

Sanctity of Human Life

SUNDAY

January 21

TEXAS  ETHICS
& RELIGIOUS LIBERTY COMMITTEE



The Southern Baptists of Texas Convention has always advocated in favor of laws that protect the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death. All human life, born and unborn, deserves equal dignity and rights; whether young, old, ill, disabled, or mentally/physically impaired, each life deserves full protection and honor as a human being. All human life is made in the image of God for His glory. (Genesis 1:27)

Today, pause and pray for all human life to be valued and protected in our churches, our state, nation, and the world.

Religious Liberty

Religious liberty is a basic human right discerned from Scripture and an essential component of a free society as affirmed by the founders of our nation. (Acts 4:18-20)

Pause and pray for the free exercise of the Christian faith and practice in our state, nation, and around the world.

Gender Identity

We encourage government officials and policy makers to support public policies that recognize the unalterable God-given distinctions between male and female and especially protect children under the age of 18 from surgical procedures or pharmaceuticals that are for the purpose of gender transitioning or gender reassignment. (Matthew 19:4)

Pause and pray for children to know the truth that they are made by God on purpose, with a purpose, and given a specific gender at birth by God for His glory. Pray for our churches, state, nation, and the world to treasure the two God given and complementary genders of male and female.

The Family, Education of Children, and Parental Rights

We call upon government officials and policy makers to protect parental rights and to reject all attempts that threaten these freedoms, especially in the areas of religious beliefs, education, and medical and/or psychological evaluations and procedures. As parents, we also have the fundamental right to hold accountable schools, institutions, and industries for their moral influence on our children. (Ephesians 6:1-3)

Pause and pray for the Christian home to be strengthened, and for the rights of parents to raise and guide their children to be protected in our state, nation, and world.

Sex Trafficking, Pornography, and Sexual Abuse

We condemn all forms of sexual violence which includes, but is not limited to, any form of sexual assault, harassment, exploitation, or abuse. These criminal and unjust acts leave lasting physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual harm to survivors and victims. (Ephesians 5:3)

Pause and pray for holiness of God's people, protection of the vulnerable, and for governing officials to create and enforce laws that end sexual abuse and exploitation.

Predatory Gambling

The devastating impact and social costs of state-sanctioned predatory gambling has already been well documented such as the high costs of crime, bankruptcies, business and unemployment costs, addiction and treatment costs, family costs of divorce, child abuse, neglect and domestic violence, sex-trafficking, regulatory costs related to government oversight, and suicides. (Proverbs 22:22-23)

Pause and pray for those caught in the addiction of gambling to break free and for governing officials to protect vulnerable communities from predatory gambling.

Economic Freedom

We call upon governing officials and policy makers to exercise fiscal responsibility and to consider as essential the freedom to work and earn an income free from oppressive regulations, high tax rates, and lockdowns. (Proverbs 16:8)

Pause and pray for families, the church, and governing officials to practice wise financial stewardship and to protect the right for individuals to use their gifts to work freely and to earn an honest wage.

A grayscale photograph of a woman with her hair in a braid, holding a baby in a crib. The woman is looking down at the baby with a gentle expression. The baby is wearing a white onesie with a star pattern. The background shows the white slats of a crib and a wall with a decorative element.

TEXAS  **ETHICS**
& RELIGIOUS LIBERTY COMMITTEE

sbtexas.com/terlc



SOUTHERN BAPTISTS OF TEXAS CONVENTION