



Evangelical
Congregational
Church

Statement on Society's Changing View of Abortion

We have begun 2019 in an ominous tone as politicians push forward an agenda that does not respect God's gift of life. This can be seen in many areas of our culture; from the way minorities, the poor, the stranger, and the disenfranchised are treated. We now find ourselves watching a culture that is turning on perhaps the most vulnerable of us – our babies.

On the 46th anniversary of Roe vs. Wade the Governor of New York began what could be an extreme abortion trend by signing a law which allows abortion through all stages of pregnancy and removes explicit protections for babies born alive following a failed abortion. That was followed by the Governor of Virginia defending a bill which would have allowed abortion up through birth, stating "The infant would be delivered. The infant would be kept comfortable. The infant would be resuscitated if that's what the mother and family desired, and then a discussion would ensue between the physicians and the mother." Our society is moving from abortion to infanticide. Whether by neglect or intentional means, the killing of a baby who has been born alive is unacceptable and the implications for the future of our society are huge.

The Evangelical Congregational Church strongly believes and has clearly stated that it is neither right nor proper to terminate a pregnancy solely on the basis of personal convenience or sociological considerations. Abortion on demand for social adjustment or to solve economic problems is morally wrong.

As a member denomination of the National Association of Evangelicals we agree that "All humans, male and female, are made in the image of God (Genesis 1:27) and, therefore, have intrinsic dignity that should be respected and honored. Indeed, the breath of life in all human beings is a gift from God (Genesis 2:7). Each life lost is a unique creation made in God's image who might have blessed our society in extraordinary ways." We must, as Christians and members of the Evangelical Congregational Church respect God's gift of life.

In Christ's Service,
Rev. Bruce D. Hill
Bishop