



**STATE OF TEXAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

Ending a pregnancy through abortion interrupts the natural birth process and creates significant trauma and stress for those involved in the pregnancy. An abortion is a tragic ending, not only because of the loss of a life, but also because of the physical and psychological trauma caused by the procedure itself. This often leads to lasting emotional and mental health problems for the mother, father and other involved family members. Peer-reviewed research has shown that women who obtain abortions are often plagued by feelings of anger, fear, sadness, anxiety, grief and guilt due to the procedure.

Many organizations throughout the state are assisting the process of healing and recovery after abortion by promoting policies that reinforce a culture of life and hope. These groups disseminate information about the lasting negative consequences of abortion and offer information about the options available to help women and men struggling with those consequences. Abortion recovery programs offer invaluable services that help abortion's living victims to forgive and heal through individual counseling, support groups, encouragement and education.

The month of April has been designated as a time to highlight and reflect on the traumatic effects of abortion. At this time, I urge all Texans to learn about the lasting ramifications of abortion and the support and counseling options available after an abortion. Together, we can make a difference.

Therefore, I, Rick Perry, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim April 2009,

**Abortion Recovery Awareness Month**



in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2009.

*Rick Perry*  
Governor of Texas