

April 4, 2000

Dear Supporter:

There are often so many things to report that we find it difficult to select what is the most important. SLI continues to work on and monitor a number of things. This month, our most significant report deals with the rapid and successful conclusion to a very important lawsuit concerning the efforts of gamblers to muzzle their critics through less than honorable means.

Also, we regrettably report the unfolding evidence of a market in aborted baby body parts. Perhaps, you wondered about why there was such opposition to legislation which would prohibit the partial birth abortion procedure. Bill Clinton has continuously vetoed federal efforts, though many states have passed the prohibitions, including Alabama. Most of those state laws have been held unconstitutional by federal courts. The United States Supreme Court has agreed to review those laws and has before it a Nebraska law. Alabama's law, passed in 1998, has been stayed by a local federal court pending the Supreme Court's decision.

We will provide you more information in the coming months on the how and why this abortion procedure was making additional profits for the abortion clinics. It is an unfortunate and gruesome tale, but better than anything, it demonstrates the real depravity of abortion.

SLI will continue to provide expert assistance in the drafting of pro-life legislation and in its enforcement. SLI will continue to provide legal counsel and assistance, and will stand in the gap with those who put themselves in harm's way for the proper moral cause. As shepherd David said, "Is there not a cause?" I Samuel 17:29. Then, as now, there surely is.

We thank you for your continued support. Please pray for us. Pray we will have skill, wisdom and opportunity. Please pray for our financial support and join us with your support. There is much to do and with an increase in support, by God's grace, we can accomplish a great deal more.

Yours Very Truly,

HARRY O. YATES

HOY/imj

A LITIGATION UPDATE FROM

THE SOUTHEAST LAW INSTITUTE, INC.

To: SLI Supporters
From: A. Eric Johnston
Date: April, 2000
Re: Greene County, et. al. v. Dan Ireland, et. al

The people of the land have used oppression and exercised robbery and have vexed the poor and needy: yea, they have oppressed the stranger wrongfully. And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land that I should not destroy it: but I found none.

Ezekiel 22:29-30

The Lord sought an advocate for Israel, but it was too sinful. Fortunately, the Lord has sought for and found men in Alabama who will stand in the gap. To be such an advocate, however, is dangerous.

Last year, Dr. Dan Ireland of ALCAP, Mr. Gary Palmer of Alabama Family Alliance, Mr. John Giles of the Christian Coalition and Mr. Tom Blackerby of the American Family Association of Alabama opposed legislation which would have legalized casino gambling in Alabama. By the grace of God, they were successful.

The Greene County Commission, the Greene County Board of Education and Greene Track (a gambling establishment) filed a lawsuit in Greene County, Alabama alleging these men and their organizations had unlawfully conspired with Las Vegas and Mississippi gambling interests to keep Greene Track from producing a profit which would benefit the County and it's Board of Education. In other words, they were sued because they stood in the gap.

In response, with the help of others, we filed a lawsuit in the Federal Court alleging that the Greene County lawsuit was a violation of the constitutional rights of Dr. Ireland and the others. By constitutional right they have the opportunity to petition their government for redress of grievances, assemble and speak out on the issues. These are some of the most highly held and respected constitutional rights. The Greene County lawsuit was "retaliation" for their standing in the gap.

United States District Judge Edwin Nelson agreed. He summarily preliminarily enjoined the Greene County lawsuit and suggested to the Greene County parties that they had no right to file such a lawsuit and invited them to explain why he should not grant a permanent injunction. Seeing the light, the Greene County parties agreed to dismiss the Greene County lawsuit; they agreed to the permanent injunction forbidding them from suing Dr. Ireland and the others; and they agreed to pay a portion of the expense to which Dr. Ireland and the others were put protecting their constitutional rights.

We had thought to publish something on this earlier in the form of a report to our supporters, but the cases were moving so rapidly that we were certain they would be disposed of as soon as the paperwork could be completed. That was true and we are happy to report to you a most gratifying and satisfactory conclusion.

This is not to say, however, that some people in Alabama will not again use oppression to try to get their way to vex the poor and the needy. Private gambling interests are bringing incredible pressure on the Alabama Legislature to expand their ability to have gambling in Alabama. The gamblers are once again making allegations of wrongdoing by gambling opponents. As you know, such gambling does most

harm to those who can least afford it. And, once again, Dr. Ireland and many others are standing in the gap. They may once again be subjected to vexatious and hostile lawsuits.

With your financial and prayer support, we will be able to stand with them. Thank you for all you do and we hope that the events of this report will bring you as much satisfaction as it has us.