

## **Ed Says:**

***"Abortion is the greatest human rights crisis of our time. What is the world missing in the sciences, culture, and arts from the 60+ million babies that never got their chance? Is it possible we've terminated the very person who might have gone on to cure cancer?"***

***"One day our nation will be ashamed for allowing abortion."***

### **The Problem**

Human life has inherent purpose and value. Abortion destroys families and attacks all the values that are necessary to promote strong and vibrant communities. What have we missed in the arts, in science, in our culture, because we cut short 60 million lives? There is no moral justification for aborting babies as a form of birth control. Abortions are performed for personal and social convenience, except in very rare cases, based upon consistent findings by the National Institute of Health (NIH).

### **The Solution**

Ed sees a need to unify the pro-life movement because even the pro-lifers are divided on abortion policy. As governor, Ed would regularly meet with Idaho pro-life groups to craft a solution that will move the pro-life cause forward.

Ed does not personally believe that abortion is acceptable in any situation. Legal exceptions for rape and incest should never be seen as a primary solution for trauma and violence. Emergency care and immediate reporting of sex crimes must be the emphasized solution, not abortion. This would give law enforcement the support they need to make sure the same violence is not perpetrated on other women. In a just society, it is the perpetrator who should suffer for the crime, not an innocent baby. Ed has personally known incredible people who were products of rape and incest. He can't imagine the world without these wonderful people in his life.

Medical doctors differentiate between "abortion" and a medically necessary treatment known as "preterm parturition" to save the life of the pregnant mother and the life of the baby, if at all possible. Ed believes it is therefore not necessary to have an "abortion" exception to protect the life of the mother.

#### Ed supports other LIFE-focused solutions:

- Protecting parents' rights to place their child with adoptive parents who align with their deeply held religious beliefs.
- Removing barriers that hinder Church-supported agencies and pro-life agencies from reaching out to mothers in crisis.
- Using crime victim's compensation funds for rape and incest victims to receive counseling during pregnancy.
- Upholding the Idaho Constitution and protecting Idaho from federal overreach on the issue of abortion.

*Abortion is profoundly anti-women.*

*-Blessed Teresa of Calcutta*