

## Margaret Mans, Right to Life of Kansas, Inc. - HCR 5004 – Pro – Oral Testimony

The 1957 Kansas legislature amended a 1903 law which protected the lives of unborn children. They did away with the penalty of second degree manslaughter for killing an “unborn child” and dehumanized it by calling it a fetus. The public was unaware of this and no defense was given.

The Kansas Department of Health and Welfare then began working to change the Comstock Laws which prohibited abortions except to save the life of the mother. Then, “In 1969 the legislature passed Senate Bill 9 with an effective date of July 1, 1970. Senate Bill 9 revised the entire criminal code of Kansas and included the legalization of abortion for all practical purposes under any circumstances.”<sup>1</sup> It was signed into law by then Gov. Docking, making Kansas the first state in the nation to reduce the penalty to misdemeanor, which was not enforced.

As a young nursing student in 1972, I was shocked to learn that doctors at our hospital were performing as many abortions as they were delivering live births! Girls were flying here on weekends to have their babies killed. Right to Life of Kansas formed in response to the abuse of the life of the mother provision.

Nationally, the Roe vs. Wade decision by the Supreme Court was based on lies:

1) Norma McCorvey, known as “Jane Roe” in the case, was exploited. “...she...publicly admitted that...virtually every fact on which her case was built was a lie.”<sup>2</sup> 2) There is no “right to privacy” in the Constitution.<sup>3</sup> 3) Pro-abortion advocates claimed the baby was just a blob of tissue. But as early as 1965, Life Magazine published photographs of a baby in the womb taken by famous Swedish photographer Lennart Nilsson. 4) Women claimed a right to decide the destiny of their bodies, but how can it be her body, when, from the moment of conception, it is a boy or girl? DNA now proves it is a separate person. 5) Abortion is not health care and it is not good for women; it is deeply hurtful. A former abortion clinic worker said, “...our customers walked away with a human life unnaturally ripped from their bodies and a lifetime of psychological and oftentimes physical repercussions.”<sup>4</sup>

Forty-seven years of abortion in Kansas have taken a toll on us. Life has been devalued and we're seeing increasing murder and suicide rates. The impact of 15 million dead babies on our demographics has been profound, and we struggle to be able to support the aging population. Elderly neglect and euthanasia are now happening. Increasing numbers of couples are choosing to replace children with pets. How can we sustain our society, culture, and economy this way?

Abraham Lincoln said, “In any case that arises, as for instance, the promulgation of abolitionism, one of two positions is necessarily true, that is, the thing is right within itself, and therefore deserves the protection of all law and all good citizens; or it is wrong, and therefore proper to be prohibited by legal enactments.”<sup>5</sup>

Kansas citizens want an end to the hurt of abortion. HCR 5004 is the right measure to protect all innocent life.

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1 Right to Life of Kansas Information Bulletin #1, Apr., 1983.

2 <http://www.lifenews.com/2017/02/18/norma-mccorvey-jane-roe-of-roe-v-wade-passes-away-she-never-had-an-abortion-and-became-pro-life/>

3 [www.lifenews.com/2018/01/23/the-constitution-says-no-state-shall-deprive-any-person-of-life-so-why-is-abortion-legal/](http://www.lifenews.com/2018/01/23/the-constitution-says-no-state-shall-deprive-any-person-of-life-so-why-is-abortion-legal/)

4 Abbey Johnson with Kristin Detrow, *The Walls Are Talking* (San Francisco: Ignatius Press), p. 71.

5 Address to the Young Men's Lyceum of Springfield, Ill., Jan. 27, 1838.