

Euthanasia

WHEREAS humanistic, pro-choice efforts and philosophies rob life of its sacredness, both at the outset (abortion) and increasingly at its termination (euthanasia); and

WHEREAS active euthanasia, rather than just passive (withholding medication or removing life support systems), is increasingly propounded by even the medical profession (last year, ten doctors wrote in the *New England Journal of Medicine* that "It is not immoral for a physician to assist in the rational suicide of a terminally ill person," and more recently Dr. Jack Kevorkian's help to Janet Adkins to inject herself with deadly potassium chloride); and

WHEREAS in both abortion and self-euthanasia the general thought is that life only has dignity if it has quality, thereby allowing the elimination of any life deemed unfit or unwanted;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that we, the messengers of the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches, meeting for our 59th Annual Conference in Niagara Falls, New York, June 25–29, 1990, voice our unalterable opposition to any form of active euthanasia or self-imposed euthanasia (suicide), believing, as we do, in the sacredness of life in the sovereignty of our God in both giving life and taking it away, in the time-proven fact that sick or malformed persons often bring to the fore qualities of life and spirituality otherwise unknown and in the ways of our all-wise God, Who allows elderly people to linger seemingly in this life, and the sickly and malformed to be among us because thereby He tests our capacity to love and teaches us the depth of His own love for us;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that legislatively and judicially, we go on record agreeing with Mary Senander of the International Anti-Euthanasia Task Force, who says, "Homicides should be prosecuted, whether committed by thugs in dark alleys or doctors in bright rooms."

*Niagara Falls, New York
June 25-29, 1990*