

their hearts. They don't want people to get killed. They care about life. And so many on both sides of the aisle talk about trying to protect "the most vulnerable among us." I would humbly submit there is no one more vulnerable than an unborn child. There is that cord through which nourishment and oxygen flow as that baby grows and develops. There is a desire in the human heart to live. There is a desire to live. And those precious, innocent children want to live. It's who they are. It's part of their genetic makeup to want to live. There's no baby, born or unborn, who is capable mentally or physically of taking their own lives intentionally. It can't happen. It doesn't happen. They want to live.

So our heart breaks as a Nation, thinking about the spilled blood of innocent, vulnerable children all put to death because someone did not understand what was going on and they were led to believe it's not a life, it's a choice. The children want to live. When our first-born was born, she came 8 to 10 weeks prematurely. Back then, it was uncertain whether she was going to live. We were encouraged at first, but the doctor said, She's in trouble. Her lungs were not developed. And I knew from cases that I had been involved in that if too much oxygen is given to a premie, there's a chance they'll go blind. So doctors avoided that, if at all possible. And I saw them go from 20 to 40 to 60 to 80 to 100 percent oxygen. When they got to 100 percent, I knew Katy was in big trouble or they wouldn't risk her blindness.

They said we needed to ship her to either Dallas or Shreveport, where she could get the top-rated neonatal ICU. Shreveport was a little closer. I was torn—my wife was suffering, having given birth prematurely—whether to stay with her or go with the baby. She said, Go with Katy. Do anything you can to help her. So I followed the ambulance to Shreveport. A man named Dr. Tsing was the neonatologist. He cared so deeply for those babies. And I began to understand why the doctor said they seemed to have the best survival rate there in Shreveport.

□ 1430

He had a policy that if you went by a child, you had to observe proper sanitization procedures, but you touched those children, you talked to those children. They hear you. They know you.

When I got there, they sat me on a stool and said you can stay no more than 2 hours, but talk to this child, she knows your voice. She has heard your voice for maybe 7 months. She knows your voice. Talk to her. Caress her arms. Talk to her. Caress her little face. And I did. The monitors were going so fast, so erratic was the heart rate, so erratic was the breathing, the lungs so undeveloped.

As I had been there for a couple of hours, Dr. Tsing came back over. Katie had a grip on my finger, that tiny little

hand of hers around the very end of my finger, and she wouldn't let go. He came over after a while and he said, have you looked at the monitors? I looked up. She still had such undeveloped lungs, but her breathing had stabilized. Her heart rate had stabilized. And Dr. Tsing said, she is drawing life, she is drawing strength from you. I couldn't leave. I sat there for 8 hours before they forced me to take a break, but I learned, born or unborn, a child wants to live.

I hope and pray we will not continue to allow the killing of 40, 50, 60 million more precious babies like Katie. Katie is alive today. She is a joy, she is brilliant. There are other children that wanted to live as well. We need to stop deceiving pregnant women that it's not a life. It is a life, and it's endowed by our Creator.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

SUNSET MEMORIAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FRANKS) for 30 minutes.

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I know that another legislative day has come to an end and that sunset fast approaches in Washington, D.C.

I stand before this House with what I call a Sunset Memorial. Because, you see, Mr. Speaker, before the sun sets today in America, almost 4,000 more defenseless unborn children will be killed by abortion on demand in the land of the free and the home of the brave. That is more than the number of innocent lives lost on September 11th in this country, and it happens every single day.

Mr. Speaker, it has now been 40 years—an entire generation—since the tragedy called *Roe v. Wade* was first handed down. Since then, the very foundation of this Nation has been stained by the blood of almost 55 million of its own unborn children. Some of them, Mr. Speaker, cried and screamed as they died, but because it was amniotic fluid going over the vocal cords instead of air, we couldn't hear them.

All of them had at least four things in common, Mr. Speaker. First, they were just nameless little babies who had done wrong to no one, and yet each one of them died a nameless and lonely death. And each one of their mothers, whether she realizes it or not, will never be quite the same. And all the gifts that these children might have brought to humanity in this world are now lost forever.

Yet, even in the glare of such tragedy, this generation still clings to a blind, invincible ignorance while history repeats itself over and over again and our own silent genocide mercilessly annihilates the most helpless of all victims, those yet unborn.

Mr. Speaker, I recently heard Barack Obama speak such poignant words

that, whether he knows it or not, apply so profoundly to the tragedy of abortion on demand in America. Let me quote selected, excerpted portions of his comments.

He said:

This is our first task—caring for our children. It's our first job. If we don't get that right, we don't get anything right. That's how, as a society, we will be judged. And by that measure, can we truly say, as a Nation, that we are meeting our obligations? Can we honestly say that we're doing enough to keep our children—all of them—safe from harm?

He went on to quote:

Can we say that we're truly doing enough to give all the children of this country the chance they deserve to live out their lives in happiness and with purpose?

He said:

I've been reflecting on this the last few days, and if we're honest with ourselves, the answer is no. We're not doing enough. And we will have to change.

Oh, Mr. Speaker, how true the President's words were. The President also said:

We can't tolerate this anymore. These tragedies must end. And to end them, we must change.

Then the President asked:

Are we really prepared to say that we're powerless in the face of such carnage, that the politics are too hard? Are we prepared to say that such violence visited on our children year after year after year is somehow the price of our freedom?

What a powerful question, Mr. Speaker. It is the most relevant question we should all be asking in the midst of this genocidal murder of thousands of unborn children in America every day.

The President said:

Our journey is not complete until all our children are cared for and cherished and always safe from harm.

He said:

That is our generation's task—to make these words, these rights, these values of life and liberty and the pursuit of happiness real for every American.

Mr. Speaker, never have I so deeply agreed with any words ever spoken by President Obama as those I have just quoted. And yet this President, in the most merciless distortion of logic and reason and humanity itself, refuses to apply these majestic words to the helpless unborn babies of this Nation. How I wish that somehow Mr. Obama would just open his heart and his ears to his own words, and ask himself in the core of his soul, why his words, that should apply to all children, cannot include the most helpless of all children.

Only a few days ago, no more than 200 yards from this well, Barack Obama put his hand down on the same Bible that Abraham Lincoln was sworn in on when he took his Presidential oath.

□ 1440

Mr. Speaker, we should remember that we honor Abraham Lincoln most because he found the courage as President of the United States in the days of slavery, and the humanity within himself, to recognize the image of God

stamped on the soul of slaves that the Supreme Court said were not human and that the tide of public opinion didn't recognize as protectable under the law. Could it still be, could it still be, Mr. Speaker, that President Barack Obama might consider that perspective, as well as his own legacy, and even eternity itself, Mr. Speaker, and recognize that in his day under his Presidency that these little unborn children look so desperately to him now for help?

Could it be that the President might finally remember that on the pages of the Bible on which he laid his hand were the words written in red:

Inasmuch as you have done unto the least of these My brethren, you have done it unto Me.

Mr. Speaker, whether he does or not, it is certainly time for those of us in this Chamber to remind ourselves of why we are really all here. Thomas Jefferson said:

The care of human life and happiness, and not its destruction, is the chief and only object of good government.

The phrase in the 14th Amendment encapsulates our entire Constitution. It says:

No State shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law.

Mr. Speaker, protecting the lives of all Americans and their constitutional rights is why we are all here. The bedrock foundation of this Republic is that clarion declaration of that self-evident truth that all human beings are created equal and endowed by their Creator with unalienable rights, the rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Every conflict and battle our Nation has ever faced can be traced to our commitment to this core self-evident truth. It has made us the beacon of hope for the entire world, Mr. Speaker. It is who we are. And yet today another day has passed, and we in this body have failed again to honor that foundational commitment. We have failed our sworn oath and our God-given responsibility as we broke faith with nearly 4,000 more innocent little American babies who died today without the protection we should have given them.

So, Mr. Speaker, let me conclude this sunset memorial in the hopes that perhaps someone new who heard it tonight will finally embrace the very inconvenient truth that abortion really does kill little babies and that it hurts mothers in ways that we can never imagine, and that it is time we stood up together again and looked to our Declaration of Independence and remember that we are the same America that rejected human slavery and marched into Europe to arrest the Nazi Holocaust, and we are still the courageous and compassionate Nation that can find a better way for mothers and their unborn babies than abortion on demand.

It is still not too late for us to make a better world and for America to be

the one that leads the rest of the planet, just as we did in the days of slavery, from this tragic genocide of murdering nearly 4,000 of our own children every day.

So, now, Mr. Speaker, as we consider the plight of the unborn after 40 years under *Roe v. Wade*, maybe we can remind ourselves that our own days in this sunshine of life are all numbered, and that all too soon, each one of us will also walk from these Chambers for the very last time. And if it should be that this Congress is allowed to convene on yet another day, may that be the day when we finally find the humanity, the courage, and the will to embrace together our human and our constitutional duty to protect these, the least of our tiny little brothers and sisters in America, from this murderous scourge upon our Nation called abortion on demand.

Mr. Speaker, it is now 40 years since *Roe v. Wade* first stained the foundation of this Nation with the blood of its own children. This, in the land of the free and the home of the brave.

I yield back the balance of my time.

PUBLICATION OF COMMITTEE RULES

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON RULES FOR THE 113TH CONGRESS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I submit the attached copy of the rules of the Committee on Rules for the U.S. House of Representatives for the 113th Congress:

RULE I—GENERAL PROVISIONS

(a) The Rules of the House are the rules of the Committee and its subcommittees so far as applicable, except that a motion to recess from day to day, and a motion to dispense with the first reading (in full) of a bill or resolution, if printed copies are available, are non-debatable privileged motions in the Committee. A proposed investigative or oversight report shall be considered as read if it has been available to the members of the Committee for at least 24 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays except when the House is in session on such day).

(b) Each subcommittee is a part of the Committee, and is subject to the authority and direction of the Committee and to its rules so far as applicable.

(c) The provisions of clause 2 of rule XI of the Rules of the House are incorporated by reference as the rules of the Committee to the extent applicable.

(d) The Committee's rules shall be published in the Congressional Record not later than 30 days after the Committee is elected in each odd-numbered year.

RULE 2—REGULAR, ADDITIONAL, AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

Regular Meetings

(a)(1) The Committee shall regularly meet at 5:00 p.m. on the first day on which votes are scheduled of each week when the House is in session.

(2) A regular meeting of the Committee may be dispensed with if, in the judgment of the Chairman of the Committee (hereafter in these rules referred to as the "Chair"), there is no need for the meeting.

(3) Additional regular meetings and hearings of the Committee may be called by the Chair.

Notice for Regular Meetings

(b) The Chair shall notify in electronic or written form each member of the Committee

of the agenda of each regular meeting of the Committee at least 48 hours before the time of the meeting and shall provide to each member of the Committee, at least 24 hours before the time of each regular meeting:

(1) for each bill or resolution scheduled on the agenda for consideration of a rule, a copy of—

- (A) the bill or resolution;
- (B) any committee reports thereon; and

(C) any available letter requesting a rule for the bill or resolution; and

(2) for each other bill, resolution, report, or other matter on the agenda a copy of—

(A) the bill, resolution, report, or materials relating to the other matter in question; and

(B) any report on the bill, resolution, report, or any other matter made by any subcommittee of the Committee.

Emergency Meetings

(c)(1) The Chair may call an emergency meeting of the Committee at any time on any measure or matter which the Chair determines to be of an emergency nature; provided, however, that the Chair has made an effort to consult the ranking minority member, or, in such member's absence, the next ranking minority party member of the Committee.

(2) As soon as possible after calling an emergency meeting of the Committee, the Chair shall notify each member of the Committee of the time and location of the meeting.

(3) To the extent feasible, the notice provided under paragraph (2) shall include the agenda for the emergency meeting and copies of available materials which would otherwise have been provided under subsection (b) if the emergency meeting was a regular meeting.

Special Meetings

(d) Special meetings shall be called and convened as provided in clause 2(c)(2) of rule XI of the Rules of the House.

RULE 3—MEETING AND HEARING PROCEDURES

In General

(a)(1) Meetings and hearings of the Committee shall be called to order and presided over by the Chair or, in the Chair's absence, by the member designated by the Chair as the Vice Chair of the Committee, or by the ranking majority member of the Committee present as Acting Chair.

(2) Meetings and hearings of the Committee shall be open to the public unless closed in accordance with clause 2(g) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

(3) Any meeting or hearing of the Committee that is open to the public shall be open to coverage by television, radio, and still photography in accordance with the provisions of clause 4 of rule XI of the Rules of the House (which are incorporated by reference as part of these rules).

(4) Before a motion to report a rule is offered, a copy of the language recommended shall be furnished to each member of the Committee.

Quorum

(b)(1) For the purpose of hearing testimony on requests for rules, five members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

(2) For the purpose of taking testimony and receiving evidence on measures or matters of original jurisdiction before the Committee, three members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

(3) A majority of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the purposes of: reporting any measure or matter; authorizing a subpoena; closing a meeting or hearing pursuant to clause 2(g) of rule XI of