



DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS

Office of the Bishop

October 22/23, 2022

Dear Friends in Christ,

The Catechism tells us we have a duty to participate in public life and to contribute to the common good. Thus, it is vitally important that we choose to vote. When you head to the polls in just over two weeks, you will be asked whether the Michigan Constitution should be amended to allow “reproductive freedom for all.” This will appear on your ballot as Proposal 3.

Proposal 3 would not be passed as a law. You are voting to change the Constitution. Once we have done that – it is extremely difficult to revise or abolish.

Based on multiple legal evaluations, Proposal 3 would:

- Allow abortion up until birth
- Allow minors to pursue abortions and sterilization without parental notification or consent
- Exempt abortion facilities from safety regulations
- Allow anyone to perform an abortion, even if they don't have a medical license
- Prohibit the state from prosecuting a person who injures or causes the death of a woman during an abortion

All of these sensible measures to regulate abortion would be abolished.

The ramifications of Proposal 3 are profoundly troubling. If it passes, Michigan will have one of the most extreme abortion laws in the world – similar to China and North Korea. Is this what we want for our children and for Michigan's future?

Michigan women and children deserve better. **We must reject this radical proposal by voting No on Proposal 3.** The Catholic Church will continue to accompany and care for pregnant women in need of emotional, spiritual, or physical support. We will also care for their children – born and unborn.

Join me in praying that this proposal does not pass. May the Holy Spirit guide us as we head to the voting booth on election day!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend David J. Walkowiak
Bishop of Grand Rapids