

Well Said!

The young man looked dapper in his suit. He had unique facial features and an accent that identified him with a particular group of people. He was poised and unintimidated as he spoke with conviction in front of the United Nations. This is what he had to say.

*Some people will say that prenatal screening can identify Down Syndrome in the womb and those pregnancies will just be terminated. It's hard for me to sit here and say those words. I completely understand that the people pushing this particular "final solution" are saying that people like me should not exist. To those who question the value of people with Down Syndrome, I would like to make three points:*

- *First, we are a medical gift to society, a blueprint for medical research into cancer, Alzheimer's, and immune system disorders.*
- *Secondly, we are an unusually powerful source of happiness. A Harvard-based study has discovered that people with Down Syndrome, as well as their parents and siblings, are happier than society at large. Surely happiness is worth something.*
- *Finally, we are the canary in the eugenics coal mine. We are giving the world a chance to think about the ethics of choosing which humans get a chance at life.*

Mic drop. Inspiring words from Frank Stephens, American Disabilities Advocate.

This year, the Western Region gave scholarships to 40 high-schoolers and 20 college students from the Kansas City area to attend the March for Life in Washington D.C. Here are a few notes we received about their experience:

- *One thing I took away was I saw a lot of women with signs saying "I regret my abortion" which was very impactful because it was a reminder of how real this is and people struggle every day. (Elizabeth Robertson)*
- *Being surrounded by so many like-minded people, all fighting for, and celebrating life, I had no idea that that many people could be so on fire for life. I have never actually had the pro-life movement put into physical form until I came on the march. Thank you for making pro-life real for me. (David Rogge)*
- *This trip fed my passion for God's children and protecting them because everyone deserves the right to live the beautiful life God has given them! My goal is to make abortion unthinkable and to show every mother they are strong and capable! (Madi Scharf)*

Vice-President J.D. Vance addressed the 2025 Conservative Political Action Conference recently with these words:

*I think the most important thing that we can do, and I'm, as you know, I'm very pro-life, I'm a devout Christian, is that we have got to persuade our fellow Americans, because now we've got the power. We've got the power of persuasion. We've got to persuade our fellow citizens that unborn life is worthy of protecting. It is sacred in the eyes of God, and it should be sacred in the eyes of man, too. We have to pick up the torch and fight for that every single day. And I know you guys are up for the task. I am, too.*

*And I think on the administration side, what the president has said, and it's been consistent, it's going to be consistent in the rhetoric and in the policy is, we believe in the Trump administration that babies are good, that families are good, and we want to make it easier for young moms and young dads to choose life and to bring new life into the world. That's the whole point of our policy.*

*Now some of that, of course, is supporting our great crisis pregnancy centers at the moment of these important health-care decisions, encouraging young women to choose life at that important moment of choice. Some of that is bringing costs down, you know, so young moms and dads don't look to the future and a new baby and say, "How can I afford this?" If they are able actually to afford to raise a family, maybe they will start thinking of babies as the blessings that we all know that they are.*

*And I think, fundamentally, this is going to take a lot of leadership. From the president on down but from every single person in this room. We've got to persuade our fellow citizens to stop thinking about babies as inconveniences to be discarded. We've got to start thinking of them as blessings to cherish, and that's exactly what I promise to do.*

Encouraging words from one of the highest leaders in our land! This gives me hope that there is still time for truth, justice, compassion, and common sense to prevail. Let's pray that it does and act boldly on its behalf.

Partnering with You for Life,

Linda Verhulst, MRL-WR