

My husband is a very hard worker. Has been for 50 years. He has also owned *several* properties (and vans, oddly enough) in the past 30 years. So it is fitting that he has a sweatshirt that reads, in the words of Abraham Lincoln, "Property is the Fruit of Labor." I saw this quote for the first time a few years ago at the Missouri state capital in Jefferson City, where I and a few hundred others congregated last Wednesday for Pro-Life Action Day, a lobbying effort to garner support for pro-life laws from our legislators. This movement strives to embody another quote carved in the capital's walls, "Righteousness exalteth a nation."



When I entered the beautiful rotunda of the Jefferson City Capital building, the sea of red could have been mistaken for a crowd at a Chiefs game, if not for the predominately gray hair (and lack of beer). It was more crowded than in past years, with standing room only, extending to the stairs and the balustrade on the floor above. It makes sense since now we have more to fight for, more to lose. Now more than ever in Missouri it is crucial that the pro-life community band together to make our voice be heard in opposition of extreme legislation, such as Amendment 3, that passed recently in our state.

Below are some highlights from many of the speakers we heard that day:

- Steve Rupp, President, Missouri Right to Life. Amendment 3 was a reproductive freedom initiative. But the freedom to do what? The freedom to kill an innocent human being.
- David Wasinger, Missouri Lt. Governor. Amendment 3 was one of the most misleading amendments ever. Despite massively outspending us, it still barely passed. This has become more than a battle between pro-life and pro-choice, but a battle between good and evil.
- Madeleine Castle, Field Representative for Senator Josh Hawley. Senator Hawley has introduced two pieces of legislation: One which would prohibit federal funding of Planned Parenthood; and one which would prohibit forcing anyone to perform an abortion in violation of their beliefs.
- Susan Klein, Missouri Right to Life Executive Director. "We're going to do this together, and we're going to win." The Missouri abortion community is planning a rally at the capital on *Easter* weekend!
- Adam Schnelting, Missouri Senator. Missouri has become one of the most radical abortion havens in the world. Dr. Wilberforce said, "You may choose to look the other way, but you can never say again that you did not know."
- Dr. Susan Bane, OBGYN, PinkGlasses Consulting.
 - Dr. Bane works exclusively with women with unplanned pregnancies to combat the lie that destroying their children is empowering. "Abortion care" is an oxymoron, and she never uses these words together.
 - Between 20-25% of pregnancies end in induced abortion and are performed by only 10-14% of obstetricians.

- Of the approximately one million abortions in 2023, 63% were chemical. This means that 630,000 women turned their homes into abortion clinics, creating a triggering space in what was once a safe space. These abortions without an ultrasound can be extremely dangerous.
- During the Ohio abortion-amendment campaign, fear-mongering and lies caused many pro-life citizens to vote scared rather than sacred.
- The “mushy middle” has the unwarranted perception that abortion is a necessary evil. It is up to us to change their minds.
- The abortion movement began with doctors (AMA, 1847) and needs to end with doctors.
- Rebecca Weaver, AAPLOG Action. The American Association of Pro-Life Obstetricians and Gynecologists (AAPLOG) does not promote death as a therapeutic action. Rather, it empowers patients to receive life-affirming care and community support. It also positions doctors to be where they should be to lead the way to pro-life victories. In South Dakota, doctors’ voices were critical in demonstrating that the pro-life laws in their state save lives.

As always, a busy and inspiring day. Standing for life, clapping for life, praying for life. On the way home, I decided to nap for life. 😊