

## 2008 CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Please complete this form and return it to the above address.

### ABORTION QUESTIONS

*Arkansas Right to Life (ARTL) believes that all unborn children should be protected by law, and that abortion should be permitted only when necessary to prevent the death of the mother.*

(1) Under what circumstances, if any, do you believe that abortion should be legal?

\_\_\_\_\_ Only to prevent the death of the mother (the ARTL position).

\_\_\_\_\_ To prevent the mother's death, in cases of incest committed against a minor, and in reported cases of forcible rape.

\_\_\_\_\_ Other: (please explain) \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE NOTE:** On every question below, a "YES" response indicates agreement with the position of ARTL.

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In its 1973 rulings in *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*, the U. S. Supreme Court created a "right to abortion" for any reason until "viability" (into the sixth month), and for any "health" reasons – including "emotional" health – even during the final three months of pregnancy. These rulings invalidated the abortion laws that were in effect in all 50 states at the time. In the 1992 ruling of *Casey v. Planned Parenthood*, the Supreme Court reaffirmed the "core holdings" of *Roe v. Wade*, and said that any law placing an "undue burden" on access to abortion would be struck down.

(2) Do you support the reversal of the *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* decisions, so that elected legislative bodies may once again protect unborn children by limiting or prohibiting abortion?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

(3) In the event that the U.S. Supreme Court case, *Roe v. Wade*, which legalized abortion on demand, was overturned, would you support a law that would ban abortion unless the mother's life was at risk?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

(4) Would you support a state law that would enforce the federal guidelines regarding the administration of the abortion drug RU-486?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

(5) Would you vote for a law that would criminalize any act of coercion that causes a female to obtain an abortion?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

In 2007, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the federal ban on Partial-birth Abortion, but the U.S. Congress has introduced legislation that could make partial-birth abortion legal.

(6) Would you vote to ban Partial-Birth Abortion in Arkansas?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

### **UNBORN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE**

In 2005 the passage of the federal Unborn Victims of Violence Act (Laci & Conner's Law) established that if an unborn child is injured or killed then the assailant may be charged with a second offense on behalf of the second victim, the unborn child. The Arkansas Fetal Protection Act of 1999 recognizes unborn children twelve weeks and older as victims when injured or killed during a crime against a pregnant woman.

(7) Would you vote to amend the Arkansas Fetal Protection Act to recognize the unborn child as a victim at any gestational age?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

## **PROTECTION OF HUMAN EMBRYOS**

The right to life of human beings must be respected at every stage of their biological development. Human individuals who are at the embryonic stage of development should not be used for harmful or lethal medical experimentation. This applies equally to human beings whose lives have begun by means such as in vitro fertilization or by somatic cell nuclear transfer (human cloning), or by some other laboratory technique. Arkansas Right to Life opposes harvesting “stem cells” from living human embryos since this kills the embryos. Note: ARTL is NOT opposed to other research on “stem cells” that are obtained without killing embryos – for example, stem cells harvested from umbilical cord blood and from adult tissue.

(8) Will you vote for measures to protect living human embryos from being used for medical experiments that would harm or kill them, including so-called “embryonic stem cell research” that would require the killing of human embryos, regardless of the method used to create these human embryos?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

## **EUTHANASIA QUESTIONS**

The pro-life movement has always sought to protect not only the unborn from abortion, but also the vulnerable born, especially older or disabled people, from euthanasia. We consider rationing of health care, resulting in the denial of life-saving medical treatment against the will of the patient, to be unacceptable involuntary euthanasia.

Today there is dispute concerning whether patients’ entitlement to food and fluids should depend on their “quality of life.” Suppose there is a disagreement over whether a particular patient’s “quality of life” is worth living and the patient is no longer able to make decisions.

(9) If the patient, while competent, had not made his or her wishes known, should the patient be given food and fluids?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

(10) Will you support legislation to allow relatives, public officials or others with legal standing to pursue civil damages against individuals who assist in suicide or active euthanasia?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

(11) Would you oppose any legalization of measures to “assist” in committing suicide, or “active euthanasia”?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

(12) Would you vote to prevent non-voluntary starvation and dehydration of patients who cannot speak for themselves by providing food and fluids when necessary to sustain their life or offer them comfort, unless there is clear and convincing evidence the patient, while competent, gave express and informed consent to their denial, or signed an advance directive rejecting them?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this original questionnaire to:**

Arkansas Right to Life  
P.O. Box 1697  
Little Rock, Arkansas, 72203

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Signature of Candidate

Date

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Please print or type name

Political Party

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Position Sought

District #

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Name of campaign committee and address

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Campaign contact person

Phone