

Abortion, or not?



“Abortion (is the) termination of pregnancy before birth, resulting in, or accompanied by, the death of the fetus. Abortion has become one of the most widely debated ethical issues of our time. On one side are pro-choice supporters, individuals who favor a woman’s reproductive rights, including the right to choose to have an abortion. On the other side are the pro-life advocates, who oppose abortion except in extreme circumstances, as when the mother’s life would be threatened by carrying a pregnancy to term. At one end of this ethical spectrum are pro-choice defenders who believe the fetus is only a potential human being until it is viable. Until this time the fetus has no legal rights—the rights belong to the woman carrying the fetus, who can decide whether or not to bring the pregnancy to full term. At the other end of the spectrum are pro-life supporters who believe the fetus is a human being from the time of conception”¹.

THE CONFLICT

I have viewed photographs of aborted babies. They have little hands and little feet. They once were living. As far as viable, what is viable? You could drop me off in the woods and I’d survive for a while. How about a 6-month old baby? How would it do on its own? 12 months? The baby would die. So, can we say we can kill a one-year old baby because it is not viable?

These days rationalization for purposes of our own ends can be our god. The pro-choice argument and the possibility of multiple definitions of the word “viable” make the pro-choice view wide open. The pro-life viewpoint allows for a very narrow interpretation and relies primarily on “Thou shalt not kill.” There is hardly room for compromise between the two camps.

THE HUMANISTIC VIEW

The worldview is that we can discard unborn babies at our convenience. A pro-life supporter would use the examples of rape and incest to try to obtain a sympathetic ear from the devoutly religious. Ponder this: rape and incest are evil measures. Murder is an evil measure. Murder of a baby because of rape and incest is a virtuous measure?

Those that favor abortion speak of instances when the mother’s life is in danger. They say they have their “just cause.” Then they contradict themselves and include abortion as a means to end unwanted pregnancies. We are teaching our young people that they can go out and be immoral, and if they make a mistake, they can “have it taken care of.”

The landmark court decision most responsible for allowing abortion and pro-choice was the 1973 Supreme Court case *Roe v. Wade*. The woman known as Jane Roe in that trial, Norma McCorvey, has changed her mind on abortion. According to an AP release, McCorvey stated, "My case was wrongfully decided, and has caused great harm to the women and children of our nation." McCorvey is active in anti-abortion causes.²

A MATTER OF CONVENIENCE

From another AP article about an AMA recommendation of selling the morning-after pill over-the-counter: Joan Coombs, senior vice president of Planned Parenthood said, "This is a wonderful (recommendation) by the AMA." She said widespread use of the morning-after pill could prevent 1.7 million unplanned pregnancies and 800,000 abortions annually.³

This pill will abort pregnancies if taken within three days of intercourse. This is still murder just as much as if using forceps on a 5-month old fetus. I guess at 3 days, one does not look, feel, or act pregnant, so it appears to be "no big deal." Contrary to the implication by Ms. Coombs, this is still abortion.

Dr. Irvin M. Cushner, as testimony to the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary, 97th Congress, First Session, 1983, p. 158, "Over 99% of all U.S. abortions have nothing to do with the life or health of the woman. They are done simply because of her desire for convenience, absence of distress, and her so-called happiness."

HOW THEY KILL THE BABIES

- D&C is a common procedure. The baby is cut into pieces with a sharp scraping instrument after the cervix is dilated with several other instruments.
- Suction Curettage is as above except that instead of cutting the baby with a curette, a strong suction tube is used. The suction dismembers the baby and vacuums it into a jar.
- Dilation and Evacuation is a method of killing larger babies of 12-20 weeks of age. Sharp-teethed forceps are used to tear away the baby's body piece by piece. Usually, the baby's head is too large to be extracted whole. In this event, the head must be crushed and drained prior to removal.
- Saline Injection. Still larger babies (after 16 weeks) are killed by saline poisoning. A salt solution is injected through the mother's abdomen into the womb. The baby suffers, kicks and jerks violently for over an hour until it dies. Within 24 hours, labor will begin. Usually the baby is born dead, others need more time of nonattendance to die.
- Just as c-section is used to deliver wanted babies, the same procedure is used to deliver the unwanted. After delivery, the baby is allowed to die by neglect. This procedure is used in the last 3 months of pregnancy. Many of these babies at this stage could live if wanted.
- Chemical Abortion uses chemicals to perform a prostaglandin chemical abortion. The chemicals cause intense contractions so strong that generally the contractions kill the baby. Some of the babies are born alive and allowed to die.
- Partial Birth abortion, the cervix is dilated. The baby is pulled into the birth canal in breech fashion. An incision is made in the baby's head. The brain is removed by suction, collapsing the head. The body is then "delivered."

Can you imagine a human rights group that would stand for this to be done to even the worst criminal?

WHAT DOES GOD SAY?

God is the creator. He set the rules. He obviously considers an embryo a precious being: *For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well. My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.* Psalms 139:13-15.

God also said:

- *Thou shalt not kill.* Exodus 20:13.
- *Keep thee far from a false matter; and the innocent and righteous slay thou not: for I will not justify the wicked.* Exodus 23:7.
- *Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of one's youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.* Psalm 127:3-5.
- *Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine by the sides of thine house: thy children like olive plants round about thy table.* Psalm 128:3.
- *Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers.* Proverbs 17:6.
- *Then the word of the Lord came unto me saying, Before I formed thee in the womb, I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb, I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.* Jeremiah 1:4-5.
- *But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John. And thou shalt have joy and gladness; and many shall rejoice at his birth. For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb.* Luke 1:13-15.

CHRISTIAN COUNSELING

If you are in a position to recommend counseling to a woman with a pregnancy concern, by all means recommend Christian counseling. A secular medical facility is influenced by humanistic thought processes and is biased by “of the flesh” mentality- we are just high animal forms responsible only to ourselves. In contrast, read the scriptures.

I am a man writing about a decision I should never have to face; but I do know that the Christian counselors offer a message of love in a time of turmoil. Speak with these tenderhearted women if you have a need. Let them guide you to a responsible decision, an informed decision, and the right decision.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Publicize God's view on abortion. It is murder. Have your church or group of concerned citizens take out full-page pro-life ads in newspapers. Include pictures of aborted babies. Send copies to your congressmen, both state and federal.

You can obtain materials on abortion needed for your campaign from the following organizations:

- American Tract Society, PO Box 462008, Garland TX 75046
- Last Days Ministries, Box 40, Lindale TX 75771-0040
- Christian Medical and Dental Society, <http://prnewswire.com>
- "Abortion Alternatives" in the phone book
- Dr. and Mrs. J.C. Willke, Handbook on Abortion, Hayes Publishing Co., 6304 Hamilton Avenue, Cincinnati OH 45224
- Dr. Brian Close, Pro-Life Encyclopedia, Stafford: American Life League
- Pharmacists for Life International, New Abortion Drugs, a Health Threat, PO Box 1281, Powell OH 43065

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²Roe vs. Wade's Jane Roe files friend-of-court briefs opposing abortion, the Associated Press, The Sentinel, Lewistown, Pa., USA 6/1/01, p. A8.

³Branom, Mike, AMA recommends selling morning-after pill over-the-counter, The Associated Press, The Daily Item, Sunbury, Pa., USA 12/6/00 p. A6.

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