



Email to supporters of the James Dobson Family Institute (JDFI)
Gary Bauer Responds to First Presidential Debate
Friday, June 28, 2024

Today, President Joe Biden's supporters are experiencing a high level of anxiety and uncertainty.¹ Indeed, any American who watched the debate is likely concerned. Last night's performance by President Biden raised serious questions about whether he is physically and mentally capable of handling the job.

That said, let's look at an issue JDFI feels very strongly about: the sanctity of life. One of the most heated exchanges in the debate occurred over that issue.

The candidates were specifically asked (<https://t.ly/pu7w0>) about the overturn of *Roe v. Wade*. President Biden's campaign is spending millions of dollars attacking former President Trump for appointing three Supreme Court justices. The judges joined the majority in ending the falsehood that a "right" to abortion in all nine months of pregnancy is somewhere in our Constitution. It is not in our Constitution – and never was.

JDFI is committed to helping our nation reach the day when all our children will be welcomed into the world, protected by our Constitution, and be part of the American family. But that was not debated last night.

We are gratified that President Trump did not shy away from the sanctity of life issue. He strongly defended the role his Supreme Court appointees played in overturning *Roe v. Wade*. He emphasized that the abortion question is now up to the states and the people's elected representatives rather than to unelected and unaccountable judges.

Trump also repeated his belief in "exceptions" for rape, incest, and the life of the mother—the same position held by former President Ronald Reagan during his eight years in office.

President Biden took the exact opposite posture. He promised that if he is reelected, he and his allies in Congress will “codify” *Roe v. Wade*. That means a federal law would be enacted banning states from protecting innocent preborn babies. That would be a pro-life disaster.

At one point, President Biden claimed he was against late-term abortions. Here is a JDFI fact check: Joe Biden’s allies have introduced legislation in Congress called the *Women’s Health Protection Act* (<https://t.ly/ci4K1>).

This proposed law goes well beyond *Roe v. Wade*. It would repeal every pro-life state law. That means no more parental notification laws, no more waiting periods, no more limits on taxpayer funding for abortion, and no limits on late-term abortions.

This pro-abortion legislation passed the House of Representatives under former Speaker Nancy Pelosi in 2021 (<https://t.ly/IV5hZ>) and 2022 (<https://t.ly/Duy6G>). However, the *Women’s Health Protection Act* was so extreme that even pro-choice senators such as Susan Collins (R-ME), Joe Manchin (D-WV), and Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) voted against (<https://t.ly/w0XAH>) it, blocking it in the Senate.

But if this legislation were to pass Congress and be signed into law by President Biden, as he has promised (<https://t.ly/thXao>) to do, all the pro-life movement work over the past fifty-one years would be wiped out.

Last night, the candidates showed stark differences on a range of issues, including crime, the economy, foreign policy, inflation, immigration, spending, and taxes. Each of these critical concerns impacts our daily lives and the well-being of our families.

JDFI is doing everything possible to educate Americans who support faith, family, and freedom on the issues at stake and the tremendous importance of making our voices heard by voting in this critical decision year.

The future of America is at stake. Please join us in praying for our leadership and that Christians will stand firmly by voting for their values.

¹<https://www.foxnews.com/media/close-biden-friend-new-york-times-says-president-must-drop-out-debate-made-him-weep> (<https://t.ly/K2KyL>)