

FOCA-FREEDOM OF CHOICE ACT

By Terry L. Thompson

I. INTRODUCTION

Barack Obama made the following statements during his presidential campaign:

- "...if my daughters made a mistake and got pregnant....I wouldn't want them punished with a baby."
- In a speech to Planned Parenthood he said, ".....The first thing I'd do as President is sign the Freedom of Choice Act."

What is FOCA and why is it number one on Obama's hit parade? First of all the act is misnamed the Freedom of Choice Act. It doesn't give freedom it takes it away! It should be called REFOCA or the REMOVAL and END of freedom of choice act!

II. WHAT DOES FOCA SAY?

FOCA provides that "[i]t is the policy of the United States that every woman has the **fundamental** right to choose to bear a child, to terminate a pregnancy" both before and after viability. The word fundamental is carefully chosen for its legal meaning. Fundamental rights in the US include the right to vote, the right to marry, the right to travel. If FOCA passes, it would elevate abortion to a fundamental right and require strict scrutiny standard for all laws passed relating to abortion. This is far beyond even what is granted in *Roe v. Wade*!

FOCA would specifically invalidate any "statute, ordinance, regulation, administrative order, decision, policy, practice, or other action" of any federal, state, or local government that would "deny or interfere with a woman's right to choose" abortion . . . " and it would apply retroactively.

Since *Roe v. Wade* Christians have worked tirelessly to try to overturn *Roe* and have failed. However, in the last 36 years there have been more than 550 federal, state and local laws incrementally chipping away at the abortion holocaust. The Family Research Council estimates that these laws save 125,000 lives per year. This means that if Congress passes FOCA, the number of abortions would increase by more than 125,000!

III. WHAT IS THE PRACTICAL IMPACT OF FOCA?

FOCA would nullify all of the progress of the last 36 years and prevent all future progress.

- It will nullify Federal Partial Birth Abortion Ban
- It will nullify the *Hyde Amendment* (restricting taxpayer funding of abortions)
- It will nullify federal restrictions on abortions performed at **military hospitals**

- It will nullify 33 state's laws that require **counseling** before an abortion
- It will nullify 32 states' laws requiring **Informed consent**
- It will nullify 28 states' laws requiring a **waiting period** before an abortion
- It will nullify 16 states laws requiring **ultrasounds** before an abortion
- It will nullify 34 states' **parental consent and notification** laws
- It will nullify 46 states "**Conscience Protection**" laws for healthcare workers
- It will nullify **health and safety regulations for abortion clinics**
- It will nullify most states' requirement that abortions only be performed by **licensed physicians**

III. BACKGROUND

Currently there are more than 1.2 million abortions in the US every year. This is more than all the deaths in all the wars in our country's history! There have been 50 million abortions in the US since abortion was made legal in 1973 via Roe v. Wade. This is more than the population of California, Oregon, Washington, Nevada and Idaho combined! No wonder we are in an economic crisis...we've murdered 50 million taxpayers!

IV. WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

The Bible says in Proverbs 24:

11 Deliver *those who* are drawn toward death, and hold back *those* stumbling to the slaughter. 12 If you say, "Surely we did not know this," Does not He who weighs the hearts consider *it*? He who keeps your soul, does He *not* know *it*? And will He *not* render to *each* man according to his deeds?

God commands us to rescue those stumbling to the slaughter. Surely God is speaking to us about the abortion holocaust. What can each of us do? We can:

1. Be personally informed. Go to www.focafacts.com
2. Educate your church. Get bulliten inserts. If we order 1,000 or more they are only 10 cents each.
3. Pray
4. Call Barbara Boxer and your congressman and voice your high disapproval

As President Ronald Reagan said about politicians, "When you can't make them see the light, make them feel the heat." **Let's make them feel the heat!!**