

Life News



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www.lutheransforlife.org



Life Newsbytes

New data reveals U.S. states in the first half of 2015 enacted 51 laws to protect life and nearly 300 since 2010. The analysis released by the Guttmacher Institute notes, “This brings the number of restrictions enacted since 2010 to 282.” Although far fewer than the 70 new laws enacted in 2013, the number of pro-life laws in the first half of this year already exceed the number of laws enacted in the previous year, according to the report. Pro-life gains in 2015 state legislatures so far involved a wide range of regulations including waiting periods, limitations on the provision of abortion medication, abortions later in pregnancy, patient safety regulations for abortion providers, and regulations of abortion facilities. For a summary of the laws passed through the first half of 2015 go to: <http://liveactionnews.org/first-half-2015-brings-51-new-pro-life-laws-theyre-still-coming/>. (Live Action News, 7/2/15; Guttmacher Institute Report Accessed Online, 7/6/15; CLR Life News, 7/8/15)



2015 LFL National Conference
October 30-31 • Petersburg, Kentucky

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Speaking Up For Life

“In Scripture, fathers are told to emulate the Savior; they are told to give as Jesus gave. That means giving when it’s not wanted, giving when it’s not appreciated, giving when it’s not applauded. It means putting the welfare of others above that of yourself. It means giving until it hurts, giving even to the point where you are ready to sacrifice yourself. We are to give because that is what Jesus has done for us. From start to finish, from beginning to end, Jesus’ life was dedicated to us. And we fathers with our families can honor our Lord and impact the future by doing as He did.” *Rev. Ken Klaus, speaker emeritus of The Lutheran Hour*

“Children are never too young to learn that life is precious, and teaching our children the value of life will lead them not only to reject abortion. It will also lead them to reject suicide and other unnecessary violence. If life is precious, no one has the right to destroy it to make his or her own life easier.” *Kristi Burton Brown, stay-at-home mom and pro-life attorney (volunteering for Life Legal Defense Foundation and also as an allied attorney for Alliance Defending Freedom)*

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Statements on Supreme Court Ruling and Marriage

Lutherans For Life mourns with others who mourn the great tragedy of the Supreme Court’s decision in *Obergefell v. Hodges* forbidding states to outlaw same-sex marriage. This ruling is an affront to the U.S. Constitution, natural law, a centuries-old universally recognized union, and plain old common sense. Most tragically, it is an affront to the Creator of life, He who instituted marriage, and His Son, Jesus Christ, the Bridegroom of the Church.

Remember David’s cry as he ran into battle against Goliath? **“I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied”** (1 Samuel 17:45). David understands that Goliath, in his arrogance, is defying God. I pray all Christians will understand that this ruling also defies God’s laws. I pray we will share David’s courage and not only stand firm in the midst of persecution that is certain to come, but also take the offensive as we strongly and confidently proclaim and practice God’s truth about the sanctity of marriage. I pray we will be what the Church is supposed to be, a place where Christ shares His Word and Sacrament with His people, where Christians are salt and light in a broken and perverse world. I pray we will always reflect Christ’s love for all sinners, including ourselves.

What follows is a portion of LFL’s statement on marriage that addresses same-sex marriage. We would encourage you to read the full statement as well as a unique perspective by LFL board member Colonel John Eidsmoe, as well as additional commentary, on our website (www.lutheransforlife.org/article/statements-on-supreme-court-ruling-and-marriage-from-lfl-and-additional-commentary).

From Lutherans For Life’s “Statement on Marriage” ...

Lutherans For Life affirms the great blessing of the institution of marriage as revealed in God’s holy Word. We affirm that marriage is a God-given institution between a man and a woman. We affirm that this one-flesh union reflects our relationship with our Creator and Redeemer. We affirm that it is the means God has chosen for procreation.

Based on this, we are compelled to humble ourselves before God and ask His forgiveness for all the times we have dishonored marriage by trivializing its importance, by neglecting to reflect Christ’s love in our marriages, and by failing to connect the importance of marriage to our relationship with God.

Based on this, we are also compelled to reject homosexual unions as contrary to the Word of God. The “sameness” of homosexuals prevents a one-flesh union as well as the possibility of the procreation of children. Such unions do not and cannot reflect our relationship with our Creator and Redeemer. Such unions are based on a lie rather than the Word of God (Romans 1:25) and cannot constitute a marriage.