



# The Justice Foundation

Advancing Life, Liberty, and Justice

## HOW WILL THE CHURCH RESPOND TO SUPREME COURT'S PUBLIC CALL FOR TESTIMONY?

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### THE OLD TESTAMENT CALL TO TESTIFY

Leviticus 5:1 states: "If a person sins because he does not speak up when he hears a public charge to testify regarding something he has seen or learned about, he will be held responsible." (NIV)

This imposed an obligation on all citizens to answer a call by a court to come forward when testimony was required. It is still the basis of our Judeo-Christian law that can compel a witness through the subpoena power to come to court and testify against their will.

During Holy Week, Jesus was mostly silent when false witnesses testified against him. But finally the High Priest said to him, "I charge you under oath by the living God: tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." "Yes it is as you say", Jesus replied." Matthew 26:62-63. Jesus had to answer this public call for testimony or he would have sinned by violating Leviticus 5:1.

**On April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2007, Justice Anthony Kennedy writing for the U.S. Supreme Court, writing for the majority, issued what I believe is a public call for testimony on the issue of abortion in America.** I believe that his public call for testimony is a challenge under Leviticus 5:1 to the entire Church and prolife community in America. The pro-death, pro-abortion organizations in America are responding to his call. What will be the response of the Church and the Pro-Life Community?

### THE PUBLIC CALL FOR TESTIMONY

In *Gonzalez v. Carhart*, April 18, 2007, Justice Kennedy, while upholding the federal ban on partial birth abortion, wrote the following:

"Respect for human life finds an ultimate expression in the bond of love the mother has for her child. ... Whether to have an abortion requires a difficult and painful moral decision."

**"While we find no reliable data to measure the phenomenon, it seems unexceptionable to conclude some women come to regret their choice to abort the infant life they once created and sustained."** See brief for Sandra Cano, the former of "Doe" of *Doe v. Bolton* et al as *Amici Curiae* [This is The Justice Foundation brief citing 180 Operation Outcry women hurt by abortion testimonies.] "Severe depression and loss of esteem can follow." See *ibid.*"

In layman's terms, Justice Kennedy is making two important points. First, he is calling abortion "a painful and difficult moral decision." **Whose job is it to teach morality to America?** I believe it is primarily the Church's responsibility. Therefore, Justice Kennedy is calling on the Church of America to teach morality to its citizens. Second, he is acknowledging some women come to regret "their choice to abort the infant life they once created and sustained," based on the testimonies that he received from The Justice Foundation. "Severe depression and loss of esteem can follow." Note that Justice Kennedy is using the term "infant life" — not "fetus" or "potential life" as in prior decisions. He admits that severe depression and loss of esteem can follow abortion.

He makes his public call for testimony when he writes that he "finds no reliable data to measure the phenomenon" of [post-abortion trauma]. **In other words, Justice Kennedy is asking us:** "How many women in America are hurt by abortion? Is this a widespread problem? Do pastors and counselors, friends, scientists, medical and mental health professionals know of women hurt by abortion?"

## HOW WILL THE CHURCH AND THE PRO-LIFE COMMUNITY RESPOND?

The Court has framed the issue for the nation. The pro-abortion side of the debate is already responding to Justice Kennedy with biased reports.

The most important question now is: "How will the Church and the Pro-Life Community respond?" We must gather the testimony that Justice Kennedy is requesting: How many women are hurt by abortion in America? The most effective method for getting this information to Justice Kennedy is through the declarations of The Justice Foundation's project, Operation Outcry ([www.operationoutcry.org](http://www.operationoutcry.org)). These legally admissible testimonies have already proven their effectiveness, because this is the testimony that was cited by Justice Kennedy for the *unexceptionable* conclusion that some women come to regret their abortions and suffer severe depression and loss of esteem. **He is asking for more testimonies like these.**

The Justice Foundation cannot do this alone. We can be a mechanism for the collection of the evidence but we must call upon all members and all segments of the Church and Pro-Life Community to help us reaching the hurting women who can provide this evidence for Justice Kennedy. You can use our website [www.operationoutcry.org](http://www.operationoutcry.org) to collect the declarations. By completing the simple online form women can tell their story in a legally admissible format while The Justice Foundation protects their identity. Would you become a part of answering the call that Justice Kennedy has issued to America? As goes America, so goes the world.

Very Truly Yours,



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