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18 Cheshvan 5784
November 2, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

Coalition for Jewish Values represents over 2,500 traditional, Orthodox rabbis in matters of American public policy. Regarding the upcoming vote on Ohio Issue 1, concerning an amendment to the state constitution requiring unfettered access to abortion up until the gestational age of "fetal viability," we would like to clarify the traditional Jewish perspective on fetal life and abortion.

Jewish law permits abortion only under severely limited circumstances. Ohio Issue 1 directly contradicts Jewish values by claiming a "right" to terminate the life of a fetus in situations which Jewish sources condemn as murder. One can consult our [position paper on abortion](#) for more detailed information.

Issue 1 devalues human life. We join with all those in Ohio who understand that respect for human life is a moral imperative, and that includes the life even of those yet unborn.

Sincerely yours,

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Yaakov Menken".

Rabbi Yaakov Menken
Managing Director