

MEMO

TO: Legal Team

FROM: Jose S. Dela Cruz

SUBJECT: Diocese of Chalan Kanoa and Abortion

DATE: June 7, 1995

In my phone conversation the other day with James Sirok, the attorney for the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa, he mentioned the Church's interest in having a human fetus constitutionally declared as a human being. I told him of Bernie Zimmerman's recent letter to him regarding our view that the matter is probably best handled as a legislative matter, in view of the evolving nature of the law on abortion, and in view of our thinking that U.S. Supreme Court decisions on the subject controls. He replied that as soon as he receives Bernie's letter, he'll discuss the matter further with the Bishop. He gave me the impression that, in light of our view, he would recommend that the Diocese pursue the matter with the Legislature, instead of a Constitutional amendment.