

# Deep Thoughts from the Executive Director

November 11, 2002

Dear Friend for Life,

The Election on November 5<sup>th</sup> marked the first battle of the beginning of the middle era of the Culture War. The sweeping Pro-Life victories both in Texas and nationally will bear tremendous fruit for years.

I'm not going to try to explain why we won; too many variables preclude a simple answer. Moreover, when Bill Clinton won his second Presidential election in 1996, I quit predicting or explaining elections. However, the results speak for themselves.

In our great home state, we cleaned house - actually the State House, but more on that later. Our attention must be first focused on the major statewide offices. Pro-Lifers won them all! Newly elected Governor Rick Perry, Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst, US Senator John Cornyn, Attorney General Greg Abbott, and Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson triumphed against a constant media bias and the unlimited funds of Tony "Soprano" Sanchez. The loss of any one of these offices would have given the pro-aborts a government footing from which to attack with the powers of the state our Pro-Life efforts.

Special praise must be given to Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst who defeated a cunning foe in pro-abort John Sharp. Sharp orchestrated the anti-Life "Dream (now nightmare) Team" ticket whereby candidates were selected based on their appeal to different minority segments (and Tony Sanchez picked up the tab). Dewhurst passed up a run for the US Senate, stayed in the Lt. Gov. race, spent a great deal of his own money, and defeated probably the most "well respected" of all the pro-abort candidates on the ballot. Thank you, David!

In the Texas Senate (consisting of 31 members), the solid Pro-Life majority increased to above 20. We unexpectedly picked up a vote when Bob Deuell (R-Greenville) upset pro-abort incumbent David Cain (D-Dallas). The Senate will be much more amenable to our Pro-Life agenda since rabid pro-death Senator Mike Moncrief (D-Fort Worth) was drawn out of a district by the redistricting process. Lt. Gov. Dewhurst should be able to create committees that will finally give fair and speedy hearings to our bills (and all Pro-Family legislation).

In the Texas House, Pro-Lifers now have a clear majority. There should be at least 90 (out of 150 members) votes for our legislation. With the Republican takeover, strong Pro-Lifer Tom Craddick (R-Midland) should be elected the Speaker of the House and assign our legislation to friendly committees for passage. Pro-aborts will no longer chair committees and kill our bills with clandestine measures and without a roll call vote. Special recognition must go to Martha Wong (R-Houston) who permanently retired 22-year incumbent Debra Danburg (D-Houston), the anti-Life zealot who was Planned Parenthood's leader on the House floor. Additionally, pro-euthanasia Rep. Art Reyna (D-San Antonio) was knocked off in the Democratic primary. The 2003 78TH Texas Legislative Session is shaping up to be the House that Pro-Lifers built!

At the state headquarters, our Board and legislative department are now determining with National Right to Life (of which we are the state affiliate) the Pro-Life legislation to be pursued during the Texas Legislative Session.



The Session will begin January 14<sup>th</sup> and last until June 2<sup>nd</sup>. (Our legislature meets for 120 days every other year - the way the Founding Fathers of America envisioned a true, limited government of the people to work.)

The strong electoral victory of many Pro-Life State Representatives and Senators will now enable the passage of Constitutionally proven Pro-Life bills that will change Texas: abortions will be reduced by thousands every year, women will be better informed and protected, and families will be strengthened.

We firmly believe that Texas should become the state in our nation where the most Pro-Life legislation is passed and where the most lives will be saved. However, the bad guys know this as well. Money from around the nation will be sent to Planned Parenthood and pro-cloning organizations to stop the legislative agenda of Texas Right to Life.

Please keep us in your prayers every day. With God's aid, no pro-death politicians or organizations will be able to stop the advancement of the Culture of Life in Texas.

Yours for Their Lives,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Graham". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jim" and the last name "Graham" clearly legible.

James J. Graham, Executive Director  
Texas Right to Life

p.s. If you ever need to reach me and don't find me at work, try me at home (713.521.4756) or email me ([JimJGraham@aol.com](mailto:JimJGraham@aol.com)).