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Note to Our Readers:

Yesterday, I issued a statement detailing my support for the president's nomination of Harriet Miers as an associate justice of the United States Supreme Court. The statement may be read on our website at

www.visionamerica.us/miers100505.htm

SUPREME COURT HEARS CHALLENGE TO OREGON ASSISTED SUICIDE LAW

On Wednesday, the Supreme Court heard oral arguments in *Alberto Gonzales, et al., v. State of Oregon, et al.* - a challenge to Oregon's assisted suicide law. Pray that the Court prevents the horror of so-called doctor-assisted suicide from gaining a foothold in the U.S.

In 1997, Oregon became the first state - and thus far the only state -- to allow physicians to prescribe lethal drugs to aid patients in taking their own lives. Naturally, proponents played the compassion card, arguing that it was merciful to facilitate the demise of terminal patients who were suffering excruciating pain. There's a saying in legal circles: Hard cases make bad law. We saw that with legalized abortion, which was sold to the Supreme Court in 1973 by arguing those cases that made abortion seem compassionate (rape, fetal deformity, etc.). Today - 40 million abortions latter - we have abortion on demand, abortion for convenience, abortion for minors without their parents' knowledge or consent, and abortion for just about any reason.

Society should not be in the business of taking innocent life. The law shouldn't sanction healers becoming slayers, nor should it cast them in the role of playing God - determining who shall live and who shall die. The role of physicians in our society should emanate from the presumption that they are there to sustain and promote life. Accordingly, the American Medical Association, which sometimes comes down on the wrong side of these questions, strongly opposes doctor-assisted suicide.

In Europe, doctor-assisted suicide has slipped into euthanasia, with disastrous results.

Let's not make the same lethal mistake twice. For once, the Supreme Court - now with the addition of Chief Justice Roberts - must take a stand for life, and begin the process of turning our nation from a culture of death to a culture of life.

DISTRICT COURT THROWS OUT CHALLENGE TO OHIO'S "CHOOSE LIFE" LICENSE PLATES

Proponents of abortion favor choice only when it's convenient. Their opposition to "Choose Life" license plates says so much.

Earlier this month, US District Court Judge Donald Nugent threw out a suit by the National Abortion Rights Action League challenging Ohio's "Choose Life" plates. Of course, no one is forced to display these plates. Motorists obtain them by

paying a premium. The extra cost goes toward the support of crisis pregnancy centers offering alternatives to abortion.

Ohio offers more than 50 specialty plates, which fund a variety of charities. Does NARAL believe that alternatives to abortion are bad?

If nothing else, the controversy demonstrates feminist fanaticism. For one side in a political debate to be terrified of public display of the other side's message is an admission of intellectual and spiritual bankruptcy.

RELIGIOUS CENSORSHIP IN THE LOCKER ROOM

A minor controversy in major league baseball is a telling sign of the times. In a story in the Washington Post last month, Ryan Church, a player for the Washington Nationals, disclosed that when he asked the team's chaplain if those who do not accept Jesus (including Jews) are "doomed," Chaplain Jon Moeller nodded, indicating his assent. Whereupon, a local rabbi charged "the locker room of the Nationals is being used to preach hatred."

A few days ago, Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig said "I was deeply offended by what happened with Ryan Church and Jon Moeller."

Someone needs to remind the Commissioner and the rabbi that all true Christians believe that salvation comes only through Jesus. Are they demanding that we deny the central tenet of our faith?

Chaplain Moeller isn't being accused of running around the Nationals' locker room shouting, "Non-Christians are going to hell!" His comment was made in response to a direct question. What was he supposed to do, lie? Refuse to answer a sincere inquiry from a Christian athlete?

Why are Christians the only believers in America harassed for their faith? If the chaplain was an imam who told a Muslim player that there's no salvation for infidels, would the politically correct be up in arms?

While we should strive to show sensitivity to others, Christians have a mission in this world. False charges of preaching "hatred" should not deter us from that great commission.

THE WAR ON FAITH AND THE VALUES VOTER IN 2006, MARCH 27-28, 2006

As we noted in our last report, our Fall conference has been rescheduled to March 27-28, 2006. The War on Faith and the Values Voter in 2006 is still being held at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC, and we still expect it to be groundbreaking in every way. We'll have more details for you next week, and in the weeks that follow - or visit the Vision America website,

www.visionamerica.us.

Help us fight the War on Faith - Get involved by following the action items above and by forwarding this alert to your friends and family. Your financial contributions are always appreciated. [Click here to contribute](#).
Dr. Rick Scarborough is the president of [Vision America](#) and chairman for the [Judeo-Christian Council](#).