



SC House of Representatives Ad Hoc Committee Public Hearing
Blatt Building, Room 110, State House Complex, Columbia, South Carolina
July 7, 2022

Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee, I'm Steve Lefemine with Christians for Personhood. Our purpose is to glorify God the Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ, Who is God the Son, in the power of God the Holy Spirit, by seeking to Establish Justice for pre-birth human beings, in law, at fertilization, and that without exception, because God's Word says: "Thou shalt not kill (murder)." Exodus 20:13, KJV.

In keeping with that purpose, I ask you strike all after the words, "BY ADDING" in the Committee placeholder bill, H5399, and insert thereafter the language of the Personhood Act of South Carolina H5401, without the trigger law language, which is no longer needed with the overturn of Roe v Wade now 13 days ago. The Personhood Act of SC recognizes the Creator God-given, inherent, unalienable right to life of every human being as a natural person, beginning at fertilization, in SC Law. If passed, it would establish Justice, and ultimately END and ABOLISH ALL Child-Murder-by-"Abortion" in SC, *without exception*.

Three days ago on July 4th, our country celebrated the 246th Anniversary of the adoption of the 1776 Declaration of Independence, which is today part of the organic law of the United States of America, found in Volume One of the US Code. Most Americans are familiar with the second sentence of the Declaration, which begins, "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," etc. However, looking at the Declaration's first sentence, we see the very basis asserted by our country's framers for America's right to exist as a separate and equal nation, was upon "the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God".

Indeed, William Blackstone's *Commentaries on the Laws of England* were published in the decade preceding the beginning of the American Revolution, and for about 100 years were a principal source for the training of lawyers *in America*. Blackstone's *Commentaries* stated in the Introduction, "Upon these two foundations, the law of nature and the law of revelation, depend all human laws; that is to say, no human laws should be suffered to contradict these." So Blackstone wrote in the 1760's all human laws rightly depend upon the law of nature and the law of revelation. And in America's 1776 Declaration of Independence, in the very first sentence, it states the basis on which America is entitled to exist as a separate and equal nation, is upon "the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God".

Blackstone explained the source of the law of revelation thusly: "The doctrines thus delivered we call the revealed or divine law, and they are to be found only in the holy scriptures." In summary then, the rightful and just basis for all human laws is the Law of God: that is, God's Laws in Nature, and God's Law in the Holy Scriptures, the Bible.

It is worthy of note, according to the history of the USC School of Law here in Columbia, South Carolina, Blackstone's *Commentaries* were a principal part of the Law School curriculum at least two times during the period 1867-1877.

Inasmuch as the subject matter at hand today is the end and abolition of child-murder by "abortion", Blackstone also stated: "To instance in the case of murder: this is expressly forbidden by the divine, and demonstrably by the natural law; and, from these prohibitions, arises the true unlawfulness of this crime." He stated, "Nay, if any human law should allow or injoin us to commit it, we are bound to transgress that human law, or else we must offend both the natural and the divine." So human laws which allow child-murder by "abortion" are an offense to God and His Law.

Lastly, the Oath of Office taken by Members of the SC House of Representatives concludes with the words "preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of this State and of the United States, So Help me God." The Preamble of the U.S. Constitution includes among the purposes for which the Constitution was ordained and established, that of to "establish Justice". Please uphold your Oath of Office, so help you God, by establishing Justice for pre-birth human beings, in law, at fertilization, and that without exception, because God's Word says: "Thou shalt not kill (murder)." Exodus 20:13, KJV.