



TERRY TRUTH SQUAD

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ESCH INSULTS PRO-LIFE VOTERS

The Terry for Congress campaign today demanded an immediate apology from Democratic congressional candidate Jim Esch for saying last week that supporters of the pro-life cause are “extremist.”

Esch’s bizarre comment was printed in an interview with *Omaha City Weekly*, published on July 30, 2008. (www.omahacityweekly.com)

Richard Carter, a top advisor to the Terry campaign who also directs its “truth squad,” called on Mr. Esch to apologize immediately for the intemperate remark.

“Mr. Esch’s comment is obnoxious, insulting and slanderous to the many thousands of individuals and families here in the 2nd District who believe life begins at conception and that the rights of the unborn should be protected. He owes an immediate apology to the pro-life community,” Carter said.

In an article headlined “Sketch of Esch,” the Democratic candidate compared advocates on both sides of the abortion issue and stated, “. . . the Right to Life side is a little more extremist”

“Supporters of the pro-life position are some of the most decent, honest and hard-working people I have ever met. They do not deserve to be insulted and treated this way by candidate Esch. You can disagree with someone without insulting them. There is no place for name calling in politics, the issues are too important!” Carter said.

Carter said the Terry “truth squad” will tell voters they should be wary of Mr. Esch’s claim to be pro-life. “The truth is quite different,” Carter said.

In 2006, candidate Esch secured endorsements from two major pro-life organizations for the period leading up to the Democratic congressional primary after assuring them he opposed embryonic stem cell research. Esch then changed his position on the issue with the result being that both groups revoked their endorsement. This year Mr. Esch has refused to respond to candidate questionnaires from major pro-life groups, a move widely seen as insulting and dismissive of this important constituency.

“I remember when Mr. Esch said during the 2006 campaign that former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld was ‘an idiot.’ After reading this article, I wonder if Mr. Esch could more appropriately apply the description to himself. With these comments, Mr. Esch has essentially lost the Catholic and pro-life vote in this race,” said Dave Boomer, Terry’s campaign manager.

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