

Board of Directors

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*Science and the Christian faith agree that there is a living human being present from the moment of conception. However, when it comes to the pro-life, pro-abortion argument, agreement between the two forces begins and ends with that one statement. Unfortunately, today's debate over abortion points not to the question of when life begins, but to when a human life becomes **viable**. Because of science and medical advancement, political, social, and legal arguments over viability continue to change. However, although viability is difficult to define or determine, what is easy to understand is that a new human life does indeed begin at conception.*

The North Dakota Family Alliance is rooted in the position that a human being from the first moment of **life** (as opposed to viability) has rights, and is deserving of the protections and rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution. In fact, when it comes to addressing this issue of Life, there is perhaps no more powerful, nor more instructive, words than those penned by Thomas Jefferson over 230 years ago in our Declaration of Independence.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.—That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, —That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its

foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.

While the court does have a role in determining the constitutionality of an issue, it is the duty and responsibility of the legislative branch to set policy, and for the executive branch to carry out the law. History is littered with cases of legal precedent overturned by future courts and laws passed by succeeding legislative bodies challenging the court decisions.

In regard to incest or rape, no person has the right to harm, punish, or kill the child because of the crimes of the father. While the pregnant woman's body does belong to herself, it is not her right to harm or kill another human life, even though it temporarily resides within her.

While some consider an abortion the compassionate alternative to an unwanted pregnancy, in most cases it has the opposite effect. During 2005, when South Dakota was considering a state-wide ban on abortion, a task force was established to study the effects of 33 years of legalized abortion. Surprisingly to some, and contrary to what abortion advocates want Americans to believe, the South Dakota Abortion Task Force found unquestionably that abortion hurts women physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

While it is difficult and sad for families when babies are born with physical or mental abnormalities, our Christian faith determines that it is God who creates all life and numbers our days, and that any man who assumes the role of God by determining who should be allowed to be born and who should not stands in direct rebellion to God Himself.

We applaud those citizens and elected representatives from around the country, as they and we work together to win a victory for the smallest and most vulnerable Americans.



Greetings:

May this New Year find you and your family well, and with much to be thankful for!

I want to start by thanking each of you who have renewed your financial partnership to NDFA.

Your support has made my work here possible. These first ten weeks of my time with the Alliance have gone so quickly! The office is operational, for the most part. We have put out an initial newsletter, and I have already heard from many of you, for which I thank you. On a limited basis, I have been able to travel around the state, and wish to do more. Those of you whom I have had the opportunity to visit have been very supportive and encouraging. Your enthusiasm and resolve give me great hope!

Your encouragement compliments our vision-*to be the most trusted voice in North Dakota*. To realize that vision, we need to professionally provide services to you, our constituents. We need to be that trusted, credible source of information for those in positions of policy making, whether that be in the legislative or executive arena, or local government. We need to provide value to all our constituents, whether they provide financial support or otherwise and we need to provide opportunities for interested volunteers to become a vital part of our mission. We need to have a presence in all parts of the state, in an ongoing, permanent manner. And of course, we need to remain in close contact with you, our constituents.

As you can see, the long-term opportunities are limitless, and the short-term challenges apparent. However, we will do all in our means to realize the vision and accomplish the mission. As the resources are available, we will intensify our efforts in each of these areas to realize our vision. To those of you who have shared of your resources, thank you, and a special thank you to those churches joining the V-100 Club.

There is such a great need for us to stand up, to protect our families and those traditional values and religious freedoms that we may take for granted. We worry about becoming labeled and criticized for straying over the so called boundaries of 'separation of church and state'.

Those who have so contorted, falsified, and mischaracterized the 'separation of church and state' issue have willing outlets in much of the mainstream press. The suing of a Tennessee school board for 'illegal activities' by allowing the nativity to be used in a Christmas event, is just one example. That on a daily basis, the ACLU or another group, is attacking our values and freedoms, is sad, but not surprising. No matter what their purpose or intentions, one thing is clear; **it is our turn to stand up!**

There is a growing sense of urgency - with good cause - all around us. I don't cry 'wolf' without reason. **We cannot afford to relinquish one more basic freedom, religious or otherwise.** We cannot have one more family value eroded. The time is now. Please join the North Dakota Family Alliance as we work together to protect our family values and freedoms.

As we apply our core foundational values to proposed legislation, let me assure you, we will do all in our power to address our shared concerns.

Sincerely,

Tom Freier
Executive Director

Who We Are

The North Dakota Family Alliance (NDFA) is a state based organization dedicated to strengthening and upholding traditional family values. NDFA is a non-profit, non-denominational, non-partisan organization founded in 1987. We provide credible research and informational resources to groups, individuals and policy makers on important moral, social and public policy issues facing North Dakota.

Mention and/or publication of outside articles, websites and additional resources do not necessarily reflect NDFA's endorsement.

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Legislative Forums

NDFFA encourages you to attend the legislative forums in your area. They are a good source of information and present an opportunity to ask questions and voice your concerns.

I plan to attend the forums listed below. I would greatly appreciate your attendance as well. It would be a wonderful opportunity to meet and get to know you. In addition, I would love to attend another function or make a presentation while I am there. If something could be arranged at your local church, either after the forum or on Sunday that would be terrific. Please contact me.

January 13 th	Valley City	9 a.m. - 11 a.m.	Eagles
January 27 th	Minot	9 a.m. - 11 a.m.	City Hall
February 3 rd	Fargo	9 a.m. - 11 a.m.	Fargo City Hall
February 10 th	Grand Forks	9:30 a.m.	City Hall
February 17 th	NONE SCHEDULED	CROSSOVER	
February 24 th	Bismarck (tentative)		
March 3 rd	West Fargo	10 a.m. - noon	West Fargo High School
March 10 th	Dickinson	10 a.m. - noon	City Hall
March 17 th			
March 24 th			
March 31 st			
April 7 th			

We are waiting to receive confirmation for forum times in Bismarck, Jamestown, Williston, and Devils Lake.

Legislative Dinner

The North Dakota Family Alliance will be hosting legislators and elected officials at a March 13 function in Bismarck. Please mark your calendars and consider sponsoring a table or having your church do so.

More details to follow.

2007 Legislative Bills of Interest

- HB 1040** Relating to disorderly conduct at a funeral; to provide a penalty; declare an emergency.
- HB 1150** Relating to reduction of the marriage penalty under the individual income tax; and to provide an effective date.
- HB 1167** Relating to raffle prizes.
- HB 1191** Relating to issuance of a birth certificate of a stillbirth.
- HB 1292** Relating to English language studies in education.
- HB 1357** Relating to the penalty for possession of materials that include sexual conduct by a minor; and to provide a penalty.
- HB 1367** Relating to the games of chance that may be conducted by licensed organizations at a single site.
- HB 1370** A bill for an act to provide an appropriation for afterschool learning program grants.
- SB 2041** Marriage licences fees and pre-marital counseling.
- SB 2138** Relating to sexual offense medical testing, relation to individual living arrangements (co-habitation).
- SB 2150** Relating to net proceeds and gaming taxes.

Sanctity of Life

At press time, no Sanctity of Life bills have been introduced. We have been working with individual legislators and believe a number of bills will be introduced before the deadline (January 22). Please check the legislative website or the NDFA website for updates.

The Price we pay

A family moved into a great neighborhood in a California suburb in the 1970s. In fact, it was such a nice place, they decided to buy another home just as an investment.

Twenty five years later, there were bars on the doors and the windows of most homes. Asked what happened, the father explained that over time the neighborhood 'just went to pot.' He went on to share "that to protect ourselves, we had to place bars on the doors and windows, for our safety."

Essentially, what people in this neighborhood did was to lock themselves into their homes and vacate the streets and neighborhood.

Isn't it ironic that is what is happening to our traditional family values and religious freedoms. **We feel safe in the confines of our home, and as we meet in our churches, yet we feel uncomfortable taking that discussion outside of our family and church structure.**

We need to stand up. We cannot vacate our streets and neighborhood. We cannot continue to feel a false sense of security in our homes and our churches. We cannot look to and hope for someone else to respond because those "someone elses" may well be taking us down the wrong path, actually taking away those freedoms that we are trying to protect.

Fundraising update

- ❖ **First, a heartfelt THANK YOU! to those who have given. Your partnership is such an encouragement!**
- ❖ Remember, contributions are tax-exempt.
- ❖ We will be sending receipts for all donations received. If you don't receive one by January 26, please give us a call.

There is a tax advantage to donating IRA – MANDATORY DISTRIBUTION for those over 70 – contact our office or your financial planner for more information.

We Still Need You!

- ❖ Share our newsletter with your friends and family! Encourage them to sign up for our mailing list!
- ❖ Visit with and encourage your church to become a member of the V-100 club.
- ❖ Do you need a speaker for a local church or civic event? Contact us!
- ❖ Share your thoughts, comments, and suggestions with us!

*Encouraging Hearts, Equipping Minds,
Empowering Lives...
Strengthening Families in North Dakota*

North Dakota's 60th Legislative Session

- ❖ Convenes January 3, 2007
- ❖ Consists of a Senate with 47 senators and a House of Representatives with 94 representatives
- ❖ Posts all calendars, hearing schedules, bills and resolutions, and audio/video coverage at <http://www.legis.nd.gov>

Are you interested in a visit to the capitol during the 60th legislative session? Would you like to learn more about proceedings, and maybe even sit in on a committee hearing or a floor session? Whether you are a pastor, business leader, farmer, rancher, or stay-at-home mom, your interest in learning more about this process is important to us. Contact our office at 223-3575, and see how we can help!

I would like to thank those who helped get the NDFA (especially the office operations) up and running.... Christina, Kathy, Ken, Sarah, Skip, Carey, Jeff, Dave, Lloyd, and Peggy..... Thanks so much!!!



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Our website is now up and running! Log on to www.ndfa.org to get the latest information about NDFA and its activities. Thank you for your patience while the website was under construction!

The Gift That Keeps On Giving

This month, prayerfully consider putting NDFA on your donation list. We rely on the generous financial support of individuals, churches and businesses across North Dakota which share our vision of stronger families for a better tomorrow. We accept:

One-time financial gifts	Monthly financial support
Stocks or mutual funds	Labor, Materials and Volunteers
Bequest through a will	Real Property

I want to help NDFA promote & uphold family policies and values with my tax-deductible gift of:

\$2,500
 \$1,000
 \$500
 \$250
 \$100
 Membership \$60/yr.
 Other \$ _____ Monthly Pledge \$ _____

This gift is given: ___ in Memory of ___ in Honor* of _____

_____ *I have included my e-mail address to help you save on postage costs. Please remove my name from the mailing list and add it to the E-mail list.

(Make checks payable to: NDFA)
Please print clearly or affix your return address label.

Name _____ Spouse _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____
 _____ Zip _____ Phone (____) - _____ Voting District _____

***Email**
 Contributions to the North Dakota Family Alliance are tax-deductible as stated under the IRS code, section 501 (c) 3.

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NDFA is a nonprofit organization. All gifts are tax-deductible. Stocks, bonds, and other assets are welcome. Please contact our office for more information.