

■ **Help your church** to become an active (not passive) pro-life force in the community.

■ **Rescue babies** right where the evil is taking place: Planned Parenthood abortion facilities, doctor's offices, and independant abortion mills:

- Join prayer groups at these locations
- Become a sidewalk counselor  
(Assist those considering abortion.)

■ **Volunteer at a local crisis pregnancy center** (CPC), and help support the center financially.

■ **Volunteer at a local home** for unwed mothers, and help support the home financially.

■ **Get involved** in lobbying your city, state and national officials and legislators on behalf of Life.

■ **Vote** and encourage other Christians to vote; distribute and use pro-life voting guides.

■ **Write to your news media** when a matter regarding abortion arises.

■ **Join a pro-life organization** and help to support it.

For further details on becoming a knowledgeable and effective pro-life advocate, contact:

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*This brochure is dedicated to the proposition that all human life is sacred and inviolable from the time of fertilization to natural death.*

-Donald S. Smith, LL.D.

Brochure Courtesy of



# What Every Christian Needs To Know About **ABORTION**



**One out of every three  
babies in America is killed by abortion.**

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## WHAT IS ABORTION?

Abortion is the premeditated killing of an innocent, unborn human being. In America, unborn babies are being aborted throughout all nine months of pregnancy. Approximately 1.2 million abortions are done every year, and abortion has become the nation's most frequently performed surgical procedure. As will be seen, abortion is a brutal, savage, barbaric practice utterly inconsistent with a Christian worldview.

### First-Trimester Abortions

About 90 percent of the abortions are done in the first trimester (13 weeks) of pregnancy. The most frequently used method is Suction Aspiration. A hollow tube connected to a powerful suction machine is pushed through the mother's dilated cervix into the womb, and the child's body is torn to pieces and sucked out.

In addition to surgical procedures, chemical abortions are done in the first trimester. Typically the drug RU486 or a drug called methotrexate is used to kill the developing baby. Then a second drug, prostaglandin, is administered to cause severe uterine contractions, emptying the womb of its contents.

Even the "morning after" pill causes an abortion by preventing the newly conceived human being from implanting in the uterus.



*Floating in a bubble called the amniotic sac, this 10-week-old baby in sensitive to light, sound, and touch, and can feel pain intensely. Shown actual size.*



DR. & MRS. J. C. WILLKE

*Remains are examined to be sure that all body parts are there. Fragments of the baby left inside the uterus can cause a very serious infection.*



CHELT KILGORE

*Reassembled body parts of a 21-week-old baby killed by the D&E method in Dallas, Texas, by abortionist Robert Prince. Pathologist Dr. Patrick McCarty wept when he examined the remains.*

### Second-Trimester Abortions

To kill and remove babies from 13 to 26 weeks of age, when the bodies are larger and the bones harder, the D&E (Dilatation and Evacuation) procedure is used. After widely dilating the mother's cervix, the abortionist reaches in with a forceps and wrenches off part of the baby's body, usually an arm or leg. This is continued until the entire body has been dismembered and pulled out. The head of the baby, which is the largest part, is crushed and then removed. Bleeding throughout the procedure is profuse.

After checking to see that all body parts have been taken out, the remains are disposed of. They are either ground up in an industrial garbage disposal, burned in an incinerator, or thrown into a garbage dumpster.

## Third-Trimester Abortions

During the weeks from 27 to 39, prior to birth, the unborn baby only grows larger and heavier. Unborn children in this age range are viable, that is, if birth occurs or is induced they will ordinarily live.



*In Houston, Texas, abortionist John B. Coleman ripped off the head of this baby girl in a D&E abortion shortly before she would have been born. The remains*

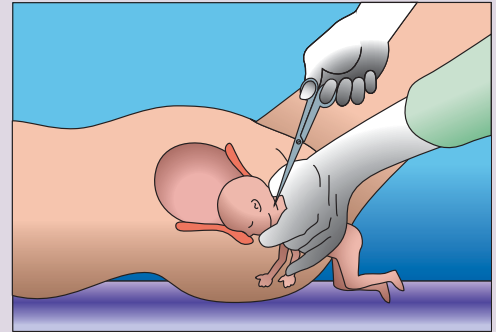
*were recovered from a dumpster in a rat-infested alley behind the abortion mill.*

Nevertheless, these babies are also killed by abortion, either by the D&E method previously described, or by D&X (Dilatation and Extraction), sometimes called the "Partial Birth" Abortion.

## Partial Birth Abortion

This type of abortion is especially notorious and has recently been banned by the U.S. Congress. To perform this abortion, the live, late-term unborn child is delivered from the mother's body feet first, until all that remains in her body is the baby's head. The skull is then punctured with a surgical scissors and the brains are suctioned out. The baby's dead body is removed and sold for body parts or discarded.

This style of abortion is essentially infanticide. Reliable medical sources affirm that there is never a valid medical reason to perform a Partial Birth Abortion.



*The abortionist finishing the job of killing a baby in the Partial Birth Abortion procedure.*

## Maternal Health

While abortion is always fatal to the unborn child, it is frequently injurious to the mother. Well-known physical side effects are profuse bleeding; puncturing of the uterus during suction abortion; massive abdominal infection, usually requiring hysterectomy; shock; subsequent tubal pregnancies; miscarriages and still births; and sterility. Having an abortion also increases the probability of getting breast cancer.

Maternal death, too, is very much a reality in the abortion picture. There are many recorded cases of incompetent abortions having this deplorable outcome.

## Mental and Emotional Side Effects

Even more common than physical injuries are psychological side effects. These commonly include grief,

regret, shame, guilt, degradation, and a sense of worthlessness. Also occurring are insomnia, nightmares, exhaustion, nervousness, and severe depression. A known fact is that the suicide rate following abortion is twice that subsequent to a normal birth.

## HOW DID ABORTION ENTER THE AMERICAN SCENE?

Prior to 1967, every state in the union had a law prohibiting abortion except to save the life of a mother. Between 1967 and 1970, 17 states liberalized their abortion laws in various ways, some for reasons as vague as "mental health."

In 1973, the U. S. Supreme Court handed down the infamous Roe vs. Wade decision, making it a constitutional right for a woman to abort her unborn child.

Abortion thus became the law in all 50 states, and since then over 40 million unborn babies have been killed in legal abortions.

Approximately 43 percent of the women of child-bearing age in America have had at least one abortion. The vast majority of abortions are performed on healthy babies conceived and carried by healthy mothers. The real reasons for aborting children are almost always the inconvenience, time, and expense of bearing and raising a child.

Because of legal abortion, "sanctity of life" is a thing of the past. Although the Declaration of Independence proclaims life as an "unalienable right," the unborn child has no defensible rights throughout all nine months of pregnancy.



*In America, this 8-week-old baby can be eliminated for about \$300.*

## WHAT DOES SCIENCE TELL US ABOUT UNBORN LIFE?

The science of biology says that an individual human life begins at fertilization (conception) and is continuous, either in the womb or out, until natural death. Starting as a one-celled organism called a zygote, each human life goes through a series of stages:

■ **Pre-Embryonic Stage:** From fertilization to 20 days of gestation.

Cell division takes place rapidly and elementary body systems are formed. The heart starts beating at about 18 days.

■ **Embryonic Stage:** From 3-8 weeks.

At 3 weeks the baby's arms, legs, eyes, and ears start to form.

Brain waves can be detected and measured as early as 6 weeks, and at 8 weeks the heartbeat can be heard with an electronic stethoscope, seen on an ultrasound screen, and recorded in an electrocardiogram.

The 8-week-old baby responds to touch, sucks his thumb, and grasps an object contacting his hand. He has sleeping and waking periods, is active, and moves about in the amniotic sac.

■ **Fetal stage:** From 8-39 weeks.

The term fetus is a Latin word meaning "little one."

At 10-11 weeks the baby's body is completely formed, including the fingerprints he will take with him for the rest of his life. At 12-13 weeks no new organs or body systems form. Except for size and weight, the baby is essentially complete.



*A perfect little 12-week-old human being is nestled in his mother's uterus. Actual size (model).*



*God's work in the womb is finished, and a mother's arms take over the task of holding, loving, and caring for the baby.*

## WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT UNBORN LIFE

The Bible gives us a primary scripture that deals with all of human life:

*Then God said "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness" . . . So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.*

-Genesis 1:26,27

This passage makes two powerful points: first, that man is a created being, a special being, a unique being. The second is that man is the very reflection of his glorious creator, and a being who by his very nature has worth, honor, importance, and dignity.

## The Unborn is a Human Being

The truth of this statement is self evident, but nonetheless has been questioned by those who have a vested interest in the taking of unborn life. The Bible is quite explicit:

*For you (God) created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb . . . My frame was not*

*hidden from you when I was made in the secret place.*

-Psalm 139:13-15

The psalmist David, who wrote this psalm, refers to himself in the womb as "I" and "me," making it clear that he himself was there, not something that turned into him at birth.

## The Unborn is a Person

This point is critical, because the U.S. Constitution explicitly protects "persons." To get around this, the U.S. Supreme Court stated in *Roe vs. Wade* that the unborn was "not fully a person."

There are many scriptures that establish the personhood of unborn children, but in a main one the Lord says:

*"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart ..."*

-Jeremiah 1:5

Another relevant scripture comes from the New Testament, in which Mary, who was pregnant with Jesus, greeted her cousin Elizabeth, who was pregnant with John the Baptist:

*When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice she exclaimed . . . "As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy"*

-Luke 1:41-44

Clearly the baby in her womb experienced transcendent joy at the voice of Mary, an experience that only a person can have.

## Unborn and Born Lives are Equal Before God

It is extremely important that the Lord does not consider unborn children to be of less worth than born ones, as do abortion advocates. A telling passage is:

*If men who are fighting hit a pregnant woman and she gives birth prematurely, but there is no serious injury (to mother or child), the offender must be fined . . . But if there is serious injury, you are to take life for life . . .*

-Exodus 21:22,23

A clear implication of this passage is that all human beings are created in God's image, born and unborn alike. All are precious, and all must be protected.

## Children are a Blessing

God places a very high value on children and encourages us to bring them into our lives. This is a Christian viewpoint greatly at variance with today's anti-child, anti-life sentiments:

*Behold, children are a blessing from the Lord. The fruit of the womb is a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior; so are the children of one's youth.*

-Psalm 127:3

## God's Attitude Toward Abortion

The matter of shedding innocent blood threads through the scriptures from Genesis to Revelation:

*The Lord . . . hates . . . hands that shed innocent blood.*

-Proverbs 6:16

God's beloved nation Israel was sent into exile for sacrificing its children to idols:

*They shed innocent blood, the blood of their sons and daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan, and the land was desecrated by their blood . . . Therefore the Lord was angry with his people . . . He handed them over to the nations, and their foes ruled over them.*

-Psalm 106:38-41

In a key passage innocent blood cries out:

*How long, Sovereign Lord, holy and true, until you judge the inhabitants of the earth and avenge our blood?*

-Revelation 6:10

America is ripe for judgment. The stench of the unabated murdering of unborn children rises to the heavens. Unless Christians step in and put an end to this slaughter, the destruction of our nation is inevitable.

God's penalty for abortion is plainly spelled out in scripture:

*Whoever sheds the blood of man (unjustly), by man shall his blood be shed, for in the image of God has God made man.*

-Genesis 9:6

According to the Bible, abortion is first degree murder. If the laws against murder in America applied equally to all murderers, the abortionists would be getting the same penalty as other killers. Christians should work diligently to bring this just condemnation about, rather than letting the abortionists grow wealthy on the blood of innocent unborn children.

## WHAT CAN CHRISTIANS DO TO STOP ABORTION?

God expects every Christian to be actively involved in stopping abortion. The Bible's instructions are very clear:

*Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless . . . Rescue the weak and needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.*

-Psalm 82:3,4

And again:

*Rescue those being led away to death; hold back those staggering to slaughter . . . if you say, "But we knew nothing about this," does not he who weighs the heart perceive it?*

-Proverbs 24:11,12

Every Christian is needed in the fight against abortion. It is not a job for specialists. God has instructed us to love our neighbors as ourselves, and that means our tiny, unborn neighbors, too. Here is an outline of becoming a missionary to the unborn:

■ **Repent** of your complacency and indifference to the fate of innocent unborn children who are daily being murdered in our land. Determine that you can and will do something to save these babies and eliminate this scourge.

■ **Know** the scriptures dealing with the shedding of innocent blood, with God's punishment for nations which were guilty of this, and with God's plan for restoration through reestablishing justice.



■ **Educate yourself** on the life issue. There are a number of excellent books, pamphlets, and videos defining and explaining the problem and describing the positive steps that a pro-life advocate should take.

■ **Work** with your family, neighbors, friends, and associates. Urge them to become actively pro-life.