

## **The most vulnerable among us deserve the most protection**

**As we prepare to celebrate our independence as a nation, it is important to reflect upon the principles which form the moral foundation of our Constitution, as set forth in the Declaration of Independence.**

**“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”**

**These truths are the building blocks for basic human rights and require, by their inherent sacredness, legal protection for all human beings.**

**Evidently, these truths are not self-evident to many Americans, nor are these truths believed to be endowed by our Creator. We live in a society in which people increasingly believe there is no objective truth and thus no moral certainty. Instead, truth is subject to the opinions and desires of those who hold the most control. History has shown us the evil inflicted upon individuals or groups of people who were deemed to be non-persons, undesirable, unwanted, or different from us.**

**For those who support abortion rights, human rights do not exist for the preborn in the womb. Some believe the preborn are not human while others who concede their humanity believe the choice to determine life or death should be legally protected. The preborn are dismissed as non-persons because they are not fully developed, they are dependent on another, cannot reason, have a deformity, or are unwanted. How does traveling three inches through the birth canal change our value?**

**Our value as human beings is not contingent on our size, level of development, environment, or level of dependence. Determining the value of another, relative to our personal beliefs leads to the discarding of those deemed to be less than desirable such as the sick, the old, the poor, the disabled, and the preborn. The most vulnerable and marginalized among us deserve the most protection.**

**Our God-given human rights are the foundation for all other rights we embrace. Without the right to exist in the womb, all other rights we enjoy are vulnerable. If one human being or institution can determine the dignity, value, or the very existence of another human being, then all of us are at risk for being marginalized, discriminated against, persecuted, imprisoned and even killed.**

**On this Independence Day, may those who believe in the equality of all human life and the ideals of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness defend the rights of all human life from conception to natural death.**

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