



'Restore the sanctity of human life'

July 5, 2000

Archbishop Chaput issued the following statement on June 28 in response to the U.S. Supreme Court decision overturning the Nebraska ban on partial birth abortion.

"Today the United States Supreme Court in a 5-4 decision struck down the Nebraska Partial-Birth Abortion ban, thus legalizing the dismemberment of partially delivered babies.

This is not a moment for sanitized or `diplomatic' language. What the Court has done is open the gates to a uniquely savage and repugnant form of violence against the young. This is a disastrous ruling. It will have far-reaching and unintended consequences — consequences we will look back on and bitterly regret.

From today forward, the task remains the same for believers, only more urgent: to use every moral and legal means at our disposal to bring our country back to its senses and restore the sanctity of human life."

+ Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap., Archbishop of Denver