



DIOCESE OF PUEBLO
C O L O R A D O

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

11 October 2024

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The October 1 Feast of our diocesan patroness, St Therese of Lisieux, has initiated the month of Respect Life. In prayer through this month, I write today about one issue of deep concern on the upcoming Colorado November ballot, Amendment 79 ‘Right To Abortion.’ I must clearly urge you to Vote ‘No.’

In hope, faith, and compassion, we are called to protect life in all its stages and forms, preborn and living, all God’s children. Much of society today is complacent with the notion of the ‘right’ to abortion without understanding its dire consequences. Amendment 79 enshrines this tragedy in our constitution and proposes to increase the attack on the unborn, their mothers, families, and the integrity of the communities of Colorado in three ways.

First, it removes all commonsense safeguards to Colorado’s 2022 extreme abortion law, the Reproductive Healthy Equity Act (RHEA), and makes abortion an unrestricted and unregulated ‘right’ for all 9 months -- even on healthy mothers with healthy babies when the child can feel pain and is able to survive outside the womb.

Second, it eliminates the parental notification requirement for their minors receiving an abortion. This will permanently abrogate parents’ rights of responsibility for their child’s psychological, emotional and medical welfare. Those parental decisions will now be legally assumed and guided by people, pressures and influences outside the family.

Third, Amendment 79 will allow taxpayer funding for all abortions, currently prohibited by the constitution. Countless children known only to God, brought forward both in-state and out-of-state, will die in Colorado, funded by Colorado taxpayer dollars. We will be obligated to participate, regardless of faith or conviction, through our own tax dollars.


Amendment 79 proposes to make these three changes permanent. Period.

As a Catholic nonprofit we are not permitted to support or oppose political candidates or parties in an election. But we are most definitely encouraged to engage and speak on ballot issues that impact our mission. We have the right, and as Christians we have the duty, to speak from the heart and condemn this unjust and irreversible Amendment 79.

As Catholics we have a moral obligation to exercise our right to vote (CCC 2240). We must stand together to ensure that our state constitution reflects respect for life, parental rights, and communal responsibility for all God’s children. We must pray, get the word out, work with prolife brothers and sisters, and Vote ‘No’ on Amendment 79.

To learn more, visit our diocesan website, the Colorado Catholic Conference website for our voter guide, and www.RightToKnowCO.com to support the campaign against Amendment 79. It will also be helpful to review the USCCB website, “Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship”.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Most Reverend Stephen J. Berg, Bishop of Pueblo