

S BEO-LIFE

The number of abortions that have taken place has exceeded 50,000. Successive governments have broken promises made in the 2018 referendum that abortion would be "rare".

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Time for a Reality Check in the Pro-life Cause

Seven years on from the infamous 2018 Referendum, the pro-life movement in Ireland and in Europe is forced to confront new realities. The battlefield has changed, and it is time to reflect on the opportunities and dangers we now face. For this reason, Irish Society for Christian Civilisation invites all those opposing procured abortion to consider new perspectives that will help secure the victory we so urgently need.

Let us look at the worldwide situation.

Pro-lifers gave a sigh of relief and prayed in thanksgiving for the defeat of the pro-abortion Democrat ticket in America. The Biden administration, with Harris as vice-president, was one of the most pro-abortion US government in history. There was no limit to its zeal for the pro-abortion cause. Every possible avenue was opened to facilitate the massive slaughter of innocents. The defeat of Harris prevented further catastrophe on a massive scale.

Many other down ballot pro-abortion candidates lost as well. We must celebrate this promising development. This devastated leftists and pro-abortion forces everywhere. The U.S. left had hoped to use the abortion issue as a rallying point to push its revolution forward.

However, we must not celebrate while the battle is raging. Pro-abortion amendments have passed in seven US states. In Europe, the image is even more alarming. France last year enshrined abortion into her constitution. There have also been calls for "abortion rights" to be safeguarded by the EU's Charter of Fundamental Rights.

Closer to home, so-called "safe zones" around abortion clinics have been implemented. It is now illegal to protest the slaughter of innocents within 100 meters of a facility that commits such a crime. This is a blatant attack and mockery of God's Law.

And the cry from pro-abortion campaigners to abolish the three-day waiting period is increasing, in spite of the Referendum promise. This comes on the heels of a decreasing birth rate and an increasing abortion rate. In 2023, there were over 10,000 abortion committed in Ireland.

We must change our perception of the pro-abortionists who have been rearing the ugly face of the pro-abortion cause recently and over the past few years. We need to keep our focus and resist the immense pressure to change our message. We must never betray the cause of the unborn. This should move us to prayerful reflection. It signals that the fight for the unborn is far from over. Much work remains to be done before we see the dawn of victory. Thus, we present four reality checks to help guide our future.

Reality check #1:

There are no moderates in the pro-abortion movement.

The pro-abortionists who proposed that abortions should be "safe, legal and rare" as a "reasonable" means for justifying procured abortion are gone.

With the above-mentioned installation of "safe zones" and the push for scrapping the three-day waiting period, we must face the fact that the abortion lobby has not given up their fight against the unborn. The HSE and Planned Parenthood linked group Irish Family Planning Association calls for "full decriminalisation of abortion."

Their radical cries call for no compromise. They target us with their hatred.

This new situation opens up opportunities, as many will be alarmed by the increasing abortionist radicalism that manifests itself with so much vitriol. However, it will also present dangers since we can expect the battle to intensify and become more brutal.

Reality Check #2:

The Pro-Abortion Position Is Not Invincible

Notwithstanding the calamities befalling Ireland and Europe, it is important to remember that the pro-abortion side has not triumphed in this battle.

We see that even in Poland, a country now run by a centre-left coalition, the proposal for elective abortion up until twelve weeks was rejected by their parliament.

The tide is also turning in the United States. Trump has rolled back several proabortion initiatives in his second administration.

Pro-lifers in Ireland should not despair but rather be motivated to fight on with the help of God.

Reality Check #3:

The Pro-Life Movements Tactics Must Change

Irish pro-lifers need to see that there is an urgency to change the approach of the movement.

Rather than caving into the pro-death trap to debate abortion as a "women's right" or the safety of the woman, Pro-lifers must return to the root of the issue. The central question of this issue is that procured abortion is always a grave moral disorder and evil.

Although other concerns about abortion are good to bring up, they are only secondary in the abortion question.

Secondly, pro-lifers should never forget that this battle is about God's Law. The



I pledge to pray one Rosary, 5 decades of the Holy Rosary, for the end of abortion in Ireland and in reparation for same-sex "marriage", pornography, the corruption of children and all the attacks on the family.

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Your pledge will be brought to the Shrine of Our Lady of Gaudeloupe the Patroness of the Unborn, in Mexico.

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main reason why abortion is immoral is because it is a sin, which necessarily offends God. Pro-lifers shouldn't cower away and put God away from this debate. Rather we must boldly proclaim: We Want God!

Reality Check #4:

We Cannot Avoid the Need to Change the Culture

We must remember pro-life movement already has a noteworthy advantage. That advantage is that Truth is on our side. Procured abortion is always murder since it stops the beating heart of an innocent unborn baby.

The new reality is that the movement must take the fight one step further; focusing on defeating the sexual revolution. We must address the problem at its source. Indeed, abortion facilitated the destruction of Christian morals by allowing men and women to be sexually active without the consequence of pregnancy.

The facts show that we need to make the sexual revolution the target of our unflagging efforts. The vast majority of abortions (around 87%) are the result of adultery. As long as the culture extols complete sexual freedom, abortion will always be seen as emergency contraception.²

It is not enough to oppose procured abortion, as evil as it is. We must fight against all revolutionary attacks on life, be it abortion, euthanasia, contraception or any

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kind of perversion which counteracts the Sacrament of Marriage. To counter these attacks we must promote modesty, uphold purity and chastity and defend Marriage while decrying the springboard of these attacks; licentiousness, promiscuity and impurity.

This effort consists of showing abortion's devastating negative impact on individuals and communities. It calls for presenting a positive vision of men and women inside a pro-marriage and pro-family framework. Above all, we should be good examples of virtuous living to draw people to our cause.

This task is made easier because the dominant liberal model of society is crumbling, and the lack of legitimate alternatives lacking.

Timid souls might object that such a social transformation is impossible. However, such scepticism flies in the face of the history of resistance against evil.

One can only look at the struggle for Catholic rights in Ireland as one of the many triumphs in history which although was an arduous and gradual process, eventually resulted in victory. In fact, it is not necessary to invoke the history of old to prove this point. The overturning of Roe v. Wade and the following advances made by American conservatives is an example par excellence.

Society can change for the good. In our reality check, we must have recourse to a higher One—a supernatural power for Whom all things are possible.

Only through the help of an Almighty God and His Blessed Mother can we accept this challenge to change the culture and cut the root cause of abortion.

Today, when political help waffles and wanes, we must confide that Divine assistance will be all the more certain. We must believe with the unshakeable confidence that moves mountains to obtain the victory we need.

Let us go forth, therefore, and bravely face the new realities that challenge us. With our prayer and action, we will improvise and dare as we march on to our blessed goal: A moral and abortion-free Ireland under God. Let us not tire or rest until procured abortion becomes unthinkable and God and His Blessed Mother are glorified throughout the Land of Saints and Scholars.

Adapted with permission from the American Society for the Defence of Tradition Family Property (TFP)

¹ https://thelifeinstitute.net/news/2022/pr-new-figures-confirm-that-3-day-wait-reduces-abortion-scrapping-it-betrays-voters

² https://abort73.com/abortion_facts/us_abortion_statistics/