

CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH
4TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

CONSTITUENT SERVICE CENTERS:

1540 Kuser Road, Suite A9
Hamilton, NJ 08619-3828
(609) 585-7878
TTY (609) 585-3650

108 Lacey Road, Suite 38A
Whiting, NJ 08759-1331
(732) 350-2300

2373 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-3004
(202) 225-3765

<http://chrissmith.house.gov>



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Forty Years of Victims: The Legacy of Abortion

Rep. Chris Smith (NJ-04)

January 22, 2013

Press Conference in Rayburn House Office Building

Marking 40 years since Roe v. Wade ruling

Forty years today marks the U.S. Supreme Court's infamous, reckless and inhumane abandonment of women and babies to abortionists.

Forty years of victims—dead babies, wounded women, shattered families.

Forty years of government sanctioned violence against women and children.

Since 1973, more than 55 million children have been killed by abortion—a staggering loss of children's precious lives—a death toll that equates to the entire population of England.

The passage of time hasn't changed the fact that abortion is a serious, lethal violation of fundamental human rights. And that women and children deserve better—much better. And that the demands of justice, generosity and compassion demands that the right to life be guaranteed to everyone, regardless of age, sex, race, condition of dependency, disability, or stage of development.

Rather than obscure or dull our consciences to the unmitigated violence of abortion, the passage of time has only enabled us to see and better understand the innate cruelty of abortion—and its horrific legacy—while making us more determined than ever to protect the weakest and most vulnerable.

It is deeply troubling that despite the fact that Planned Parenthood claims direct responsibility for killing over 6 million unborn babies including a record 333,964 abortions in 2011 alone, Planned Parenthood remains President Obama's favorite organization.

Despite these and any obstacles, we will never quit. In adversity our faith and trust in God is tested, but it also deepens and overcomes and forges an indomitable yet humble spirit.

The pro-life movement is comprised of some of the noblest, caring, smart and selfless people I have ever met. They make up an extraordinarily powerful, non-violent, faith-filled human rights struggle that is growing in public support, intensity, commitment and hope.

The pro-life movement is not only on the side of compassion, justice, and inclusion; we are on the right side of responsible science and of history.

Someday future generations will look back on America and wonder how and why such a seemingly enlightened society, so blessed and endowed with education, advanced science, information, wealth and opportunity could have failed to protect the innocent and inconvenient. They will wonder how and why a Nobel Peace Prize winning President could also simultaneously have been the Abortion President.

Dr. Alveda King, niece of the late Dr. Martin Luther King had two abortions but is now pro-life. She said in one speech: “ My Uncle Martin had a dream. He dreamt that we would live out that which is self-evident – that all men are created equal. He called on America to admit our wrongs and turn from them. Today, I call on all of us, regardless of nationality, race or religion, to admit our wrongs and turn from them. I believe that the denial of the right to life is the greatest injustice we face in the world today. There is no compassion in killing. There is no justice in writing people out of the human race.”

History will not look favorably on today’s abortion culture. We must instead work tirelessly to replace it with a culture of life.