

Deep Thoughts from the Executive Director

September 16, 2003

Dear Friend for Life,

Since there is so much good happening, I'm offering small summaries of the subjects that interest all of us - if I may be so presumptive.

Texas Right to Life continues to operate in this tough economy without any debt, even as we add over 1,000 new donors a month. We remain the fastest growing Pro-Life organization in America due to the prayers, support, and activism of people like you. Thank you.

On the Austin scene, redistricting has started again, which should ultimately result in the creation of at least 5 new Pro-Life US Congressional districts, Democrat and Republican. These new districts could be enough to maintain Pro-Life control of the US House of Representatives for the next 10 years. This is what the battle in Austin/New Mexico/Oklahoma is really about.

Texas Right to Life's Legislative Scorecard for the 78th Session, which has been tallied, will be released after the 3rd (and final?) Special Legislative Session in Austin ends (which could be as soon as next week). There has never been such a comprehensive compilation of Pro-Life votes to present a true reflection of the activities of our elected representatives. The grades are well worth the wait: 44 of the 150 members of the State House earned an A+! That has never happened!

The 6th Annual Celebration of Life in Houston was an unqualified success! 600 people gathered on September 12th to support Texas Right to Life and to hear Linda Chavez give a spellbinding talk on insider Pro-Life politics. The attendees were treated to a surprise visit by Pro-Life Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst who recognized publicly Texas Right to Life as the largest and most effective Pro-Life group in Texas, and indeed, in the Southern states. Lt. Gov. Dewhurst thanked us for our efforts that lead to the passage of more effective Pro-Life legislation than anywhere else in America. We were pleased to present the Proudly and Perfectly Pro-Life awards to the State Senators and Representatives who enabled the passage of our lifesaving bills. We were also able to bestow special awards to Sen. Tommy Williams (The Woodlands), Sen. Ken Armbrister (Victoria), and Rep. Frank Corte (San Antonio) for their leadership and authorship of the Woman's Right to Know and the Prenatal Protection bills. The event was a glorious celebration, marking the end of a decade's worth of work.

Coming improvements: our website. As more of you venture into the cyber world, we will improve the quality and quantity of information available electronically. The Pro-Life revolution will eventually be won by our ability to go directly to our supporters without the interference of the "mainstream" media. We shall now expend resources to upgrade our website. Please email me any suggestions (other than your brother-in-law has a really good deal for us).

If I may digress - one of my favorite activities, have you noticed the emergence of people who are attempting to trade (financially and - more frighteningly - politically) on their Pro-Lifeness? Vendors and political candidates who swear to me, "You won't find anyone more Pro-Life than I am" usually are selling snake oil from their ocean front property. Always proceed with caution when the person is vouching for his own credentials...



Nonetheless, people promising to be Pro-Life indicate that we are winning since everyone wants to be on the winning team. Our movement needs to be far more wary of "Pro-Life" opportunists than of overt pro-aborts.

While we're talking about opportunism, have you thought about including Texas Right to Life in your will? How about supporting the Pro-Life revolution through a yearly annuity or charitable remainder trust? I know I'm shameless, but why haven't you? We must avail ourselves of all the financial tools employed by universities, hospitals, symphonies, and other "causes" that do far less to determine the outcome of our world. If you're not smart, too much of your estate and money will go to the government who will in turn give it to Planned Parenthood and the advocates of death. Please visit our website, email or call me to make certain the fruits of your labor advance the Cause of Life and build the Kingdom. For immediate information, please click [here](#).

Watch what happens in Washington in the next few weeks. Dr. Graham, Elizabeth, and I met with House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, and we expect a flurry of activity regarding Pro-Life legislation that should (but won't) silence the nattering nabobs of negativism who argue that Pro-Life President Bush is no different than Clinton. Remember where you heard the buzz first. For a current Federal Legislative Update, please click [here](#).

We have been asked to send staff to Washington to help lobby to guarantee that the Medicare Reform Act protects the elderly from rationing and euthanasia. Plus, Elizabeth and Stacey are still traveling to Austin to ensure proper implementation and enforcement of our new Pro-Life bills. So please keep our work and travel in your prayers for the next few weeks. As your support increases, we are able to send help to wherever the Pro-Life battle is being fought.

Yours for Their Lives,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Graham". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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).