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## **GUNS AND ABORTION: LIFE AND DEATH ISSUES**

By Stephen L. Bakke  October 19, 2017



*Here's what provoked me:*

*There are many debates that deal with life and death issues, but for me, there is considerable direct conflict and irony in the debates about abortion and gun deaths.*

*Here's my response:*

### **Guns and Abortion: Life and Death Issues**

Today's most important policy debates deal with life and death issues. Among the many, I find the most conflict and irony in those about guns and abortion.

First, my opinion on gun control. Embedded in what the Founders said and wrote about firearms seems to be a presumption of order and competence, achieved through rules, regulations, training and limited controls. Let's be smart and attack this problem with wisdom, not emotion.

I request equally fair evaluations from those who believe abortion rights are inalienable and gun ownership is evil. Please know that many of us believe abortion terminates a human life. It's not about control over women. It's our sincere belief about sanctity of life.

Consider:

- The number of gun deaths from homicides and accidents in the U.S. is tragic. Those occur 12,000 to 13,000 times per year;
- There are also too many abortions in the U.S. Terminating lives in that way now totals over 900,000 annually.

The contrast in those statistics is stunning. Stop mocking our legitimate and heartfelt concerns with statements such as these published quotes:

- There's a "creepy obsession with women's reproductive choices";
- "Myths like 'life begins at conception' don't belong in the law."

Respect legitimate opinions.