



Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life

News Release

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For more information contact:
Bill Poehler, 612.821.3502

Doe v. Gomez: 14 years of state-sponsored abortion

MN Supreme Court's abortion-on-demand decision costs taxpayers \$14 million for abortions

ST. PAUL — More than 47,000 unborn babies have been killed in Minnesota since the Dec. 15, 1995, Minnesota Supreme Court Doe v. Gomez ruling established the most extreme abortion-on-demand policy in the nation, according to the Minnesota Department of Human Services (MDHS).

“The Doe v. Gomez ruling by a handful of extremist judges has been disastrous for Minnesota women and their babies,” said Scott Fischbach, Executive Director of Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life (MCCL). “On this 14th anniversary of the decision, Minnesotans do not believe it is the mission of the state to abort thousands of innocent unborn children each year, yet that is exactly what is happening under this radical ruling.”

The Supreme Court’s Doe v. Gomez [decision](#) established a new state constitutional “right” to abortion on demand. This right would remain protected by the state Constitution even if [Roe v. Wade](#), the 1973 decision legalizing abortion in the United States, were to be overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Doe v. Gomez allows abortions for reasons such as “stress” or “discomfort.” It forbids the state to “interfere” in any way with a woman’s “decision-making” about abortion.

Doe v. Gomez also obligates the state—and thus, taxpayers—to pay for abortions, something not required by the U.S. Supreme Court. From June 1994 through 2007, state taxpayers paid more than \$14 million for 47,115 abortions, according to the MDHS. In 2007 alone (the most recent statistics available), state taxpayers paid \$1.58 million for 3,914 abortions (MDHS). The state does not record how many women have died from these abortions.

While the total number of abortions in the state is declining slightly, taxpayer funding of abortions has risen nearly every year since 1995. Minnesota taxpayers now pay for almost 30 percent of all abortions performed in the state.

“This is not the will of the majority of Minnesotans, who oppose abortion on demand, and it is not the function of state government to fund the destruction of its most powerless innocent citizens,” Fischbach said. “The Court took away the people’s right to decide whether they want abortion on demand in the state and whether they should be required to pay for others’ elective abortions. It’s time for change in Minnesota.”

For more information on MCCL and right-to-life issues, visit <http://www.mccl.org>.

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Minnesota's oldest and largest pro-life organization, MCCL has been dedicated for 41 years to the single issue of life itself.

4249 Nicollet Avenue | Minneapolis MN 55409 | 612.825.6831 | FX 612.825.5527