

SUE HAD.

Dr. Brian Clowes, Human Life International's researcher, has examined the data from the 2007 Statistical Abstract of the United States (most recent census data) and extrapolated the numbers of the various professions and categories of Americans who have been eliminated in the wake of nearly 49 million legalized abortions, one third of all Americans conceived since 1973.

The following numbers are based on the actual government estimates of the professions represented in America.

So then, who have we lost to abortion? Two U.S. presidents; seven Supreme Court justices; 102 U.S. senators and 589 congressmen; 8,123 federal, district and local court judges; 31 Nobel Prize laureates; 328 Olym-

children aborted).

These numbers represent only a few of the professions that Americans actually work in and are by no means a full portrayal of the total American workforce.

What they demonstrate, however, is the immense human toll that abortion takes on a society.

Abortion-promoters present abortion as an exclusively private choice, but 35 years of abortion exposes the perniciousness of that lie. There is a social toll that comes from abortion which cannot easily be corrected.

The love of life, marriage and family never leaves its adherents penniless, lonely or abandoned, and every now and then God throws in a Heisman Trophy just to show the rest of us that it's all worth it.

**Gerry Wasilewski, R.N.
Boiling Springs**

West Pennsboro in good shape

Editor,

Please permit me to provide the context of West Pennsboro Township's weed ordinance (p. A5, "West Pennsboro Township News," Jan. 25, 2009).

This act was passed to give the township authority to act against those who let their lawns go unmowed during summer months or are responsible for the spread of noxious weeds.

Like the dog barking ordinance, this provides a legal basis for maintaining a standard of care, where unkempt and unsightly residential

Instead, where chronic situations generate resident complaints the township has a means to seek corrective action.

For the full text of this and other ordinances, please go to www.westpennsborotwp.org.

There is a lot of good news in West Pennsboro Township: taxes have not been raised for more than 12 years, no residential services tax, a progressive Zoning ordinance that preserves open space, our great and growing municipal park, and the best road crew and

State brought out best in Lincoln

Abraham Lincoln did not spend much time in Pennsylvania. His ancestors had already done that; grand-father Abraham Lincoln was born here in 1744.

By the time the future president was born in 1809, the Lincoln family had moved on, first to Virginia, and then to Kentucky. Pennsylvania would be the place President-elect Lincoln passed through on the way to Washington. What Mr. Lincoln did in Pennsylvania has not been long remembered, but what he said in the commonwealth will live in American history. In Lincoln's mind, Pennsylvania would always be associated with freedom. When he arrived in Philadelphia on February 21, 1861. President-elect Lincoln expressed a wish to stay in the city long enough "to listen to those breathings rising within the consecrated walls where the Constitution of the United States, and, I will add, the Declaration of American Independence was originally framed."

The next morning when Lincoln spoke in front of Independence Hall, he talked of his devotion to the principles of the Declaration of Independence, especially the quality principle which he had steadfastly been proclaiming since his famous three-hour speech in Peoria in 1854. In Philadelphia, Lincoln stated that the Declaration "was that which gave promise that in due time the weights should be lifted from the shoulders of all men, and that all should have an equal chance."

Lincoln noted that if the country could not "be saved upon that principle, it will be truly awful." He went

Guest Editorial



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Chairman of the Lincoln Institute

to go further than the night before in pledging his devotion to the Declaration, saying "I would rather be assassinated on this spot than to surrender" the "self-evident" truth that all men are created equal.

In Harrisburg later the same day, Lincoln's thoughts turned less violent. "It shall be my endeavor to preserve the peace of this country so far it can possibly be done, consistently with the maintenance of the institutions of the country," said Lincoln. "With my consent, or without my great displeasure, this country shall never witness the shedding of one drop of blood in fraternal strife." Lincoln did not return to Pennsylvania until 1863. By then, many of the 618,000 soldiers who lost their lives in the Civil War had already died - at least 6,000 of whom perished at the Battle of Gettysburg on July 1-3.

At the dedication of the Gettysburg military cemetery on November 19, Lincoln spoke first of the Declaration of Independence: "Four score and

seven years ago our fathers brought forth, on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal." Then he went to speak, and to honor the men who had shed their blood "that [the] nation might live."

President Lincoln concluded his two-minute address with a stirring tribute to the deceased and the principles for which they had died: "It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us - that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they here gave the last full measure of devotion - that we here highly resolve that these dead not have died in vain - that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom - and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

Before Lincoln himself perished at an assassin's hand in April 1865, the president would visit Pennsylvania one last time - to inaugurate the U.S. Sanitary Fair in Philadelphia on June 16, 1864. Composing some notes before he left Washington, Lincoln wrote of Philadelphia: "It was here in the days when our fathers, struggled to free themselves from the exactions, of the heartless mother country, that noble women met and organized, and went from precinct to precinct, soliciting aid for not only our sick, but these half clothed and barefooted soldiers" of the War for Independence.

Lewis E. Lehrman is chairman of The Lincoln Institute and author of Lincoln at Peoria: The Turning Point. He is a resident of Monroe Township.

Never too soon to start a garden