

# CITIZEN

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND THE VALUES THAT MAKE FAMILIES STRONG

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## The Family Foundation presses to educate state with special sanctity of life *CITIZEN*

*Effort highlights that Kentucky has everything necessary to correct the deception and injustice of the 1970 radical abortion movement.*

Though the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision legalizing abortion-on-demand appears secure for the foreseeable future, especially with the Obama Administration pushing the radical “Freedom of Choice Act,” it would be wrong to underestimate the strength of a little state like Kentucky and the passionately held pro-life convictions of its citizens. The fact is Kentucky has all the ingredients to reverse the unfettered abortion philosophy of the 1970s.

This perspective is the core of a major project launched this Fall by The Family Foundation that includes placing a special *Pro-Life CITIZEN* inside the local newspapers across the state. Already over 145,000 homes have been reached with another 150,000 scheduled before Christmas.

### A Dropping Abortion Rate

Both pro-life and pro-choice politicians say they desire to end abortion. Unfortunately, those who are pro-abortion resist most things that would lower abortion rates further. Regardless, the abortion rates in Kentucky have continued to drop – by 60 percent when comparing 1991 with 2007, the most recent year that numbers are available. Though there are many positive reasons for this shift, the bottom line is that the people of Kentucky, more than their politicians, want abortion stopped.

### A Network of Compassion Centers

Emblematic of the will of the people of Kentucky is the rise of the Pregnancy Care Center (PCC) movement. A PCC is simply an organization founded, financed and managed by local citizens who want to help women experiencing untimely pregnancies. Their goal is to care for both mother and child

and they do so at enormous cost to themselves and little, if any, cost to the mother in need. Currently there are 46 such Centers that dot the Kentucky landscape and they corporately raise over \$2 million each year from concerned citizens who also want to help. (See page 4)

### A Good Legislative Record

Kentucky has also passed numerous pieces of legislation that bring light to the woman in distress. Unlike the early years when those pushing abortion could get away with “blob of tissue” deceptive language and unregulated abortion clinics, the General Assembly has taken many strides forward, earning Kentucky a number 12 ranking by Americans United for Life in their “most pro-life” survey. Without doubt, Kentuckians desire to do even better, even though there has been unusual resistance in recent years in the leadership of the State House of Representatives. (See page 5)

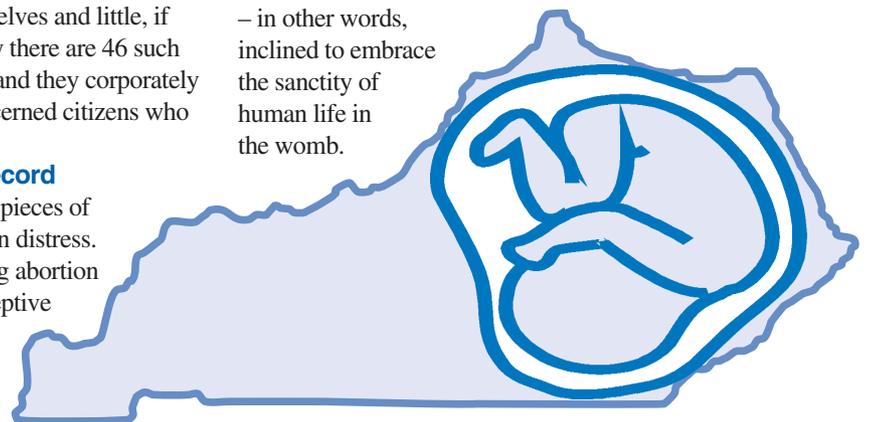
### A Coalition of Pro-Life Groups

The Kentucky Right To Life Association (KRLA), along with other groups that share sanctity of life convictions, have forged a healthy working relationship as they educate lawmakers and citizens alike on the realities of abortion and life in the womb. Considering the 16 affiliates of KRLA, the 46 Pregnancy Care Centers, Northern Kentucky Right to Life, the American Family Association of Kentucky, The Family Foundation and many other regional groups and individuals, the state has a vigorous coalition for life that reaches hundreds of people every year.

### A People of Vibrant Faith

But perhaps the most overlooked asset in Kentucky is its vibrant faith community. There are over 8,000 churches in the Commonwealth and over 6,000 are “Biblically oriented”

– in other words, inclined to embrace the sanctity of human life in the womb.



### Kentucky is giving birth to a fully-orbed pro-life movement

Many of these churches are tiny when considering the number of members, but others rank among the nation’s largest, like Southeast Christian and Highview Baptist in Louisville and Southland Christian in Lexington. What is more, the two largest denominations in the state – Baptist and Catholic – are each significantly pro-life.

### A Place of Memorial

One last factor is just now coming into existence – a compassionate outreach to those who have suffered from abortions past. The Kentucky Memorial for the Unborn is both a vision as well as currently under initial construction in the Frankfort Cemetery. Though *Roe v. Wade* is yet to be overturned, there are too many who have been wounded by the deception of the abortion industry. This Memorial is allowing those who have been victimized to remember their child and find some solace in memorializing their loss.

The over-riding message of the special *CITIZEN* publication is very simple: “Keep an eye on Kentucky because this Commonwealth could lead the nation!”

**Want to help?**

Call (859) 255-5400 or email [tffky@mis.net](mailto:tffky@mis.net)

# History will call him “The Gambling Governor”

Gov. Beshear is beginning to manifest just exactly who he is and, unfortunately, just exactly what he will be called in posterity. Having gone after the Christmas tree with his “Holiday tree” debacle (See related story on page 7), he now has set his sights on giving the gift that keeps on taking – slot machines. Yes, he is, and forevermore will be, “The Gambling Governor.”

Though the Grinch title seems to fit quite well given the season, Beshear will be remembered as the politician who sold out to the gambling industry long after Christmas 2009 has passed. Examine the facts:

In 2007, Beshear campaigned on a platform of “Letting the people decide.” He even chided his opponent, Gov. Ernie Fletcher, during a debate, strongly challenging him with, “Don’t you trust the people of Kentucky?”

But now he is pushing to by-pass the people.

Why? He claims that there is “not time” to pass a constitutional amendment. But the real reason why he has dropped the promised constitutional amendment is because he could not get it through the legislature. An amendment requires a 3/5 majority in both Chambers, and Beshear did not have the votes in either of the 2008 or 2009 regular sessions. So, he is going to try to pass slots without the people’s involvement.

A more disturbing fact has also become clear: He has allowed himself – *and the Office of Governor* – to be used by the gambling industry. To illustrate, how many times has he said “the horse industry provides 100,000 jobs” for Kentuckians?

In an article on June 14, a *Lexington Herald-Leader* writer reported that the origin of that figure was Deloitte Consulting. As it turns out, the horse industry employed Deloitte, and its research calculated 51,000 jobs in Kentucky. The horse industry felt that “100,000 jobs” sounded better and gave the Governor that number. Without doing any research himself, Beshear took it and began spreading misinformation for the

gambling industry as *the Governor of the Commonwealth*. He even did so as recently as Nov. 16 at a speech in Bardstown, where he has arranged a special election on Dec. 8.

Kentuckians did not elect Beshear to be the spokesman for the gambling industry . . . and certainly not its salesman. Kentuckians elected him to be their Governor – an advocate for and a protector of “the people.”

And worse, now he is using the power of his office to offer great jobs to senators with whom he firmly disagrees and who are not in his Party, just so he can attempt to elect a pro-gambling senator in their place. This is a brazen misuse of the Governor’s Office.



**“The Gambling Governor”**

Since when does a Governor use all the power of his office *FOR* one industry? And very clearly *against* the well-being of the people since Beshear himself expects Kentuckians to lose \$800 million every year to support his slots plan.

Bringing the most addictive form of gambling into a state already beset with alcohol, drug, tobacco and food addictions is worse than Grinch-like. It would have been better if “The Gambling Governor” simply offered a lump of coal this Christmas.

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## **Honeymoon for Life<sup>©</sup> seminars a success**

*Marriage gatherings held in Lexington and Hopkinsville draw good response, positive comments.*

Couples from across Kentucky were encouraged in their marriages at the recent Honeymoon for Life<sup>©</sup> marriage seminars. The seminars, sponsored by The Family Foundation, were held Oct. 16-17 in Lexington and Nov. 6-7 in Hopkinsville.

Ron Ball and his wife, Amy, created a fun atmosphere as they brought their popular seminar to Kentucky for the first time. Delving into topics such as communication and conflict resolution, as well as romantic and sexual intimacy, the Balls used research as well as personal stories to encourage attendees to work together to have the marriage they always wanted.

“The seminar was absolutely amazing!” said Kathy Klatt of Benton. “The Balls made it a joy to be there and learn and grow closer with our mates. My husband and I are renewing our wedding vows on our upcoming 23<sup>rd</sup> anniversary, after almost suffering a

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**“My husband and I are renewing our wedding vows on our upcoming 23<sup>rd</sup> anniversary, after almost suffering a divorce recently . . . Honeymoon for Life really gave us a lot of encouragement.”**

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– Seminar attendee Kathy Klatt

divorce recently. God has been and still is doing amazing things in our lives. Honeymoon for Life really gave us a lot of encouragement.”

The seminars were part of the Kentucky Marriage Movement, a project launched by The Family Foundation in the summer of 2008, which serves as a touchstone to help unite church and community leaders in the effort to proactively build strong marriages and healthy families.

“We really want to see churches step forward to provide enriching opportunities for married couples,” said Sarah Roof, coordinator of the Kentucky Marriage Movement. “Special thanks go to Porter Memorial Baptist Church in Lexington and Edgewood Baptist Church in Hopkinsville for hosting Honeymoon for Life.”



**Seminar presenters Ron and Amy Ball**

# Should YOU run in 2010?

by Kent Ostrander

I must admit that I was surprised at the response to our article in the July/August *CITIZEN* entitled "Running for office: God's will for YOU?" Far more than I would have expected contacted us. In retrospect, given what has been going on both in Washington, D.C. and in Frankfort, I should not have been. The reality is that Kentuckians understand that politicians should not be in perennial deficit-spending, always assuming that the wealth of citizens can be used as a "bailout" for their irresponsible decisions.

Next year will be a significant election year. With all the so-called "change" in the air, many Kentuckians have apparently awakened from a deep sleep and are ready to put their hands back on the wheel in order to re-direct us from the financial ditch into which we are heading. With record spending and record deficits at the federal level, and a "rip-off-and-spend" slots plan for the state, citizens are deeply concerned and angry at the irresponsible expenditures by those in power.

But it's not just financial issues that have been mishandled: In this pro-life state, there has not been one major pro-life bill to pass the House in five years, even though several have been sent there by the Senate. Similarly, the Senate has passed The Public Decency Act

in each session of the last 10 years, yet the House has either killed it or has allowed it to die without a hearing.

My point? Politicians are out of touch with their constituents. OR, they *know* what their constituents want and are ignoring them because of wanting to please their Party leaders more.

Either way, 2010 is a good year for anyone who believes they are called to public service to throw their hat in the ring.

Many clamor for "term limits" to force the professional politician out of office every few terms. That approach is debatable and would require a lot of work to change the constitution. Please understand that a simple run for office might just limit the term of the incumbent . . . and would not require a constitutional amendment.

Consider these things if you are pondering a run for office:

1) Our Founding Fathers assumed that elected officials would be successful in their own right, and serve their country (or their state) only for a brief span of time. Our constitutions were not written for "professional politicians."

2) John Adams, the first Vice President and second President of our nation, said after the signing of the

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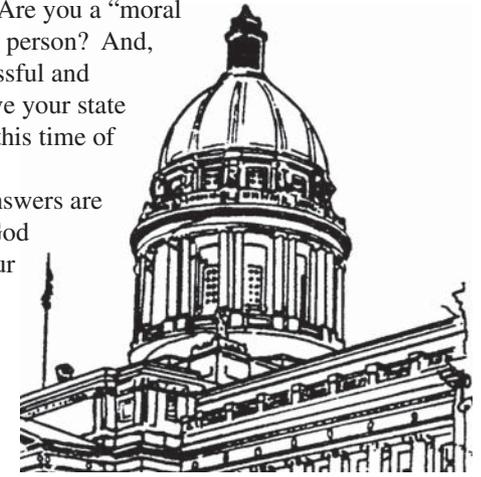
**In this pro-life state,  
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Constitution of the United States: ". . . this constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate for the government of any other."

So I ask: Are you a "moral and religious" person? And, are you successful and willing to serve your state or country in this time of concern?

If your answers are "yes" and if God has stirred your heart, you should consider moving forward in faith.



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## Questions about running for office?

For basic information, call us at:

**(859) 255-5400**

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# The Governor's "Holiday Tree" blunder brings Christmas worship to Frankfort

*This has turned into an opportunity to worship God at the State Capitol with believers from across Kentucky.*

On Oct. 27, the Finance and Administration Cabinet office sent out a press release stating, "The Commonwealth of Kentucky is looking for a property owner who is willing to donate a tree that will stand in front of the State Capitol as the Commonwealth Holiday tree."

Holiday Tree?

It was no typographical error because the title of the press release used the same verbiage: "State Seeking Donation for Commonwealth Holiday Tree."

What happened next was that thousands of concerned Kentuckians called the Governor's Office and a red-faced Governor attempted to pass off the effort to secularize Christmas as someone else's mistake all in the interest of being "inclusive." The only problem is that those who observe Christmas were not included.

One individual even started a Facebook page labeled "Save KY's Christmas Tree – We do not want a Holiday Tree!" and it captured 27,000 "fans" almost overnight.

But here is the GOOD NEWS: Pastor Jeff Fugate in Lexington decided to host a Christmas Caroling service on the grounds of the State Capitol so that those who celebrate Christmas can exercise both their love of God and their freedom of religion right on government property.

Intercessors point out that worship, a powerful weapon in spiritual warfare, will be offered from the Capitol grounds by citizens for the first time in decades. And such a weapon is badly needed!

An amazing turnaround. So, as the season opens, "O come let us adore Him." Merry Christmas!

*Christmas Caroling*  
AT THE CAPITOL

*"O come let us  
adore Him."*

*Join us!*

**6:30 PM Monday, Dec. 7  
on the Capitol Grounds**



*Kentucky has been blessed with many such Centers.*

# Pregnancy Care Centers Are Saving Lives

When pro-life demonstrators buckled under intense pressure from the government to quit picketing abortion clinics in the late 1980s, they didn't give up altogether.

Scores of concerned citizens redoubled their efforts to convince abortion-minded women to choose life for their unborn child and they did it in a much quieter way by starting pregnancy care centers that gently offer hope, encouragement and support to women who find themselves in unplanned pregnancies.

Today, there are very few protests at abortion clinics in Kentucky, but there are 46 Pregnancy Care Centers (PCCs) with hundreds of volunteers who have committed themselves to serving women and helping them give life to their unborn child. And their work is making a tremendous impact. Abortions have significantly declined nationwide and in Kentucky. In 1990 there were almost 11,000 abortions in Kentucky. In 2007, there were 4,315 abortions – a 60 percent decline.

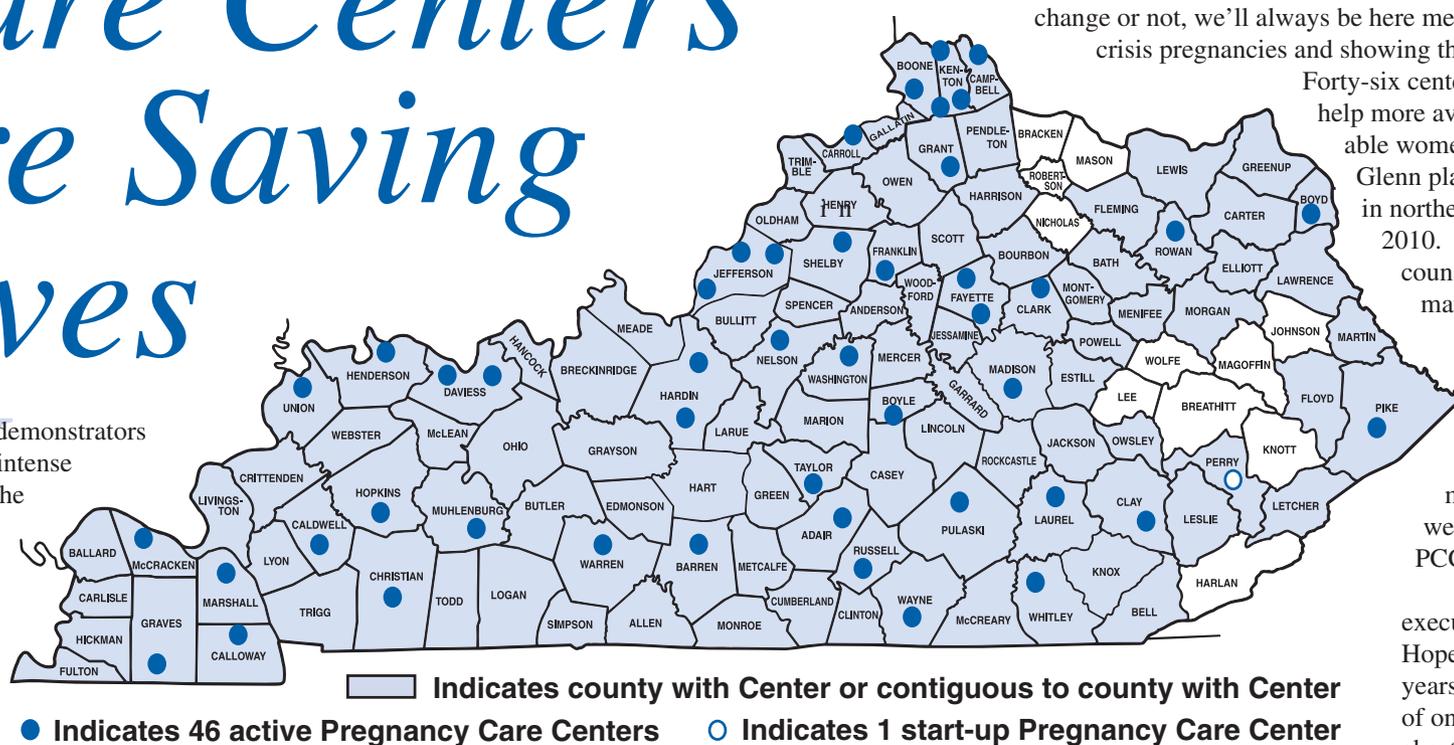
“That fact makes the heart leap for joy,” said Pam Glenn, executive director of the New Hope Center in Northern Kentucky. “We’re making a difference. It means people are getting it, that they understand what abortion really is.” Glenn has worked with her Center since 1991 and remembers when there were five abortion clinics in the state. Now there are only two.

During the same period, PCCs have quadrupled in number and in some cities have literally squeezed out abortion clinics. In 1998, A Woman’s Choice Resource Center opened next to an abortion clinic in downtown Louisville. The abortion clinic closed in 1999. The Center has since relocated on the same block as EMW – Louisville’s only remaining abortion clinic.

Monica Henderson, executive director of A Woman’s Choice, looks forward to the day it closes as well. “We absolutely want to see abortion ended,” Henderson said. “But whether the laws

## Last year, Kentucky's 46 Pregnancy Care Centers . . .

- saved over **1,236** unborn babies
- funded **163** staff to serve
- had over **810** volunteers
- served over **44,273** clients
- offered **232** schools character & “healthy choices” education
- helped **83%** of women who viewed their ultrasound to choose life



change or not, we'll always be here meeting the needs of women in crisis pregnancies and showing them the love of Christ.”

Forty-six centers now dot the state making help more available for abortion-vulnerable women to get the help they need. Glenn plans to launch another Center in northern Kentucky in January of 2010. Most Centers offer private counseling, free pregnancy tests, maternity clothes and diapers to help women who often find themselves in difficult, unstable relationships. According to cumulative statistics, more than 48,273 women were served by the Kentucky PCCs last year.

Diana Anderson, executive director of Pathway of Hope in Greenville, said of four years in the ministry, she knows of only one girl who chose abortion. “We try to love people

where they are. When they understand the deep love we have for them and the love Christ has for us . . . who could take a life?” asked Anderson. Last year her Center had 1091 client visits – not bad for one of the newest centers in rural Western Kentucky.

One of the trends with Centers is to go “medical,” which means they have a nurse or medical technician on staff to provide free ultrasounds for abortion-minded women. Of the 29 ultrasounds provided at the New Hope Center this year, all 29 women chose life. Cumulative statistics from the 11 Centers in Kentucky with ultrasound services indicate that 83 percent of the women who see their child’s ultrasound choose life.

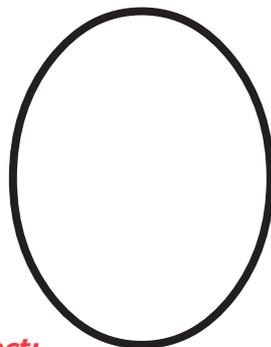
The medical initiative has ushered the PCC movement into new territory, forging relationships with the doctors, nurses and even social workers. In Hopkinsville, Alpha Alternative works closely with the area’s largest OB-GYN practice and one of the

doctors is a board member. The Center also partners with the local health department on character and “healthy choices” education. Alpha Director Kaye Munday says she is delighted with the relationships they have built with the department and all the community support. “It’s all about equipping these youngsters with an understanding of what a genuine and truly caring relationship is,” said Munday. “And it’s certainly not casual sex.”

But all the PCC directors agree that the biggest asset is their relationships with clients. “For us, saving a baby is just the beginning,” according to Henderson. In 2005, A Woman’s Choice founded Necole’s Place, a life-skills center for single women that provides counseling, child training and GED classes. “There’s this myth that the pro-life movement is just about the baby,” said Henderson. “It’s so much more than that.”

## Which is more valuable?

Egg of a Bald Eagle



An Unborn Child



**Fact:**

**The egg is protected by federal law; the child is not.**

# Over the years, **MAJOR** pro-life victories in KY

*In fact, Kentucky ranks 12th in the nation for pro-life legislation, according to Americans United for Life.*

Pro-life advocates in Kentucky have worked tirelessly to restore the sanctity of life in law after it was stripped away by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1973. Altogether, Kentucky is near the top in the nation when it comes to elevating the sanctity of life, ranking 12<sup>th</sup> among the states, according to Americans United for Life.

But life advocates believe that Kentucky can do better. “Protecting innocent life is the first obligation of good government,” said Richard Nelson, policy analyst for The Family Foundation. “While Kentucky has made pro-life strides, our legislators must do more, *and can do more*,

to protect the most innocent and vulnerable among us.”

Some of the strides forward date back to 1974, when the Kentucky legislature passed a “trigger law” that would restore the state ban on abortion should *Roe v. Wade* ever be overturned.

The legislature has also restricted state funding of abortion, prohibited the use of public facilities for elective abortions, and protected medical professionals and students from being forced to perform abortions. (See

chronology chart at right.) One of the most hard-fought, pro-life protections was the passage of parental consent, which has been modified several times since it first passed in 1982. This law restricts abortionists from performing abortions on girls under 18 without parental permission. Analysts believe that modifications closing major loop-

holes in the law in 1994 made a significant contribution to the decline in abortions in the state.

In 1998 a trio of pro-life bills sailed into law with the help of new pro-life leadership in the Senate: the Ban on Partial-Birth Abortion, Abortion Clinic Regulations and Informed Consent.

However, the law on partial-birth abortion was struck down by the 6<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court in 2000, and abortionists found a loophole in the informed consent law, which was finally closed in 2006.

The last significant pro-life bill that passed both chambers of the General Assembly to become law was the Fetal Homicide Bill in 2004, which, in essence, granted personhood to an unborn child *whose mother is not seeking an abortion*.

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– Richard Nelson, policy analyst

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## But recently, the House has killed most bills

*Not one major pro-life bill has passed the House since 2004, though the Senate has successfully sent many to that Chamber.*

A home is fondly known as a place for families who welcome new life into the world. But when one considers recent actions in the Kentucky State House of Representatives it is understandable why it has garnered a reputation as a graveyard for pro-life legislation. According to analysts, the Kentucky House has done little in recent years to shore up the sanctity of human life.

In the last two legislative sessions, the House has killed important ultrasound legislation that would give women seeking an abortion an opportunity to see her unborn child. Currently, abortionists withhold ultrasounds from their patients, fearing they will change their mind when they see the tiny human life they are carrying. In up to 50 percent of the cases, women choose life when they see the ultrasound picture.

In 2007, the House killed a bill mandating that abortionists or their assistants personally and verbally provide full disclosure to women seeking abortions before any procedure is done. Currently, a loophole, engineered in the House and placed in a weak Informed Consent bill that was passed in 2006, allows them to give recorded messages to the women, which critics say is a far cry from good medicine and the personal attention women deserve.

Altogether, in the last decade, the Senate *passed* 11

significant pro-life bills, while the House *killed* 15 pro-life bills. “House leadership seems to be more concerned about the radical abortion lobby than women who deserve a chance to have all the facts regarding their child,” said Richard Nelson, policy analyst for The Family Foundation.

The last significant pro-life law enacted in Kentucky was the 2004 fetal homicide bill, which recognizes unborn life from conception and protects that life from criminal assault. It had died in the House for four consecutive years prior to its passage.

Critics point to a significant floor fight in the House in 2008 over the ultrasound bill, which they say paints a grim picture of many legislators’ claims to be pro-life. A discharge petition forcing a vote on the ultrasound bill in the House failed in a near party-line vote. Fifty-one votes were needed, but the House could only muster 40 votes in its favor, indicating that House majority members were more concerned about retribution from leadership than about the harm visited upon unborn life. Five other discharge petitions were filed but failed to move.

“Too many House members campaign on the pro-life platform, only to return to Frankfort, cave into pro-abortion leadership and do very, very little,” Nelson said. “It’s time

for legislators to spend some political capital on behalf of a constituency that has neither a voice nor vote.”

Life advocates are hoping that the 2010 session, which precedes elections, will be different.

### A Kentucky chronology of landmark pro-life legislation

- 1978** No state funds to be used for abortion
- 1978** Abortion limited in insurance plans
- 1980** No public facilities may be used for an abortion
- 1980** No public funds may be used for an abortion
- 1986** Illegal to perform abortion on a minor without parental consent (*Details amended in 1994 and 2005*).
- 1998** Informed Consent with 24-hour waiting period
- 1998** Abortion Clinic Regulations
- 1998** Partial Birth Abortion Ban (*stricken by 6<sup>th</sup> District Court of Appeals in 2000*)
- 2004** Fetal Homicide Law - personhood of unborn child beginning at conception

### Pro-life bills die in the House

- 2005** House Bills 149 & 386 limiting research on embryos die in House Committee
- 2006** House Bill 489 & Senate Bill 125 die in House Committees and weak Informed Consent bill, HB 585, passes
- 2007** Senate Bill 179, Fully Informed Consent, passes Senate 34-3 but dies in House Health and Welfare Committee
- 2008** Senate Bill 40, the Ultrasound Bill, passes the Senate 33-4 but dies in House Judiciary Committee
- 2009** Senate Bill 79, the Ultrasound Bill, passes Senate, dies in House Committee

# As the debates continue in Washington, many conservative citizens are stressed

*Very few Americans fully realized what Obama meant when he said he wanted to bring “change” to the nation.*

When President Obama signed hate crimes legislation into law on Oct. 28, conservatives got a scare that made Halloween seem like a picnic. Family advocates staunchly opposed the measure because they argued that federally protected status for any group threatens equality before the law as well as free speech rights for those opposed to the gay agenda.

Sen. Jim DeMint (R-SC) called the bill a “dangerous step” toward thought crimes. Family Research Council President Tony Perkins said the move was “part of a radical social agenda that could ultimately silence Christians and use the force of government to marginalize anyone whose faith is at odds with homosexuality.”

Scary stuff for proponents of free speech. But conservatives say that the leftist agenda pushed by the Obama Administration is even more frightening.

## Major Issues include:

**Abortion**  
**Healthcare**  
**Cap and Trade**  
**Gay Agenda**  
**Terrorism**  
**Federal Spending**

### Abortion

Obama’s campaign promise to expand abortion rights materialized when he overturned the long-standing Mexico City Policy via an executive order on Jan. 23. The change now allows tax dollars to fund groups that procure abortions in other nations. And that policy could be expanded in this country if the health care bill eventually passes.

### Healthcare

Health care reform narrowly passed the U.S. House of Representatives on Nov. 7 by a slim margin of 220-215.

Pro-life Democrats would have voted against the bill if it did not prohibit the use of federal funds to cover abortion. However, critics say that if it passes the

Senate, a conference committee could easily strip the anti-abortion provision from it.

Besides the abortion issue, family advocates are concerned that the health care bill will eventually drive up premium costs for those outside the federal plan. Other concerns include the prospect of delayed medical atten-

tion, rationing, and further burdening future generations with an additional trillion dollars per year in debt.

Arch-conservative Rush Limbaugh criticized the proposal earlier this month in an interview with Fox News, saying the plan is “. . . the easiest, fastest way for them to be able to regulate every aspect of human behavior, because it will all have some related cost to health care – what you drive, what you eat, where you live, what you do – and there will be penalties for violating regulation.”

### Cap and Trade

Green Jobs Czar Van Jones resigned in early September after being linked to a radical Marxist organization and signing a letter questioning the Bush Administration with complicity for the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Even though Jones is gone, the push to limit carbon dioxide emissions through cap and trade legislation moves forward. Critics say this unilateral move puts U.S. industry at a disadvantage when competing against other nations. If passed, it would also burden working families with more taxes.

### Gay Agenda

Before Kevin Jennings was appointed as the nation’s Safe School Czar, he was president and founder of GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian and Straight Educators Network), where he brought homosexual advocacy into America’s classrooms. In mid-October, 53 Republicans signed a letter demanding Jennings’ resignation because of his failure to report the molestation of a 15-year-old boy.

Jennings’ appointment is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to gay advocacy by the Obama Administration. According to CNN, “Obama has called for the repeal of the ban on gays serving openly in the military – the “Don’t ask, don’t tell” policy. He has also urged Congress to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and pass the Domestic Partners Benefit and Obligations Act.

### Terrorism

Eric Holder announced on Nov. 13 that he will try accused Sept. 11 mastermind Khalid Sheikh Mohammed in New York City. Critics have long opposed the move



**Americans rallied in Tea Parties across the nation**

saying that transferring non-citizen enemy combatants from military to civil jurisdictions affords them the same rights as U.S. citizens. Others argue that Mohammed’s actions were not criminal but acts of war.

Of major concern is whether the trial itself will be a prolonged recruiting tool for those trying to re-energize the Jihadist movement and New Yorkers are concerned that there will be more terrorist efforts launched against the city

### Federal Spending

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which passed in February, was supposed to bolster and stop job losses with \$787 billion in federal spending, tax cuts and extended unemployment benefits. Critics say the massive spending plan hasn’t helped unemployment (now at 10 percent) and only burdens future generations. The federal government is currently \$11 trillion in debt, not including future obligations with Social Security and Medicaid.

While many Americans are concerned about the direction of their nation, a flood of optimism remains. Hundreds of “Tea Party” rallies demonstrate renewed involvement from many who sat out last election. Similarly, Sarah Palin, darling of many conservatives, hit the *New York Times* bestseller list with her book even before it was released to bookstores. And public opinion is turning sharply against liberal, anti-life and big government agendas, giving pro-family conservatives reason for hope in 2010.

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# You're a mean one, Governor Grinch

All the Who's down in Whoville, the tall and the small, were up in arms recently. They were fed up with Gov. Grinch making off with their Christmas tree and replacing it with a "Holiday Tree."

The Governor, dressed up as Santa Claus, had crept into town under the cover of political darkness, slithered down the Capitol chimney, and decided to shove the state Christmas tree up through the fireplace.

But as he did this, he heard something. And it wasn't the coo of a dove.

Instead, it was a reporter at the Associated Press, who had just gotten a press release from the Kentucky Finance Cabinet seeking donations for a state "Holiday Tree," and he caught the Governor red-handed.

"Santy Claus, why?" asked the reporter, getting out his notepad and taking a pencil from behind his ear. "Why are you taking the state Christmas tree? Why?"

But the Governor was sly and the Governor was slick. He sent for a spokesperson and he sent for her quick.

The aide, Cindy Lanham, explained that "the holiday tree reference is meant to be inclusive of Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah and New Year's."

Oookay.

Why not just throw in Easter, Columbus Day, Presidents Day, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Day? And don't forget Groundhog Day, and the much neglected Friendship Day. I mean, if we're going to be inclusive . . .

The chief problem, apparently, was that the Christmas tree could only be

appreciated by people who actually celebrate Christmas. To most people that's kind of the idea, but Gov. Grinch was having none of it.

The Governor and his spokesperson told the reporter that they were going to take the tree back to the workshop. "We'll take it up there," they said, gesturing toward the Division of Forestry, "and we'll bring it back here."

So they patted the reporter on the head, and sent him back to the media office on the 2nd floor of

the Capitol building, at which point, the Governor went to the chimney and stuffed the tree up. The last thing he left was the log on the fire.

Apparently, the Governor really thought this act would be appreciated. So he put his hand to his ear. And he did hear a sound rising over the Bluegrass. It started in low, then it started to grow . . .

Problem was it was the sound of over 27,000 people on the "Save the Christmas Tree" Facebook page wanting their Christmas tree back. In fact, the thing

blew up into a major public relations headache for state Grinch officials.

The AP story spread far and wide, and

was even carried by national news organizations like Forbes and USA Today.

What went wrong? The Governor's staff must have puzzled over it 'till their puzzler was sore.

The exact problem with the state Christmas tree was never quite clear. Were there complaints about it? Was there some problem with the word 'Christmas'? And who exactly was it who had issues with a baby in a manger bringing peace on earth and good will toward men?

It wasn't those tolerant liberals, was

it? Why is it always the people who pride themselves in being tolerant who get offended by these things?

The liberals have somehow failed to notice that every time they try not to offend people it just makes them mad.

The Governor eventually brought the state Christmas tree back, reversing his decision. But why did he do it in the first place? It could be his head was not

screwed on just right. It could be perhaps that his shoes were too tight. But some think

that the most likely reason of all may be that the Governor's political judgment is two sizes too small.

Other people have tried to stop Christmas from coming, but it comes just the same. It comes without ribbons. It comes without tags. It comes without packages, boxes, or bags. It even comes when there's no state Christmas tree.

In fact, the only thing that was ever really in danger was the reputation of a few out-of-touch politicians who may or



Martin Cothran is senior policy analyst for The Family Foundation

may not have avoided joining the roast beast in getting carved up on the next election.

**The chief problem, apparently, was that the Christmas tree could only be appreciated by people who actually celebrate Christmas.**

**It could be his head was not screwed on just right. It could be perhaps that his shoes were too tight. But some think that the most likely reason of all may be that the Governor's political judgment is two sizes too small.**

## Christmas Caroling AT THE CAPITOL



To more fully redeem these awkward Grinch-like circumstances in Frankfort, see the article on page 3 (bottom) . . . and come to the Christmas Caroling on the Capitol grounds at 6:30 PM, Monday, Dec. 7. A genuine time of Christmas Spirit!

# O Holy Night!

# A Year of Opportunity

It is not a stretch to say that the country and the Commonwealth are in very similar circumstances. Consider the fact that President Obama's goal is to spend more money to strengthen the role of the federal government in the lives of all Americans via the auto industry, the banking industry, the energy industry, etc. and he plans to ask every American to pay for his plans through new taxation. Similarly, Gov. Beshear has a plan for Kentucky – have state government invest in the horse tracks. He too plans to fund in the same way by encouraging the exploitation of Kentucky citizens through the granting of slot machine licenses to his race track allies.

The two most obvious similarities are that

federal and state governments will spend money on their “preferred” citizens/ industries, and other citizens are asked to pay for the cost of those expenditures. Government itself brings no resources to the table. It brings only two things: Expenses and ways to capture more funds from everyday citizens.

But the similarities do not end with economic issues; they also extend into the social issues. For instance, Obama wants the federal health care plan to accommodate a woman's right to choose. In Kentucky, though it is dramatically a pro-life state, the governor has been content with the fact that the House of Representatives has not passed a significant pro-life piece of legislation in five years, even though the Senate has sent good bills to it every session. Both then, take a “Pro-Choice” position practically.

The Good News is that we are approaching a significant year: 2010 is both a crossroads *legislatively* in Frankfort and in Washington, and it *politically* will determine the make-up of the legislative bodies that meet in each of those two cities in the Fall elections. And there is hope – *REAL* hope.

That raises the question, “What can be done to correct the seemingly overwhelming issues in each arena – policy and political?” (Where do we find the



**Kent Ostrander is the executive director of The Family Foundation**

substance for the hope?)

The answer is “We the people.”

It is time, in fact it's past time, for

every citizen to roll up his or her sleeves and do our civic duty by getting involved. Can one person make a difference? Absolutely! Particularly if that one person is

joined by other “one persons” who are committed to make a difference. And here's where I would like to ask you to help us succeed with our task.

Like never before, The Family Foundation is poised to help everyday Kentuckians get the information they need to see good pro-family pieces of legislation pass the General Assembly. Similarly, like never before, The Family Foundation is committed to getting information out on the candidates who file and run for office in 2010.

The two of these things actually work together: If legislators find out that their constituents really *KNOW* about good legislation and really *KNOW* what's going on in the General Assembly, they will be more accountable and more responsive to their concerns.

*AND*, if the constituents *KNOW* what challengers believe and they really *KNOW* why those challengers are running for office, even more accountability is applied to those who are currently serving in the legislature . . . (and some will be sent home in the elections of 2010).

So I ask you, will you join with us and help us help you and others engage in 2010?

There are two things that I ask you to do: Give and Connect.

Here is what I mean: First, will you

**Will we secure all the opportunities that present themselves? I do not know. But I do know that we can start now by doing what we can do – by Giving and Connecting.**

## The Kentucky *CITIZEN*

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please make a contribution here at year's end that will fund our work to get information out to you and to others across the state so we can all work together statewide *for the family*?

Second, will you please share your email address with us and resolve within to help us disseminate information critical to the analysis and passage of pro-family legislation? (And of course, at times, disseminate information that will help kill anti-family legislation.)

I personally believe that 2010 is the “Year of Opportunity.” Will we secure all the opportunities that present themselves? I do not know. But I do know that we can start now by doing what we can do – by

Giving and Connecting.

I ask for support twice each year so as not to burden you. Please join with us now on the eve of 2010 so we can make wise plans based on a real budget.

Thank you. And, have a wonderful Christmas Season.

P.S. Let us all step forward with faith and a resolve to faithfulness so that we may see what God can do. An envelope is enclosed into which you can place a contribution and your email address. (Or email us at [tffky@mis.net](mailto:tffky@mis.net))

*Please stand with us during our year-end fundraising effort. This period determines what we are able to do as an organization. And please stand with us as we challenge citizens to let their voices be heard – you truly are the salt of the earth and you must release your “savor.” In some sense, our actions now will manifest whether we are indeed still*

**“The land of the free and the home of the brave.”**