GOP has its roots in human rights

The column "Today In History," in the Feb. 28 issue of the Connecticut *Post* reminds us of the roots of the Republican Party.

"On Feb. 28, 1854, some 50 slavery opponents met in Ripon, Wis., to call for creation of a new political group. A second meeting was held March 20, and by July, the new group was formally known as the Republican Party."

The roots of the Republican Party also go back to Abraham Lincoln and the Emancipation Proclamation. It is well to remind us of the roots at a time when the media, which has a liberal agenda, resorts to distorting the truth. The fact is the Republican Party is the party of human rights and personal responsibility, and I find these values quite appealing, as I think most Americans do.

Let me be personal for a moment and point out that "I put my action where my mouth is." I was helpful in bringing Outward Bound to South Africa because I thought it would make a difference in supporting the end of apartheid and the bringing of peaceful change. When history looks at all the violence and man's inhumanity to man in the 20th century, I believe there will stand out three significant achievements: the end of Nazism, Communism and apartheid as instruments of national policy.

Interestingly, one of the most important reasons South Africa is viable politically today is because the blacks have forgiven the whites. They were able to do this because South Africa is predominantly a Christian nation (believed to be around 70 percent Christian), and Christians are taught forgiveness. The Bible says "God is Love," and one of the key components of love is forgiveness.

Today, our nation is faced with one of the most awesome challenges on violations of human rights which can only be compared with the Holocaust, and in numbers of deaths is far higher. What I am talking about is the violation of sanctity of human life.

One of the reasons Hitler came to power in Germany was the moral decay after World War I.

People in Germany were fed up with the violence, crime, pornography, sexual abuse — all the problems we have in the U.S. today. Hitler said he was going to change that. Hitler was successful, and the German people thought Hitler was great. Taking advantage of this popularity, Hitler sold Germany on the super race idea, and the Germans bought it. The result was the loss of all sense of human values and the extermination of six million Jews.

There is a parallel in the U.S. with Germany in the late 1930s, because today we are murdering in cold blood over one million harmless, defenseless unborn babies each year.The United States has bought into the idea of moral relativism — that there are no moral absolutes — you determine what is right or wrong, you do what is best for yourself, regardless of what you do to others.

Unfortunately, abortion is the law of the land, and unless there is a consensus, the law is unlikely to be changed.

What we can do and did at the election last November is elect representatives to our government with moral integrity who, at least, believe in human rights and personal responsibility — values that have made this nation great.

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Letters policy

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