

# How Do Catholics Measure a Culture of Life?

- The infant mortality rate increased in 2002, the first increase in 40 years.
- Over 44 million Americans lack health insurance, a 10% increase from four years ago.
- Almost 36 million Americans live in poverty, an increase of 4.3 million from four years ago.
- Abortion rates have increased since the end of 2000, reversing a steady decline during the 1990s. About 50,000 more abortions occurred in 2002 than expected by pre-2000 standards.
- More than 13,000 civilians and 1,100 of our troops have died in an Iraq war called a 'moral failure' by the Vatican.



## Consider *Complete* Catholic Teaching: Justice, Life and Peace

“[A]ny politics of human life must work to resist the violence of war and the scandal of capital punishment. Any politics of human dignity must seriously address issues of racism, poverty, hunger, employment, education, housing and health care.”

- U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops  
*Living the Gospel of Life: A Challenge to American Catholics*

“What we will *not* do is vote for a candidate just because he uses words that we like to hear; remembering, as Scripture tells us, that we must be ‘doers of the Word and not hearers only.’”

- Bishop Thomas J. Gumbleton  
*Detroit Free Press, October 20, 2004*

## Vote Your *Complete* Conscience: Life Does Not End At Birth

For in-depth Catholic voter guides, see:  
[www.catholicsforcommongood.org](http://www.catholicsforcommongood.org)      [www.votingcatholic.org](http://www.votingcatholic.org)

For more information about Catholic Social Teaching and the complete culture of life, see:  
[www.usccb.org/faithfulcitizenship](http://www.usccb.org/faithfulcitizenship)