



Written by [Steve Byas](#) on March 27, 2019

In the early years after *Roe v. Wade* was decided in 1973, the pro-life movement focused upon getting a “Human Life Amendment” added to the U.S. Constitution, which would have specifically protected the life of an unborn child. But then the strategy of the pro-life movement shifted to what can be called an incremental approach — save as many babies as can be saved *now*, work on changing public opinion on the issue of abortion, and elect presidents who would place enough judges on the Supreme Court to overturn *Roe*.

This approach has both saved millions of lives and has persuaded millions of Americans that abortion is wrong. Today, more than 75 percent of Americans support further restriction on legal abortion, largely as a result of this persistence on the part of the pro-life movement. This has resulted in bringing America’s abortion rate to historic lows — the lowest rate since *Roe* was handed down.

While not all anti-abortionists agree with this incremental approach, Clinton Wilcox, a pro-lifer, noted that slavery abolitionist William Wilberforce in England “worked incrementally; voting for legislation that kept slavery legal yet made conditions safer for slaves. He knew that the way his culture was, he couldn’t pass all or nothing laws. He worked to change the culture’s perception of slavery while working to pass incrementally better legislation until he was finally able to abolish it altogether.”

Hopefully, the day will come when the scourge of abortion is illegal across the nation. Until then, laws such as the one passed recently in Utah will continue to save millions who otherwise would have been aborted.



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