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OPINION

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Town Square

The sins of Roe v. Wade

Anniversary of abortion ruling causes minister to reflect on 'evils'

Jan. 22, 1973, is a day, like Dec. 7, 1941, that shall live in infamy in American history.

Thirty-eight years ago today, the United States Supreme Court decriminalized the sin and crime of abortion in the historic Roe v. Wade case. Tragically, justices struck down every law in America that protected pre-born children from those who would arbitrarily harm them in the sanctity of their mother's womb. With a stroke of the pen, the safest place for a child waiting to be born instantly became the most dangerous. For nearly 60 million American babies the womb that God created to nurture life has become the tomb in which they died.

Roe v. Wade is not only a bad legal decision that codified evil into law, it represents our fallen human nature. It enhances the life of the strong at the expense of the weak. It protects those who victimize the youngest. With impunity, it allows parents to do the unthinkable to their own offspring. And it establishes the foulest injustice in American history.

RUSTY LEE THOMAS

Guest columnist

The case not only violates God's Law, which states "thou shalt not murder," it betrays our national covenant, which states in the Declaration of Independence: "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, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

For 38 years of conniving, America is refusing to uphold our first and foremost fundamental right, which is the right to life. No other rights as Americans are secure if this

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right is denied. Freedom of religion, freedom of speech and the freedom of the press are of no consequence to a dead baby.

Roe v. Wade is a national tragedy that far exceeds the abominable practice of slavery. It should remind every American that we are failing once again to live up to our own creed. As a result, millions of little American citizens waiting to be born never are allowed to live the American Dream.

Moreover, Roe v. Wade raises a question that must be urgently answered in these tumultuous times. Can a nation that denies life and freedom to its most vulnerable citizens be worthy of life and freedom themselves?

Lastly, Roe v. Wade is above all an urgent call to our blood-stained nation to repent of this national sin. Keep in mind that national sin brings national calamity. The many woes suffered by our nation today can be attributed to this spiritual reality. Therefore, to secure a future and a hope, the American holocaust must end.

It is my sincere prayer that abortion not only becomes illegal once again, but like slavery before it, may it become unthinkable in the United States of America.

The Rev. Rusty Lee Thomas is founder and director of Elijah Ministries, assistant director of Operation Rescue/Operation Save America, founder and director of the Kingdom Leadership Institute, and founder and director of Rachel's Park Memorial.

'Sadly and disgracefully, the unborn have not been as fortunate as their born brothers and sisters.'

Letters

Abortion debate in America

Good news for our city! The Tribune-Herald reported just five murders in 2010 — the lowest in 25 years.

Today marks 38 years since the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision. Sadly and disgracefully, the unborn have not been as fortunate as their born brothers and sisters.

For 2009, the last year of available statistics from Planned Parenthood Waco, the lives of 1,087 pre-born babies were extinguished. With these killing rates, the number of homicide deaths in a year are inflicted on the unborn — without warning — every two days.

John Pisciotra, Waco

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Regarding Jerry Willett's Jan. 13 letter, why is it that women are the ones to be punished if they choose abortion? I think laws should be passed that if a woman chooses abortion, then the man who impregnated her should be required to have a vasectomy. I'm not kidding! It's not just a woman's responsibility to use birth control. One reason women get pregnant is because men don't use condoms.

When men take responsibility for their actions, then the rate of abortions will decrease. It's very simple, really.

Lola Hopper, Waco

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The Women's Health Program, passed by Texas legislators in 2005, prevents state funds from being used "to perform or promote elective abortions" or be given to entities or "affiliates of entities that perform or promote elective abortions." Yet, since the implementation of the Women's Health Program in 2007, 12 different Planned Parenthood entities have received \$5 million in Texas tax funds. Planned Parenthood is tapping funds from the Women's Health Program, in violation of Texas law.

According to Republican State Sen. Bob Deuell, "Health and Human Services Commission (HHS) disregarded that mandate by entering into contracts with a number of Planned Parenthood affiliates across the state."

This is a legislative travesty. Planned Parenthood is responsible for 27 percent of surgical and RU 486 abortions performed in the United States. Nationally in 2010, Planned Parenthood received \$383 million in revenue from contracts and grants from the government.

Apparently, \$383 million is not enough. Through its mockery of the Texas legislative process, Planned Parenthood has shown its true colors. They are not the red, white and blue of our Texas flag. It is green. Greenbacks, that is. It has taken money from taxpayers against their will and without their knowledge. Regardless of what Washington political hacks or corporate abortion industry insiders call it, in the Lone Star state we call that stealing.

Texas must urge legislators and Attorney General Greg Abbott to investigate the HHS and Planned Parenthood for collusion. Planned Parenthood's money grab must be met with a cowboy boot to the neck. It's time Texans tell the Health and Human Services Commission and Planned Parenthood, "Don't mess with Texas."

Kendra Thomas, Waco