

The editorial notes that "it will become necessary and acceptable to place relative rather than absolute values on such things as human lives." As an example of the emergence of the new ethic, the editorial cites the changing attitude toward the abortion of unborn human babies and notes that "the result has been a curious avoidance of the scientific fact * * * that human life begins at conception and is continuous * * * until death." It later acknowledges that "one may anticipate further development of these roles as the problems of birth control and birth selection are extended inevitably to death selection and death control whether by the individual or by society."

Senators, I beseech you to make it a point in your inquiry, and in any subsequent inquiries concerning approval of nominees to the Supreme Court, to request the nominees to clearly state their positions and sympathies regarding the rights of all people regardless of color, religion, health, or age—including stage of fetal development—in the face of proposals to exercise a power which would effectively deny those rights. I, furthermore, beseech you to recommend strenuous disapproval of any candidate who is not determined to recognize and protect the inalienable right of all human beings enjoying the protection of our judicial system.

Thank you.

TESTIMONY OF IMELDA JENSEN, OLD BETHPAGE, N.Y.

Mrs. JENSEN. Mr. Chairman and distinguished members of this committee:

My name is Imelda Jensen. I represent Celebrate Life of Long Island, a nonsectarian organization dedicated to protecting the rights of millions of persons who cannot speak for themselves, the unborn, the aged, and the infirm.

The Supreme Court of the United States will be called upon in its next session and in the next decade to rule upon cases involving the right and authority of State and local legislatures to authorize the indiscriminate slaughter of prebirth children, overage adults, and socially unacceptable human beings generally on the twisted theory that permissive abortion and euthanasia are socially and morally desirable goals, instead of pernicious totalitarianism at its most ruthless.

I suggest that nominees for the very high office of Associate Justice of the Supreme Court should be closely questioned regarding their views of such legislation.

I come from a State whose legislature has made it the abortion capital of the United States. In the past 16 months hundreds of thousands of unborn children have been killed in our hospitals and clinics with the benign assurance of many of our States leaders that such mass homicide is, in reality, a zealous protection of the rights of women.

In Florida, some enlightened gentlemen in the State legislature have advocated laws giving the State the right to put to death those persons who no longer conform to the State's behavioral concepts for the aged and infirm.

I submit that the Senate of the United States must know the attitudes of the present nominees on the constitutionality of these legislative aberrations.

The inalienable right to life proclaimed by Thomas Jefferson, and the equal protection of the laws, secured to us by the 14th amendment, are not selective grants of governmental benevolence; they are inherent properties of each human being, whether unborn or aged or unable to care for himself. The glory of our constitutional system is that we recognize these principles as essential parts of man and not as gifts of the state. When misguided and illinformed advocates of women's rights or States rights seriously suggest that a mother, whether for economic, therapeutic or social reasons, or out of plain selfish self-indulgence, has an absolute right to kill her unborn child, or indicate that an elderly person who makes no contribution to social progress can be a candidate for murder with state approval, all Americans must be vitally concerned with how the Supreme Court of the United States will deal with these violent and distorted assaults upon human life and human dignity.

I urge this committee, therefore, to very scrupulously examine the views and philosophies of Mr. Powell and Mr. Rehnquist. I ask as well, to testify in response to those views.

Thank you.

**TESTIMONY OF ELIZABETH CORBETT, WESTCHESTER COUNTY,
N. Y.**

Mrs. CORBETT. My name is Elizabeth Corbett from Yonkers, N. Y., and I represent the Westchester County Right to Life Committee.

In recent years, when Presidents have submitted Supreme Court nominations to the U. S. Senate, or to the American Bar Association, a number of questions have immediately been raised about the nominations. These questions have included: Does the nominee have judicial experience? Does the nominee have any history of conflict of interest during his legal career? What are the nominee's views on civil rights?

Westchester Right-to-Life Committee appears before you now to raise an additional question. What are the views of Mr. Powell and Mr. Rehnquist about life itself?

Are the nominees persons who believe that the unborn child may be destroyed at will? Are they men who believe that the life of an aged or crippled or sickly person may be destroyed if that person is no longer able to work or produce for society?

Westchester Right-to-Life emphatically and categorically opposes any nominee to the Supreme Court who would hold such beliefs.

We raise these questions before you and ask you to inquire into this matter with regard to Mr. Powell and Mr. Rehnquist, because we are firmly convinced that the awesome power over the life of millions of Americans which is held by the Supreme Court Justices should not be entrusted to any man or woman who would write or join in an opinion which would allow the destruction of thousands of lives, whether of unborn children, or of the crippled or maimed, or of the elderly or of the sickly.

With great regret Westchester Right-to-Life notices that a clever, subtle campaign has been conducted within the Federal Government to promote abortion and other programs which seek to reverse the view of the sacredness of human life, the foundation of Judean-Christian civilization. Federal moneys support planned parenthood's