once posed this medical situation -- and ethical problem to his students: 'Here's the family history: The father
has syphilis. The mother has TB. They already have had
four children. The first is blind. The second had died.
The third is deaf. The fourth has TB. Now the mother is
pregnant again, The parents come to you for advice.
They are willing to have an abortion, if you decide they
should. What do you say? 'The students gave various
individual opinions, and then the professor asked them
to break into small groups for "consultation.' All of the
groups came back to report that they would recommend
abortion. 'Congratulations,' the professor said, 'You just
took the life of Beethoven!'"[13]

What should we expect from an action that violently slaughters innocent souls?

# **How Should the Christian Respond to Abortion?**

A Christian's response to any moral issue is tremendously important. But a Christian cannot remain silent; it would be sinful for him to keep quiet (Leviticus 20:4-5; Proverbs 24:11-12). He is salt (Matthew 5:13) and light (Matthew 5:16). He must refuse to support it. This would even negate the association one may share with a political, social, civil rights, or religious party that advocates the right for abortion.

America is blessed with being a democratic republic. The people vote for politicians who create laws for the country. Christians must be engaged in voting for leaders that take a stand against this subtle act of murder. They need to be advocates for those with moral compasses and who stand with the helpless. If Christians fail to vote to save the babies, who are they supporting?

Christians must be willing to give grace to those who have had abortions and are repentant. Some mothers are deceived and others eventually come around. It is unwise and harmful to treat abortion as the unforgiveable sin. Jesus would welcome the mothers and doctors who raised the pickets for abortion, who later changed for the life of the babies. Encourage counseling, preach repentance, and practice love.

God hates the taking of innocent life (Proverbs 6:17); what is more innocent than a baby in the womb? Let's wake up and speak out!

#### **Endnotes**

1https://www.guttmacher.org/monthly-abortion-provision-study [2]https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2024/03/25/what-the-data-says-about-abortion-in-the-us/

[3]Allen Webster, Seven Things a Loving God Hates, House to House Publishing, Inc., 2006, 62.

[4]Charles R. Swindoll, "Why I Stand For Life," Focus on the Family, August 1990, 18, found in Robert Morgan, Preacher's Sourcebook of Creative Sermon Illustrations, Thomas Nelson, 2007,

[5]Merriam Webster.

[6]Dr. Randall, "Pro-Choice 1990: Skeletons in the Closet" by David Kuperlain and Mark Masters in October New Dimensiions magazine" found in Allen Webster, Seven Things a Loving God Hates, House to House Publishing, Inc., 2006, 64.
[7]gbntv.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Topical/10-Winton-Special\_Studies\_Vol\_1.pdf, p. 103.

[8]https://apologeticspress.org/the-value-of-early-human-life-349/
[9]https://www.babycenter.com/pregnancy/your-baby/fetal-development-week-by-week\_10406730
[10]Last two thoughts come from: gbntv.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Topical/10-Winton-

Special\_Studies\_Vol\_1.pdf, p. 103
[11]The original language information from B.J. Clarke, We Need the Truth About Abortion, manuscript given to Noah Olson.
[12]www.ewtn.com/catholicism/library/postabortion-syndrome-abortions-lasting-hold-on-women-9582

[13]https://www.sermonillustrations.com/a-z/a/abortion.htm

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Consider these statistics:

- About 1,053,000 abortions occurred in 2024 in US states without a total ban.[1]
- According to the World Population Review, Illinois has the second highest rate of abortions.
- Abortion is accepted by the majority, as one survey in 2023 concluded that "62% of U.S. adults said the practice should be legal in all or most cases, while 36% said it should be illegal in all or most cases."[2]
- Globally, more than 73 million innocent babies die due to abortion every year.
- While 12 states have criminalized abortion, other states like California, New York, Oregon, Washington, Minnesota, Illinois, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Vermont, Massachusetts, and Connecticut still allow it.

God loves all children (Matthew 19:13-15), prenatal or postnatal. Unfortunately, "The mother's womb has become the baby's tomb"[3] (Jeremiah 20:17). Charles Swindoll observed, "It has come to the time when the most dangerous place to be in America is not the inner city, where gangs threaten innocent lives, or in angry prisons, where only the fit survive, but in the womb of a mother who is being told that if she doesn't really want the baby, an abortion is the solution."[4] More lives are lost in the womb than out of the womb. Is abortion justified? Is it health care? Does it stand in God's court? Many have blood on their hands. Might America face the same fate as Judah who had a king who shed much innocent blood (2 Kings 21:16)? Let us reason together.

## What is an Abortion?

An abortion is defined as "the termination of a pregnancy after, accompanied by, resulting in, or closely followed by the death of the <a href="mailto:embryo">embryo</a> or <a href="mailto:fetus">fetus</a>."[5] It is not health care. Abortion does not save lives—it destroys them. One doctor is noted as having said that women were "never allowed to look at the ultra sound because we knew that if they so much as heard the heart beat, they wouldn't want to have an abortion."[6] Bob Winton quoted the "Defender," showing the horrors of what doctors have done to innocent children:

• "A doctor at Stanford University sliced open the rib cage of a still living fetus in order to observe its heart

- action."
- "Aborted, live fetuses were packed in ice while still moving and trying to breath, then rushed off to a laboratory."
- "Babies ranging from 12-20 weeks old were delivered alive; their heads were removed attached to a machine which pumped various chemicals through the brain circulation of their severed heads."
- "One doctor was disturbed by the aborted baby's attempts to cry, so he dropped some the mother's tissue on the face and smothered it." [7]

Abortionists provide different kinds of abortions. These include:

- Pills. These pills (mifepristone) can terminate pregnancy right after conception.
- Vacuum Aspiration. This type of abortion is the most-common.
- Dilation and Evacuation (D&E).
- · Saline abortions.
- Hysterotomy. This happens during 2-3<sup>rd</sup> trimester. Abortion is deadly, as it kills life. But is it actually life in the womb?

# When Does Life Begin?

There are at least three answers to this question, but only the first is true. Life begins at conception, fertilization, or birth. Scientific evidence is undeniably explicit: life begins at conception. In his article the "The Value of Early Human Life," Trevor Major cites three observations as to why life begins at conception.

- At the time of conception, the zygote has 46 chromosomes and there is DNA in it.
- The DNA is special.
- The baby will grow to become an adult[8]

The "thing" inside a mother is not a ball of tissue. Instead, it is a living, human organism. Developmental studies also provide us with a detailed survey of the growth of a child from conception to birth.

- At five weeks: "The circulatory system is beginning to form, and cells in the tiny "heart" will start to flicker this week."
- At six weeks: A "baby's nose, mouth and ears are starting to take shape, and their intestines and brain are beginning to develop."[9]

- · At eight weeks heart impulses can be traced.
- At twelve weeks, all organs are formed.[10] Life is defined, not by the place on the line, but by the qualifications that define life.

Biblical evidence proves that life begins at conception (Psalm 51:5; Luke 1:36). Linguistically,[11] the use of words in reference to babies in the womb and babies outside the womb shows us that they are the same. Examine the following passages and the various use of the same words in the Hebrew and Greek languages (Genesis 9:19; 25:21-24; Job 3:16; Luke 1:44; 2:12; Luke 18:15; Acts 7:19). Numerously, Biblical writers recalled facts about their time in the womb or made reference to their existence inside the womb (Judges 13:5; Ruth 1:11; Psalm 139:13-16; Ecclesiastes 11:5; Galatians 1:15). Life begins in the womb, specifically at conception—the Bible tells us so!

### What are the Problems of Abortion?

Sin always brings problems—this sin brings major ones. Abortion always hurts people, even though many place its practice under titles like "health care," and "planned parenthood." Abortion is problematic because it is murder, and murder is eternally condemnable (Revelation 21:8). Emotional problems result too. Anne Speckhard did a study and found the following statistics of women who had an abortion:

- "23% had uncontrollable hallucinations related to the abortion.
- 35% received "visitations" from the aborted child.
- 54% had nightmares related to the abortion.
- 69% had feelings of 'craziness' after the abortion.
- 73% had unwanted flashbacks of the abortion.
- 81% were preoccupied with the death of the unborn child.
- 96% now believe that their abortions were acts of murder."[12]

Society is impacted also. Might it be that these innocent souls could have grown up to cure cancer or lessen the global death rate through their contributions. We will never know.

One "professor in a world-acclaimed medical school