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.

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** Minnesota Department of Health: [http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/cfh/paa/grantprogram.cfm](http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/cfh/paa/grantprogram.cfm).


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Abortion remains the supreme injustice and leading cause of human death in Minnesota today.

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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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.

**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.*

**Abortion on Minors in Minnesota**

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.