

Elder Ronald Wisbey, President  
Columbia Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists  
5427 Twin Knolls Road  
Columbia, MD 21045

April 8, 1994

Dear Elder Wisbey,

Greetings. I congratulate you on the position you will assume as the liaison between the Seventh-day Adventist Church and the Adventist Health Care Association. I once again appeal to you to do all that you can to reform the abortion practices of our hospitals. Your new job appears to place you in a very effective position to bring about changes in our hospitals that will protect the lives of many unborn children, and be consistent with Biblical, Seventh-day Adventist principles.

Sadly, I received the statistics for abortions performed at Washington Adventist Hospital and Shady Grove Adventist Hospital in 1993. There is no meaningful change in the number of abortions still being performed by our hospitals. The continued high number of unborn children being killed by these two hospitals constrains us to write this letter to you for assistance. With the turn of events that place you in your new position, we are seeking counsel from you for advice, suggestions or recommendations that you might have to offer that will aid the efforts to end this ungodly practice.

As long as our hospitals retain the current guidelines on abortion these high numbers will continue, since the loopholes in the guidelines make it extremely easy to provide abortion for any reason. We as a Christian church must insist that the only way to reduce the large number of abortions performed by Seventh-day Adventist hospitals is to adopt the policy that abortions will only be performed to save the life of the mother. That is the current policy of Arlington Hospital (Arlington, Virginia), a public, secular hospital, and the number of abortions performed there per year are less than fifty. I admire the courageous stand they have taken for the sanctity of life, and pray that we as Christians proclaiming the Truth and providing a world wide healing ministry can take the same stand.

I have enclosed a copy of the response from Dr. Albert S. Whiting, Director of the General Conference's Health and Temperance Department, to our first letter to the GC, as well as our response to his letter.

We believe the time has come to inform and educate the Seventh-day Adventist Church membership in the Columbia Union about what is being done in our hospitals as well as provide the facts about what the abortion procedure does to the woman and her child, spiritually, physically and psychologically. We again request your counsel for guidance and recommendations for the best way to do this. We sincerely believe that it is preferable for this issue to be addressed and resolved rapidly within our own organization.

Please, do not let this issue sit on a back burner. The lives of literally thousands of children are at stake. Our prayers are with you and for you in your new responsibilities. Please keep in communication with us.

With deepest Christian concern,

[REDACTED]  
New Life Community Seventh-day Adventist Church  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Elder  
New Life Community Seventh-day Adventist Church  
Waldorf, MD