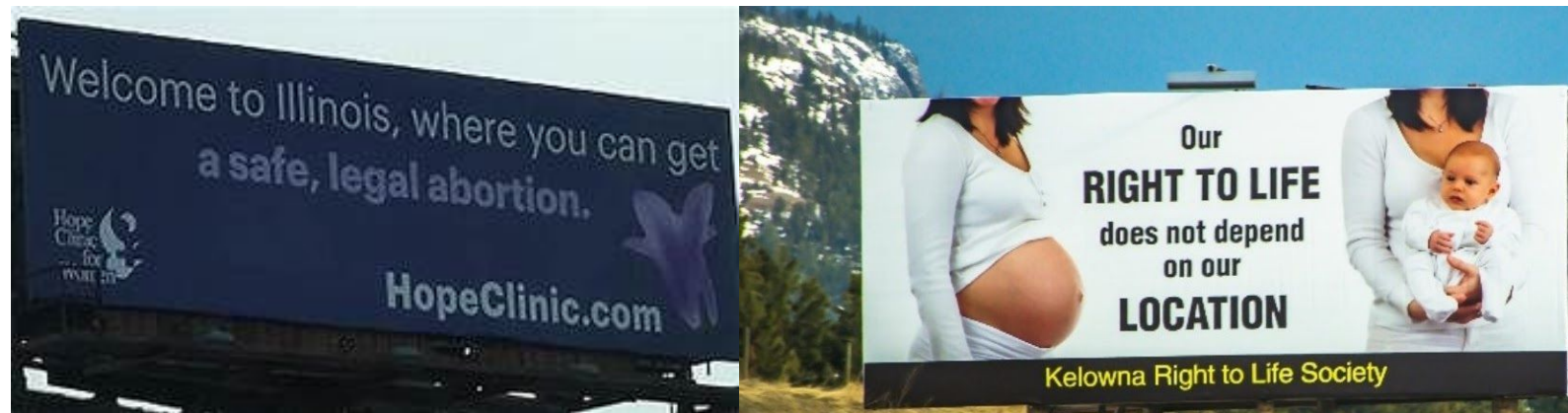


In our ongoing quest to keep Missouri pro-life, I feel like I have neglected our out of state friends. But one tenet of my pro-life philosophy is this: Saving lives and defending the innocent knows no boundaries. Regardless of which pro-life organization you support or in which state they operate, every dime and every effort contribute to the shared goal of championing the sanctity of life. This perspective, therefore, rejects the short-sighted (aka ridiculous) notion that the issue of abortion should be decided on a state-by-state basis. Morality is not contingent on public opinion. Majority rule does not magically turn a wrong into a right. Crossing a state line does not alter the humanity of an unborn child.



It seems that modern culture has become skewed to the point of personal delusion and institutional megalomania. For instance, I recently heard a Chinese woman state that, “**Tyranny often disguises itself as compassion,**” then illustrated the point by recounting how her government claimed to act in their best interest while taking away their right to land ownership, among other more heinous things. Consider Planned Parenthood, an organization that purports to have compassion for women, providing them a “much needed service” for their own well-being. In truth, they are literally profiting from women’s vulnerabilities while creating more trauma. Perhaps these tyrants began in earnest (I’m being generous), but power and profit realized can corrupt even the best among us.

I ran across this wonderful quote from C.S. Lewis (typical) regarding the juxtaposition of tyranny and kindness.

*Of all tyrannies, **a tyranny sincerely exercised for the good of its victims may be the most oppressive... This very kindness stings with intolerable insult.** To be “cured” against one’s will and cured of states which we may not regard as disease is to be put on the level of those who have not yet reached the age of reason or those who never will; to be classed with infants, imbeciles, and domestic animals. (C.S. Lewis, God in the Dock)*

I could not help but think of those who view pregnancy as a disease, or at the very least, a problem to solve. Those who convince poor, young, or African-American women that they need to be rescued from, not helped through, their circumstances. The message? You are incapable; I will save you. This is control, pure and simple. The subtle precursor to oppression, then tyranny.

This notion of tyranny in disguise led me to wonder how that would translate to an individual. I came up with, “**Selfishness often disguises itself as justice.**” Think about the prevalence today to assert your “rights” even in the absence of a true moral claim. Self-righteous indignation often masks the twin motives of, “I just want to do what I want” and “Don’t tell me what to do.” Selfishness has been rebranded as something noble, and our culture is falling for it. This is excruciatingly evident when citing, “My body, my choice.” Casualties are inconsequential when one’s freedom and autonomy are at stake. (This gives a sinister meaning to “blind justice.”) Unfortunately for many, many women who choose to exercise their perceived right to abort their child, their decision ultimately brings tragedy, leaving their lives in shambles and in need of deep healing.

So in the midst of all this subterfuge, let’s remain diligent alongside one another to expose lies and illuminate darkness. Will people listen? Will they see? Maybe not, but faithfulness is our duty, and the results belongs to God.

