



DOLLS

Daughters of Our Living Lord & Savior

DOLLS Headquarters

2001 W. Plano Pkwy, Suite 1205
Plano, Texas 75075

 DOLLS@DOLLSHeadquarters.com
 (469) 795-1047

STATEMENT ON THE SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE

The purpose of this statement is to affirm DOLLS' alignment with the truth of God's Word. There are attempts in our culture to deny the freedom of Christians to base our moral judgements on Biblical truth. This presents new challenges for Christ-centered organizations, like DOLLS, that hold to a historical Biblical interpretation of the sanctity of human life. We embrace this as an opportunity to examine and affirm our deeply held convictions and to articulate the position of DOLLS on these issues to anyone who inquires.

As image bearers of God, we believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image and therefore has intrinsic value (Genesis 1:27). Christians are therefore called to defend, protect, promote, and value all human life, oppose practices that destroy or devalue human life, and uphold the dignity and worth of every person.

- We believe that human life is created, formed, and granted breath by God for the purpose of His good pleasure and glory (Genesis 2:7; Job 33:4; Psalm 139:13–16; Isaiah 43:7; Zechariah 12:1; Ephesians 1:4–5; Acts 17:25). Man is unique among creation in that God has sovereignly chosen mankind alone to be created in His likeness, and thereby we hold a distinctive status that sets us apart from the rest of His creatures (Genesis 1:28; Matthew 6:26). Scripture teaches that humans are image bearers of God, exclusively commissioned to mirror His image and represent Him on this earth, and thus have sacred worth (Genesis 1:26–27, Genesis 9:6). This dignity is a position bestowed upon us by God Himself and is not based on a person's ability to sustain themselves, their competence to complete a task, or their political ideologies or worldview.
- We believe human life begins from the moment of conception (Jeremiah 1:5, Psalm 139). Human life is of inestimable worth in all its developmental stages, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other developmental stage from conception through natural death, without regard to condition or capability (Psalm 139:13–16; Jeremiah 1:4–5). God alone is entirely sovereign over human life and over the affairs of each individual life, including our frailty and infirmity (Deuteronomy 32:39).
- We believe showing love and respect for fellow image bearers represents an exercise of the obligations set forth by both the First and Second Commandments. According to Colossians 1:15, Christ, in His incarnation, is the exact image of the invisible God. This revelation of Christ as *imago Dei* has a significant ethical implication for the whole of humanity who in Genesis 1:28 is bestowed the unique duty of serving as God's image bearers on this earth, commissioned to mirror His image back to Him. This duty serves to endorse the unique sacredness of humans. As such, our designation as image bearers demands a reverence and regard that corresponds to the reverence and regard we would give to Christ himself. The second commandment to love our neighbor as ourselves is thereby *like unto* the first, which is to love God with all our heart and soul and strength. What we owe to God we owe to our neighbor, albeit in a derivative way. The worship we owe the one who is the Image incarnate provokes a respect for those created in that image. Additionally, James 3:9–10, offers a firm rebuke against the person who blesses God while cursing his neighbors, fellow image bearers. Therefore, the love and respect that is owed to God is due in a corresponding way to our neighbor.

"See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!
And that is what we are!" — 1 John 3:1 NIV

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- We believe that while man's earthly bodies will perish, the souls of man will last beyond death into eternity (John 5:28–29; 1 Corinthians 15:51–52; 2 Corinthians 5:8–10). He works everything, including when we are born and when we die, according to the counsel of his will (Job 14: 5; Psalm 100:3, Isaiah 45:9-12; Isaiah 64:8; Ephesians 1:11; James 4:13, 15). Therefore, God reserves for Himself all authority over the life and death of each person (Deuteronomy 32:39; Job 1:21; 1 Samuel 2:6; Psalm 31:15). Upon bodily death, each man will face judgment before a holy and righteous God (Matthew 6:27; Romans 14:10-12; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Hebrews 9:27; Revelation 22:12). The severity of this judgement seat necessitates man's commitment to preserving life until God's sovereignly appointed time for each individual. Therefore, we believe the gift of life should be cherished and not taken prematurely.
- We believe the Bible prohibits the intentional killing of innocent human beings (Genesis 9:6). This includes innocent human beings in the womb. Human dignity is derived from God, which he guards with an absolute prohibition against the taking of innocent life. Violence, abuse, oppression, human trafficking, and many other evils are also violations of the sanctity of human life. We also oppose active intervention with the intent to produce death (euthanasia), whether for the relief of suffering, economic considerations, or convenience of the person, family, or society. The harm or killing of an innocent human being who is made in God's image is an act of treason against the holy God of whom that person was created to mirror.
- To that end, we maintain that God gives a command through His scripture that holds mankind accountable for defending and protecting those who cannot speak for themselves as an act of worship unto Him (Proverbs 31:8; Matthew 25:45). We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value the dignity of every individual life equally, which compels us to love and have compassion for all peoples of the world without discrimination (2 Corinthians 5:14–15). We will strive to protect others from harm - whether from abortion, euthanasia, human trafficking, or other abuses.
- Because of our commitment to supporting and defending the value of human life, DOLLS will not provide or compensate any employee for contraception, abortion-inducing devices or drugs, or surgical abortion procedures as a means to terminating an unwanted pregnancy, or for in vitro fertilization or surrogacy as a means to a desired pregnancy. We will likewise counsel our constituents against such resources.
- We believe that all people must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. It will always be our intent as a ministry to reflect these qualities toward all people including both those with whom we share agreement and likewise with those with whom we disagree. Any behavior or attitudes not displaying these qualities should be repudiated, as they are not in accord with scripture or the Spirit of Christ.

LEADERSHIP STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR

- We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of DOLLS as a reliable, faithful, and trustworthy exercise of the visible community of Christian believers on Earth in our generation, it is our duty and honor to represent Christ in this age as a biblical role model to the young people we serve, their families, their churches, and the community at large. Therefore, it is imperative that all persons affiliated with leadership in DOLLS in any capacity, including those who serve as paid employees or unpaid volunteers, adult or minor, agree to and abide by this Statement on the Sanctity of Human Life (Matt. 5:16; Phil. 2:14- 16; 1 Thess. 5:22).



- Leadership in this ministry shall be reserved for those who voluntarily agree with this statement on the sanctity of human life. All leaders within the DOLLS ministry (including DOLLS Headquarters Staff, the Board of Directors, Legacy Counselors, Volunteers, student Officers (5 Main), Ambassadors, and Start-Up Captains) have the obligation to model and exemplify Christ-like behavior. Therefore, all those in leadership must uphold, in word and deed, the Biblical value of human life as delineated in this statement.
- All leaders must likewise abide by the ministry's Code of Christian Conduct as it relates to appropriate behavior. The ministry and individuals who lead within it will explicitly teach these truths honestly, prayerfully, sensitively, respectfully, contextually, age-appropriately, and with the conviction that we all sin and are in need of God's grace.
- Any deviation from agreement with this statement, whether in belief or practice will result in being pursued with the hope of repentance and restoration to the fellowship of classical Christian orthodoxy.

IMPLICATIONS

- This statement outlines the right and authority of DOLLS to prohibit acts or omissions, including but not limited to permitting any ministry assets or property (real, personal, intangible, intellectual, etc.), to be used in any way contrary to or inconsistent with the doctrines outlined herein.
- This statement is founded on biblical truth and is therefore not subject to change through popular vote, prevailing opinion, or interference by government authority or legal developments.
- Any effort by civil authority to require staff, volunteers, or members of this ministry to violate these provisions of our stated beliefs, shall be viewed as an attack on our religious liberties and the First Amendment rights as expressed in the Constitution of the United States, and will thereby lead to the only alternative left: Engaging in civil disobedience by refusing to comply with their demands, irrespective of the penalties, consequences and cultural stigma that may result as an act of faith that testifies: "We must obey God rather than men." (Acts 5:29.)

