTION

Nevada Right to Life (NVRTL) believes that unborn children should be protected by law, and that abortion should be permitted only when necessary to prevent the death of the mother. Under what circumstances, if any, do you believe that abortion should be legal?

(a) _____ Only to prevent the death of the mother (the NRLC position).

(b) _____ To prevent the mother's death, in cases of incest committed against a minor, and in reported cases of forcible rape.

(c) Other: (please explain) _____

NOTE: In every question below, a "yes" response indicates agreement with the position of NVRTL.

ROE V. WADE

In its 1973 rulings in Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton, the U.S. Supreme Court created a "right to abortion" for any reason until "viability" (into the sixth month), and for any "health" reasons – including "emotional" health – even during the final three months of pregnancy.

(1) Do you support the reversal of the Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton decisions, so that elected legislative bodies may once again protect unborn children by limiting or prohibiting abortion?

YES _____ NO _____

THE PAIN OF UNBORN BABIES

There is now overwhelming scientific evidence that abortion methods used by the fifth month (and perhaps earlier) such as "dilation and evacuation" (dismemberment) method, and the partial-birth abortion method, cause excruciating pain to the unborn child.

(2) Would you support legislation to require that any mother considering an abortion first must be provided with clear and accurate information about the capacity of an unborn child to feel pain, and about possible alternatives to lessen or avoid that pain?

YES _____ NO _____

ULTRASOUND INFORMED CONSENT

Many women who undergo abortions, later regret that they were not given full information about their unborn child beforehand.

Our State does not have an ultrasound informed consent law:

(3) Would you support legislation to require that before an abortion, the abortionist must perform an ultrasound and display the ultrasound images for the mother, so that she may view the images?

YES _____ NO _____

PARENTAL NOTIFICATION/CONSENT FOR MINORS' ABORTIONS

Laws are in effect in 29 states requiring notification or consent of at least one parent (or authorization by a judge) before an abortion can be performed on a minor.

Our State has such a law, NRS 442.255, but it has been enjoined and is not enforced.

(4) Would you support efforts that would enforce this existing law (already found constitutional) that would require parental involvement prior to a minor obtaining an abortion?

YES _____ NO _____

HUMAN CLONING

Human cloning is a process (technically known as "somatic cell nuclear transfer") in which genetic material from one person is artificially transferred into a human or animal egg cell, thereby beginning the life of a new human individual who has only one parent and who is genetically nearly identical to that parent. NVRTL believes that human life at every stage of biological development is deserving of respect and protection regardless of the circumstances under which that human life was created. It has been proposed to create human life through cloning for the purpose of destructive experiments on those humans, resulting in their deaths, a process sometimes referred to as "therapeutic cloning." In Congress, the Brownback-Landrieu and Weldon-Stupak bills (S. 1036 and H.R. 2564) would prohibit the use of somatic cell nuclear transfer (cloning) to create any humans, including human embryos.

(5) Would you support a similar legal prohibition on all human cloning on a state level, including the creation of human embryos by cloning?

YES _____ NO _____

As an alternative to a genuine ban on all human cloning, some Members of Congress have proposed legislation (such as S. 812 and H.R. 2560) that would permit the use of cloning to create human embryos to be used in medical research (so-called "therapeutic cloning"), but that would attempt to prevent the implantation of such an embryo into a uterus. These bills are sometimes misleadingly referred to as "bans on reproductive cloning," but they really do not ban human cloning at all – rather, they ban the survival of human clones. Such a bill would impose a legal mandate that every clone must be killed or allowed to die. NVRTL strongly opposes such "clone and kill" legislation.

(6) Would you oppose "clone-and-kill" legislation on a state level that would permit the creation of human embryos by cloning but prohibit allowing such human clones to live past a defined point of development?
YES _____ NO _____

Using cloned mammals, cloning researchers are actively developing techniques for "fetus farming." This means that they create a cloned embryo of a given species, implant that cloned embryo into the uterus of an adult female of that same species, allow the cloned animal to grow into various stages of fetal development, and then abort the fetus in order to harvest the desired tissues or organs. For example, in one study published in 2005, researchers reported implanting cow clones and then aborting the cow fetuses at four months into pregnancy, in order to harvest their liver tissue; this was reported as an advance for "therapeutic cloning."

(7) Would you support legislation that would prevent "fetus farming" in humans, by prohibiting establishing a human pregnancy for any purpose other than intending a live birth.
YES _____ NO _____

UNBORN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE ACT

An Unborn Victims of Violence bill would establish that if an unborn child is injured or killed then the assailant may be charged with a second offense on behalf of the second victim, the unborn child. The bill would recognize that when a criminal attacks a pregnant woman, and injures or kills her unborn child, he has claimed two human victims. The bill does not apply to any abortion to which a woman has consented, to any act of the mother herself, or to any form of medical treatment.

Our State does not have an Unborn Victims of Violence law.

(8) Would you vote to recognize unborn children as victims of violent crimes, including supporting an Unborn Victims of Violence Bill, and oppose counter-proposals that would treat crimes that injure or kill unborn children as if they were only additional injuries to their mothers?
YES _____ NO _____

WOMAN'S RIGHT TO KNOW

A "Woman's Right to Know" bill protects a woman's right to know the medical risks associated with abortion, its alternatives and nonjudgmental, scientifically accurate medical facts about the development of her unborn child before making this permanent and life-affecting decision.

Our State has such a law.

(9) Would you oppose any attempts to weaken this law?
YES _____ NO _____

ABORTION IN HEALTH INSURANCE

Many bills for "health care reform" have included provisions under which state governments require coverage of abortion in certain types of health insurance plans. Often, such bills do not explicitly mention abortion, but they contain mandates that invariably will be construed by courts, and/or by administrative agencies, to include abortion. For example, any legal mandate for coverage of "medically necessary services" or "reproductive health services" will be construed to include elective abortion, unless explicit language is added to prevent this interpretation.

(10) Would you vote to add strong abortion-exclusion language to any legislation that would define a specific package of health care benefits?
YES _____ NO _____

The U.S. Congress recently passed the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, HR 3590, which, according to National Right to Life, is the largest expansion of abortion funding since Roe v. Wade.

(11) Would you support efforts for our state to "opt out" of the federal healthcare system?
YES _____ NO _____

EUTHANASIA ISSUES

From its inception, the pro-life movement has been as dedicated to protecting people with disabilities and older people from euthanasia as it has been to protecting unborn children from abortion.

Today there is dispute concerning whether patients' entitlement to food and fluids should depend on their "quality of life." Suppose there is a disagreement over whether a particular patient's "quality of life" is worth living and the patient is no longer able to make decisions.

(12) If the patient, while competent, had requested food and fluids, should the patient be given food and fluids?

_____ YES, be given food and fluids (NVRTL position).

_____ NO, be denied food and fluids.

_____ Other (please explain): _____

(13) If the patient, while competent, had not made his or her wishes known, should the patient be given food and fluids?

_____ YES, be given food and fluids (NVRTL position).

_____ NO, be denied food and fluids.

_____ Other (please explain): _____

INVOLUNTARY EUTHANASIA

A significant number of hospitals have implemented formal policies authorizing denial of lifesaving medical treatment against the will of a patient or the patient's family if an ethics committee thinks the patient's quality of life is unacceptable, even though the patient and family disagree.

(14) Would you support preventing involuntary denial of life-saving medical treatment by providing that if failure to comply with a patient's or surrogate's choice for lifesaving treatment would in reasonable medical judgment be likely to result in the patient's death, a health care provider unwilling to respect the choice for lifesaving treatment must allow the patient to be transferred to a willing provider and must provide treatment pending transfer?

YES _____ NO _____

(15) In 1991, Oregon approved a health care rationing plan for its Medicaid program. An important factor in denial of treatment is the expected degree of disability or poor "quality of life" it is claimed a patient would be likely to have after treatment. This is a form of involuntary euthanasia. Would you vote to oppose any legislation in this state that, like the Oregon plan, would impose rationing that intentionally denies treatment on the basis of disability or "quality of life" of those denied treatment?

YES _____ NO _____

(16) Would you support a law to prevent "assisting suicide" by allowing relatives or others affected by an attempted or completed suicide, as well as public officials, to sue the person who "assists" for money damages and to obtain an injunction against future attempts by that person to assist suicides?

YES _____ NO _____

Oregon has adopted a law affirmatively legalizing prescription of lethal drugs to assist suicide in certain cases.

(17) Would you oppose the legalization of assisting suicide through lethal prescription as under the Oregon law?

YES _____ NO _____

HEALTH CARE RATIONING

How this state may obtain health care and health insurance is a significant issue, as proposals to move toward state universal health care being widely discussed. The restructuring of the health care and health insurance system is a matter of central importance to the pro-life movement because when the government rations health care in a way that makes it illegal or impossible for citizens to choose lifesaving medical treatment, food, and fluids, it imposes a type of involuntary euthanasia.

(18) Would you vote against any bill that would prohibit or limit the right to spend one's own money for health care or health insurance?

YES _____ NO _____

PRICE CONTROLS

When the government limits by law what can be charged for health care, it limits what people are allowed to pay for health care. While everyone would prefer to pay less – or nothing – for health care (as for anything else), government price controls in fact prevent access to lifesaving medical treatment that costs more to supply than the price set by the government. The same is true when price controls are imposed on what people are permitted to pay for health insurance.

(21) Would you vote against any bill that would impose price controls on health insurance premiums?

YES _____ NO _____

CONSCIENCE RIGHTS

Our country and state have a long history of the protection of an individual's rights to conscience. Doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and other medical professionals are undergoing an assault on their deeply held moral and/or religious beliefs.

Do you believe doctors, nurses, pharmacists and other medical professionals should be allowed to refuse to participate in abortions, physician-assisted suicide or euthanasia?

YES _____ NO _____

Signature of Candidate

Please print or type name

State

District #

Political Party

Name of campaign committee

Campaign Address

Contact person

Phone number

FAX number

Date

E-mail address

Please feel free to add additional comments and/or clarifications in the space below. Thank you for your time answering these questions.

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