



THE HUMAN FAMILY  
RESEARCH CENTER

Every Human Being  
Leaves a Fingerprint on the Universe

## The “Casey” Standard

Those who try to convince us that abortion should be “safe, legal and rare” have now succeeded in further entrenching moral relativism in the rule of law. In *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, the Supreme Court said: “... for two decades of economic and social developments, people have organized intimate relationships and made choices that define their views of themselves and their places in society, in reliance on the availability of abortion in the event that contraception should fail.” This passage from *Casey* is evidence that the Court has accepted the deification of personal autonomy that has colloquially become known as “choice”. In reflecting the culture around them, the Justices had no room for truth - the biological reality of unborn children didn’t matter. They placed no special value on being human, if the life was not chosen. They conclude that abortion is necessary to our American freedom. This is not freedom grounded in morality, virtue or the common good without which democracy cannot survive. It is instead a mere expression of our individual will. In *Casey*, the Court also said: “At the heart of liberty is the right to define one’s own concept of existence, of meaning, of the universe, and of the mystery of human life.” The Supreme Court validated subjectivism, making morality dependant on how each person interprets external forces to create their own reality. There do not seem to be any ethical norms left that are more important than choice. If we were to plan our behavior on the basis of *Casey*, the only guides would be our version of reality and the choices through which we make our version come true. Moral relativism is not just a behavioral approach anymore; it is now mandated by our democracy according to the Justices of the *Casey* Court.