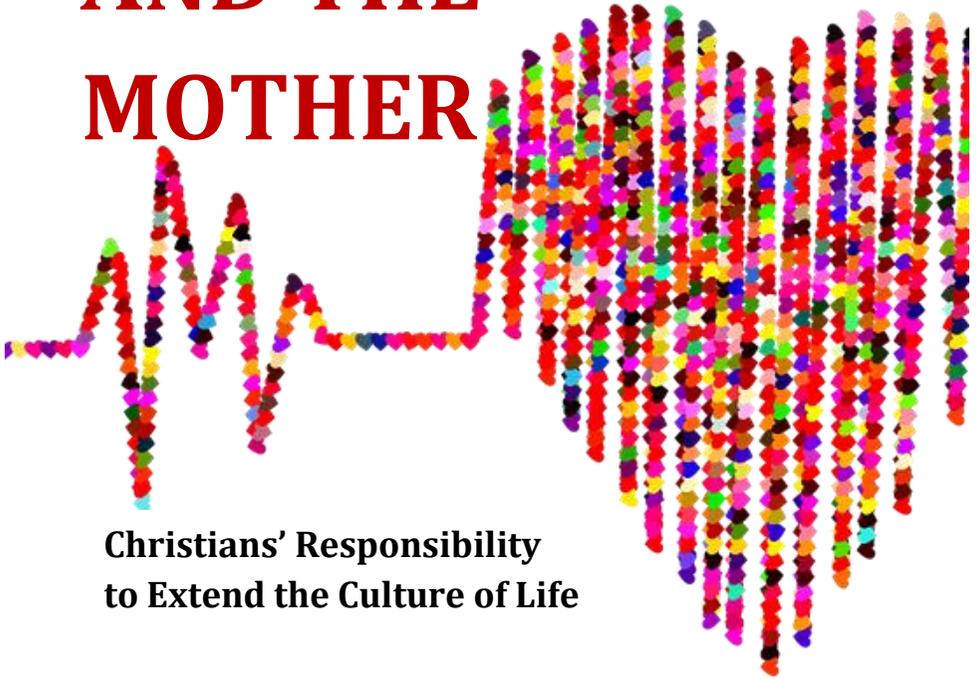


LOVE THE PRE-BORN AND THE MOTHER



**Christians' Responsibility
to Extend the Culture of Life**

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LOVE THE PRE-BORN AND THE MOTHER: Christians' Responsibility to Extend the Culture of Life

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Love the Pre-born and the Mother: Christians' Responsibility to Extend the Culture of Life

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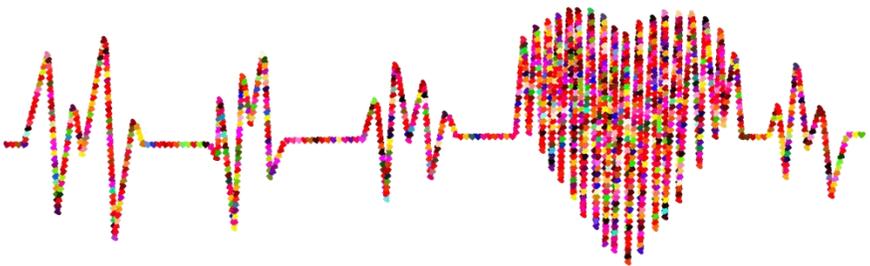


Dedication

**To the 1 billion babies lost to the atrocity of abortion
in the past 100 years.
To the mothers and fathers who allowed the abortion –
May you find forgiveness in Jesus.
To the Church – May you rise as passionate warriors
declaring and defending life.**

*"I felt compelled to write and urge you to contend for the faith
that was once for all entrusted to God's holy people."*

Jude 3



Foreword

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We have been called to live with courage and without fear. As we follow Christ and live as salt and light in our fallen cultures, it takes nothing less.

Christ does not call His people to live in safety or comfort. Rather we have been called to live differently than the cultures that surround us. We will stand out as we reflect the character of God in our actions, as we model the culture of the Kingdom in our relationships, and as we engage the culture as salt (delaying the decay) and light (driving back darkness).

On the issue of abortion, many people may feel one way personally, but still they bend to the cultural influence and passively accept “the law of the land.” Maybe they just don’t know where to start. Maybe they don’t want to rock the boat. Maybe they are fearful. Maybe they think it judgmental to share their personal beliefs with others. Therefore, many might say, “I personally believe abortion is wrong, but it is legal in our nation and the issue is complex. I can’t expect others to feel like I feel.” One way to summarize this perspective would be, “I personally believe it is wrong to kill a baby inside their mom, but I am fine with it being legal to kill babies.” Deadly wrong, but legal. Though it may sound harsh, it’s truth spoken that we need to hear.

Allow us to make an observation. Over the past many years, culture has begun to “think with their feelings” and Christians have followed suit. In so doing, we have lost our prophetic voice in society. God calls us to lovingly but truthfully speak up and speak out to proclaim and defend life. Do we really believe that God does not understand the detailed complexities of every moral twist and every legal implication? God’s standards remain firm regardless of the winds of culture and regardless of the U.S. Supreme Court. Just because a country declares an action legal does not make it righteous and in line with God’s standards. Just because it’s the law of the land does not protect us from God’s judgment.

As followers of Jesus, we will look differently than the surrounding culture. We follow a God who said that if we love him, we “will obey my commandments” (John 14:15). If we have received salvation, we have put on the “new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator” (Colossians 3:10). The Apostle

John states that the proof that we are in Christ's family is that we not only claim to live in him but we "live as Jesus did" (1 John 2:6).

We write this eBook as an encouragement to our brothers and sisters to rekindle the very foundation of their faith – a God who defeated both sin and death. We worship a God who LIVES! So how can any of us who claim the resurrection of Christ not seek to defend, advocate, and protect the lives of the most vulnerable, both the pre-born and women?

Let's rise as we follow the Lion of Judah who came as a baby. Let us defend the millions of lives who will be silently snuffed out if we refuse to obey.

If it took you 95 seconds to read this page, a Planned Parenthood abortion clinic just killed another baby. Time is ticking. It's time for the compassionate warriors for life to stand, speak, and act.

Leslie and Chad

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Introduction

Today I met a Chinese woman who told me she had an older sister. We knew of China's one-child policy but the government's exception for village families to try for a boy if the first baby was a girl. We asked about her story. She paused and thoughtfully stated, "I was almost... replaced." She went on, "But my dad, he said, 'no, she will live.'"

Through the voice of her dad, this young woman gained *physical* life. Years later through the voice of a college student, this young woman later received *eternal* life. Today, she walks in *abundant* life as she stated, "I just have one life. If I use my life to just further my career, what is that? I have one life to help other people groups know Christ. I can have my career in heaven. But I just have this one chance to use my life for God."

Through our voices and our actions, or through our silence and our passivity, we either promote life or we promote death – literally.

"We Knew Nothing" vs. Lambs to the Slaughter

Proverbs 24:11-12 states:

"Rescue those being led away to death; hold back those staggering toward slaughter. If you say, 'But we knew nothing about this,' does not he who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not he who guards your life know it? Will he not repay everyone according to what they have done?"

We think this passage speaks clearly into the issue of abortion today. The unborn are on their way to slaughter and their mothers carry them there. Whether these women stagger under the weight of their hopelessness or the hardness of their heart, they need Jesus.

But then we encounter the phrase, "But we knew nothing of this." Ouch! This excuse strikes deeply. Do we pretend to know nothing about the issue of abortion? Do we quietly turn our heads, change the channel, or murmur, "Well, there's more than one important issue to care about." Do we shake our heads, "Well, it's a political issue and I don't want to be political." Do we sigh and say, "Well, there's nothing we can do. It's legal after all." Do we state, "Well, the issue is complex and some women live in poverty, they are hopeless

and helpless.” Or due to the hardness of our own hearts, do we say, “It does not matter.” God knows that you and we can claim to know nothing about the slaughter of the unborn and the exploitation happening to women by the abortion industry.

Some of you may have heard of Dr. Kermit Gosnell, though the media barely reported about him. At his hands, multiple women lost their lives and thousands of babies lost their lives. He finished many botched abortions by “simply” snipping spinal columns with a pair of scissors. The grand jury report described the state oversight officials who failed to do their jobs with such phrases as “‘abdication of responsibility,’ ‘purposeful neglect,’ ‘chose to look the other way,’ ‘feeble excuses,’ ‘it’s-not-my-job-description mindset.’”¹

Regardless of our sighs, our sympathies, our pretending to not hear the voiceless cries of the unborn, we all know. Regardless of our pretending to not understand the science or the data or the philosophical arguments for when a human is alive; we all know. Regardless of our pride or hard-heartedness, God knows we know. He watches his Church. And he grieves when we do not walk as he did.

During the 1940’s in Germany, from the safety of their churches and homes, Christians saw the chimneys belching upward smoke and the ash falling down. Perhaps they dusted themselves off. They saw trainloads of people moving like lambs to the slaughter. They saw the signs of the times and the stars on the sleeves. They heard fiery speeches, and they made choices. Some of them resisted and smuggled and struggled, and most of those died for their efforts. Stopping a Holocaust (fully-burnt offering of sacrificial animals)² requires focus, passion, strength, and sacrifice. But sadly, the majority of the Christian population kept their heads down and their mouths shut. Many church leaders actually sought favor from Hitler’s government to gain favor for their church. It’s always easier to fit in than to stand out.

“No Care for the Least of These” vs. Industrial Exploitation

In Matthew 25 Jesus shares a parable and states:

¹ McElhinney, A. and McAleer, P, [Gosnell: The Untold Story of America’s Most Prolific Serial Killer](#). 2017, 65.

² [Dictionary definition](#) – A Jewish sacrificial offering which was burnt completely on an altar. Originally from Greek holokauston, from holos ‘whole’ + kaustos ‘burnt’ (from kaiein ‘burn’).

"I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me... He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.'" (25:43,45)

We as the Church need to use our voices to defend life and use our votes to try to implement protection for the unborn. But we as the Church also need to be havens of hope to women. We don't just need attitudes that are pro-life; we need behaviors that reveal our pro-life stances, and our pro-life Savior.

Women in crisis pregnancy situations may be strangers to us, they may be naked, they may need medical care, they may have no freedom. They may think they have only one, bad choice. Jesus' parable in Matthew perfectly describes a woman considering an abortion. This life-threatening situation is the perfect time to help and encourage and meet needs and rescue.

Who do we see when we think of women in crisis pregnancy? We should see Jesus, and "do" for him "whatever" is needed! Women considering abortion may have made bad choices, or they may have been victims. Either way they are vulnerable, and who do they reach out to? To the Church or to those who would exploit them? Let us consider how we as the Church can become the "most attractive offer" these women know about and choose, because the other side is fighting hard for their business.

With powerful marketing slogans abortion promoters talk about "access to healthcare" but they put up roadblocks to every solution except death of the baby. They speak of "women's reproductive rights" but they do not consider the rights of the tiniest humans (50% of which are female). They promote "freedom of choice" but they keep it singular (Choice).

Without a doubt, abortion is an industry; a massive, multi-layered business that buys, sells, budgets, sets quotas and goals, promotes top producers, grows their potential audience, markets to the grassroots, marches in protest, has vast networks of like-minded businesses, lobbies Congress to make their path easier, and ultimately taps into the billions of dollars they earn from their clients and receive from governments.

Do not be deceived, the abortion industry does not "care" for the women, they endanger them. Here are just a *few* of the ways the pro-

abortion side exploits women and show themselves as a calloused business:

- Their fight to stop a 24-hour waiting period between the counseling for abortion and the actual procedure to give the woman time to think about her decision.
- Their desire to remove “parental consent” as a pre-requisite for underage clients. Parents often do know best for their children!
- Their insistence through websites (Planned Parenthood’s and others) that women will not suffer from increased risks of breast cancer, depression, thoughts of suicide, or increased risks of miscarriages in later pregnancies.
- Their unwillingness to comply with standards for health and hygiene in abortion clinics, stating it reduces the number of places women can go for abortions.
- Their lack of turning in violations that hurt women. For example, a woman from the National Abortion Federation inspected Gosnell’s abortion clinic and claimed it was the worst facility she had ever seen. Yet information did not become public because the pro-abortion judge (Cardwell-Hughes), “did not want the report to criticize the abortion establishment.” (McElhinney and McAleer, p.60)
- Their lack of condemnation for state health boards and health officials who fail in their task of overseeing abortion clinics. Unsanitary conditions result in multiple complications and even death of women.
- Their promotion of early-, mid-, and late-term abortion and even partial-birth abortion.
- Their political opposition to laws that protect babies who miraculously survive abortions.
- Their neglect in reporting to authorities cases of rape or incest or human trafficking.
- Their blatant and calloused statements on undercover videos that show them negotiating and profiting from the sale of baby body parts.

Though we are evangelical Christians, we are thankful for the Catholic Church and the thousands who work tirelessly to defend the lives of the unborn. When we lived in the U.S. we would at times receive mail from Catholic groups thanking Leslie for her pro-life stance as a dedicated Catholic. Why did they think we were Catholic?

Because we are vocally pro-life on social media sites and our bank account demonstrates we give money to pro-life issues. It is time for evangelical believers to rise and join our Catholic sisters and brothers.

Our prayer is that we as evangelical Christians will awaken to our responsibility to serve both the pre-born and the women as they stagger toward slaughter. May we all lovingly speak and act to defend life just like the bold Chinese dad when he spoke up and saved the life of his daughter.

Our Joyful Disclaimers and Biases

We are “pro’s.” Did you know? Pro-woman, Pro-baby, Pro-child, Pro-marriage, and Pro-Choices!

- **Woman** – Let us be clear at the beginning. We are through-and-through pro-women. We believe Scriptures teach that God calls, equips and empowers women to serve as leaders, pastors, moms, teachers, evangelists, church planters, judges, and more. There is ONE Body of Christ and ONE Holy Spirit. God gifts women as He chooses.
- **Baby** – We are deeply pro-baby. We believe the miracle of life begins at conception, and so we act to protect the pre-born. As a note, we have no problem with certain methods that prevent conception. No conception = no life.
- **Child** – We are thoroughly pro-child. After they are born, children of course need care and nurture in families and communities. So our organization partners with local churches to rescue the trafficked, start schools in slum areas, provide safe homes for victims, and install clean water wells. Personally, we have adopted a little girl from Asia, and we help others in their adoption journeys.
- **Marriage** – We are pro-marriage, marriage between a man and a woman. This is God’s design and God’s ideal found in Genesis 1-2, and which Jesus also described in Matthew 19. You will not find patriarchy, matriarchy, machismo, or feminism in the Genesis 1-2 account. These are all products of the Fall.

- **Pro-Choices!** – Regarding the abortion issue we are also: pro-contraception, pro-abstinence, pro-motherhood, and pro-adoption! We are simply not for killing human life after conception!

In addition to the above “pro’s” which we believe Scripture substantiates and supports, we share a two-kingdom worldview. By this we mean that God’s kingdom has an enemy, the kingdom of darkness. As a result, we do not see everything that happens in the world as God’s perfect plan. The world is fallen from God’s ideal and Satan’s forces seek to harm what God values. Of course, God can work good *out of all things*, but not all things are good. In fact, the enemy has great power to kill, to steal, and to destroy.

In Genesis 3, God said that hatred would exist between the enemy (Satan) and women. The Prince of Peace (Jesus) entered the world as a helpless baby through a woman. Satan tried to kill the baby Jesus, and today, Satan wages still war against the innocent and the moms who carry them.

What Do We Hope to Accomplish Through This eBook?

Through the following pages, we seek to consolidate for you a theological premise, a logical understanding, and a current plan of action that will equip you to assess your worldview and your actions on the abortion issue. Perhaps God needs to refine areas of your thinking or actions related to the topic. We also pray this book gives you a solid foundation for the issues confronting our world today on this topic and provides you with some clarity on how you can communicate with others in a compassionate but persuasive way as you advocate for life.

God is watching our lives, and God knows which side we are on. We cannot claim ignorance about the millions on their way to slaughter – a number that could be curtailed if only the Church would rise and defend the voiceless. Out of love for Jesus, let’s be people who understand our times and know what we as the Church are supposed to be and do (1 Chronicles 12:32) regarding abortion. As we write this, we live in the midst of unreached peoples of Southeast Asia, co-directing a mission organization that desires every person in every ethnic group to hear of Christ, experience the

power of Christ, and then multiply the hope of Christ in their own local contexts through church planting movements.

Jesus doesn't just tell us to preach. Jesus commissions us to "make disciples of all nations...teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." It is our hope that we as Jesus' followers will model not just the attitudes of Christ, but will follow the teachings of Christ as well. May our character and actions towards issues of life and death reveal us to be his disciples.

It is time to cease attitudes and actions that propagate an abortion agenda.

It is time to start behaviors that lead us to sacrifice our time, money, and energy to serve exploited women, the unborn, and kids in crisis situations.

It is time to model the character of Christ that demonstrates life and deep love through hard choices and sacrificial living.

On the issue of abortion where do you align yourself on the side of history? Where do you stand?

O-----O-----O
Promoting slaughter Ignoring slaughter Rescuing from slaughter

We know where
we want to stand.

One

The Spiritual Battle Surrounding Abortion

Abortion is spiritual warfare. A key part of this war starts in *ideas* that lead to the death of millions.

In 2 Corinthians 10:5, Paul states, “We demolish *arguments* and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought and make it obedient to Christ.” Deceitful and dangerous arguments, pretensions, and thoughts all rise up to compete against God and his standards. Because of this truth, believers must learn how to defend and speak into the abortion idea war with logic and compassion, lovingly but truthfully confronting **the largest injustice that daily impacts the world.**

Satan continues to dull the minds of many believers in the Western world through the moral relativism that is sweeping across our land. “I may have my personal view, but I have no right to impose it upon you.” Or “It’s legal and there’s nothing I can do to change it.” Or “I don’t want to seem intolerant.” Or “People feel hopeless so the sympathetic thing to do is to help them in their abortion rather than heap additional guilt on them.” Or now, “Celebrate and even SHOUT your abortion!”

And as we sit on the fence and dangle our feet in the “but it’s legal” camp, thousands more lives will be forcefully taken.

Abortion in the spiritual realm is a battle between the kingdom of God filled with life, righteousness, peace, and joy and the kingdom of darkness filled with death and destruction. Jesus stated, “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life and have it to the full” (John 10:10).

Abortion lines up to Satan’s desire to steal, kill, and destroy. Abortion steals life. Abortion kills life. Abortion destroys life.

Jesus however, offered his life so that He might victoriously defeat death and provide new life to all who receive Him. The situations regarding “unwanted” pregnancies may be difficult and complex, but the right action is clear.

Abortion is an action in direct opposition to the mission and purposes of God. It is a tool of Satan that devalues the dignity of human life. Satan wraps abortion in a pretty box with a pretty bow, and he traps and deceives Christians by stating, “For women’s equal rights we need to make and keep abortion legal.” We must not be deceived. Satan cares nothing for equality. If patriarchy can destroy more lives, he is for it. If “equality” means killing innocent ones, he is

for it. Satan hates women and from the beginning has done all he can to exploit, deceive, and destroy them.

Globally, no other social issue kills as many people on an on-going daily basis as abortion year after year after year. [Each year 40-50 million babies are aborted!](#) This number equates to the number of people killed during World War II over a six-year period. At 125,000 deaths per day, abortion truly is a global war of epic proportions.

Doubting the spiritual nature of abortion? Look no further. Satanist groups actively advocate for abortion. They claim worship of Satan in their advocacy for abortion. *The New Age Journal* is the flagship publication of the occult. They published an article in October 1993 where author Brenda Peterson stated:

"In her book *Pagan Meditations*, Ginette Paris describes abortion as an essentially religious act, a sacred sacrifice to Artemis. 'One aborts an impossible love,' she writes, 'not a hatred.' In her new book, *The Sacrament of Abortion*, Paris explains further that if we saw abortion as a sacred ritual, it would restore to the act a sense of the sanctity of life."

Let us take a brief pause and fill you in on Artemis. The Apostle Paul dealt with the Artemis cult in the city of Ephesus 2,000 years ago. Those who worshipped Artemis wanted to kill Paul (see Acts 19). The massive, golden Temple of Artemis was one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. An idol of Artemis had twelve pairs of mammary glands, and she represented female power and female priority as the divine source of life. People prayed to Artemis for fertility and protection during childbirth. Artemis was also the goddess of knowledge and enlightenment. In Ephesus, women held great power and could call down curses on people.

The cult of Artemis taught that females had priority and were created first (before men), that the first woman (Eve) became enlightened with knowledge, and this was a good thing! (Note: In Paul's missionary letter 2 Timothy 2:13-14, he directly confronts the cult of Artemis by correcting the creation account. "Adam was formed first, then Eve...the woman was deceived (not enlightened) and became a sinner." The point Paul makes is *not* male's superiority or female's tendency to be deceived. Rather Paul is correcting Ephesian heresy. For more info, see Cunningham and Hamilton, *Why*

Not Women? pp. 205-225, or Gritz, *Paul, Women Teachers, and the Mother Goddess at Ephesus.*)

Notice what the occultist claims is a pleasing offering to Artemis – a pre-born child sacrifice! The author (Paris) then calls abortion a “sacred ritual” that somehow restores “the sanctity of life.” What?! Such twisting and perversion reveals a slithering serpent.

The occult author goes on to say, “We’ll initiate our daughters into the women’s mysteries, such as charting our reproductive rhythms, remembering the midwives’ potions; and perhaps with dignity we’ll ritualize the RU 486 pill with prayers to Artemis or the Divine Mother, She who gives and takes life.”

Did you grasp that? Occultists promote abortion, consider it a pleasing sacrifice to a pagan goddess, and perpetually twist words. Nauseating. Abortion in the eyes of a Satan worshipper is a desirable and acceptable offering. Innocent life offered up on the altar to the one who destroys.

Abortion is absolutely a spiritual battle. As far as we can see no political issue, no moral issue, no social issue is more clearly a life or death reality than abortion.

The question remains, will Christians recognize it as a battle? Perhaps some need a clear biblical basis for looking at the situation. Let us briefly consider what the Bible says.

Two

The Biblical Foundation of Life

Life... God created it, he sustains it, he redeemed it, after death on the cross he came back to it, and he offers it as our future hope – life with God. Our children claimed these words in a recent video called [Speak Life](#).

The Grand Story of Life

It can be argued persuasively that the entire Bible is pro-life. Just think about it. It's this amazing love story of God creating a beautiful world with humanity created in His very image. Throughout its pages, we find a story of redeeming love after humanity destroys the perfection by questioning the goodness of God and setting themselves up as the authority. The story continues with God loving humanity so much that He initiated a strategy to enter human culture as a tiny baby. Identifying as one of us, Jesus eventually became our sin and died a gruesome death on a cross. But because he is the Life, Jesus did not remain dead in the grave; he defeated death and lives forever! God values humans so much that he willingly gave his life so that we could live with him.

Therefore, holding and advocating for pro-life issues is a God-issue. The Bible is infused with the sacredness of human life. Its pro-life foundation begins with the creation of humanity in the image of God. Its pro-life climax is the victorious purchase of holy and abundant life through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Its pro-life hope is the promise of eternal life.

A young Christian woman once shared, "Oh, I am pro-life, but I think in some instances it is more merciful to have the abortion." We ask, "More merciful to whom?"

Your mind might agree, "Yeah, the baby died. That's no mercy!" And that's true. But it also reveals no mercy or limited mercy for the woman. Abortion targets and exploits women, particularly the poor and vulnerable. Statistics reveal that a woman who aborts may have increased levels of depression or suicide. More risk of breast cancer. More risks of miscarriages in the future. The more merciful response might lead to a tougher journey but the right one.

Deeper mercy and deeper love sees the bigger picture for both the unborn and the mother.

God Gives and Sustains Life

God is the Creator and Source of Life. In Genesis 1, God creates both male and female in His image (Genesis 1:27). He gives both males and females mutual blessings and responsibilities. He calls them “equal strength” *ezer k’negedu* (Genesis 2:18). In Colossians, the Apostle Paul states that all things were created in Christ (Colossians 1:16). God does not see a blob of tissue in a woman’s womb. He sees a person made in the image of God. Because lives stamped with his image are precious, he forbids the shedding of innocent blood (Genesis 9:6, Exodus 23:7, and Proverbs 6:16-17).

Jesus sustains life. In Colossians 1:16-17, Paul not only credits Jesus as the One who creates all things, it’s also through Christ that all holds together.

God Values Human Life

It really comes as no surprise that the Author and Source of Life places a high value on life.

- In Genesis 9, God made a covenant with Noah and his family. He stated, “And for your lifeblood I will surely demand an accounting... And from each human being, too. I will demand an accounting for the life of another human being. Whoever sheds human blood, by human beings shall their blood be shed; for in the image of God, has God made humankind” (Genesis 9:5-6).
- In Psalm 139, David described God’s attention during baby development and the depth of relationship that God wants with his creation.
- In Matthew 6, Jesus talked about how God cares for the birds of the air. He then shared that humanity is even more precious than birds and so God will take care of his people.
- In John 3:16, out of love for humanity, we see that Jesus died so that he can offer eternal life.

God punishes those who take a life, knows the hidden development of babies in utero, values people more than animals, and even sacrifices himself to give people true life. Relating the above verses to the issue at hand, God values life not only for adults but clearly also for babies. In the Scripture, human lives within the

womb are referred to as *babies* or *children*. See Galatians 1:15, Luke 1:15-17, and Matthew 1:20-21.

The Bible elsewhere affirms the personhood of the unborn child. See Luke 1:41 and 1:44 which refer to the *baby* John the Baptist leaping inside Elizabeth. And in Luke 2:12, 16 Jesus is called the same word *baby* though already born. Luke uses the word *brephos* to describe John before birth as well as Jesus after birth. *Brephos* is used in Luke 18:15, Acts 7:19, and 1 Peter 2:2 to refer to infants or children. In the Old Testament, Job uses the word that is used for man-child and an adult male when he speaks of the day he was conceived (Job 3:3). [Read more here.](#)

In this light, God considers humans of all shapes, sizes, ages, and locations valuable.

Using Scripture Deceptively

During the last election cycle, we received several emails from millennials pertaining to abortion questions. We were happy and honored to enter into others' journeys on such important issues! But one email burdened us deeply. We were in different areas of the house while the email came across, but both of us happened to read it at the same time. This person had sent us an article that stated the Bible does *not* condemn abortion. Using Scripture, the author sought to demonstrate that the biblical account is in fact not pro-life at all, and in some areas pro-abortion!

As I (Leslie) was reading the article, I was shocked at how well-versed the writer was as he cited lots of Scripture, but I also had red flags flying and saw much misinterpreting. As I read, I realized how easy it would be for people reading the article to be deceived. As I read, I caught myself having to really know the Bible to recognize the errors. Chad came upstairs at the time and said, "Did you see the article?" I said, "I see a man creating confusion through his misuse of Scripture." Chad said, "Did you notice who the article was written by?" I responded, "I just finished reading the article so I haven't yet looked up the guy." Chad said, "I researched him. He is now an atheist who grew up in the church and writes atheist commentary for a magazine."

We were nauseated at how easily Christians could be deceived, how Scripture could be twisted, and how social media can promote dangerous, even deadly ideas, by an evangelistic atheist. (Note:

Always check out the author/source. Pray for God's discernment before reading anything on this topic!)

Choosing Life... An Obvious Choice to the Original Hearers

Christians should certainly keep their guard up and be alert to deception. Maybe some people need very clear words like Commandment #11, "It is wrong to perform an abortion, wrong to have an abortion, or wrong to condone an abortion." But since the Hebrew people certainly understood the high value of life (and due to the Ten Commandments, see Exodus 20:13 and Deuteronomy 5:17), no direct word that pertained directly to abortion was needed!

In the Genesis 2-3 account, God gave people choices from which tree they could eat. Obviously, all the food options were good and life-giving except one which carried the very bad consequence of death, which all humanity now experiences. Later Deuteronomy 30:19 God defined life as blessed and death as cursed. "Today I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live."

By choosing life, blessings flow. By choosing death, curses flow. Daily we pray that God's face will shine upon our children. We believe God will honor that prayer because our family has chosen life and we work to defend the voiceless. I (Leslie) will never forget when Eden Samuel was only 5 years old. We stood in front of a window at a pharmacy. He looked up at me and said earnestly, "Tell them, mom."

"Tell them what?" I said.

"Tell them to not give away any medicines that hurt babies. Please tell them." So I did.

When God hears any of us advocating for the youngest, whether we are 5 or 95, God's eyes stop on us and he sends forth blessings. Be an advocate – even when it's uncomfortable. Though we hold to this promise in Deuteronomy personally, we realize we come from a nation that daily kills over 3,500 babies through abortion and a nation that exports our views and money to other nations that kill millions. We fully expect the blood of the pre-born will reach the ears and heart and eyes of their Creator. He will hold our nation accountable, including us.

Like the Old Testament, the New Testament gives no direct "anti-abortion command." The New Testament is the collection of inspired evangelistic and missionary writings from leaders helping local

churches deal with issues confronting the church. They did not address every issue under the sun!

Though we do not see the New Testament directly speak about abortion, the Jewish consensus was that abortion was wrong. The majority of the early Christians were Jewish Christians. Therefore, they would have kept this understanding. [Read this link](#) to see some of the quotes from early Jewish historians related to abortion. According to scholars and theologians Sproul, Beckwith, Gleason, and others, no contradictory texts exist to show some Jews believed that God desired, allowed, or was pleased with abortion. Therefore, “Given this consensus, the most logical conclusion is that the Jewish Christians writers of the New Testament shared the anti-abortion views of their Jewish heritage – even if they never expressly mention the word ‘abortion’ in their writings.”³

Additionally, the early Church became known as the ones who [rescued babies left to die from exposure](#). Certainly, the first century Christians highly valued life.

Comparing Abortion and Child Sacrifice in Biblical Days

The Jewish worldview was not the only one around during biblical times. The Hebrew people faced many Canaanite tribes who worshiped a variety of gods and goddesses. Sadly, at times the Hebrew people and leaders succumbed to the cultural worldviews around them.

Molech

One of the false gods worshipped by nations surrounding Israel was Molech. Israel would eventually worship Molech as well, as we see in 1 Kings 11:7. This cult at times required the human sacrifice of children. God specifically said that his people are not to offer any children to Molech (Leviticus 18:21), “Do not give any of your children to be sacrificed to Molech, for you must not profane the name of your God.” God considers his name “profaned” if his people condone or engage in child sacrifice. In Leviticus 20:2, God says that anyone who sacrifices a child to Molech are themselves to be put to death.

Many of these sacrifices took place at a place called Topheth which meant “fire pit.” These child sacrifices would occur by heating

³ <http://priestsforlife.org/speakersmanual/ch4theologicalcasebible.htm>

the idol with fire. Then the newborn baby was placed in the arms of the idol, and the baby would burn to death as the idol held him or her.

Baal

Baal was also a god worshipped during the Old Testament period and at times kings of Israel would participate. People would work themselves into a frenzy in their fear of displeasing Baal and at times would practice child sacrifice to appease him.

Ahab was one of the wicked kings of Israel who built altars to Baal. Often the parents of those who sacrificed their children would bury their children in the foundational walls of the city.

Baal sacrifices of children were much the same as Molech. The babies were placed in the arms of the idol and the babies would burn to death. The ceremony was called “the act of laughing” because the infant in pain would reflexively open her/his mouth in a way that resembled a person laughing. When you read in the Bible about “high places,” these are the locations of Baal shrines and potential human sacrifice.

Perhaps Elijah called Ahab and the prophets of Baal to meet him on Mt. Carmel because of what often took place in the high places. In 1 Kings 17 God revealed His holiness, His power, His name, and His righteousness over the gods that demanded child sacrifice. God still hates the shedding of innocent blood (Proverbs 6:16-19).

The Comparison

In the Old Testament, God established the sacrificial system using livestock, not children. The blood of bulls and goats did not show God’s desire for blood but foreshadowed the fact that God would ultimately offer himself as the final perfect sacrifice – the Holy sacrificing himself for the unholy, the sinless for the sinful, the righteous for the unclean, the Shepherd who became the Lamb of God.

The ancient sacrifice of children in pagan Canaan came from meeting the false standards of false gods who demanded false worship. Today not acknowledging the Most High God’s standards (adhering to or “worshipping” or bending the knee to a moral standard other than God’s) has led to the unbridled slaughter of pre-born children, by the millions.

Today, millions of babies around the world are sacrificed for various reasons. In the U.S. an estimated 98%+ of abortions occur for

elective birth control or socio-economic reasons.⁴ In East Asia government requirements serve as another reason. Just as babies were burned to death as the idols held them, so we metaphorically hold these babies as they are slaughtered by chemicals and tools meant to harm. God still hates the shedding of innocent blood. He sees the innocent blood spilled. He sees the hands who slay. He sees those who know and turn their faces.

Wake up, dear Church. Wake up, dear brothers and sisters. We will not go unscathed if we simply try to turn our face away or close our eyes and pretend to not know. God hears our excuses of legality, our fears of intolerance, our apathetic stance on life, and our shallow understandings of mercy. No, brothers and sisters, open your eyes.

- Many claim they are against chemical warfare. Millions are killed in legalized abortion through chemicals. Look at the burning child.
- Many claim they are against vicious torture techniques like drawing and quartering. Abortions dismember the baby. Medical personnel later reassemble the human child to make sure they retrieved all the parts after the abortion. Count the arms and legs.
- Many claim they are against slavery and racist genocide. Jesse Jackson called abortion “black genocide.” Now more than 35% of African-American pregnancies end in abortion.⁵ See the feet that could not run away.
- Many claim they are against ISIS beheading others. Abortionists use techniques to “decrease” skull size so the head won’t be too big to extract from the mother. Look into the eyes of the motionless face.

Rise up in righteous anger and DO something! If you are not on your face right now before God in repentance for our nation’s sin, beg God to break your heart. Ask him for a heart of flesh. Don’t allow our culture to sear your conscience, and lull you into a state of apathy (1 Timothy 4:1-2). You can make a difference!

For God’s precious Name, DO something!

⁴ <http://www.johnstonsarchive.net/policy/abortion/abreasons.html>

⁵ <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/cdc-statistics-indicate-abortion-rate-continues-to-be-higher-among-minoriti>

The Global War on the Pre-born

Every year, over 50 million babies are aborted. That equals the number of people killed during the entire six years of World War II. Every year, a war the size of World War II hits the unborn and it's legal, with a push to make it more and more acceptable.

Many countries have adopted laws regarding the maximum age a baby can be aborted – 20 weeks gestation. The [United States is one of seven nations](#) with the most lenient laws regarding abortion. The other six countries in the list include: China, North Korea, Singapore, Vietnam, Netherlands, and Canada.

Consider the following statistics. 64% of all abortions occur in Asia, with China (8,000,000 per year) and Russia (2,300,000 per year) leading the way, but these numbers could be much higher than reported. Everyday around the world, over 125,000 abortions occur. [Read more global stats here.](#)

If you saw on TV the gruesome footage of over 100,000 people dying in a war each day, what do you think should be the response of powerful people, of informed people, of praying people?

Truly a global Holocaust continues day after day. What an injustice! What an opportunity to resist evil and minister!

Wind, Rain, and God's Ways

Two illustrations will bring this section to a close. First, as a runner I know what it feels like to run *with* the wind and what it feels like to run *against* it. Though a breeze feels nice on my face, I much prefer to run with the wind. If I run against the wind, I feel a drag, and it requires more energy.

In Hebrew, the word for wind is *ruach*. It's also the word used in the Hebrew language for Spirit. When we run with the Spirit in the direction of the Spirit, there is no resistance. We feel light, and we move by His power. But when we run against the Spirit, we grow weary as we fight against the ways of God. The way the Spirit blows is in the direction of the holy because God is holy.

Second, as we explained to our kids during monsoon season, an umbrella's purpose is to keep us dry from the rain. But if we move outside of the umbrella, we become wet and messy. In the same way, God's standards and character as revealed in the Bible are unchanging. If we stand under them, we are protected as we move

through life. But if we move outside of the protective barrier of God's standards, we get hurt and we hurt others.

We do not expect non-Christians to move in the direction of the holy or to remain under the umbrella of God's protection. However, when a person receives Christ, we pledge allegiance to God's character, God's kingdom, and God's mission.

Abortion exists outside the protection of God's "umbrella" and abortion walks against the Spirit of God who is called Holy. God's ways do not exploit the innocent pre-born or the vulnerable mothers. Rather, God's character promotes life so much that Jesus willingly sacrificed his own life in order that He could share life with anyone who would receive his gift of salvation.

Three Science and Logic

The Latin phrase “*primum non nocere*” means “**first, do no harm.**” It stands as one of the guiding principles of the worldwide health industry. The role of any medical intervention is to help the body heal – not harm. Though many medical procedures have risk involved (i.e. chemotherapy or surgery), their overall intent is to provide healing and a better quality of life.

An abortion is a medical procedure that has the *explicit intent to cause harm unto death*. The procedure violates the primary edict of the health profession. Not only does the medical procedure harm the baby unto death, but much data shows the immediate and/or long-term harm that could be inflicted on the mother because of the abortion.

Note: The following paragraph contains a graphic description. We encourage you to read how an abortion is medically performed. To give an overview of one common method used, read Ann McElhinney’s description:

“I also know that in a proper, legal abortion babies are poisoned in their mother’s womb by injecting a needle filled with potassium chloride into the baby’s heart. Then the baby is suctioned out in pieces. If the baby is bigger, forceps are used to pull it out in pieces – an arm, a leg, the head often torn from the torso. If the head is too big to pull out, the abortionist makes a hole in the base of the skull and the brain is sucked out to collapse the skull so the head can come out easily. That’s how it’s done when it’s done well.”
(McElhinney and McAleer, p.xviii).

Would you consider that description to be “doing no harm”? One experienced crime scene investigator who had covered years of homicides described abortion, “Even if it’s done right, it’s barbaric. I’m no holy roller, but if you see the way they actually have to do it, it’s barbaric.” (McElhinney and McAleer, p.57)

Brothers and sisters, how can we equip our minds and our pens (or our keyboards) to stop the propagation of barbaric acts to little ones? It is time to fill your mind with some powerful facts and ways to frame conversations.

Scientifically Speaking, When *Exactly* Does Life Begin?

If you randomly read comments on Facebook about when life begins, you might get the feeling that no one really knows. Anyone's guess is as good as another. A well-educated Christian woman once shared with us that "when life begins is up for debate, and since no one knows there really isn't a moral call to advocate for life at the earlier stages of pregnancy. It could be either way," she confidently espoused.

Maureen Condic, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Neurobiology and Anatomy at the University of Utah, offers a great response to this idea. She states:

The advantage of a scientific approach to the question of when life begins is that the answer is not based on opinion or personal values, but rather on direct observation. And in the modern age, we have very detailed observations, confirming beyond any reasonable doubt, that *the cell produced by sperm-egg fusion (the zygote) is a human organism; i.e. a human being*. We know this because immediately upon the binding and fusion of the gametes (a rapid event taking less than a quarter second to complete), the newly formed zygote enters into a sequence of molecular events that determine and direct its subsequent maturation and growth. The fact that the zygote autonomously initiates the process of embryonic development distinguishes it from a mere human cell and clearly indicates that it is a full and complete, albeit immature, member of the human species. ([Full article here](#))

In other words, through medical observation, we know when human life begins – at conception. From this newly formed zygote, this tiny human continues to develop within itself. It is not constructed from outside. Regardless of human opinion, the scientific data is irrefutable. Prior to his pro-abortion advocacy, former Planned Parenthood President Dr. Alan Guttmacher was perplexed that anyone, much less a medical doctor, would question when life begins. He wrote in his book *Life in the Making*, "This all

seems so simple and evident that it is difficult to picture a time when it wasn't part of the common knowledge." (Quoted from [blog article](#))

Astounding Development Milestones

Each pre-born human in zygote form, though tinier than a grain of sugar, possesses all the DNA sequencing needed to grow into a fully mature human. Within the DNA strand, instructions are coded to enable that tiny embryo to develop complete systems and organs.

By 21 days after conception, the heart is already beating. Arm and leg buds appear at 4-5 weeks and the baby's blood circulation is well established. At week 7 brain activity is detectable, and the brain has designated areas for smell, taste, hearing, vision, and touch. By 8 weeks, 99% of the baby's muscles are present and every organ is developing.

Babies in the third month can yawn, hiccup, frown, squint, and turn their head. Reflexes develop and the baby can curl her fingers around an object. Fingerprints begin to form and take 7 weeks to fully develop. The baby practices breathing by using the amniotic fluid in and out of the lungs. The baby urinates.

When a baby is in the fourth month a rapid production of nerve cells occurs. The baby can suck his thumb. Her taste buds now work. The baby urinates every 40-45 minutes. The baby's facial expressions may resemble the parents'.

The baby's hair begins to grow in the fifth month. Eyebrows and eyelids appear. Baby has regular sleep and wake periods. In the sixth month, the bones begin to harden and the head grows to hold the developing and growing brain. In the seventh month, fat layers form under the baby's skin to help regulate the baby's temperature once the baby is born. In the eighth month, the baby grows very fast. At nine months, the baby's lungs are ready and the baby settles into the birth canal.

Science proves that human life begins at conception. Science proves the intricate and intimate details of the development of the baby. The mother's body simply houses the baby and through the placenta the mother helps eliminate wastes from the baby and sends oxygen and nutrients to the baby. But the baby, as a fully unique individual, develops from within.

The privilege and ability to house and carry a growing human is both scary and beautiful. This home for the baby to grow and develop should be the safest place for the child. If the baby is in

danger from any chemical or instrument, there is no place for the baby to escape. He cannot call the police for protection. She cannot flee across a border to a new home. The womb has been chosen to house this growing individual. Women hold the amazing responsibility and the blessing.

But even if *we* recognize the value of life, many others don't value the human pre-born. So how can we use logic to help those who do not share our worldview realize and honor the uniqueness of life? We can learn to use engaging dialogue and ask key questions that appeal to their own humanity.

To view some active conversations with street-level interviews, here are two options:

- Steven Crowder [I'm Pro-Life...Change My Mind](#)
- Ray Comfort [180° Abortion](#)

Three Pertinent, Logical Questions

Scott Klusendorf, a bioethicist who serves as a Christian apologist for life, states that there are three main questions that will help Christians graciously but persuasively engage the conflict over truth and human value. You can [view a link](#) where he teaches on these issues, but allow us to summarize.

Klusendorf thinks Christians cannot answer the abortion debate with only theological statements. Rather he believes the abortion argument must be handled through an empirical method.

Many think the issue of abortion is complicated in our culture. What has clogged the conversation is the increase of humanism (selfishness at its core) and relativism (belief that there is no absolute truth). These issues affect Christians' understanding of truth and how they can navigate in a culture that seeks to silence those who hold to moral absolutes. Many Christians have given in, believing the progressive movement is academically superior or they have not taken time to consider how their behaviors increase abortion.

Yet, we as God's people, can learn to use our minds and logic to engage in the arguments that are in effect spiritual in nature and yet cause the deaths of millions. Keep reading to learn how!

1. ***What is the unborn?***

According to Klusendorf, we must answer “What is that thing?” If the thing is not human, it is okay to kill it. But if “this thing” is human, then he or she cannot be killed.

The answer to the question lies in the science of embryology. From the earliest stages of development, you were a distinct person. If we constructed a house or a car, we would construct from outside. We would add pieces together, until eventually we would have the product. But the embryo is different in that it *develops from within*. There is continuity to the development. We are the same person today as we were in our embryonic stage. If we scrape a single cell from our body, we would have the DNA to reconstruct the characteristics of a person, but no full human life will develop from human cells from the body. But at the tiniest stage, as soon as the fertilization occurred, the zygote began to develop all the body’s systems and organs from within. Regardless of size, a distinct individual existed.

So if the unborn is a human from the tiniest stage, then common law states that to take this life is to kill a human.

2. ***What gives us value?***

As Christians or people with a Judeo-Christian worldview, we believe we have value because we were created in the image of God. But how do we move into a conversation with people who do not share this worldview or who maintain that they are personally against abortion, but think it should be legal?

We can ask, “When did you become unique and valuable?” We must lovingly help them see there is no *essential* difference between the embryo they once were and the person they are today. Their value today remains the same as their value when they developed through the embryonic stage.

Stephen [Schwarz](#) states there are merely four differences between the embryo and the grown person. He offers the acronym SLED to help remember these differences.

S – Size

We do not assign more value to men simply because men typically are bigger than women, nor do we assign more value to tall basketball players than petite gymnasts. Size does not determine the value of a person.

L – Level of Development

Level of development does not determine one's value. We would not claim our teenagers are more valuable than our toddlers, or that parents have more value than their children simply because they are more developed.

E – Environment

Where we are located does not determine what we are or modify our value as humans. Simply moving from inside a room to outside a room does not change a person's nature. Similarly, traveling 8 inches down the birth canal does not elevate the value of the child. A child who dies right before birth from an umbilical cord wrapped around her neck is no less valuable than a child who experiences a healthy delivery.

D – Degree of Dependency

It is true that a mom's body helps support the unborn baby's body during gestation. It is true that parents must feed their infant for the child to survive. But the degree of dependency does not decrease a person's value. A person dependent on someone pushing them in a wheelchair remains... a person. Someone who depends on a breathing machine during open heart surgery remains... a person. Their value as a human does not change based on their dependence on machines or other people.

3. *What is our duty?*

If the unborn "thing" is actually a human baby (Question 1), and *if* because it is human he/she has great value (Question 2), *then* it is our responsibility to take action (Question 3). We can take action in various ways: running for office and changing laws, voting at the ballot box, writing emails/letters to leaders, praying outside of abortion clinics, etc.

Klusendorf claims our duty for this issue is primarily to love our unborn neighbor and his/her mother. Obviously, this love must come not only with words, but deeds. Our love must take tangible form – housing, food, counseling, skills training, adoption, etc. A person or church that backs up their words with loving actions will make a powerful and lasting difference.

The difficulty with fulfilling our duty to those affected by abortion is that it is a severe injustice that we cannot easily see. Unlike military war, we don't see piles of burned, dismembered

bodies lying on the streets so that the UN can call it a human genocide. Yet it is severe injustice, legalized by multiple nations, and it destroys an astronomical number of lives.

To engage the topic well, we need to display by our attitudes and behaviors that we love both the pre-born and the mother.

One way to do that is to contrast a Christian response with the rationale, strategies, words, and actions of abortion providers. In a later section, we will unpack a great number of practical ways to show godly love to those in crisis. But first we need to understand the background, the influence, and the worldview of America's largest abortion provider – Planned Parenthood.

Four

Abortion Promoters and Providers – Planned Parenthood

It is important to look at Planned Parenthood (PP), not only because the U.S. government gives this non-profit organization more than \$500 million per year in taxpayer funds, but because Planned Parenthood holds the distinction as America's largest abortion provider. To understand how they came to this level, let's consider its founder, Margaret Sanger.

Planned Parenthood's Founder – Margaret Sanger

Margaret Sanger founded the American Birth Control League in 1921. It later changed its name to the Planned Parenthood Federation of America in 1942. Planned Parenthood continues to herald Margaret Sanger as a hero. They uphold her as a women's rights advocate, a sex educator, a birth control activist and a writer. But a closer examination of her life will show how controversial she was. Some Planned Parenthood activists would like to erase parts of the history surrounding her.

- Margaret Sanger was an avid proponent of population control. She was a leader in the eugenics movement with a passion to reduce the sexual reproduction of people with undesirable traits or economic conditions. She also favored the required sterilization of the same types of people. Heavily influenced by Darwinism, she was a strong supporter in population control and the survival of the fittest. She stated, "Birth control itself, often denounced as a violation of natural law, is nothing more or less than the facilitation of the process of weeding out the unfit, of preventing the birth of defectives or of those who will become defectives," Sanger wrote in [chapter 18](#) of *Woman and the New Race*.
- As a white supremacist who preached "race improvement," she was well received when she spoke at a KKK rally in New Jersey in 1926 where "a dozen invitations to speak to similar groups were proffered."
- Sanger wanted to create a pure race, much like Hitler. Many of her thoughts were developed by her support of Darwinism, Marxism, anarchism, secular humanism, socialism, and eugenics. She was a follower of Thomas

Malthus, who also inspired Darwin.⁶ Malthus taught, that “if Western civilization were to survive, the physically unfit, the materially poor, the spiritually diseased, the racially inferior, and the mentally incompetent had to somehow be suppressed and isolated—or perhaps even eliminated.”⁷

- She was a champion of “sex without consequences” and free love. Supposedly her two husbands struggled with her “free love” mindset because she wanted to have sexual relationships outside of marriage. Prior to her second marriage, she stated to her secretary, “I don’t want to marry anyone, particularly a stodgy churchgoer... Yet how often am I going to meet a man with nine million dollars?”⁸ Sanger died an alcoholic, estranged from her children, and addicted to pain killers.
- Sanger was a proponent of “The American Baby Code” which stated that marriage licenses only allowed the adults to become a common household but didn’t give them a license to parenthood. Look at these few articles and recognize her desire for big government to make decisions for its citizens.
 - Article 3. A marriage license shall in itself give husband and wife only the right to a common household and not the right to parenthood.
 - Article 4. No woman shall have the legal right to bear a child, and no man shall have the right to become a father, without a permit for parenthood.
 - Article 5. Permits for parenthood shall be issued upon application by city, county, or state authorities to married couples, providing they are financially able to support the expected child, have the qualifications needed for proper rearing of the child, have no transmissible diseases, and, on the woman’s part, no medical indication that maternity is likely to result in death or permanent injury to health.
 - Article 6. No permit for parenthood shall be valid for more than one birth.

⁶ <https://creation.com/margaret-sanger-darwinian-eugenicist>

⁷ Grant, G., *Killer Angel: A Short Biography of Planned Parenthood’s Founder, Margaret Sanger*, 2001. p.67.

⁸ Gray, M., *Margaret Sanger: A Biography of the Champion of Birth Control*, 1979. p. 167.

- Sanger set up her clinics in poorer, minority neighborhoods because of her desire to sterilize or prevent more population from the “inferior races.”
- In 1921, Sanger stated, “Eugenics...is the most adequate and thorough avenue to the solution of racial, political, and social problems.”
- In 1922 she said, “The most merciful thing that a family does to one of its infant members is to kill it.”
- Sanger had an impact on many nations, including India, Singapore, Japan, China, Korea and much of Europe. Her programs involving sterilization of the unfit were adopted by Sweden, Norway, Finland, Denmark and, most infamously, by Nazi Germany.⁹ Sanger served as President of the International Planned Parenthood Federation from 1952-1959.

How do two current U.S. leaders regard Margaret Sanger? In 2009, Hillary Clinton received the Margaret Sanger Award by Planned Parenthood. Clinton described herself as “in awe” of Sanger, and Sanger’s leadership as, “one of the most transformational in the entire history of the human race.”

In contrast, Congressman Chris Smith of New Jersey who gave the closing banquet remarks at the National Right to Life convention commented about Sanger, that she was “transformational for sure, but not for the better if one happens to be poor, disenfranchised, weak, a person of color, vulnerable or among the many undesirables who Sanger would exclude and exterminate.” ([Read Smith article here](#)).

Planned Parenthood Today

One might wonder if Planned Parenthood over the years has stayed true to its original purpose. In its most recent fiscal year summary 2016-2017, Planned Parenthood reported that it successfully performed 321,384 abortions making them the largest abortion provider in our country. They have also kept their focus on minority communities. Though African-American make up 12% of

⁹ Flynn, D.J., *Intellectual Morons: How Ideology Makes Smart People Fall for Stupid Ideas*, 2004, p. 151.

U.S. population, they make up 35% of U.S abortions. Sadly, Planned Parenthood has stayed the course.

Planned Parenthood has also fully infiltrated the lobbying industry. Its multiple political action committees (PAC's) donate massive amounts to Democratic candidates (more than \$33 million in recent election cycles).¹⁰ Because of their efforts, the Democratic Platform now clearly states their desire for increased and unrestricted access to abortion (abortion on demand) for all in the U.S.¹¹

Of course, this fundraising results in a reciprocal relationship from which Planned Parenthood greatly benefits. According to its annual report, in the fiscal year 2016-2017 PP ran a budget of \$1.46 billion, and received \$543 million from the U.S. government (37%).¹²

PP claims to offer a wide-range of services for women. However, everything they do funnels toward abortion, which drives their budget and mission, despite their claims otherwise. Following is a brief list demonstrating their passionate commitment to abortion, while trying to masquerade as a full-service women's health provider.

- They state that only 3% of their services are for abortions, but they twist their data. Even the Washington Post claims this is inaccurate.¹³ For example, each individual step done in a PP office is considered a "service." So a woman fills out a paper – that's one service. A woman urinates for a sample. That's one service. A woman has her blood pressure taken. That's one service. So before a woman has her abortion, they have claimed to have done perhaps seven services for her. This tilts all their statistics. ([video link with powerful quantitative explanation](#))

¹⁰ <http://dailysignal.com/2016/11/03/planned-parenthood-arms-spend-over-38-million-to-elect-democrats/>

¹¹ http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/papers_pdf/117717.pdf. See p. 37.

¹² https://www.plannedparenthood.org/uploads/filer_public/18/40/1840b04b-55d3-4c00-959d-11817023ffc8/20170526_annualreport_p02_singles.pdf

¹³ https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/fact-checker/wp/2015/08/12/for-planned-parenthood-abortion-stats-3-percent-and-94-percent-are-both-misleading/?utm_term=.2cba03b29743

- In all their clinics across the U.S. they offer no mammogram, though many Americans believe they do. ([video of President of PP stating they do no mammograms](#))
- They provide less than 1% of the nation's pap smears.
- They provide less than 2% of the country's breast exams and cancer screenings.
- PP is outnumbered by federally qualified health-care clinics across the country by a ratio of 20 to 1 which actually do provide a wide array of health-care options for women. [Read more here.](#)
- Every 95 seconds, Planned Parenthood takes the life of a child.
- They enforce abortion quotas to drive revenue.
- For every 1 adoption referral, 83 children are aborted.
- PP continues its founder's "free love" principles. They teach children as young as 7 about homosexual and heterosexual relationships, and why women have abortions. At age 10, their sex education program teaches about anal sex, how to masturbate and about abortion. Their books teach some accurate aspects of sexual education, but they strongly encourage sexual experimentation. On their website and on their Facebook page for teens, they give clear instructions about how to experiment with sex. They use the social media site Tumblr and give graphic instruction about oral sex and more. On college campuses, they hold events with all-night bars and "no pants" required dress codes.
- There are numerous documented cases of PP hiding situations of trafficking and rape and incest. ([Read more here](#), and [here](#))
- PP uses the slogan, "Care. No Matter What." Yet, there is ample documentation of them turning a blind eye to statutory rape and providing the abortion, but not turning in the rapist to the authorities. "Substantial and developing evidence... indicates that many Planned Parenthood clinics fail to report instances of suspected sexual abuse and instead advise minors and their abusers on how to circumvent the law" AUL reports.¹⁴

¹⁴ Alliance Defending Freedom, *Pretty Ugly: Planned Parenthood's Deception of the American People*. 2013. pp. 18-19

- PP seeks to portray themselves as an organization for women's rights. But that is far from true. Rather, they turn a blind eye to prostitution, sex trafficking and sexual abuse in order to ensure the bottom line (*Pretty Ugly*, p.23). They tried to lobby for the age of consent to be reduced to the age of 14 in Peru.
- In a survey, 60% thought PP provided education for new and expectant parents. They do not. 37% thought PP counsels parents interested in adoption. No. Only 36% were aware PP performs abortions.
- 90% of Planned Parenthood's services end in abortion. (*Pretty Ugly*, p.81)
- No health facility can declare they are for women's health and then have substandard facilities for women. After two decades, the Virginia Board of Health inspected Planned Parenthood facilities in Virginia. PP was opposed to the inspections, though they were announced well ahead of time. Still 80 citations were placed against the nine abortion centers! (*Pretty Ugly*, p.47).
- Victoria Cobb of the Virginia Family Foundations stated, "No longer can the abortion industry claim that it puts women's health ahead of its profits." (*Pretty Ugly*, p.48)
- "Abortion facilities should be held to the same health and safety standards as all other medical facilities. Their resistance to such standards exposes their real attitude toward women. Planned Parenthood is a billion-dollar corporation. If they are going to profit from killing innocent life, it is too much to expect that they meet basic standards to protect women's health." – Casey Mattox, Senior Counsel with Alliance Defending Freedom (*Pretty Ugly*, p.49)

It's important to note that Planned Parenthood wants zero restrictions on abortion. MSNBC's Chuck Todd asked Hillary Clinton in an April 3rd interview, "When, and if, does an unborn child have constitutional rights?" Ms. Clinton answered, "unborn persons don't have constitutional rights..." This is the stance of Planned Parenthood today. When in 2016 Ms. Clinton received their Champion of the Century award, she stated, "I know that for a century Planned Parenthood has worked to make sure that women, men, young people who count on you can lead their best lives

healthy, safe and free to follow their dreams,” she said, to the group, before adding: “I will always have your back.”

Planned Parenthood political affiliates placed millions of dollars into Democratic elections. In return, the Democrat Party crafted the most pro-abortion platform ever. However, God heard the prayers and saw the “backs” of thousands of Christians bent over in prayer pleading for our nation, the pre-born, and the women that abortion harms.

Shout Your Abortion

Though not directly affiliated with Planned Parenthood, this recent social media promotion has done much to bring abortion into the light, not with repentance and sorrow, but with celebration. In 2015, a campaign started called *Shout Your Abortion* which hoped to build a case that abortion should be celebrated. PP’s executive vice present, Dawn Laguens, publicly supported the [Shout Your Abortion](#) campaign saying: “We’re happy to see more and more people coming forward... these stories are a powerful reminder that women should never feel shamed or judged.” We only include it here to show the shift in tone of argument. The abortion industry has moved from “easy access to abortion” to “abortion should be celebrated.” Here are a few of the tweets associated with this campaign.

- “My abortion was in '10 & the career I've built since then fulfills me & makes me better able to care for kids I have now #ShoutYourAbortion.”^[17] West said, “I set up #ShoutYourAbortion because I am not sorry and I will not whisper.”^[17]
- “I’ve never wanted to have children, so I had an abortion. I’m thriving, without guilt, without shame, without apologies. #ShoutYourAbortion”
- “I’ve had 2 abortions. I don’t have to justify or explain them to anybody. My life is more valuable than a potential life. #shoutyourabortion”
- “In 1988 a late-term abortion got a teenage me back on track for college, career, & motherhood. #ShoutYourAbortion”
- “My abortion was the most compassionate option for the baby and me. #ShoutYourAbortion”

- "I had an abortion. My body, my life, my choice. End of story. #shoutyourabortion."^{[18][19][20]}

Those who opposed the campaign sent tweets such as:

- [Pro-life activist Gianna Jessen](#) tweeted: "My medical records: 'Born during saline abortion.' I didn't have an abortion. I Lived through one. #shoutyourabortion."
- Conservative blogger [Michelle Malkin](#) urged her Twitter followers to "Shout this LOUDER: #PPSellsBabyParts."
- Former Republican member of the House of Representatives, and 2012 presidential candidate [Michele Bachmann](#) said, "#ShoutYourAbortion gives a new meaning to [macabre](#)."^{[24][25]}
- Other critical tweets included: "When did making someone else pay dearly for your mistakes become empowerment for women? #shoutyourabortion."
- "All of humanity past and present looks upon what has become of modern feminism and shakes its head in disgust & disbelief #shoutyourabortion."
- "All great genocides start by dehumanizing the victim. #ShoutYourAbortion."^{[1][25][26][27]}

At the same gala in 2016 where Hillary Clinton won the Champion of the Century Award, Planned Parenthood also awarded the "Champion of Change" award to Shonda Rhimes, the producer of the television show called *Scandal*. She was honored "for revolutionizing the way women and issues of reproductive health — including safe, legal abortion — are portrayed on television." In 2015 the show *Scandal* apparently featured a woman having an abortion onscreen (only her face is seen during the procedure) while the song *Silent Night* played quietly in the background.

Remember what we wrote about the spiritual warfare behind abortion? At their gala, Planned Parenthood honored a TV production that highlighted an abortion (the death of a baby) while playing the song about the birth of Jesus Christ. (Writing this we literally feel nauseous.) *Scandal* portrayed a child sacrifice while the sacredness of the Virgin birth hovered over the room – and Planned Parenthood celebrated. Their donors and guests clapped.

Planned Parenthood needs to be defunded by the U.S. government. God sees where we stand. God hears the cries. God remembers. God may even weep.

Five Politics and Law

U.S. laws passed by our legislative branch serve to either increase or decrease abortions worldwide. Therefore, it is important that you as a U.S. Christian understand key amendments and laws and how our election of certain individuals will impact vulnerable pre-born babies. Take a journey with us.

Your votes do make a life or death difference based on clearly stated platforms and campaign promises kept or broken. We are not seeking to create a divide between Democrats or Republicans. Both have flaws. But we do want you to be informed how one party has shifted over the years and now votes time and time again against laws that protect babies and moms. (Please note that there are also some pro-life Democrats. [Click here](#) for an article showing the dilemma of their intra-party litmus test.)

Living or Dying on the Platform

Have you ever read a political platform before casting your vote? We hope so! We should be informed voters! It is important to be an informed citizen, aware of what the parties and candidates stand for, in their own words, *before* we cast our votes. As you read, think about and mark which issues bring *certain death*, not metaphorical or implied death. (Hint: There is no legislation that demands the death of immigrants. There is no legislation that demands the death of poor people. There is no legislation that demands the death of homosexuals. There is no legislation that demands death for Guantanamo prisoners.)

There is one issue where either death or life is certain for completely *innocent* people– abortion.

Before reading a political platform, for just a moment imagine with us one grizzly and disturbing image – thousands of babies lying side-by-side all looking around smiling, laughing, cooing, or crying. Then imagine each baby shot dead one-by-one, or toxic chemicals poured on them until they die. Can you envision it? Let your mind's eye pause and take it in, seriously.

Perhaps abortion is such a divisive issue because it is so unseen. If abortion were clearly seen, the honorable and right choice would be obvious. Or would it? But because it is gruesome and uncomfortable people choose to not think about it, or they may

imagine it to be like a routine mole removal. Many just see it as a political issue but forget to look into the eyes of the child whom it kills. Please imagine and “see” for yourselves.

Not to manipulate you, but to bring the injustice before your eyes, we encourage you to go to this site where you can prayerfully “[look abortion in the eye.](#)” Now with those disturbing images in mind...

It is always safest to vote on platforms. The platforms should let voters know what to expect, guide the new administration’s priorities, and give a measure of accountability on whether the person is holding to their stated platform.

This is the [2016 platform of the Democratic Party](#). See page 37. Here is the [2016 Republican Party platform](#). See pages 31-32.

We do not have to agree with every policy position of a platform. It is not required that we even like the candidate. But we must be informed and take special note of platform areas that lead to death or directly increase deaths.

If the platform does not sound like your church mission statement, that’s great! The government is not the Church. Your church also has a “platform” and a job to do – proclaim good news, heal the sick, clothe the naked, feed the hungry, care for the orphan and widow, visit the imprisoned, open blind eyes, set captives free (Matthew 25, Luke 4, James 1). The Church’s platform should include caring for those in poverty, equipping people with job skills, helping those with handicaps, assisting single-parent families, and welcoming foreigners in our midst. Indeed the U.S. government has a purpose – to protect its citizens and govern justly. The Church has a purpose – to make disciples of all nations and to be sent as Jesus was sent which is to care for the whole person. We should not confuse the job of the government with the job of the Church!

The Hyde Amendment

Representative lawmaker Henry Hyde (R-IL) was heavily responsible for the Hyde Amendment. It was a long and difficult journey to pass, but the U.S. Supreme Court upheld it in 1980. *The Hyde Amendment blocks federal funds from directly paying for abortions except in cases of rape, incest or if the pregnancy can endanger a woman’s life.* Due to its passage, the Hyde Amendment

has greatly reduced the numbers of abortions by limiting coverage of abortions through Medicaid. It is not a permanent law. It is a rider and is annually renewed by Congress. Today, numerous abortion funding restrictions ensure that taxpayers aren't complicit in the violence of abortion.

“Before the enactment of Hyde, the Medicaid program was paying for about 300,000 abortions annually. When abortion funding is proscribed (forbidden), there is a body of empirical data that suggests that about a fourth of the children who would otherwise be killed are spared and born.” – *Congressman Chris Smith (R-NJ), 4th District*

While abortion policy has been a hotly contested issue in most presidential elections, the Hyde Amendment had not been the focus of these debates until the 2016 election. Following their party's platforms, the Democrats called for the full repeal of the Hyde Amendment, while Republicans called for the annual provision to become permanent law.

The Hyde Amendment simply protects taxpayers from being unknowing contributors to the abortion industry. However Planned Parenthood claims:

“For far too long, the United States has penalized low-income women seeking abortion — forcing those already struggling to make ends meet to pay the biggest proportion of her income for safe, legal care... When insurance coverage provides for all pregnancy-related health care except abortion, it interferes with the private health decisions that are best left to the woman, her doctor, and her family. The Hyde Amendment is a dangerous and unfair policy that lets politicians interfere in a woman's personal health care decisions.”¹⁵

¹⁵ <https://www.plannedparenthoodaction.org/issues/abortion/hyde-amendment>

Planned Parenthood is a 501(c)3 non-profit. Therefore, they can raise funds to pay for the programs that support their mission. Since abortions support their mission, they can raise funds for their client services. Instead, they depend on tax dollars *and* they charge clients for the abortions, increasing PP's financial bottom line. The Democratic presidential candidate, who was endorsed by PP early in the primaries, had promised "[more federal funding for Planned Parenthood](#)" if she were elected. [Read this article](#) to learn about the financial entanglements of PP; there are currently multiple cases filed against them for fraud.

NARAL Pro-Choice America President Ilyse Hogue – who served on the [Democratic platform committee](#) and helped craft the 2016 document – called the Democratic position “far and away the most progressive platform on reproductive health, freedom and justice in the history of the party. “She went on to say, “If platforms are statements of collective values and a blueprint for candidates to follow once elected, the choice could not be more clear.”

Please note that “progressive” does not always indicate improved. Progressive platforms can either move toward God's standards or reflect the tactics of the Enemy. Therefore, Christians need to be alert. 1 Timothy 4:2 gives a stern warning, “The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.” Any governmental policy or law or teaching by a Christian that moves intentionally towards death and away from life (Jesus is life), toward destruction and away from the protection of the innocent (Jesus is holy) classifies as a deceptive teaching taught by demons.

Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act

This bill seeks to ban late-term abortions after 20 weeks post-fertilization because the baby can feel pain at that point in a pregnancy. Introduced in 2013 and passed by the House of Representatives in 2013, 2015, and 2017. Sadly, it has not yet passed the [Senate](#).

Planned Parenthood and Democrats have routinely voted against this act, though it is scientifically proven that babies feel intense pain before birth. In a groundbreaking article by the *New England Journal of Medicine* (May 2015), study shows that 20-week babies can

survive and thrive when treated with appropriate care.¹⁶ Read a brief [Science of Fetal Pain article](#) summarized by Charlotte Lozier Institute here. (The following notes are all from this document).

Fetal surgeons recognize that when they perform surgeries on babies in the womb, they have two patients. They have the mom and the preborn child. They tell the mother, “You will be given general anesthesia, and that anesthesia will put your baby to sleep as well. In addition, during the prenatal surgery, your unborn baby will be given an injection of pain medication and medication to ensure that the baby doesn’t move.” One surgeon made the point, “Fetal therapy is the logical culmination of progress in fetal diagnosis. In other words, the fetus is now a patient.” (Lozier footnote 3)

Pain management for the pre-born is standard medical practice. (Lozier footnote 2) It is clear to fetal surgeons that they are operating on humans, not blobs of tissue. The word fetus means *offspring* or *little one* in Latin. Because the little one feels pain and move or flinch, moving away from the pain, surgeons know they must treat the baby as a patient who matters. A European fetal surgery team states: “The administration of anesthesia directly to the fetus is critical in open fetal surgery procedures.” (Lozier footnote 4) And the leading textbook on clinical anesthesia says: “It is clear that the fetus is capable of mounting a physiochemical stress response to noxious stimuli as early as 18 weeks gestation.” (Lozier footnote 5)

So, When Do Babies Begin to Feel Pain?

A logical question pertaining to the unborn is “*When* can they feel pain? Do they only feel pain at birth, or does that ability occur sooner?” Medical evidence reveals the unborn young one feels pain *much* earlier than at birth. Legislation should reflect the fact of science.

Embryological development shows presence of pain sensory mechanisms. Here is a summary of the developmental stages related to pain.

- The basic organization of the human nervous system is established by 4 weeks (28 days) post-fertilization (6 weeks gestation). (Lozier footnote 17)

¹⁶ Rysavy MA *et al.*, Between-Hospital Variation in Treatment and Outcomes in Extremely Preterm Infants, *N Engl J Med* 372, 1801, May 7, 2015

- The earliest neurons in the cortical brain (the part responsible for thinking, memory and other higher functions) are established during the fourth week. (Lozier footnote 18)
- Nerve synapses for spinal reflex are in place by 8 weeks post-fertilization (10 weeks gestation). (Lozier footnote 19)
- Sensory receptors for pain (nociception) develop first around the mouth at 5 weeks post-fertilization (7 weeks gestation), and are present throughout the skin and mucosal surfaces by 18 weeks post-fertilization (20 weeks gestation). (Lozier footnote 20)
- Connections between the spinal cord and the thalamus (which functions in pain perception in fetuses as well as adults) are relatively complete by 18 weeks post-fertilization (20 weeks gestation). (Lozier footnote 21)

Not only do the pre-born and newly-born baby feel pain, but they demonstrate an *increased sensitivity* to pain. One group noted in 2010, “The earlier infants are delivered, the stronger their response to pain.” (Lozier footnote 9) The Charlotte Lozier Institute notes that, “This increased sensitivity is due to the fact that the neural mechanisms that inhibit pain sensations do not begin to develop until 32-34 weeks post-fertilization (34-36 weeks gestation), and are not complete until a significant time after birth. This means that unborn, as well as newborn and preterm infants, show “hyper-responsiveness” to pain. (Lozier footnote 11) They have pain receptors, but they do not yet have pain inhibitors!

Within the womb, the unborn baby reveals avoidance reactions and responses in their stress levels in response to pain. As early as 6 weeks post-fertilization (8 weeks gestation) the baby exhibits reflex movement during invasive procedures. (Lozier footnote 12) As early as 16 weeks, the baby exhibits “increases in cortisol, beta-endorphin, and decreases in the pulsatility (difference in max/min blood pressure) index of the fetal middle cerebral artery.” (Lozier footnote 14)

Dr. Ruth Grunau, a pediatric psychologist at the University of British Columbia, said, “We would seem to be holding an extraordinary standard if we didn’t infer pain from all those measures.” (Lozier footnote 16)

Yet, as some seek to advocate and speak up for the pain babies feel before birth, many fight for more abortion rights, and fewer

restrictions. Somehow, they believe abortion on demand empowers women. In effect, this logic demeans and exploits women. If women's equality and empowerment come only with the right to inflict pain and death on someone smaller than themselves, then either women are innately weak, or the logic stems from a systemic deception.

Again, it begs the question. Is the pre-born baby a human? If so, then our legislation should reflect that. For those who desire to advocate for women's rights, giving women an ability to take another's life and induce pain on them does not make us "empowered." Rather, it turns us into barbarians. Is that what we want?

Born Alive Survivors Protection Act

When an abortion fails, and a baby is born alive, what should happen? Should the doctor treat the baby or kill it? In 2002, President George W. Bush signed the Born Alive Infant Protection Act (BAIPA) for just this type of situation. Overturning *Roe v. Wade* was not possible at the time, so BAIPA was at least a partial solution. This act protects babies who miraculously survive an abortion.

The act would protect babies who are born after a failed abortion and require that the child be taken to a hospital for immediate care. However, BAIPA did not prescribe penalties, and so the practice of killing babies post-birth continued. At the time of this writing, Congress is seeking to add penalties to this act. A violation of BAIPA includes killing the baby after birth, not taking the child to the hospital, and not reporting the violation. Any of these violations would lead to prosecution of the perpetrator – not the woman. [Read more here](#).¹⁷

Planned Parenthood states that this bill is unnecessary "because it is so rare," but of course, this is not true. Between 2003 and 2014 the CDC estimates that at least 143 babies died in exactly this situation, but the number could be much higher.

[Undercover videos](#) acquired by David Daleiden and associates, showed that Planned Parenthood sells the body parts of babies. Multiple times in the videos PP leadership admits, that fully-developed and intact specimen are more useful and profitable. With profit in mind, abortionists can alter their abortion practices for the

¹⁷ In a vote on 19 January 2018 for H.R. 4172. 325 Republicans and 6 Democrats supported BAIPA, 183 Democrats opposed it, and 6 did not vote (2 R, 4 D).

purpose of harvesting more viable organs and parts to sell. Later-term abortions bring in more money, but they also mean the baby could more often survive.

Yet, the Democratic establishment and its leadership, and of course Planned Parenthood, desire to eliminate BAIPA which simply protects babies born after a failed abortion.

(As we write, we have to stop periodically and shake our heads. Really, these acts are debatable? Citizens and even Christians cannot decide who to vote for? What?)

Which shows God's love more, killing a baby who survived abortion, or saving his/her life? How will the Church speak into this type of issue to extend the culture of life?

Media outlets also show their bias by the stories they cover or refuse to cover. Did you hear much about Kermit Gosnell? Through his trial, it was discovered that he had clipped the spinal column of possibly hundreds of babies from botched abortions. The disgusting image reminds us of clipping frogs in biology class. Amid filthy conditions, many women had their babies born alive in toilets. But the mainstream media barely touched this story. Neither Planned Parenthood nor supposedly pro-women groups decried the terrible treatment of the women "under his care." [To watch the Gosnell movie on Amazon Prime](#). We highly encourage reading the book [Gosnell: The Untold Story of America's Most Prolific Serial Killer](#).

Mexico City Policy

The Mexico City Policy (MCP) is a U.S. policy that blocks the U.S. government from giving money to international non-governmental organizations (NGO's) that provide abortions, offer abortion counseling, or advocate to expand abortion services. It started under Reagan, stopped under Clinton (i.e. U.S. funds were released to support international abortion groups), started again under Bush, stopped under Obama (again supporting international abortion), and presently the policy started up again under President Trump.

Previously the MCP only affected U.S. family planning funds (\$575 million), but the current administration expanded the policy to affect *all* of the U.S. global health initiatives (\$8.8 billion). The NGO's receiving money have to assure that they will not "perform or actively promote abortion as a method of family planning" with non-U.S. money in order to receive U.S. funding. Basically, the U.S. government will not fund groups that do abortions. Situations of

abortions in the cases of rape, incest, or mother's life in danger will not disqualify groups from receiving funds. Foreign NGO's will have to choose if performing abortions is worth being cut off from a large portion of their budget. According to [one source](#), the International Planned Parenthood Federation will lose access to \$100 million because they will not stop promoting abortion. In our opinion, the MCP as it is currently implemented will encourage groups to perform abortions only in extreme and rare situations, which will decrease global abortions. In this way, our tax dollars become a force for life rather than death in other nations.

To read reviews of the Mexico City Policy – [Positive Review](#) or [Negative Review](#)

We will close with an illustration about how your vote impacts life and death. In the Pennsylvania governor's race of 1994, the **pro-choice Republican** Tom Ridge beat the incumbent **Democrat and pro-life champion** Bob Casey. Ridge promised in his platform to not "place more barriers on women seeking abortions." J.D. Mullane, a Philadelphia reporter, stated:

"It was [Ridge's] administration that decided to halt annual inspections of Pennsylvania's abortion clinics. This happened because the Ridge administration felt shoddier clinics... would be forced to close if inspectors from the state department of health came through and did their jobs. Closing clinics would create a 'barrier' for women seeking abortions, and Ridge didn't want that."

Under this pro-choice politician, Dr. Kermit Gosnell's clinic avoided inspection for seventeen years. The serial killer Gosnell was given free reign under this pro-choice politician. (McElhinney and McAleer, p.82)

Your vote certainly makes a difference. In 2016, the Republican Party promised a platform favoring pro-life initiatives. Within one year of the Trump administration taking office, more has been done for pro-life causes than any other president since Roe v. Wade.

In this chapter, we hope you have become more aware and informed about political platforms, the Hyde Amendment, Pain-Capable Child Protection, Born Alive Infant Protection, and the

Mexico City Policy. There are many other legal situations you can research (24-hour waiting period between counseling and abortion, standards of hygiene in abortion facilities for women's safety, doctors' freedom to *not* perform abortions, etc.) But we pray that your insight will guide your voting process. As you vote in various elections, read platforms and vote accordingly. Vote in ways that lead others away from slaughter. The Lord will see. The Lord will bless.

Six

Love With Practical Action

From the biblical basis, to current trends, to the laws on the books, we can gain a head full of knowledge. Followers of Christ must not simply have a pro-life attitude, but we must act to protect the unborn, love the child born into difficult situations, and serve the mother exploited by the abortion industry.

The words of the Apostle John say it well. “Dear children, let us love not with words or speech, but with actions and in truth.” 1 John 3:8

You will find below a few groupings and categories of action steps that promote God’s love and extend God’s culture of life.

Love by Knowing and Responding to the Good News

- **Know the Good News!** – If you have had an abortion, or if you have encouraged someone else to have one, please hear the Good News! Jesus took your sin and allowed it to be placed upon himself. He paid for your sin on the cross. And his resurrection shows that he has ultimate power over death.
- **Respond to the Good News!** – Trust in Christ Jesus and you can one day meet your child who is no longer living. To do this, admit your sin, believe that Christ died for you, then receive God’s forgiveness as he adopts you into his family! You can take the most powerful personal action step by turning your life over to Jesus and allowing him to forgive your sin and become the leader of your life.
- **Love Those Who Have Had an Abortion** – Speak life and encouragement to those you know have aborted their child. Show them Christ’s love and compassion. Jesus always rubbed hope and truth together.
- **Create a Wall of Remembrance** – Consider gathering churches in your area to unite and create a memorial for the unborn. In our hometown of Chattanooga, TN, the National Memorial for the Unborn serves as a powerful place to honor and remember. [Read the history](#) of land reclaimed from an abortion clinic, now dedicated to Jesus. The Wall of Remembrance includes hundreds of small plaques where parents can place a memorial for their aborted child as an act

towards healing. In a separate nearby space, there is a Garden of Tears for miscarried babies.

Love by Volunteering Your Time

- **Volunteer at a Local Crisis Pregnancy Center or Hotline** – You want to do something eternal? You want to save a life? You want to save a young woman from a lifetime of regret? Find your local pregnancy center, get trained and find a time slot. In this way, you can bless and encourage people right in the middle of life and death decisions.
- **Start Ministries at Your Church to Help Crisis Pregnancies or Single-Parent Families** – Throw baby showers, offer parenting classes, do projects around homes for single parents.

Love by Politics and Activism

- **Research and Vote** – Your vote matters. But be an informed voter. Read the stated platforms for each candidate or party in future elections. Do not waste your vote. This is your chance to make a difference in the larger governing structures.
- **Become Equipped as a Pro-Life Advocate** – Learn how to speak up for those with no voice. [Check out this website](#) with additional information on training. This would be excellent for Bible study leaders, pastors, college students, and anyone who wants to speak logically about the issue.
- **Write Articles and Papers**– Use your written words to influence others. Seek God’s wisdom, do your research, form an opinion, and write something, asking for the Holy Spirit to bless and encourage others toward holiness.
- **Promote Good Social Media** – When you find good articles (please fact check them) and spread the good news. Use good social media etiquette and show a balance of grace and truth.
- **Candlelight Vigils and Marches** – Host vigils to honor those aborted. Have all-night prayer gatherings when key legislation is up for vote. Join in the March for Life in DC or similar event in your area. Pray for protection for group events of this nature because the enemy of life would love to disrupt a Christ-honoring gathering.

Love by Spiritual Engagement

- **Pray!** – Pray alone, as a family, and in groups for those seeking abortions. Pray for believers to display love and truth by how they help the pre-born, the child, and the women. Pray for legislation to pass that protects both women and the unborn.
- **Prayer-Walk Key Locations** – Pray in places where Satan has acted or wants to act to destroy life. Go to places of abuse or violence or crucial decisions and judgments. Pray for key legislation to pass and for destructive legislation to be defeated. Remember to put on the spiritual armor before prayer-walking (Ephesians 6). Usually we seek to keep our prayers positive and pray “For” things rather than pray “Against” things.
- **Keep Up With News** – Follow news from Facebook groups such as Life Site News and End Abortion Now for updated information about the abortion industry and pro-life news. Read the articles but always pray into the articles before reading the next one. Try this for a day or a week – for every article you read or watch, pause and pray something about that situation. Do not move to the next article before praying.
- **Mobilize Your Church** – Gather interested persons and brainstorm how your church could show love to those in crisis pregnancy situations. Discover how your church can serve local crisis pregnancy centers. If your city has a Planned Parenthood facility or known abortion facility, prayer walk around it.
- **Preach Sensitive Sermons** – Preach pro-life sermons knowing that probably [1/3 of the women in your congregation](#) have had an abortion. Preach the message of LIFE with both compassion and truth.
- **Use Words that Bring Life** – Use care with how you talk about abortion. Someone around you has probably had one. Don’t yell at people on Facebook. They may be defending abortion out of their own guilt. Lovingly speak truth. Compassionately ask questions. Don’t call people names.

Love by Remembering Special Days

- **Mother's Day and Father's Day** – Consider having a woman preach the Mother's Day sermon and/or share a testimony about her experience as a mother. Also remember those who have miscarried, those who have aborted, those who have adopted, those who were adopted, those who gave up their child in adoption, those who have lost children prematurely, etc. This day is a hard day for many women for multiple reasons. Don't gloss over the pain. Enter in with compassion for those struggling with the day and with celebration for those rejoicing.
- **Sanctity of Human Life Sunday** – Celebrate this day, though every day should be a reminder that Moms and Dad should not kill or abandon their babies.
- **Develop a Shepherding Heart** – Remember the children that your friends lost through miscarriage, abortion, or premature death. Do something special for them, particularly if you know the dates that are significant. This will make you into a strong and deep friend with the heart of a shepherd.

Love by Sacrificing Personal Space, Time, and Freedom

- **Encourage Adoption** – Help your friends who are considering adoption. Clean their house. Pay a bill for them. Take them out to eat. Help offset the costs of your friend's adoption. The adopting family is taking on the challenge of finding the finances to pursue the adoption and dealing with all the issues that the child brings with his/her adoption story – special needs, attachment issues, difficult birth, sense of abandonment. Figure out how you can lighten their load.
- **Foster Children** – Step up to the challenge and use your home as a place to bring hope and peace to a child in need. Jump through all the background check hoops and allow the love of Christ to pour through you.
- **Adopt** – Jump in with all you have! Adopt a child. It will take time and money. And it will change your entire family. Every regular day, every holiday, every family gathering will be different. But your actions will reflect the very heart of God, who adopted us into His family.

Love by Offering Your Finances

- **Financial Gifts** – Jesus states that our heart follows our treasure. So where is your treasure? Find a reputable group doing good work regarding helping the unborn, vulnerable children and women. Give to them.
- **Establish a Donor-Advised Fund or an Endowment** – If God has blessed you with a larger amount available to give, consider adding a donor-advised fund (usually through a Community Trust or National Foundation) to your current giving strategy as well as your estate planning. You don't have to wait until you are dead to bless pro-life causes with finances!
- **Orphan Care** – In addition to adoption, orphaned children need normal care or special care in homelike orphanages. Find a trustworthy children's home or orphanage and support it financially, knowing that millions of [orphans need help around the world](#) (at least 17.8 million double orphans, and 153 million single orphans).
- **In-Kind Donations**–Churches and organizations laboring in pro-life causes need not only money, but also tangible items: blankets, diapers, bottles, clothing, medicine, powdered milk, books, toys, etc. See what they need and meet the need!
- **Fund a *Voice for the Voiceless Seminar*** – 10/40 Connections equips believers in unreached areas of the world to teach [Voice for the Voiceless seminars](#) in areas with high abortion rates. This seminar serves as a tool to enter unreached areas by weaving science with the Gospel. The curriculum advocates for the voiceless who are both the pre-born and women! In the process, people hear of Jesus for the first time.

Hopefully these ideas will jumpstart your creative engine and inspire you to engage and make a difference as you extend the culture of life. Now if you want a list of resource and links this next section may be just what you need.

Seven Concluding Thoughts

“I felt compelled to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to God’s holy people.”

Jude 3

This eBook has been on our hearts for months. Our burden has stemmed from the deafening silence that often comes from the evangelical Church on the topic of abortion. For months we have asked ourselves, “Why does this issue strike us so deeply, besides the obvious that it is a life-and-death issue?” We asked God and we pondered the “why.” One day it struck us like a bolt of lightning. Our entire foundation as a Christian is in belief on a God who *defeated* death. God is from the depth of His entire being and character “for life.” The silence, the apathy, the unpreparedness, the lack of practical and tangible action on the issue of abortion strikes at the very heart of what we trust God for when we respond to Jesus. We trust Jesus for a new life.

The entire focus of Christianity is on a God who conquered death. From that foundation, we urge our brothers and sisters to contend for your faith that has been entrusted to you as God’s holy people. Contend for the message of life and of hope for the unborn and women.

Out of love for Christ and his victory over death and sin, serve the pre-born and serve the vulnerable woman. Ask God for creative and tangible ways to help both.

As kingdom people, it is possible to be for the pre-born and for women. We know it’s possible because we are doing it. Seems that combination may be rare because we have heard many times, “Who are you? What’s your denomination that makes you adamantly pro-woman and pro-baby? Where do you fit?” We always answer, “Our denomination is the kingdom of God. It’s kingdom-minded to be for both and to serve both. It all comes from our commitment to the God who gives life and gives it abundantly.”

We also know the incredible difficulties that occur when speaking for life and defending life. Look at the stories of the

Holocaust and the cost paid by those who sought to protect the Jews. But still they stood. When crushed by the political regime, they rose to life in Jesus for eternity. And their stories have risen as those who contended for their faith. Let's be people of faith and action.

We hope this brief eBook has begun to help prepare you to speak up for life, or point you in a good direction. We will conclude with two notes, one to men and one to women. May these words sink deep into your hearts and shape your worldview.

Note to the Guys: From a Man to Men (Short and Sweet)

You have a vital job to do in the area of abortion. Do not be deceived (or relieved) to think that abortion is only a female issue. You are alive today because someone gave you life – your mother. Because you came from a woman, it is time to stand up for the pre-born and vulnerable women. The abortion situation is a human issue. So if you are human, it concerns you!

Take your stand for life beside other women in the battle to protect the pre-born and declare the value of women.

Also, your journey can honor God more if you treat women as God intended – mutually loving, honoring, serving, and submitting to one another, out of reverence for Christ. Kick out both machismo and feminism and start thinking and acting with the heart of Jesus. Take some time to mentally unpack all that the previous two sentences imply.

Let your voice be heard. Be kind, be firm, be truthful.

Let your home be open. Be ready, be hospitable, be a friend.

Let your presence be real. Be engaged, be responsible, be a dad.

Let your finances bless others. Be wise, be generous, be diligent.

Let your life reflect Christ. Be holy, be joyful, be consistent.

One last thought... You can know what kind of threat you are to an enemy by the type of weapon he uses against you. What kind of ammunition does Satan throw at you? Satan tempted Jesus with the

promise of every kingdom and all the power in the world, to no avail. Are you bought off with a lesser price?

May you fix your eyes on the prize, and let nothing stand in the way.

Press on!

Chad

Note to the Gals: From a Woman to Women

There were three moments in my life that I shared a secret with only God. Those memories are etched on my mind as special between me and the Creator God. In those moments, only God and I knew I was pregnant with each of my three biological kids.

There's another experience that only God and I share. Only God and I have held my second biological child. Chad and I lost her very early in pregnancy. But wow, for just a little while, I held her. Now God sees her and holds her. Someday I will hold her again for the *second* time. Chad has never had the privilege to hold our second child. I alone had the privilege.

Women hold more responsibility when pregnancy occurs. It is true men can run away from the responsibility; and many do. But within that staggering weight of responsibility comes the amazing privilege of holding life within. A mom holds a fierce intensity to protect her offspring. God is the Protector, and made in His image, women reflect this characteristic. Whether we have children or not, we as women are the first protectors of humanity. Our bodies are made to protect little daughters and sons at their most vulnerable, innocent state.

And that's why abortion is so against women. Through abortion, Satan violates a woman and a child.

Abortion violates a woman in lessening her willingness to protect her offspring at all. When we willingly fight for the right to

take a life, we demean ourselves. We violate the image of God within us.

Women's rights are not born from the power to hurt someone smaller. I am an avid supporter of the empowerment of women. Hear me strongly. *While* raising children, I also hold a job which empowers women rescued from slavery, equips women as church planters and leaders, and empowers girls to rise up in oppressive cultures. In my job, I also seek to rescue thousands before they are taken to slaughter. In order to protect women giving life to their babies, we just completed a new maternity home in Nepal. I believe women are a force to be reckoned with in the world.

I believe women can do anything. Someday, because of our high view of women, we hope that our children see a godly woman become the President of the United States. But if she stands there, we want her to stand tall. We want her empowerment to come from her strength of integrity and character, her wise use of her gifts and talents, and a rare gift of wisdom so lacking in our world today. We don't want to cheer for any woman who stands on the lifeless bodies of thousands claiming she has the right to slaughter the innocent – many of whom are disproportionately girls.

When we as a church sit idly by and allow women to walk their unborn to the slaughter, we allow the exploitation of women to continue.

Rise up women. Be protectors in your family, our nation, and our world. With your hand at the voting box, don't hold the child sacrifice. With your voice, be a voice to the voiceless. With your life, love both the unborn and the mother.

Together, let's boldly make a tangible difference. The voiceless and the exploited are counting on the women of faith to rise.

Leslie

Eight

Resources and Links

Global Statistics – For a broad perspective

- Video – [Abortion Worldwide Report](#):
100 Countries, 1 Century, 1 Billion Babies
- Maps – [Percentage of Pregnancies Aborted Worldwide](#)
by Country
- Stats – [Abort73 Website](#)
- Pro-abortion [Marie Stopes](#)
- Pro-abortion [Planned Parenthood](#)
- Pro-abortion [Guttmacher Institute](#)

Lucrative Financial Industry

- [Quotas](#)
- [Body Part Sales](#)
- [Congressional Record 2008](#)
- [Predation](#)
- [Investigative Footage](#)

Pregnancy Centers and Post-Abortive Care

- Care-Net [Find a Pregnancy Center Near You](#)
- Abortion Hurts, God Heals
[National Helpline and Post-Abortive Bible Study](#)

Online Pro-Life Training

- [Life Training Institute](#)
- [Students for Life](#)
- [Equal Rights Institute](#)
- [Priests for Life](#)

Personal Testimonies and Interviews (Some graphic descriptions)

- Gianna Jessen [Personal Testimony](#)
She survived an abortion – powerful.
- Dr. Bernard Nathanson [The Silent Scream](#).
Expose with Dr. of world's largest abortion clinic.
- Steven Crowder [I'm Pro-Life...Change My Mind](#).
Street interviews.
- Ray Comfort [180° Abortion](#).
Street interviews.

Books and Resource Articles

- Francis J. Beckwith
[Defending Life: A Moral and Legal Case Against Abortion Choice](#)
- Scott Klusendorf
[The Case for Life: Equipping Christians to Engage the Culture](#)
- Abby Johnson
[Unplanned: The Dramatic True Story of a Former Planned Parenthood Leader's Eye-Opening Journey across the Life Line](#)
- The Charlotte Lozier Institute
[Trove of abortion research, academic studies, and summaries](#)

Resource Updates: No doubt updated or even better resources will come out. This list is by no means exhaustive. We may update the list as we become aware of them. Feel free to send us suggestions. Thanks!

About the Authors



Leslie and Chad Neal Segraves are the co-directors and co-founders of 10/40 Connections, a mission organization that seeks to cast hope to unreached peoples so that they hear, experience and then multiply the Good News of Jesus in their own contexts. Since its founding, 1040 has helped rescue and restore thousands of women from trafficking, fed and educated hundreds of at-risk children, planted multiplying house churches among unreached people groups, installed dozens of water wells offering clean water to thousands, and promoted curriculum and teaching that advocates for both women and the unborn.

Chad and Leslie are motivational teachers and speakers whose greatest passion is to see the Great Commission finished in their lifetime. As entrepreneurial, mission-focused leaders, Leslie and Chad love theology made practical – where good thinking leads to active engagement in a broken world.

Chad and Leslie both received Doctorates of Missiology at Fuller Theological Seminary. Having lived and worked in India, China, and the Middle East, they have 20 years of global ministry experience. Chad and Leslie also serve as Lausanne Catalysts for *Men and Women Partnering in the Gospel*. As practical theologians and equippers they seek to multiply God's laborers and mobilize the church in North America and beyond. They currently reside in Southeast Asia.

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