

## What is Personhood?

Under our laws, when the term "Person" is applied to a human being, it refers to the presence of a particular set of individual rights such as the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. In other words, to be a legal person is to be protected by a series of God-given and constitutionally protected rights.

### Education

A personhood campaign affords pro-lifers an unequalled opportunity to discuss the biological facts of human development and to advocate for the lives of every preborn person.

### Legislative

Kansas constitutional amendments are the supreme law of the state and the courts must abide by them. They are also advantageous in that they are not subject to a pro-abortion Governor's veto. In Kansas, a 2/3rds majority of both legislative houses and a referendum with a simple majority of Kansas voters is required to pass an amendment. Make your voice heard by signing and volunteering to help with the Personhood Kansas petition, by contacting your legislators in support of personhood, and by voting to affirm the rights of all persons, born and preborn.

### Sample Language

From the 2010 Colorado Personhood Amendment

The term "person" shall apply to every human being from the beginning of the biological development of that human being.

In his famous letter from a Birmingham jail, Martin Luther King sums up the belief that we must attempt to end abortion right now:

"We know through painful experience that freedom is never voluntarily given by the oppressor; it must be demanded by the oppressed. Frankly, I have yet to engage in a direct action campaign that was 'well timed' in the view of those who have not suffered unduly from the disease of segregation. For years now I have heard the word 'Wait!' It rings in the ear of every Negro with piercing familiarity. This 'Wait' has almost always meant 'Never.' We must come to see, with one of our distinguished jurists, that 'justice too long delayed is justice denied.'"

As a movement, we know what our goal is: to have all children in the womb protected by love and by law. It is important that we learn the lessons of history and rely on the moral clarity of our God-given moral law to guide our efforts not on demoralizing legal and moral subterfuge.



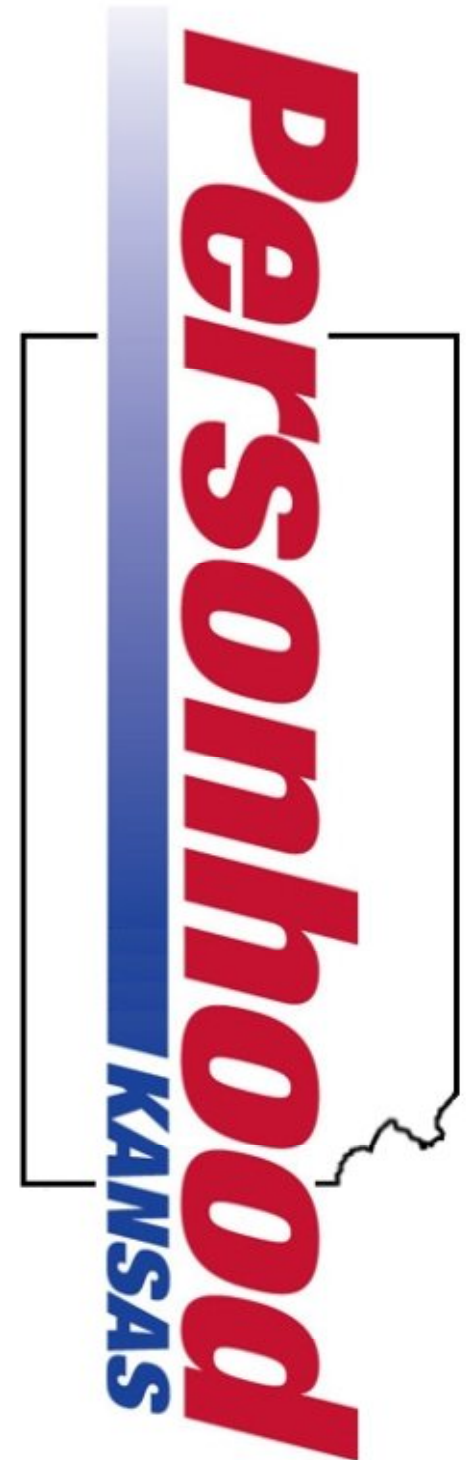
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## Statement of Purpose

The goal of Personhood Kansas is to conduct a campaign which results in the amending of the Kansas Constitution so that every child of God is protected by love and by law. In so doing, our greatest desire is to glorify Jesus Christ.

Every person is endowed by our Creator with the right to life. Abortion for any reason is wrong because abortion kills a baby and violates this sacred right. Because abortion takes the life of an innocent person, abortion undermines the value of all human life. Supporters of Personhood Kansas are united in our belief that it is always wrong to kill a baby.

Every human being leaves a legacy consequential to the lives they live, not only for the things we do, but equally significant for the things we do not do. By sanctioning the killing of preborn children, the people of Kansas have put ourselves at odds with the clear commands of our Creator, and, as a consequence, we will assuredly reap what we sow.

Although many of us have lived in Kansas for decades and have dedicated ourselves to ending abortion, we have been unable to do so incrementally. The consequence is that abortion on demand has become institutionalized and the killing continues unabated. Personhood is a way forward. We covet your support in this effort to recognize legal personhood for our youngest citizens and end all abortion in Kansas now!

## Why Personhood?

Since 1973, *Roe v. Wade* has ushered in an era of on demand abortion that has seen the brutalization and slaying of over 50 million American children. The key to protecting the most vulnerable and defenseless among us is embedded in the decision. In what has come to be known as the "Blackmun Hole," Justice Harry Blackmun writes that "if this suggestion of [preborn] personhood is established, the [pro-abortion] case, of course, collapses, for the fetus' right to life would then be guaranteed specifically by the [14th] Amendment." He believed that the case for decriminalized abortion rested on the fact that the preborn had never been legally recognized as "persons."

In subsequent cases, the Kansas Supreme Court has agreed that it is legitimate for the legislature to recognize rights of the preborn that are intrinsic to all human beings. "If it is the desire of the people in Kansas to give the same protection to a fetus as it gives to a human being, it is the legislative branch which is the proper forum to resolve the issue." (*State vs. Trudell*, 1988)

Throughout history, the definition of the word "person" has been used to discriminate against certain classes of living human beings. As you know, in our own nation's past there have been times when women and African Americans were not considered full human persons. Ultimately, these injustices did not stand because people of all walks of life demanded equal protection under the law for these persons. So too, the Personhood movement recognizes a human being's full status as a human person irrespective of any inadvertent or arbitrary properties such as age, race, gender, health, functionality, dependency, or method of reproduction. In this way, personhood is the final chapter of the civil rights movement.

In 2008, Colorado Pro-lifers took advantage of the initiative process and collected enough signatures to put a state constitutional personhood amendment on the ballot. Pro-lifers lost that battle, but not before receiving 618,779 votes in favor of the amendment—often enough to win a statewide election. Instead of simply accepting defeat, the organizers knew the victory had already been had in pioneering the state by state personhood effort. They are at it again for 2010, and the national publicity of the Colorado measure has sparked personhood movements all across the country!

It's our turn Kansas! Join us in supporting personhood. By signing this petition, you are voicing your insistence to our legislators to amend the Kansas Constitution and recognize the legal right of personhood for all living human beings, born and preborn. After passage in the legislature, the amendment will call for a referendum and will be voted on by the people of Kansas. Your signature will indicate that your vote will be to affirm the right to full personhood for all human persons.

Will you stand with us? Will you be a voice for the voiceless? The success of this movement depends on you—the people. It's easy and it only takes a minute to tell our legislators that we support an amendment to the Kansas Constitution protecting the right to personhood for all people from the very beginning of our lives.



[www.PersonhoodKansas.com](http://www.PersonhoodKansas.com)