

RESOLUTION: MORAL CHOICE

WHEREAS the 12th General Synod of the United Church of Christ has reaffirmed full freedom of choice for the persons concerned in making decisions regarding pregnancy; affirmed that all persons are called by our Lord Jesus Christ to celebrate, nurture and support life; affirmed the fact that, since life is less than perfect and the choices that people have to make are more difficult, abortion may sometimes be considered; and affirmed that within the context of the concern for the sacredness of individual lives, as exemplified in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, God calls us when making choices, especially as these relate to abortion, to act faithfully; and

WHEREAS religious theologies differ as to the definition of the moment when life begins; and

WHEREAS the Supreme Court determined that abortion in the first two trimesters was a constitutional right and that the state could interfere, not in the first trimester, but in the second only to protect the health of the woman,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that to provide access for all to a fundamental right; and to protect the right of individuals to act on the basis of their conscience and personal religious principles, free from government interference, the Connecticut Conference calls upon the Department of Church and Society, the pastors and members of the Conference, to:

1. actively oppose a constitutional amendment or any federal legislation that would mandate or prohibit abortion;
2. encourage the enactment of legislation on the local, state and federal levels to provide equal access to and financial support for abortion and for non-abortion alternatives;
3. inform others as to the theological and ethical values which underlie the position of those who advocate the right to choose abortion and those who endorse non-abortion alternatives;
4. provide spiritual and practical counseling and support to insure that the decision of a woman to have an abortion or to have the baby . be based upon thoughtful, conscientious consideration.