



Kansans for Life

Affiliate of the National Right to Life Committee

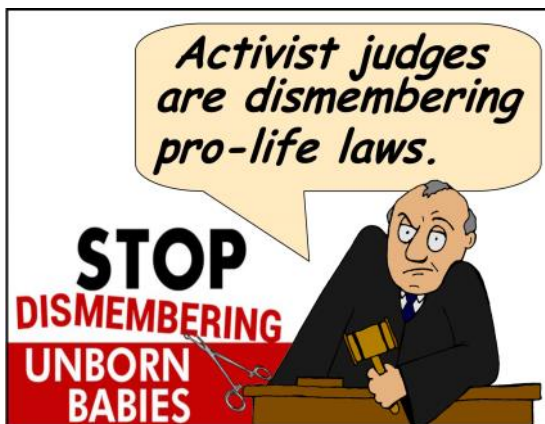


Kansans have duty to remove activist justices!

The 1859 Kansas state Constitution established that the public would elect its top judges. 99 years later, that changed, fueled in part by a distasteful power grab called the Triple Play—when a lame-duck governor manipulated the system to become Chief Justice of the Kansas Supreme Court.

Since 1937, the ABA (American Bar Association) lobbied for attorney-dominated commissions to select members of the Supreme Court—not public elections. Missouri agreed to that change in 1940. The ABA kept pressuring Kansas, but legislative committees rejected it in both the House (1953) and Senate (1955).

The reason Kansans resisted this attorney-dominated commission method (variously called the “Missouri,” “merit,” or “assisted appointment” method) is because it **takes away selection power from the Kansas voters** and places it in the hands of special interests. To make that palatable, citizens were **guaranteed the right to vote to remove justices whom they had not been allowed to select.**



So—triggered by the Triple Play—Kansas passed a ballot initiative in 1958 handing over judicial selection to a commission in which five attorneys and four non-attorneys pick three nominees for each Supreme Court vacancy. The governor must pick one of the three nominees from the commission, otherwise, the Supreme Court Chief Justice selects the new justice. Some choice!

The commission selection method doesn’t remove the politics from the process, as some may argue, it just changes the nature of the politics and who controls it. Today’s Kansas judicial selection commission results in **judges essentially being given a life term—by a select group of a few thousand lawyers.**

The commission method keeps judges from having to campaign, while

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A blessed birthday and a deadly one: Hyde amendment vs. Planned Parenthood

Sept. 30th was the 40th anniversary of the Hyde Amendment, an annual federal proviso to the HHS budget that prevents U.S. taxpayer dollars from being used to pay for abortions in some key federal programs like Medicaid.

It has saved upwards of two million lives, continuing to help save more than 60,000 lives a year. So a blessed Happy Birthday to the life-saving Hyde Amendment!

Contrast that with Planned Parenthood’s October 100th birthday which they are spending lavishly on to “celebrate.” That includes a Kansas City event headlined by former Gov. Kathleen Sebelius.

Born of the eugenics movement, scornful of the lives of those they considered “unfit,” Planned Parenthood grew into the leading advocate of abortion, **ending the lives of more than 330,000 babies** in their facilities in the U.S. alone each year!

But abortion extremists are not content with just celebrating the legacy of killing that Planned Parenthood has left. They want more...an end to the Hyde amendment.

This despite continued evidence that **Americans support the Hyde amendment.** A July 2016 Marist poll found that nearly two-thirds of

Americans oppose taxpayer funding for abortion — including 45 percent of those who identify as “pro-choice.”

This summer, the Democratic party’s platform explicitly demanded for the first time that the Hyde Amendment be overturned.

Hillary Clinton has made the same demand, as expected, remembering she is a grateful recipient of the 2009 Margaret Sanger Award. And that agenda will be extended in her abortion litmus-test for every judge and justice she’d get to appoint as president.

By contrast, Donald **Trump has outlined a four-part pro-life pledge** that includes conservative nominees to the Supreme Court and “Making the Hyde Amendment permanent law to protect taxpayers from having to pay for abortions.”

Register to vote
by October 18. See page 2.
 Get your individualized list of KFL-endorsed candidates at **www.voteprolife.net**

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Kansans for Life is a statewide non-profit educational organization also engaged in social action. It is dedicated to protecting and fostering the most basic human right: life itself.

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KFL is the Kansas affiliate to the National Right to Life Committee (NRLC).

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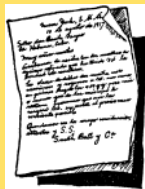
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LETTER-WRITING TEAM SOUGHT

Do you subscribe to your local newspaper? We would like to find two subscribers to every newspaper published in the state of Kansas, who are willing to send pro-life letters to the editor to their local newspapers.

We will send you a sample letter and you may simply sign your name and send it to your paper, or use the letter as a factual reference and re-write it to fit your own personal voice and style.

Kathleen Garrison will be coordinating this effort. If you would like to join the Letter-Writing Team, please e-mail Kathleen: earlybird@sktc.net or call her: 316-304-7194.



Did you miss out on this great article?

Kansans for Life now sends out most of its information via e-mail. These e-newsletters are FREE and all you have to do to receive them is go to www.kfl.org, click on “stay informed,” and then select the newsletter subscriptions that interest you.

A recent issue focused on the high abortion rate for babies diagnosed with Down syndrome. It included facts about Down syndrome and two interviews with Kansas moms who are raising a child who has DS. Subscribe to our e-mail updates now to receive informative articles like this in the future.

Choose from our General Pro-Life Newsletter (example at right), Action Alerts, Pro-Life Events, Teens for Life, Latinos for Life, African-Americans for Life, Elder Life Care (health care decision-making with a pro-life perspective), Legislative Updates, Political Action Committee Updates, or any combination of these options.

Affiliate of the National Right to Life Committee

Kansans for Life

E-mail Newsletter

September 28, 2016

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- What are the true facts about abortion and Down syndrome?
- What kinds of support are available for people with Down syndrome and their families?
- What can we, as a pro-life community, do to help?
- Sign our Petition to the Department of Health and Human Services
- Seeking stories of families who have adopted a child with special needs

Is abortion better than a life with Down syndrome?

Have you heard that 70% - 90% of babies who are prenatally diagnosed with Down syndrome (Trisomy 21) are aborted?

Though precise numbers are not available, it is obviously true that individuals with Down syndrome are not seen in ordinary society in the numbers they once were. It is disturbing to consider how many unborn babies are aborted simply because they have Down syndrome.

As we begin October, which is Down Syndrome Awareness Month, Kansans for Life would like to examine the facts about Down syndrome and encourage our members to spread the word that a person with Down syndrome is a unique individual -- a person, not a syndrome.

What is Down syndrome?

Down syndrome (named after Dr. John Langdon Down) is the presence of an extra chromosome. Humans normally have two copies of each chromosome, but humans with Down Syndrome have three copies of one of their chromosomes - most commonly Trisomy 21, three copies of the 21st chromosome.

People with Down syndrome (also called Trisomy 21) usually have slanted eyes, small and low-set ears, an irregularly shaped mouth and tongue, and crooked



Two Kansas Moms Share their Experiences Raising a Child who has Down Syndrome



Pauline Shibley, the mother of five children including Leo, who has Down syndrome, shares her experiences here:

[Down Syndrome: Enjoying Life at a Different Pace](#)



Melissa Anderson, the mother of three children including Harper, who has Down syndrome, shares her story here:

[Down Syndrome: Celebrating Every Milestone](#)

Register NOW to vote at www.voteks.org

Take a moment right now and to go www.voteks.org if you:

- have never registered to vote,
- will turn 18 before the election, or
- have moved or changed your name since the last time you voted.

The deadline to register to vote in the general election is Tues. Oct 18. You may register online if you have a valid Kansas driver's license or non-driver's ID card. If you do not have either of those documents, you must print out the paper voter registration form and mail it along with one of the acceptable forms of identification listed on the website. Bring your photo ID with you when you vote.

The General Election is Tues. November 8.

HOLD A VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE AT YOUR CHURCH

At www.voteks.org, click on “voting guidelines,” then “A guide to voter registration drives.”

ADVANCE VOTING

If you would like to vote in advance by mail, **the deadline to request an advance ballot is Friday, Nov. 4.**

KFL-endorsed candidates are listed at www.voteprolife.net.





Abortion is on the Kansas ballot in November

By Mary Kay Culp, KFL Executive Director

Abortion is on the ballot in November and Kathleen Sebelius is helping! Indeed, following Labor Day, Sebelius joined with four other former Kansas governors (Graves, Hayden, Carlin and Parkinson) to fight “to protect” Kansas Supreme Court justices who are up for retention Nov. 8th.

They know six of the seven Supreme Court justices are extreme pro-abortion liberals: four appointed by Kathleen Sebelius and two by Bill Graves. **Four of these pro-abortion, activist justices are up for retention Nov. 8th!**

CAROL BEIER is so very extreme on abortion that when she authored a Kansas Supreme Court unanimous ruling in which the very pro-life former AG Phill Kline was found *not* guilty of ethics violations, she added 18 pages slamming him anyway. This so shocked then-Chief Justice Kay McFarland that she accused Beier of using the case as nothing more than a platform from which to denigrate Kline.

DAN BILES, like Beier, was appointed to the Supreme Court by Sebelius, who called him her close confidant and trusted advisor. When picked, he was a law partner with the head of the Democratic Party. Even more questionable, despite Biles spending years suing Kansas for more money for public schools, he hasn’t recused himself from school finance cases coming before him.

LAWTON NUSS is the only justice in the history of the Kansas Supreme Court to be disciplined. Nuss broke the rule that a judge can’t discuss anything outside court with parties to the case. He did so with two state senators! Nuss should have been removed.

MARLA LUCKERT, along with the other three justices, has been party to all Supreme Court actions taken to block, slow down, and undermine the citizen-petitioned grand juries that attempted to get an indictment against late-term abortionist George Tiller.

Background on the Kansas Court of Appeals: We were proud to be the first state to ban mid-pregnancy dismemberment abortions, but one lower court judge, backed up by half the Kansas Court of Appeals, stopped it from going into effect. The result for now is another year of more than 600 second trimester unborn babies being dismembered alive in Kansas.

Lower court judge, Larry Hendricks of Topeka, not only agreed with the abortion industry arguments, he literally allowed them to write his ruling which “discovered” in our 1859 Kansas constitution a supposed “right to abortion” that is broader than *Roe v. Wade*! His ruling was appealed to the 14-member Kansas Court of Appeals, only half of which agreed with the crazy notion that an abortion “right” was included in every Kansans’ right to “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”

We have the opportunity this year to **vote out** four of the Court of Appeals justices who “discovered” that “right” to abortion (**Justices Leben, Pierron, Acheson, and Arnold-Burger**).

This year your pro-life vote is crucial because we have a unique opportunity to **replace our Kansas Supreme Court’s biased pro-abortion majority BEFORE** they hear our state’s most important abortion case ever!

If the current judges stay and agree our 1859 constitution has a

“right to abortion,” lawsuits could challenge ALL pro-life laws we’ve passed: the dismemberment ban, and the ban on using tax dollars for abortions, included.

In 1958, when an attorney-dominated panel began choosing our high court judges (instead of us electing them) we were told not to worry because we would have the right to oust the ones we disapproved of. Yet today’s newspaper editorialists and the former liberal governors act as though we have no right to do so!

Former Kansas governors want to protect judges from us, but the real question is who’ll protect babies from such judges, if NOT us?

Everything is on the line. In getting a lower court judge to “discover” a bogus “right to abortion” broader than *Roe v. Wade* in our state constitution, the abortion industry is now adamant that the current pro-abortion Kansas Supreme Court justices be retained to enshrine abortion into our Constitution. Their defeat of Kansas’ wonderful pro-life laws is within abortionists’ grasp!

Unless the four pro-abortion justices are removed on Nov. 8th, the **Kansas Supreme Court is ready to usher in a “fundamental” right to abortion broader than *Roe v. Wade*, threatening all Kansas pro-life laws!**

Can we do it? Yes we can! And, other groups are concerned about these judges issuing rulings with personal policy preferences, instead of analyzing whether laws violate the Kansas Constitution.

Retention elections of judges on Kansas’ highest courts (Court of Appeals and Supreme Court) used to sail above mid 70%,—even , in one instance, for a deceased judge whose name remained on the ballot. They must get 51% statewide to remain on the bench, and it is no longer assumed they will have lifetime jobs.

In 2014, two Kansas Supreme Court justices barely were retained, garnering only 52% (they must get 51% statewide to stay). The reason was both pro-life discontent and repeated rulings on crime that were overturned every time by the U.S. Supreme Court.

More pointedly, the case of brutal crimes committed in Wichita by the Carr Brothers for which the Kansas Supreme Court continued to undo sentencing, led families of those victims to publicize their gross judicial activism. See www.kansansforjustice.com for details.

The U.S. Supreme Court has reversed seven out of seven decisions of the Kansas Supreme Court as being fundamentally in error. The Court, particularly deceased Justice Antonin Scalia, chastised our state Supreme Court for ignoring the separation of powers: that changing laws is the job of the legislature, not the Court. How many bad rulings must Kansas voters endure before ousting activist judges?

Our mission is to **keep our bipartisan pro-life laws from being ruled unconstitutional due to an claimed “right to abortion”** in our 1859 state constitution, somehow undiscovered until now. What a ruse!

Please donate now to help spread the word. We are sending voter guides before advance voting begins, and we would like to send them out again right before the election but **we can’t do it without your help.**



Pro-Life Radio Ads Now On the Air

Kansas kids auditioned for the voice of “ECHO,” an unborn baby speaking from the womb. Radio advertising time has been purchased, the ads have been recorded, and they are now on the air.

Thank you to all of the churches and individuals who participated in this year’s “Baby Bottle Project” to make this possible!

You may listen to the ads on the KFL website, www.kfl.org. From the blue menu bar at the top of the website, choose “Resources” and then “Church Resources.”

We would like to purchase more air time to play these ads again in January. If you would like to donate toward this project, write “Radio ads” in the memo of your check.

Vacuum Cleaner Needed for Wichita KFL Office

If you have a vacuum cleaner in good condition to donate to KFL, we would greatly appreciate it. Call 800-928-5433.



Teens for Life

Wichita Teens for Life Meeting: Sunday, Oct. 16, 2:00-4:00, at the KFL State Office, 3301 W. 13th Street N., Wichita, 67203. Pizza provided. Come and find out ways you can be involved in Teens for Life.

Start a Teens for Life group: Would you like help starting a Teens for Life group in your community? Call the KFL office at 800-928-5433 or 316-687-5433 and we will help you get started.

Teens for Life e-mail Newsletter: Sign up at www.kfl.org. Click on “Stay informed” and then choose the Teens for Life newsletter.



The Homecoming parade Sept 30 for Topeka’s Hayden Catholic High School featured the pro-life club’s banner. The faculty sponsor is Elizabeth Meredith.

Another successful Kansas State Fair booth



Thousands visited our KFL booth last month with a huge response to our petition: “Don’t let Judges write Dismemberment Abortion into the Kansas Constitution.”

Most people who signed the petition left with the voter’s guide showing which judges follow the laws of the state and should be retained, and which judges are activists who should not be retained.

Photo at left: Shad Watts and Erin Watts of Maple Hill and Peggy Higgins of Wichita share the pro-life message with visitors of all ages and backgrounds. They were some of the many volunteers from all over the state who took a shift at the booth. **Photo at right:** a boy who was born at seven months holds the seven-month fetal model.



Duty to remove activist justices (cont. from pg.1)

promising *some* measure of ACCOUNTABILITY by giving voters the power to remove poor judges from office.

CRUCIAL TO KNOW: The Kansas Supreme Court is the last resort in matters of state law. Only a fraction of Kansas cases, claiming an abuse of a federal right, have the chance to appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court. And then, the odds of their case being taken are extremely unlikely. The Kansas Supreme Court has the final say in almost every ruling, and **no other authority can question it.** No group has any power to force a correction for any “mistaken” or “activist” Kansas Supreme Court

No group has any power to force corrections for any “mistaken” or “activist” Kansas Supreme Court rulings—except the voters!

rulings—except the voters!

The Kansas Supreme Court has HUGE power. Remember the famous adage: “Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely.” Thus, it is even MORE IMPORTANT that citizens oust activist justices on the highest court who “legislate from the bench.”

Kansas does need FAIR & IMPARTIAL Supreme Court justices—meaning those who

rule in accordance with the Kansas Constitution and do not issue rulings based on personal policy preferences. For too many years, voters have not done their homework and either ignored, or just marked “yes,” to any judge on the ballot. **That must change**—the public has the duty to hold judges accountable!