ISSUE

FEBRUARY 2023

SpokaneGOP

Infrastructure (Energy, Utilities, Transportation and Technology) - We

understand that government must continue to invest wisely in infrastructure and transportation projects, especially those critical to growth and safety and strive to be a leader in energy and information technologies through our free market system rather than with government intervention.

Family Values - We support the right of families to be free to raise their children according to their personal morals, values and spiritual beliefs.

Equal Justice - All people have a right to equal treatment under the law. We support the enforcement of the original Bill of Rights as written and intended by the Founders.

Jobs, Economy and

Currency – We support balanced budgets, reduced regulations, limited taxation and Free Market, allowing growth to the individual and to the economy as a whole.

Education – We are dedicated to reaffirming the importance of safety for students and staff. We support a rigorous "back to basics" curriculum as determined by parents and local school districts.

Keep and Bear Arms - You have the right to protect yourself against enemies both foreign and domestic. National Sovereignty, Immigration and

Defense - We believe America must have the strongest national defense necessary to defend our borders, homes and national interests.

Individual Rights - We believe individual human rights come from our Creator, not the government. We recognize the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness from conception to natural death. We believe in free speech, thought, worship and dissent without fear of government interference or penalty.

Limited Government -Government is best when it governs the least. Big government infringes upon the rights of the citizens, is prohibitive, inefficient and extremely expensive.

Chairman's Chat

MJ Bolt, SCRCC Vice Chair writing for P. Brian Noble, SCRCC Chair/CEO

This Issue:

Healthcare - We believe that the best healthcare model is one with very limited government intervention, based around the principle of individual responsibility.

Next Issue:

Property Rights - It is the right of all citizens to legally acquire, own, use and dispose of private property. It is your right to protect your property with reasonable force against another person who is threatening to infringe upon it.

Hello to all our Republican Supporters! My name is MJ Bolt, and I am honored to be the Vice-Chair of YOUR Official Spokane County Republican Party!

I am writing on the heels of last night's 2nd Executive Board Meeting with the new leadership. I can share with you there is much to be excited about in the Official Republican Party of Spokane County! We have an amazingly committed Board that is full of passionate individuals that bring new energy and dedication to seeing things change in our County at every level of government, and to bring about stronger conservative values in our elected officials. This election year is no exception. Even though most races are non-partisan, it's an important time for the Republican Party to promote and support conservative candidates.

The dedication of this Board is to fill all 439 PCO positions, to increase the presence of a dedicated team. These individuals are committed to getting true conservatives elected in every position, supporting them and holding them accountable. We have a big vision and need all of you to help make that happen! There is no job more important than another. We all have an important role to fill, whether you are a PCO, a Board member, a PCO captain, the Chair of the Board, or a volunteer in your precinct. I am happy to report that our District Leaders have appointed 16 new PCOs in this last month, and many more are in the works! Please contact your Sub-District Leader (found on the website under Leadership) if you are interested in becoming a PCO. By the way, have you seen our newly updated website? Please take some time to familiarize yourself with it and all the good resources available. We also have a big marketing vision! We believe it will take boots on the ground and a strong marketing campaign to change the voters' hearts and minds, to get more Republicans elected. We know we have to market the TRUTH, that is being neglected by a majority of the media. Support this vision by participating in the Lincoln Day Gala on April 15! There are many opportunities to support this effort. Check out our website to find ways to partner with us. We would love to see you there as we link arms with you to bring positive change to our County.

You can also support our efforts by donating to our local Official Party, through our website. Please consider donating monthly. People often say, "All politics are local." I believe our grassroots efforts here are what can ignite a spark that will spread across the land. That is why I am asking that you consider donating locally, since you have the most impact on how those funds are spent.

Thank you for your time, your consideration, and your commitment. Together, we are making a difference!

The Debate of MYBody

By Juli Skinner

"So, what are your thoughts on Roe vs. Wade?"

"The government isn't going to tell me what to do with my *body!*", I answered defiantly; an ignorant echoing of whatever propaganda I had overheard at the time. I so wish I could go back and revise my answer now. In 1988, I was pro-I don't care what you do with your body. Years later my opinion began to evolve when I met a woman who couldn't have children. My Stewardess friend and her husband spent every dime they made on their dream of parenthood. Each failed attempt shown through the façade of her professional and expected smile. It hurt me to see such pain. I questioned why there was no blessing for a woman so loving and kind and so desperate to be a mom while blessings befell so many moms-to-be who ultimately chose to terminate. It was illogical to me. Then an ethical and spiritual awakening subsequently transcended the sympathy I had for women like my friend.

"[It's] my body; [It's] my choice".

No, it is not. Did the baby have a choice?

On some level, we have all been selfish, entitled, clouded or caught up in the cause. Some of us ignore the truth just so we can feel okay about our decisions. Pro-abortionists mislead society by using false information as a tool to detach us from our conscience and make it easier to commit abortion. But debate all you want; the science is clear. The zygote is the first stage in the baby's development. It is a unique set of DNA formed from each parent to make a totally distinct human being. Its traits have already been determined just as hair, eye and skin color has. It is not just a "clump of tissue". It is a developing child with its own set of DNA. No matter how it came to be; it is, and the developing child needs a safe haven for a 40-week journey. *It* is no longer just "your" body. *It* is a miracle.

I recently debated a Democrat who vehemently supported abortion if a baby didn't fit within his and his girlfriend's

life plans. The reasons? Mostly a regurgitation of the same trite reasons from the same trite pro-abortion leaflets that include: Finances, crowded Earth, Climate Change, "I already have a pet" or my personal favorite; (unplanned) lack of preventative measures. Who are we kidding? They don't need a reason. Any reason is reason enough. But once the selfish motivations are cleared from the table, the gears usually switch and the old cookie cutter rebuttal turns the debate towards rape and incest exceptions. This debate was no different. Taking a commonsensical approach and in the spirit of covering all bases, I simply asked my antagonizer, "Is it the baby's fault?" "YES!", he casually but adamantly answered. I couldn't believe that the argument at its core settled on - it's the baby's fault; not the rapist's, not the incestual family member's, not the spontaneous couple's but, the baby's! Debate over. We didn't even get to the "abortion is healthcare" argument.

Is there a good time to abort a baby? "Abortion is healthcare" is a strawman argument and "Healthcare" is too broad a term. Is it for the woman with a weak cardiovascular system. Is it for the woman who will be depressed seeing herself with a "fat" body? Because they are not equivalent conditions. In cases where the life of the mother is truly in jeopardy, the CDC is not, however, a determinant factor to which we should rely. Maternal deaths during childbirth in America have been charted but the CDC bureaucracy also projects high rates of death. Projections are a practice often utilized when authoritative pushers want to control a message. My message to you has always been – do your own research. And if you only parrot what you hear; you may find that you too wish you could go back and revise your opinion. Imagine if I had repeated my 1988 opinion to a young woman struggling with the decision to keep her baby. I don't know where the man who asked me that question stood on the subject but in retrospect, I am disappointed that he did not take the time to dig into my ill-informed answer.

We have a chance to guide young people to the truth. "My body; my choice" is a reactive argument. If we want to save babies, let's start before they are conceived and encourage real family planning, not the type abortion clinics promote as a form of birth control.

The Constitutional Corner By Lori Burns

Healthcare in the US is in crisis. It is common for misplaced blame directed at the "face" of medicine, their doctor, but our problems have been growing for decades, exacerbated at every turn by incompetent and overreaching government and bureaucrats. We have been experiencing shortages for years in various MD specialties and nursing. One of the drivers behind the doctor shortages is that the resident training programs are government regulated. Even though med schools have been asking for an increase in available training slots, the government has failed to respond.

Enter Obamacare. This horrible piece of legislation has served mainly to discourage many qualified people from going into the medical field, worsening existing personnel shortages. It has driven up the cost of healthcare for everyone by mandating expensive coverages that some formerly chose to decline (i.e., free birth control, abortions). For example, the Little Sisters of the Poor don't feel they should have to provide birth control, as they believe in abstinence in their order. This is a glaring example of topdown government overreach—thus the endless and expensive court battles.

Many believe that COVID broke our medical system. The truth is that COVID was the straw that broke the camel's back. Medicine had been strained to the breaking point prior to COVID's arrival and only served to magnify and accelerate its decline. COVID served to expose the problems of too few doctors and nurses, the chaos caused by copious layers of bureaucracy and red tape, the failure of the AMA and other well-known medical entities to stand for science and their patients rather than rhetoric and politics, and the terrifying dangers of unethical and politicized relationships between government

health agencies and big pharma. Add on top of that the "free" healthcare being granted to the swelling illegal immigrant population in the US and we have the recipe for disaster. Gone are the days of a patient and doctor making the best decision for the patient's medical care. This has been replaced by onerous Medicare/Medicaid requirements that insurance companies are all too quick to follow, "managed" care decisions made by non-medically trained pencil-pushers, and the full weight of the cost of care being forced onto the "paying" customers (i.e., the taxpayers and employed).

Most Americans, including myself, are happy to help those in real need. We are blessed beyond measure in the USA. But we have broken an imperfect but really good system. Only honest examination and actual problem-solving can stop the decline.

WAKE UP SPOKANE COUNTY

PRECINCT COMMITTEE OFFICERS (PCOs)

Terms began -December 1, 2022.

If you do not know your Precinct number, you can find it at:

<u>https://voter.votew</u> <u>a.gov/</u>

Submit your name and birthday & click registration link to get your precinct number.

PCOs are such important connections between the people and the candidates. Please let us know if you do not have a PCO in your precinct. https://wsrp.org/as sets/uploads/2022/ 05/2022-PCO-Manual.pdf

Would you consider volunteering?

Healthcare – it's complicated

Excerpt from a column originally published November 3, 2018 in The Spokesman-Review, reprinted by permission of the author, Sue Lani Madsen. Follow at <u>suelanimadsen.substack.com</u>.

Healthcare reform has been a political slogan generator for more than a decade. Repeal and Replace! Medicare for All! Democrats tried reforming healthcare through the Affordable Care Act, stuffing everything including the kitchen sink, the bathtub and the water troughs down at the old corral into a single bloated bill. Speaker Nancy Pelosi was pilloried for saying we'd have to "pass it to know what's in it." An unfortunate word choice. "What's in it?" turned into the inevitable unintended consequences. Republicans tried repealing the whole thing, knowing it wouldn't go anywhere with a Democrat still in the White House. Small reforms passed quietly with bipartisan support, fixing functional flaws in the original ACA. A few substantial health care bills made it out of the Republican Congress to be signed by a Democratic president. Olivia Hnat, spokesperson for Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers, pointed to the "21st Century Cures Act," co-sponsored by McMorris Rodgers, as an example of that bipartisanship. Then the White House changed hands. After politicizing the massive size of the ACA and its accompanying regulations, Republicans tried an incremental strategy. Instead of one big bill to repeal and replace, there would be a series of bills, each dependent on the others to provide the complete reform but able to pass through regular order. That was the theory. In practice, it bogged down and created a lot of small targets for Democratic partisans to politicize.

We are a compassionate country. We have consensus on protecting people with pre-existing conditions, even if there's no consensus on how best to do it. There's consensus on keeping Medicare for the elderly. We know there are fragile families in our communities. We want everyone to have access to health care. But nobody believes anybody's claims anymore. Medicare is not sustainable without major changes. We still need health care reform. Trouble is, there's no group providing pressure. Bipartisan ideas don't let anyone score points. They're complicated.

SAVE THE DATES



CONTACT US www.SpokaneGOP.com

FIND US

Facebook.com/SpokaneGOP YouTube.com/SpokaneGOP Instagram.com/SpokaneGOP

SUPPORT US https://www.spokanegop.com/donate

FMLA

IMO - Family Medical Leave Act: Is a socialist program disguised

as a payroll tax but in reality is, a state-run insurance program. With little variation, employers are mandated to take .8% of employees' gross wages and remit to a medical "slush" fund controlled by our state. Workers who need medical time off can apply for benefits. The problem? Every other worker in the state is funding the program with their own hard-earned wages - and not by choice. If you have no need for time off and are already struggling financially, sympathies for recipients quickly turn into resentment. This is not about compassion and desire to help others; it is about being forced to pay into a program and one that you won't reap the benefits from. We are not a state that requires employee benefits to be provided by employers; or are we? Washington started with increasing minimum wage, dished up Paid Time Off (PTO), served FMLA and finished with salarv mandates.

https://www.lni.wa.gov/formspublications/F700-207-000.pdf

How is any of this constitutional? REPEAL AND REPLACE with a program that assists employees but does not mandate employee and employer support it.

https://www.washingtonpolicy.org/public ations/detail/washington-becomes-5thstate-with-paid-family-and-medicalleave-law

https://www.washingtonvotes.org/2017-SB-5975 Senate Bill 5975: Relating to paid family and medical leave https://paidleave. wa.gov/history SENATE REPUBLICANS

2017

Becker (R) Braun (R) Fain (R) Fortunato (R) King (R) Miloscia (R) O'Ban (R) Rivers (R) Schoesler (R) M. Walsh (R) Warnick (R) Wilson (R) Zeiger (R)

in support:

HOUSE REPUBLICANS in support:

Dent (R) Graves (R) Haler (R) Harmsworth (R) Harris (R) Irwin (R) MacEwen (R) Manweller (R) McCabe (R) McDonald (R) Muri (R) Smith (R) Stambaugh (R) Stokesbary (R) VanWerven (R) Wilcox (R)

Ponderosa Republican Women, PRW http://www.PonderosaRepublicanWomen.com

House Republicans

https://houserepublicans.wa.gov/2021/02/01/how-you-can-be-

involved-in-the-legislative-process/

Interested in sharing your ideas, knowledge or time? Please consider volunteering for a GOP committee position. If interested in helping with the Communications Committee or submitting work, you <u>MUST</u> meet the submission deadline. Contact Terri for more information at <u>terrizalevits@gmail.com</u>.