



## **Understanding the Federal Personhood Amendment**

### **Why a Personhood Amendment?**

This Federal Personhood Amendment seeks to restore the Constitution's original intent. It defines every human being as a "person" from his or her biological beginning.

In 1965, the United States Supreme Court, in its *Griswold v. Connecticut* decision, suddenly found the "right to privacy" in sexual matters in the "emanations of the penumbra" (shadows) of the Constitution.

In *Griswold*, the Supreme Court reverted to treating human beings as property rather than persons. Human beings can now be owned as property in test tubes and wombs and stripped of their dignity and their lives. Tests of all kinds can be performed on them, and they can be destroyed for their stem cells, genetically modified, cloned and dissected.

In 1973, the Supreme Court, in *Roe v. Wade*, used this same so-called right to privacy to decriminalize abortion in the United States.

The authors of the Constitution clearly intended to protect all human beings from their very beginning. This right has been infringed over time. As history has so painfully taught us, the time has come to restore those rights.

### **Why a Personhood *Amendment* as opposed to a Personhood *Act*?**

The amendment makes clear the original intent of the Constitution and therefore restores protection for all human beings. An act or a bill would grant protection, but would not change the Constitution. By means of a simple majority vote and the president's signature, a future Congress could repeal any act passed by a previous Congress. Thus an act or a bill would give protection to all human beings at every stage of life, but that protection could be easily removed.

### **Why personhood (as opposed to other pro-life legislation already sponsored)?**

Science supports personhood. Any opposition to the amendment will not be based upon legitimate scientific evidence. Personhood removes the debate's politically charged rhetoric and replaces it with the common-sense principle that life begins at its biological beginning.

The Personhood Amendment brings the debate back to the people and takes it out of the hands of the unelected Supreme Court.

Personhood was called for in the hearings of *Roe v. Wade*. Roe's attorney admitted that if personhood were to be established for the preborn, she would not have a case. If personhood were legally defined, many of the ethical issues we face today concerning human rights would have a common-sense starting point.

Personhood is unlike all other pro-life legislation in that it guarantees the right to life of ALL people from the moment of creation until natural death. It addresses all of the problems stemming from the culture of death by striking at the root of the culture of death instead of merely trying to treat the symptoms. Abortion, in vitro fertilization, cloning, euthanasia and other end-of-life issues are all addressed by the Personhood Amendment

The Personhood Amendment is the final chapter of the civil rights movement. It proposes a common-sense values to otherwise convoluted jurisprudence.