

REMEMBERING SENATOR
BUMPERS

(Mr. WESTERMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, last week the State of Arkansas lost a giant in the political world. Dale Bumpers, a former Governor and Senator, had served the State of Arkansas for many decades.

As an intern for Arkansas' junior Senator at the time, David Pryor, I first met Senator Bumpers in 1986. His service to his fellow Arkansans began in the Fourth Congressional District, where he returned home to Charleston to serve as city attorney after the Marines and law school.

He went on to serve on the local school board before mounting multiple successful bids for statewide office. Charleston Public School District is not only known for producing stellar graduates and for the Tigers' powerhouse football program, but for heeding Dale Bumpers' advice in 1954 and becoming the first public school in the former Confederate States to desegregate.

His decades of public service were about serving others, not prestige or power. In his autobiography, Dale said it was his father who encouraged him to enter public service, calling it a noble profession.

As we remember Senator Bumpers, I can think of no nobler act than serving others. I appreciate Dale Bumpers' example and his servant's heart.

CORPUS CHRISTI TROOP 3 CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF SCOUTING

(Mr. FARENTHOLD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Boy Scout Troop 3 in Corpus Christi, Texas, that is celebrating 100 years of Scouting.

The Scouts is a wonderful organization for our youth. It teaches them new things. It helps them build self-esteem, learn teamwork, self-sufficiency, and the importance of helping others.

From the beginning of Troop 3 in 1916, the Scouts have always been of service to our community and the country. During World War I, members of the troop sold war bonds. After the devastating 1919 hurricane, the Scouts of Troop 3, along with National Guard units, went door to door to compile an accurate list of casualties.

The Scouts have contributed many hours of service throughout our community. During the hurricane, they did mosquito control and distributed foods and blankets.

Today Troop 3 continues to be active in community service projects completed and many have benefited from the service projects completed by Eagle Scout candidates in the troop.

On this upcoming 100th anniversary, Troop 3 can take pride in its traditions and contributions to our community. Troop 3 and the First United Methodist Church of Corpus Christi, Texas, are a great asset to our community, our State, and our country.

THE PRO-LIFE MOVEMENT IS
ALIVE AND WELL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BLUM). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of our Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, since 1973, at least 58 million unborn children have been killed by abortion, a staggering loss of children's precious lives, a death toll that equates with the entire population of England.

Despite this staggering loss of children's lives and the sad fact that President Obama is using stealth, deception, and coercive power of the State to promote abortion violence, including the massive public funding of abortion on demand in ObamaCare, the pro-life movement is alive and well and making serious, significant, and sustained progress.

Yesterday Congress passed landmark legislation to end taxpayer subsidies for Planned Parenthood, and special thanks go to Speaker RYAN, Majority Leader MCCARTHY, Chairman PRICE, and others in leadership for crafting this lifesaving legislation.

In this Congress alone, powerful pro-life measures have passed, including the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act, the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, and the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act.

On the State level, 282 pro-life laws have been enacted since 2010, including laws to stop dismemberment abortions, require a 72-hour waiting period, and to provide informed consent.

With the March for Life only a couple days away, pro-lifers are more determined, faith-filled, and hope-filled than ever.

Millennials are overwhelmingly pro-life. As the former head of the pro-abortion group NARAL observed, after witnessing a recent pro-life march, the March for Life, she said: I just thought, my gosh, they are so young. There are so many of them, and they are so young.

Public opinion polls concur that more Americans, especially women and young people, are pro-life. Seventy-one

percent of the millennials opposed taxpayer funding for abortion, 69 percent of the women. Fifty-nine percent of women favor a limit on abortion at at least 20 weeks when the unborn child is capable of feeling pain. The Gallup Poll has found that Planned Parenthood's favorability rating among women has dropped 24 points in the last two decades alone.

A few minutes ago, Mr. Speaker, Speaker PAUL RYAN enrolled H.R. 3762, sponsored by Dr. PRICE, a bill to roll back much of ObamaCare and to defund Planned Parenthood. Yes, the President, President Obama, the abortion President, is all but certain to veto that bill to defund Planned Parenthood, and I just have to say, Mr. Speaker, How sad is that? The President has everything, but, sadly, there is no room, no empathy for the babies who will be exterminated. That is tragic. Hopefully he will have a change of heart at some point in his career, and hopefully it will be within weeks.

I now yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES).

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, 43 years ago the Roe v. Wade decision resulted in the death of 57 million Americans; 57 million unborn children lost their lives, over a million children per year. It is an amazing statistic.

Louisiana has traditionally ranked as one of the most pro-life States in the Nation. We have some amazing organizations that are doing great work to educate our citizens about the pro-life movement, organizations like Louisiana Right to Life and Louisiana Family Forum. The head of the Family Research Council is a constituent of our district.

There is one particular pro-life advocate that I would like to call out, Dr. Al Krotoski, who recently passed away, in fact, just on January 1 of this year. He literally gave his life to advocating for pro-life causes. His knowledge, his scientific background with his Ph.D., his M.D., and his master's in public health shaped him and helped him to shape pro-life policy in the State of Louisiana. He was a phenomenal example of pro-life advocates for our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I just want to make note that Dr. Al set an amazing example for our State, an amazing example on the sanctity of life and respecting life. But it is important that, as we move forward, we also respect life after birth. We respect life in terms of some of the initiatives that we are going to be working on this year: criminal justice reform and the War on Poverty.

I really appreciate the opportunity to participate in this Special Order tonight. I want to thank you for organizing this. I want to remind folks, over a million lives a year lost as a result of this decision.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend for his very eloquent comments.

I would like to now yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER), the chair of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and also thank him for setting up this Special Order tonight and his leadership in his years in Congress and the pro-life movement.

Life is the most precious gift we are given. The youngest and most vulnerable among us are a blessing. We must never stop working to protect them.

Unfortunately, 2015 brought renewed attacks on life, and horrific new events came to light that showed us just how important this fight is. Videos were released exposing Planned Parenthood's barbaric practices. The things we saw being discussed and done in these videos were appalling. They underscore why we must continue to do everything we can to uphold the sanctity of life.

I am proud that today we are sending down to the President a piece of legislation that will defund Planned Parenthood. I am proud of the work this House has done to bring attention to this issue and advance the cause of life.

I have been honored to count myself among those who are in this fight, but we can never rest on our work to protect the unborn. Together, we must work to ensure that the terrible practices of Planned Parenthood come to an end and that life is valued, cherished, and always protected.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I thank Chairman SHUSTER for those excellent comments.

I now yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JODY B. HICE).

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. I want to thank my friend and colleague for his great leadership in this cause of life.

Mr. Speaker, I join with my others here with deep concern as we are now at 43 years since the Supreme Court determined, unimaginably, that there exists in our country some broad right for the abortion of a child in the womb.

That decision literally came after 21 States had already enacted laws limiting abortion for over 100 years. In fact, the first of these laws was adopted in Connecticut in 1847, 21 years before the ratification of the 14th Amendment, which is the very amendment on which *Roe v. Wade* is based. In his dissent, Justice Rehnquist noted that, due to this history, the High Court was forced to create a right that was unknown to the Framers of the 14th Amendment.

□ 1800

Mr. Speaker, it is time that we correct this wrong-headed decision made by the court 43 years ago. It is for this reason that I personally introduced the Sanctity of Human Life bill, H.R. 426, which defines life beginning at conception.

I would certainly ask my colleagues to join in cosponsoring this bill so that 43 years from now we are celebrating

the right to life rather than another 57 million unborn Americans lost to abortion.

I thank the gentleman for his stance on this.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I thank the gentleman for his leadership and for his bill.

I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI), the co-chair of the Congressional Pro-Life Caucus. I thank him for his leadership and for standing up so courageously for life.

Mr. LIPINSKI. I thank Representative SMITH for all of his work and leadership on the issues of life and protecting people at all stages of life.

As the Democratic co-chair of the Pro-Life Caucus, I stand here as a Democrat who believes that we need to have laws in our Nation to protect the vulnerable, those who can't protect themselves. No one is more vulnerable in America today than a child in the mother's womb. No one is in more need of protection. We must continue to fight to provide that protection.

We do have our young men and women who are our new pro-life generation. They understand the dangers that they faced to their own lives when they were in their mother's womb.

I look forward to continuing to work with all of them and with my colleagues here in the House to bring us to the day where all life in our Nation is protected by our laws, from conception to death. Only then will our Nation truly stand up for life and all that our Nation was founded upon.

I thank all my colleagues for their work on this issue.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I thank Mr. LIPINSKI for those very fine comments.

I yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG).

Mr. WALBERG. I thank Congressman SMITH and Congressman LIPINSKI for their leadership in the Pro-Life Caucus. I thank Congressman SMITH for his active involvement in promoting life not only here in America, but all over the world.

Someone once said: Tell a lie long enough and it becomes the truth. That statement, sadly, is often true, but the lie is still a lie. *Roe v. Wade* was such a lie. It didn't offer freedom. It didn't offer opportunity or choice. It offered death and a diminished life, to boot.

I will never forget the conversation with my wife over 40 years now in the hospital recovery room when she had just given birth to our first child. She said to me in that recovery room, with tears in her eyes: "Wow, I have just added a life to the world.

That is why pro-life and pro-women go hand in hand. She is the only being designed and capable to bring new life into the world. It is a God-given gift. We honor and celebrate that gift. We who are pro-life honor her for that.

Let's give all that we can to honor and encourage our citizens to know the truth of the Psalmist who said: "Behold, children are a gift of the Lord;

the fruit of the womb is a reward." And that is the truth.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I thank Mr. WALBERG for his very excellent remarks, but also for that very personal story. That is very, very touching.

I yield to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA).

Mr. LATTA. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Again, I want to add my admiration to Mr. SMITH for all his years of hard work for the pro-life movement here in this country and around the world and for holding this Special Order tonight.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the right to life for every unborn child. During my tenure in the Ohio General Assembly and now as a Member of Congress, I have consistently supported pro-life legislation and I have been unwavering in my belief that we must be vigilant in protecting the sanctity of human life.

Over the past year, we have seen an unprecedented and callous disregard for life through the series of undercover videos that illustrate Planned Parenthood's involvement in the sale of fetal tissue. That is why I have supported legislative measures to end such unspeakable acts and to prevent any Federal funds going to any entity that performs abortions.

At a time when pro-life values are often marginalized, I want to reassure my constituents that I will remain steadfast in my support for legislation that defends the sanctity of life and that I will continue to stand for those without a voice.

I also want to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to those who work tirelessly day after day, year after year, to defend the right of life, and to the hundreds of thousands who will be here for the Right to Life March this month. I applaud them and thank them.

Again, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey for all of his years of hard work.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I thank the gentleman for his leadership on this most important human rights issue of our time.

I yield to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. ROUZER).

Mr. ROUZER. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I want to thank him for his leadership on this very important issue.

As we near the 43rd anniversary of the *Roe v. Wade* Supreme Court decision, there is a sad truth to be told: More than 57 million innocent lives have been terminated through abortion since that landmark ruling.

To put that in perspective, that is more than five times the population of my home State of North Carolina. Again, that is more than five times the population of North Carolina. That is a sobering number.

In God's word, it is written that life begins at conception. Recent advances in science support that fact. It is our moral obligation to fight for and protect the lives of those who cannot

speak for themselves, the lives of those who are no different than our own.

As millions of Americans prepare to travel here to Washington, D.C., to participate in the annual March for Life, my prayers are with them. I am proud to stand with them in their commitment and dedication to the pro-life cause.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I thank the gentleman for his comments.

I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLY), a very strong and outspoken supporter of the right to life.

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I, too, would like to add my thanks for the passion and the commitment he has made to the right-to-life movement and the protection of the unborn—both he and his wife—not just here in the United States, but around the world. I have seen that happen.

But we are here tonight. It is hard to stand in America's House and think that we have to debate an issue that is so basic to who we are not as Republicans or Democrats, but as human beings.

In the district that I represent, the biggest county is Erie County. In Erie County, there are 278,443 people, human beings. In 2014, abortions performed by Planned Parenthood ended the potential lives of 324,000 human beings.

It is stunning here in America's House and in the United States of America, where we recoil at any action around the world where there is loss of life, especially when it happens violently and at the hands of people who have absolutely no regard for human life. We still shudder that Adolph Hitler was able to eliminate 7 million Jews.

We have ended the lives of 57 million Americans that could be here today. We lost their lives. We lost their potential. We lost their value. The hypocrisy that drips from the people's House—America's House—when we have to stand and debate the right to life, the right of the unborn, and think that somehow this is an argument that we must win. This is something that never ever should have happened, not in America, not on our watch, not in our time.

On January 22, hundreds of thousands of pro-life Americans will come to the Nation's capital. They will be little noted by the media, but they will be here. They come every year. They come here every year with one purpose and one purpose only, and that is to protect the lives of the unborn.

When, America, will we stand up and take the responsibility for the heinous activity that we have allowed to happen on our watch?

I thank my colleagues and I thank the gentleman for his passion and dedication to the lives of the unborn. We will never ever walk away from this responsibility to right a horrible wrong in the chapter of human history.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I thank Mr. KELLY for his very strong statement.

More people now recognize, especially through ultrasound, that birth is an event, not the beginning of life. Increasingly, because the methods of abortion are so horrific—literal dismemberment of the baby, chemical poisoning—people are waking up. Abortion is violence against children and injurious to women.

Again, I thank the gentleman for his commitment to life.

I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ROTHFUS).

Mr. ROTHFUS. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, this year's March for Life marks the 43rd anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court decision that invented a constitutional right to abortion on demand. Justice Byron White dissented in the case, calling what the majority had done an "exercise in raw judicial power."

The March for Life draws thousands of people from across the Nation every year. The marchers come by foot, by car, by train, by plane.

Why, Mr. Speaker, does this issue refuse to go away? I suggest because it goes to the heart of who we are and whether we will live up to the principles of our Nation's founding documents.

Mr. Speaker, this issue touches the conscience of everyone. It can be difficult to discuss and it is painful to be reminded of it.

Everyone in this Chamber, everyone listening to this talk, was at one point in his or her life an unborn child. The March for Life speaks to this truth and speaks to the obligation of society to defend the defenseless. May this Nation rediscover the value of everyone, and may we continue to work for the day when all are protected.

Mr. Speaker, if I might take a moment to recognize the work of my colleague, Mr. SMITH, who came to this House in 1980—35 years ago—and from that day has been fighting this fight.

I am reminded, Mr. Speaker, of another statesman two centuries ago, William Wilberforce, who served in the Parliament of Britain. He was first elected there in 1780 and came to the cause to fight for the abolition of slavery in 1787, when he took on the cause with his colleagues of conscience.

It took them 20 years, Mr. Speaker, to abolish the slave trade in the British Empire with the Slave Trade Act in 1807, and their work did not end. He continued his work for decades.

He had to retire from Parliament in 1826, but consider that time that he put in to fighting the slave trade. They finally abolished slavery in the British Empire in 1833, and William Wilberforce learned that Parliament had the votes to pass that just days before his death.

This is a fight that goes on. Sometimes justice takes time.

In 1896, the Supreme Court ruled separate, but equal, is okay. It took 58 years, Mr. Speaker, for them to correct that injustice in Brown v. Board of Education. Fifty-eight years.

It has been 43 years since the injustice of Roe v. Wade, but this fight will continue. We will continue to work for the protection of all human life, for justice will not sleep forever.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I thank Mr. ROTHFUS very much for his leadership and for his very eloquent remarks.

William Wilberforce reminds us all that, through prayer, fasting, tenacity, and the pursuit of justice, he really was able to stop the slave trade.

Thankfully, in this Congress, we have so many leaders—men and women on the pro-life side—who stand up boldly and effectively, and we will win this.

I thank the gentleman for his leadership.

I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. OLSON), my good friend and colleague.

□ 1815

Mr. OLSON. I thank my friend from the Garden State for allowing me to join this very important Special Order.

Mr. Speaker, 43 years ago, an activist, liberal Supreme Court decided Roe v. Wade and turned a penumbra, a shadow in our Constitution, into the legal right to privacy, which became the right to terminate innocent life.

Since then, we have seen a decline in the value of human life in America. There is increased violence in our streets. Planned Parenthood staff discuss the harvesting of baby parts. There is an erosion of moral fabric that stems from a lack of respect for life. It stems from Roe v. Wade.

Americans expect instant gratification with no consequences for their own actions.

The Catholic Church's newest saint, Mother Teresa, once said: "It is a poverty to decide that a child must die so you may live as you wish." I stand with Mother Teresa and all who value the sanctity of life, and will fight, continue to fight every effort to give a voice to the voiceless before their lives are taken.

All life is precious. All life is precious.

I thank my friend.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Thank you so very much, Pete, for those very moving remarks.

I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. FLEMING), who is the prime sponsor of the Health Care Conscience Rights Act, along with DIANE BLACK and JEFF FORTENBERRY.

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my good friend, CHRIS SMITH, for all of the years of service in this area of pro-life and pro-family, not just domestically, but around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend for everything he does, and the blessings that he has provided to us.

Also, Mr. Speaker, children are a joy to every mother and father. My wife and I share this joy, both as parents and as grandparents.

As a matter of fact, I have seen all three of my grandchildren through ultrasound, before they were born, very

early in gestation, watched them move, watched them suck their thumbs. I fell in love with each and every one of them right there before they were born. Certainly, if I can love them before they are born, God loves them and knows them before they are born.

As a matter of fact, in Jeremiah 1:5, it says that God knows us before we are formed in our own mother's womb.

The value of human life, however, isn't quantified through parental sentimentality. Children, including developing babies, the nascent life within a mother, are endowed by our Creator with the same unalienable rights as you and I have, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Good public policy will reflect this understanding and protect the lives of the unborn, those who are today's children and tomorrow's leaders.

Mr. Speaker, as we approach the anniversary of the devastating 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision that sanctioned the genocide—yes, the genocide—of 57 million children, I implore my colleagues and my fellow countrymen to stand for life.

America's children, born and yet unborn, are our heritage and our future.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Thank you, Dr. FLEMING. Thank you for your leadership on so many issues, including the conscience rights issue.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. HUELSKAMP).

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Thank you, Congressman SMITH. It is an honor, as always, to join you this evening on this Special Order. I have told you before and I will tell you again, thank you for your leadership. I believe our efforts, though not fully successful, your efforts have saved many lives in this country.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday the House voted to stop Federal funding from going to the evil abortion provider Planned Parenthood. It was another commonsense step in the many that our pro-life movement has made in our long, 43-year fight following the barbaric ruling of Roe v. Wade by an unelected, unaccountable U.S. Supreme Court.

Tragically, it has been said 57 million innocent babies have lost their lives to abortion since that woeful, woeful decision.

I have said it before and I will say it again, I am eternally grateful that the birth mothers of my wife and I's four adopted children chose life.

On January 21, one of those children, my daughter Rebecca, will arrive on a bus in Washington, D.C., along with dozens of her classmates from Benedictine College, in Atchison, Kansas, to again participate in the National March for Life the following day.

On that day, I will be joining thousand of Kansans in Topeka as we march, pray, speak, and celebrate the gift of our life in our State's capital. I am proud of our efforts, and I hope my colleagues will join me in demonstrating their dedication to the sanc-

tity of all human life, whether it be in the home State or here in our Nation's Capital.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG).

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for his exemplary leadership on this fundamental issue.

I rise today on the 43rd anniversary of Roe v. Wade to remember the more than 50 million unborn lives we have lost in the decades since this Supreme Court decision was handed down.

As a father of four young children, I can speak for millions of parents I know when I say that Jenny and I, we really fell in love with our children before they were born. It is this unwavering love for my own children and for others' children that led me to the pro-life movement.

Each year, thousands of fellow Hoosiers travel to our Nation's Capital to peacefully march for life and to celebrate the sanctity of life at all stages.

My experience working at the Crisis Pregnancy Center in Bloomington, Indiana, provided, I think, unique insight into some of the steps we can take to bring our love to bear, so that we might bring about changes in the law and restore, in this country, a culture of life.

This year, we work with renewed purpose, with the force of public opinion firmly behind us. We know what happened last year. It will be hard to ever forget. We witnessed an outpouring of rage when Planned Parenthood's activities were uncovered. For the first time, millions had to confront, in living color, the callous disregard for human life exhibited by Planned Parenthood's employees and its procedures, unimaginable procedures, procedures that shocked the public conscience.

I heard from folks back home, countless Hoosiers, and they responded with complete clarity. No one, they said, should be forced to violate their conscience so abortion providers like Planned Parenthood can continue to operate. That just won't stand.

It is why our first order of business this year was to cut off taxpayer funding that involves every single American taxpayer and the practices of the Nation's largest abortion provider. As promised, we sent the President a bill defunding Planned Parenthood.

Now, to the Hoosiers who join me this year in marching for life, know that we will remain vigilant in our efforts to protect innocent life and the rights of conscience of the American people.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Thank you so much, Mr. YOUNG, and thank you, as a new and very rising star leader in our efforts to defend life. Your eloquence is greatly appreciated.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FARENTHOLD).

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to honor the memory of the millions of babies that have been

killed by abortion in the 43 years since the Supreme Court's poorly reasoned, and I wrote down here appalling, but I heard one of my colleagues use the word barbaric, and I think that is the right word, barbaric ruling in Roe v. Wade.

There are those who argue that life begins at birth. They are wrong. Life begins at conception. Anyone who has seen a precious baby in the womb on a sonogram cannot help but agree with me on this.

One of the most moving events of my life was when I went with my wife and saw the first sonogram picture of my first daughter, Morgan. I still have the videotape of that. A printout is in my memory box in Corpus Christi. It was one of the most moving experiences.

You know, I know lots of Members of Congress, a lot of them are here today, and they feel the same way as I do, that human life is something special, something sacred, and it begins at conception.

But, unfortunately, there are not enough of us to override a Presidential veto of the legislation like we passed in this House defunding Planned Parenthood. There are not enough of us to get a constitutional amendment to the States saying that life begins at conception.

But we have got to continue to fight. It is our duty, it is our moral duty, to defend the unborn.

It has been 43 years since Roe v. Wade. It is my prayer it is not another 43 years before America comes to its senses and respect for life, all life, becomes the law of the land again.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I thank the gentleman from Texas for, again, a very eloquent statement, and my hope is that people are listening.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FLORES).

Mr. FLORES. I thank the gentleman from New Jersey, not only for yielding, but also for the many decades you have spent of trying to protect the lives of our Nation's and, indeed, the world's most vulnerable.

Mr. Speaker, soon we will mark the 43rd anniversary of Roe v. Wade, a decision that has irreparably damaged our Nation for generations and will continue to do so until it is reversed.

Since the Supreme Court decision, as you have heard earlier, America has lost 57 million defenseless and innocent lives, while millions more have been deeply hurt.

Fortunately, the movement to protect and defend life has made meaningful progress in the last year. The U.S. House of Representatives recently passed protections for unborn children, after 20 weeks, which is something the majority of Americans support.

Yesterday, the House passed landmark pro-life legislation that paves the way to transfer Federal funds from those who would kill children, unborn children, to thousands of community healthcare centers that provide true comprehensive health care for women.

Later this month, thousands from across the country will stand in front of this building to support life in our Nation's largest peaceful protest.

We will continue to work and pray with hope and resilience, to give a voice to the voiceless, to advocate for those who cannot advocate for themselves, and to protect our Nation's most vulnerable.

As I close, I would ask all Americans to continue to pray for our country, and for our unborn children, and for those who reach out and try to protect those unborn children.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, how much time do I have remaining?

And I want to thank Mr. FLORES again for another very moving speech on behalf of the most basic human right, the right to life.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 24 minutes remaining.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA), my friend and colleague.

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. SMITH, thank you for yielding, and also thank you for your amazing leadership on year after year putting this in front of the people and highlighting—or lowlighting—just what this has been.

It is probably very mind-boggling for many Americans to contemplate that this has been going on for 43 years, since the Supreme Court ruling, out of whole cloth, *Roe v. Wade*. And it must be very mind-boggling when we remind Americans that at this time over 57 million abortions have been performed since that.

We know that over 7 million have been performed by Planned Parenthood—7 million—making them the largest abortion provider in the country.

□ 1830

Yet you will hear Planned Parenthood argue that it is a tiny part of what they provide as far as what they might deem to be women's health services. If it is such a minor part of what they do, then maybe they ought not be demanding and asking for government funding. Indeed, that was taken care of this week in the measure that was sent to the President's desk. We will see what the President decides to do with that.

With Planned Parenthood providing 323,000 abortions just in 2014 and receiving \$550 million in taxpayer funding, we see that this is a wrong that is mind-boggling to most Americans as well.

With the sending of that bill to the President, it is going to make a strong statement that this House and this Senate can take action on something that many people, when they pay attention, find to be quite abhorrent. Instead, there are alternatives out there that this legislation has provided that will allow women's health to be funded and taken care of at many other centers. Even Planned Parenthood can

participate if they choose at some point to not be an abortion provider.

The key here is that women's health will be served and that with the information and with the decisions they made being fully informed on that, we can see many less abortions happen in this country as well as the moral fiber and integrity of this country held up by not doing such an abhorrent thing in so many cases.

So I commend Mr. SMITH and all those fellow warriors out there who will be marching for life not only coming up soon this year, but they are out there every year battling for the cause to turn America back around into a place that is a little more moral and actually does care about women, their health, and their mental well-being when this decision has been put upon them.

So, to my colleague, thank you once again for allowing me here tonight with this because it is very important that we remember just how heinous this is and how people need to be informed about that, pause, and take time to see what this really means for America and our own well-being. Thank you.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Doug, thank you very much for your excellent remarks reminding us that Planned Parenthood alone is directly responsible for killing 7 million unborn babies. That is a staggering loss of lives killed by one organization. So thank you for your leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin, SEAN DUFFY.

SEAN offered legislation late last year that would have protected States that decided to defund Planned Parenthood. It passed overwhelmingly, and I want to thank him for his leadership as well.

Mr. DUFFY. I appreciate the gentleman from New Jersey yielding. I am grateful for his powerful advocacy for the unborn in his whole tenure here in Congress. You have been a true leader and an inspiration for some of us who have come after you.

I have been in this institution for 5 years. Over the course of that 5 years, I have heard many of my liberal friends and a lot of friends from the Congressional Black Caucus talk about how there is targeting and unfair treatment of African Americans in the criminal justice system. I have heard them.

In Financial Services, I hear them talk about how big financial corporations target African Americans and minorities. As I turn on my TV, I listen to Black Lives Matter talk about how police and law enforcement are targeting African Americans and minority communities.

I hear a lot in this institution from minority leaders about how their communities are targeted. But what I don't hear them talk about is how their communities are targeted in abortion.

Here are some stunning facts. The African American community is 15 percent of the country as a whole but ac-

counts for 40 percent of the abortions. Fifteen percent of Americans, 40 percent of the abortions. In New York City, the most recent statistic is that African American women had more abortions than live births.

There is a targeting going on in a lot of spaces and a lot of places, and it is going on in the abortion industry. And my liberal friends, Congressional Black Caucus Members, talk about fighting for the defenseless, the hopeless, and the downtrodden. There is no one more hopeless and voiceless than an unborn baby, but their silence is deafening. I can't hear them. Where are they standing up for their communities, advocating and fighting for their right to life?

Black lives matter. They do. Indian, Asian, Hispanic, and White, all those lives matter. We should fight for all life, including the life of the unborn.

We have talked about this a lot of times. In 2 weeks, there is going to be an amazing march that takes place right here at the Capitol, and you are going to see tens of thousands of people come out and support life. You are not going to see the national media cover this. They are going to ignore tens of thousands of people.

Just think how powerful that rally is going to be when you have Reverend Al Sharpton standing on the stage talking about how he is going to fight for his community and his unborn babies and all the Congressional Black Caucus standing behind him saying: Do you know what? We are going to fight for these defenseless and voiceless little babies in our community that are being targeted.

And just think if our President who sheds a tear for violence goes to the West Wing and sheds a tear for the unborn. I can only hope and pray.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Martin Luther King's niece Alveda King has had two abortions. She made one of the most passionate comments and speeches I have ever heard when she said: How can my uncle's dream survive if we murder the children? She is now pro-life. She says: The other co-victim in every abortion besides the baby is the mom. And she is a victim herself.

I yield to the gentleman from Illinois, PETER ROSKAM, a great leader on pro-life, first in the legislature in Illinois, and now here in Washington.

Mr. ROSKAM. Thank you, Mr. SMITH, for your leadership.

I just want to paint a picture for you and take you to a scene about a year ago now. It was a Sunday in Chicago. I was invited to be a speaker at the March for Life in downtown Chicago. I got to the speech a little bit early and nobody was there. I was looking around, and all I saw was a small gaggle of pro-abortion protesters. They looked quite pathetic, actually. There were not very many of them. They looked angry. They had signs that were quite ugly. I won't repeat the phrases that were on the signs. It was quite a pathetic sight. I was observing them,

and I was kind of waiting for the event to happen.

Then I heard something. I started to hear music, and it was a really good sound. I heard the music, and the music grew, and it became more dynamic and louder and louder and louder and more exciting. Then thousands of pro-lifers came around the corner. It was a sight to behold. These were young people. They had balloons. They had yellow and white balloons. They had beautiful posters of little babies. There was a joy to them.

I looked at the contrast between these two images. You have got young, dynamic, vibrant, and joyful—and pathetic on the other side. I thought to myself that if I needed any convincing—I don't—I am convinced by the witness of these people. I choose to be with the joyful people.

So now where are we in history? We are 43 years into this. We are 43 years into the scandal of *Roe v. Wade*, and yet we were told, the country was told, in 1973 when this decision came down, that this was all settled, that this was all done, and that there is nothing more to be done about it. It is Supreme Court doctrine, and those of you who are opponents, you need to get over your opposition and just move along, thank you.

But there was something that was unsettling, not just about the juris prudence, but about the underlying moral claim upon which *Roe v. Wade* was built, and that was that it was built on a lie. The lie was that there is nothing significant in a mother's womb when she is pregnant. That, of course, is not just a lie, it is an absurdity.

So what has happened over the past 43 years? Science is our friend. More people are coming to understand—even nonscientific people. They see the ultrasounds. You have heard testimony from people who say: That is a life; that is a baby; that is a person; that is a boy; that is a girl; and that is worthy of my defending that little child.

So the scandal of the Planned Parenthood videos are actually a seminal moment, I think, in this great debate that is underway, because what you have noticed is there are not very many people that were defending the Planned Parenthood videos. Even people that purport to be pro-choice basically said: I didn't sign up for that.

But yet that is exactly what abortion is. The Planned Parenthood videos took the mask off of the scandal of abortion and said that when you dehumanize, when you say something doesn't matter, then you can do anything you want to it. That is the scandal of the Planned Parenthood videos.

So what is happening now is that there is a growing recognition among Americans—many of whom probably haven't thought much about this question for a long, long time—but now the provocative nature of those videos forces them to have to deal with this and reconciling their own understanding of science, their own deep

feelings, and their humanity with the recognition of what is the nature of this thing that is going on? They say: Do you know what? I think I am leaning toward the pro-life side.

We clearly see this in the data. Younger voters are much more pro-life. Why is that? They recognize the truth of the science, and they understand the nature of the humanity, and they understand spiritually, actually, what is going on.

I was sent to Congress by a lot of pro-life people. I was sent to Congress by pro-life people that placed their confidence in me. I am here to thank them, to bear witness, and to encourage them as they go out for the March for Life in Chicago or the March for Life in Washington or the March for Life anywhere. I say thanks be to God for these people who have been faithful and true regardless of what the world has said about them. History will exonerate the pro-life movement.

Mr. SMITH, I thank you for your time and your faithfulness.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Thank you very much, PETER. Those were outstanding comments about right to life and history as well, and we will prevail over time. So I want to thank you.

I would like to now yield to the gentleman from Georgia, AUSTIN SCOTT.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. CHRIS, I too want to thank you for your work on this issue. You are certainly one of the most passionate people I have seen on this issue in my years.

I was thinking about what I might say, and my wife sent me a text. To follow up on what Mr. ROSKAM was saying, she asked me if I could FaceTime. So I stepped into the room, and I FaceTimed with my wife and our beautiful little 10-month-old daughter.

In 1973, the state-of-the-art technology was the walkie-talkie. I can't help but believe that the Court ruling would be totally different if a 3-D ultrasound picture like I got to see of my baby when she was 20 weeks old were put on the screen and a judge got the opportunity to say, "What do you call that?"

Five fingers, five toes, eyes, ears, lips, nose—you can see them. You can see the hair. The technology is continuing to prove what many of us in this country have known all along, and that is that life begins at conception and that God has given value to each and every single life.

I just want to take 1 more minute to say thank you to the men and women that get up every morning and that work at our pregnancy care centers and help encourage those young mothers and those young families to have the child, to love that child, and to understand that it is a gift from God. There is no telling how many men and women have been saved because of those volunteers at our pregnancy care centers throughout this country. So I want to say thank you to them.

I want to say thank you to the people at the National Right to Life and, in

my State, Georgia Right to Life and Georgia Life Alliance for the work that they have done to continue to educate people on that.

I want you to know this fight continues. This is a stain on our country. It is a sin that God is not going to allow us to get away with. We as a nation need to accept that life begins at conception, and we as Congress have a responsibility to do everything that we can to protect it.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Thank you so much for those comments. I couldn't agree more that the megatrend in society is to embrace the unborn. It is the ultrasound technology—the window to the womb—that has made the difference. So thank you for your outstanding comments.

I would like to now yield to the gentleman from Ohio, STEVE CHABOT, the prime sponsor of the partial-birth abortion ban. It is one of the most hideous methods of abortion and has awakened many Americans to the violence that is inherent in every abortion. STEVE CHABOT is the man who wrote that law.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman for his leadership. CHRIS SMITH has been in a leadership position on this issue since before Henry Hyde. He took up the mantle for Henry. So thank you for doing that, CHRIS. We appreciate that greatly.

□ 1845

I have got a birthday coming up in a couple of weeks. It happens to be on January 22, which is the day that that horrific decision—the *Roe v. Wade* decision—was issued by the United States Supreme Court.

On my birthday now, I can't help but think about all those who are not among us because their mother made a different decision than my mom made almost 63 years ago. Because of that decision, those little innocent unborn children aren't with us.

My district is Cincinnati. We have had some of the original founding leaders of the pro-life movement there, especially Dr. Jack and Barb Willke, who passed away within the last couple of years. But they were the leaders. The torch has been taken up by people like Paula Westwood, who now heads up Cincinnati's Right to Life.

As Mr. SMITH mentioned, we have made some progress. I was honored to have been able to play a role in passing the ban on partial birth abortion, which is now the law of the land, as well as the Born-Alive Infants Protection Act.

When we consider the reprehensible practices of organizations like Planned Parenthood and what goes on there in their facilities all across America, it shows that we have a long way to go. As discouraging as it can get sometimes, we must never give up, never give up in our fight to protect the most innocent among us, the unborn.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Thank you very much, Chairman CHABOT.

Chairman CHABOT also is the full committee chairman of the Small

Business Committee and has done yeoman's work on behalf of the unborn since he has been here, which is for a very long time.

I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT).

Mr. GOHMERT. I thank my friend, Mr. SMITH, for all his work on this issue.

When I was a young boy unable to read and my mother would read stories from the Bible, it was so enlightening. As I began to read in elementary school and read the Bible for myself, I was always so perplexed to read that there were generations thousands of years ago that devolved and degenerated to the point that they would sacrifice their own children on the alter to avail other idols.

It appeared clear that there is not much that is more despicable to God, and it makes sense for anyone who believes there could be a God that there could be nothing more despicable than the taking of innocent life.

That is what you find in the Bible. It may have been allowed to go on for generations for years. But when the wrath came, it was judgment that was truly ungodly.

Since 1973, the realization that here in America we have been sacrificing the most innocent—before they could even be capable of saying a lie, stealing, any wrong whatsoever, their lives are taken away from them.

And then to further realize that you have some legislators that have fought to prevent children that were attempted to be aborted, that were born alive—they fought to let them die even after they are born alive. Then you realize one such legislator now has been voted into the White House. It is a bit scary, where we are in America.

I know there are some that say: You are a man. You can't complain about the sacrifice of unborn children on the alter of inconvenience.

I am not a slave, never have been, but I would hope that, if I were alive 200 years ago, I would have stood with John Quincy Adams, I would have stood with the abolitionists, to say: How can we expect God to keep blessing America when we are treating our brothers and sisters with chains and bondage?

Well, I am alive today. We need to stop the sacrifice of the most innocent and the most helpless among us. Our judgment will be coming one way or another.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I thank my friend for his eloquent remarks.

I just want to conclude, Mr. Speaker. Some day 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 most innocent and the most inconvenient.

History will not look favorably on today's abortion culture. I do believe we must replace it and work tirelessly to replace it with a culture of life.

Modern medicine and scientific breakthroughs, especially the widespread use of ultrasound, has shattered the pernicious myth that unborn children are mere blobs of tissue and that abortion is anything but an act of violence.

A few years ago I met with Linda Shrewsbury, an academic and African American with a degree from Harvard, who spoke and said:

"The lies that brought me to that day and its sorrowful aftermath are crystal clear in my mind—falsehoods and deceptions that concealed the truth about abortion. Lies planted in my thinking by clever marketing, media campaigns and endless repetition led to a tragic irreversible decision—the death of my first child."

"At age 20, I had no inkling of the mental and emotional darkness I was about to enter."

"After spending many years in denial, I did eventually find healing. When I understood and rejected distortions about fetal development, doublespeak about choice, rights, planned and wanted children, I understood the reality and victimhood of my aborted child. I understood the absence of moral bases for choosing to 'dis-entitle' an innocent human being of life. When I embraced truth, truth set me free and I finally gained inner peace."

We believe that there are two victims in every abortion: the unborn baby and the mother. Linda Shrewsbury found peace. We need to protect women from the violence of abortion, as well as babies.

I yield back the balance of my time.

CHILD CARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, a couple of decades ago support for child care fell under conservative attack. At the time, the argument went that offering low cost or free child care to working families would create an incentive for women to leave their homes and their traditional roles as caretakers.

That argument attempted to capitalize on panic about the collapse of the so-called traditional families. But to be honest, I don't think it ever had teeth in the first place.

The reason most women left home to enter the workforce, the real reason

that countless women work today, is to make ends meet. In an economy that is built to work for corporations and their CEOs, working families have found themselves trying to stretch every dollar.

The leadership of this House seems content to keep that struggle going. It is time to take a second look at policies that will help our middle class. It is time to stand up for high-quality child care, accessible and affordable for every family, and a childcare workforce that earns the pay they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, I want to make something very clear. This is neither an isolated problem, nor is it one with limited impact. This is the new normal. In addition to outrageous costs, limited access to quality child care and pre-K means stunted development for children and further division between those with means and those without.

If you have got the resources, child care that costs more than the median rent isn't a big deal. If you have got the resources, child care that costs more than tuition at a public college across more than half of the country isn't a big deal.

If you have got the resources, you can give your child a leg up with pre-K and child care that sets them up for academic success, higher wages, and better jobs and careers.

If you don't have these resources because you are working minimum-wage jobs or your wages have been flat for years or you are one of the hundreds of thousands of Americans still unemployed, leaders in Congress say: Well, too bad about that. That is unacceptable.

Mr. Speaker, the average cost of child care for a family with an infant and a 4-year-old is \$17,755. In my State of New Jersey, the average cost for the same family would be \$21,000.

That price tag is outrageous, and it probably has quite a bit to do with why only 35 percent of pre-school-age children are currently enrolled in pre-K programs despite the benefits that pre-K offers.

Ninety percent of brain development happens before the age of 5. Every dollar invested in early childhood education returns in public benefits. There are few better ways we can spend our money.

Mr. Speaker, there is one more reason we are making this a priority. The teachers responsible for our youngest minds earn salaries that cannot cover the expenses of their own families. While first grade teachers earn roughly \$45,000 annually, pre-K teachers earn only \$27,000.

These men and women hold one of the most important roles in our society and make some of the greatest impacts on our kids. They deserve pay that matches the value they offer.

This issue has waited long enough for attention from this Nation's leaders. It is time for Congress to make sure that every family has access to child care and early childhood education.