

RESOLUTION 88.3.04

To State The Position Of The Lutheran Church–Canada On Abortion

- WHEREAS the Supreme Court of Canada has struck down the Criminal Code provisions dealing with abortion, resulting in a state of "abortion on demand" in this country; and
- WHEREAS the practice of abortion, its promotion, and legal acceptance are destructive of the moral consciousness and character of the people of any nation; and

WHEREAS we hold firmly to the clear Biblical truths that

- A) the living but unborn are persons in the sight of God from the time of conception (Job 10:9-11; Psalm 51:5; Psalm 139:13-17; Jeremiah 1:5; Luke 1:41-44); and
- B) as persons the unborn stand under the full protection of God's own prohibition against murder (Genesis 9:6; Exodus 20:13; Numbers 35:33; Acts 7:19; 1 John 3:15); and
- WHEREAS since abortion takes a human life, abortion is not a moral option, except as a tragically unavoidable by-product of medical procedures necessary to prevent the death of another human being, that is, the mother; therefore be it
- RESOLVED that we of The Lutheran Church–Canada
 - 1. provide education to all our members about these truths, and encourage both men and women to live responsible sexual lives in accordance with the standards of God's Word; and
 - 2. encourage all of our members to speak out and to oppose in a responsible way, attitudes and policies in congregations, schools, hospitals, social service agencies, and other institutions within their sphere of influence and work, which promulgate, encourage, promote or endorse the view that abortion is a matter of personal choice; and

- 3. encourage all of our members to make clear to our representatives and leaders in government our support for the living but unborn, and to urge upon those leaders our demand that they provide for those defenceless persons due protection under the law; and
- 4. to appoint the President of The Lutheran Church–Canada to be our official representative to convey to the Government of Canada our stand on abortion and our continuing desire for legislation that will protect the life of the unborn; and
- 5. offer as an alternate to abortion, supportive understanding, compassion, and help to the expectant parent(s) and family, and foster concern among Lutheran agencies and families to open their hearts and homes to children who need homes.

Adopted, Session 7