



ARIZONA *life*  
COALITION

## **The Next Battle**

By Michael Greene

2024 Arizona March for Life Student Essay Grand Prize Winner

When G. K. Chesterton said, “We do not get good laws to restrain bad people. We get good people to restrain bad laws,” he was more of a prophet than he knew. Though the overturning of Roe V. Wade was a victory for the Pro-Life cause, the pro-abortion lobby is now attempting to pass state policies more dangerous than even Roe-v-Wade, including in Arizona. Put forth by the abortion lobby, the Arizona Abortion Access Act is a proposed amendment to the Arizona State Constitution. The ballot initiative must obtain around 384,000 Arizonan signatures to be placed on the 2024 ballot. If it passes, it will be irreversibly enshrined in our state constitution, making Arizona one of the most pro-abortion territories in the world.

The amendment claims a “fundamental right to abortion,” and dissolves all abortion restrictions, allowing abortion for any reason diagnosed by a “healthcare professional,” which can mean anyone working in the medical field. It also permits an abortion for “mental health,” (i.e. anxiety), preying on the vulnerability of mothers, all of whom experience some stress during pregnancy, and prohibits any protections for the woman herself, including allowing minors to obtain abortions without parental consent. Plus, phrases concerning abortion before and after fetal viability are in separate sections, muddying the waters to garner more votes. Regardless of spin doctoring, this is abortion up to birth for any reason. Additionally, our elected officials must promise to defend the State Constitution upon entering office. If this amendment passes, Pro-Life politicians couldn’t in good faith take this oath, effectively barring them from office.



ARIZONA *life*  
COALITION

In this amendment the pro-abortionists adhere to the diabolical tactic of manipulating words, saying it is a petition for “women’s healthcare” or “reproductive rights,” both oxymorons, considering that abortion thwarts reproduction and cares nothing for the health or life of the woman or the child. Satan never lies blatantly; he is as subtle as a serpent who says, “You will be like God.” By sidestepping the real question of the dignity of life, the pro-abortion cause mimics the devil himself.

This nefarious scheme has one weakness, however. If the referendum fails to obtain the required number of signatures, it will collapse. Pro-life groups are attempting to do just this with Decline-to-Sign efforts, through which volunteers aim to educate potential signers and petition gatherers themselves about the reality of this amendment. When confronted, some are converted; some leave.

The abortion industry never protects women’s rights, but rather uses and takes advantage of frightened women in difficult situations in order to extort their money. The sole purpose of Government is to safeguard human rights. If a child is unsafe even in his mother’s womb, the Government has utterly failed at its job. As it has been said innumerable times, all that evil needs to triumph is the good men failing to act. Chesterton said, “The true soldier does not fight because he hates what is in front of him, but because he loves what is behind him.” Do we love the unborn enough to fight the next battle?

By Michael Greene

Grade 12

Green Homeschooling Institute, Sacred Heart Home Educators