2024 Pend Oreille County Republicans

Plank #3 - Sanctity of Life

Approved 3/14/2024

All human life is sacred and is created in the image of God.

We believe:

- 1. Our Declaration of Independence clearly states, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."
- 2. Science confirms all life on this earth begins at the moment of conception and ends at the moment of natural death. Government should never exert influence over end-of-life decisions whether from life in the womb to old age except for administering justice for capital offenses as provided by judgment under the law.
- 3. No human life should be ended for convenience or profit. Life should be protected at every stage. The premature taking of human life by any means whether by abortion, infanticide, euthanasia, genocide, suicide, sacrifice, or medically assisted death [except with respect to personal end of life decisions made by the near-death individual and/or their healthcare power of attorney and/or immediate family members for the purpose of mitigating end of life pain and suffering] is totally unacceptable.
- 4. Under no circumstance is it acceptable to profit from the death of a human life, either monetarily (e.g. selling body parts or tissue or cells) or for the performance of a spiritual or religious ritual (e.g. human sacrifice).
- 5. Just as giving birth to a child is a personal choice and for which parents typically bear the cost, the cost of terminating the life of an unborn child should be the responsibility of the parent(s). Taxpayers should not be required to fund abortions. However, financial help (from private charitable organizations) for women facing a crisis pregnancy and who are choosing life and for their preborn/newly born babies up to two years from birth or, if choosing adoption, at the time of legal transfer of guardianship if less than two years. In the case of rape, the convicted rapist shall pay the full cost of victim's compensation including all costs for the pregnancy, birth of the child, and child support for 18 years.
- 6. While abortion is legal in the state of Washington, we submit the freedom to explore alternatives to abortion actually provides biological parents with more choices, not fewer.
- 7. "True Choice", by definition, must provide various options and opportunities for helping and comforting biological parents facing a crisis pregnancy.

Essential policy elements should include:

- 1. Legally informed consent
- 2. Professional medical, emotional, and spiritual comfort.
- 3. Pregnancy testing
- 4. Pregnancy counseling (including all options not simply abortion alone)
- 5. 3-D ultrasound examinations
- 6. The recognition of adoption as always preferrable to abortion
- 7. Parental consent for all expectant mothers under age 18.