President Trump nominates Brett Kavanaugh to U.S. Supreme Court

On Monday, July 9th, President Trump nominated Brett Kavanaugh to fill the seat of Associate Justice Anthony Kennedy on the U.S. Supreme Court. Kennedy has announced that he will retire on July 31.

Brett Kavanaugh holds a seat on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit and clerked for Justice Kennedy. He is a graduate of Yale Law School and teaches at Yale, Harvard, and Georgetown.

In Kavanaugh's remarks on accepting the nomination, he said a judge “must interpret the Constitution as written, informed by history, tradition, and precedent...”

Missouri Right to Life is truly grateful that President Trump continues to fulfill his promise to the American people to nominate justices who are principled defenders of the Constitution. We look forward to the confirmation of Judge Kavanaugh.

Steve Rupp, Missouri Right to Life President, said, “This nomination can change the future of America, can be a step toward having justices who accept our founding fathers' intent to protect not only ‘liberty and the pursuit of happiness,’ but also ‘life’...from conception to natural death.”

He added, “We call on Senator Blunt and Senator McCaskill to vote to confirm Judge Kavanaugh.”

The Now Dire Threat to Roe v. Wade Has Been Long in the Making

Whether you are pro-life and love Donald Trump or pro-life and simply didn’t want Hillary Clinton, this is your reward. With the retirement of Anthony Kennedy, Trump will be able to appoint another pro-life justice to the Supreme Court.

Stephen Collinson analyzed it this way for CNN, “The furious and disorienting theatre of the last 17 months has often obscured the deep changes Trump is unleashing on America and the rest of the world.” What?

This small-minded commentary removes one thing from the equation — Americans. The now dire threats to Roe v. Wade are not the result of the sudden unleashing of a crazy politician. They have been long in the making.

Nancy Keenan, former president of the oldest abortion-advocacy group in this country, NARAL Pro-Choice America, could see American attitudes on abortion changing at the grassroots level. She resigned as president in 2012, citing her inability to recruit and motivate young people to support abortion rights. She told the Washington Post, “There is an intensity gap between our side, being pro-choice, and the other side.”

Keenan opened her eyes, literally. One cold January, she happened to be in Washington on the day of the March for Life. Hundreds of thousands of pro-life Americans marched in the cold, praying, singing, and joyfully opposing abortion. She looked on in awe and simply stated an obvious fact that the media has often overlooked: “But they’re all so young.”

Despite 45 years of legalized abortion, the pro-life movement has grown from the bottom up, often unnoticed. It has used science, reason, and medical alternatives for women to highlight what seems obvious to me after 17 years in the movement: Americans are more uncomfortable than ever with abortion.

Many of the most powerful voices in the movement are women who have had an abortion, clinic workers who have supported abortion, and doctors who have performed abortions. It is a movement of converts, and that has made it a movement with a future and a hope.

Since our pro-life organization, 40 Days for Life, went national in 2007, we have seen 177 abortion workers quit and 96 abortion centers close as pregnancy-resource centers open to offer medical alternatives.

Our headquarters in Bryan, Texas, is a former Planned Parenthood (PP) facility. The former director of the facility, Abby Johnson, became an advocate for life after seeing an ultrasound-guided abortion. She also is a former PP employee of the year.

Have you ever heard such a conversion story about a member of the pro-life movement? Has a mother of five who leads a pro-life organization ever woken up and realized she has been restricting women's rights and quit her job, written a book, and shared her testimony on behalf of Planned Parenthood? No. Those stories don't exist and the conversions and changes of heart and mind seem to be happening in only one direction. And that adds up over time.

Trump's election and Kennedy's resignation didn't jump-start the pro-life movement. It has been happening, like all great movements in America, from the grassroots up, led by those who work, sweat, and believe.

Abortion always has been and always will be about hearts and minds. No one grows up wanting an abortion, so providing alternatives and hope to those who feel they have no other option is the way to change the culture. That has been happening for decades.

Kennedy's resignation has thrown many abortion-rights groups into a panic. If they had been paying attention all these years, they could have skipped the drama.
Since abortion became legal under the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision on January 22, 1973, nearly 60,000,000 innocent children have been starved to death, had fatal doses of poison injected into their hearts, or bled to death while being dismembered. This is the greatest stain on America in its history.

How did we get here?

If you follow the dark history of abortion in America, you find that it has been built on lies. Early on, we were told to “accept” abortion as something that would be rare. That was a lie.

As abortion numbers exploded, we were coaxed to “normalize” abortion as just another medical procedure -- like taking a wart off your knuckle. That was also a lie.

Years went by, and we were told to “glorify” abortion as something to be revered. Even as something sacred. That is certainly a lie.

And today, they “demonize” anyone who won’t glorify abortion. If you believe in the sanctity of life at every stage, you are said to hate women and want to control them. You’re accused of hating children once they’re born. You’re vilified as a dangerous, religious fanatic. Again, more lies.

This game plan of accept, normalize, glorify, and demonize begs the question, “Who’s behind these lies?” The answer is an abortion industry fueled by Planned Parenthood, NARAL (National Abortion Rights Action League), a willing press, and politicians.

Politicians like Senator Claire McCaskill.

She wants you to believe she’s a moderate on abortion. Another lie. McCaskill has been rated 100% by both Planned Parenthood and NARAL. McCaskill wants you to reelect her to the Senate in November. For the sake of those innocent children who are starved, poisoned, or dismembered, we can’t let that happen. Untold lives hang in the balance.

Missouri Right to Life Federal Political Action Committee has proudly endorsed Josh Hawley to unseat Claire McCaskill and become Missouri’s next United States Senator. The reasons for our endorsement are many. Saving children from a violent death by abortion is the most important. To save those lives, we need to overturn Roe v. Wade. Never have we been closer than we are right now. Thanks to President Trump, one of the most pro-life presidents in history, we have Justice Neil Gorsuch on the Supreme Court. We need at least one more pro-life Justice to have a majority now, and for many years to come. But we need the Senate to confirm those Justices. We need Josh Hawley to lead that fight in the Senate. President Trump agrees with us and has also endorsed Josh.

In an age of mass communication, we tend to lean towards hype. I assure you it is not hype to say that electing Josh Hawley to the U.S. Senate can very well be the linchpin to overturning Roe versus Wade.

Help us help Josh! Volunteer at: https://joshhawley.com/

In Your Service,

Steve Rupp

P.S. The pending retirement of Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy underscores the vital connection of the Senate to the Supreme Court.

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Make yourself heard. Please . . . vote Pro-Life!

From the President -

“. . . keep your tongue from evil and your lips from telling lies.”

Psalm 34:13
Below are the candidates endorsed by Missouri Right to Life Federal and State Political Action Committees for the August 7th primary election. Unlisted offices/districts have no endorsement.

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<th>KEY</th>
<th>Missouri Senate</th>
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**MISSOURI SENATE**

(Only even numbered senate districts have elections in 2018)

- District 2
  - Bob Onder (R) I
- District 4
  - Robert J Crump (R)
- District 6
  - Mike Bernskoetter (R)
- District 8
  - Mike Cierpiot (R) I
- District 10
  - Jeannie Riddle (R) I
- District 12
  - Dan Hegeman (R) I
- District 16
  - Justin Dan Brown (R)
  - Diane Franklin (R)
  - Keith Frederick (R)
- District 18
  - Lindell F Shumake (R)
  - Craig Redmon (R)
  - Cindy O’Laughlin (R)
  - Nate Walker (R)
- District 20
  - Eric W Burlison (R)
- District 22
  - Paul Wieland (R) I
  - Robert Butler (D)
- District 26
  - Dave Schatz (R) I
- District 28
  - Sandy Crawford (R) I
- District 32
  - Bill White (R)
  - Rob O’Brian (R)
- District 34
  - Tony Luetkemeyer (R)
  - Harry Roberts (R)

**MO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

- District 1
  - Allen Andrews (R) I
- District 2
  - J Eggleston (R) I
- District 3
  - Danny Busick (R)
- District 4
  - Greg Sharpe (R)
- District 5
  - Louis Riggs (R)
  - Loren L Graham (R)
- District 6
  - Tim Remole (R) I
- District 7
  - Rusty Black (R) I
- District 8
  - James W (Jim) Neely (R) I
- District 9
  - Sheila Solon (R)
  - Tina Goodrick (R)
  - Mik Chester (R)
District 10
Billy Babcock (R)

District 11
Chris Shove
Brenda Shields

District 12
Kenneth Wilson (R) I

District 13
Vic Allred (R)

District 14
Kevin Corlew (R) I

District 15
Steve West (R)
Simon T Abela (R)
Timothy Harris (R)
J Ranen Bechthold (R)

District 17
Mary Hill (R)

District 18
Sarah Mills (R)

District 20
Bill E Kidd (R) I

District 23
David Martin (R)

District 30
Jon Patterson (R)

District 31
Dan Stacy (R) I

District 32
Jeff Coleman (R)

District 33
Donna Pfautsch (R) I

District 34
Rebecca Roeber (R) I

District 35
Sean Smith (R)

District 37
John D Boyd Jr (R)

District 38
Doug Richey (R)

District 39
Peggy McGaugh (R) I

District 40
Jim Hansen (R) I

District 41
Randy Pietzman (R) I

District 42
Jessica Catron (R)
Jeff Porter (R)

District 43
Kent Haden (R)

District 44
Cheri Toalson Reisch (R) I

District 47
Charles (Chuck) Basye (R) I

District 48
Dave Muntzel (R) I

District 49
Travis Fitzwater (R) I

District 50
Sara Walsh (R) I

District 51
Dean A Dohrman (R) I

District 52
Bradley Pollitt (R)

District 53
Glen Kolkmeyer (R) I

District 54
Dan Houx (R) I

District 55
Mike Vinck (R)
Bing Schimmelpfenning (R)
Mike Haffner (R)

District 56
Jack Bondon (R) I

District 57
Rodger L Reedy (R)

District 58
David Wood (R) I

District 59
Karen Leydens (R)

District 60
Jane Beetem (R)
Pat Rowe Kerr (R)
Dave Griffith (R)

District 61
Aaron Griesheimer (R)

District 62
Tom Hurst (R) I

District 63
Bryan Spencer (R) I

District 65
Tom Hannegan (R) I

District 66
Patti Longworth (R)

District 67
Adam Jenning (R)

District 70
Mark Matthiesen (R) I

District 72
Bruce Buwalda (R)

District 79
Maxine Johnson (D)

District 82
Erik Shelquist (R)
Fred Kratky (D)

District 91
Jennifer Bird (R)

District 92
Bill Heisse (R)

District 94
Ron Rammaha (R)
Jim Murphy (R)

District 95
Joe Patterson (R)
Michael A O’Donnell (R)
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STICK WITH THE NAME BRANDS . . . FOR LIFE!

Investigation Leads to Arrests in National Scam
Huge Victory for the Unborn and Pro-Life Groups Nationwide

Editor's Note: I remember a few years ago Missouri Right to Life receiving calls from members who were getting solicitation calls from an unknown “pro-life” group. As the state office checked on the group, it was, indeed, a johnny-come-lately with no intention of sticking around to do the hard, month-in-month-out work of saving lives.

Nationwide so-called pro-life groups make appearances -- especially during election seasons. The situation reported below by National Right to Life News is a timely reminder to be sure you know the organization before sending your donations. Proceed with skeptical caution!

And, thanks to Sharon Toborg, this is also a victory for the unborn and the legitimate organizations who work tirelessly to save them.

The MRL state office is always willing to answer questions about any donation request you might receive from unknown groups. And remember, Missouri Right to Life is the longest serving, most experienced, most thorough grassroots pro-life organization in the state. Your donations to its work are treated with the utmost responsibility to further the cause we share. And they are so appreciated!

When Vermont Right to Life Treasurer Sharon Toborg received a telemarketing phone call at her home urging her to help end abortion, she looked into the organization making the request. But Toborg, who has been affiliated in several capacities with VRLC for over 30 years, had never heard of the “National Campaign” organization to which she was being asked to donate. As she started researching the group her worst suspicions were confirmed.

Toborg discovered that, according to Federal Election Commission filings, the organization was pulling in millions of dollars to supposedly promote pro-life causes, but it appeared to her that they were mostly paying some businesses. Toborg warned VRLC members not to donate to the fake organization and emphasized that Vermont Right to Life has not solicited funds by telephone for years, and her warning went national when it was picked up by a national pro-life news service.

She also requested that those who received a letter or a pledge card from National Campaign PAC send a copy to VRLC to help further investigate. Letters and pledge forms came in from around the country and Sharon kept them on file.

As a result, Sharon Toborg was able to assist investigators from the U.S. Attorney's Office from the Southern District of New York looking into criminal and fraudulent activity by the phony group. On May 17th, those same investigators called Sharon to let her know that arrests had been made in the case. Two Arizona men have been charged in Manhattan Federal Court with fraud and money laundering, allegedly defrauding donors of more than $23 million in a scheme that involved numerous scam political action committees – one of them being the “National Campaign PAC.”

As investigators noted in their complaint:

The National Campaign PAC ... asserted that its "mission is to save unborn babies from abortion" and that its goal was to "change hearts, change leaders, and change laws until the day arrives when every child is welcomed into life and protected by law." It solicited donations, by phone and mail, under the "project" name of the "Pro-Life Committee."

Thanks to Sharon Toborg, this is also a victory for the unborn and the legitimate organizations who work tirelessly to save them.

Contact Missouri Right to Life
573.635.5110
righttolife@missourilife.org
The Prayer Breakfast at the National Right to Life Convention featured Archbishop Joseph Naumann, center, of the Archdiocese of Kansas City KS. (L-R) Pam Fichter, Mary Lovee Varni, Maggie Bick, Jan Boyle, and Ellen Korte joined the Archbishop after his inspiring words were delivered.

MISSOURI STATE FAIR - Sedalia. While visiting the State Fair, be sure to stop by our Missouri Right to Life booth in the Varied Industries Building. It is staffed by hard-working, faithful MRL-Sedalia Chapter members. They’d love to see you!

Friday, Sept. 7
MRL-EASTERN REGION FORE LIFE GOLF TOURNAMENT - Links at Dardenne Golf Course, O’Fallon, MO. Benefits MRL Education Fund. Sponsorships fully tax deductible. To be a sponsor, register to play, or for more information, 314-434-4900 or email mrl.eastern@yahoo.com

Sept. 26 - Nov. 4
40 DAYS FOR LIFE Fall Campaign - The next campaign is coming to locations near you!

Attendees at MRL-Hannibal Chapter’s Respect Life Banquet gather for a picture to remember the event. (L-R) Honorable Chris Donnelly, Donna Donnelly, Dr. James Mann, Hannibal Chapter Chairman Geri Graves, and Missouri Right to Life Executive Director Susan Klein.

Missouri Right to Life Executive Director Susan Klein at this spring’s Wardsville Walk for Life.

Stan McClatchey and his young friend manned the MRL-Western Region booth at the Grandview Festival.

Thank you, Missouri Right to Life members, for standing for Life!
“People often say that, in a democracy, decisions are made by a majority of the people. Of course, that is not true. Decisions are made by a majority of those who make themselves heard and who vote . . . a very different thing.”

~ Walter H. Judd, M.D.
U. S. Congressman 1943 - 1963