

The original documents are located in Box 17, folder “History and Program: Statement of Purpose” of the American Citizens Concerned for Life, Inc., Records at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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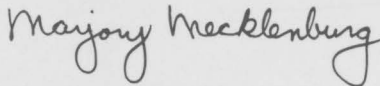


AMERICAN CITIZENS CONCERNED FOR LIFE, INC.

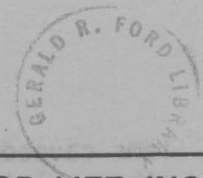
6127 Excelsior Boulevard Minneapolis, Minn. 55416 Phone: 612/925-4395

Thank you very much for your contribution to American Citizens Concerned for Life. Our efforts on behalf of unborn children, mothers, and families are producing a positive impact on national policy decisions. Your donation will ensure that pro-life influence on these policies will continue to grow.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marjory Mecklenburg". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Marjory Mecklenburg
President



AMERICAN CITIZENS CONCERNED FOR LIFE, INC.

ACCL PHILOSOPHY AND OBJECTIVES

American Citizens Concerned for Life exists to foster respect for and enhancement of human life. The focus of our concern is the unborn child, the troubled mother, the family, and other vulnerable members of society.

Biological and medical evidence and common sense dictate that a human life is present before birth. The doctor has two patients when he treats a pregnant woman. We believe that society should encourage recognition of the humanity of the unborn. There are precedents in our history and in the history of other countries where whole classes of human beings were not accorded personhood in the full sense and as a result were exploited and even destroyed.

Society has the duty to legally protect its weaker members and to help them reach their full potential. Allowing individuals within the society to cast aside vulnerable, helpless individuals based on cost-benefit analysis, lack of utility, or degree of wantedness, is contrary to Judeo-Christian morality and the foundations upon which our government rests. A society will not sanction wholesale destruction of human lives to solve social problems. In most segments of our society, killing in self-defense is an acceptable principle. Only in the area of abortion do people tolerate killing for convenience or to prevent discomfort or embarrassment. This practice can and should be eliminated.

People do face serious problems which cause them to seek abortion in panic or fear and we have, therefore, dedicated a share of our efforts to promoting the enactment of alternatives to abortion.

ACCL plans to focus much of the current work of the organization in three basic areas. Each of them is listed separately with a brief description of the policies which shape those activities.

Promotion of Legal Protection for the Unborn Child

Protection for the unborn will be pursued by a variety of means including the support of legislation which would reverse Roe v. Wade. Amending the U.S. Constitution is an effective means to return legal protection to the unborn.

However, a constitutional amendment is only one tool or strategy to employ in the legislative and educational process. An amendment is in the distant future and progress toward it will be incremental. Therefore, our immediate activities must be concentrated toward building a case before Congress and the public to show that severe problems exist as a result of the Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton Supreme Court decisions.

As part of the work which will lead toward an amendment, we encourage the formulation of interim legislation and other programs which would reduce and limit the number of abortions. These interim proposals would include federal and state legislation as well as voluntary programs. As the public is made aware of the prob-

blems caused by legal abortion, identifies with the humanity of the unborn, and sees other solutions to social problems, the degree of protective legislation it demands will increase.

Promotion of Supportive Services for Pregnant Women, Children and Families

Abortion really involves two issues - one of justice and rights and one of loving and caring. While the first remains a focus of debate and division, and efforts continue to reverse the legal imbalance and wrongs created by the decision, programs and legislation need to be pursued showing concern for the well-being of pregnant women, children - before and after birth, and families. If troubled pregnant women are to have an opportunity to give birth to healthy babies we must create a society that cares about both and is willing to extend a hand of love and support.

The factors in society that lead toward the ever-escalating number of unplanned pregnancies, especially among young single women, need to be examined and counteracted.

Involvement in alternatives to abortion programs presents an opportunity to build strong working relationships with other individuals and groups, who although not primarily concerned with the abortion issue, do share a respect for life.

Such activity also provides an opportunity to develop a model for dealing humanely with individuals who are troubled by problem pregnancies. Before any meaningful changes in the legality of abortion will occur, society must be reassured that problem pregnancies can be effectively handled and the dignity of women preserved at the same time as protection is provided for the unborn child.

Fostering the Development of Denominational Religious Pro-Life Activity

Many religious institutions and individuals from a variety of religious backgrounds share opposition to the present permissive abortion climate. They believe that human life is sacred and that each human being has a transcendent quality. They believe all human lives are valuable, whether they are wanted, perceived as perfect or are useful. ACCL is working cooperatively with pro-life members of the Catholic, Protestant and Jewish communities. As a result of educational and organizational efforts, numerous church bodies will in time stand together on this issue.

The program priorities of ACCL remain flexible and adaptable in order to meet existing challenges and to take advantage of emerging opportunities. The continuing interest and involvement of our supporters makes it possible for us to carry on our largely volunteer efforts in sponsoring projects and assuming responsibilities which will help the pro-life movement realize its goals.



AMERICAN CITIZENS CONCERNED FOR LIFE, INC.

6127 Excelsior Boulevard Minneapolis, MN 55416 612-925-4395

1500 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20005 202/785-8448

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American Citizens Concerned for Life is a national citizens' action organization engaged in educational, legislative, research and service activities that promote respect and protection for human life.

ACCL was established by a group of leaders active in the right to life movement who believed that there was a need for a national organization with a social justice approach to the life issues and a commitment to meeting human needs to complement its advocacy of legal protection for human life.

ACCL was publicly launched on August 21, 1974 with testimony given before the U. S. Senate Subcommittee on Constitutional Amendments. A five member board of directors and twenty area representatives were named initially, and a prestigious advisory board was soon added. An Advisory Committee of leading pro-life Congressmen was added in 1975, and in 1977 the original board of directors was expanded to sixteen members.

ACCL focuses its concern on the troubled mother, the family, children -- born and unborn -- and other vulnerable members of society. Its members are of many different ages and interests, from all corners of the nation, many religious and economic backgrounds and political persuasions. ACCL supporters are united by their willingness to work and give so that each life will be offered legal protection and each person may live with dignity and hope.

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Promotion of legal protection for the unborn child.
Development of supportive services for pregnant women,
children and families.
Fostering of denominational religious pro-life activity.
Public information and education.

The program priorities of ACCL remain flexible and adaptable in order to meet not only existing challenges, but to take advantage of emerging opportunities. The continuing interest and involvement of our supporters makes it possible to carry on our largely volunteer efforts of sponsoring special projects and assuming responsibilities which will help the pro-life movement realize its goals.



American Citizens Concerned for Life, Inc.

Administrative Office Legislative Office
6127 Excelsior Boulevard 1500 Massachusetts Ave. N.W. Suite 340
Minneapolis, MN 55416 (612) 925-4395 Washington, D.C. 20005 (202) 785-8448

ACCL--PROTECTING AND IMPROVING LIFE

If you are concerned that life in America today is not equally protected for all...if you want to do something effective about improving respect for life and the quality of life in our country... Welcome to ACCL!

ACCL is an association of the kind of people who would once again wed freedoms and responsibilities, the freedoms all human beings deserve with the responsibilities they require. Our membership is drawn from the 50 United States and represents a broad-based cross-section of religious faiths, occupations and cultural backgrounds. What we have most in common is a deep respect for the value of human life and a determination to influence public attitudes and policy so that all human beings will be protected and have the opportunity to achieve their potential.

Legislation

The ACCL legislative program is varied and extensive. Legislation which affects vulnerable members of society is of special interest to the organization. Our current research and lobbying activity focuses on four areas: supportive services for pregnant women, particularly adolescents; educational programs to prevent adolescent pregnancy and increase responsible sexuality; health needs and rights of children, born and unborn; and family challenges, especially concerning children and the aged.

ACCL enjoys an excellent reputation with public officials as a responsible pro-life group demonstrating maturity in the pursuit of its goals and producing comprehensive issue analyses. We have been called upon as resource persons and to submit testimonies to Congressional committees. Recently ACCL's participation was requested by the White House Conference on Families, the Select Panel for the Promotion of Child Health and the Population Advisory Panel of the Office of Technology Assessment of the Congress.

The ACCL approach recognizes that there are many people of good will who differ with our abortion position or who have not yet been awakened to the seriousness and meaning of the present situation.



American Citizens Concerned for Life, Inc.

Our program emphasizes persuasion, education and action which demonstrates that people are important and that positive solutions to human problems are possible if we will work together. Respecting differences, the program concentrates on areas where common concerns and interests exist and where concrete progress can be made toward saving lives and influencing attitudes. Recent passage of the Adolescent Pregnancy Act, providing help to needy pregnant adolescents and their children, resulted when ACCL saw the problem and the opportunity and worked with Congress, the Administration and groups around the country until success was achieved.

Education

The purpose of ACCL's educational fund and program is to inform people about the life issues and the importance of meeting human needs, awakening those who have not yet faced the destruction of human life and challenging those willing to help secure care and protection of those in need.

Materials developed by the association are used across the country and include a slide/tape presentation on the "Doublespeak" of abortion; a manual, "Counseling the Individual Experiencing a Troubled Pregnancy"; and numerous pamphlets and books on pro-life work and issues.

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"To Build A Caring Society"

THE GOALS OF

AMERICAN CITIZENS CONCERNED FOR LIFE

American Citizens Concerned for Life is a national Citizens' action organization engaged in educational, legislative, research and service activities that promote respect and protection for human life. ACCL focuses its concern on the troubled mother, the family, children -- born and unborn-- and other vulnerable members of society.

ACCL programs have addressed the specific issues of teenage pregnancy, alternatives to abortion, health care for the newborn and unborn, death, dying and problems of the elderly, health care for the poor, and world and domestic hunger.

ACCL is the primary national pro-life organization with a social justice approach to the life issues and a commitment to meeting human needs that complements its advocacy of legal protection for human life.

The purpose of ACCL is to support human life as the highest human value. Human life includes freedom to exist, to live in responsible and enriching relationships with others, and to reach one's full potential. To possess life is precious, to freely exercise it is better, and to realize its full potential is best.

Adequate resources exist to enable most Americans to achieve fulfillment. Our role is to motivate each individual, and society as a whole, to make decisions about the use of available resources in the light of human life as the highest of all human values.

Each year, advances in biomedical technology play an increasing role in our lives. This progress has had a great effect on genetic counseling and engineering, prolongation of life, definitions of death, population policy, abortion, family planning, organ transplantation and human experimentation. Coupled with other evolving changes in our society, these scientific advances often pose problems requiring new ethical insights, laws and social policies. ACCL was formed to advocate sound public policies in these areas, while promoting respect and protection for each human life. Our mission will be pursued with the recognition that controversies on bioethical issues often stem from conflicts in value systems, all deep and fundamental. Resolution of these value conflicts should be sought with compassion and concern blended with past wisdom, new knowledge and a humble respect for unknown facts yet to be revealed by research.

1978 OBJECTIVES

EDUCATION: "New Directions in Education"

Sponsor and publish a book on euthanasia in collaboration with Joseph Boyle, Professor of Philosophy at St. Thomas College, and former Grand Rapids, Michigan Right to Life Chairman.

Revise the ACCL pregnancy counseling manual and add a chapter on post-abortion counseling.

Develop new pro-life pamphlets and slide shows, especially for Christian and Jewish religious groups.

Publish two manuals on successfully communicating the pro-life message which will tie together Kohlberg's analysis of moral development and attitudes on abortion and euthanasia, in collaboration with David J. Mall, professional rhetorician.

Sponsor a national speaker's workshop on new techniques in education and persuasion.

LEGISLATION:

Establish a "Clearinghouse on Life Issues" which will be a source of up-to-date, accurate information on abortion, euthanasia and alternatives legislation for movement organizations, members of Congress, state legislators, and various government bureaus.

Develop model legislation on alternatives to abortion and euthanasia for use at the state level.

Advocate passage of selected federal legislation which enhances and protects life.

Influence federal administrative health and welfare policies.

RESEARCH:

Catalog successful programs for pregnant women, single parents and their children presently being sponsored by churches in this country, in collaboration with Dr. David Allen, Visiting Professor of Psychiatry and Religion at Yale. Select several model programs and distribute information about them throughout church communities.

Identify successful programs which assist the dying and the aged and encourage the wider availability of these programs.

SERVICE:

Provide increased consultation and technical assistance to individuals and groups working on behalf of life.

RELIGIOUS:

Establish a Religious Advisory Committee on the life issues.

Positively influence church convention resolutions on the life issues.

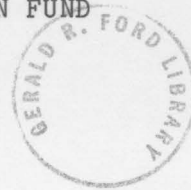
Develop and publish special pro-life educational materials suitable for a religious audience.

Work to increase visibility of ethicists of all religious persuasions who believe that opposition to abortion is not a church-state issue.

AMERICAN CITIZENS CONCERNED FOR LIFE, INC.
and
AMERICAN CITIZENS CONCERNED FOR LIFE, INC. EDUCATION FUND

MISSION STATEMENT

Mar. 4, 1981



American Citizens Concerned for Life is a national membership association engaged in educational, legislative, research and service activities which serve to promote respect for human life in contemporary society.

ACCL supports human life as the highest human value. Human life includes the freedom to exist, to live in responsible and enriching relationships with others, and to reach one's full potential. To possess life is good; to freely exercise it is better; and to realize its full potential is best.

A responsible advocacy of personal freedom and fulfillment presupposes that the right to continue life itself be honored. Conversely, advocating the right to life carries with it a responsibility for improving the quality of life. [some would prefer we use the "well-being" concept as opposed to "quality of life"]

Adequate resources exist to enable most Americans to realize their potential. In coming years ACCL will seek to motivate each individual, and society as a whole, to make decisions about the use of available resources based on the premise that human life is the highest of all human values, outweighing convenience, utility, pleasure and similar legitimate concerns.

ACCL is the primary national pro-life organization featuring a social justice approach to life issues and a commitment to meeting human needs. This commitment complements and legitimates its advocacy of respect for all human life.

ACCL programs address the specific issues of increased legal protection for human life, alternatives to abortion, adolescent pregnancy, maternal and child health, death, dying and problems of the elderly, health care for the poor, respect for the handicapped, and domestic and world hunger.

Opportunities for service by ACCL are growing rapidly. Recent developments in biomedical technology play an increasing role in our lives. This technological capability exerts a strong influence on genetic counseling and engineering, prolongation of life, definition of death, allocation of resources, abortion, family planning, organ transplantation and human experimentation. These changes, coupled with recent social phenomena such as population and demographic shifts, the changing role of women, the crisis of the family, growing sexual permissiveness, an increasing life span and the acceptance of international responsibilities, pose problems requiring new ethical insights, laws, policies and social standards.

ACCL advocates programs and public policies which maintain respect for human life and provide opportunities for individuals to achieve their potential. This mission will be pursued with the recognition that controversies on life issues often stem from conflicts in value systems. Resolution of these value conflicts requires compassion and concern, the counterbalancing of traditional values with modern insights, open dialogue, a willingness to learn and adapt, and respectful treatment of those holding opposing views.

3/4/81

ACCL Management Plan

Program : Organization

Goal:

To build and maintain a stable and fiscally sound organization capable of sustaining ACCL's programs.

Objectives:

- 1) Reorganize board structure to provide for smaller, more active executive and honorary (i.e., fundraising) boards and a larger advisory board.
 - 2) Organize and carry out a systematic approach to raising funds, including capital and operating funds. (see also # 8 below)
 - 3) Employ an executive director by 4/31/81 and a program director by 3/9/81; employ additional clerical staff as required by expansion of the organization.
 - 4) By 5/31/81 complete the development of a management information system including accounting, membership and donor lists, resource people, organizational contacts and other vital information. (this is already 80% to 90% functional)
 - 5) Enroll a total of 7,500 members by the end of 1981; enroll a total of 15,000 by the end of 1982.
 - 6) Establish a St. Paul/Minneapolis/West Suburban area chapter which will serve as a support group for the national office. (see also #9) (is this idea dead, alive, or comatose?)
 - 7) Define the role of ACCL Area Representatives and work with them to set goals and objectives in their social/geographic areas of influence.
 - 8) Develop and implement a plan for reducing the debt of the corporation. (this is actually a sub-goal or fallout of #2, but is listed separately here for priority ranking purposes)
 - 9) Produce a document outlining several different types of structures and relationships for group/chapter affiliation with ACCL. (this may have to be done before or in conjunction with #6)
- (what are the advantages at this time of affiliation? do they outweigh the

possible disadvantages [embarassment, etc., as Moral Majority has experienced]?)

10) Implement affiliation programs in a minimum of two locations outside St. Paul/Minneapolis area by 12/31/81.

3/4/81

ACCL Management Plan

Program : Public Policy

Goal:

To further achievement of ACCL's mission through interaction with all branches and levels of government.

Objectives:

- 1) Establish legislative liaisons in 50+ key congressional districts by 12/31/81. ("key" districts are those represented by members of the U.S. House and Senate appropriations, health, welfare, and similar committees)
- 2) Advocate the passage of selected federal legislation which enhances or protects life.
- 3) Beginning 3/9/81 interact with the federal administration (e.g., OAPP) to influence and assist in the development of health and welfare policies consistent with ACCL's mission statement.
- 4) Increase utilization of ACCL's congressional advisors.
- 5) Maintain current idea files on alternatives to abortion suitable for immediate use in promoting state legislative, administrative or private sector initiatives.

3/4/81

ACCL Management Plan



Program : Education

Goal:

To raise public consciousness about the value and dignity of each human being; to provide to the public and the pro-life movement detailed information about ACCL's unique outlook ; and to clarify and advertise areas of common interest and concern with organizations outside the pro-life movement.

Objectives:

1) Complete Spanish "Doublespeak" AV presentation.

(can't find much to keep on the following list: suggest we rework from scratch -- Ray)

2) Revise the ACCL pregnancy counseling manual and add a chapter on post-abortion counseling. (accomplished)

3) Author and publish a booklet and slide presentation on preventive programs and supportive services that address the problem of adolescent pregnancy.

4) Coordinate publication of a handbook on euthanasia. (see exhibit A)

5) Revise the ACCL Movement Dynamics slide presentation to include the coalition approach to organization and programs.

6) Publish two manuals on successfully communicating respect for human life which tie together Kohlberg's analysis of moral development and attitudes on abortion and euthanasia. (see exhibit C)

7) Establish a "Life Issues Resource Center" as a source of information and ideas for education, organization and service.

8) Research and prepare a compendium of successful supportive service programs for adolescents which includes an outline of different types of model programs. [have OAPP do this?]

9) Revise our chapter fundraising booklet and produce an accompanying slide presentation.

3/4/81

ACCL Management Plan

Program : Public Information and Communication

Goal:

To present an accurate portrayal of ACCL's mission and programs through internal (membership) and external communications.

Objectives:

- 1) Convert Update to monthly publishing schedule beginning 3/31/81; reduce average (per-issue) publishing costs of same.

- 2) Continue to exploit external events to increase public awareness of ACCL's mission and programs via news releases, broadcast media appearances, guest editorials, letters to the editor, etc.

- 3) Establish a quarterly minimum schedule for communicating information to officers, board members, area representatives and affiliated/cooperating groups.

- 4) Attend two conventions or other public events per year as participants and exhibitors.

- 5) Recruit (and train) a pool of ACCL speakers and publicize their availability for selected public and movement events.

3/4/81

ACCL Management Plan

Program: Liaison

Goal:

To enhance the effectiveness of ACCL through program cooperation with other groups.

Objectives:

1) Develop a strategy to approach groups which have interests overlapping those of ACCL and establish working relationships toward achieving common goals.

Possible audiences would include:

- a. pro-life groups
- b. minority organizations
- c. religious institutions
- d. health and social welfare associations
- e. professional societies
- f. civil rights groups
- g. women's groups

ACCL Management Plan

Program: Religious Outreach

Goal Statement: To increase the role of religious leaders, institutions and laymen in achieving greater personal and public respect for human life.

Objectives:

- 1) Establish a Religious Advisory Committee to plan a strategy for achieving our goal in this program.
- 2) Plan and carry out one major ecumenical event illustrating shared concern for human life (such as Prayer Breakfast for Life)(See Exhibit E).
- 3) Develop a strategy to counter the charge that opposition to abortion is a church-state issue.(See Exhibit F).
- 4) Develop and publish pro-life educational material suitable for a religious audience.

SUBSET OF EDUCATIONAL
AND/OR LIAISON
COULD BE REDUCED TO A
SINGLE OBJECTIVE LOW ON
THE PRIORITY LIST



old version

American Citizens Concerned for Life, Inc.

*Administrative Office
6127 Excelsior Boulevard
Minneapolis, MN 55416 (612) 925-4395*

*Legislative Office
1500 Massachusetts Ave. N.W. Suite 340
Washington, D.C. 20005 (202) 785-8448*

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Most of the current work of the organization is focused in four basic areas:

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- Development of supportive services for pregnant women, children and families.
- Fostering of denominational religious pro-life activity.
- Public information and education.

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1978 ACCL PRIORITY GOALS



LEGISLATION

- (1) Advocate passage of federal legislation which enhances and protects human life.
- (2) Develop model state legislation to improve the quality of life and secure the legal rights of the disadvantaged.
- (3) Work with state and federal agencies to insure that health and welfare resources are utilized to achieve human potential.
- (4) Establish a "Life Issues Clearinghouse" to provide current, accurate information for citizens groups, public officials, religious leaders, students and the news media

EDUCATION

- (1) Publish a handbook analyzing the current public policy debate on euthanasia and care of the dying.
- (2) Revise the widely used ACCL pregnancy counseling manual, adding a chapter on post-abortion counseling.
- (3) Sponsor a national leaders' workshop exploring innovative and persuasive techniques for life issues education.
- (4) Publish two manuals on the relationship between moral development and attitudes on the value of human life.

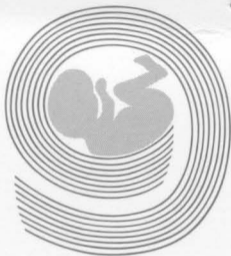
RESEARCH

- (1) Identify and describe selected services which are meeting the needs of aged and dying persons.
- (2) Prepare an analysis of several different types of programs for the delivery of services to pregnant adolescents.
- (3) Institute a search for model programs which foster responsible sexuality and result in a low rate of teen-age pregnancy.

RELIGIOUS OUTREACH

- (1) Initiate action to counter the charge that public policy debates on the life issues automatically require improper church-state involvement.
- (2) Establish a religious advisory committee to encourage participation by church leaders of many faiths in the life issues.
- (3) Assist church leaders with the passage of convention resolutions supportive of human life.
- (4) Develop life issues educational materials suitable for religious audiences.

Ideas for
flyer.



VOLUNTEER

HOME PHONE

MINNESOTA CITIZENS CONCERNED FOR LIFE, INC.

4808 NICOLLET AVENUE, MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA • PHONE 825-3611 or 825-3905

Pennsylvanians for Human Life/Southwest Region, BUTLER COUNTY CHAPTER

WHAT IS PENNSYLVANIANS FOR HUMAN LIFE (P.H.L.) ?

Pennsylvanians for Human Life is a nonsectarian, grass roots organization which promotes a respect for all human life. All ages are represented, including a youth section of teens and college students.

WHAT DOES P.H.L. DO ?

1. Education - We provide information through our Speaker's Bureau to any group or individual interested in learning about abortion, euthanasia, and related life-death issues. Our office serves as a resource center for students or others who need this information for term papers, speeches, etc.
Contact: Mrs. Rudy (Dorothy) DeSantis at 283-1395
113 Garden Grove Drive, Butler, Pa. 16001
2. Legislation - We endeavor to influence public social policy as it relates to the existence and protection of all human life, and in particular, to work for the passage of a Human Life Amendment to our Constitution.
Contact: Mrs. Robert (Gretchen) Cararie at 898-2529
37 Tanglewood Drive, R. D. 3, Valencia, Pa. 16059
3. Service - We have helped to establish Lifeline, an emergency pregnancy service offering pro-life support to any woman with a problem pregnancy or suspected pregnancy.
Contact: Mrs. Paul (Dorothy) Staab at 282-1200
c/o Lifeline, 138 E. Jefferson St., Butler, Pa. 16001



WHAT DO OUR MEMBERS DO ?

1. Receive a bi-monthly newsletter published by Butler County Chapter of P.H.L.
2. Assist in fund-raising projects, such as bake sales, dinners, flea markets etc.
3. Serve as a Lifeline volunteer. Provide transportation, baby-sitting, etc.
4. Provide secretarial services, such as typing, mailings, etc.
5. Participate in our Speaker's Bureau and other educational activities.
6. Write letters to elected officials, newspapers, magazines on life issues.
7. Smile and be living proof that Life is worth defending.

10/77

MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT FORM

I support the purposes of Pennsylvanians for Human Life, Southwest Region, Butler County Chapter and would like to be enrolled as a general member. Please add my name to your mailing list.

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

NAME _____
(Please print)

ADDRESS _____

ZIP

Return to P.H.L./S.W., Butler County Chapter, Box 93, Butler, Pa. 16001

Your SIGNATURE is very important, should anyone ever question our membership list.



AMERICAN CITIZENS CONCERNED FOR LIFE, INC.

6127 Excelsior Boulevard Minneapolis, MN 55416 612-925-4395

1500 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20005 202/785-8448

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American Citizens Concerned for Life is a national citizens' action organization engaged in educational, legislative, research and service activities that promote respect and protection for human life.

ACCL was established by a group of leaders active in the right to life movement who believed that there was a need for a national organization with a social justice approach to the life issues and a commitment to meeting human needs to complement its advocacy of legal protection for human life.

ACCL was publicly launched on August 21, 1974 with testimony given before the U. S. Senate Subcommittee on Constitutional Amendments. A five member board of directors and twenty area representatives were named initially, and a prestigious advisory board was soon added. An Advisory Committee of leading pro-life Congressmen was added in 1975, and in 1977 the original board of directors was expanded to sixteen members.

ACCL focuses its concern on the troubled mother, the family, children -- born and unborn -- and other vulnerable members of society. Its members are of many different ages and interests, from all corners of the nation, many religious and economic backgrounds and political persuasions. ACCL supporters are united by their willingness to work and give so that each life will be offered legal protection and each person may live with dignity and hope.

ACCL programs have addressed the specific issues of a constitutional amendment and related laws protecting human life, alternatives to abortion, teenage pregnancy, maternal and child health, death, dying and problems of the elderly, health care for the poor, and world and domestic hunger.

Most of the current work of the organization is focused in four basic areas:

- Promotion of legal protection for the unborn child.
- Development of supportive services for pregnant women, children and families.
- Fostering of denominational religious pro-life activity.
- Public information and education.

The program priorities of ACCL remain flexible and adaptable in order to meet not only existing challenges, but to take advantage of emerging opportunities. The continuing interest and involvement of our supporters makes it possible to carry on our largely volunteer efforts of sponsoring special projects and assuming responsibilities which will help the pro-life movement realize its goals.

"To Build A Caring Society"

THE GOALS OF

AMERICAN CITIZENS CONCERNED FOR LIFE



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ACCL programs have addressed the specific issues of teenage pregnancy, alternatives to abortion, health care for the newborn and unborn, death, dying and problems of the elderly, health care for the poor, and world and domestic hunger.

ACCL is the primary national pro-life organization with a social justice approach to the life issues and a commitment to meeting human needs that complements its advocacy of legal protection for human life.

The purpose of ACCL is to support human life as the highest human value. Human life includes freedom to exist, to live in responsible and enriching relationships with others, and to reach one's full potential. To possess life is precious, to freely exercise it is better, and to realize its full potential is best.

Adequate resources exist to enable most Americans to achieve fulfillment. Our role is to motivate each individual, and society as a whole, to make decisions about the use of available resources in the light of human life as the highest of all human values.

Each year, advances in biomedical technology play an increasing role in our lives. This progress has had a great effect on genetic counseling and engineering, prolongation of life, definitions of death, population policy, abortion, family planning, organ transplantation and human experimentation. Coupled with other evolving changes in our society, these scientific advances often pose problems requiring new ethical insights, laws and social policies. ACCL was formed to advocate sound public policies in these areas, while promoting respect and protection for each human life. Our mission will be pursued with the recognition that controversies on bioethical issues often stem from conflicts in value systems, all deep and fundamental. Resolution of these value conflicts should be sought with compassion and concern blended with past wisdom, new knowledge and a humble respect for unknown facts yet to be revealed by research.

1978 OBJECTIVES

EDUCATION: "New Directions in Education"

Sponsor and publish a book on euthanasia in collaboration with Joseph Boyle, Professor of Philosophy at St. Thomas College, and former Grand Rapids, Michigan Right to Life Chairman.

Revise the ACCL pregnancy counseling manual and add a chapter on post-abortion counseling.

Develop new pro-life pamphlets and slide shows, especially for Christian and Jewish religious groups.

Publish two manuals on successfully communicating the pro-life message which will tie together Kohlberg's analysis of moral development and attitudes on abortion and euthanasia, in collaboration with David J. Mall, professional rhetorician.

Sponsor a national speaker's workshop on new techniques in education and persuasion.

LEGISLATION:

Establish a "Clearinghouse on Life Issues" which will be a source of up-to-date, accurate information on abortion, euthanasia and alternatives legislation for movement organizations, members of Congress, state legislators, and various government bureaus.

Develop model legislation on alternatives to abortion and euthanasia for use at the state level.

Advocate passage of selected federal legislation which enhances and protects life.

Influence federal administrative health and welfare policies.

RESEARCH:

Catalog successful programs for pregnant women, single parents and their children presently being sponsored by churches in this country, in collaboration with Dr. David Allen, Visiting Professor of Psychiatry and Religion at Yale. Select several model programs and distribute information about them throughout church communities.

Identify successful programs which assist the dying and the aged and encourage the wider availability of these programs.

SERVICE:

Provide increased consultation and technical assistance to individuals and groups working on behalf of life.

RELIGIOUS:

Establish a Religious Advisory Committee on the life issues.

Positively influence church convention resolutions on the life issues.

Develop and publish special pro-life educational materials suitable for a religious audience.

Work to increase visibility of ethicists of all religious persuasions who believe that opposition to abortion is not a church-state issue.

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