

Natal Binding, Reproductive Slavery

Union of Saints Position Statement

Union of Saints stands firmly as moderate conservatives. We oppose force and coercion in all forms. We actively promote liberty, freedom, and justice. Therefore, we believe that a significant blind spot within both the Republican and Democratic parties lies in the issue of women's choice.

Human trafficking remains widespread today, affecting an estimated one in four women. Human slavery has never been fully eradicated. One in three women will experience sexual abuse in her lifetime. There are also mass movements and cultural patterns that promote manipulation, subjugation, and harm against women, including battery, honor killings, and femicide. Men continue to account for the majority of violent harms, including assault with deadly weapons and participation in warfare, much of which disproportionately impacts women. This also includes the torment and torture of women in various forms.

For these reasons, we hold firmly that no woman should ever be forced into a marital or natal binding with a man unless it is her choice. We believe that where this choice is removed, women are subjected to forms of war and human slavery. We further believe in protecting not only a woman's autonomy, but also her dignity. Any form of protest, coercion, or unjust vilification of women for making these deeply difficult decisions is not an expression of free speech, but rather a form of weaponized speech or verbal assault.

While we understand that aspects of this issue remain debated, such as stages of pregnancy, including late-term considerations, or the role of adoption, we must address the realities that are often overlooked. Adoption is frequently presented as a solution. However, data indicates that victims of human trafficking are often connected to the foster care system. According to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), of the children reported as missing runaways who were later identified as victims of child sex trafficking, 88 percent were in the care of social services or foster care at the time they went missing. This raises serious concerns about systemic vulnerabilities that cannot be ignored.

For most women, this decision is not made lightly or in haste. Those who oppose abortion often apply personal beliefs, including moral or faith-based principles, across an entire and diverse population. We do not agree with this approach. Because we stand firmly against all forms of human slavery, including the subjugation of women, we view this issue not as a matter of debate alone, but as a matter of fundamental rights.

A woman's subjugation often begins with control over her body. Human beings are not separate from nature, and forced birth can result in severe complications for both the woman and the child, including loss of life. A critical blind spot remains in how women are penalized simply for being women, particularly in cases involving abuse or rape, where forced birth can compound trauma and function as a form of continued subjugation.

Even in cases where a child is placed for adoption, the risks associated with trafficking and exploitation remain significant in the current global environment. The scale of this risk is too

great to dismiss. Even if such risks did not exist, forcing a woman to reproduce against her will would still constitute a form of slavery.

In this matter, the Union of Saints stands with women, and this position will not change. The founder of the Union of Saints affirms support for girls and women, as well as boys and men, and for their freedom of will and choice. We offer unwavering support for the freedom, dignity, and autonomous choice of all girls and women. Any system that compels the use of a girl's or woman's body against her will stands in direct opposition to the principles of liberty, justice, and human dignity. Freedom cannot coexist with coercion; where coercion governs the body, liberty does not exist.

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