In a year of drastic and unprecedented changes, we at Life Legal have implemented our new strategy for addressing the egregiously flawed reasoning that resulted in the notorious Roe v. Wade Supreme Court ruling.

Just a reminder: last year, we informed our supporters we were no longer going to argue that popular abortion regulations were consistent with Roe and its various offshoots. Instead, we were going to assail the intellectual dishonesty of Roe at every opportunity.

We’ve already assailed that fortress of falsehood with a vengeance—in our amicus brief in the case of Dobbs v. Women’s Health Center, a clear challenge to Roe that has many pro-aborts quaking in their blood-drenched boots. As explained at greater length below, we not only insist that Roe must be overturned. We also tell the justices to examine the question of fetal development in a different light, suggesting that the 14th Amendment requires them to protect human life in utero.

We get news from all over the country about attempts to increase profits from abortion by strangling pro-life speech. If new offensives on this front were in progress, we’d know about it. Well, new pro-abort offensives are in progress—and we didn’t need our network of pro-life contacts to tell us. The abortionists struck right in our own back yard—in Napa, California, where we maintain our administrative offices.

How this attack on pro-life speech fits into a larger abortionist campaign is addressed more fully below. Here let me assure you that, as always, we are fighting back. We are defending pro-life speech because we know that pro-life speech saves lives.

Another matter detailed more completely below: the wife of Josh Barras, a young brain-injured man in Louisiana, is trying to end his life through the cruel process of starvation and dehydration. On one level, it’s an old story. We saw it with Robert Wendland. We saw it with Terri Schiavo.

But there’s a new wrinkle in the Barras case. Josh’s death-fixated spouse is using the controversy over his treatment to boost her public status. Her social media profile has gone through the rickety roof of fifteen-minute fame. She is peddling spouse murder as something chic and worthy of celebration. But we are resisting this glamorization of a heartless murder.

That’s what we’ve been doing over the last year. But that’s not all. We have also been carrying on with our day-to-day work—on the cases that never make the news. We have indeed had our schedules full!

When we face these challenges, we always remind ourselves that we couldn’t do anything without the support of pro-lifers like you. And we pray daily that you’ll be able to give us that same support over the uncertain year to come.

As wave after wave of change crashes into the heart of America’s culture, we remind you that not all change is for the worse. The walls surrounding Roe v. Wade and the child murder syndicate may be one of the things that are crumbling. Do not doubt that we at Life Legal are continuing to march against them!

Yours for the value of every human life,

ALEXANDRA SNYDER
Chief Executive Officer
TARGETING ROE:
LIFE LEGAL BATTLES ABORTION REGIME IN DOBBS V. JACKSON WOMEN'S HEALTH

The news was big in May, when the U.S. Supreme Court agreed to take the case — and even bigger in September, when a date was set for oral arguments. The Court was going to hear a case that might constitute a direct challenge to Roe v. Wade. That case was Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization, which involves Mississippi’s ban on abortions after fifteen weeks’ gestation.

Weary pro-lifers may be excused for regarding with suspicion any grand optimism about overturning Roe. After all, haven’t we heard such optimism before? Supposedly, Roe faced a tough challenge in 1992 with Planned Parenthood v. Casey—yet the ruling in that case is widely perceived as having solidified abortion rights. Similar results were produced in Whole Women’s Health v. Hellerstedt (2016) and June Medical Services v. Russo (2020).

Dobbs, however, is a different kind of abortion case. Its special character, combined with a court substantially reconstituted under the Trump administration, renders cautious optimism, or at least fundamental hope, more sensible than cynics may be inclined to admit.

What makes Dobbs different is that it is the first case since Roe to address a ban on abortion defined by gestational age. The legislation in question constitutes a direct challenge to the dubious trimester framework established in Roe. Hence, the issue of Roe’s own viability is essential to the case. And the State of Mississippi itself is arguing that Roe is unsustainable and should be overturned on consideration of this law.

By now, of course, there have been many briefs filed in this case — including, on the other side, the “Megan Rapinoe” brief in which numerous female athletes argue that an uninterrupted career in sports is more important than human life.

Life Legal has actually filed two amicus briefs in Dobbs—one last year, urging the Court to take the case, and one this year, urging the Court to uphold Mississippi’s abortion ban.

In keeping with our current strategic orientation, our brief this year does not seek any sort of compromise with the Roe regime. Rather, we attack the irrationality of Roe right at its root. Filed on behalf of neonatologist Robin Pierruci, M.D., our brief demonstrates conclusively that there is no “point of viability,” as was so blithely assumed in Roe, and that survivability outside the womb depends more on immediate medical care than on arbitrary designation of gestational age.

We also assail the illogical association of viability with valuable human life — and even insist that the Court should be thinking about when it is positively obliged to mandate the protection of prenatal human life, not when it might grudgingly allow such protection.

There’s no reason to mislead our supporters here. The odds are still long. The pressure on the Court to ignore the science — and avoid a reasoned conclusion — is enormous already and growing with every passing day. However, the essential vulnerability of Roe is evident from the fact that America still hasn’t accepted it and is seeking to reverse it. Roe not only condemned millions of children to death. It not only wreaked havoc on sexual mores and on social norms as a whole. It also sent tentacles of unendurable illogic through almost every aspect of American jurisprudence. Roe can’t continue forever. It must either be overturned or cause the collapse of the very legal system that enforces it.

That’s why it makes sense to press forward against Roe v. Wade right now. And, at Life Legal, we always do what makes sense!
...we attack the irrationality of *Roe v. Wade* right at its root.
At Life Legal, we knew that the imaginary “right”
established in Roe v. Wade couldn’t co-exist with the actual
constitutional rights established by the First Amendment.
We’d see the evidence over the years. Since abortionists
are doing something that doesn’t bear scrutiny, they
cannot tolerate the presence of pro-life activists outside
their murder mills. Those activists are there to subject the
abortionists to intolerable scrutiny.

Abortionists and their allies descend on street level pro-
life fighters like an anti-Biblical plague. We’ve seen it in big cities
all across the U.S.—for decades.

But we never expected to see it in our base of
operations—Napa, California.

There’s been a pro-life presence outside the Planned
Parenthood “health center” in Napa for three decades. Over
the years, it has steadily grown—especially after “40 Days
for Life” became a nationwide phenomenon. Nowadays, a
large percentage of pro-life street level activists at this site
has come from Napa’s Hispanic community.

In keeping with what’s clearly general Planned Parenthood
practice, the operators of the “health center” have
complained ceaselessly about the exercise of the First
Amendment outside their place of child slaughter. And,
in California, Planned Parenthood is politically connected
beyond the nightmares of those who reside in saner states.
There’s money in that there abortion business—and some of
it seems to filter into the campaign chests of state and local
officeholders.

When Napa’s bubble zone was under consideration, then-
Chief of Police Robert Plummer testified that there was no
cause for a city ordinance restricting the harmless activities
of pro-lifers on the public sidewalk. So the city council voted
unanimously to enact the legislation, then finessed their
action by claiming to “balance” the rights of both sides.

Some balance. Planned Parenthood got extended ownership
rights over public property. What did pro-lifers get?
Restrictions.

We at Life Legal are closely monitoring the application of
the ordinance. So far, the Napa police, under a new chief,
have not seemed eager to serve as Planned Parenthood’s
private thugs. But Napa’s ordinance is important less for its
immediate effects on local pro-lifers, who seem as active as
ever, than for its participation in a larger trend. The same sort
of thing—and worse—is happening all over the country.

An egregious example occurred in Everett, Washington—in
the Greater Seattle area. In Everett, there was no
consideration, and no measure passed. The city just started
putting up barricades to keep pro-lifers across the street
from the local Planned Parenthood abortion mill.

Everett’s Planned Parenthood makes Napa’s look mercifully
slight. Napa’s “health center” only does chemical abortions.
Everett’s does surgical. And the Planned Parenthood
chapter that runs the mill reports a total of 19,000
terminations per year, producing $11 million in abortionist
income. Some have speculated that Mayor Cassie Franklin,
endorsed by Planned Parenthood, might have used some of
these dollars, from a previous year, to achieve election. This
remains a definite possibility.

Whatever the hidden motivation, Everett’s political
leadership acted too rashly in this case. So outrageous was
the action, without any basis in law, that we went to work
immediately, contacting the city and insisting that it end the
blatantly-illegal interference with pro-life speech. The city
resisted briefly—then the barricades came down without
apology or explanation.

The most devious maneuver against pro-life speech is
underway in the California legislature, where pro-aborts
are pushing SB 742, which prohibits protest anywhere near
a “vaccination site.” Since Planned Parenthood vaccinates
against STDs, this bill is designed to protect its abortion
business—using the COVID pandemic as an excuse.

Life Legal has been fighting for street level pro-life activists
since our inception in 1989. The current campaign against
pro-life free speech, however, seems different—more rooted
in the ideological divide that extends through other issues,
more unwilling even to nod toward the appearance of actual
constitutional rights. Our strategy and tactics in dealing with
such matters have not changed. But we are applying them
with greater frequency—and expect the pressure from the
other side to grow even more extreme.
Life Legal has been hard at work all year on the case of Josh Barras, a brain-injured Louisiana man whose wife is trying to terminate his life through the excruciating process of starvation and dehydration. According to the wife, this horrendous torture will be the most humane and loving act that any spouse has ever performed for an ailing partner. She may well win the Nobel Peace Prize if she manages to pull it off.

The broad outlines of the case are familiar from past disgraces. As with Robert Wendland, there is much appeal to the futility of ordinary medical care. As with Terri Schiavo, there was a period when the death-advocating spouse swore that long-term devoted care was the actual plan. Pro-lifers who followed these two cases will already have the general idea.

But Josh’s case presents a couple unique points:

- Josh was involved in divorce proceedings when he suffered his brain injury. His wife wasn’t slated to stay his wife for much longer.
- Unlike Rose Wendland (Robert’s wife, who sought to avoid the limelight) and Michael Schiavo (who made an inept, uninspired attempt at public relations), Maegan Barras is very telegenic and knows it.

The second point seems trivial but is not. In numerous public appearances, Maegan has not only been putting on the charm offensive. She has also been projecting the idea of spouse termination as something cool, hip, and unchallengeable by normal people. Many movie stars are virulently pro-abortion and use their personal appeal to advance the cause of child-killing. Maegan Barras isn’t such a celebrity, but she has been trying to make herself one.

After her appearance on The Dr. Phil Show, she managed to secure 150,000 followers on social media. She currently has over 600,000 followers and 5.6 million likes on TikTok. And this number may still be growing.

Maegan’s program illustrates a reality all too familiar to pro-lifers. When the death culture advances, it does not advance through rational argument. Instead, it advances by convincing people—first a few, then more and more—that it is the wave of an irresistible future.

The death cultists have done exactly this in advancing the cause of abortion. Maegan Barras presents an example of how they are doing the same thing to advance the cause of spousal disposal.

Maegan’s drive to destroy Josh Barras is resisted by Josh’s mother—and by Life Legal. Nobody ever accused us of being cool, hip, and stylish representatives of an inevitable future. Instead, we proceed by legal argument rooted in evidence and in rational acceptance of inherited moral principles. We’ve had a surprising number of successes with this approach.

Robert Wendland was an early success. Although he died while we were still fighting for him, he did not die the horrible death that his wife had planned. He was still receiving nutrition and hydration when pneumonia struck him down.

More recently, we saved two women in their thirties who, having suffered brain injuries, were ruled beyond recovery and subjected to the starvation protocol. We went into court and made sure that nutrition was restored to both patients. It wasn’t much of a surprise to Life Legal when both “hopeless cases” made full recoveries.

We are currently hopeful that we will have similar success with Josh Barras.

In the meantime, beware of the putsch from Maegan’s sympathizers to convince you that spouse termination and infanticide in utero are separate issues. The very thought of doing what Maegan Barras wants done to her husband wouldn’t be possible without Roe v. Wade and its legacy of revolutionary illogic. The death dealers advance on different fronts—but they always move their whole horde in the same direction. When we stand up for human life on one front, we check the advance of that dark army. And we at Life Legal intend to continue doing just that.
If 2020 was the most chaotic year in most people’s memories, 2021 was the year that followed from that chaos. The Biden administration, markedly unfriendly to all things pro-life, was ushered in with enormous support from the mainstream media. We at Life Legal buckled down to pursue our mission across much more difficult terrain. Nevertheless, we scored significant victories.

**Gribbin v. Chasan.** In September of 2019, pro-lifer Michael Gribbin was violently assaulted outside a Planned Parenthood murder mill in Washington, D.C. Gribbin suffered injuries to his head, torso, and leg. The assailant wasn’t just some nobody—as a Washington elitist might put it. He was Quinn Chasan, Head of Customer Analytics at Google. Police declined to press charges, so Gribbin, with Life Legal’s help, sued for damages.

Chasan’s response was to counter-sue—ridiculous in light of who hit whom and who suffered injuries. Proceedings stalled when Chasan’s attorney passed away. But, early in 2021, Chasan’s new counsel saw the folly of the countersuit, and Chasan settled for an undisclosed amount.

**Louisiana v. Kovalcik.** On July 10, outside the so-called Women’s Health Care Center in New Orleans, long-time sidewalk counselor John Kovalcik was targeted by one of a large group of pro-abortion “escorts.” Linda Kocher pushed the elderly Mr. Kovalcik with her shoulder and knocked him off the sidewalk. “What are you going to do about it?” she sneered in response to John’s glance.

Afterward, following the pro-abort playbook, Kocher and her band of abortion enthusiasts called the police and accused John of threatening her.

Police examined video and concluded that no crime had been committed. But Kocher and her fellow murder mill assistants insisted on charges. Unrelenting pressure resulted in a citation for disturbing the peace, and a trial date was set.

Life Legal found legal representation for John Kovalcik—and, in February of this year, those attorneys showed up in to court to fight for John. After reviewing the facts, the deputy city attorney threw out the bogus case. John was free of the harassment he had suffered under color of law for almost a year.

**New York v. Griepp.** New York State’s Office of the Attorney General has been striving to strangle pro-life speech for years—and has especially tried to cripple sidewalk counselors. This is, clearly, a testimony to the effectiveness of sidewalk counseling—since the AG is enforcing the preferences of abortion profiteers.

In 2018, the OAG requested an injunction against groups and activists who sidewalk-counseled outside Choices Medical Center—which kills babies through the 24th week of pregnancy.

Incredibly, the OAG actually did the abortionists’ dirty work and spent months surveilling pro-life activities outside the mill. Videos and the testimony of the abortion business’s staff failed to convince the District Court that a preliminary injunction against pro-lifers was indicated.

But the OAG appealed to the Second Circuit. On March 10 of this year, New York’s abortion zealots got what they wanted. A panel of the Second Circuit ruled two to one that pro-lifers had violated the federal FACE Act—plus state and local laws. But they weren’t counting on Life Legal’s extensive experience opposing FACE and the state laws that it has spawned.

Enjoined parties filed a petition for rehearing—and Life Legal filed a brief in support of that petition. We argued that the decision of the panel exceeded the provisions of FACE and encroached on activities, such as leafleting and picketing, that lay at the heart of the First Amendment.

In May, the panel vacated its decision and ordered further input on various issues. We filed another amicus letter in response to this order. In August, the Second Circuit flatly denied the AG’s appeal. No preliminary injunction at the abortion mill!

Please note: this is in itself a temporary victory. The pro-abortion AG could still suppress pro-life speech down the line. For now, however, sidewalk counselors continue to save babies. And every life saved is a victory.
Despite recent instability, some of last year’s strategic decisions, taken when COVID was first disrupting national life, have proved more foresighted than we dared to presume—especially the decision to oppose Roe and its judicial progeny on principle every time it was possible to do so. No fiddling around with half measures, we determined a year ago. Roe must go!

Our embrace of this solid stand is manifested in our amicus brief in Dobbs. (See page 3) A lot of amici are opposing Roe more insistently than in the past. But Life Legal’s brief also indicates a duty on the part of the Supreme Court to protect prenatal human life.

Even in a best-case scenario—an end to all the ridiculous fictions promulgated in Roe—we will not have won a final battle. There will be many more battles to fight. Some states are already trying to outlaw abortion. But many states are in the grip of the child-killers, and it will take decades to make progress in those places. Moreover, wherever the abortion syndicate is challenged, its allies in the mainstream media will do everything they can to misrepresent what pro-lifers think, say, and do.

Look at the repeal of the 8th in the Republic of Ireland. By sensationalizing one case of maternal death in the absence of abortion, the media convinced a supposedly-Catholic nation to abort its pro-life constitutional amendment, passed in 1983. What the pro-aborts did in Ireland was as nothing to what they’ll do here. Where maternal deaths from legal abortion were routinely obfuscated under Roe, any ill consequence from pro-life legislation will be magnified to the stature of Godzilla. Watch for it.

In the face of all this predictable injustice, we are resolved to adhere to our current principled strategy. Anything less will constitute surrender. Roe must go, and abortion be recognized for the crime it is.

As our recent experience in Napa (and elsewhere) demonstrates, pro-aborts in municipal governments are increasingly eager to suppress pro-life speech. In states where abortion remains legal, we may expect these efforts to increase exponentially. We keep thinking that the death advocates have done their worst, but that’s a failure of imagination on our part. The death advocates can imagine—and attempt—far worse.

In addition, we are continuing with our efforts on many past cases. For example, we are still appealing unjust judgments in Planned Parenthood v. Center for Medical Progress—in which a pro-abortion judge and jury in San Francisco imposed outrageous consequences on the heroes who exposed baby body part sales from America’s number-one child-killing mega-corporation. We need to keep pushing against this negation of justice—and others like it. We can’t cede the judicial system anywhere to Planned Parenthood and other abortionists.

Finally, we must continue our devotion to the kind of work we do every day: sticking up for pro-life conscience rights in the workplace, saving the lives of patients facing medical murder through starvation and dehydration, intervening for premature babies threatened with denial of care. Strategic planning is a fine thing, but we must also be committed to our daily work. A lot of people are depending on us.
OUR STEWARDSHIP OF YOUR GIFTS

Please be assured that Life Legal will be a wise steward of any gift you send. The graph below reflects Life Legal’s 2020 independent audit by RINA Accountancy Corporation.

**SUPPORT AND REVENUE**
(Fiscal Year: 2020)

- Contributions
  - Donations: $1,956,834
  - (Pro bono) Attorney services: $2,046,354
- Other income: $360,092
- **TOTAL REVENUE**: $4,363,280
- **NET ASSETS, end of year**: $3,569,383

**EXPENSES**
(Fiscal Year: 2020)

- Program services: $2,973,152
- Supporting services:
  - Fundraising: $97,918
  - Administrative: $82,865
- **TOTAL EXPENSES**: $3,153,935

Life Legal Defense Foundation is a 501(c)(3) public charity that seeks to operate under the highest standards of financial accountability and excellence. All charitable donations to Life Legal Defense Foundation are tax-deductible within the United States. We are audited by an independent accounting firm each year and governed by a Board of Directors.
We at Life Legal are always grateful for what you’ve done to enable the successes of the past—and we’re counting on your continued support as we face the uncertainty of 2022.

*Without your help, we could never have directed our devastating brief against the *Roe* regime in the case of *Dobbs v. Women’s Health Center!*  
*Without your help, we could never have rallied for pro-life speech in venues ranging from Everett, Washington to our home base of Napa, California, from Sacramento to New York City!*  
*Without your help, we could never have gone to bat for Josh Barras—nor for other disabled people menaced with cruel termination by starvation and dehydration!*  

More important, without your help, we won’t be prepared to carry on these battles in the coming year. We won’t be able to expose the legal chicanery of *Roe*, defend sidewalk counselors who save lives from abortion every day, or stand in the breach for less-than-perfect patients threatened with a torturous death.

Our strategic decisions last year served us well. But we know that the pro-aborts are cooking up threats that we cannot anticipate. We won’t be prepared to respond—without your help.

Please... as a pro-life stalwart who understands the importance of our mission... could you contribute $50, $200, $500, or even $1,000 toward our struggles in 2022?

*Keep in mind:* our work requires us to face off against opponents who bathe in blood money—wealth harvested, like baby body parts, from the abortion industry.

From those who can consider a high level of sacrificial generosity, we are especially seeking gifts of up to $5,000 or even $8,000.

We don’t need to compete with the pro-aborts dollar for dollar. But, if we even compete dime for dollar, that’s still a lot of dimes.

Of course, we understand the transcendent value of the widow’s mite and would be grateful for any amount you could afford to give.

We pray every day for our benefactors. And we hope you pray regularly for us at Life Legal.

May the Lord shield you from all harm in the coming year, bless you richly, and reward you for what you’ve done for his little ones!
OUR MISSION

Life Legal is a pro-life, non-profit law firm that defends life in the courtroom and the public square. We provide experienced legal counsel to save lives threatened by abortion and the withdrawal of essential medical care. With your help, we can create a culture that values and protects vulnerable human life, especially children in the womb.