

The Truth About Abortion

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In the beginning God created life - all life (Genesis 1). From the very beginning God knew and had a plan for every person He would create. God created a culture of life. A culture where life is valued. Where life multiplies life. A culture where life defends life, all life, especially the weak, defenseless and marginalized - beginning with a babies life in the womb.

That life is now under severe attack. Wars, genocide, terrorist acts, sexual slavery and murder are killing millions every year. But the greatest killer of all time is the taking of innocent life by abortion. 258,327,000 people have died through wars, famine, political actions and every category of violence since 1900. That same number of humans are killed every 6 years by abortion.

When a man and a woman unite physically in the act of sexual intercourse, it can result in the creation of a new life. So each sexual encounter is a potentially monumental life-creating act. In the physical, emotional and spiritual union of a husband and wife, we are joined by a holy God who makes all life possible. A creator God, who made us in His image, to mirror God in being life-givers. Men as fathers are to be protectors and providers. Women as mothers bear and nurture life. Together they are life-givers.

Our world has been polluted by sin since the fall of Adam and Eve. Since that time, we have been turning our eyes off of pleasing and honoring God and serving others and towards pleasing ourselves. Our sexuality, one of God's greatest gift to us, has been one of the primary ways we have used to selfishly please ourselves - especially when abused outside of marriage. With the introduction of the pill and the ever multiplying number of birth control devices, we have been deceived into thinking that we can have rampant sex with however many partners we desire without fear of consequence.

We have become utterly selfish about our sexuality and careless about the consequences. The 56 million babies killed by abortions annually, the 25 (and counting) different types of STD's and the corresponding heartbreaks caused by our sexual irresponsibility show us just how devastating the consequences of irresponsible sexual behavior can be.

Abortion is the intentional killing of an innocent preborn child made in the image of God, while still in its mother's womb. Abortion ends the life of a child, violates the fundamental role of a man as protector and strips a woman of her position as life-bearer. We live in a world where the reproductive aspect of intercourse has been relegated to a mere afterthought. The primary reason for sexual intercourse in most societies - especially for men, but increasingly more so for women - is a selfish search for the next self-satisfying orgasm with no thought of the potential life that may be created in what is clearly intended by God, and understood by science, to be a reproductive act.

Abortions impacts are spiritual, physical, economic and societal. It also has tremendous moral significance because of how deeply it violates God's moral standard for human behavior revealed in Scripture.

The following Biblical points help to clarify the moral significance of the act of abortion.

- God is the creator of all things - *You alone are the LORD You have made the heavens, The heaven of heavens with all their host, The earth and **all that is** on it.* Nehemiah 9:6
- God is sovereign over all things - *"The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; for he founded it on the seas and established it on the waters"* [Psalm 24:1-2](#)
- God has made man in His image. *So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them;*
- God opens the womb, and God closes the womb. *When the Lord saw that Leah was hated, he opened her womb, but Rachel was barren.* Genesis 29:31
- The baby in the womb, is fully human and fully alive and is created by God. *"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations."* Jeremiah 1:5
- God commands us not to take innocent life. *Keep far from a false charge, and do not kill the innocent and righteous, for I will not acquit the wicked.* Exodus 23:7
- God hates the spilling of innocent blood. *There are six things that the Lord hates, seven that are an abomination to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood...* Proverbs 6:16

The pro-abortion message says that "the root cause of abortion is unintended pregnancy." In other words - it's due to a lack of or misuse of contraception. But this is simply not true. Abortion is not caused by pregnancy any more than divorce is caused by marriage.

The causes of abortion include a rebellion against the biblical view of life. Having an abortion indicates a lack of faith in a God who provides. Abortion is an act of selfishness that puts our needs and desires before the need of our own child. For some women, especially women in developing countries, they exist in a situation or culture where men have all the power, where there is extreme poverty and where they have very little if any control in matters related to sex and reproduction. In those cases, the woman may have very little say regarding the child they are carrying. Studies show that most women would consider carrying and raising their child if the father were supportive. An abortion is often seen by men as a 'get out of jail' free card. It is not stretching the truth to say that men bear the greatest burden of responsibility in the majority of abortions.

They should be aware that Exodus 23:7 states - *Keep far from a false charge, and do not kill the innocent and righteous, for I will not acquit the wicked.*

Pastor John MacArthur says, "Abortion is Satan's greatest onslaught against the sovereignty of God." Satan hates that we are God's beloved. He will do all in his power to destroy us. Through history, we have seen him turn brother against brother (Cain and Abel), father against son (sacrifices to Moloch) and finally mother against child (abortion). Abortion is Satan's stab at the very heart of God. Abortion is rooted in the distortion that occurs when we take Jesus out of the center of the universe and place ourselves where only God should be.

Abortion - the killing of a child in the womb - is joined by its family members: infanticide, fratricide, genocide, suicide, murder and euthanasia. Abortion is made possible when we deny two basic truths: One - there goes one made in the image of God and Two - there goes one for whom Christ died. When we place ourselves at the center of our universe, we are willing to do anything to anyone whom we feel is in any way a threat to that position. Including our own child. Becoming a parent is one of the most selfless acts a human being can do, because it requires us to focus our complete attention on another human being, rather than on ourselves. Becoming a parent gives us a tiny idea of the love that the Father has for His children. Abortion is a total rejection of God and the gift of life that He has provided. At the root of abortion is selfishness and rebellion against God.

When we call the child in the womb an 'unplanned pregnancy', we begin to dehumanize the baby in order to justify the killing of that baby by abortion. This is precisely what happened in Germany when the Nazis were in power. Because the Jews were seen as less than human, their killing was seen by many in the Nazi regime as allowable. It follows that, because preborn children have been dehumanized, their elimination is also acceptable. If the preborn child were viewed as fully human, possessing all of the traits and rights of a born person, his life would not be as easily discarded.

Abortion is the deliberate destruction of an innocent, living human being. In addition to ending the life of a preborn child, it often damages the life of the women and men that choose it, as well as others involved in that tragic decision. But even if a man and woman involved in an abortion feel no shame or regret at having aborted their child, their guilt is objective: they have sinned and need forgiveness.

A person who performs an abortion deliberately kills a child in the womb who has not yet been born. A mother or father who allows an abortion is sanctioning the destruction of their unborn child by another person. The man who pressures a woman to have an abortion suffers great damage to his identity as a protector and defender of life. As Pastor Scotty Vaughn says, "Fathers are supposed to die for their children, not the other way around."

In the absence of repentance in the heart of a man or woman who has committed abortion, and in the absence of God's forgiveness, the consequences of sin remain, pushing them away from their only source of redemption and renewal. God stands ready to forgive the sin of abortion, but the sinner must repent. "*The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.*" (Psalm 51:17).

Types of Abortion

There are three primary types of abortion: chemical, surgical and traditional. Surgical abortions occur either in a doctor's office or at an abortion clinic. The process may vary slightly, but the main steps are all similar. The actual procedure for removing a baby (fetus) from the womb will vary depending on the size of the baby. A woman's pregnancy is divided into three trimesters. Each trimester is 12 weeks long. 88.1 percent of all abortions take place in the first trimester.

Surgical Abortion

In all surgical abortions, one of the primary steps is dilating the cervix. The cervix is the muscle that keeps the uterus closed while the child is growing, and through which the child will pass during birth. Dilating the cervix is usually done through the insertion of steel rods of ever increasing diameters. The larger the baby that is growing in the uterus is, the more dilated the cervix must be to allow for the insertion of instruments that will remove the child from the uterus.

Suction Aspiration. *First 5 to 12 weeks.* Suction aspiration is one of the most commonly done surgical procedures in Western nations and increasingly around the world. This type of procedure can be done manually, but is most often done electronically. A suction aspiration involves the use of a hollow tube (cannula) that is attached by tubing to a bottle and an electric pump, which provides a vacuum. The cannula is passed through the cervix and into the uterus, the pump is turned on and the developing baby is suctioned out from the uterus. Then the abortionist inserts a curette (a loop-shaped knife) into the uterus. The abortionist uses the curette to scrape any remaining baby parts and the placenta out of the uterus. After suction, the doctor and nurses must reassemble the fetus' dismembered parts to ensure they have all the pieces.

D & E (Dilation and Evacuation): *within 13-24 weeks after last menstrual period*

The fetus literally doubles in size between the 11th and 12th weeks of pregnancy. Soft cartilage hardens into bone at 16 weeks, making the fetus too large and strong to pass through a suction tube. The D & E procedure begins by opening the cervix wide to accommodate the larger fetal size. The abortionist then both tears and cuts the fetus and uses the vacuum machine to extract its remains. Because the skull is too large to be suctioned through the tube, it must be crushed by forceps for removal. Pieces must be extracted very carefully, because the jagged, sharp pieces of the broken skull could easily cut the cervix.

Chemical Abortion

Mifepristone (Mifeprex) and Misoprostol - Mifepristone (Mifeprex) and Misoprostol is a medical abortion procedure used up to the first seven to nine weeks of pregnancy. It is also referred to as *RU-486*, or *the abortion pill*. Mifepristone is given orally during the first office visit. Mifepristone blocks progesterone from the uterine lining, causing the lining to break down and preventing the ability to continue a pregnancy. Misoprostol tablets are taken orally or inserted vaginally about 36 to 72 hours after taking the mifepristone. The tablets will cause contractions and expel the baby or fetus. This process may take a few hours, or as long as a few days.

Methotrexate & Misoprostol (MTX):

MTX is a medical abortion procedure used up to the first seven weeks (49 days) of pregnancy.

Methotrexate is given orally or by injection during the first office visit. Antibiotics are also given in order to prevent infection. Misoprostol tablets are given orally or inserted vaginally about 3 to 7 days later. This procedure will usually trigger contractions and expel the fetus. The process may take a few hours or as long as a few days.

Traditional Abortions

Most countries have their own traditional methods of inducing an abortion of the baby. These include ingesting traditional medications or harmful substances, provoking an abortion by insertion of an object into the uterus by the woman herself or by a traditional practitioner, or by a violent abdominal massage;

There are other types of abortion, some of which, particularly the kind done on babies over 24 weeks along, are so gruesome as to be almost indescribable.

Closing Thoughts

After a child is conceived, no solution is available to undo the pregnancy or make the woman “unpregnant.” There is only life or death. While the pregnancy - and the life of the baby - can be ended with abortion, there can never again be a time in which the mother had not at one time been carrying a child. The choice before every mother and father, in stark truth, is: life, through giving birth to their child; or death, through ending the life of that child through abortion.

Today, I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. I call on heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Oh that you would choose life, that you and your descendants might live! (Deuteronomy 30:19–20 NLT).