

Letters to Gabriel

Twenty-six years after the Supreme Court legitimized infanticide in *Roe v. Wade*, God still provides beautiful and powerful reminders of how precious life is. *Letters to Gabriel* is one such reminder. These letters poignantly convey the love of a mother for her pre-born son, as well as the incredible pain of discovering a fatal defect and losing that son only two hours after his birth. While legislators and lobbyists wrestle with technical arguments about when life begins, Karen Garver Santorum's words to her pre-born son speak to those of us who know that life begins at conception — or before.

Karen, the wife of U.S. Senator Rick Santorum (R - Pa.), has achieved much as a neonatal nurse and a lawyer, yet she considers motherhood her highest calling. She counts herself blessed to have learned the lessons that her dear son taught her, and she thanks God for his life.

This collection of personal letters has helped thousands of women who have suffered the loss of their own infants, to find emotional and spiritual healing. The foreword by Mother Teresa and an introduction by Dr. Laura Schlessinger testify to the profound philosophical and theological truths contained in Karen's expression of a mother's love.

Cues for 106th Congress

Building the Family, Building the Republic: Policy Proposals for the 106th Congress outlines 19 legislative priorities that, if enacted, the Family Research Council believes would represent a remarkable advance for the American family. It is an introduction to foundational concerns about education, federalism, foreign policy, the sanctity of life, community life, and the family.

While *The Common Sense* is best understood when paired with *Policy Proposals*, it provides its own insight into many issues. Based upon a poll of voters in the November 3, 1998 election, it establishes the bottom-line for legislators:

- 1.** Honor the traditional institution of the family.
- 2.** Hold congressional hearings that shed more light on medical science relevant to abortion policy.
- 3.** Employ time-tested public health procedures such as partner notification in the battle against AIDS.
- 4.** Allow the option of deducting their children's education expenses from taxable income.
- 5.** Provide a national missile defense system to protect our country.
- 6.** Reduce the tax burden on American families.

Support for family-friendly policies comes from diverse factions. This indicates that there is still Common Sense — written within the hearts of most Americans.

