

FR 235

HOOK'S POINTS

YOU ARE INVITED!! I have not visited friends in New Braunfels in the ten years since Lea and I moved to Oregon. A get-together is being planned for October 24 from 2:00 till 5:00 in the fellowship room of the Church of Christ, 1665 Business Loop 35 S. This will be an informal come-and-go affair. No, I will not preach! My plans include attendance at the 9:00 am assembly also.

No other notification is being used so, if you know of others who may be interested, please contact them. I don't know how many friends I may have left in New Braunfels. If only two or three show up, we can at least have a game of dominoes. Among some there a domino game is much easier to start than to stop!

Coming from either direction on Interstate 35, take the Walnut Street Exit, then take the access road toward San Antonio for three blocks. If you have questions, call Brad and Kay Bradfute at 1-830-625-4273. You will be notified by this means of any necessary change, so check again at the last minute.

MORALS AND RELIGION IN POLITICS. Yes, we are fed-up with political debate. But at this point let me ask you what the most important issue in the current election of officials is – Economy? War? Medical care? Taxes? Social Security? Prayer in schools and public gatherings? The Ten Commandments in public places? National debt?

The answer – **none of the above!!!**

Where does killing babies rank – **3,671 per day** – destroying the lives God has created in the womb? Explain your answer to your Creator, not to me! The One who gave you life in your mother's womb will demand an answer as to why you give your approving vote to those who uphold the destruction of that life given to others in the womb. All the rationalizing of the most intelligent and sophisticated cannot make destroying our own kind in the birth process a moral action. Nor is your guilt lessened by dismissing me as a religious fanatic or by unsubscribing from this mailout.

This is not mixing religion with politics. The non-religious recognize moral, humanitarian standards. They approve of laws against murder, rape, incest, slander, thievery, and fraud – all moral issues. They oppose genocide. Partial birth abortion cannot be defended morally by atheists or believers. Intentional killing of an infant ten minutes after its birth is murder. Who can deny that? Can intentional killing of an infant ten minutes before it is fully delivered be morally acceptable instead of murder? Who can believe that? In partial birth abortion, the infant's skull is punctured in the delivery process and the brain is suctioned out mechanically. In any circumstance or setting, that is grossly horrid, unbelievably inhumane, and undeniably immoral. *“Do not be deceived; God is not mocked!”*

More lives are willingly terminated by abortion *each day* than were willingly terminated in the 9-11 attacks. The latter was a *one-time killing*; the other is ***continued daily***. You know which candidates vote to allow that to continue and those who oppose it. Your vote inescapably aligns you with one or the other as a voice for the helpless and innocent or as a voice against them. And silence when you have opportunity to speak is also a voice against them.

Those politicians loudly decry the **war casualties** (more than a **1,000** now – very sad!) but they are as silent as the tomb about **3,671 lives aborted daily** in our country (World Almanac statistics for 1996).

There is something grievously perverted and wrong: A girl cannot get her ears pierced without parental consent but she can readily get an abortion without it – even free of charge.

A man can be arrested and fined for killing a kitten or puppy but an abortionist “doctor” is paid well for killing an infant in the birth process. Currently in Round Rock, an arrest warrant is issued for a young man who cropped a pit bull puppy’s ears and tail without anesthesia and medication and for other cruelties to it -- a state jail felony. Animals are treated more humanely humans!

Abortion mills (aka “clinics”) are lucrative businesses. Approval of taking lives for stem cell use can easily open another horrendous “industry.”

Infamous murderers have lawyers to plead their cases (even at taxpayer expense) to save them from execution. The helpless and innocent baby, peacefully alive and moving in its mother’s womb, has no voice, attorney, or standing in the court. A just God will call individuals and societies into account for such.

A mother’s love for her child is the most basic *natural affection*, even natural in all mammals. Those lacking in *natural affection* (inhumane, heartless, ruthless) face Heaven’s condemnation (See Rom. 1:31; 2 Tim. 3:3 in various versions).

We see banners crying “Keep Abortion Legal” in emotional rallies, but none read, “Keep Abortion Moral.” Being legal is not equivalent to being moral.

When Jesus stood before Pilate with the Jews demanding his crucifixion, “*Pilate took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, ‘I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.’ And all the people answered, ‘His blood be on us and on our children.’*” (Matt. 27:24). When the complacent try to wash their hands of responsibility and let abortionists demanding the right to kill babies go ahead with their slaughter, they become no less guilty of innocent blood than Pilate was. Their blood will be on us and our children.

Yes, there are many matters of importance in the election like taxes, economy, war, and medical care, but self-interests must not be put ahead of care for the helpless and innocent in the birth process. “*So whatever you wish that men would do to you, do so to them*” (Matt. 7:12).

I am speaking for myself rather than for a group or church. If you say I am mixing religion and politics, so be it. Our founding fathers courageously set a precedent for me.

IN SEPTEMBER our web site drew 33,407 hits on 27,925 files and 10,692 pages in 4,677 visits at 3,518 sites. Thank you for being a part of our extended cyberspace congregation, whoever and wherever you are. All of my writings are accessible there without charge.

QUOTATION IDENTIFIED: In last week's issue I repeated the quotation used in my preface to *Free To Change* as coming from an unknown author. A brother, Corey Davis, researched and found the author to be W. E. H. Lecky, in his book, *The History of European Morals*, page 189. Thank you, Corey. I will be pleased to insert that info if/when the book is reprinted.

“THY ROD AND THY STAFF” David's shepherd's rod and staff might not have been quite like the staff listed in a large modern congregation. That staff may include elders, deacons, senior ministers, associate ministers, ministers of education, ministers of music, youth ministers, children's ministers, ministers of finance, ministers of evangelism, office ministers (secretaries), and others.

FORMATTING: In an effort to improve the formatting of these send-outs, with instructions from Vic Phares, our Web Master who usually sends them to you, I am mailing this one directly from my computer and software. We will be interested in learning if it is a help or a hindrance.
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(Cecil Hook; October 2004)