

Directors Gregg & Lois Cunningham and daughters

**Center for Bio-Ethical Reform** 

# What is CBR's Focus Post-Roe?

by Gregg Cunningham

hanks be to God! Readers of the CBR Communique may have felt the same emotions as we did on June 24, 2022 – a mixture of thankfulness to God, joy and marvel. It is a blessing to be alive to witness the Supreme Court's overturning of *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*.

CBR-UK also celebrated the wonderful news and they participated in creating a video from the UK church and pro-life campaigners to pro-lifers in America. You will be heartened to view it: https://bit.ly/3S6OQbS

After expressing our gratitude to God, we have rolled our sleeves up with a renewed sense of determination to continue our important pro-life work. As many pro-lifers are aware, reversing *Roe v. Wade* doesn't outlaw abortion. It more accurately shifts abortion from a constitutional right which can't be meaningfully regulated to a state statutory issue which can be restricted if a state legislature votes to do so. This will enable us to concentrate on the states in which our work will be most likely to succeed in changing the law. The reversal of *Roe* gives us the ability to target our activism more effectively.

This Supreme Court decision is certainly progress, but it is not victory. Surveys indicate that some 60% of voters opposed the reversal of *Roe*. They wanted *Roe* to remain the



law because they mistakenly believed *Roe* only legalized abortion in the first trimester of pregnancy. That is a false statement dishonestly fed to the public by pro-abortion news organizations which have lied about every aspect of this issue using outrageous propaganda claims.

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*Roe* legalized abortion through all nine months of pregnancy when read in the context of its companion decision, *Doe v. Bolton. Doe* ruled that no woman could be denied an abortion if her pregnancy threatened her "health." The decision defined health to include "emotional wellbeing." This meant that any woman depressed by her pregnancy (which is the reason most women seek abortions) had a mental health crisis which entitled her to an abortion.

Some influential pro-abortion doctors went so far as to argue that even "wanted" pregnancies were a threat to a woman's health because they fraudulently claimed that every abortion was safer than any full-term delivery. Under this dishonest gamesmanship, it was impossible to overcome the "health exception" in *Doe* and meaningfully limit abortion rights.

The challenge which now faces the pro-life movement is to convince Americans that the preborn child is a real baby and not merely a "blob of tissue," (especially in the first trimester of pregnancy when 90% of abortions are

performed) and that abortion is an act of violence so indefensible that third-party providers who preform or enable it should be criminally prosecuted.

CBR has highly effective teaching tools through which to achieve those educational goals, but we need better (Continued on page 3)

CBR-UK held a June 10 display in Brighton which was a test for their new larger team model. The day was a mixture of good conversations and general mild opposition. It was encouraging to CBR-UK to have 15 Brighton team "educators" compared to the usual six or seven people. A larger team makes a bigger impact in the city.

# Summer Interns are Enthusiastic and Effective

ur summer interns were overjoyed to be with CBR when Roe was overturned. After completing their activism on June 24, they celebrated this sweet victory with ice cream.

In Knoxville, Tennessee, the interns have been receiving effective training in topics like the history of social reform,

pro-life apologetics and CBR strategy. CBR Executive Director Gregg Cunningham explained the uniqueness of CBR's history and strategy. CBR Research Analyst Joshua Lindsey taught his presentation on emotional intelligence, a topic which better equipped the interns for this summer. They also learned from Lois Cunningham, R.N., about surrogate mothers and egg donors and how these women (and the offspring produced from these reproductive technologies) are taken advantage of even to the point of death from contract demands and complications.

CBR staff members have taken the interns to conduct pro-life photo signs displays in several cities, including Washington, D.C., at the National Museum for African American History and Culture; Nashville, Tennessee; Charlotte, North Carolina; and Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. Wherever they are serving, their enthusiasm is a blessing to our staff.

Each intern also has a summer project. For example, Bonnie makes CBR activism posts on Instagram to expand our outreach. We are getting 500 views for each reel, and one reel of CBR-Southeast Director Dr. Fletcher Armstrong debating University of Tennessee administrators went over 8,000 views.

People who are pro-abortion often cannot express their opposition without swearing and even getting violent. A man vandalized five CBR signs during a display in June when he blasted the signs with a spray paint can. We had a security officer on duty, and he confronted the vandal and we pressed charges, as we always do to discourage others from acting out. The city police cited the man with vandalism charges, and we are expecting the offender to reimburse us \$2000 to have our signs replaced.

Join us in praying for these young interns as they make significant career and life decisions in the coming years. We are asking God to raise some of them up to join the CBR professional staff.



CBR summer interns have been conducting photo sign displays in several cities, including Nashville, TN. Nashville affords us a great opportunity to reach locals and tourists.



#### CBR POST-ROE (Continued from page 1)

funding and staffing to accomplish the required shifts in public opinion.

CBR works to change public opinion on abortion, and as we do so it improves the probability that voters with a functioning conscience will vote for candidates who will introduce and support pro-life legislation.

We face entrenched opposition from large "pro-life" organizations which have spent decades helping Planned Parenthood hide the horror of abortion. These groups angrily object to the public display of the abortion pictures used by CBR because they know that abortion photos don't fund raise well. Disturbing imagery also invites persecution which they lack the courage to confront. Our primary problem is that most Americans aren't sufficiently disturbed by abortion because our side fears a real fight.

We are engaged in a spiritual battle, and tragically, most Christians are not aware of that fact, much less are they engaged. Many are afraid to enter the battle, and fear of fighting is a curse. We see it in the Bible when the Hebrews' fear of the Canaanites kept them from taking the Promised Land, and this fear is still a curse today in much of the Church.

Quiet opposition comes from elected officials who carefully claim to oppose abortion when they are in the safety of a closed campaign meeting, but they then work behind the scenes to prevent pro-life legislation from coming to any vote which will upset their constituents and threaten their incumbencies.

I lost my seat in the Pennsylvania state legislature because I pushed my own party to advance pro-life legislation despite repeated warnings that I would be reapportioned out of my district if I persisted. I persisted nonetheless and my party made good on its threat and redrew my district lines in ways which made it mathematically impossible for me to win. Other lawmakers watched these retaliatory attacks on my career and were intimidated into compliance. Looking back, I would do nothing differently. What good is political power we are afraid to use?

During my tenure, I learned that most politicians are more concerned about keeping their jobs than doing their jobs. As the years have gone on, it is clear that Conservative politicians are concerned about *their careers*, while Progressives are concerned about *their agenda*.

The media and pro-aborts always call us extreme. Abortion is what is extreme. With your help, CBR will continue

to change voter opinion on abortion and thereby enable legislators to withstand coercive pressure to surrender their integrity. This is a winnable fight and we know how to win it. But it will take more time and money and staffing. We don't control the time factor, but by God's grace and with your help, we can raise the money required to hire the staff we need to implement our highly effective strategy for social reform!



A large group of teenagers returned daily to CBR-UK's Durham displays, spending hours both in throwing insults and having discussions. Listen to the CBR-UK Educator describe a turn around here: https://bit.ly/3PDjWXh

#### We praise God for your determined stand with us and for the victory of Roe being overturned.

"We give thanks to You, O God, we give thanks! For Your wondrous works declare that Your name is near." PSALM 75:1

#### **Prayer Requests**

- For protection for pregnancy help centers and all pro-life activists against pro-abortion rage.
- For God's direction for our CBR summer interns
- For pastors to lead their flocks to stand for the sanctity of human life

#### Events

#### Sign Displays at Abortion Mills

July 9 Planned Parenthood, Mission Viejo, CA

CBR Summer Intern Program - May 15-August 6

#### Intern Activism & Camps

July 11-15	Pro-Life Leadership Youth Camp Knoxville, TN
July 22	GAP, Knoxville, TN
July 25-29	Pro-Life Leadership Youth Camp, Columbus, GA



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## CENTER FOR BIO-ETHICAL REFORM



CBR-UK's Durham team conducted a June 6-11 campaign which consisted of three public education displays in the city center and the distribution of CBR-UK's pro-life postcards to 5,350 homes. One CBR educator spoke with a lady just leaving her home when they arrived to deliver a postcard; she was excited to meet a pro-life group and now plans to join the Durham team.

#### July 2022

Address corrections addresschanges@cbrinfo.org Electronic funds donations

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### **INSIDE THIS EDITION...**

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