

Mr. Speaker, it has come to the attention of the American people that the President's nominee for United States Supreme Court, Judge Samuel Alito, wrote in a job application at the Justice Department some 20 years ago statements to the effect that the Constitution does not protect a right to an abortion. Judge Alito's statements regarding Roe v. Wade reflect a widely held belief by many judges and lawyers and scholars across the political spectrum. These legal experts recognize that Roe v. Wade was indeed bad law created out of whole cloth by an unelected Supreme Court seeking to legislate its social agenda from the bench.

Ironically, if Roe v. Wade was overturned today, it would not end abortion on demand. It would simply leave the matter to the States and to the people through their elected representatives.

Mr. Speaker, this was not the vision of our Founding Fathers. They wrote the U.S. Constitution to specifically protect those that were most innocent and to protect the most basic civil right of all, that being life itself.

The preamble to the Constitution sums up the entirety of their reasons for establishing a constitution in the first place, that we, the people, to "secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

The Constitution expressly states in plain language that one of the primary purposes for its existence is to secure the blessings of liberty to our future children. The phrase in the 14th amendment sums up the entire document. It says, "No State shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law."

Mr. Speaker, protecting the lives of the innocent and their constitutional rights is why this government exists. How does it secure the blessings of liberty to our posterity to sacrifice their very lives upon the altar of convenience?

Judge Alito was correct; the Constitution does not guarantee the right to hire someone to kill an innocent unborn child and dispose of the body. Our Founding Fathers put pen to paper and proclaimed: We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, and that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

When our Founding Fathers proclaimed those words, the course of human history was forever changed.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to have this debate on abortion out in the open.

Those who promote abortion on demand ignore the Constitution and the original intent of our Founding Fathers who took great care to structure a foundation for self-governance that safeguards innocent life and human dignity. America will not remain free if we claim for ourselves the right to destroy innocent human lives simply because they are unwanted

or they are at our mercy, or because they lack even the voice to cry out. We cannot embrace the notion that by our own choice we determine the dignity or worth of other human beings. That is the principle of might makes right, and this Nation was founded to dispel that depraved injustice.

Mr. Speaker, the future of this country in freedom depends that the fundamental principle which guarantees the right to the divine gift of life and liberty to each of us must remain intact. This is America's creed. This is our foundation. It is so very simple. We are not born equal; we do not become equal when we reach a certain level of development or age or status. All human beings are created equal. That principle of human equality must not be discarded by the United States of America, because if Americans in the 21st century cannot or will not sustain the will and the courage to protect the innocent, in the final analysis we will never sustain the will or the courage to protect any kind of liberty for anyone.

Mr. Speaker, as the nomination of Judge Samuel Alito moves forward, let us all just remind ourselves that we are Americans, that we walk on the freest soil, and that we breathe the freest air of any people in human history. There is nothing more American than defending innocent human life. So now it is up to this generation, Mr. Speaker, to protect the God-given life to live so that future generations will say of us that we justify our brief moment here. God bless America.