

**Abortion remains  
the supreme  
injustice**

**and leading  
cause of**

**human death  
in Minnesota**

**today.**



unborn child at 4 months

### Help protect the unborn

Please support MCCL's educational and legislative efforts to protect unborn children from the unjust killing of abortion. **Contact your state legislators and urge support for pro-life legislation**, and learn more by visiting [www.mccl.org](http://www.mccl.org).

\* Minnesota Department of Health, *Induced Abortions in Minnesota January-December 2013: Report to the Legislature*.

\*\* Minnesota Department of Health: <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/cfh/paa/grantprogram.cfm>.

\*\*\* See, for example, Michael J. New, "Pro-life politicians have made a difference, pro-life laws work," *Public Discourse: Ethics, Law, and the Common Good* 28 Oct. 2008 <<http://www.thepublicdiscourse.com/2008/10/125>>; and Michael J. New, "Analyzing the Effect of Anti-Abortion U.S. State Legislation in the Post-Casey Era," *State Politics & Policy Quarterly* 11.1 (March 2011): 28-47.



**Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life**

4249 Nicollet Ave. | Minneapolis MN 55409  
612.825.6831 | [MCCL@mccl.org](mailto:MCCL@mccl.org)

The mission of MCCL is to secure protection for innocent human life from conception until natural death through effective education, legislation and political action.

**[www.mccl.org](http://www.mccl.org)**

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**PRO-  
LIFE LAWS  
save  
LIVES**

**How MCCL is  
making a difference  
through legislation**



**MINNESOTA CITIZENS CONCERNED FOR LIFE**

Although the U.S. Supreme Court (beginning in 1973 with *Roe v. Wade*) has imposed legalized abortion upon the nation, certain laws can still be enacted for the benefit of unborn children and their mothers.

**Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life has led the efforts to pass such measures in Minnesota.** These laws are saving lives today.

### Woman's Right to Know

The Woman's Right to Know informed consent law was enacted in 2003. Under this law in 2013, 12,164 abortion-minded pregnant women received important factual information about fetal development, abortion procedures, abortion risks and complications, and alternatives to abortion. **That number is 2,261 more than the number of women who actually underwent abortions.** Since Woman's Right to Know became law, as many as 20,687 women have chosen life for their unborn children after receiving the information.\*

### Positive Alternatives

The Positive Alternatives Act of 2005 created a program to provide grants to pregnancy care centers that help women in difficult circumstances and offer life-affirming alternatives to abortion. More than 35,000 women statewide were helped through the Positive Alternatives program in its first six years (July 2006-Aug. 2012).\*\* The program correlates to a seven-year trend of declining abortions in Minnesota.

### Positive Alternatives grants serve women

"We have been able to increase our clients served by more than 100 percent, and our return visits increased by six times over 2006. This would not have happened without Positive Alternatives funding!"

— Karen Boots, Choices Pregnancy Center, Redwood Falls

"The entire pregnancy support system in Minnesota would be weakened if this targeted, tangible source of assistance were to be removed."

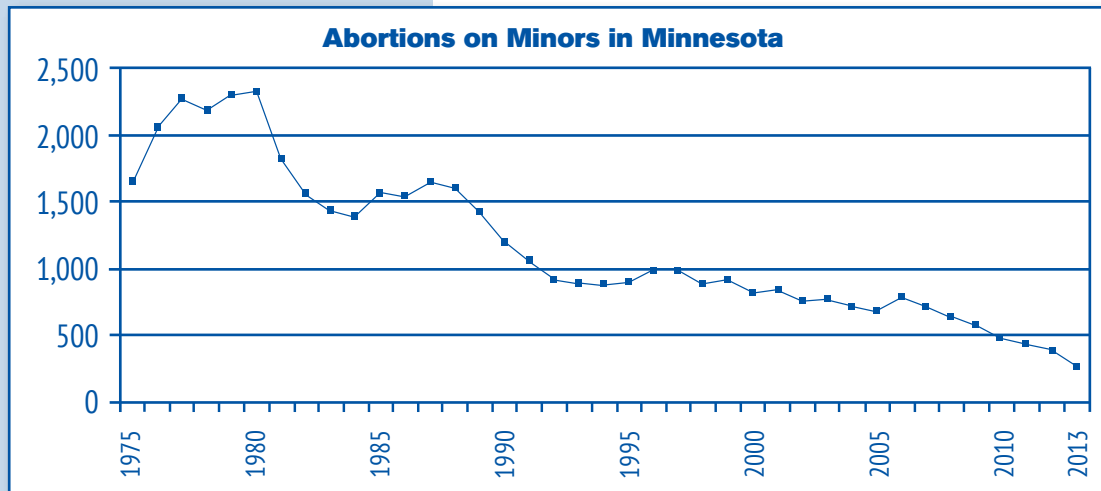
— Kathy Rosenthal, Cradle of Hope, Roseville

"Many new doors were opened for the clients in our community ... Clients served increased drastically since we were awarded the first [Positive Alternatives] grant."

— Bonnie Olson, LifeCare Center, Thief River Falls

### Parental Notification

The number of abortions performed on minors peaked in 1980 at 2,327. In 1981 Minnesota passed a law requiring that both parents be notified at least 48 hours before an abortion is performed on a minor (there is a judicial bypass option, as required by the courts). **After years of steady decline, minor abortions in 2013 fell 27 percent to 295, the lowest number on record** (statistics for minors go back to 1975) and only 3 percent of all abortions.\*



The dramatic decline in abortions performed on minors demonstrates the effectiveness of the state's pro-life laws.

### Laws reduce abortions

Extensive research from outside of Minnesota confirms that pro-life laws — informed consent laws, parental involvement requirements, and others — help significantly reduce the number of abortions.\*\*\* **Tens of thousands of Minnesotans are alive today who would have been killed in utero if not for MCCL-backed pro-life laws,** such as Woman's Right to Know, Positive Alternatives and the parental notification law.



### Success in Minnesota

The number of abortions in Minnesota has declined for seven straight years, and dropped more than 30 percent from 2003 to 2013. **Abortions are now at their lowest level since 1974.** The abortion rate is also the lowest since 1974, and is close to half the national abortion rate.\*

### More work is necessary

Abortion remains the supreme injustice and leading cause of human death in Minnesota today. More than 9,900 unborn children are aborted in the state each year. Continuing political and legislative efforts (in addition to the work of helping pregnant women in need and educating and persuading the public) **are absolutely vital to our goal of saving lives and restoring protection for innocent human beings at all stages of development.**

Pro-life bills MCCL has advanced in recent years (but which have not yet become law) include a ban on abortion at the point when the unborn child can feel pain, a ban on taxpayer funding of abortion, and bans on sex-selection, saline and webcam abortions.