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Press Release

National Life Chain Sunday 2004, October 3

2:30 - 3:30 PM in Each Time Zone

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Sunday, October 3, in its annual event, **National Life Chain** will occupy public sidewalks in more than 1,000 North American cities and towns. With firm commitment to the sanctity of human life, participants will stand silently and pray, while holding signs that include *Abortion Kills Children; Adoption: The Loving Option; Lord, Forgive Us and Our Nation; and Abortion Hurts Women*. As evidenced by the sign messages, the event is devoted to ending legalized abortion—a form of legal violence that has mutilated and killed far more innocent humans than have many decades of foreign terrorist activity.

Mindful of that prevailing truth, Life Chain equates legalized abortion with government-sanctioned terrorism, and the predictive consequences are proving ruinous in the extreme. "Today our culture is courting collapse," said Life Chain director Royce Dunn, "with sodomy demanding matrimonial rights, pornography flourishing unabated, illegitimacy producing one-third of all births, and traditional marriage struggling to survive against cohabitation and divorce. Beyond that, a haunting fear has settled in on our homeland as al-Qaida cells patiently wait in major cities and talk of nuclear suitcase bombs breeds numbing uncertainty." Of these conditions, Dunn asks: "Does God still judge nations, as the Bible says? And is God still committed to humbling apostate superpowers? The answer is yes, and He weeps for America." The 9/11 terrorist attacks in New York and Washington did not equal one day's killing in U.S. abortuaries where, in the words of Harvard law professor and appellate court jurist John T. Noonan, "[There] are no laws which regulate the suffering of the aborted like those sparing pain to dying animals." Imagine the terror preborns endure when the steel instruments tear into their bodies, yet their pain and abuse are addressed with judicial silence, and few fellow countrymen have ever spent time praying at their nearest abortuary?

Forty-five million preborn Americans have been surgically aborted with U.S Supreme Court approval, and millions more have been killed by abortive birth controls. Meanwhile, a wide majority of our continent's 500,000 pulpits have either surrendered to the forces destroying our culture, or they are in retreat. Of such neglect of duty, as related to preborn children, anti-Nazi crusader and revered pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer observed that no civil law compels the Church to defend the innocent and helpless but that God's moral law certainly does. When, prolife asks of the Church, will you garner devout, courageous leadership and reclaim your invincible weapons, namely Integrity and Resolve? With that divine arsenal, the Church can escape its paralyzing abandonment of compassion, fueled by lukewarmness, and plead the case of the unborn to win it.

If that message is somber, along with the evident truth that "Abortion Kills Children," Life Chain will also remind millions of observant motorists on October 3 that "Jesus Forgives and Heals" repentant hearts. In like manner, He is willing to forgive and heal America and Canada if we who call Jesus our Lord will truly repent of our apathy and inaction. To that end, Life Chain urges pastors to lead their congregations and parishes to their local sidewalks on **Life Chain Sunday**. Said Dunn, "The future of our nation rests foremost with our clergy. They create the moral climate in which our government functions, and they are surely our most vital leaders, with the highest level of accountability before God. Only with their leadership can prolife hope to see legalized abortion end."

Life Chain welcomes everyone who believes human life is sacred and will defend it peacefully. Participants are asked to follow the Life Chain Code of Conduct and be exemplary citizens who do not respond negatively to criticism or verbal abuse. Participants are to remain prayerful for the entire hour and avoid frivolity and casual conversation. Thus far, over 9,000 Chains have been built in North America, and no participant has been arrested or cited for an illegal act, so far as the national Life Chain office is aware.