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AMERICAN CITIZENS CONCERNED FOR LIFE, INC.



ACCL PHILOSOPHY AND OBJECTIVES

American Citizens Concerned for Life exists to foster respect for and enhancement of human life. The focus of our concern is the unborn child, the troubled mother, the family, and other vulnerable members of society.

Biological and medical evidence and common sense dictate that a human life is present before birth. The doctor has two patients when he treats a pregnant woman. We believe that society should encourage recognition of the humanity of the unborn. There are precedents in our history and in the history of other countries where whole classes of human beings were not accorded personhood in the full sense and as a result were exploited and even destroyed.

Society has the duty to legally protect its weaker members and to help them reach their full potential. Allowing individuals within the society to cast aside vulnerable, helpless individuals based on cost-benefit analysis, lack of utility, or degree of wantedness, is contrary to Judeo-Christian morality and the foundations upon which our government rests. A society will not sanction wholesale destruction of human lives to solve social problems. In most segments of our society, killing in self-defense is an acceptable principle. Only in the area of abortion do people tolerate killing for convenience or to prevent discomfort or embarrassment. This practice can and should be eliminated.

People do face serious problems which cause them to seek abortion in panic or fear and we have, therefore, dedicated a share of our efforts to promoting the enactment of alternatives to abortion.

ACCL plans to focus much of the current work of the organization in three basic areas. Each of them is listed separately with a brief description of the policies which shape those activities.

Promotion of Legal Protection for the Unborn Child

Protection for the unborn will be pursued by a variety of means including the support of legislation which would reverse Roe v. Wade. Amending the U.S. Constitution is an effective means to return legal protection to the unborn.

However, a constitutional amendment is only one tool or strategy to employ in the legislative and educational process. An amendment is in the distant future and progress toward it will be incremental. Therefore, our immediate activities must be concentrated toward building a case before Congress and the public to show that severe problems exist as a result of the Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton Supreme Court decisions.

As part of the work which will lead toward an amendment, we encourage the formulation of interim legislation and other programs which would reduce and limit the number of abortions. These interim proposals would include federal and state legislation as well as voluntary programs. As the public is made aware of the prob-



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Promotion of Supportive Services for Pregnant Women, Children and Families

Abortion really involves two issues - one of justice and rights and one of loving and caring. While the first remains a focus of debate and division, and efforts continue to reverse the legal imbalance and wrongs created by the decision, programs and legislation need to be pursued showing concern for the well-being of pregnant women, children - before and after birth, and families. If troubled pregnant women are to have an opportunity to give birth to healthy babies we must create a society that cares about both and is willing to extend a hand of love and support.

The factors in society that lead toward the ever-escalating number of unplanned pregnancies, especially among young single women, need to be examined and counteracted.

Involvement in alternatives to abortion programs presents an opportunity to build strong working relationships with other individuals and groups, who although not primarily concerned with the abortion issue, do share a respect for life.

Such activity also provides an opportunity to develop a model for dealing humanely with individuals who are troubled by problem pregnancies. Before any meaningful changes in the legality of abortion will occur, society must be reassured that problem pregnancies can be effectively handled and the dignity of women preserved at the same time as protection is provided for the unborn child.

Fostering the Development of Denominational Religious Pro-Life Activity

Many religious institutions and individuals from a variety of religious backgrounds share opposition to the present permissive abortion climate. They believe that human life is sacred and that each human being has a transcendent quality. They believe all human lives are valuable, whether they are wanted, perceived as perfect or are useful. ACCL is working cooperatively with pro-life members of the Catholic, Protestant and Jewish communities. As a result of educational and organizational efforts, numerous church bodies will in time stand together on this issue.

The program priorities of ACCL remain flexible and adaptable in order to meet existing challenges and to take advantage of emerging opportunities. The continuing interest and involvement of our supporters makes it possible for us to carry on our largely volunteer efforts in sponsoring projects and assuming responsibilities which will help the pro-life movement realize its goals.

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Preliminary Draft

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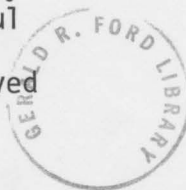
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Another major focus of ACCL's efforts is fostering the development of denominational religious pro-life activity. Many religious institutions, and individuals from a variety of religious backgrounds, share opposition to the present permissive abortion climate. They believe that human life is sacred and that each human being has a transcendent quality. His or her life is valuable regardless of its degree of wantedness, perceived perfection or utility. ACCL is working cooperatively with pro-life members of the Catholic, Protestant and Jewish communities. As a result of educational and organizational efforts numerous church bodies will in time stand together on this issue.

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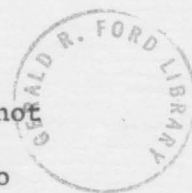
(Still in the process of formation)

OBJECTIVES OF ORGANIZATION

American Citizens Concerned for Life, Inc. is committed to work toward an America in which all human lives are respected, and abortion is not practiced as a solution for the social, emotional, medical or personal problems of American women.

This protective and enabling philosophy of action is not limited to the abortion question alone, but applies to other vulnerable individuals and classes, such as the mentally retarded, the aged and the handicapped.

ACCL will seek to accomplish its goals through education, legislation and service programs. The three areas in which ACCL will concentrate its efforts are broadening the base of support of the pro-life movement, developing alternatives to abortion and building strong, effective state pro-life organizations.



ACCL Philosophy & Objectives

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Am Cit Come for Lif exist. foster respect for ⁽¹⁾
and enhancement of human life. The focus of our
concern is the unborn child, the troubled mother,
the family, and other vulnerable members of society.

~~At its recent meeting the Board of ACCL plans to~~
work of the organization in three basic areas. Each of them is
listed separately with a brief description of the policies which
shape those activities:

- (1) Promotion of Legal Protection for the unborn child:
This will be pursued by a variety of means including
the support of legislation which would wholly or
partially reverse Roe v Wade. ACCL believes that
amending the U.S. Constitution is the ~~most~~ effective
means to return legal protection to the unborn.

~~We further believe that~~ a humane society has
the duty to legally protect its weaker members and to help them reach
their full potential. Allowing individuals within the society to cast
aside vulnerable, helpless individuals based on cost-benefit analysis,
lack of utility, or degree of wantedness, is contrary to Judeo-
Christian morality and the foundations upon which our government rests.
The law is a great teacher and sets the standard of conduct even if
the law is broken. Society should not sanction wholesale destruction
of human lives to solve social problems. Killing in self-defense is
a principle acceptable in some segments of our society, but killing
for convenience or to prevent discomfort or embarrassment is clearly
not tolerated except in the area of abortion. We believe that ~~such~~
~~this~~ practice can and should be eliminated.

^{But the}
^{recognize, however that}
^{main purpose of our existence is not to pass a}
^{Constitutional amendment.} We ~~see~~ a Const. amendment
~~is~~ only one tool or strategy to employ in the legislative
and educational process. ~~We have no position on~~
~~the exact wording of an amendment we view~~ In our
estimation, an amendment is in the distant future
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~~and Doe v. Bolton.~~
~~and~~ ~~encouraging~~ ~~degree of protection~~ ~~attainable~~



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As part of the work which will lead toward an amendment, we encourage the formulation of interim legislation and other programs which would reduce and limit the number of abortions. These interim proposals would include federal and state legislation as well as voluntary programs.

8
As the public is made aware of the problems caused by legal abortion, identifies with the humanity of the unborn, and sees other solutions to social problems, the amount of protective legislation it demands will increase.

9
~~We have no position at this time on the exact working or approach to an amendment, and feel that this must be taken up at a later time, when we have built the necessary support in Congress & work positively and cooperatively with the members of a majority of members of Congress who will take pro-life position.~~

~~\$200 will not eliminate abortion in our society until we have replaced the negative picture with positive long alternatives.~~

10
(2) Promotion of Supportive Services for pregnant women, children and families:

9
Abortion in the eyes of ACCL really involves two issues — one of justice and rights and one of loving and caring. While the first remains a focus of debate and division and we continue our efforts to reverse the legal imbalance and wrongs created by the decision, we will also pursue programs and legislation showing our concern

about the well-being of pregnant women, children-born and unborn, and families. If troubled pregnant women are to have an opportunity to give birth to healthy babies we must create a society that cares about both and is willing to extend a hand of love and support.

11
Our interest & involvement in alternatives to abortion will give us an opportunity to ~~work~~ build strong working relationships with other individuals & groups who, although not primarily concerned with the abortion issue, share our respect for life.

10
The factors in society that lead toward the ever escalating number of unplanned pregnancies esp. among young single women need to be examined and counteracted, those which lead to rejection of one human being by another should also be examined.

12
It will also provide an opportunity to develop a model for dealing humanly with individuals who are troubled by problem pregnancies. Society needs to be reassured that these problems can be effectively handled and protect the dignity of the woman while still protecting the child before any meaningful changes in the legality of abortion will occur.

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~~We are certain that~~ Biological and medical evidence and common sense dictate that a human life is present before birth. The doctor has two patients when he treats a pregnant woman. Society must choose whether or not to accord personhood to what is clearly a biological human being in the womb (in an early stage of growth and development). There are other precedents in our history and in the history of other countries where whole classes of human beings were not accorded personhood in the full sense and as a result were exploited and even destroyed.

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see stewards for life

- (3) Foster the development of a multi-denominational religious coalition which shares respect for the life of an unborn child and concern for pregnant women. Many religious institutions and individuals from a variety of religious backgrounds share opposition to the present permissive abortion climate. They share a belief that human life is sacred and that each life has a transcendent quality and is valuable regardless of its degree of wantedness, perceived perfection or utility.

The Roman Catholic Church has a highly visible political and educational anti-abortion effort; ~~and~~ ~~The~~ Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod has been extremely active in support of unborn life and its program could well serve as a model for other denominational efforts. Other denominations may share these concerns, but few church bodies are out front in the conflict. AACL will therefore continue to encourage the formation of strong denominational pro-life groups as well as assisting in the building of citizen action pro-life groups. ~~The issue ^{will} ~~should~~ be pursued in the legislative arena primarily as a question of justice + civil rights by citizen action groups made up of people who have varying attitudes toward religion.~~

~~But encouragement from and cooperation with various church bodies would play an important role in the success of these citizens groups (see enclosed clippings). There is also much that remains to be done outside the legislative arena to educate church members on this issue and to provide ways in which interested people with religious backgrounds~~

might meet the needs for services that many pregnant women and their families currently experience.


AACL has an opportunity to

visible multi-denominational
pro-life presence

(12)

Before any meaningful changes in the
legality of abortion will occur,
society must be reassured that
~~the~~ problem pregnancies can
be effectively handled and the dignity
of women ^{preserved} ~~protected~~ ^{at the same time as} ~~in addition to providing~~
protection ^{is provided} ~~for~~ the unborn child.





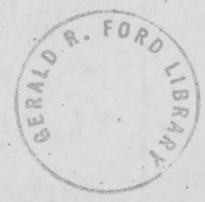
The main principles which motivate us are rather general and are probably shared by many people involved in various struggles for justice. Our ~~strategy and~~ approach toward organizing, educating or legislating remains flexible in order to take advantage of emerging opportunities and available talents. We strive to help create that nebulous "just society", particularly in the areas of our special concern.

continue to

As long as ~~that continues~~ You assist us by your support and your interest, efforts to sponsor projects and assume responsibilities which we feel may be of benefit in helping all of us to realize our goals.

(14) *Program priorities*
The ~~activities~~ of AACL remain flexible & adaptable
in order to take advantage of emerging
opportunities and to meet existing
~~challenges~~ *crises* presented to the pro-life forces.
Your continued interest & involvement
makes it possible for us to continue
our largely volunteer efforts in sponsoring
projects & assuming responsibilities which
will ~~be of benefit to~~ *help* the pro-life
movement realize its goals.

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PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES OF ACCL

- 1) To promote a philosophy which places a high value on each human life regardless of stage of development/condition/productivity/especially - but not limited to - born and unborn children, the aged and the ill.
- 2) To encourage a sense of responsibility for the physical and mental being of classes of individuals who may be rejected or are facing crisis in our society/especially - but not limited to - born and unborn children, pregnant women, the family, the aged, the retarded, the handicapped.
- 3) To actively work to establish a code of law which protects the basic human rights of the classes of individuals in (2)/including protection of life and enhancement of circumstances of life so potential can be realized.
- 4) To provide a reasonable, rational, national pro-life organization that can attract the interest, commitment and respect of individuals and groups/both those already in the field and those who may agree in principle but have been unwilling or unable to identify themselves with the existing highly polarized organizations.
- 5) To build a sound, properly structured, adequately funded national organization that can provide the high quality of services, coordination and leadership to both organizations and individuals that is capable of producing social change and which is lacking on the national and local pro-life scene.
- 6) To present the pro-life cause and its responsibility in terms of broadly based concern for human life/rather than narrowly focusing on the fetus only.
- 7) To maintain and escalate respect for all human life primarily as a human rights cause but to also foster understanding and commitment to this cause from church bodies and individuals with varying religious backgrounds.
 - A. Activity by ACCL in the religious communities has several objectives
 - 1) increase the number of the committee through already organized and predisposed channels
 - 2) counteract propaganda by opposition that the pro-life cause is Roman Catholic
- 8) To establish the pro-life cause as a legitimate bi-partison concern.
- 9) To maximize the potential for cooperation in legislative and educational programs between ACCL and other citizens action groups where overlap of some concerns may occur/coalition building.
- 10) To effectively utilize the talented and committed individuals, including the professional volunteers, available to the cause.
- 11) To encourage creative and life enhancing solutions to human problems.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE FOR ACCL

- 1) Produce educational materials (audio-visual modules, pamphlets, tracts, books).
 - A. Religious and Secular
 - 1) general audience
 - 2) schools
 - B. Both issue oriented and how to
- 2) Offer organizational consultation for own chapters or for groups with similar goals but who are autonomous such as religious or state and local pro-life groups.
- 3) Sponsor research - legal, medical, historical, etc.
- 4) Improve communication - to already involved (legislative new programs, etc)
- 5) Serve as a legislative liaison for purposes of
 - A. protective legislation
 - B. supportive and preventive legislation
- 6) Initiate an outreach program to sound citizens action pro-life groups in states or communities.
- 7) Sponsor workshops and seminars for purposes of
 - A. leadership
 - B. increasing public awareness
- 8) Aggressively initiate a public relations program which enhances the image of pro-life people and the cause.

WHY SHOULD THE PRIVATE/and or PUBLIC SECTOR SUPPORT ACCL

- 1) The conflicting value struggles are basic; touch most peoples' experience, and are important to the future of both the society and the individual such as:
 - A. individual freedom v. the public good
 - B. traditional Judeo-Christian ethic v. Hedonism
- 2) The groups of individuals which are the focus of the value struggle (mother, babies, families, aging) elicit emotional response and commitment
- 3) There is constant visibility for the issues
- 4) The irresponsible but constant and growing activities of the extremes on both sides of this issue force a response and some posture from many (political parties, church conventions) who then have need to align themselves with a reasonable, defensible position and even an organization, candidates, public officials, lawyers, doctors, groups dealing with women, children, families, aged, etc.
- 5) Adequate and quality services are not now available for those interested in this debate

WHY IS THE WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION IMPORTANT AND URGENT

- 1) The debate and setting of policy on the issues involved rages and is ⁱⁿ constant ferment with a lack of responsible input.
- 2) People are getting hurt when ways to minimize suffering could be made available
- 3) Frustration and discouragement with many national pro-life groups is growing
- 4) The frustration is causing greater polarization and turning inward and thus decreasing the appeal growth and effectiveness of the pro-life movement
- 5) General conviction that abortion freedom may have gone too far is growing while the leadership and organization does not exist that can turn that concern into effective action.
- 6) Other interest groups(right wing, churches, women's lib, population ^{controllers} ~~zero~~, etc), have used these issues to further their own aims, sometimes to the detriment of reasonable problem solving on the issues themselves and at the expense of those caught in the dilemmas controlled by public policy and attitudes on those issues.

and



May, 1975

TO: Board Members, Area Representatives,
Supporters and Friends

FROM: Marjory Mecklenburg

SUBJECT: Progress Report



We are pleased with the progress of American Citizens Concerned for Life in the months since its founding. Several major events have been sponsored, materials have been produced, assistance has been given to state organizations, the desired I.R.S. tax status has been obtained, productive meetings have been held, a distinguished honorary board has been named, important relationships have been established, congressional testimony has been given and an administrative services office is functioning. This has also been a period of development and planning and ACCL is just entering a phase of increased effectiveness and activity.

The Washington Prayer Breakfast for Life which ACCL sponsored and organized last January 22 was such a success that it will become an annual event. A copy of the commemorative booklet is enclosed for your information. The "Food for Life" plan which was sponsored and organized by ACCL as one of the January 22 national activities provided over 10,000 pounds of rice and food for the hungry and will become an ongoing program. Additional information about both the breakfast and the food plan will be sent to you in the near future.

Materials designed to assist state organizations have been produced. Booklets on pro-life fund raising and on tax status and a slide show on movement dynamics are available and in use. An ACCL team assisted in the formation of a new state group, "Tennessee Volunteers for Life," and has provided assistance to other state groups (clipping enclosed).



AMERICAN CITIZENS CONCERNED FOR LIFE, INC.

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Journalist, Washington, D.C.
GEORGE H. WILLIAMS
Professor of Divinity
Harvard University

(Still in the process of formation)

OBJECTIVES OF ORGANIZATION

American Citizens Concerned for Life, Inc. is committed to work toward an America in which all human lives are respected, and abortion is not practiced as a solution for the social, emotional, medical or personal problems of American women.

This protective and enabling philosophy of action is not limited to the abortion question alone, but applies to other vulnerable individuals and classes, such as the mentally retarded, the aged and the handicapped.

ACCL will seek to accomplish its goals through education, legislation and service programs. The three areas in which ACCL will concentrate its efforts are broadening the base of support of the pro-life movement, developing alternatives to abortion and building strong, effective state pro-life organizations.

White

Application was made to the Internal Revenue Service requesting nonprofit tax-exempt status with a tax deductible educational fund. The status has been granted and funds are being solicited in both categories. General revenues will be used for our legislative and organizational programs and tax deductible monies for the production of educational materials.

A jointly sponsored "Love of Life" dinner dance in February benefited both ACCL and Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life. Eunice Shriver was the featured speaker and Congressman James Oberstar shared some thoughts on Washington with the enthusiastic audience (story enclosed). A tape of Mrs. Shriver's excellent speech on alternatives will soon be available. It is hoped that other groups will sponsor such benefit events this next year.



A proposal has been written for foundations requesting funds for the production of educational materials. Should such a grant be made, matching funds will be solicited. A direct mail program has begun to give a wide variety of people an opportunity to support our programs and to become familiar with the organization and its aims. Several new ACCL products will soon be on the market. A profit will be made by ACCL and by the group doing the selling. Two individuals have pledged contributions totalling \$2,500 provided that ACCL is able to match their donations from other sources. Any assistance you might wish to offer in these or other funding projects would be greatly appreciated.

The administrative services office in Minneapolis is operating daily now with volunteers actively helping. Joseph Lampe will move from his position as executive director of Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life this summer to serve ACCL on a full time basis.

We have benefited by the help of many people these past months. Tom and Chris Mooney were employed part time by the corporation in Washington and have also volunteered much time and effort. They were particularly active in the Food for Life program. Warren Schaller was employed full time in Washington during the early stages of our organization. He visited a number of states on behalf of ACCL during his employment. Thomas Bendorf, a Washington attorney, has most generously given us of his time and expert advice and shared his office space with us during the pre-January 22 activity. A number of other Washington professionals have and are continuing to provide us with valuable assistance.

Washington, D.C. and Congress continue to be an important focus in our work. ACCL will be represented at the hearings before Senator Bayh's subcommittee late in May when I will testify on the need for developing alternatives to abortion. Warren Schaller appeared earlier on behalf of the organization before the same subcommittee. Other congressional committees considering legislation in the alternatives area have been approached and time to testify has been requested. Bills such as Senator Mondale's "Children and the Family" bill (S.626), and those on adoption and maternal health are of great interest to us. Contact has been made with all congressmen and a number of them are consulted on a regular basis. To bring you up to date on the Washington scene a new publication,

"ACCL Update", will be sent to you regularly. It will contain current information about pertinent national legislation, including alternatives, and suggest specific action where appropriate. News in the area of organizational development and outreach will also be included in the "Update."

Cooperation between ACCL and the other national, state and local pro-life organizations is building. Frequent communication and dialogue between these organizations would be desirable and will be actively sought. Recently ACCL hosted a small meeting of East-coast activists in Philadelphia to discuss the movement, its needs and the organization and its goals. There was enthusiasm for the ACCL program and the talented people attending participated in a lively discussion and exchanged many ideas. We plan to hold meetings such as this in various regions of the country. We also plan to have a booth in the display area at the national convention in Denver on June 20-22 and look forward to seeing those of you who will be attending.

We are delighted that so many able leaders have agreed to join us as area representatives. We are adding a number of other interested representatives and look forward to actively working with them in the coming year.

A number of additions have also been made to our honorary board of directors since the first letterhead printing. The honorary board now includes Dr. Seymour Siegel of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America; the Rev. Charles Carroll, Episcopal priest and ethicist; the Rev. W. Dean Crouse, Atlantic Northeast Branch Moderator of the Church of the Brethren; Rep. James Oberstar of Minnesota's 8th Congressional District and David Kucharsky, editor of Christianity Today. We are very pleased with the interest and cooperation shown ACCL by these distinguished professionals.

The months ahead will provide ACCL an opportunity for increased activity and service to the pro-life movement. Your continued interest and support have made our present level of achievement possible, and by working together we can multiply greatly what will be accomplished in the future.





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 21, 1974

Washington, D.C.

Joseph A. Lampe
Coordinator, States' Services

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TJ Bosgra
Dennis Cook
Dorothy Czarnecki, M.D.
Judith Fink
Albert Fortman, M.D.
Robert Greene, Esq.
Otto Harling, PhD.
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Robert Holbrook
Dolores Horan, Esq.
William Hunt, S.T.D.
Betty Johnson
Patricia Kelley
Edward Kilroy, M.D.
Marjory Mecklenburg
Thomas J. Mooney
Dorothy Shald
Paulette Standefer
Joseph Stanton, M.D.
Jeanne D. Sweeney

The formation of a new national pro-life organization, American Citizens Concerned for Life, Inc., was announced today at Senator Birch Bayh's hearings on abortion before the Judiciary Subcommittee on Constitutional Amendments.

Testifying in behalf of the new organization was the Rev. Warren Schaller, an Episcopal minister and former Assistant Executive Director of the National Right to Life Committee (NRLC). The Rev. Schaller will serve ACCL as President and Executive Director. Judith Fink of Pennsylvania, former NRLC Corporate Secretary, and Marjory Mecklenburg, former NRLC Chairman of the Board and executive committee member, will serve on the steering committee of the new organization along with the Rev. William Hunt, S.T.D., and Joseph Lampe, all of Minneapolis.

ACCL will have as its main thrust the passage of a constitutional amendment to countermand the Supreme Court's abortion decision, and will search for and seek implementation of nonviolent solutions for the problems of women and

(more)

children and programs to strengthen family life.

ACCL will place a special emphasis on the building of state and local pro-life organizations. Joseph Lampe will serve as Coordinator of States' Services, and will have his offices in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The Rev. Schaller will maintain offices in Washington, D.C.

The decision to separate from NRLC and launch a new organization was prompted by a desire to have a vehicle that would concentrate on state organization and alternatives to abortion as well as the enactment of an amendment. ACCL is designed to meet the increasing needs of the rapidly expanding pro-life movement. The organization's leaders hope for close cooperation with NRLC and other state and national pro-life organizations.

Serving the new group as Area Representatives from Maine to Hawaii are Robert Greene, Esq., former executive director of NRLC; Albert Fortman, M.D., former NRLC executive committee member; the Rev. Robert Holbrook, national coordinator of Baptists for Life, Inc.; Thomas J. Mooney, executive director of the National Youth Pro-Life Coalition; Joseph Stanton, M.D., and Edward Kilroy, M.D., members of the executive committee of Americans United for Life, Inc.; and other prominent pro-life activists, most of whom are officers in their state organizations. These include Kathleen Barthel (S.D.), John Beliveau, Esq. (Maine), Tj Bosgra (Hawaii), Dennis Cook (Utah), Dorothy Czarnecki, M.D. (Penn.), Otto Harling, Ph.D., and his wife, Beth (Wash.), Charles L. Heatherly (Calif.), Dolores Horan, Esq. (Ill.), Betty Johnson (N.J.), Patricia Kelley (Ill.), Dorothy Shald (Neb.), Paulette Standefer (Tex.) and Jeanne D. Sweeney (N.Y.).

(For further information, contact: Joseph A. Lampe, 4803 Nicollet Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55409

Telephone: 612-825-6831)



July 10, 1975

Dear Friend, Representative,

erned for Life has developed a number of
new materials recently which we wish to share with you at this time:

- * ACCL's Organizational Brochure; developed to explain the activities and goals of the organization. Please pass it on to others you feel would be interested in supporting the work of ACCL. Additional copies are available on request.
- * Update; a new publication which will be issued at least twelve times annually and mailed to all persons making a donation of twenty-five dollars or more to the work of the organization.
- * Reference Documents; a series of professional level publications in an 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ "x11" typeset format. Copies of the first three of these documents are enclosed.
- * Organizational Development Manuals; a series of handbooks on the theory and practice of building and operating an effective pro-life group. Copies of the first three of these 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "x8 $\frac{1}{2}$ " format manuals are enclosed.
- * ACCL's June 19th Senate Judiciary Subcommittee Testimony; a detailed summary of ACCL's proposals for preventing and providing supportive services for troubled pregnancies.
- * ACCL Product Order Form; a listing of educational and other resource materials available from the Minneapolis office.
- * ACCL Bicentennial Medal Announcement; a descriptive flyer on the first in a series of pro-life commemorative medals suitable for gifts and local and state pro-life group fundraising.
- * Progress Report Letter; sent to all ACCL contributors this month.

Please send us any material you, or others you know, have authored that you would like us to consider for publication as Reference Documents or Organizational Development Manuals. Also, let us have your suggestions for topics to be covered in future printings of these two series of publications.

ACCL has a tremendous need for one time use of pro-life group mailing lists as part of our increased direct mail fundraising efforts. If you have any lists, however large or small, that we could buy, borrow or exchange to use for a mail solicitation, please contact Joe Lampe at the Minneapolis office. In return, as soon as our finances permit, ACCL will provide assistance to pro-life groups in your state in organizing more effective membership and fundraising programs. If, during the next year, we can build up a list of contributors to ACCL averaging only 500 per state we will be well on the way toward being able to carry out the organizing, educational and legislative programs needed to achieve our goals.

Let us hear from you, whatever your pro-life needs or ideas.

Sincerely yours,

Marjory Mecklenburg

Marjory Mecklenburg

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AMERICAN CITIZENS CONCERNED FOR LIFE, INC.

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October 11, 1974

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Executive Director

Joseph A. Lampe
Coordinator, States' Services

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Thomas J. Mooney
Dorothy Shald
Paulette Standefer
Joseph Stanton, M.D.
Jeanne D. Sweeney

Dear Friend of Life,

It has now been more than 18 months since the Supreme Court decision of 1973, and the pro-life movement is still not sufficiently coordinated or focused. Many people at the grass roots level need clearer direction about how they can become strong, well-organized pro-life forces, and how they can unify their efforts with those of others across the country.

One of the areas which has not received adequate attention is that of developing effective local and state organizations. Without strong organizations to educate and be politically effective in at least three-fourths of the states, we cannot hope for a human life amendment, or even public consensus that abortion is wrong.

I am happy to share with you the enclosed initial plans of the new national pro-life organization designed to meet these needs. American Citizens Concerned for Life has been formed specifically to develop the strong state organizations which will be necessary to achieve ratification of a human life amendment.

ACCL plans to produce unity and effectiveness of effort through three basic benefits each contributor will receive: direct involvement, accountability, and return on investment. ACCL's program proposals have been endorsed by nationally prominent pro-life lawyers, doctors, businessmen, religious leaders, and volunteer activists.

I hope you will give careful consideration to our program outline, and join all of us in laying the groundwork for passage of the strongest human life amendment possible.

Very sincerely yours,

Warren A. Schaller
ACCL President



QUESTIONS COMMONLY ASKED ABOUT ACCL

1. Why is there more than one national prolife group?

There are many national groups -- The Ad Hoc Committee, The Committee of 10 Million, Americans United for Life, National Protestant Prolife Coalition, National Committee for a Human Life Amendment, National Right to Life Committee, American Citizens Concerned for Life, U.S. Coalition for Life, National Prolife Information Service, to name some of the largest. Each has come into existence to serve a particular constituency, or to represent a unique program or philosophy.

2. Wouldn't the movement be stronger if there were only one group?

Logically it would seem so, but sociologically it never seems to work that way in movements. Any organizations which tries to encompass too diverse a group can take no definite positions, and ends up representing no one and frustrating everyone.

3. Specifically in relation to NRLC, why did ACCL come into existence?

- (a) NRLC was predicated on the assumption of an enormous funding base, and on that assumption it addressed all program areas synonymously: education, policy, legal, medical, amendment, state organization and development, intergroup liaison, political, publishing, etc. A staff of twenty at the end of the first year was assumed. However, the funding base soon proved insufficient, and in January, 1974 the Board of Directors chose political action, with the Constitutional amendment as its goal, as the controlling goal of the corporation. The NRLC News, already underway, was of course continued. On the basis of this decision the staff of NRLC was completely overhauled in the next six months.
- (b) ACCL was formed to pick up several of the "dropped" NRLC priorities:
 - (1) program development for organization - building;
 - (2) base-broadening through intergroup liaison;
 - (3) Development of a legislative package which will supplement the Constitutional amendment effort for the purpose of broadening our spectrum of leadership in Congress and to build a majority nationwide.

4. Won't ACCL "compete" with NRLC?

Not if both organizations remain true to their stated objectives.

5. Will ACCL undercut financial support for NRLC?

The last eighteen months have proven the funding base for any national prolife organization is not ready-made. ACCL's major purpose is to enable local and state groups to build their own strength and become an adequate national funding base.

Regarding NRLC two things could be true -- (a) people don't want to support it, or (b) people can't support it. ACCL can't help the first, but will attempt to help the second.

6. Isn't the structure of ACCL considerably less "democratic" than NRLC?

Of course! ACCL was not designed to become a "super-government" for the movement, as NRLC was designed to be. It is not intending to be in parallel competition in any way. ACCL offers specific services and a particular program -- development methodology.

However, it is true that whereas NRLC is democratic at the center, it is relatively inflexible at the periphery. ACCL is just the reverse, and invites participation from everyone at the grass roots level.



7. Why is ACCL so urgently needed?

In 1975 Congress will ask two questions:

- (a) Do we have to enact a human life amendment? The answer to this question is in consistent, strong prolife organizations, nationwide. This is ACCL's first priority. No other national prolife group works in this area.
- (b) Do we want to enact a Constitutional amendment? ACCL's programs to broaden the base of the movement to deal positively with problem pregnancies are designed to prove that our movement is supported by a broad spectrum of Americans, and it is in the interests of a better, more compassionate America.

8. What is so different about ACCL that I should want to support its programs?

- (a) You should be able to judge by now whether you can see how we can succeed without these necessary programs. If you know, please tell us.
- (b) ACCL programs are designed to benefit local and state prolife groups, instead of draining their resources. We can show you how to support yourself, rather than always asking you to support us.
- (c) In addition to benefiting you and your state's prolife activities, your investment and contributions pay for state organization pilot programs in different parts of the country.

(d) In ACCL you receive a financial accounting of how your money is spent. No other national prolife group does this -- a very important difference when you are trying to spend your money wisely.

(e) Rather than being frozen out of the decision-making and communication process, as you are in some other national prolife groups, in ACCL you can participate extensively, if you want, by voting your "share", volunteering for the Advisory Committee, becoming involved in ACCL training programs, etc.

(f) After people learn about ACCL, they don't ask us why we came into existence. They ask why we didn't come into existence sooner!

Praise from civic leaders for the work of American Citizens Concerned for Life...

- "In a society which seems preoccupied with death, not life, and with self-centeredness, not service, the ACCL stands for a more compelling tradition: protection of all human life; compassion for the unborn and the aged; caring for the helpless and the handicapped. As we search for that dimly perceived goal of justice, the ACCL can well serve as a compass for our conscience."

—Eunice Kennedy Shriver
Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation
Washington, D.C.

- "The fight in Congress for a Human Life Amendment has just begun. ACCL's programs of organizing and mobilizing are the way to wage the battle."

—Rep. James L. Oberstar (D-Minn. 8)
Chief House Author of Human Life Amendment

- "Opposition to something is easily manifested; one need only speak words. To be for something, however, usually demands an expression of action if one's concern is to be viewed as genuine. ACCL offers a viable structure for demonstrating that we are truly for alternatives to abortion, for nonviolent solutions to social and economic problems and for the preservation and strengthening of the family."

—Jean Garton
Chairperson for Task Force on Women
The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

- "I was most impressed with ACCL's efforts at the congressional hearings and would be glad to assist them in the future."

—William J. Keenan, M.D.
Assoc. Prof. of Pediatrics and OB-GYN
University of Cincinnati Medical School

- "ACCL is a truly All American Coalition for the human right basic to every other right: life."

—Dr. Paul Ramsey
Paine Professor of Religion
Princeton University

- "As long as there is an *American Citizens Concerned for Life*, I will take hope that the abandonment of our tradition and commitment to the essential equality of all human life will be arrested before it engulfs us, and finally, will be reversed."

—Prof. David W. Louisell
Elizabeth Josselyn Boalt Professor of Law
University of California, Berkeley

- "I just wanted to compliment you on your testimony before Birch Bayh's committee. The summaries and reports that I read of it are very good, and represent a very important aspect of the campaign to change the mind of America."

—Thomas M. Horkan, Jr.
Florida Catholic Conference

- "We have found your publication 'Counselling the Individual Experiencing a Troubled Pregnancy' very helpful in training new volunteers."

—Linda Teezola
Birthright of South Bend
South Bend, Ind.

- "I want you to know how much I have appreciated this leadership which has brought together effectively Protestants, Catholics and other people of good will in the defense of human life. I am in full agreement that a strong, independent, broadly based citizens' lobby is the way to go for a human life amendment."

—The Most Rev. George H. Speltz
Bishop of St. Cloud (Minn.)

- "Of the several pro-life organizations in the country, I am especially grateful for the work of ACCL: it provides positive programs encouraging the development of alternatives; it manifests a creative, imaginative leadership with new approaches; it is bringing together a broad based attack on the anti-life philosophy of America, and uniting diverse religious groups in a common effort; it reveals an increasing political sophistication in dealing with the legislative and judicial avenues. ACCL, on its past record and future goals, deserves our support."

—Bob Holbrook
Coordinator
Baptists for Life

- "The issue of abortion is an extremely difficult one; not only because of the controversy that surrounds it, but because of the technical data which are involved in the various arguments, I continue to rely heavily on the sound judgement of those involved with ACCL and appreciate especially their commitment to work for alternatives to abortion."

—Sen. Mark O. Hatfield (R-Ore.)

- "ACCL is working effectively upon the mind of America in a positive and continuous way."

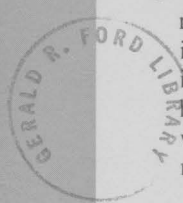
—David Kucharsky
Senior Editor
Christianity Today

- "ACCL's pro-life activities will be directed at protecting and helping our physically disabled, aged and rejected fellow humans and at promoting harmony between peoples of different races, nations and beliefs."

—Hymie Gordon, M.D.
Chairman, Department of Medical Genetics
Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn.

- "I am proud to be associated with American Citizens Concerned for Life. Its approach combines a reverence for all human life with a rational understanding of how this reverence can be taught to intelligent and influential people in our society. Its leadership has been able to attract a cross section of the intellectual and spiritual elite in America."

—Rabbi David Novak, Ph.D.
Author, Lecturer, Teacher
Baltimore, Maryland



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Pro-life Obstetricians & Gynecologists
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NICK THIMMESCH
Journalist, Washington, D.C.

GEORGE H. WILLIAMS, PH.D.
Hollis Professor of Divinity
Harvard University

- "No one who is deeply interested in humanity can ignore the work of ACCL and not want to join them in their efforts to protect life at all stages."

—Sue Fremgen
President
Stewardesses for Life

- "We can agree that the individual person of good will must be supported by a larger group if the injustices of our vast social systems are to be overcome. I appreciate that the ACCL has given us this opportunity to bring together such persons who wish to reshape contemporary society's surrender to violence and destructiveness and replace it with a reverent appreciation of God's supreme creative gift of life."

—Dr. George H. Muedeking
Editor
The Lutheran Standard

- "My compliments on your wonderful seminar. I'm very proud to be a part of ACCL. I'm pleased with the realistic leadership, the effective lobbying and the total interest in Life that comes from ACCL."

—Pat Bray
Educator and Homemaker
Cherry Hill, N.J.

- "ACCL brings forth the broad based effort so necessary not only to change unjust laws but to educate and open men's minds and hearts to the better way of caring for all human life."

—Jackie Henry
Co-Founder
Illinois Citizens for Life

- "ACCL represents many Americans who are concerned with basic human rights and justice for all."

—Erma Clardy Craven
Human Rights Leader and Social Worker
Minneapolis, Minn.

- "Maine Right to Life Committee has found ACCL to be an invaluable resource for the past two years. The materials, particularly those on organization and development and, more importantly, the personal counsel in all facets of pro-life activity, have helped us to respond to the growing needs in our state.

A truly wise and dependable sister organization!"

—Patricia DeGrinney
President
Maine Right to Life Committee

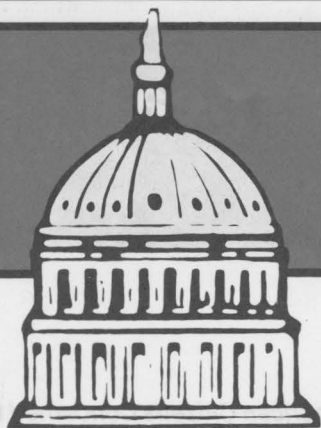
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REP. ALBERT H. QUIE (R-Minn. 1)

ACCL needs you. You need ACCL. Join today.

Accl

AMERICAN CITIZENS CONCERNED FOR LIFE
1629 K Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006



ACCL Congressional Advisory Committee:

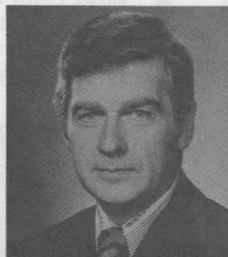
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 REP. ALBERT H. QUIE (R-Minn. 1)

"The issue of abortion is an extremely difficult one; not only because of the controversy that surrounds it, but because of the technical data which are involved in the various arguments, I continue to rely heavily on the sound judgment of those involved with ACCL and appreciate especially their commitment to work for alternatives to abortion."

—Sen. Mark O. Hatfield (R-Ore.)



Sen. Mark Hatfield

"Recently you testified before a Senate subcommittee on supportive services for pregnant women and their families. Your testimony was excellent and has guided this office in trying to develop increased support for women with distressed pregnancies."

—Rev. John McCarthy
 Executive Director
 Texas Catholic Conference



Rep. Albert Quie

It is truly a pleasure to work with ACCL. Your cause is vital; your knowledge, thorough; and your politics, savvy. The achievement of protection of the unborn through the constitutional process will be long and difficult. However, if ACCL's approach to the problem can be spread, I feel the cause in the end will be successful.

—Rep. Albert H. Quie (R-Minn. 1)
 Member of Congress

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—Pat Bray
 Educator and Homemaker
 Cherry Hill, N. J.



William Keenan, M.D.

"I was most impressed with ACCL's efforts at the congressional hearings and would be glad to assist them in the future."

—William J. Keenan, M.D.
 Assoc. Prof. of Pediatrics and OB-GYN
 University of Cincinnati Medical School

"ACCL's approach to the legislative battle on abortion is the best way the message can be delivered to Congress. It is a national effort that I find many Members of Congress agree with."

—Rep. John Breau (D-La. 7)



Rep. James Oberstar

"The fight in Congress for a Human Life Amendment has just begun. ACCL's programs of organizing and mobilizing are the way to wage the battle."

—Rep. James L. Oberstar (D-Minn. 8)
 Chief House Author of Human Life Amendment



Jackie Henry



Rep. John Breau

"ACCL brings forth the broad based effort so necessary not only to change unjust laws but to educate and open men's minds and hearts to the better way of caring for all human life."

—Jackie Henry
 Co-Founder
 Illinois Citizens for Life



Rev. John Roach, D.D.

"ACCL's efforts have my full support and encouragement."

I am particularly pleased to learn of your initiatives in Congress this year aimed at the passage of Federal Health Legislation which will be supportive and protective of families, pregnant women and unborn children."

—The Most Rev. John R. Roach, D.D.
 Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis



Sue Fremgen

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State and national leaders speak out on the work of ACCL...

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A truly wise and dependable sister organization!"

—Patricia DeGrinney
Education Chairman and Past President
Maine Right to Life Committee



"As long as there is an *American Citizens Concerned for Life*, I will take hope that the abandonment of our tradition and commitment to the essential equality of all human life will be arrested before it engulfs us, and finally, will be reversed."

Prof. David W. Louisell
Elizabeth Josselyn Boalt
Professor of Law
University of California, Berkeley



"In a society which seems preoccupied with death, not life, and with self-centeredness, not service, the ACCL stands for a more compelling tradition: protection of all human life; compassion for the unborn and the aged; caring for the helpless and the handicapped. As we search for that dimly perceived goal of justice, the ACCL can well serve as a compass for our conscience"

—Eunice Kennedy Shriver
Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation
Washington, D.C.



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Washington, DC 20005



AMERICAN CITIZENS CONCERNED FOR LIFE, INC.

ACCL PHILOSOPHY AND OBJECTIVES

American Citizens Concerned for Life exists to foster respect for and enhancement of human life. The focus of our concern is the unborn child, the troubled mother, the family, and other vulnerable members of society.

Biological and medical evidence and common sense dictate that a human life is present before birth. The doctor has two patients when he treats a pregnant woman. We believe that society should encourage recognition of the humanity of the unborn. There are precedents in our history and in the history of other countries where whole classes of human beings were not accorded personhood in the full sense and as a result were exploited and even destroyed.

Society has the duty to legally protect its weaker members and to help them reach their full potential. Allowing individuals within the society to cast aside vulnerable, helpless individuals based on cost-benefit analysis, lack of utility, or degree of wantedness, is contrary to Judeo-Christian morality and the foundations upon which our government rests. A society will not sanction wholesale destruction of human lives to solve social problems. In most segments of our society, killing in self-defense is an acceptable principle. Only in the area of abortion do people tolerate killing for convenience or to prevent discomfort or embarrassment. This practice can and should be eliminated.

People do face serious problems which cause them to seek abortion in panic or fear and we have, therefore, dedicated a share of our efforts to promoting the enactment of alternatives to abortion.

ACCL plans to focus much of the current work of the organization in three basic areas. Each of them is listed separately with a brief description of the policies which shape those activities.

Promotion of Legal Protection for the Unborn Child

Protection for the unborn will be pursued by a variety of means including the support of legislation which would reverse Roe v. Wade. Amending the U.S. Constitution is an effective means to return legal protection to the unborn.

However, a constitutional amendment is only one tool or strategy to employ in the legislative and educational process. An amendment is in the distant future and progress toward it will be incremental. Therefore, our immediate activities must be concentrated toward building a case before Congress and the public to show that severe problems exist as a result of the Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton Supreme Court decisions.

As part of the work which will lead toward an amendment, we encourage the formulation of interim legislation and other programs which would reduce and limit the number of abortions. These interim proposals would include federal and state legislation as well as voluntary programs. As the public is made aware of the prob-



lems caused by legal abortion, identifies with the humanity of the unborn, and sees other solutions to social problems, the degree of protective legislation it demands will increase.

Promotion of Supportive Services for Pregnant Women, Children and Families

Abortion really involves two issues - one of justice and rights and one of loving and caring. While the first remains a focus of debate and division, and efforts continue to reverse the legal imbalance and wrongs created by the decision, programs and legislation need to be pursued showing concern for the well-being of pregnant women, children - before and after birth, and families. If troubled pregnant women are to have an opportunity to give birth to healthy babies we must create a society that cares about both and is willing to extend a hand of love and support.

The factors in society that lead toward the ever-escalating number of unplanned pregnancies, especially among young single women, need to be examined and counteracted.

Involvement in alternatives to abortion programs presents an opportunity to build strong working relationships with other individuals and groups, who although not primarily concerned with the abortion issue, do share a respect for life.

Such activity also provides an opportunity to develop a model for dealing humanely with individuals who are troubled by problem pregnancies. Before any meaningful changes in the legality of abortion will occur, society must be reassured that problem pregnancies can be effectively handled and the dignity of women preserved at the same time as protection is provided for the unborn child.

Fostering the Development of Denominational Religious Pro-Life Activity

Many religious institutions and individuals from a variety of religious backgrounds share opposition to the present permissive abortion climate. They believe that human life is sacred and that each human being has a transcendent quality. They believe all human lives are valuable, whether they are wanted, perceived as perfect or are useful. ACCL is working cooperatively with pro-life members of the Catholic, Protestant and Jewish communities. As a result of educational and organizational efforts, numerous church bodies will in time stand together on this issue.

The program priorities of ACCL remain flexible and adaptable in order to meet existing challenges and to take advantage of emerging opportunities. The continuing interest and involvement of our supporters makes it possible for us to carry on our largely volunteer efforts in sponsoring projects and assuming responsibilities which will help the pro-life movement realize its goals.