



The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
P.O. Box 96920
Washington, D.C. 20024-9998

May 1, 2023

Dear Dr. Maureen Phipps,

On behalf of board members of the American Association of Pro-Life Obstetricians and Gynecologists (AAPLOG), we would like to invite you to a public debate with AAPLOG CEO Dr. Christina Francis at Duke University's campus this upcoming Fall semester on whether induced abortion is consistent with good medicine.

The Civil Discourse Project of The Kenan Institute for Ethics at Duke University has graciously agreed to host this debate between you and Dr. Francis. The Civil Discourse Project at Duke University sponsors courses, lectures, conferences, and research that concern the pressing questions of meaning, value, and spirit that confront us as human beings and citizens. The Civil Discourse Project believes that "we are best able to consider such questions when we expose our convictions to the scrutiny of an intellectually diverse community of friends who will both support and challenge us." It maintains that "the pursuit of truth and healthy civil discourse require the freedom of thought, inquiry, and expression."

We share in those beliefs about civil discourse and it is in that very spirit that we extend this invitation. Scientific progress and advancement depend on the free exchange of ideas; debate only benefits the wider medical community. Having this debate at a university setting will also aid attending medical students and residents, as they deserve to be given all available information with the freedom to personally discern their approach.

Given the cultural climate, openly debating induced abortion is of utmost importance and of national interest. While we are targeting a date in September, October, or November for this event, we want to take your schedule and availability into consideration. We look forward to hearing from you on whether you - or another ACOG representative - would be willing to engage in this scholarly debate this Fall semester. To accept, reject, or discuss this offer, please contact our Board Chair, Dr. Steven Braatz, at steven@aaplog.org.

Sincerely,
AAPLOG Board of Directors

Handwritten signatures of board members:
Lisa Gilbert, MD
Julie A. Middleton, M.D.
Susan M. Bane, MD, PhD
Steven Braatz
Robin Altman, UMAC
Elizabeth W. Milton, RNC, CLC, CNM