



From the Tuesday, January 23, 2007 issue:

Right to Life revives protest: Pro-life group rallies to overturn 34-year-old court decision

By Sarah Nail
The Sedalia Democrat

The U.S. Supreme Court overstepped its duty to interpret the law when it legalized abortion, said state Rep. Stanley Cox.

Mr. Cox, a Republican who represents the 118th District, spoke Monday to a crowd of nearly 100 at the Pettis County Courthouse protesting the U.S. Supreme Court decision in Roe v. Wade 34 years ago. The Sedalia chapter of Missouri Right to Life sponsored the event.

Mr. Cox said in Roe vs. Wade the Supreme Court made a policy rather than interpreted laws and he believes the decision was unconstitutional.

"Even on an intellectual level, Roe vs. Wade is wrong," Mr. Cox said.

Women who are among the one million who seek abortions a year can have emotional scars, Mr. Cox said. He also criticized the decision as bad social policy.

"It puts personal convenience ahead of the protection of the weak," Mr. Cox said.

Among those attending were students from St. Paul's Lutheran School and seventh and eighth graders from Sacred Heart School's religion class.

Ethan Wilken, 13, a seventh grader at Sacred Heart, said he learned about the dangers of abortion.

"It helps kids learn about how to fight abortion and what they're fighting for," added Brett Strouse, 13.

Mike Simon, 60, of rural Sedalia, attends the ceremony annually and has visited Washington, D.C., three times for the national march. His involvement is "just a continuing commitment to a pro-life policy," Mr. Simon said.

"A human life is still sacred no matter how many years or what court says it isn't," he said.

Mr. Simon hopes that Roe v. Wade will be overturned in his lifetime. That would take "a change in heart of a lot of people and another judge or two on the Supreme Court who look at their job as interpretation rather than ruling from the bench," he said.

Mr. Cox said the decision could be overturned through persistence, presidential elections and judge appointments, "only if we as a nation look to God for help."

"False judicial doctrine does not have a right to live," Mr. Cox said. "Human beings have a right to live."

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