



May 3, 2010

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. President:

Concerned Women for America (CWA) is the nation's largest public policy women's organization with over 500,000 members around the country. We seek to promote Biblical values among all citizens. In keeping with our foundation, which is prayer and action, CWA's nearly 500 prayer/action state chapters meet every month to pray for our country. Be assured that CWA is praying for you, your family, and your administration.

Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. (1Timothy 2:1-4)

The purpose of our letter is to respectfully ask that you consider our concerns as you evaluate possible nominees for the next Supreme Court vacancy. The Bible teaches us that a judge must be impartial (See Leviticus 19:15, Deuteronomy 16:19, among others) and we are concerned about some of your statements suggesting you want a justice who is "empathetic" towards certain groups.

Judges should not take sides in disputes, but instead, they should stand strongly and respectfully for the Constitution. A judge who is willing to effectively and unilaterally amend the Constitution in order to reach a desired outcome, whether that outcome is one we like or not, is a danger to our liberties and freedoms.

We were encouraged to hear your recent comments which implied that you do not have a litmus test when looking at possible candidates. However, the statements surrounding that comment suggest you do indeed have a litmus test when it comes to a "woman's right to choose."

CONCERNED WOMEN FOR AMERICA

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In light of your sincere statement during your campaign that you do not know when life begins, we respectfully request that you reconsider this position. If life begins at conception, as CWA and millions of Americans believe, surely you can understand the conflict between the right of “privacy” you allude to and the right of that child to live, which is explicitly guaranteed by the Constitution.

Some of the names reported in the media suggest you are applying that litmus test in evaluating candidates. Take, for example, Judge Diane Wood. In looking at Judge Wood’s record, one cannot help but conclude she is a staunch “pro-choice” advocate, willing to go to great lengths to protect her personal interpretation of “a woman’s right to choose.” See *Hope Clinic v. Ryan*, 195 F.2d 857 (dissenting) and *A Woman's Choice-East Side Women's Clinic v. Newman*, 305 F.3d 684 (7th Cir. 2002).

In the infamous *NOW vs. Scheidler* case, Wood sided with abortionists in their attempt to sue pro-lifers under RICO, as if peaceful pro-life protesters were mobsters. The U.S. Supreme Court struck down her decision *on an 8-1 decision*. Even after the Supreme Court had ruled, Judge Wood tried — in a clear case of judicial activism — to circumvent their ruling and continue the case through some elaborate reasoning. Finally, the Supreme Court was forced to intervene again to overturn her actions. Wood’s support of abortion rights even extend to the discredited practice of partial-birth abortion, which even many “pro-choice” supporters reject.

A nominee of this ilk will inevitably attract a strong negative reaction from the millions of Americans who believe as we do, that judges should be impartial administrators of the law.

We pray you would choose a nominee that makes *all* Americans feel proud. At a time when the political chasm between citizens seems to be expanding at an alarming rate, such an admirable move would certainly do a lot to bring us back together and rally for the common purpose of doing what is best for America.

Sincerely,

Penny Nance
Chief Executive Officer
Concerned Women for America